

Location

The programme is based at Te Kauri Lodge, which is nestled within 1,100 hectare Te Kauri Park Scenic Reserve. Te Kauri is approximately 60kms south west of Hamilton City (a one hour drive), on the Otorohanga-Kawhia Road (State Highway 31). The settlement of Kawhia is 20kms away.



Accommodation

Te Kauri Lodge: The Lodge can accommodate up to 95 people. It is a fully equipped self-catering venue (although catering can be arranged). There is a large dining room and separate lounge with open fire. The Lodge also has a fascinating museum. Charges apply for both day use and overnight stays but there are discount rates for school groups.

Campout: There is a campout site in the Reserve that is 45-minute walk from the Lodge carpark. It is well suited for overnight use by small school groups.

Background

Te Kauri Park Scenic Reserve is a 1,100 hectare remnant of podocarp forest located between Pirongia and Kawhia. Since the 1960's the Reserve has been the base of the Hamilton Junior Naturalist Club (Junats). The Junats built Te Kauri Lodge in 1961 and have played an important role in establishing and expanding Te Kauri Park as a public reserve. Junats have a rich history of ecological monitoring and environmental education.

The Junats initiated the Education and Restoration Project in 2002. In 2004 Te Kauri-Waikūku Trust was formed to manage the project. The Trust is a partnership between the Hamilton Junior Naturalist Club, The Department of Conservation, Te Runanganui O Ngati Hikairo and The Enviroschools Foundation.

Contacts

Te Kauri Educator:

027 248 3094 or joe@tekauri.org.nz
Contact Joe to discuss options and plan a programme.

Te Kauri Lodge:

(07) 871 0625 or lodge@tekauri.org.nz
Contact us to make a booking for your school.

Junats Club:

(07) 855 1242 or president@junats.org.nz
Contact Junats or visit www.junats.org.nz to find out more about the Club.

Te Kauri-Waikūku Trust:

Post: P.O Box 228, Raglan, 3225, NZ

Email: info@tekauri.org.nz

Web: www.tekauri.org.nz



Te Kauri-Waikūku

learning through healing the forest

Education + Restoration Project

Environmental Education school camps with a focus on the forest



www.tekauri.org.nz

Learning through healing the forest

This is the motto of the Te Kauri Waikūku Education and Restoration Project. The focus of the project is integrating the ecological restoration of Te Kauri Park forest with education including a hands on programme for schools. We cater for primary, intermediate and secondary schools.

Key features of the Te Kauri Education Programme are:

- **Learning takes place in the natural environment** in English or Te Reo Māori. This is education that is 'in', 'about' and 'for' the environment. Ma te ringa raupa ka ngakaunui te tamaiti ki tona ao. (It is through hands on experience that a child learns to love their world.)
- **Support for teachers:** Our Educator is a qualified and experienced teacher who works with schools to plan and deliver an educational and stress free school camp. The services of the Te Kauri Educator are free to schools, as we are funded by the Ministry of Education LEOTC scheme.
- **Student centered:** Enquiry based learning that follows the same action learning cycle as the Enviroschools Programme. An exciting and educational experience for students.
- **Flexible programme:** Based on our comprehensive Education Kit that includes pre and post visit activities. Programmes are tailored to school and student needs.
- **Learning outcomes** can be linked to most curriculum areas. We also offer NCEA achievement standards in Biology.

Sample programme

This is for a 5-day camp. However our programmes can be adapted for shorter visits including day trips. A visit to Te Kauri can be combined with other outdoor activities in the area such as kayaking, rope work/ abseiling, or a trip on Kawhia Harbour.

Day 1: Getting to know your environment - sensory mapping. Plant ID and adaptations. Māori herbal remedies of plants (rongoa). Leaf art and tree study.

Day 2: Water quality testing and monitoring. Stream study with invertebrate ID and microscope work.

Day 3: Forest Monitoring - bird transects, pests and predators, vertebrate tracking. Night walk, glow worms.



Day 4: Collection and analysis of data from rodent tracker tunnels. Traditional Māori stories. Evening concert/drama.

Day 5: Reflection and evaluation - What have we learnt? Visit to Kawhia hot water beach and Beryl's Eels.



Feedback

The Te Kauri Education Programme was launched in 2004. 1000 students aged between 5-17 participate in the programme each year.

We have received some wonderful feedback...

"At Te Kauri I learned about how birds communicate with each other...I would like to know more about different types of trees...Joe the Educator was really good with us and he taught me heaps." - Student aged 12

"Everything worked really well. We were impressed with the way Joe came and spent time with the children at school beforehand, and everything he promised them did happen at the camp. Teachers learned heaps as well!"
- Principal Kaipaki School

"This was an awesome programme. All students were involved and on task. Follow on work will be easy because of the students' enthusiasm." - Teacher Oparau School

"Joe's involvement complemented our programme perfectly...his skills and knowledge made the camp the success it was."
- Teacher KioKio School

"I feel if Joe was not there the children would not have learned as much as they did, he took the pressure off the teachers and the whole camp was relaxing. I have lived in this area for 10 years and I learned a lot!" - Parent Hauturu School