

# TE HUI TAITUARĀ 2026

## Taranaki Delegation Tour

7 & 8 September 2026

New Plymouth, Aotearoa New Zealand

### Discover the stories shaping a region

Join us for an immersive, fully hosted delegation tour showcasing the projects, partnerships and cultural narratives shaping the future of Taranaki. This curated experience takes you beyond the conference and into the places, people and stories that define Ngāmotu.

#### DAY 1



### Ngāmotu New Plymouth – A Guided Narrative Journey

Day 1 is dedicated to understanding the cultural landscape of Ngāmotu New Plymouth through a narrative-driven exploration. Rather than just viewing sights, the delegation will engage with the living history of the region.

- **Focus:** Whakapapa (histories, values, and stories of place), resilience, and future development.
- **The Experience:** Local leaders will guide the delegation, sharing the profound significance of each site to mana whenua (local iwi/hapū with territorial rights).
- **Takeaway:** A foundational understanding of how traditional identity shapes modern and future regional strategy.

#### DAY 2



### South Taranaki – Innovation, Community & Conservation

On Day 2, the delegation will travel south to witness how community co-design and regional collaboration translate into tangible environmental, cultural, and urban projects.

- **Focus:** Partnership, co-design, and community-led resilience.
- **The Experience:** Journeying south to see collaboration in action from iwi-led civic architecture and volunteer-driven ecological restoration to grassroots urban renewal.
- **Takeaway:** A blueprint showing how local government can empower communities, honour indigenous narratives, and build sustainable regional infrastructure.



### Destination Kāwaroa

A coastal development reflecting deep connections between people and the moana. Stories explore traditional use, cultural significance to Ngāti Te Whiti, and how design honours ancestral relationships.



### Ngāmotu / Muru Raupatu Marae

Experience a pōwhiri and hear oral histories grounded in whakapapa, including stories of resilience, identity and cultural revitalisation.

### New Plymouth Airport

A powerful example of infrastructure embedding cultural identity, sharing stories of Puketapu Hapū and the history of the land.



### Otupaia Marine Park

Where river meets sea, stories of mahinga kai, co-governance and environmental restoration highlight enduring iwi relationships with the environment.



### Pukerangiora Pā

A sacred wāhi tapu, sharing stories of conflict, survival and intergenerational memory, and a vision for future cultural storytelling.





## Narratives Along the Journey

Between site visits, delegates will experience guided drive-by storytelling across the wider region. These narratives provide deeper context and understanding of places of significance to mana whenua.

- **Puketapu landscapes** – Stories of ancestral connections, whenua (land), and the significance of local maunga, rivers and settlements.
- **Waitara region** – Narratives of historic pā sites, land conflicts, and the legacy of the Waitara Lands, shaping identity and history.
- **Te Ara Tutohu and Mahoetahi** – Stories of important historical events, including conflict and resilience within the region.
- **Coastal and travel routes** – Traditional pathways, food gathering areas (mahinga kai), and systems of movement and connection.
- **Urban Ngāmotu** – Evolving city narratives including planning, regeneration, and how contemporary development reflects cultural values.



## Urban Transformation & Community Development

In addition to site visits, delegates will gain insight into key projects shaping the future of Ngāmotu.

### Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga

Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga is South Taranaki's award-winning civic hub, bringing together the district's library, arts and culture facilities, i-SITE, AA services and café in one place. Co-designed with local iwi, the building reflects the stories and identity of the region while incorporating environmentally sustainable features, including solar panels, rainwater harvesting and energy-efficient design.



### Rotokare Scenic Reserve

A stunning 230ha forested hill-country catchment, with extensive wetlands and a 17.8ha natural lake. The Council supported a local group of volunteers, now over a decade ago, to install a predator-proof fence around the entire reserve. This group has gone from strength to strength, introducing many endangered native species back into the reserve and restoring thriving ecosystems.



### Eltham Town Revitalisation project

Travelling through Eltham from Hāwera, you'll see a town revitalisation project which is about to get underway. The project has been co-designed with the community to revitalise the centre of Eltham, enhancing public spaces, celebrating the town's heritage and character, making the town feel more inviting and vibrant, and providing better access to off-street parking.



## Event Details

**Date:** Monday, 7 September 2026

**Time:** 9:00am – 5:00pm

**Start/Finish:** TSB Showplace

**Transport:** Fully hosted (bus or shuttle provided)

**Spaces are limited. Register via your Taituarā Conference booking.**

**Contact:** Ann Thomson [ann.thomson@taituara.org.nz](mailto:ann.thomson@taituara.org.nz)

## What to bring

Comfortable walking shoes

Warm clothing and raincoat

Water bottle

**Secure your place** ▶

