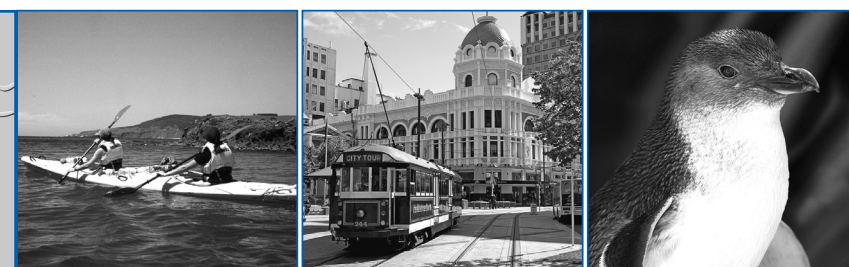


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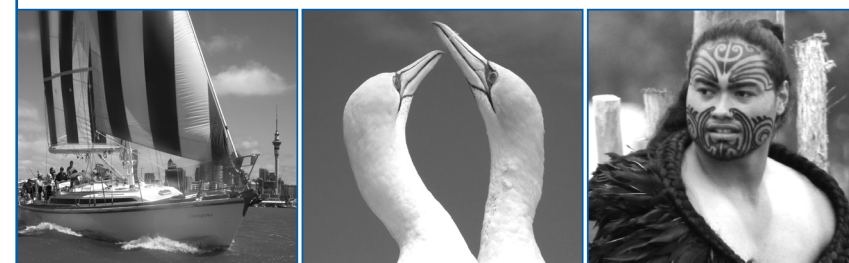
PORT EXPLORER

# Napier

NEW ZEALAND

**GENERAL INFORMATION** Lying on sweeping Hawkes Bay, Napier is a fascinating city, architecturally rich, blessed with a fine coastal position, good restaurants and a friendly population. Hawkes Bay enjoys a Californian/Mediterranean climate and is known for its fruit growing and wine vineyards. Following the 1931 earthquake Napier city was rebuilt in the Art Deco architectural style, which was popular at the time. Today Napier is known as the Art Deco capital of the world. Bluff Hill, located just south of the port, was originally an island connected to the mainland by a bridge. When the 1931 earthquake raised the level of the land in the area surrounding Napier, the island became part of the mainland. The buildings and homes on Bluff Hill were the only ones to survive the quake intact and as a result, this is the only remaining Victorian-style suburb in Napier. Napier and its neighbor city, Gisborne, are the first urban areas to see the sun rise on 1st January of each New Year.

**HISTORY** Long before Captain Cook sighted the area in October 1769, the Maori found a plentiful source of food in the bay and the hinterland. The Otatara Pa, with its barricades now rebuilt, is one of the pre-European sites of habitation. The French explorer Jules d’Urville, using Cook’s charts, sailed the Astrolabe into the bay in 1827. After whalers started using the safe Ahuriri anchorage in the 1830s, a trading base was established by one Captain Barney Rhodes in 1839. The town was planned in 1854, named after the British general and colonial administrator, Sir Charles Napier, and soon flourished as a commercial center for the region. In 1931 Napier was dramatically changed when a disastrous earthquake, measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale, virtually destroyed the city. In Napier and nearby Hastings over 250 people died, and waterlocked Napier suddenly found itself 25 square miles (40 sq km) larger. The quake heaved that amount of water-covered land above sea level, and in places the land level rose by over 6 1/2 feet (2 m). The Napier airport is built on that previously submerged area. The rebuilding program that followed has left us with one of the world’s best examples of an Art Deco city.



This information has been compiled for the convenience of our guests and is intended solely for that purpose. While we work to ensure that the information contained herein is correct, we cannot accept responsibility for any changes that may have taken place since printing.  
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## POINTS OF INTEREST

**1 Marine Parade** Lined with Norfolk pines, some fine old wooden buildings that survived the quake and many attractions, Marine Parade is one of New Zealand's premier seaside boulevards. Marine Parade has retained its air of an old-fashioned English seaside resort complete with a pebble beach. Marine Parade has parks, sunken and scented gardens, and amusements including mini-golf, swimming pools and a roller blading rink.

**2 Marineland** Featuring a collection of performing seals and dolphins, they also have swim-with-the-dolphin experiences by appointment.

**3 National Aquarium of New Zealand** The aquarium has sharks, crocodiles, piranha, turtles and other animals including New Zealand's unique tuataras.

**4 Hawkes Bay Museum** Quality Maori artifacts of the east coast's Ngati Kahungunu tribe are displayed, as well as European antiques and Art Deco items. There is also an informative audio/visual presentation of the 1931 earthquake.

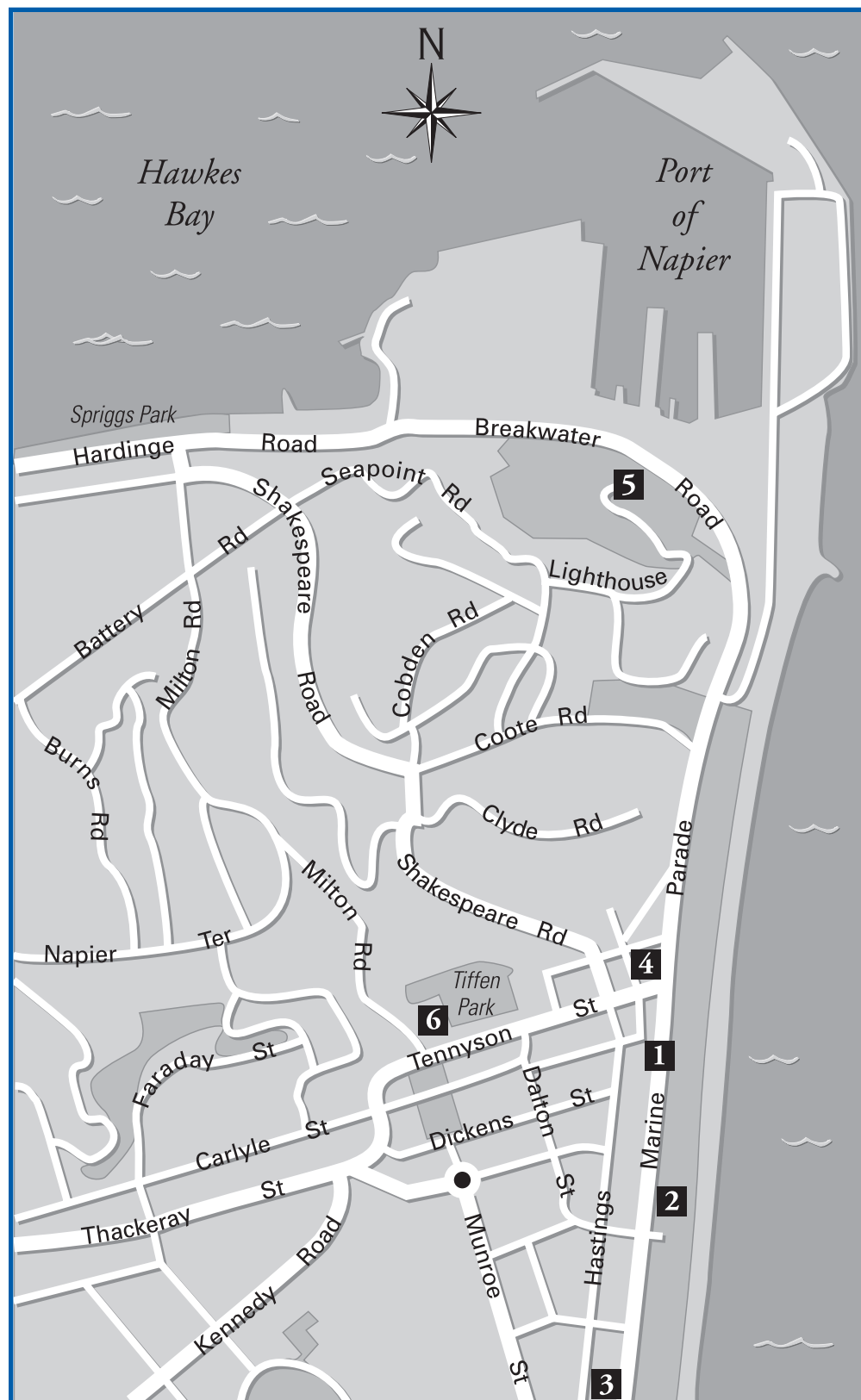
**5 Bluff Hill Lookout** offers an excellent view over all of Hawkes Bay from Bluff Hill, 338 feet (102 meters) above the Port of Napier.

**6 Art Deco Architecture** The Visitor Information Center can provide maps pointing out the main Art Deco features.

## Beyond Napier

**Vineyards** Surrounding Napier/Hastings are around 50 vineyards, offering award-winning wines. Most of these are open daily for tastings, and a number also provide great menus specializing in fresh local produce for both lunch and dinner.

**Hastings City** A half-hour drive from Napier, Hastings has many examples of Spanish Mission style architecture.



**SHORE EXCURSIONS** To make the most of your visit to Napier and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, guests are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.

**LOCAL CUSTOMS** Tipping: Tips or gratuities are not normally expected for normal service in New Zealand. However, you may wish to show your appreciation by tipping for extra service or kindness.

Local Cuisine: Napier has an excellent selection of restaurants, cafés and bars, and many places act as all three.

Local drink: The Hawkes Bay area is one of New Zealand's premier wine-producing regions and a number of vineyards can be visited for tastings. Hawkes Bay is very much the Chardonnay capital of New Zealand, but Cabernet Sauvignon grapes from the area are highly regarded and many other varieties are produced. The Hawkes Bay vintners produce a handy Guide to the Wineries of Hawkes Bay, which lists opening hours.

**SHOPPING FACILITIES** Napier offers good quality shopping with a local specialty being one-off exclusively designed souvenirs. Visitors are able to see local artists and craftspeople at work in their studios or visit the local sheepskin center. There is a street shopping mall situated all the way along Emerson Street, which is very central to Marine Parade. Many craftspeople reside in the Hawkes Bay region. A number open their studios to the public. Their locations range from Wairoa in the north to Waimarama and Waipukurau in the south. Get a copy of the informative Hawkes Bay Arts & Crafts Guide from the Visitor Information Centers. A number of antique dealers are listed in the Napier Antique Trail leaflet.

**LOCAL CURRENCY** The currency is the New Zealand Dollar. Foreign exchange rates fluctuate. There is also a slight variation for cash or traveler's checks.

**POST OFFICE & TELEPHONE FACILITIES** A Post Office is located on Hastings Street near the intersection of Dickens Street. The Napier Visitor Information Centre also sells stamps. There are coin phones on Tennyson Street, and directly outside the Visitor Information Centre. On Marine Parade there are both calling card and credit card phones. Dial the following access numbers to place a call with your personal calling card:

AT&T: 000.911

MCI: 000.912

SPRINT: 000.999

**TOURIST INFORMATION** Napier's helpful and well informed Visitor Information Centre is located at 100 Marine Parade. The AA office is a couple of blocks away on Dickens Street. The DOC office is also on Marine Parade, in the Old Courthouse beside the museum. It has plenty of information on walkways around Napier, the Cape Kidnappers Gannet Colony, Te Urewera National Park, and the Kaweka and Ruahine forest parks, both about 31 miles (50 km) west of Napier.

**TRANSPORTATION** Taxis are available at any time; their most convenient station is situated on Marine Parade. Nimbus operates the suburban bus services on weekdays, with regular buses between Napier and Hastings via Taradale, plus other local services. There's no service at all on the weekends. All the local buses depart from the corner of Dickens and Dalton Streets.

**USEFUL WORDS & PHRASES** The language spoken is English; however, Maori greetings are finding increased popularity. Here are a few phrases:

Hello • Kia ora

Good bye • Haere ra

Welcome • Haere mai!

Very well, thank you, ok • Kei te pai

Thank you • Ka pai

How are you? • Kei te pehea koe?

Woman • wahine

Ocean • wainui