



The Surf Loop



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## Mount Maunganui - Tauranga - Matapihi - Bayfair - Papamoa - Paengaroa - Maketu - Papamoa - Mount

Total **89.3 km** + flat, one small hill.

Suitable for road bikes, trail bikes or Mountain bikes.

All year around trail ( except August )

+ 2.6km extra for Little Waihi

+ 3.4 for Ford Rd to The Cut



+ 2km for Pacifica Home and Garden

+ 1.2km Nautilus Restaurant and Fort Nautilus Dry Stack

+ 1.7 km Tauranga Marina + return

This can be started anywhere you please. It is a Loop so you will come back to your car. A consideration will be where you can safely leave your car if you are doing this ride over several days and accommodation options.



We started at Paengaroa. ( Road bikes ) and parked outside the Paengaroa Hall in Old Coach Rd, out of the way of the village traffic. **Read down to pick the instructions up from where every you wish to start.**

Directional changes are marked :-  



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Starting in Paengaroa


Continue through **Paengaroa** past Comvita ( Comvita on your left ) on for **2.6 km** on Wilson Rd **South**. Cross SHW 2 with a little veer to the **right**  onto Wilson Rd **North** ( sign posted Maketu ), riding **4.7km** down this road turning **right**  into Arawa Ave for your one small hill.



Carry on Arawa Ave

Accommodation Option: ( **Maketu Hilltop Holiday Park**, 195 Arawa Ave, [www.maketuholidaypark.co.nz](http://www.maketuholidaypark.co.nz). stay@maketuholidaypark.co.nz. 07 5332222 )

From the top of Arawa Ave you get magnificent views east along the coast and also of the whole hinterland, Papamoa Hills, and coast to the West to Mount Maunganui.

**Optional side trip :** 1.6km along Arawa Ave on your right  is Bledisloe Park Ave, it is worth a small 210m detour or full 1.3km one way down Bledisloe Park Ave to Little Waihi. Seeing the East Coast towards Whakatane, Pukehina Beach and Estuary just below you, Whale Island, Volcanic White Island and on a clear day down to Cape Runaway, or all the way to the bottom of this hill through the park & white barrier arm on your left to the beach, (this hill has a surprisingly friendly gradient to return up. ) There is a store here.


Continue you along Arawa Ave, veers **left**  into Rauporoa Rd, Stop opposite Williams Cres to admire the spectacular view.


 **Right** into Williams Cres for 300m ( **don't get too much speed up downhill at the next T intersection** )  **Right** into Town Point Rd for 300m to the end, from here you get a good view of Plate Island on your right, on the left, low Motiti Island and behind Mayor Island. Also the Mount and Coromandel peninsular.

Cycle back **along** Town Point Rd and down the hill for 1.1km and you come to Historic **Maketu, Maketu Surf Club, Maketu Beachside Cafe and Holiday Park.**


[www.maketu.nz/](http://www.maketu.nz/) Click on 'This is Maketu' then 'Our History '

**Maketu Beachside Café and Restaurant.** There is also accommodation right beside the café (**Maketu Holiday Park:** [www.maketuholidaypark.co.nz](http://www.maketuholidaypark.co.nz) 2 Townpoint Rd, 07 5332165 email: stay@maketubeach.com) A refreshment / accommodation option,

The Arawa Ave turn off to here is **3.5km**. Take the time to read the very interesting information boards in Maketu. **Paengaroa to Maketu a total of 10.7 km + 2.6 for Little Waihi 13.3km** Continue **past** the Surf Club along the Estuary turning **right**  into the playground car park. Across the grass or path to the next car park

 **Left** into Park Rd


 **Right** at the roundabout ( third exit ) into Maketu Rd for 2km





 **Right** into Kaituna Rd, ( **2.7km** from Maketu to this turn off ) another **2.7km** takes you to Ford Rd on your right.


*go cycling bop*






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Optional side trip : a side trip if you wish, right  down Ford Rd, 1.7km one way – commonly called ‘The Cut’ where a White Heron can sometimes be seen, plentiful bird life and plenty of anglers fish and whitebaiters congregate where the Kaituna River meets the sea with a fabulous view down the coast to the Mount.)


Otherwise proceed straight ahead until you come to the TEL ( Tauranga Eastern Link Highway ) and turn **right**  onto the trail for 2 km, here you will be riding beside the motorway through Dairy Farming Country. Once you cross the Kaituna River Bridge ( stopping to admire the Maori Carvings ) turn **right**  down the other side and immediately  **right** again and under the bridge onto Bell Rd for 4.2km ( 22.2km from here to Mount )  **Right** into Parton Rd. to the roundabout for 2.2km.


Optional side trip : At the Roundabout you may want to take the left  turn, 1km ride, each way, down Tara Rd to **Pacifica Home and Garden** for refreshments. Bike parking left of the main door by some outdoor tables. A lovely café/ garden centre and gift shop.


500m from the Roundabout down Parton Rd, to the Papamoa Village Park sign on your left, take the **Reserve path** on your  **left**, signed posted Wairakei Reserve. Across **Longview Drive**, across **Opal Drive**, across **Domain Rd** and that takes you around the back of the Fashion Island shops. ( PaknSave will be on your right as you go along this path, the lake on your left )

Across **Gravatt Rd**, ( Coffee options down on your right: Esquire Café 42 Gravatt Rd, or Gana Café 26 Gravatt Rd at the Fashion Island Shops. On the opposite side of Gravatt Rd, veer a little  **left** on the footpath (the Reserve path is not immediately obvious so look out for the rubbish bin ) onto the reserve path on your  **right**, across **Palm Beach Blvd**, across **Harford Ave** with a little left veer , across **Evans Rd**. The Papamoa Trail ends at **Pacific View Rd**.

 Right into **Pacific View Rd** for 450m ( James Henry Ave opposite )

 **Left** at the round about onto Papamoa Beach Rd which flows into Maranui St for 1.7km


 **Right** into Yale St for 96m

 **Left** into Ocean beach Rd 3.7km

Take the 2nd **left** exit at the round about into Marine Parade for 3.4km ( refreshment option: 154 Marine Parade, Tay St Beach Café ) and follow the shoreline back to the Mount.

**Commons Ave** will be on your left, opposite you will see a viewing platform on your right. ( well worth a stop and photo opportunity -Toilets beneath, drinking fountain near the footpath.)

A large selection of Cafes below the accommodation towers ahead of you. There are also many refreshment stops on the whole loop.

Continue on from the viewing platform towards the Mount following the road for 350 m flowing  **left** into Adams Ave for 280m , past the Hot Pools on your right and the Copenhagen Ice Cream shop on your left.

*go cycling bop*



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🚲 Flowing **left** into the Mall ( Harbour side ) continue for 1km which flows -  
🚲 **left** into Salisbury Ave, ride **right** 🚲 in between the Police Station and toilets,  
straight through and across Coronation Park which comes out on Nikau Cres, ride 170m  
**straight** ahead on here

🚲 **Left** onto Rata St away from the Port for 120m.

🚲 **Right** into Totora St for 2.6km, along the road cycle path passing Avantiplus bike shop  
( On the Mount wall side of Avanti is a fabulous piece of wall art ) & Dominion Salt on  
your left, straight through the roundabout. **This is a busy road so care must be taken.**

**At** the second set of lights is a major intersection with Hewletts Rd, ( Ultimate Motor Group  
will be on your left and back) The safest way to deal with this intersection is to go up on  
the footpath and cross to the right hand side of Totora street as a pedestrian, onto a con-  
crete walk/ cycle path. You have now turned 🚲 **right** onto busy Hewetts Rd on your path  
with the traffic coming towards you. This will take you up and over the harbour bridge. It is  
worth taking a moment at the top of the bridge to enjoy the view.

Optional side trip: Refreshment and special interest: As you come off the harbour bridge  
turn right 🚲 down Mirrielees Rd at the lights. Left 🚲 into Cross Rd, over the railway  
line and left 🚲 again into the next Road, sign posted Otumoetai with a bike picture, to 58  
Cross Rd, ( whole one way trip 0.6km ). Ride through the Marine Park car park to the boat  
ramp. Ride up and over the bridge on your right that takes you over the **Fort Nautilus Dry  
Stack** waterway to the **Nautilus Restaurant & Espresso Bar Tauranga**. There is a bike  
parking area and outdoor space and tables for you to enjoy refreshments here and or walk  
back to the gate left of the bridge ( or through the restaurant ) to the most interesting Fort  
Nautilus Dry Stack, a three boat high storage area. ( the only other one of these in New  
Zealand is in Auckland ) All the more interesting if they are taking a boat in or out by a fork  
lift arrangement into the waterway while you are there ! [www.fortnautilus.co.nz](http://www.fortnautilus.co.nz)


The ride / walk path continues past the Nautilus Restaurant a perfect stepping stone to some  
of Tauranga's Cycle / walk ways. 'Cycle network Tauranga City Council' to down load the  
maps. This is especially close to the 9 km Waikareao Estuary loop. Or go to  
[www.freewheelingtours.co.nz](http://www.freewheelingtours.co.nz) for guided rides. If you wish to spend time in Tauranga.


And / or Alternatively carry on down Cross Rd ( not turning left to the Restaurant after  
the rail way line) which flows into Keith Allen drive for 1.3km one way from the harbour  
bridge , and down to the **Tauranga Marina** to enjoy a little boat watching. Refreshments  
and toilets are here. This side trip is all flat. Retrace your path


As you come off the bridge immediately turn 🚲 **right** onto a cycle path that will  
take you back the way you came but at ground level, (signed posted Cycle Mount Maun-  
ganui. )








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This will take you under the bridge you have just ridden over. Head **towards** the large white building which is the Trinity Wharf Hotel and ride in front of their foundation pillars which will take you out onto the cycle path on Dive Cres, turning **left**  here.

Continue **left**  on the cycle footpath ( don't cross over the railway line.) just after Bobby's Fish shop ride onto the **foreshore path** and park **straight** ahead of you.

Proceed ahead, watching out for two sets of **low bollards** in the middle of the path, half way along you will come across the Hairy Maclary bronze sculptures from famed children's book author Lynley Dodd. Toilets here. Proceed ahead, when you get to a small white building turn **right**  and you will see a small fountain near the rail way line, cross the rail way line **carefully** here. This is downtown Tauranga, with plenty of cafes on the Strand.

**Left**  down the Strand Rd at the roundabout, ( sign posted Bayfair ) heading towards the railway bridge, ride **left**  up and over this and onto the Matapihi cycle / walk path for 5.4km , enjoying harbour views as you go, passing Omanu Golf course on your left.


When you meet the railway line cross **carefully** over it and under the **underpass** into the Bayfair shopping centre car park. Turn **right**  in the car park and follow the outer edge of parked cars, crossing over the entry exit way ( staying in the car park area ), riding **straight** ahead, when the covered car park is on your left  turn **right** into the traffic lights area, and ride **straight** through the traffic lights across Girven Rd, into Gloucester  Rd for 550 m

 **Left** into Monowai St for 550m

 **Right** into Grenada St for 2.6km

 **Left** into Pacific View Rd at the roundabout for 250 m

**Right** onto the Reserve path. ( slightly obscured behind a rubbish bin and electrical boxes & trees. Watch out for Reef Ave on your right, then you know you are nearly there.) James Henry Ave is on your left. Mind the **bollards** as you enter and exit the reserve paths.

Carry on the **Reserve path** for 2.57km, crossing over **Evans Rd** and **Hartford Ave** ( a little down on your left the reserve path continues.) cross over **Palm Beach Blvd** continue on the reserve, until you pop out at the Fashion Island shopping centre on **Gravatt Rd**. and the Beachwater roundabout. You will see Repco and before that Esquire Coffee -obscured ( there is a toilet behind this shop. ) ( Coffee options:  Esquire Café 42 Gravatt Rd, or Gana Café 26 Gravatt Rd at the Fashion Island Shops, ride **left** along the foot path past the Beachwater Roundabout and cross the road. If you are not stopping - ride through the white bollards under the Norfolk Pine, ( Bendon sign on your left ) there is a path around the back of the Fashion Island shopping centre, passing a small lake on your right, which takes you out onto **Domain Rd**.

Cross Domain Rd and continue on the reserve track.

Crossing **Opal Drive**, and **Longview Drive**. ( **Gravatt Rd to Paton Rd is 3.6km**)

You come onto **Parton Rd** just as you see the Papamoa Village Holiday Park sign on your left. ( The end of the Papamoa trail )



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🚲 Right into the Parton Rd road cycle lane. You are now heading in the direction of the Papamoa Hills. ( from here you can see the front of the hills are contoured with the remnants of ancient Maori fortifications ) Carry on for 500m to the roundabout on Parton Rd.

**Optional Side Trip: Coffee option:** Right 🚲 at the Parton Rd/ Tara Rd roundabout, ride 1km, on your right at 112 Tara Rd, is **Pacifica Home and Garden**, a lovely gift shop, garden centre and café which is well used to cyclists. There is a cycle rack left of the main door by some outdoor tables. Coming out of the garden centre turn left into Tara Rd, back the way you came, ride through the round about, turning right into the Parton Rd roundabout.

Continue for 2.1km along Parton Rd, on your left at 176 Parton Rd you will pass **Blokart Heaven** which also has Drift Karts. Continue over the Tauranga Eastern Link ( TEL ) motorway bridge

🚲 **Left** at the T intersection onto Bell Rd for 4.2km

Continue along Bell Rd, just after you have ridden under the TEL over bridge ( notice the waka pattern on the Kaituna River bridge ) take the bike path on your 🚲 **left** and 🚲 **left** again to ride up over the bridge, taking a moment at the top to admire the Maori carvings, Papamoa Hills behind you & Rotorua Hills to the South and Maketu in front of you. Riding the whole length of the TEL Cycle /walk path.

**Right** 🚲 into Te Tumu Rd at the end of the TEL path for 0.7km ( signed posted Rotorua )

**Right** 🚲 again at the T intersection into Maketu Rd for 0.3km

**Left** 🚲 over the Railway line onto the concrete bike path to Paengaroa, ( sign posted Rotorua ) crossing carefully at the round about, at the start of the TEL motorway, stick to the path. ( don't go clockwise around the roundabout with the traffic, but cross as soon as you reach the road and roundabout ) in the direction of the Maori carvings. Continue on the concrete path to Paengaroa.

Look out for **Comvita** on your left, a great stop, open 8.30-5.00pm Health store, café, guided bee tours, health and beauty treatment room. Also in Paengaroa: **The Funky Lizard Café/ Gallery/ Gifts, The Trading Post Bistro & Pizzeria, Fush and Chups Takeaway shop, Paengaroa Country Store, Golliwogs Bakery & Lunchbar, Gull Petrol Station, Aerius Helicopters ( scenic tours ), Te Puke Golf Club, O'Hara Games Estate**

Your loop is complete !

