

Protect our Kapiti Island treasures Tiakina tō tātou taonga o Kāpiti

Kapiti Island is a Nature Reserve – a predator-free sanctuary for rare plants and animals. Help us protect this unique paradise.

Stop

Check

Go



Male hihi singing.
Photo: Leon Berard

BEFORE LEAVING THE MAINLAND

Check your gear so your tourism provider can clear you for travel:

- Check clothing, bags and equipment for pest animals, insects, soil and seeds. Pay attention to Velcro and pockets.
- Clean footwear to remove soil, seeds and diseases.
- Keep all food in sealed containers. Open bags of food are not allowed on the island.

Check bags



Clean footwear



A hitchhiker's guide to pests



Rats and mice can squeeze through 7 mm gaps. Cats can hide mice in owners' bags! Kapiti Island has been rat free since 1996 – one of the reasons the birds are thriving.



Insects like **Argentine ants** can attack and kill birds and young chicks in the nest. They have not yet been detected on Kapiti Island.



Weeds can choke forests and kill trees. They are spread by seeds and spores that stick to clothing and hide in soil.



The **plague skink** (also known as **rainbow skink**) is not yet on Kapiti Island – it would devastate native skinks. Look out for their small (10 mm), round white eggs.

Enjoy Kapiti Island. Help us protect it!

- › Clean and check your gear before leaving the mainland.
- › Do not feed the wildlife.
- › Do not approach animals any closer than 10 m. The animal may come to you, but do not touch or disturb it.
- › All wildlife has right of way.
- › Keep to formed tracks and mowed areas at all times.
- › Pack in/pack out – take all rubbish back to the mainland, including fruit pips, cores and stones.
- › Do not throw rubbish into composting toilets.
- › Use the toilets provided – do not go in the bush.
- › Do not take anything from the island.
- › No fires on the island – including portable cooking stoves.
- › No smoking, including e-cigarettes.

IF YOU FIND A PEST:

On the mainland before leaving

Get rid of the pest, clean and check your gear again.

On the boat

Tell your crew immediately.

On the island

Tell your tour guide or island ranger immediately.

OR CALL:

DOC HOTline
0800 362 468

Report any safety hazards
or conservation emergencies
For Fire and Search and Rescue Call 111



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

New Zealand Government