

# Matariki Ahi Kā

**Presented by Wellington City Council**

Nau mai, haere mai. The celebration of the Māori New Year dates back over 700 years and is accompanied by long-established traditions.

The rising of Puanga (also known as the star Rigel in Orion) and the Matariki star cluster (Pleiades, or the Seven Sisters) marks the start of the Māori New Year, a time for remembering the past, celebrating the present, and looking to the future.

Wellington City Council invites you to celebrate the Māori New Year in a uniquely Wellington way. Enjoy a spectacular, free, whānau-friendly experience with our Matariki Ahi Kā and Mana Moana Pōneke events.

## Matariki Ahi Kā

6pm–9pm, Thursday 27–Sunday 30 June  
Wellington Waterfront

An immersive self-led walking journey with fire, projections, performances, a ceremony to honour those who have passed away since last Matariki and express hopes for the future, and kai.

The Pōhutukawa & Hiwa-i-te-rangi ceremony begins at the Memorial Wall each evening at 7.45pm and moves along Te Papa Promenade to Whairepo Lagoon, where names, memories, and hopes for the future, will be released into flames to become stars.

## Mana Moana Pōneke

15–16, 22–23 and 27–30 June  
Whairepo Lagoon

Stories from our ocean are projected onto a water screen. Watch as millions of water droplets fall and catch the light, creating the illusion of images appearing from the darkness and floating on the water.



**Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council**  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

# Matariki Ahi Kā Programme

## Thursday 27 June

6pm-9pm	Fire, projections, performances, and kai <b>Mana Moana Pōneke</b> , Whairepo Lagoon (with a short break for the ceremony)
6pm	<b>Opening/blessing</b>   Te Papa forecourt (5-10min) <b>Ngāti Pōneke Young Māori Club</b> (kapa haka)   Aroha Stage (until 6.30pm)
6.30pm	Tui (Soul, Pop)   Aroha stage
7.20pm	<b>Casual Healing</b> (Māori Roots, RnB, Reggae)   Aroha stage (until 7.50pm)
7.45pm	<b>The 'Pōhutukawa &amp; Hiwa-i-te-rangi' ceremony</b> starts at the Memorial Wall (see 16 on the map), moves along Te Papa Promenade and ends at Whairepo Lagoon (see 4 on the map), where names, memories, and hopes for the future will be released into flames to become stars.
8.10pm	<b>Awerangi</b> (Oldskool jams)   Aroha stage (until 9pm)

## Friday 28 June

6pm-9pm	Fire, projections, performances, and kai <b>Mana Moana Pōneke</b> , Whairepo Lagoon (with a short break for the ceremony)
6pm	<b>Ngāti Pōneke Young Māori Club</b> (kapa haka)   Aroha Stage
6.30pm	<b>Tom Knowles</b> (Reggae, Roots)   Aroha stage
7.20pm	<b>Casual Healing</b> (Māori Roots, RnB, Reggae)   Aroha stage (until 7.50pm)
7.45pm	<b>The 'Pōhutukawa &amp; Hiwa-i-te-rangi' ceremony</b> starts at the Memorial Wall (see 16 on the map), moves along Te Papa Promenade and ends at Whairepo Lagoon (see 4 on the map), where names, memories, and hopes for the future will be released into flames to become stars.
8.10pm	Tui (Soul, Pop)   Aroha stage

## Saturday 29 June

6pm-9pm	Fire, projections, performances, and kai <b>Mana Moana Pōneke</b> , Whairepo Lagoon (with a short break for the ceremony)
6pm	<b>Ngāti Pōneke Young Māori Club</b> (kapa haka)   Aroha Stage
6.30pm	<b>Tom Knowles</b> (Reggae, Roots)   Aroha stage
7.20pm	<b>Casual Healing</b> (Māori Roots, RnB, Reggae)   Aroha stage (until 7.50pm)
7.45pm	<b>The 'Pōhutukawa &amp; Hiwa-i-te-rangi' ceremony</b> starts at the Memorial Wall (see 16 on the map), moves along Te Papa Promenade and ends at Whairepo Lagoon (see 4 on the map), where names, memories, and hopes for the future will be released into flames to become stars.
8.10pm	<b>Awerangi</b> (Oldskool jams)   Aroha stage (until 9pm)

## Sunday 30 June

6pm-9pm	Fire, projections, performances, and kai <b>Mana Moana Pōneke</b> , Whairepo Lagoon (with a short break for the ceremony)
6pm	<b>Ngāti Pōneke Young Māori Club</b> (kapa haka)   Aroha Stage
6.30pm	Tui (Soul, Pop)   Aroha stage
7.20pm	<b>Casual Healing</b> (Māori Roots, RnB, Reggae)   Aroha stage (until 7.50pm)
7.45pm	<b>The 'Pōhutukawa &amp; Hiwa-i-te-rangi' ceremony</b> starts at the Memorial Wall (see 16 on the map), moves along Te Papa Promenade and ends at Whairepo Lagoon (see 4 on the map), where names, memories, and hopes for the future will be released into flames to become stars.
8.10pm	<b>Awerangi</b> (Oldskool jams)   Aroha stage (until 9pm)

Programme may be subject to change.

Visit [wellington.govt.nz/matariki](https://www.wellington.govt.nz/matariki) for more information.