

# Miramar, Nature's bounty



## 4 MASSEY MEMORIAL

**WARNING:** This section is more rugged than the previous ones and boggy in places. Good footwear is recommended.

From **Scorching Bay**, continue heading north around the bays. At Mahanga Bay, walk up Fort Ballance Road to the former coastal artillery battery on Point Gordon to enjoy spectacular views. The military structures were built in 1885, following fears of impending war with Russia.

### Mount Crawford

Next, follow the trail away from the defence site. Go through the gate and leave it closed as you found it. With the weather station on your left, follow along on the right side of the mesh fence. Be careful as the narrow track falls away sharply on the right hand edge in places. Higher up on your left is the peak of Mount Crawford, site of a former prison and now the community garden. Please don't disturb grazing cows, and leave gates as you find them.

### Massey Memorial

When you come to open pastures and the fences converge, cross the pasture on your right, down to another historic military site. Keep going down to the fence-line then cross over using the wooden stile. You will come to a trail above Massey Memorial. Located at Point Halswell, this mausoleum commemorates William Ferguson Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand from 1912 until his death in 1925. The exterior is pale Takaka marble resting on a base of dark grey Coromandel granite. It was unveiled in September 1930. You have now reached the northern tip of the Peninsula.



## 5 SHELLY BAY

Opposite the track that took you to the memorial, take the track that follows the contour of the hill (rather than the downhill one). The trail slopes gently down for 10-15 minutes to **Shelly Bay**, home to the iconic Chocolate Fish Café. Shelly Bay's long military history began with the Submarine Mining Depot Barracks in 1887. The area was then a Royal Navy base from 1907 to 1946, then was transferred to the Royal New Zealand Air Force. The air force base closed in 1995. In 2009 the land was handed over to Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika as part of a Treaty of Waitangi settlement. Your journey along the Miramar Trail is now complete. We trust you have enjoyed this iconic part of Wellington.



4 'AN OLD FORTIFICATION CAMP LOST IN THE FOREST' | 5 THE CREATIVE COVE OF SHELLY BAY, WHERE THE TRAIL ENDS  
READ MORE AT [HTTP://MIRAMARTRAIL.ORG.NZ](http://MIRAMARTRAIL.ORG.NZ)

## ABOUT THIS TRAIL

**Walking time:** 2-3 hours | **Length:** 7.5km

The trail runs from south to north but can also be done in the opposite direction. You can join at a number of entry points instead of doing the whole trail. This trail is not a loop so if you are part of a group and keen to do the complete length, [Rover Tours](#) might be able to help. E: [info@rtgl.co.nz](mailto:info@rtgl.co.nz) / T: 0800 426 211.

**Use:** Undulating tracks and stairways with some steep sections and uneven surfaces, as well as flat sealed coastal footpaths. Moderate fitness required.

**How to get there:** Start at the Tarakena Bay carpark or connect at one of the entry points: **Pass of Branda**, Seatoun (parking on Mantell or Inglis Sts); the Boardwalk at the sea end of **Ludlam St**, Seatoun, or Worsler Bay.

## 1 TARAKENA BAY & ATATÜRK MEMORIAL

Begin your journey at the **Tarakena Bay carpark** and follow the track to the Atatürk Memorial.

### South Island | Te Wai Pounamu

As you climb up to the Memorial, take some time to look back to the south east: if the skies are clear, you will see the mountains of Kaikōura, in the South Island. These often appear snow-covered down to sea level in winter. To the south is Cook Strait | Raukawa Moana, dividing the North and South Islands, and one of the wildest stretches of water in the world.

### Native birds

From the Memorial, continue north on the marked track and enter the bush, where it's hard to believe you are in the capital city of New Zealand! You'll get panoramic views over the harbour entrance and be surrounded by bird song. Try to spot large kererū (native woodpigeon) or small darting piwakawaka (New Zealand fantail). Thanks

1 START FROM THE SOUTH, WELLINGTON HARBOUR HEADS | TE WHANGANUI A TARA

