

Percy's Reserve



Facilities



Public Transport
Bus (150) and train
(Petone Station)



Parking
(car and bus parking at main
entrance off Dowse Drive)



Toilets



Wheelchair accessible
(the sealed paths around the
lawns are wheelchair accessible)



Pram accessible
(around the lawn areas)



Walking tracks



Horse Riding



Picnic table



Highlight

Get lost in Lower Hutt. Lower Hutt's hidden gem, Percy's Scenic Reserve, is great for taking the kids and exploring nature, or feeding the ducks with the picnic leftovers. It is only 10 minutes from the CBD off State Highway 2.

Description, values & significance

Percy's Scenic Reserve is located on the lower slopes of Maungaraki and Korokoro. The area commonly described as 'Percy's' contains a lowland forest gully, a small cave containing weta and glowworm, a waterfall, propagation nursery, gardens, and significant rare and endangered plant collections. Percy's is part of a connected network of reserves in Korokoro and Maungaraki. The reserve contains a number of historic features like the water wheel.

Accessibility/How to get there/particular time of year to visit

Open every day, however the best displays are between October and March.

Getting there:

Driving: Access and parking is off Dowse Drive (Maungaraki), adjacent to the Dowse interchange on State Highway 2 (2km north of Petone and 2km south of Lower Hutt CBD). Parking area is locked at dusk. There is provision for bus turning and parking. Disabled parking provided.

Bus: To Dowse Drive catch either bus number 150 from Petone Railway Station (at the western end of Jackson Street, Petone) or bus number 150 from Lower Hutt, Queensgate (Stop B).

Train: Exit at Petone Railway Station, walk over the pedestrian over-bridge onto the western side of State Highway 2 or catch bus number 150 to Dowse Drive.

Threatened species/species of interest

The reserve gardens contain an important collection of rare and endangered plants from the Wellington region and from other threatened ecosystems across New Zealand such as Mt Burnett, the Chatham Islands and other offshore islands. The collection includes over 1000 species and varieties in the alpine rockery and the potted alpine collection of botanist AP Druce. The reserve has a nursery raising native species to supplement the natural regeneration in the valley.

Key threats

Multi-species pest control is being done to control pests that would threaten the ability for the forest to regenerate by taking seed and browsing seedlings. The active restoration helps restore some missing biodiversity elements but natural regeneration is necessary for the health, function and longevity of the forest.

Walks (length)

There are a number of paths and trails. Of particular interest is the return track to the Waterfall Track (easy grade) and the small weta cave near the pond. BYO torch.

Walks (grade)

Easy to moderate. There are a good proportion of paths around lawns and collection gardens.

Manager

Hutt City Council

Protection status

Scenic Reserve. Percy's is also identified as a Significant Natural Resource in the City of Lower Hutt District Plan.

How to get there

