

PLACENAMES INSPIRED BY NATURE

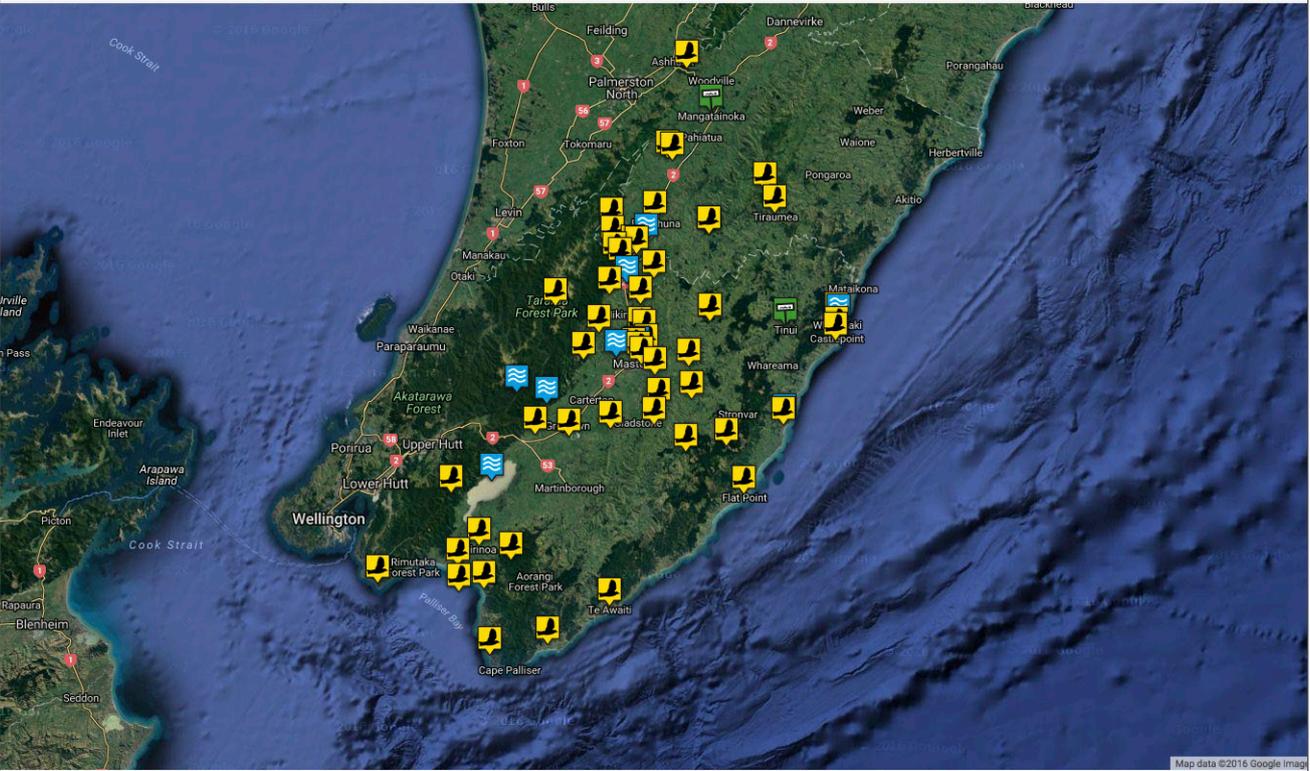


PLACENAMES INSPIRED BY NATURE - A SELECTION

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Alfredton	Aorangi Mountain Range
Castlepoint	Castlerock
Flat Point	Kaiparoro
Kaiwaewae	Kiriwhakapapa
Kotukutuku	Kourarau
Lees Pakaraka Road	Mahunga
Makakaweka Stream	Makirikiri

MANAWATU GORGE

Te Apiti (the cleft, pass or gorge).

At one time a great totara tree grew in the Puketoi Ranges, it was possessed by a supernatural being called Okatia. One day Okatia decided to move and so started to travel north west in the totara. Eventually the tree came to a massive barrier in the form of a huge mountain range. The mountains blocked his path so Okatia forced his way through splitting the Range and creating the gorge. The Tararua and Ruahine mountain ranges separating at the time.

In memory of the event Te Aurere a tonga (the flowing current of the South) or Te Au nui a Tonga (the great south current) describe the river.

In the middle of the gorge a great red rock lies, its name is Te-Ahu-A-Turanga and is very tapu. It is said that even in the worst floods Te-Ahu-A-Turanga remains uncovered by water.

PUKETOI

(Hill or Range moving fast).

PONGAROA

ponga: tree-fern; roa: tall

RONGOKOKAKO

rongo:to hear; kokako: New Zealand crow

NGAAWAPURUA

(Blocked up rivers)

NIKAU

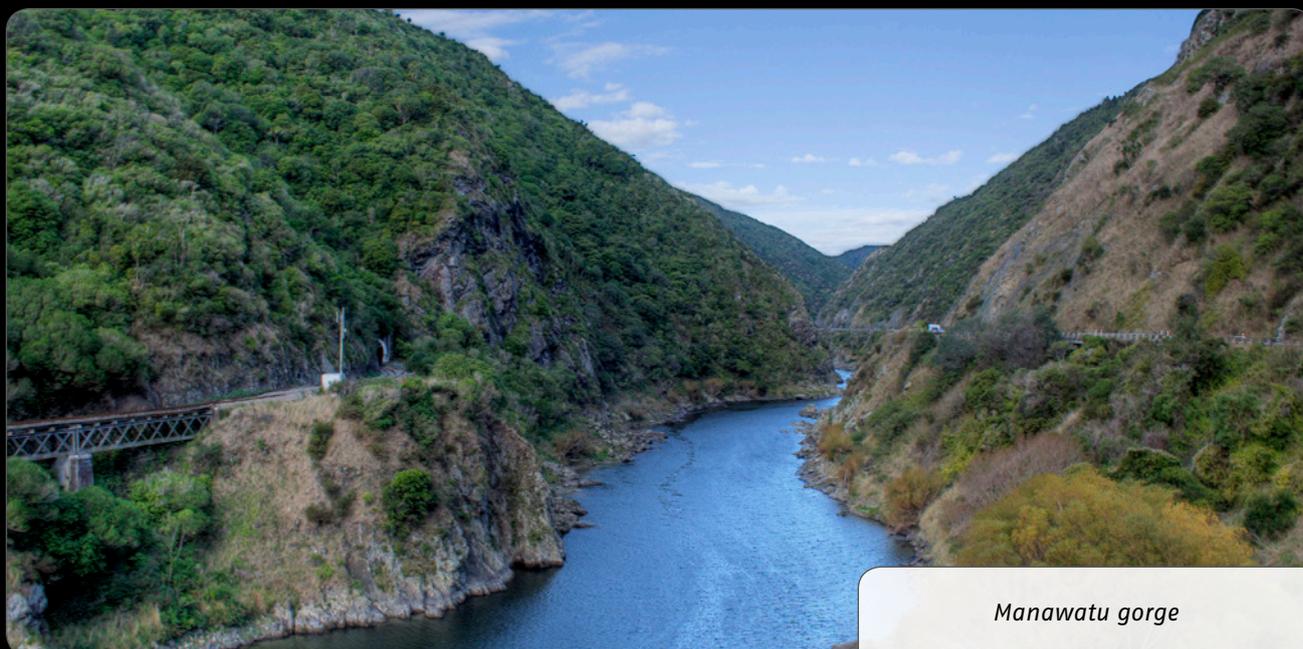
(Nikau is named after the tree fern, native palm)

TIRAUMEA

(Leaves of the cabbage tree waving in the wind)

KONINI

(The fruit of the Kotukutuku tree)



Manawatu gorge

TUTAEKARA	Te kara pai o te tu tae maire (the nice smell of the maire juice in the belt)
KAIPARORO	Ka hu te paroro, paroro kuri, ka kai, ka waipuke, te whenua (The howling dog of paroro that eats the land, when you hear the howling dog move to high ground, paroro is hungry) "Kaiparoro was a loud and violent wind from the ranges that was followed by heavy rain which usually caused flooding in the Kaiparoro and Rongokokako area. Kai = eat, paroro = the wind."
PUTARA	Te hau tangi putara (the wind that cries like the trumpet)
MAKAKAHI	(The stream of fresh water mussels)
MAKURI	(Makuri means the stream of the dog, possibly from when dogs were used for hunting kiwi along the stream)
MANGAHAO	(Koura were once found in large numbers in the river. Hao means netting so Mangahao refers to the method used to catch fish)
MANGAMAIRE	(The stream of the maire or New Zealand olive).
MANGAONE	(The stream of sand)
MANGATAINOKA	tainoka; native broom: manga; stream. (The stream of native broom).
ALFREDTON	Moroa ("Oh, a clearing!").
EKETAHUNA	(to run aground on a sandbank).
MAKIRIKIRI	ma: stream; kirikiri: gravelly
TARARUA MOUNTAINS	Tararua maunga
THE SEVENTY MILE BUSH	Te Tapere Nui a Whatonga (The great domain of Whatonga)
RUAMAHANGA RIVER	Ruamahanga awa: rua: two; mahanga: forks (Twin forks)
MOUNT BRUCE	Pukaha: pu; wind: kaha; strong (The place of strong winds)
KOTUKUTUKU	(native fuchsia)
KIRIWHAKAPAPA	A group of people were resting by a fire in the area. A piece of burning wood rolled out of the fire burning the skin of one of the people. This is how kiriwhakapapa received its name.
MAURICEVILLE	Teawahanui (The big bow) The place where the Kopuaranga River has a big bow

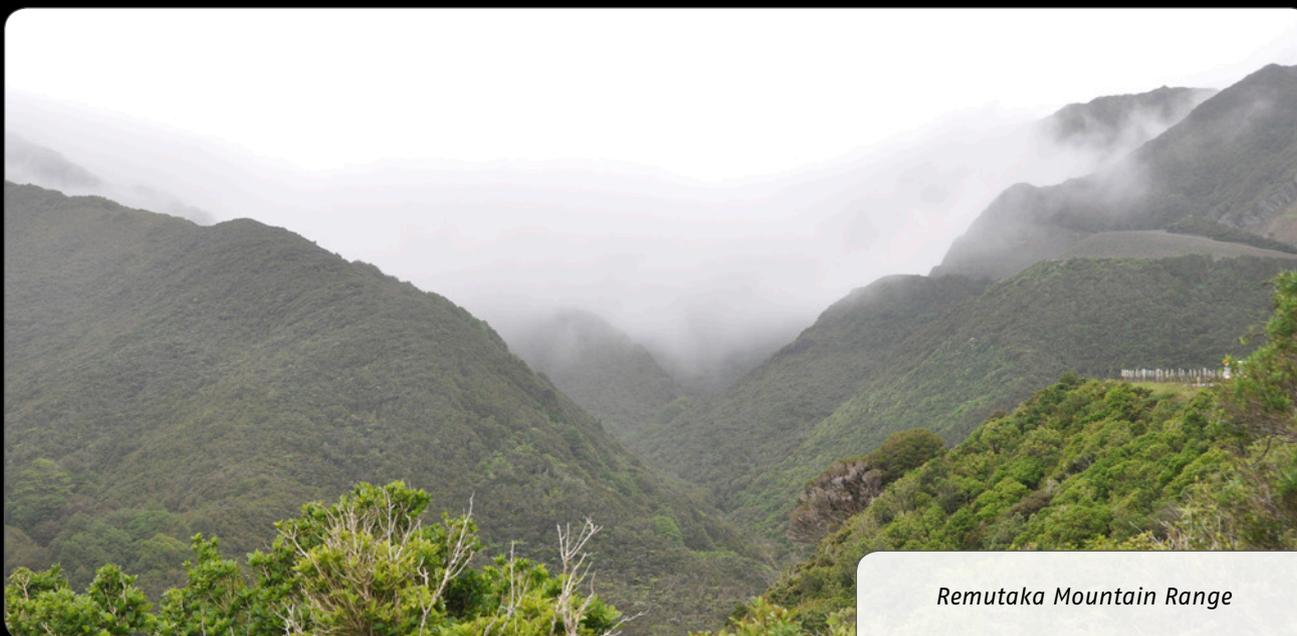


Taueru or Tauweru

BIDEFORD	The Bideford area is made up of an number of original Māori lands including: Te Pohue: te: the; pohue: climbing plant , such as convulus, clematis etc and Te kai o te atua: (Food of the gods)
KOPUARANGA	(Fish in a deep pool)
TAUERU OR TAUWERU	(the two seasons or two years; or the garment that ties; or hanging in clusters)
WAINUIORU	(the big stream of Ru) named after Ru who was a land surveyor
TUPURUPURU	tupurupuru; a native plant (Tupurupuru was the name of an ancestor of the Te Whiti/Maungarake area).
OPAKI	(fine or clear)
WILLOW PARK DRIVE	Waioriori
OKURUPATU	(The neck part of a dogs skin)
MAHUNGA	Top of the head
MAKAKAWEKA STREAM	(Woodhens made tapu by the tohunga)
NGAUMUTAWA	(ovens made of tawa wood)
MAKOURA	ma; white: koura; crayfish (Stream of the white crayfish)
MANGAAKUTA	(where streams meet)

MASTERTON	Whakaoriori "In the old days, when the township of Masterton was being built, the old people had their whare (houses) lined up along the edge of the bush which ran along Dixon Street and Chapel Street. In the evenings the old people would sit outside their whare with their young ones, either in their laps or wrapped up in a blanket and tied to their backs, and they would sit and listen to the many birds – the tui, kokako, kaka, pipi-wharau and many other native birds singing their many songs. The old people would then chant along with the music of the birds, making up words as they went along. In many cases words of the chant would be about lost ones of the tribes they come from or the battles between tribes, and whakapapa (history), at the same time rocking their young ones to sleep while chanting their songs with the birds of the surrounding bush. Hence the name Whakaoriori (to chant)." Kerehi M, Pipiwharau Wairarapa Times Age 1991
WAIPOUA RIVER	Waipoua awa: wai: water; poua: walking stick (To test the depth of water with a walking stick)
WAINGAWA RIVER	Wai a wanga wanga awa (Waters of confusion)
KAITUNA	kai: to eat, or food; tuna: eel
MOUNT HOLDSWORTH AND THE TARATAHI PLAINS	Taratahi (One peak)
LEES PAKARAKA ROAD	Pakaraka. Pa karaka refers to karaka trees grown in the vicinity of a pa that was built in the area of the modern road. The Pa karaka area on the Weraiti hills was a food gathering and bird snaring place.
MAUNGARAKE	barren mountain
KOURARAU	koura; fresh water crayfish: rau; hundreds or numerous
WAIOHINE RIVER	Wai o Hine Wairaka (water for his woman)
MOROA SOUTH	(oh a clearing) The plains in between modern Greytown and Featherston
MORISON'S BUSH	Kaitara
AHIARUHE	ahi: fire; aruhe: edible fern-root Fire for roasting fern-root

<p>LAKE WAIRARAPA</p>	<p>Wairarapa Moana or 'ka rarapa ngā kanohi ko Wairarapa' The reflection of the sun on a lake caught the eyes of the ancestor Haunuiananaia making them water. It was this incident that led to the name – Wairarapa. It was not so much the glistening water but the reflection of the sun that caught his eye and made them water.</p>
<p>REMUTAKA MOUNTAIN RANGE</p>	<p>Remutaka maunga (to sit down and gaze around)</p>
<p>TAUHERENIKAU RIVER</p>	<p>Tauwharenikau awa (the house made of nikau)</p>
<p>FEATHERSTON</p>	<p>Pae tu mokai Paetumokai refers to an area just south of where the Featherston township now is. It was given this name by a local chief, who lived there at one time. It was given the name because of a particular incident that involved this chief, or probably, more so, the pet of this chief. One thing about tipuna is that they are very keen on mokai. They have pet birds, dogs... and further back in history they had pet fish and even pet whales. Many iwi around the whole country have korero of particular pets. This korero involves the pet bird the chief had. One day it went missing and he went to look for it. Eventually he found it caught in a pae. The chief of course was very distraught at finding his pet like this and named the area around where it was caught Paetumokai meaning, the snare which caught my pet bird.</p>



Remutaka Mountain Range

KAIWAEWAE	The place where you got blisters on your feet from a prickly plant that grew there.
AORANGI	The light from above
MOUNT ROSS	Tuhirangi (Where it is written in the skies)
PIRINOA	(a parasitic plant) The township of Pirinoa in the southern Wairarapa is named after a parasitic plant found in the area.
NGAHAPE	nga: the; hape:hunchbacks referring to hills
OKAU	o:the place of; kau: swimming or wading
WHAKATAKI	(to search or drive fish into a net using the feet)
REWANUI	rewa: mast; nui:big
CASTLEPOINT	Rangiwhakaoma (Where the sky runs)
CASTLE ROCK	Matira (Lookout)
TINUI	Large or many cabbage trees
ORUHI	(a small star denoting the ninth month or to scatter or cast away).
RIVERSDALE	Motu-a-kairangi: motu: island; kai: food; rangi: sky (Where the sky eats the land)
RIVERSDALE STREAM	Motuwaireka: motu: island; wai: water; reka: sweet. (The island/place of sweet waters)
URITI	uru: grove; ti: cabbage tree. (A grove of cabbage trees. Another translation is given as meaning "deep green sea.")
POROPORO	(Plant with blue flower or cut off)
FLATPOINT	Te matamata a te Unuunu The area was named after a chief called Te Unuunu. The place is also sometimes called Te Hukakore which has two vastly different meanings. The first is due to the ferocity of the people, whom others feared and the second refers to the place of 'no tide' or 'no foam' due to the reef that shelters the bay at this location.
ARAWHATA	(Pathway to the storehouse).
WAIMOANA	wai; water: moana; sea
WAIKEKENO	(waters of the seals)



Palliser Bay

KAHU ROCK	ko te kahu. A rock formation in the ocean that is visible from Wharaurangi (Glenburn Station). It is said that from the air the rock resembles the out spread wings of a Kahu the native hawke.
HOREWAI	A large species of conga eel.
TE AWAITI	te: the; awa: river; iti: little
WHITE ROCK	Opouawe
PALLISER BAY	Te Waha o Te Ika a Maui or Te Kawakawa
PALLISER BAY	Kawakawa One of Kupe's daughters made a wreath made of kawakawa for her father. This is how Kawakawa or Palliser Bay received its name.
NGAWI	Ngawihi Ngawi is the name for a native grass
WHATARANGI	whata: Storehouse; rangi: sky.
TE KOPI (PALLISER BAY)	Te Kopi-a-Uenuku (The river gorge of Uenuku)
LAKE FERRY	Onoke Moana (The place of the earthworm)
TURAKIRAE POINT	turaki: to push down; rae: headland/forehead