



# HAUTAPU Ā-IMOTU



## Mānawatia a Matariki

Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki

Takaparawhau, Ōrākei  
10 July 2026



Nau mai Matariki, nau mai.  
Nau mai Tamanuiterā, nau mai.  
Nau mai Te Mātahi o te Tau, nau mai.  
Ko te tau hou tēnei te haramai nei,  
Koi te mata punenga,  
maiangi te mata pūihoiho,  
i te tau hou e tū mai nei.

Whano, whano,  
Haramai te toki ata huakirangi!  
Haumi, e!  
Hui, e!  
Tāiki, e!

Welcome Matariki, welcome.  
Welcome Tamanuiterā, welcome.  
Welcome the New Year, welcome.  
The New Year emerges,  
Where anything is attainable  
and everything is possible  
in the New Year.

Unite, unite,  
and bring forth the dawn!  
Together!  
In union!  
We are one!



# MATARIKI HERENGA WAKA

For everyone



Image credit: Richie Mills

# Marama Royal

Heawahine, Te Poari Matua  
o Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

Tākiri mai te ata ki runga o Takaparawhau,  
Ka tau ko te kaupapa o Matariki – herenga waka, herenga tangata.

E wawara ana te reo mihi o te haukāinga ki a koutou kua hoe  
mai rā i ō koutou moana tapu. Ūtaina mai ngā waka ki runga  
i a Takaparawhau e hora ake nei.

Haere mai ki a Maungakiekie  
Haere mai ki Te Pou Whakairo

Haere mai ki Te Kawau  
Haere mai ki ngā uri o Tuperiri e mihi nei.

I konei ka mihia ngā mate o tēnā hapū, o tēnā hapū; ngā ika  
āwhiro, ngā ika huirua, ngā ika rūhanui o te ope o Te Rua o  
Matariki kua kotahi atu rā ki te pūtahitanga o Rehua.

Haere, haere, haere koutou i te au tōia, i te au kumea, tōia atu  
rā ki te pae o te mahara, noho tonu ai.

Ko te pō ki a koutou, ngā hikahika o Hine-nui-te-pō;

Ko te ao ka whiti ora ki runga ki te ora e tū nei.  
Tū tonu, tū tonu.

As dawn breaks across the Waitematā and the stars of  
Matariki shine above us, we welcome you to this place, a place  
both of national and local significance – Takaparawhau.

We welcome those who have travelled from across Aotearoa — our Crown partners, fellow iwi, Pacific manuhiri, community leaders, distinguished guests, and all joining us from near and far. Above all, we welcome you as we stand together to mark the beginning of a new year.

For Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, it is a privilege to host you here. Takaparawhau has long been a place of gathering — where people exchange knowledge, strengthen relationships, celebrate, mourn, and look ahead. Its stories are woven into this whenua and these waters.

This year's theme, *Matariki herenga waka*, reflects Tāmaki as the place where many waka are bound together — shaped by journeys, trade, kinship, and connections over time. Our tūpuna knew the richness of a place lies not in what it keeps, but in what it shares through manaakitanga and strong relationships.

That whakaaro remains today. *Matariki herenga waka* recognises the many peoples who call this place home and honours both what binds us and the uniqueness of every journey. As we gather, we remember those who have passed, give thanks for what sustains us, and look ahead with optimism. Though our journeys begin in different places, we share the same horizon.

Mānawatia a Matariki  
me ngā mihi o te tau hou  
ki a tātou.



# Rt Hon Christopher Luxon

Prime Minister of New Zealand

Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki  
Mānawa maiea te ariki o te rangi  
Mānawa maiea te mātahi o te tau.

Matariki is a special day for New Zealanders. It is a time for remembering the past, celebrating the present and looking to the future.

When I reflect on New Zealand's place in the world, I am proud we are leading the world by celebrating Matariki nationally. This national recognition is also growing across the Pacific, with Tahiti and across French Polynesia celebrating their first Matari'i i ni'a public holiday last November.

I am honoured to be a guest of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, with the beautiful backdrop of the sparkling Waitematā as we mark a day that brings our nation together.

I would like to thank Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei for their hospitality and for welcoming the nation to their special place, as we continue to build our sense of national identity.

Matariki Hunga Nui, Matariki Ahunga Nui, Matariki Manako Nui.

Mānawatia a Matariki!



# Hon Paul Goldsmith

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Ko te kāhui o Matariki ki te rangi,  
Ko te iwi o Matariki ki te whenua.  
Tēnā koutou katoa.

Thank you to Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei for hosting us at Ōrākei Marae today. To be here under your hospitality as Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage is a great privilege.

Matariki is a taonga for us all to embrace and support. It is an opportunity to reflect on what makes New Zealand a special place to live.

This year's theme *Matariki herenga waka* is all about inclusion and encouraging all people to celebrate Matariki together. The phrase speaks to the foundations of this great city and the diversity that underpins Tāmaki Makaurau.

Matariki honours our heritage and Māori celebrations and ceremonies held for centuries.

Matariki casts its glow over our creative world during the winter months, inspiring artists and storytellers across Aotearoa. From orchestral collaborations to kapa haka, ballet, dance, film, literature and television, the celebration brings communities and audiences together.

I'm proud that as a nation we continue to build the momentum of Matariki. This event is one of hundreds taking place around the country this year, and just one of the many that will continue to flourish in years ahead.

Mānawatia a Matariki!



# Professor Rangi Mātāmua

Chief Advisor, Mātauranga Matariki

Ka kai aku karu i te whetū tapu o te tau

kua mahuta ki te pae.

Te kai kawē i ngā tohu o te tau hou,

arā ko Matariki e ārau ana!

Today the country comes together to celebrate Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki. For the past month, many iwi and communities around the country and abroad have been celebrating Matariki to acknowledge the beginning of the Māori new year and a new cycle in the maramataka.

This year's Matariki celebration is guided by the theme *Matariki herenga waka – For everyone*, recognising the unique connection between Matariki and the Tāmaki Makaurau region. The theme reflects the long-standing significance of Tāmaki Makaurau as the place where many waka have come to rest, meet, and connect.

Just as Auckland is often known as the 'City of Sails', Matariki forms part of the celestial constellation Te Waka o Rangi – the Canoe of Rangi. Beyond these nautical connections, *Matariki herenga waka* carries a deeper meaning, celebrating Tāmaki Makaurau and the kaupapa of Matariki to bring people together. It acknowledges the many journeys, cultures, and communities that make up the region, while reinforcing Matariki as a time of connection, belonging, and a place where we can find common ground while holding fast to who we are.

Against the backdrop of the Auckland Harbour, and amidst the warm embrace of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, we come together rich in our diversity to: remember those who have passed; celebrate who we are today; and to look forward to our shared future.

Regardless of which star you choose to mark the new year, where you come from, or the differences across the many facets of our day to day lives – like the stars – let us rise together, celebrating our diversity under the banner of *Matariki herenga waka*.

Mānawatia a Matariki!





Image credit: Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

# Whāngai i te Hautapu

## Hautapu ceremony

### Parking & transport



NGĀTI WHĀTUA  
ŌRĀKEI

#### Park & ride

Public parking is available at Akarana Yacht Club, Grammar TEC and surrounding streets near Tāmaki Drive.

A complimentary shuttle will operate between the two carparks and the Hautapu venue, Takaparawhau every 10–12 minutes from 4.30–5.40am. Shuttles will pause during the Hautapu Ceremony and resume from 7.10–8.45am.

#### Public transport

AT Transport will run free, more frequent Tāmaki Link buses from 4.30am. Simply show the Hautapu post from the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Instagram page [@ngatiwhatuaorakei.com](https://www.instagram.com/ngatiwhatuaorakei.com) when boarding.

#### Walking to the venue

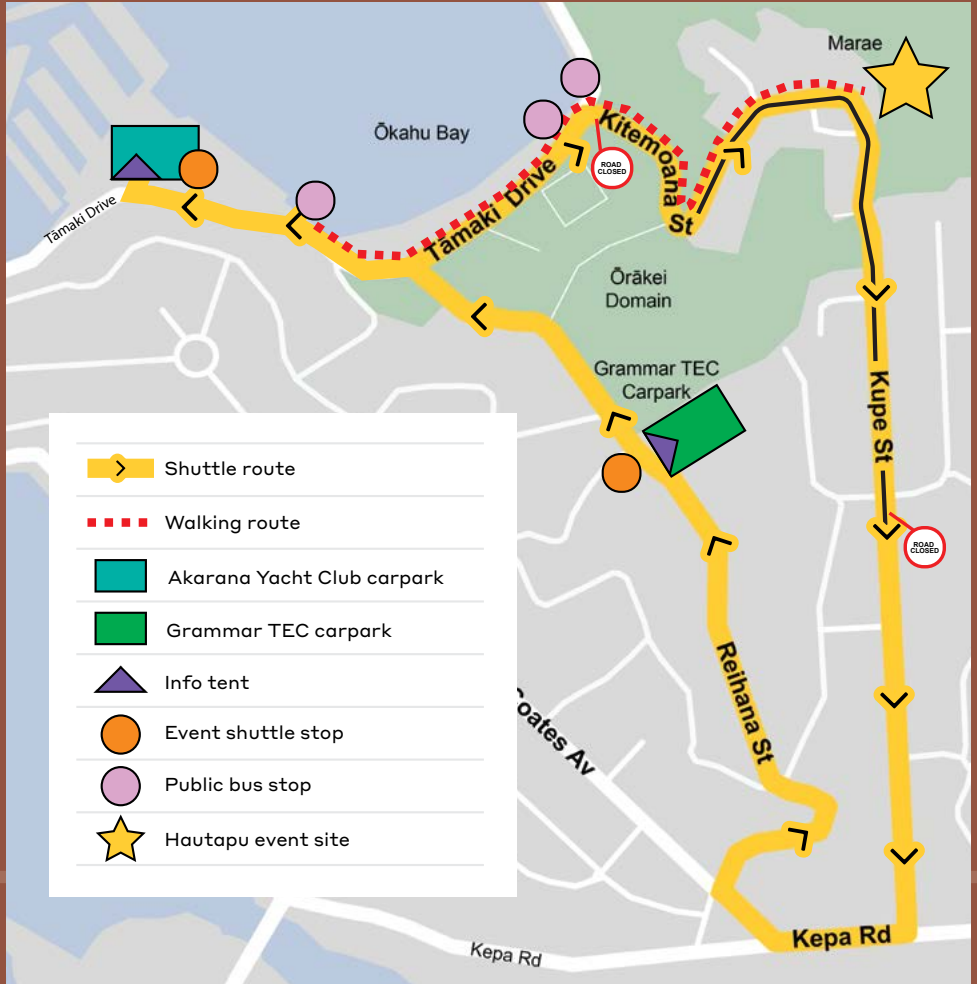
If you'd prefer to walk from Tāmaki Drive, we recommend using the Kitemoana Street footpath towards Takaparawhau. The road will be closed to unauthorised vehicles, creating a safer route for both pedestrians and shuttle buses.

# Carpark & route map

HAUTAPU  
Ā-ĪOTU



NGĀTI WHĀTUA  
ŌRĀKEI



# Whāngai i te Hautapu

## Hautapu ceremony

### Arriving at Takaparawhau

Enter the Hautapu at Takaparawhau through the main gates on the Kupe Street side, where kaimahi will welcome and guide you. A site map and clear signs will also be available to help you find your way around the venue.

Standing viewing areas and a sheltered viewing tent will be available during the ceremony. Dress warm, and prepare for wet weather. Covered shoes or gumboots are recommended.

### Briefing

Before the Ceremony begins, the haukāinga will provide a Whakamārama (explanation) to guide attendees through what to expect during the Hautapu Ceremony.

### Hautapu ceremony begins

Kaikarakia lead the hautapu, reciting traditional karakia to remember those who have passed, honour the Matariki stars, and look ahead to the new year.

Following the Hautapu Ceremony, a short address will take place led by the haukāinga okawa.

*\*Broadcast – The Hautapu ceremony and official speeches from Takaparawhau will be broadcast live and available to watch later on most local streaming platforms and on [matariki.com](https://www.matariki.com).*

# He whakamāramatanga o te Hautapu Hautapu ceremony explained

To honour the rise of Matariki, Māori would traditionally hold a ceremony called 'Whāngai i te Hautapu.'

This phrase means to feed the stars with an offering of food. Leading into the Matariki period, people would collect food from different parts of the environment. For example, kūmara from the gardens, birds from the forest, eels from fresh water and fish from the ocean. These food items would be cooked in 'Te Umu Kohukohu Whetū', an earth oven, early in the morning before Matariki rose.

Then as Matariki appeared they would complete three activities that make up the Matariki ceremony:

1. Tohunga kōkōrangī (astronomy experts) would read the stars and determine the bounty of the new year.
2. Karakia (incantations) to the Matariki cluster would be conducted along with the calling out the names of all of the people who have passed during the year. These karakia are to honour different parts of the natural world and all that we have received during the year.
3. Te Umu Kohukohu (earth oven) is uncovered and the steam rises into the sky as an offering to Matariki. This ceremony ends as the sun rises into the sky welcoming in the new year.



Image credit: Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

# Ngā Karakia me ngā karanga

## Incantations and calls

Our kaikaranga and kaikarakia lead the formal proceedings of our hautapu, offering karakia and invocations to invigorate, to remember those who have passed, honour the whetū, and look ahead to the new year.

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### *Ngā Karakia me ngā karanga*

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1 Huiiterangiōra  
*The Invocation of huiiterangiōra*

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2 Te Kawa Whakahihiri  
*A karakia to invigorate practitioners*

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3 Te Kawa Ahurangi  
*An opening karakia*

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4 Te Kawa ki a Puangarua  
*A karakia to the Puanga star*

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5 Māwhaiwhai Tukutuku  
*An Invocation of interwoven patterns*

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6 Kāhui Whetū  
*The Invocation of the star clusters*

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7 Hawikirangi  
*The invocation of celestial knowledge that meets the ocean*

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8 Te Kawa ki ngā mate  
*A karakia for those who have departed*

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9 Te Anu o Takurua  
*An invocation to the ancestors who have passed*

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10 Te Kawa ki a Matariki  
*A karakia to the Matariki cluster*

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- 11 Te Kawa Tupuora  
*A karakia to Tupu-ā-nuku and Tupu-ā-rangi*
- 
- 12 Te Kawa Waiora  
*A karakia to Waiti and Waitā*
- 
- 13 Te Kawa Rangiora  
*A karakia to Waipunarangi and Ururangi*
- 
- 14 Te Kawa ki a Hiwa  
*A karakia to Hiwa for our dreams and aspirations*
- 
- 15 Karanga ki a Hiwa Wānanga  
*The invocation of hiwa wānanga*
- 
- 16 Karanga ki a Hiwa Manako  
*the invocation of hiwa manako*
- 
- 17 Te Kawa Huakitau  
*A karakia to bring in the new year*
- 
- 18 Te Kawa Huakirangi  
*A karakia to bring in the new day*
- 
- 19 Huraina te Rā  
*The revelation of the sun*
- 
- 20 Karanga Ao  
*The unveiling of the world*
- 
- 21 Hīkaia ngā ahi  
*The tending of the fires*
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Image credit: Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei



Image credit: Richie Mills



# Ngā mātāpono o Matariki

## Matariki principles

The Matariki celebration is based around the following three major principles:



### Matariki Hunga Nui

#### Remembrance

Honouring those we have lost since the last rising of Matariki.



### Matariki Ahunga Nui

#### Celebrating the Present

Gathering together to give thanks for what we have.



### Matariki Manako Nui

#### Looking to the Future

Looking forward to the promise of a new year.

# Ngā uara o Matariki

## Matariki values

Whakamaumaharatanga  
Remembrance

Kotahitanga  
Unity

Tohatohatanga  
Sharing

Mana Taiao  
Environmental awareness

Kaihaukai  
Feasting

Wānanga  
Discussion

Noho tahi  
Coming together

Whakanui  
Celebrations

Tuakiritanga  
Identity

Matariki Kāinga Hokia  
Matariki calls you home



Image credit: Richie Mills

# He mihi

## Acknowledgements

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and Manatū Tāonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage would like to acknowledge everyone who has helped make this hautapu ceremony possible and has played a part in supporting Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki 2026.

Special thanks to:

Marama Royal Heawahine, Te Poari Matua

o Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Trust board

Prime Minister Rt Hon Christopher Luxon

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Hon Paul Goldsmith

Professor Rangi Mātāmua

Ōrākei Marae

Kahawai Productions

Mātai Smith and Stacey Morrison

Te Aorere Pewhairangi and Marcia Hopa



Learn more about our  
Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei story

Scan to view | Takaparawhau



[matariki.com](http://matariki.com)