

NGĀ IWI O TE MOTU URUPĀ

INFORMATION GUIDE

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā maunga, e ngā awaawa,
e ngā pātaka o ngā taonga tuku iho, tēnā koutou katoa.

All authorities, all voices, all mountains, all rivers,
all treasure houses, greetings to you all.



Ngā Iwi o te Motu (Urupā)

A new burial ground, Ngā Iwi o Te Motu Urupā, is now available to the public at Mākara Cemetery.

The urupā built on high sloping ground near Mākara cemetery entrance, was opened by Wellington Mayor Celia Wade-Brown, iwi and kaumātua in August 2011. The carved gateway (waharoa) at the entrance was unveiled and blessed.

The burial ground was named by local iwi Taranaki Whānui ki te Upoko o te Ika a Māui.

The urupā was developed in consultation with local iwi, mana whenua, kaumātua and the Department of Corrections. The result is a special resting place especially for Māori who choose to be buried in Wellington.

The burial ground has been designed to have west-facing headstones and a pathway and gathering area with two macrocarpa seats. Water for ritual cleansing is located directly in front of the waharoa at the urupā.

The gateway carvings were designed by Taranaki carver Bryce Manu. They were carved over 12 weeks by three prisoners from the Māori Focus Unit at Rimutaka Prison, led by carving teacher and Corrections officer Kereopa Wharehinga.

The central figure on the front of the carved gateway represents Ue Poto, guardian of everything that dwells beneath the surface of the land. The central figure on the rear represents Tūpai Whakarongo Wānanga, guardian of bones and residue.

The front-facing panels of the barge boards (maihi) display motifs distinctive to the northern and eastern regions of Aotearoa New Zealand. On the reverse are motifs distinctive to the southern and western regions of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The motifs acknowledge the ancestors, people and landmarks of those regions. The wheku (carved heads) at the feet of the manaia (full-bodied figures) symbolise kotahi te reo (one voice/language). The three prongs at the end of each maihi represent the fingers of the kaitiaki (caretakers) Ue Poto and Tūpai Whakarongo Wānanga.

WHO MAY BE BURIED IN THE URUPĀ?

The laying out of the urupā came about after comment received over time from members of the Māori community. It is highly likely that the people who will request interment in the urupā will be of Māori descent (whakapapa), partners and whāngai; or any person who has an affinity with the Māori culture.

Wellington City Council will not refuse a request for burial in the urupā.

WHAT DOES THE URUPĀ OFFER?

- Double or single depth plots
- Pre-purchase of a second plot alongside. There is a follow-on system to plot management. It is not possible to choose isolated plots within the site.
- Low headstones only (up top 1150 mm)
- No decorations are permitted: no gardens, decorations, groundcover, etc. are allowed on plots/graves in the Urupā.
- Natural burials. You may choose not to embalm and use an untreated casket. For a full natural burial experience you may prefer to select our natural burials site within Mākara cemetery.
- Ash burials. Up to six ash urns can be placed in one plot.

- Placenta/umbilical cord burial. There is provision for the burial of placenta (whenua) and umbilical cord (pito) on top of loved ones. You will need to make arrangements with the cemetery as there may be conditions to meet prior to burial.
- For health and safety reasons the public may not dig or help to dig burial plots. However, they may help to fill the plot.

SCATTERING OF ASHES OUTSIDE OF CEMETERY

If you seek to scatter or bury ashes and bury dead fetuses, placentas and body parts, you should only do so with permission from Wellington City Council.

Before granting permission you will be asked to approach the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust and Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Incorporated to discuss where the scattering of ashes, the interment of ashes or the interment of placenta is appropriate. This will help ensure that burials or scatterings of ashes do not impact upon wāhi tapu.

You will also be asked to consider the range of services provided by the Cemeteries and Crematorium Unit.

For more information view the commemorative policy at www.wellington.govt.nz

BURIAL COSTS

The cemetery will tell you the exact costs of the burial option you choose (this will not include the funeral director's charges).

As a guide, in 2011 the fee was \$2628.00 per plot. This fee is made up off the following components:

- Plot, \$1100
- Maintenance fee [once only], \$763
- Beam fee, \$150
- Interment fee, \$615 (charged at time of burial i.e. not included in the fee of a pre-purchased plot).

The costs of caskets, funerals and celebrant services vary. When dealing with a funeral director it pays to be specific with your requirements, especially if you have financial constraints. Funeral directors can offer a range of products and services including:

- Embalming the body
- Providing a chapel for the funeral service
- Selling you a casket
- Organising a burial plot on your behalf
- Booking a cremation and organising an ash plot to bury the ashes in

You will be charged for all of these services.

HOW TO KEEP COSTS DOWN

- The body does not have to be embalmed in most cases (though this means that you have to bury the person quickly).
- Cremation may cost less than burial. You can bury up to 6 urns in a single plot.
- Buy a modest casket or make your own casket or shroud (talk to cemetery staff about this).
- Provide your own minister or funeral celebrant.
- Have the burial service or tangi at your church, marae, house, etc.
- Use your own vehicle instead of a hearse (casket must be carried inside the vehicle i.e. not on a trailer or deck of a truck).
- Make burial arrangements directly with the cemetery.



ASSISTANCE WITH COSTS

Contact your local Work and Income service centre to see the criteria for a funeral grant on www.workandincome.govt.nz

LOCATION

Ngā Iwi o te Motu Urupā has pride of place at the entrance to Mākara cemetery.

For direction on how to get to Mākara and a location map of the urupā and other sites within the Mākara cemetery go to www.wellington.govt.nz

CONTACT DETAILS

Karori Cemetery Office
76 Old Karori Road
Karori
Phone: (04) 476 6109
Fax: (04) 476 8242
Email: cemeteries@wcc.govt.nz

OPENING HOURS

Gates are open Monday – Sunday,
6.30am – dusk.

Absolutely

POSITIVELY

ME HEKE KI PĀNEKE
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

Wellington