

WELLINGTON CITY PHOTOWALK - Half Day Field Trip, Morning

This walk starts at the Wellington Town Hall at 8.30 am and follows the wharves north to the intersection of Customhouse Quay and Bunny Street where we cross to spend some time photographing the railway station. There are restrictions on the use of tripods in the railway station, especially near the platforms because of the tripping hazard for passengers. The decision on whether they will be allowed is over to the Platform Supervisor on duty at the time.

We then head to further photo opportunities at historic Old St Paul's Cathedral (note: access is subject to availability as the Cathedral is still used for funerals etc).

Old St Paul's is one of New Zealand's most important historic places, and is a magnificent example of timber Gothic Revival architecture adapted to colonial conditions and materials. The building was erected in 1866, the second Anglican church in Thorndon. It was built on land bought by Bishop Selwyn in Mulgrave Street in 1845, augmented with a Crown grant of Māori reserve from Governor Grey in 1853. It is constructed entirely from native timbers, the glowing interior is enhanced by stunning stained glass windows. Memorial items and displays tell the early history of Wellington. Access to Old St Paul's is free but a donation to assist with ongoing maintenance would be appreciated.

We then head back to the city past the Old Government Buildings. With imposing facades, sweeping staircases, cast iron fireplaces and kauri clad interiors, the Government Buildings are among the finest examples of New Zealand's architectural heritage. Like many colonial buildings of last century, they were built to resemble an Italian stone palace in an attempt to convey strength and stability in the expanding empire. It is the second largest wooden building in the world. In its heyday New Zealand's largest and grandest wooden building housed our entire public service. Most of it is now leased to Victoria University but the exterior, parts of the ground floor, the Cabinet Room on the first floor and some of the sweeping staircases are open to the public.

The Supreme Court is found across Whitmore Street, opposite the Old Government Buildings. The pattern for the decorative bronze screen that surrounds the building is inspired by the intertwining of pohutukawa and rata. It is one of many references throughout the building to New Zealand's unique natural heritage. The exterior bronze screen is eight metres high and has 88 panels, each one made of 17 pieces. Structural design and a technique called continuous casting limited its weight to 90 tonnes. Made from recycled scrap metal, the screen's manufacture involved expertise from across New Zealand. Pedestrians walking by the Supreme Court building will notice the unusual ovoid shape of the courtroom. The courtroom's special shape – its copper panelled exterior and interior lined with silver beech panels – emulates the form and texture of the cone of the kauri tree. Together they create a diamond pattern that references tukutuku (woven panels) found within marae. These features have the combined effect of a building that is symbolic of New Zealand. There is public access

to the exterior of the building but access to the foyer is restricted when the court is in session.

On leaving the Supreme Court and Government buildings participants can stop at any of the many cafés and sandwich bars along Lambton Quay or Featherston Street for lunch before returning to the Town Hall or Queens Wharf for the afternoon tours.

TIME TABLE

Depart Wellington Town Hall	8.30
Walk to railway station via waterfront	
Photography at Railway station	
Depart railway station for Old St Paul's	9.45
Photography at Old St Paul's	
Depart Old St Paul's for Lambton Quay	10.15
View Wooden Building and Supreme Court	
Leave Wooden Building and Supreme Court area	11.30
Return to Town Hall via Lambton Quay , Post Office Square and Queens Wharf.	
Arrive Wellington Town Hall, tour ends	12.30

Notes:

- Participants are free to leave the walks at any point to return to their hotels or linger at areas of particular interest although participants are requested to tell their guides if they intend to leave the group
- Images taken at the railway station, Old Saint Paul's, and the Government Buildings cannot be used commercially.
- Note that if you are going to Quarantine (or Matiu / Somes) Island in the afternoon that there is no food or drink available on the Island so you will have to buy your own before you get to the ferry at Queens Wharf.