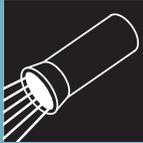


BEFORE YOU EXPLORE...

Please do not eat on the island as this denigrates its tapu (sacred) status. If you have food please consume it on the wharf or inside the Torpedo building only, and leave nothing behind.



No smoking or vaping allowed on the island.



A torch is recommended for exploring the tunnels. Please let a member of staff know on the boat if you would like to borrow one.

As this is a marine environment, pay attention to adverse weather conditions.

RESPECT THIS SPECIAL PLACE

The significance of the urupa on Ripapa and nearby, where these ancestors rest, and the place of the island in tribal history were acknowledged by the designation of Ripapa as a Tāpuni in the Ngāi Tahu Deed of Settlement with the Crown in 1998.

Ngāi Tahu wish to encourage understanding of and respect for the values of this special place.



Ripapa Island



Island Map & Information



TIAKI MEANS TO CARE FOR PEOPLE AND PLACE. THE TIAKI PROMISE IS A COMMITMENT TO CARE FOR NEW ZEALAND, FOR NOW AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

HOW TO CARE FOR NZ:



BE PREPARED



DRIVE CAREFULLY



KEEP NZ CLEAN



PROTECT NATURE



SHOW RESPECT

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HISTORIC CONSERVATION

Ripapa Island is registered Category 1 by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and an historic reserve.

The Island has been managed by the Department of Conservation since 1990. It has been given an 'actively managed' status by DOC.

A concept plan for the island approved by the Historic Places Trust outlines policies for the fort's continued protection and preservation.

DOC has been progressively repairing the deterioration in the fort's condition which has happened over the past 100 years, including damage from the earthquakes of 2011.

All periods of the Island's use enhance its historical significance and appeal.



POINTS OF INTEREST



- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Ferry Jetty | 7 Fort Jervoiss |
| 2 Drawbridge | 8 Prison |
| 3 Information | 9 Quarantine Station |
| 4 Entrance to Tunnels | 10 Torpedo & Mine Store |
| 5 Disappearing Guns | 11 Toilets |
| 6 Observation Post | 12 Access to Top of Island |

DID YOU KNOW?

MAORI FORT/PĀ

The fortified pā was built on Ripapa Island in the early nineteenth century by Taununu, a Ngāi Tahu chief who had moved south from Kaikoura.

Two pā on Banks Peninsula were fortified against musket attack during the 1820s and 30s. Ripapa was one of these.

A sketch made of Ripapa in 1872 shows bastions that would protect the defenders and provide them with a clear line of fire.

Deep ditches were dug behind earth ramparts, and a second line of ramparts and ditches protected an inner section of the pā.

Several skirmishes were fought on the shores and slopes surrounding Ripapa. Ngāi Tahu occupied Ripapa until about 1832, when the chief Te Whakarukeruke left to help defend Kaiapoi against Te Rauparaha.

This island is therefore of special significance to Ngāi Tahu as a place of memories and traditions associated with these skirmishes and the ancestors who died in them.

Displays on the island provide more information about its history.

PRISON & QUARANTINE

Ripapa Island was used as a quarantine station for new immigrants from 1873 to 1885. In 1880 the Island was used temporarily as a prison for 150 of Te Whiti's followers, transported from Taranaki. The quarantine buildings were dismantled when the Island was incorporated into the coastal defence scheme.

FORT JERVOIS

Ripapa Island was one of four sites used for the Lyttelton Harbour defences, part of the nationwide system of coastal

defences, built in response to a perceived 'Russian scare'.

The walled fort, dating from 1886, survives today and is the most complete 'Russian scare' fort in New Zealand. Of particular significance are two large disappearing guns, still virtually complete, which are very rare examples of their kind.

The fort was occupied by the army until the end of World War I and re-occupied again during World War II as part of the harbour defences.