

Waipu Information

Waipu is part of the magical Bream Bay. Mana Whenua is held by iwi Patuharakeke, their marae is in Takahiwai on the southern shores of the Whangarei Harbour beneath the majestic Mount Manaia. Over the years, schools within the Bream Bay area have developed an ongoing relationship with the Takahiwai Marae.

Captain Cook discovered this area in 1769. Anchoring and catching a large amount of “bream” (snapper) he thought it appropriate to name this area Bream Bay.

The first Europeans to this area were the Nova Scotians. After having to leave their homelands in the Scottish Highlands, in 1817 a large group led by Norman McLeod migrated to St Anns in Nova Scotia. Battling the cold harsh winters, potato blight and failed crops, this hardworking settlement decided to emigrate to Australia. After finding that Australia was not what they had expected, the Nova Scotians migrated to Waipu in 1853. The Nova Scotians have established a successful community in Waipu. Their celebrated story is told in the Waipu Museum.

Waipu is a suburb that lies within the Territorial Authority of Whangarei, a half-hour's drive away, one of 52 residential suburbs that form the wider region. It is located in Bream Bay on the North Island's eastern coast. Waipu is the 7th largest suburb of Whangarei in terms of the total number of residential housing stock. Waipu provides a range of housing stock, with the earliest residential housing recorded in the area constructed between 1880 - 1889. The majority of the residential housing stock in the locality was constructed between 2000 - 2009. Residential housing stock in Waipu is made up of approximately 43% residential housing, 1% residential investment housing and 57% lifestyle properties. The median rent in Waipu for houses is \$425 per week (QV) and the 2019 median listing price for houses is 691,500 (QV).

Waipu is a developing residential suburb with a large amount of lifestyle sections in the area, many of which command views of the nearby surroundings and coastline. Residents enjoy a relaxed setting and almost semi-rural lifestyle. Waipu is self-sufficient with a range of amenities in the area, including a supermarket, a hardware store, a local police station, rest homes and a great selection of local restaurants and cafés. Waipu residents enjoy access to the nearby coast, which provides great outdoor opportunities for the whole family. There are ample recreational pursuits if you like an active life. Waipu has a network of walkways, recreation access points and linkages through the area and to the coast. The coastal road is a scenic experience with significant outlooks to the coast viewed from the key public vantage points - and the coastal marine area is our taonga. If you like surfing or boating, then Waipu is the place for you. Waipu also has a long-established museum and a public library. For keen golfers there is the Waipu Golf Club (www.waipugolfclub.org.nz).