

ESTUARY MARSHES ROUTE DIRECTIONS

The Estuary Marshes leg starts at the part at the southern end of The Esplanade in Sumner. The initial part of the trail uses the Christchurch Coastal Pathway. Head along the beach toward the city. At the mouth of the rivers' estuary, follow Main Rd into Moncks Bay. Turn down Beachville Road to get a closer look at the estuary. Beachville Rd will rejoin Main Rd at the eastern end of the McCormacks Bay causeway. Continue along the causeway using the Coastal Pathway, then around the bend to the Ferrymead Bridge. The Coastal Pathway ends at the Ferrymead Bridge.

Cross the road at the bridge, using the signalised pedestrian crossing. Continue west along Ferry Rd and turn left into Settlers Crescent. Just before the bend to the right, there is a lane into a park. Use this to join the Ferrymead Towpath track, and follow it upstream. This track turns to run behind the businesses in Settlers Crescent and Ferry Road. The track rejoins Ferry Rd opposite Charlesworth St; cross the road when it's safe, and make your way along Charlesworth St. Enter Charlesworth Reserve on your right. Follow the path eastwards to get closer to the salt marsh, take the left branch when the track forks. The track turns north and skirts the salt marsh, finally getting up to a bridge over the Linwood Drain.

Don't cross the bridge over the Linwood Drain, instead follow the track along the south side of the canal. This leads you to the Dyers Rd/Linwood Ave intersection. Use the signalised pedestrian crossing to cross Dyers Rd, then Linwood Avenue. Continue west on Linwood Avenue, turning into Kidbrooke Street, then cross Bayswater Rd when it is safe, and enter Bayswater Reserve. Cross Bayswater Reserve and exit from the northern corner onto Seascape Gardens.

Turn right into St Johns Street, and continue north until you get to the end. Turn left into Maces Rd. Continue along Maces Rd until you cross Bromley Rd, then enter the Bromley Old School Reserve, crossing it and exiting onto Raymond Rd. Go north along Raymond Rd, entering the Ruru Lawn Cemetery. Take the right branch when the road forks, and continue north through the cemetery until to reach Ruru Rd. Turn left, then cross Ruru Rd and enter Memorial Park Cemetery. Take the third lane on the right, and exit the cemetery onto Cypress St, turning right towards Rudds Rd, where you turn right again.

Rudds Rd turns left and becomes Kearneys Rd, and just after the corner, turn right into the playing fields, skirting around the southern end of the park. At the south-eastern corner of the park, enter the forest, and the track takes a generally northerly course towards Pages Rd. Near Pages Rd, the track turns to the right to parallel Pages Rd while remaining in the forest, until Softball Lane is reached.

The track then skirts around the Pages Rd side of Cowles Stadium, before crossing in front of Nga Hau E Wha Marae. The track then turns onto Pages Rd, turning north-west until Shortland St. Turn right into Shortland St, and continue down until Rowses Rd. Cross Shortland St when safe, and follow Rowses Rd all the way until it turns sharply left and becomes Rowan Ave. At this sharp bend, enter the park and follow the path toward Anzac Drive.

When you reach Anzac Drive, look for the pedestrian refuge just north of where the track emerges, and use this to cross Anzac Dr safely. Having crossed the road, turn south, past Wetlands Grove, and look for the track that heads east alongside the Bexley Wetland. This track winds alongside the wetlands, then follows the Avon River upstream. Follow the river upstream until you get to Pages Rd. Cross Pages Rd at the bridge with care, and you will find the sign marking the end of this leg and the start of the Dunes Wetlands leg.