

OUR Auckland

TŌ TĀTOU TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU

Let's cool off!

Beaches, rock pools,
swimming pools and splash pads

KOHITĀTEA-HUITANGURU JAN-FEB 2023 ISSUE 113

OURAUCKLAND.NZ



LOVE OUR ISLANDS

Explore the glorious gulf

SUMMER IN THE CITY

Arts, culture & entertainment

HIDDEN GEMS

Aucklanders' favourite summer spots



GET INTO IT WITH AUCKLAND COUNCIL
Free festivals, music, movies & more!



silopark
at wynyard quarter

Summer at Silo Park

January – February

free

Silo Cinema – Fridays

5pm – late Silo Park Bar, DJ & Food Trucks 9pm Film starts

13
Jan



Thor: Love & Thunder

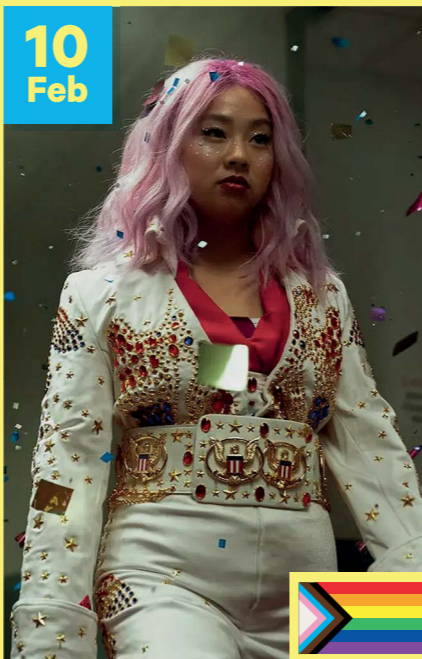


27
Jan



People's Choice: Cult Classics

10
Feb



Everything Everywhere All At Once



From
Saturday 28 January

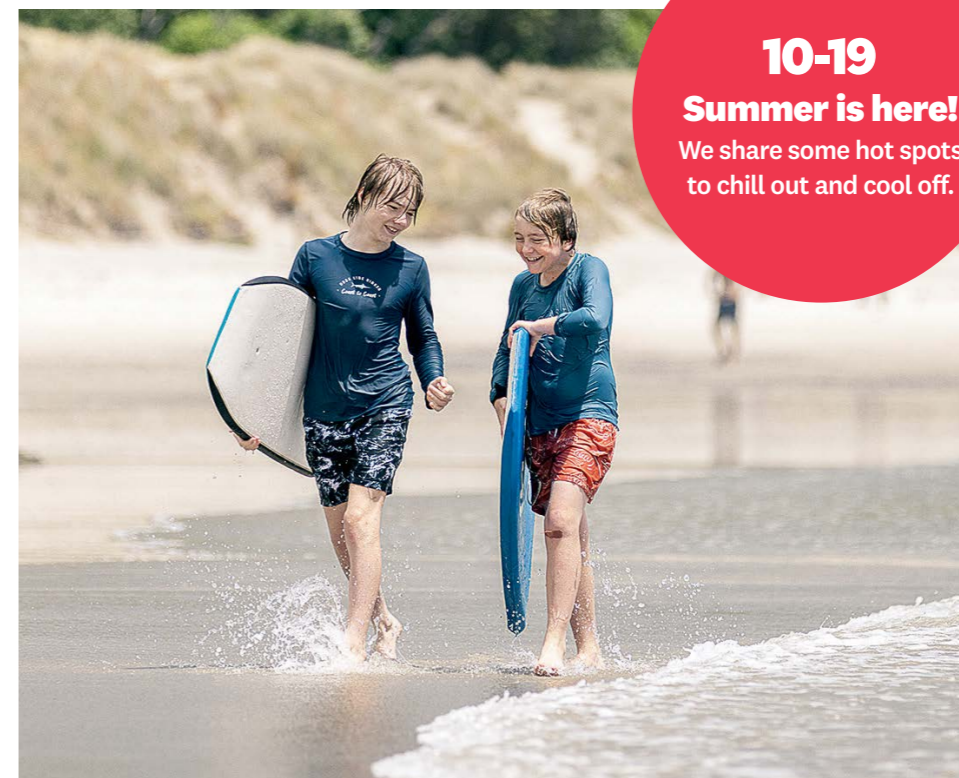
A new interactive, self-guided experience for all ages, on until 28 February.



More info silopark.co.nz @silopark @mysilopark

Fresh Concept.
Creative Placemaking Agency.

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Paddle along picturesque Puhoi River.



Don't flush fats and oils
Summer is barbecue season, but make sure your clean-up doesn't clog the drains or harm the environment. Leave any cooking oils, fats and greases to cool completely, then pour or scrape into

a covered container and put it in the rubbish bin. Visit watercare.co.nz for more information.

Auckland Council's Annual Budget
From March, you can have your say on the Annual Budget for the 2023/2024 financial year. The budget supports the decision-making processes of the council in setting out its priorities for the next 12 months. Visit

akhaveyoursay.nz/budget to find out more.

Public holiday rubbish collections
With Auckland Anniversary on 30 January and Waitangi Day the following week on 6 February, there will be some changes to your roadside collection dates. Services will return to normal on 13 February. Visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/collectionday to check collection dates.

Contact us

Auckland Council:
aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
09 301 0101 (24/7)
aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/contactus
Auckland Council, Private Bag 92300, Auckland 1142
[facebook.com/aklcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/aklcouncil)
twitter.com/aklcouncil

Discover OurAuckland.nz
The OurAuckland website keeps you up to date with Auckland Council services, projects and events, and helps to fulfil our legislative obligations to keep Aucklanders informed. Get weekly updates on news and events across Auckland at ourauckland.nz/enews or email ourauckland@aklc.govt.nz

Te reo Māori: We're proud to use te reo Māori in OurAuckland. If you come across a word you don't know, you can learn what it means at maoridictionary.co.nz

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Follow us on social media:



All information is correct at the time of going to print. Please see our website ourauckland.nz for the most up-to-date information.





Find us online

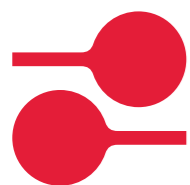
Ngā mihi o te tau hou (happy new year!) and welcome to 2023.

After being a regular feature in Aucklanders' letterboxes for almost 12 years, this paper edition of *OurAuckland* you're holding will be our last.

Given the increased print and distribution costs, and Auckland Council's commitment to reducing overall spending, the decision has been made to stop

publication of the print editions of *OurAuckland*.

But we're not disappearing! You'll still be able to find us online at ourauckland.nz, where you can stay up to date with council-related news, events and more wonderful ways to enjoy our vibrant and unique city. Or connect with us on our social media channels listed below. See you soon!

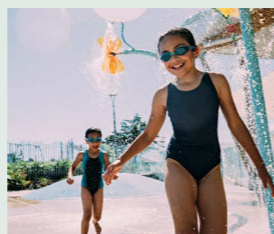


Discover OurAuckland.nz

Get weekly updates on news and events across Auckland at ourauckland.nz/enews

Follow us on social media: [@aklcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/aklcouncil) [@aklcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/aklcouncil)

BY THE NUMBERS



7

council-owned splash pads across Tāmaki Makaurau are waiting to cool you down this summer.

14

swimming pools across the region are run by Auckland Council – and kids under 16 can swim in all of them for FREE.



3700+

kilometres of coastline surrounds the region, giving Aucklanders access to hundreds of beaches maintained by the council.



50km

is the length of Te Ara Moana, the self-guided sea kayak trail along Auckland's southeast coastline.

Visit aucklandleisure.co.nz to find your nearest pool or splash pad, and see page 10 for more spots to stay cool this summer.

SPLASH PAD IMAGE / JAY FARNWORTH

THE BRIEFING

News and inspiration from Council HQ.



SUMMER BOAT SAFETY

Staying afloat in the City of Sails.

Before heading out on the water this summer, Auckland Harbourmaster Andrew Hayton wants to remind everyone how to stay safe. Whether you're on a paddleboard, powerboat or anything in between, you must know the rules and have the right safety gear.

- Communicate your plans with someone on shore and check the tides and weather before you go – if in doubt, don't go out.
- Take two ways to call for help should you need it, such as a VHF (very high frequency) radio or a mobile phone in a waterproof bag.
- If your boat is less than 6m long, make sure everyone on board wears a life jacket.
- Keep your speed to five knots or less when navigating near people, other vessels and the shore.
- Avoid or limit alcohol while on board.

Hayton also wants to remind Aucklanders that the harbour is a commercial port, and to keep clear of large ships. "Ships often have containers stacked up on deck in front of their bridge," he says. "This, together with deck cranes, can hamper visibility from the bridge, and small vessels may enter the blind sector more than half a mile ahead of the ship. If you can't see the ship's bridge windows, the ship's captain can't see you!" Search 'water safety' on at.govt.nz for more information.

WATERCARE IMAGE / SIMON RUNTING; WALKING SCHOOL BUS IMAGE / JAY FARNWORTH

NEWLY EMERGED

From wastewater to fertiliser.

Watercare is extracting fertiliser from wastewater, with the result being Emerge Struvite. It's a nutrient-rich fertiliser that is easy to apply to lawns and gardens – it looks and feels like beach sand, and is pathogen-free. It's available from PlaceMakers, Roger Hunter's Garden Centre and the Whangaparōa Eco Shop.

A potting mix is also being made by Watercare using biosolids, a compost-like by-product of wastewater treatment. It's being used to grow



tens of thousands of native seedlings at Watercare's demonstration nursery in Māngere, with seedlings donated to schools, iwi and community groups. Visit waterforlife.org.nz/emerge-fertiliser to find out more.

Food waste solution

Thousands of tonnes of food waste ends up in landfill each year. But you can help change this by taking advantage of the new food scraps collection rolling out across urban areas of mainland Auckland this year.

Green lockable 23-litre bins will be delivered in stages from March, so head to aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/foodscraps to find out more.



Rail rebuild

Auckland Transport wants to bring you more frequent, reliable trains. For this to happen, KiwiRail needs to rebuild the ageing track foundations across our rail network. Work will start on the Southern Line between Ōtāhuhu and Newmarket, and the Onehunga Line, from 16 January until 19 March. Visit at.govt.nz/RailRebuild for details.

Just keep digging

Hiwa-i-te-Rangi, Watercare's Central Interceptor tunnel boring machine (TBM) has crossed underneath the Manukau Harbour. The TBM left Māngere Treatment Plant in August 2021 and travels up to 16m per day. Watercare will soon apply for resource consent to extend the tunnel to Point Erin, to capture combined stormwater and wastewater flows from Herne Bay. Visit watercare.co.nz/central-interceptor for updates.



Step to it

Looking for a fun way to take the kids to school? Start or join a walking school bus! Just like a normal bus travels from stop to stop picking up passengers, a walking bus is a group of children walking to and from school along a set route accompanied by parent volunteers. Check out at.govt.nz/walkingschoolbus for more information.

AROUND AUCKLAND



The latest from your community



Discover a new favourite book at your local library.

Stress less this summer

Fun free activities to keep the kids busy.

What two words strike terror into the heart of parents? School holidays. But there are six more words that are almost certain to test their patience: "I'm bored, there's nothing to do." We can help with that.

Our Out and About teams are hosting a range of fun free events over the summer break for children of all ages. The events help connect kids to nature and focus on keeping Aucklanders healthy and active through play, recreation and sport. Activities are being

held across the region, ranging from treasure hunts and junk play to wacky wheels and sea kayaking, all hosted at parks and reserves.

The Out and About Activation programme is funded by local boards, which keeps the events free. Some do require registration, so book as early as you can to avoid disappointment.

Check [facebook.com/OutandAboutAKL](https://www.facebook.com/OutandAboutAKL) to find out where our Out and About teams are and what they're up to. You can also visit [aucklandleisure.co.nz/out-about-auckland](https://www.aucklandleisure.co.nz/out-about-auckland) to see detailed programmes for each local board. Events include skateboard clinics for beginners, kite flying, Hungerball, circus in the park

and yoga at various beach reserves. You don't have to restrict yourself to your local area and are more than welcome to attend events in other areas.

And if you are still stuck for ideas, check out your local library, where you're likely to find a bunch of great people who are keen to help you find a treasure on the shelves or a new activity to try.

Tāmaki Makaurau's extensive network of libraries also offers heaps of school holiday fun for kids of all ages, while for adults there are lectures, courses, family history and dozens of other options to explore. Visit the events section at [aucklandlibraries.govt.nz](https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz) to find entertaining activities all over Auckland.

A 40m flying fox will be constructed as part of a playground upgrade at Manurewa's Anderson Park. The concept plan expands the playground while responding to community feedback requesting a flying fox. The plan should be delivered this year and includes fitness equipment as well as a play space for younger children.



Canine companions

Show some puppy love to our furry friends.



Auckland Council's three animal shelters have been at capacity for the past year, thanks to a combination of factors including COVID-19, desexing restrictions and the cost-of-living crisis.

"We've struggled to move our adoption dogs this year because there have been so many rescues nationally, and fewer people wanting to adopt," says animal shelter

manager Kelsey Purcell.

"Our dogs often come to us after a rocky start and have already been through a lot of uncertainty. We endeavour to ensure they are heading to their forever home."

Check out the Auckland Council Adoptable Animals Facebook page, or search for 'animal shelters' at [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) to find out more.

Don't be a dumper!

Your rubbish is your responsibility.

Auckland Council receives more than 18,000 reports of illegal dumping every year.

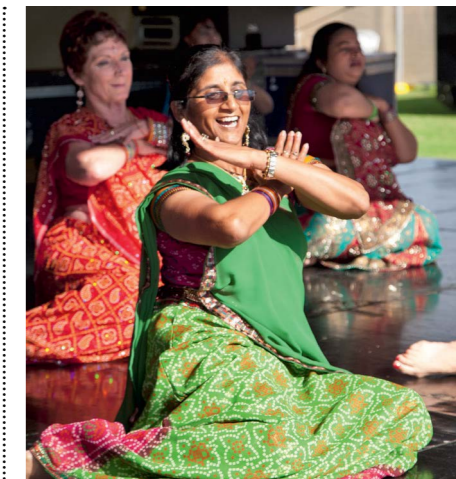
Tyres, mattresses, green waste, clothing, furniture and even hazardous waste are commonly dumped, rather than being disposed of correctly.

"If you're planning a clear-out of your house, garage or

garden, make sure you plan how you'll dispose of waste correctly," says Senior Waste Advisor Jan Eckersley. "Our community recycling centres are a good place to start, as unwanted items in good condition can find a new home."

Dumping can be reported on 0800 NO DUMP (0800 663 867) at any time.

Visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/rubbish-recycling](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/rubbish-recycling) to find out more about your waste-disposal options.



Diversity Festival returns

Come and experience this multicultural showcase.

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board's signature event, the Diversity Festival, returns on 4 March (rain date 18 March).

It's an important date in south Aucklanders' summer calendar as it celebrates the vibrant cultures of the area, while providing communities and businesses the chance to showcase their goods and talents.

The event features a variety of cultural performances, fun activities for the family, art and craft, plus a vast array of food options.

Contact diversityfestival@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or visit [facebook.com/otarapapatoetoe](https://www.facebook.com/otarapapatoetoe) to find out more.

LIBRARY IMAGE / GINO DEMEER; FLYING FOX AND DIVERSITY FESTIVAL IMAGES / ADELE KRANTZ; DOG IMAGE / BRYAN LOWE

DID YOU
KNOW?

Every summer there is an increase in the amount of waste we produce.

Throughout the warmer months, Aucklanders can make as much as 3000 tonnes of extra rubbish and recycling. So whether you're camping, hitting the beach, exploring your local area or kicking back at home, make sure you dispose of your rubbish responsibly. Here are some ways to reduce your seasonal waste.

- Carry a reusable water bottle rather than a disposable one. There are plenty of places to refill your bottle, and [refillnz.org.nz](https://www.refillnz.org.nz) has a handy map to help you find your closest hydration station.
- Public rubbish bins are great for disposing of small pieces of litter while you're on the go. If you see an overflowing public bin, contact the council so they can attend to it as soon as possible.
- If you have leftovers from family feasts, parties or picnics, check out [lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz](https://www.lovefoodhatewaste.co.nz) for creative recipes to use them in.

- Be prepared when visiting our regional parks, as there are no bins on site. Follow the 'pack in, pack out' approach and take any rubbish and recycling with you when you leave.



FAMILY
SPACE

Try something new with the whānau.

SUMMER FUN FOR EVERYONE

Free and low-cost entertainment across the region.

MOVIES IN PARKS 2023

Tāmaki Makaurau's iconic free outdoor cinema series is back from 27 January until 31 March, so pack a picnic and head down to your local park to watch a flick with friends and whānau. This year's line-up of movies will be screening at 16 parks across the region. Enjoy pre-movie family entertainment, with the films rolling when the sun goes down. The programme this year includes *Top Gun: Maverick*, *DC League of Super-Pets* and *Moana Reo Māori* (with English subtitles). All movies have closed captions for the Deaf and hard of hearing. Visit [moviesinparks.co.nz](https://www.moviesinparks.co.nz) to find out what's on near you or follow Movies in Parks on Facebook for updates.



MUSIC IN PARKS 2023

Soak up the sun and attend free live music events this summer at the lushest, leafiest venues – our local parks. Running from 14 January until 26 March – and offering 17 different events – Music

in Parks has something for everyone. The season kicks off with the welcome return of jazz at the Auckland Domain Band Rotunda. Other highlights include New Zealand Opera singers at Glover Park, St Heliers, on 28 January, Midge Marsden at Blockhouse Bay Beach Reserve on 3 February, and Don McGlashan at Kiwi Anthems in Pakuranga on 11 March. Visit [musicinparks.co.nz](https://www.musicinparks.co.nz) for artists, dates and locations.



KIDS CREW

Auckland Council Kids Crew offers fun and affordable entertainment for tamariki. Fill a few hours – or a whole day – with activities for all ages. There are free events both in your local library and online, as well as school holiday programmes at Auckland Council leisure centres. You can even try out theatre, arts and crafts at your local community centre. Check out [kids-crew.nz](https://www.kids-crew.nz) to find an activity near you.

MOVIES IN PARKS AND MUSIC IN PARKS IMAGES / BRYAN LOWE; KIDS CREW IMAGE / JAY FARNWORTH

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AT AUCKLAND PRIDE
MAX TWEEDIE

Max Tweedie and the Auckland Pride team are excited about the return of Tāmaki Makaurau's annual festival celebrating the rainbow community. Running from 1-26 February, the line-up includes the Pride March up Queen Street and the popular Big Gay Out, plus many events hosted in Auckland Council-run Proud Centres.

I live in the central city and wouldn't live anywhere else in Auckland. I don't do sprawl – I do high density. I love the proximity to the arts precinct, seeing a show at Q Theatre and meeting friends down on the waterfront.

Karangahape Road has always been a hub for the rainbow community. Sex workers, often members of our community, were working this street in the 1970s and 80s, and it became a cultural melting pot that is now symbolic of our shared movement.

Albert Park is a significant site for Auckland's rainbow community, as it's where the first gay-liberation protests happened 50 years ago. At the time, their rights and visibility were non-existent. It was the courageous activists who outed themselves that brought these issues to the attention of New Zealanders. The things we are fighting for are evolving, but the urgency and importance remains the same.

Wynyard Quarter is an incredible public space with lots of gorgeous spots to enjoy the sun. My guilty pleasure is eating dumplings in Amey Daldy Park.

Visit [aucklandpride.org.nz](https://www.aucklandpride.org.nz) or turn to page 21 for more information about events taking place during Pride Month.

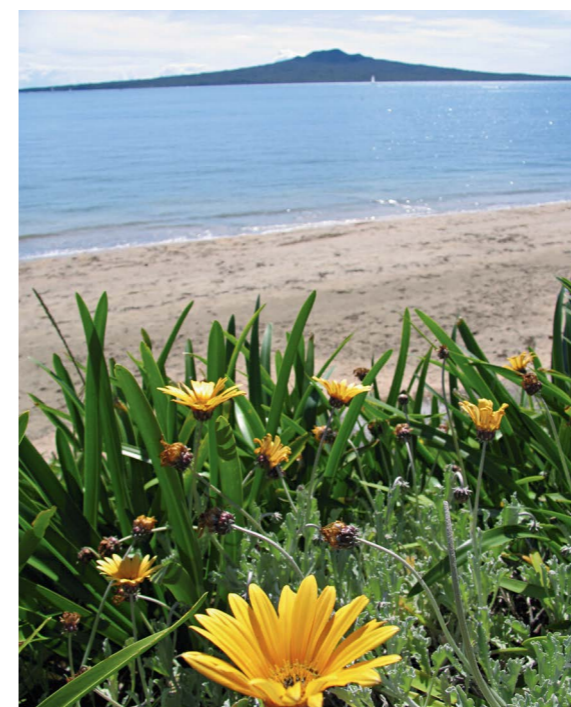
IMAGE / TONY NYBERG



MY
TĀMAKI
MAKĀURAU

MAKE A splash!

Scope out the perfect spot to cool down this summer.



Enjoy volcanic views at Cheltenham Beach.



Te Ara Tahuna / Ōrewa Estuary path is a scenic 7.6km loop at the southern end of the beach.



Family-friendly Coyle Park is the perfect spot for a play, a picnic and a paddle.

Auckland stretches across a geographically diverse area uniquely positioned between two harbours, meaning our coastal areas are peppered with beautiful beaches. Here are five stunning shorelines that are sure to keep you cool, whether you're swimming in the sea or kicking back in the shade.

Explore rock pools at Anchor Bay, Tāwharanui Regional Park

Anchor Bay is a crisp white arc of sand studded with rock formations, creating sparkling pools where sea creatures lurk. The pristine water here also makes for excellent snorkelling. From the bay, you can explore Tāwharanui's various trails and spot native birds like kākā, pāteke and even takahē. To make the most of your visit, stay at the Tāwharanui campground. If you venture out on the park's walking trails in the evening, you might even spot a kiwi!

When you're choosing a beach, decide with Safeswim for up-to-date information on water quality, swimming conditions, lifeguard times and tides. safeswim.org.nz

Anchor Bay, Tāwharanui Regional Park

Enjoy a beach getaway in Ōrewa

Long and lively Ōrewa Beach is a top choice for families. There's plenty of space to set up chilly bins, towels and beach umbrellas, and the gentle waves are great for boogie boarding. You can also enjoy views as you amble along the Te Ara Tahuna / Ōrewa Estuary Path. Starting at the southern end of the beach, the 7.6km trail can be walked or cycled by all ages - and it also loops past the skate park, which can be a fun stop for kids. Ōrewa Holiday Park, located mere steps from the sand, offers camping and cabin accommodation for an extended trip.

Relax in style at Cheltenham Beach, Devonport

Cheltenham Beach is as charming as it sounds. With a little row of colourful houses at one end and

Maungauika / North Head at the other, this is one of the best city beaches in Auckland. Sandy and sheltered, it offers safe swimming and clear views of Rangitoto. Shady pōhutukawa trees line the shore, making Cheltenham Beach an ideal spot to soak up the sunshine.

Picnic and swim at Coyle Park, Point Chevalier

Coyle Park features spacious grassy areas, gnarled trees gripping impressive cliff faces, and expansive harbour views. This family-friendly park also has a playground with a flying fox and Spacenet. Short paths from Coyle Park lead down to Point Chevalier Beach, where calm, shallow waters lap the golden sand. Dramatic tides here mean the beach is best for swimming at mid to high tide.

Beach and lagoon hop at Tāpapakanga Regional Park

This historic coastal farm park overlooks the Firth of Thames and is about an hour's drive from central Auckland. Swimmers here are treated to not one but two divine options for dips. Make a splash in the gentle surf at the pōhutukawa-edged beach, then wash the salt water off in the refreshing lagoon that runs into the sea. Go for a day trip or book a tent site in the Beachfront Campground. Another option is to head up the hill to pitch your tent or park your campervan at the Seaview Campground – the views from the nearby lookout are spectacular.

Visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/holidayplaces for accommodation options across the region.



With its safe beach and freshwater lagoon, Tāpapakanga Regional Park has plenty of swimming options.



Spend some time searching for resident sea creatures in Anchor Bay's many rock pools.



SWIMMING POOLS AND SPLASH PADS

Wherever you are in Auckland, you're never far away from a refreshing dip. There are 31 pools and splash pads around the region, and many are free for children under 16, making them ideal for families to enjoy during hot summer days.

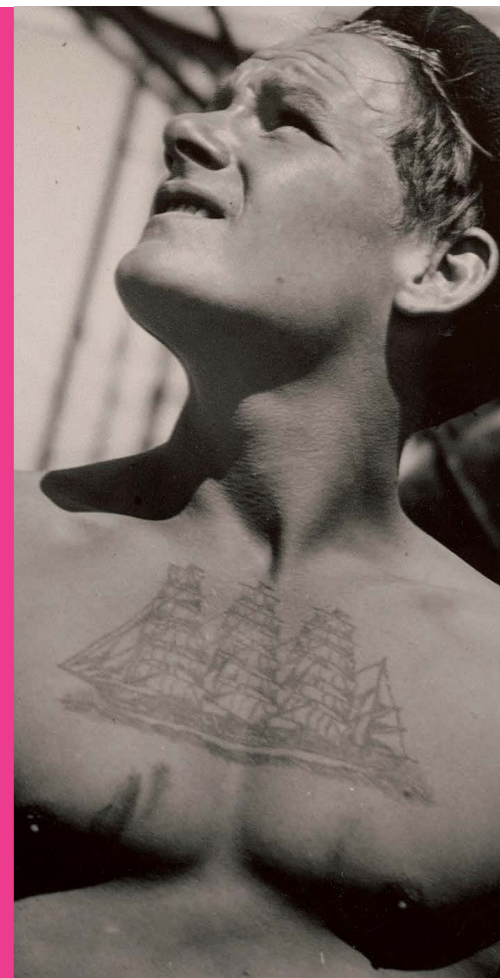
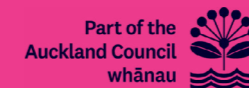
- **Tōtara Park Pools** is set amongst the native bush of south Auckland's Tōtara Park, with walks, tennis courts and playgrounds nearby. There are also barbecues available for a complete day out.
- A stone's throw from Stanmore Bay in Whangaparāoa, the beach-themed splash pad at **Stanmore Bay Pool and Leisure Centre** (pictured) has everything from fountains to giant water buckets and mist sprayers. Children of all ages will love playing in the water, while parents can relax at nearby picnic areas.
- The historic **Parnell Baths** is home to the largest saltwater pool in New Zealand, plus adult spa pools and a fun aqua playground for the kids. The central waterfront location means you can enjoy views of Judges Bay and the city skyline while taking a dip.
- The summer-only outdoor pool at Panmure's **Lagoon Pool and Leisure Centre** is suitable for the whole family. As well as swimming lanes in the larger pools, you'll find slides, a shallow kids pool and a picnic area.
- **Grey Lynn Paddling Pool** is shallow enough for toddlers to stand up in. With a lifeguard on duty, a sun shade and a playground next door, it's a great spot for younger children.
- **Birkenhead Pool and Leisure Centre**, on the edge of Birkenhead Domain, features an indoor learn-to-swim pool, as well as a heated outdoor pool with plenty of space to relax and enjoy a picnic.

OREWA AND COYLE PARK IMAGES / LUKE HARVEY; TĀPĀKĀNGA IMAGE / AARON INNES; SPLASH PAD IMAGE / BRYAN LOWE



Captains, Collectors, Friends & Adventurers

Exhibition on Now | Free for Auckland Residents
Visit maritimemuseum.co.nz



Auckland Council Pools and Leisure Centre, Ōtāhuhu

Splash time is calling

Visit Auckland Council at ourauckland.nz/summer

SUMMER IS CALLING



A TALE OF TWO

islands

These awesome getaways offer a taste of paradise close to home.

Cool off at Gooseberry Flat on Aotea / Great Barrier.

PRIORITISING PROTECTION



When visiting the gulf islands, make sure you're considerate of conservation efforts and follow the 'pack in, pack out' guidance. This means you must take your rubbish home with you. There are limited waste facilities on these islands, and some don't have a rubbish service at all. If you carry something in, it's required that you take it out.

It's also vital to check your gear for pests – including daypacks, camping equipment, picnic hampers, shoes and vehicles – and keep any food in sealed containers to prevent insects and rodents hitching a ride.

Do your bit

Pest Free Hauraki Gulf is a joint initiative between the Department of Conservation and Auckland Council, who work together to

protect the gulf islands from pests. To make their job easier, always give your shoes and boots a good scrub and spray to prevent the spread of kauri dieback. Check footwear and clothing for any seeds while you're at it.

Thanks must also go to the dedicated pest-detector dogs for the work they do when there's been a predator breach. Visit tiakitamakimakaurau.nz for more information.

Get involved

Volunteers are always needed for guiding, planting and weeding on Tiritiri Matangi, Motutapu, Te Motu-a-Ihenga / Motuihe Island, Kawau and Motukorea / Browns Island. Helpers are welcomed with open arms, so join in and give back to nature.

Tikapa Moana / Hauraki Gulf is New Zealand's only marine park, covering an astonishing 1.2 million hectares. Dotted across these heavenly waters is a compelling collection of more than 50 islands, each with its own unique character, and several of them perfect for visiting during summer.

To help you decide which motu (island) suits you best, here are two enchanting options to whet your appetite for exploration.

Aotea / Great Barrier Island

The largest of all the gulf islands, Aotea / Great Barrier is completely off-grid and bursting with natural beauty. To get there, choose between a scenic 30-minute flight, or a similarly scenic four-and-a-half-hour ferry ride, where you'll most likely be accompanied by dolphins.

On arrival, you'll find Aotea to be a world away from the hustle and bustle of city life, even though

it's actually still part of Auckland. With miles of pristine coastline and abundant native bush, this island is loved by bushwalkers, birdwatchers, photographers and holidaymakers alike.

Everyone raves about the 3.5km Whangapoua Path, a gentle climb through regenerating forest with exceptional views. And the hike up through Windy Canyon offers some of the best vistas in the whole region. If you're feeling adventurous and you're prepared, follow Palmers Track all the way to the top of Hirakimata / Mount Hobson, the highest point on the island.

A visit to Glenfern Sanctuary Regional Parkland makes for another inspiring day trip. Spread over 83 hectares of predator-free forest, the wildlife is flourishing, and the bush tracks – including a swing bridge to an ancient kauri – offer visitors a glimpse of paradise.

Stargazing on Aotea is out of this world because there is so

little light pollution. In 2016, the island was granted Dark Sky Sanctuary status, and there are various tours available if you want to learn more about the night sky and capture some stellar photos.

There are numerous swimming spots on Aotea, from mermaid pools at Medlands Beach to the healing waters of Kaitoke Hot Springs. There's plenty of surf too, with some winning waves found at Whangapoua, Awana and Medlands.

When it's time to rest, you have 12 campsites to choose from, plus plenty of other accommodation options, including two bookable houses at Glenfern Sanctuary.

Whether you fly and hire a car, take a vehicle over on the ferry or explore the island by bike, you're sure to have the holiday of a lifetime on Aotea.

Waiheke Island

Waiheke is the second largest gulf island, and arguably the

most well known. It's a popular choice for weddings and weekend getaways, not to mention the beautiful beaches. Whether you're wining and dining, walking, swimming or just plain relaxing, Waiheke has something for you.

How about a pleasant wander along one of the many trails of Te Ara Hura? Lovingly maintained by Auckland Council, this network of paths covers a total distance

of around 100km, with everything from gentle strolls to challenging treks. Matiatia Headland Path is a charming coastal ramble, and the recently upgraded Island Bay track offers spectacular views across the gulf.

If that feels too energetic, why not just pick the beach that suits you best – Onetangi, Palm Beach or Little Oneroa, to name a few – and relax the day away.

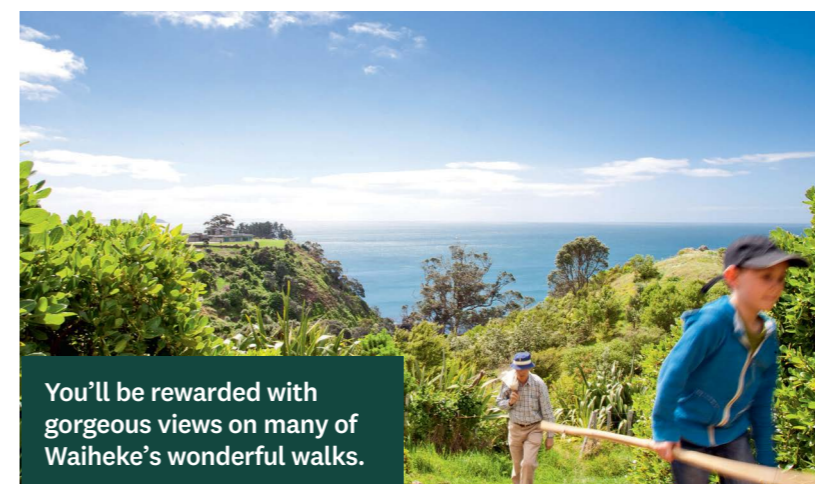
Arts and culture are thriving on Waiheke. Find out what's on at Artworks Theatre or Waiheke Community Art Gallery, or even stop in and say kia ora to some of the local artists who open their studios to visitors.

Te Korowai o Waiheke definitely deserves a mention too. Supported by Auckland Council, it is an organisation doing a fine job of ridding the motu of pests, and as a result, the birdlife is booming.

Whakanewha Regional Park is a stunning spot if you're looking for somewhere to stay. It's home to one of Auckland's finest council-run campgrounds, or you can book a space at the lodge or bach. Check out Waiheke Backpackers Hostel in the heart of Onetangi, right above the beach. Visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/holidayplaces for more options.

Book your trip soon – Waiheke is waiting to steal your heart.

BEACH IMAGE / BRYAN LOWE; WALKING TRACK IMAGE / LUKE HARVEY



You'll be rewarded with gorgeous views on many of Waiheke's wonderful walks.



SUMMER VIBES in the city

Auckland's city centre is a place of lights, art and action, and warm evenings are the perfect time to take it in. Make a date with friends to discover what's on offer.

Head to the flicks

One of Silo Park's most beloved events is back! Silo Cinema sees the area transformed into a movie theatre, outdoor restaurant, bar and epic evening picnic spot all in one. Always a great vibe, the events begin at 5pm and the films start after dark, projected on the silos. Screenings can attract up to 3000 guests, so arrive early and pack a picnic, blankets and camping chairs. Enjoy live music and interactive art installations, and admire the sunset before the movie begins. Visit silopark.co.nz for details.

Choose your own adventure

Exploring the city centre can take you on a journey through Auckland's cultural, maritime and social history. If you've got an hour to spare, go on the ultimate adventure from Silo Park all the way up to Karangahape Road. Start at Wynyard Quarter's Amey Daldy Park – once an industrial site, now an urban greenspace named after early suffragist Amey Daldy.



The park was recently recognised for excellence in urban design, and is home to a 12m-high mural by mana whenua artists Janine (Ngāti Pāoa, Ngāti Whātua ki Kaipara) and Charles Williams (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāi Tūhoe, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāpuhi) called *Māi i ngā maunga ki te moana* (from the mountains to the sea), honouring native birds such as tarāpuka (black-billed gulls) and kuaka (bar-tailed godwits).

Take the adventurous godwits' lead and head east across Viaduct Harbour, past Queens Wharf and along to Te Komitanga at the bottom of Queen Street. Hire a bike or scooter and take Queen Street's new Waihorotiu path, named for the historic stream that still flows underneath. The path is marked with symbolic wayfinding patterns that tell the story of the place while providing visual cues to keep you safe.

Soak up the atmosphere

Karangahape Road was recently named 'the world's sixth coolest street' by Time Out, but locals have long known it as one of the hippest spots in Aotearoa. Very much the bohemian heart of the city – a neighbourhood with character, history, diversity and fun – Karangahape Road is also one of the most colourful locations in Tāmaki Makaurau, from the

SCOOTER AND BUS SHELTER IMAGES / CARMEN BIRD; KŌRIMURIMU IMAGE / BRYAN LOWE

rainbow crossings celebrating Auckland's LGBTQIA+ community to the multicoloured bus shelters which symbolise the pāua eyes of Māori carvings.

As evening arrives, Karangahape Road hits its stride, with a constantly evolving restaurant scene, dive bars, underground music venues and nightclubs. Time your visit to coincide with the monthly First Thursdays event, featuring music, markets, food and installations up and down the strip, or take yourself to Anti-Valentine's on 14 February to celebrate love through comedy, spoken word performances, tango and light art.

Hang out at the gallery

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki has been in prime position at the edge of Albert Park since 1888, and as well as displays of local and international art, there are many spaces to enjoy. Check out the sculpture terrace on the top floor for one of the best free views in the city. There's seating overlooking the park, so bring some snacks (they can only be opened once you're outside). To purchase food, coffee and wine, head to the cafe on Level 1. Visit aucklandartgallery.com to find out what's on.

Art is everywhere

Public art takes many forms, and throughout Auckland you can find sculptures and installations woven into the fabric of our city. Visit the Auckland Public Art / He



Admire award-winning architecture and art at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki.



Look at Te Wānanga from a new angle with interactive art installation Kōrimurimu.



Head along to Silo Cinema and enjoy a unique night out at the movies.



Karangahape Road is bursting with colour and creativity all year long.

Kohinga Toi website at aucklandpublicart.com and use the available map to discover more than 180 creations, with dozens to encounter in the city centre alone. Search by artist, method or area, or allow the site to see your location and find art that's near you.

Creativity can also be found within the infrastructure of Tāmaki Makaurau, with Māori design at the heart of projects across the city. Downtown at Te Wānanga next to the ferry terminal, the balustrades mimic oversized kina and the timber handrails have been engraved with designs by artist Reuben Kirkwood (Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki). Take a moment to admire the sky above and sea below on *Kōrimurimu*, Tessa Harris' (Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki) interactive installation of flax-like woven green safety webbing that has been secured across an opening in the deck.

Get down and boogie

If it's tunes you're after, swing by the band rotunda at Auckland Domain on 14 January for a jazzy afternoon with The Con Alma Big Band and Goldsmith Baynes. Or head along to Albert Park on 11 February for a celebration of reggae, electronica and pop featuring local artists Rubi Du, Huia, Speech Act Theory and more. These are just two of the 17 events taking place as part of Music in Parks, from 14 January until 26 March. Check musicinparks.co.nz for the full schedule.

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO *Tāmaki Makaurau*

Eight Aucklanders from across the region
share their favourite summer spots.



MEI LENG WONG
Murrays to Rothesay Bay Path
In summer, I walk this path every weekend I can. We stop at the jetty, then we head up to the cliff-top walkway to take in the view. People are always friendly, we say hello to everyone and pat dogs. This walk has it all – it's not too long, it's great for weekend exercise and enjoying the weather and the blue skies. It's fantastic!



THERESA SJOQUIST
Port Albert Wharf
There's a great deal of history here that I find fascinating – steamships serviced the long wharf here from the early 1860s. If you bring visitors and you're taking them to Port Albert, you know they're expecting a huge wharf. When they see the jetty they're somewhat surprised – it's always worth a giggle.



HALEY LOWE
Auranga Dog Park, Drury
Friends of ours told us about this place and we've fallen in love with it. We're now regulars with our dog Wairua. There's a great agility park for the dogs and a cafe nearby with dog treats and human treats! I have a big whānau and four tamariki, and it's nice to have so many options across Tāmaki Makaurau to explore together.

RHION MUNRO
NorthWest town square and Te Manawa, Massey
In summer I like to grab coffee with friends, sit in the square and play my guitar, or visit the library. Te Manawa really feels like a community hub. They've got an awesome little recording studio, which is great for people like me who aren't professionals and want to give it a shot.



EMMA COOPER-WILLIAMS
Keith Hay Park, Mount Roskill
It's great to come here in summer because it makes me feel energised, and there's a swimming pool which I'm able to access. I can get around the park with my wheelchair as it's quite flat with a slight incline, so the accessibility is really great. My favourite things to do here are taking photos of nature and taking time to relax and rejuvenate.



TRISH DRIBNENKI
Karangahape Road
When I moved here from Canada a year ago, a friend told me to look this street up, and now I pretty much do everything here. I work as a volunteer in harm-reduction services once a week. My favourite summer activities are going to cafes, shopping for sparkly clothes, having chats and hugs with people and lots of laughs. Seeing Karangahape Road and the nīkau palms in the evening as the sun sets – it's gorgeous. I love it!



MAX JACOBSON
Coxs Bay Reserve, Westmere
I've grown up around here so I have a lot of memories of playing cricket and attending school sports days here. It's especially good in summer because you can hang out and have fun with mates. It's a cool park because there are lots of different activities you can do. There are cricket nets and gym equipment, and you can kick a football around or go for a run.



MATT VAN DAM
Upper Nihotupu Reservoir, Waitākere Ranges Regional Park
There's plenty to see here, with the bushwalk, river and the waterfall, which is especially spectacular after rain. I keep coming back because it's so beautiful. I love walking because it's good for my health, it's a great way to see the outdoors, it's rhythmic and helps me stay connected to nature.

IMAGES / DANIEL HARRIS

WHAT'S ON JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2023

VISIT [OURAUCKLAND.NZ/EVENTS](https://ourauckland.nz/events) FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE EVENTS AND HUNDREDS MORE.

Head to Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki to catch the last days of **Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera: Art and Life in Modern Mexico** (until 22 Jan). And absorb the sights, sounds and tastes of Mexico at **La Fiesta** (Sat 14 Jan), a free festival being held at both the gallery and Central City Library.



Go on a multimedia journey at the Aotea Centre with **Renaissance: The Age of Genius** (4-29 Jan), a unique exhibition which brings to life 500 masterpieces by artists including Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Titian, Botticelli and Caravaggio.



Soak up the summer sun at **Music in Parks** (14 Jan – 26 Mar), featuring free live music performances from some of Tāmaki Makaurau's best acts. With blues, reggae, opera, pop and more, there's something for everyone. Visit musicinparks.co.nz to see what's on near you.

Complete with sumptuous costumes and creative production design, a talented troop of local actors bring passionate performances of *Antony and Cleopatra* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at PumpHouse Theatre's **Shakespeare in the Park** (21 Jan – 18 Feb).



Gather your friends and whānau, pack a picnic and celebrate the warm weather at **Takapuna Beach Summer Days Festival** (Sat 21 Jan) with a line-up of quality Kiwi musicians, family entertainment, giant games, face painting, bouncy castles, beach activities and more.

Celebrate Auckland's 183rd anniversary and Vector Lights' fifth birthday with a replay of their spectacular launch show from 2018. **Vector Lights for Auckland Anniversary** (24-30 Jan) will be projected onto Auckland Harbour Bridge every 15 minutes from 9pm until midnight.



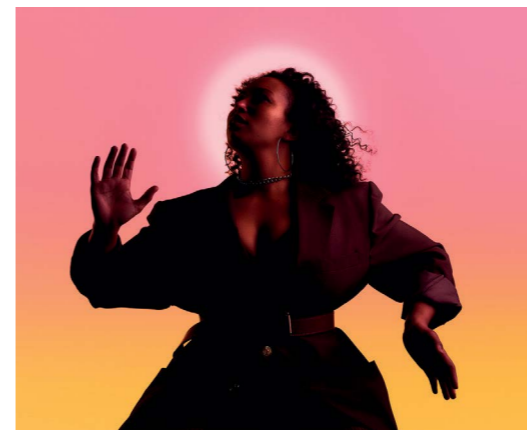
Enjoy four energetic days full of fire breathing, hula hoop displays, mime, rola-bola, comedy, magic and so much more at **Auckland International Buskers Festival** (27-30 Jan) in the city centre.



Unwind this summer at Auckland Council's free **Movies in Parks** (27 Jan – 31 Mar) and enjoy a movie under the stars. Choose from latest releases like *DC League of Super-Pets* and *Top Gun: Maverick*, to family favourites like *Finding Nemo* and *Moana Reo Māori*. Visit moviesinparks.co.nz for the full list of films and locations.



The City of Sails lives up to its name at the **Auckland Anniversary Day Regatta** (Mon 30 Jan), a glorious maritime spectacle featuring vintage vessels and high-tech heralds of the future. Visit ourauckland.nz/aaw for more long weekend events.



Auckland Pride Festival (1-26 Feb) presents events for our rainbow community, friends and whānau. Highlights include **Te Tīmatanga** (1-26 Feb) in Albert Park, **Big Gay Out** (Sun 12 Feb) in Coyle Park, Point Chevalier, the Queen Street **Pride March** (Sat 18 Feb), and **Pride in the Square** (24-25 Feb) at Aotea Square. Visit aucklandpride.org.nz for full details.



Hop into the year of the rabbit with **Auckland Lantern Festival** (2-5 Feb). Returning after three years, the popular free festival has found a new home at Manukau Sports Bowl, where you'll see hundreds of handmade lanterns, music and dance performances, craft displays, food stalls and fireworks.

Watch the story of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and their migration to Tāmaki Makaurau in the stunning light show **Vector Lights for Waitangi Day** (4-6 Feb). The dazzling display will be projected onto Auckland Harbour Bridge every 30 minutes from 9pm until midnight.

Get ready for the biggest ever **Waitangi @ Waititi** (Mon 6 Feb) at Glen Eden's Hoani Waititi Marae. With two stages, you can catch performances from Stan Walker, Katchafire, 1814, Sammy J and more, plus tasty kai will be for sale all day.



Commemorate Waitangi Day with Auckland Council and Manukau Urban Māori Authority at **Waitangi ki Manukau** (Mon 6 Feb) at Hayman Park. With free live music from Three Houses Down (ft. General Fiyah), Savage and more, you can also enjoy kai, kōrero and craft stalls and learn more about Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its connection to Manukau. Nau mai, haere mai – everyone is welcome. Visit ourauckland.nz/waitangiday for more details.

VISIT
[OURAUCKLAND.NZ/](https://ourauckland.nz/events)
EVENTS
FOR DETAILS ABOUT
THESE EVENTS
AND MORE

Head to Silo Park for **Silo Cinema** (13 & 27 Jan, 10 Feb) and enjoy free outdoor film screenings after sunset, including *Thor: Love and Thunder* and *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. Visit silopark.co.nz for details



Experience the vibrant sights and sounds of the biggest kapa haka festival on the calendar, **Te Matatini Herenga Waka Herenga Tangata** (22-25 Feb), taking place at Ngā Ana Wai (Eden Park). Visit tematatini.co.nz to see the full programme.

Press play on **Code Breakers: Women in Games** (until 26 Mar) at MOTAT, an exhibition celebrating the achievements of women working in the video game industry.

Visit ourauckland.nz/schoolholidays for fun and affordable activities happening across the region during the summer school holidays.



PUHOI RIVER

Location: Puhoi

Located about an hour north of Auckland's city centre is historic Puhoi, which means 'slow waters' in te reo Māori. Settled centuries ago by Māori, in the 1860s the small village became home to hardy pioneers from Bohemia (now Czech Republic), who were lured here with the promise of free land. Puhoi's awa (river) carves a path through the town, creating a haven for humans and wildlife, including tuna (eels) and all manner of native birds.

One of the most delightful adventures around these parts is a trip down this serpentine stream. Hire a vessel from Puhoi River Kayaks and paddle along for 8km. Eventually, you'll flow out at Wenderholm Regional Park where you can go for a swim at the beach or a dip in the estuary when the tide is in. Or you could simply doze in the shade of a tree while you wait for the courtesy shuttle that will drive you back to Puhoi.

Colours of Hidden Auckland

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**SUMMER
IS CALLING**



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SPARK Auckland

Pukekawa / Auckland Domain

24 – 26 March, 8.00pm – 11.00pm

A free spectacle for the senses, marvel at this dazzling light installation as it magically comes to life in the Domain this summer. Register early at aaf.co.nz/spark to avoid disappointment.



**TE AHUREI
TOI O TĀMAKI**
9–26 MĀEHE 2023

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