

TE HUI TAITUARĀ 2026

Taranaki Delegation Tour

7 & 8 September 2026

New Plymouth, Aotearoa New Zealand

Discover the stories shaping a region

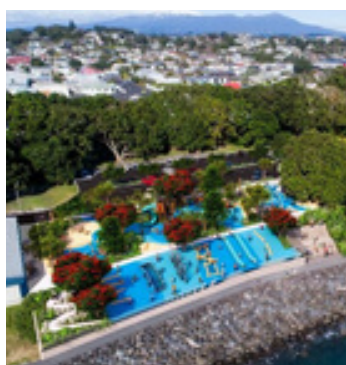
Join us for an immersive, fully hosted delegation tour showcasing the projects, partnerships and cultural narratives shaping the future of Taranaki. This curated experience takes you beyond the conference and into the places, people and stories that define Ngāmotu.

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.



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.



Otupaiia 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.





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.

Te Ramanui o Ruapātahanga

South Taranaki's award-winning civic hub brings together the district's library, arts and culture facilities, i-SITE, AA services and café. Co-designed with local iwi, it reflects the region's identity while incorporating sustainable features such as solar panels and rainwater harvesting.



Rotokare Scenic Reserve

A stunning 230ha forested catchment featuring extensive wetlands and a 17.8ha natural lake. More than a decade ago, Council supported volunteers to install a predator-proof fence, creating a sanctuary where endangered native species are now thriving.



Eltham Town Revitalisation project

Travelling through Eltham from Hāwera, you'll see a town revitalisation project about to get underway. Co-designed with the community, it will enhance public spaces, create a more welcoming town centre, and improve access to off-street parking.



Parihaka

An historic village renowned globally as a legendary centre of peaceful resistance. In the late 1800s, pacifist leaders Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi established a thriving, self-sufficient community there to protest the unjust confiscation of Māori land.



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.

Event Details

Day 1: 7 September | **Day 2:** 8 September

Time: 9:00am – 5:00pm

Start/Finish: TSB Showplace

Transport: Fully hosted (bus or shuttle provided)

Free for conference delegates.

Spaces are limited. Register via your Taituarā Conference booking.

What to bring

Comfortable walking shoes

Warm clothing and raincoat

Water bottle

Secure your place ➔

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