

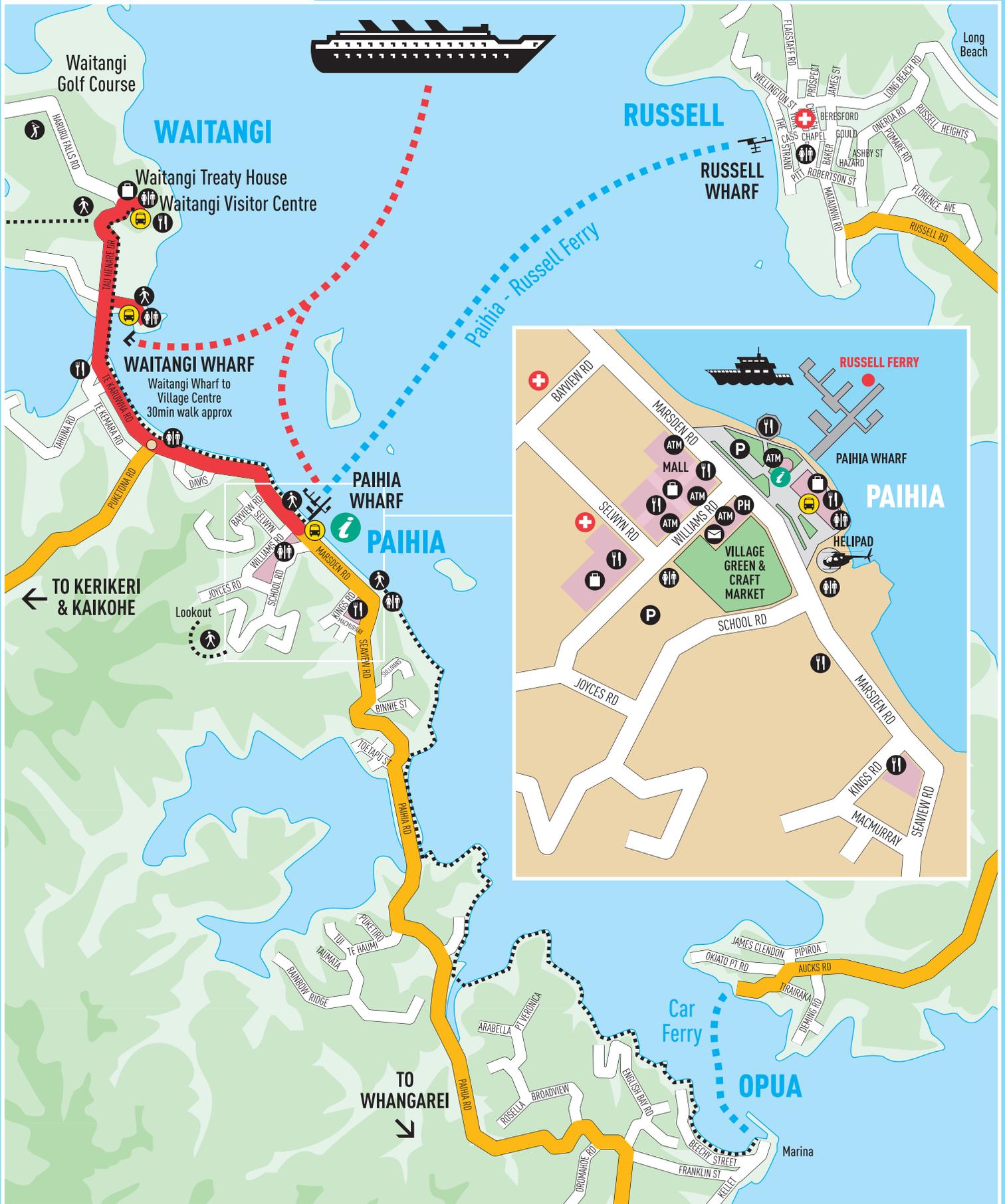
PAIHIA, WAITANGI & RUSSELL GUIDE

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KEY

- ATM Machine
- Toilets/Bathroom
- Medical
- Post Office
- Restaurants/Cafés
- Retail Shops
- Pharmacy
- Walks
- Shuttle pick up & drop-off - Paihia Wharf
- Shuttle Route
- Village centre, shops & cafés



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PAIHIA

With its three sandy beaches sheltered by rocky islets, Paihia has been a popular holiday destination for over a hundred years.

Missionaries were the first Europeans to settle Paihia in 1823. Led by Rev. Henry Williams they built a house, a store and the first church in New Zealand, which was constructed in the traditional Maori way using raupo.

Today Paihia's main industry is tourism. The Paihia wharf is the base for scenic cruises, sea excursions and deep-sea fishing. There are plenty of recreational activities in the blue-green world of the Bay of Islands especially during the summer. Many residents work in the adventure and recreational fields running yacht or launch charters, dive, snorkel and sea kayak experiences.

Paihia is known as the jewel of the magnificent Bay of Islands. With shimmering safe waters and superb beaches it is easy to understand why so many people choose to make it their home.

Paihia is the place of friendly locals, trendy cafés and people enjoying life, with hundreds of businesses including restaurants, local arts, crafts and tourism operators. The population soars over the summer months and whether it is swimming with dolphins, taking in a spot of retail therapy or just lazing under a tree, Paihia is the place for it.

WAITANGI

The Waitangi Treaty Grounds offer a unique and fascinating insight into New Zealand's historic past. New Zealand's most significant document, The Treaty of Waitangi first signed here in 1840 between Maori Chiefs and the British Crown became the basis for life in New Zealand as we know it today. The Treaty House is located



amongst a peaceful estate which includes a fully carved Maori meeting house, one of the largest Maori war canoes (Ngatoki Matawhaorua) and a visitor centre and gallery, the mangrove forest, the Waitangi golf course, abundant native bird life, heritage trees and wonderful bay views.

The Treaty House, the Whare Runanga and Ngatoki Matawhaorua are now the key taonga (treasures) of the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, along with the natural beauty of the Waitangi National Trust estate.

RUSSELL

A quick ferry ride across the water from Paihia is the charming, elegant township of Russell, once the shore leave destination for sailors, whalers and traders during the 18th and 19th centuries. Today Russell is still a favoured spot for boaties who seek safe anchorage. There are frequent passenger ferries servicing the water between



Paihia and Russell and can take 5 minutes for an exhilarating fast boat ride, or a leisurely 20 minutes on one of the traditional ferries.

Russell was an established Maori settlement called Kororareka prior to Captain Cook's arrival. From the early 1800s, whalers found Kororareka

ideal as a provisioning port. The town grew in response, gaining a reputation as a lawless and bawdy port and earning the nickname "Hell Hole of the Pacific". Things have changed today but Russell is still a provisioning base for pleasure crafts cruising the Bay of Islands and the South Pacific.

From the early 1900s Russell became known as a quiet historic town. Other attractions that brought visitors were the annual regatta and the development of big game fishing, with enthusiasm by the American writer, Zane Grey. Historic places include the Pompallier Mission which is made from rammed earth and Christ Church, New Zealand's oldest standing church which still carries the bullet holes from the Maori Wars, and the famous Flagstaff Hill. Russell offers a fascinating museum, cafés, restaurants and some amazing colonial homes, many of which are now operating as visitor accommodation.

OPUA

Opuia is the main port in the Far North and is recognized as one of New Zealand's most popular Ports of Entry for blue water cruising yachts from around the world. The vehicular ferry operates a return shuttle from Opuia to Okiato Point servicing Russell residents and visitors.

The Opuia Coastal Walkway connects Paihia and Opuia and follows a very attractive coastal trail. Return walk allow approx. 4 hours.

HARURU FALLS

Haruru Falls is a small residential settlement, about three kilometres inland from its larger neighbour, Paihia.

The waterfall is in a horseshoe shape – very rare and quite spectacular. Maori legend has it that a taniwha (water monster) lives in the lagoon below. Haruru Falls was New Zealand's first river port and an aramoana (sea road or ocean path) for the inland Maori tribes serviced nine kaianga (villages) between Haruru and Waitangi. Missionaries reported seeing 60 to 100 canoes pulled up on the mud banks.

A scenic drive and popular public walking track has been established between Haruru Falls and Waitangi encompassing the Waitangi golf course and National Trust grounds.