

DISCOVER

THE COUNTRY ROAD

NEW ZEALAND

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY AND MANAWATU

If you're travelling between Wellington and Auckland, take the scenic route and explore the real New Zealand through The Country Road scenic routes and experiences. For a few hours or a few days, you'll discover Kiwi back country the way it should be enjoyed.

These are journeys where off-the-beaten-track excursions will lead you to find hidden places and tucked away treasures ranging from convivial country cafes and pubs; heritage sites, galleries and gardens, to scenic reserves, day walks, swimming holes, glow-worm caves, picnic areas, and camping spots. Meet the locals, discover man-caves of fascinating collections and enjoy world-class scenery from the roadside.

TOURING THE COUNTRY ROAD

Stormy Point Route

Apiti named because of the well known lookout at Stormy Point, this route takes you high above diverse, lush farmland, through winding country lanes and past gardens, a boutique wool mill and a stunning artist's haven. On a clear day you can see as far as Mt. Ruapehu and the West Coast.

Peep-O-Day Route

Heritage, shopping, world-class gardens, country pubs, cafes and more are all waiting to be discovered on this scenic route. The countryside changes dramatically as you travel along, and the many viewpoints offer uninterrupted views of the valleys below.

Manawatu Scenic Route

Take the scenic alternative to State Highway One and discover stunning scenery, deep valleys and towering mountain ranges. This scenic route offers you a wide range of activities, from secret swimming holes, walks and hikes through ancient native bush, horse treks at high altitude as well as gardens and heritage collections galore. Discover rural villages and the awe-inspiring Pohangina Valley, where the route takes you on an incredible journey through an evolving landscape and offers you an insight into real Kiwi backcountry where the journey is as much a part of the adventure as the destination. This route will take you through to Palmerston North City and onto Wairarapa, Wellington and Hawkes Bay.

Staying on The Country Road

Bed & breakfasts, farm and homestays and other unique hosted accommodation can be found across all parts of Manawatu, bringing local flavour and colour to your wanderings along The Country Road. There are many campsites and scenic spots for campervans along the way.

Activities on The Country Road

Life in the lower North Island is a mixture of exciting adventure activities like jet boating, hunting, hiking, rafting and motorsport, as well as indulgent experiences such as wine tasting and natural beauty retreats. Scenic golf courses, world-class gardens and wildlife parks are also highlights.

Heritage on The Country Road

From small scale man shed collections to large, inspiring museums – The Country Road offers you an insight into New Zealand's proud history through an array of colourful collections where you can immerse yourself in tales of agriculture, pioneering settlers, rugby, vehicles, machinery and more.

PICK UP A COPY

Cycling The Country Road Map and Guide

From the Palmerston North City i-SITE or Feilding Information Centre.

For those on two wheels, Manawatu offers a diverse menu of cycling options, from mountain biking and downhill hurtles to gentle flat jaunts and family fun rides. Road cycling offers rides for all fitness levels with multi day treks and flat coastal rides to challenge and inspire you. Highlights are the ice-cream stops, rich agricultural areas, historic towns and delightful country roads.

The multi-day ride on the Manawatu Cycleway, part of the New Zealand Cycle Trails heartland rides, is well worth it and offers a unique insight into the diverse landscapes and welcoming nature of Manawatu.

DUMP STATIONS FOR MOTORHOMES

PALMERSTON NORTH CALEX SERVICE STATION

Location: Turners Road, Feilding
Google Maps: -40.235238,175.572595

RANGIAWHIA DOMAIN

Location: Napier Road, Ashhurst
Google Maps: -40.301082,175.57205

FEILDING BP EXPRESS SERVICE STATION

Location: Cnr Kimbolton Rd & Aorangi St, Feilding
Google Maps: -40.224754,175.566721

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR YOUR JOURNEY

- When on rural roads, please be mindful of cyclists, farm vehicles and stock being moved (sheep etc).
- Not all operators have epos or credit card facilities so we recommend you to take cash with you as well.
- It pays to plan ahead as operating hours can vary.
- Fill up your petrol tank before your journey. Petrol stations can be found in Foxton, Shannon, Palmerston North, Feilding, Ashhurst, Woodville, Marton, Hunterville, Tahape, Bulls and Sanson.
- Take a camera! There are many photo-worthy spots along the way, so a camera is a must! You'll capture stunning vistas, seasonal delights and more.
- Note: All GPS coordinates are based off Google Maps



DRIVING TIMES FROM THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH AROUND THE REGION

	61 KM	50 minutes
APITI	61 KM	50 minutes
ASHURST	15 KM	15 minutes
BULLS	30 KM	25 minutes
CHELTENHAM	31 KM	30 minutes
FEILDING	19 KM	20 minutes
FOXTON BEACH	44 KM	35 minutes
HIMATANGI BEACH	36 KM	30 minutes
KIMBOLTON	46 KM	38 minutes
MANGAWEKA	82 KM	67 minutes
POHANGINA VALLEY	25 KM	25 minutes
RANGIAWHIA	71 KM	63 minutes
SHANNON	31 KM	25 minutes
WOODVILLE	27 KM	30 minutes

AROUND THE NORTH ISLAND

	515 KM	6 HOURS 15 min
AUCKLAND	515 KM	6 HOURS 15 min
TAURANGA	393 KM	4 HOURS 50 min
ROTORUA	324 KM	4 HOURS
TAUPO	243 KM	3 HOURS
NEW PLYMOUTH	223 KM	3 HOURS
RUAPEHU/OHAKUNE	158 KM	2 HOURS
NAPIER	176 KM	2 HOURS 10 min
WANGANUI	74 KM	1 HOUR
MASTERTON	91 KM	1 HOUR 20 min
WELLINGTON	140 KM	2 HOURS