

Wellington as a Peaceful City

Wellington City and its citizens have been active in promoting peace, tolerance and understanding in the local community and in the world.

Wellington is a Peace Capital, a member of Mayors for Peace, the capital of nuclear-free New Zealand and a dedicated Safe City promoting nonviolence.

Wellington also maintains sister city links with cities in other countries and has supported the installation of peace sculptures and monuments here and in other cities.

We invite you to take a walk through the botanical gardens and inner city to visit these peace monuments. Just follow the map overleaf.

We hope they inspire you with hope and a vision for peace in your life and in the world.

Wellington peace heritage sites not on the walk



PARIHAKA MEMORIAL
Massey University, Buckle st.
Memorial to the Maori from the 19th Century Parihaka pacifist community who were imprisoned in Wellington and Dunedin and forced into slave labour



ANTARCTICA MONUMENT
Mt Victoria Summit.
Dedicated to the world's first international nuclear-weapon-free and demilitarized zone.



Wellington Peace Heritage Walk

See map for self guided walk

Start from Civic Square or Wellington City Council Information Centre

Central Business District & Waterfront



1. PEACE CAPITAL PLAQUE
Cuba Mall, 1994
Plaque honouring Wellington as a Peace Capital City



2. TE ARO PARK
Shona Rapira Davies
Shaped like a canoe (pictured is the canoe prow) the park is built on the site of an old Pa (fort) and signifies the transition to a peaceful city.



3. RABIN MEMORIAL
Harris Street, 2000
An olive tree and a granite memorial to honour the Nobel Peace Prize winner Yitzhak Rabin.



4. WAR REFUGEES PLAQUE
Plaque recognising war refugees, and in particular the Polish child refugees from World War II that were accepted by New Zealand.



5. NUCLEAR FREE WELLINGTON SIGN
Museum of Wellington City and Sea
Commemorating the Wellington City Council declaring the city a nuclear weapons free zone in 1982.

Botanical Gardens



6. HIROSHIMA PEACE TREE
Tree commemorating the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and expressing the hope that nuclear weapons will never be used again.



7. PEACEMAKER
Chris Booth, 1991
Basalt boulders given by the Ngati Kura iwi. Peacemaker communicates the human choice of being peaceful.



8. BODY TO SOUL
Mary-Louise Browne, 1996
A black granite stair-case with 13 steps engraved with a word sequence BODY to SOUL.



9. PEACE GARDEN
Includes **Hiroshima Peace Flame**, ignited by the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima and presented to Wellington to honour NZ's prohibition of nuclear weapons; **Hiroshima Stone** from the former Hiroshima City Hall; **Hone Tuwhare's poem No Ordinary Sun** and more.



10. NAGASAKI TREE
A camphor tree, originating from a tree that survived the 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki, planted by Mayor Kerry Prendergast



11. Kauri tree, 2001
Planted to commemorate a United Nations Asia-Pacific Disarmament conference in Wellington

Parliament and Railway Station



12. NAGASAKI BOMB FIGURE
Parliament library gardens sculpture commemorating the Aug 9, 1945 destruction of Nagasaki by a nuclear bomb.



13. KATE SHEPPARD GARDEN
Camellia garden commemorating suffragettes who campaigned to gain women the vote.



14. SONJA DAVIES MEMORIAL
Parliament grounds, 2006
A kowhai tree and plaque dedicated to Sonja Davies, parliamentarian, trade unionist and an advocate for peace and social justice.



15. POU WHENUA
Ra Vincent, 2004
Wai-titi landing marker. Gift from Te Atiawa/Taranaki to Wellington City as an expression of the treaty relationship between the peoples of the region.



16. GANDHI SCULPTURE
Gautam Pal, 2007
Gifted to Wellington by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, to honour the efforts of Wellington people for peace and non-violence in the tradition of Mohandas Gandhi.