

W A I K U M E T E



CEMETERY & CREMATORIUM

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Waikumete Cemetery is a place of beauty, tranquillity, quiet reverence and rich history,
Which has served greater Auckland and Waitakere City since 1886.

It is the largest cemetery, in New Zealand while its 125 hectares also make it one of the
Largest public parks in the Auckland region.

Here, one can trace the history and evolution of a society from its pioneering days to its
cosmopolitan present, with people of many cultures and countries of origin being laid to rest. Here,
people come to grieve, reflect and remember. Here, people trace their ancestors and find missing
threads in their genealogies. Here, one can visit the past and delight in the wildflowers. Here, are the
memorials to tragedy on the large scale - such as the holocaust, epidemics and disasters.

Time and circumstance have imbued Waikumete with an atmosphere of dignity and reverence,
making it a place of tranquillity, beauty and comfort for all.

C E M E T E R Y & C R E M A T O R I U M



Waitakere City Council



THE CHAPELS

*W*aikumete has two chapels adjacent to each other in the main building. The larger chapel has seating for 110, while the smaller chapel seats 60.

*T*hese two chapels offer flexible arrangements according to the needs of the funeral. Audio and video facilities are available in the large chapel. With large funerals, if a congregation overflows from the chapel to the area outside - or even to the smaller chapel - a TV



monitor can be placed so that mourners may follow the service.

*I*n addition, the audio and video facilities can be used to make a permanent record of the service. The chapels are also served by first-class sound systems allowing appropriate music to be played. The cemetery has an extensive

music range of its own or it can accommodate music supplied by families of the bereaved. Both chapels are available for full or committal services.



LAWNS, MEMORIALS AND GARDENS

Ashes Garden and Lawn Memorials

These areas offer plots for two sets of ashes. Flat plaques of granite or bronze may be placed on the surrounding berm.



Tree Memorials

Situated throughout the cemetery, tree memorials offer up to sixteen plots for the interment of ashes. A number of different locations are available within the cemetery.

Columbarium (Niche) Wall

A recently-redesigned tranquil courtyard is created by Columbarium Walls. Up to two urns of ashes may be placed within each niche in the walls.

Book of Memories

The name of the deceased may be entered into the Book Of Memories to commemorate the

passing of a loved one. The book is on permanent display with each page being opened to match the corresponding day of the year.



Children & Stillborn Lawns

There are two separate areas for children at Waikumete: one for stillborn or babies up to the age of 27 days, the other for children from 27 days to 10 years.



Returned Service Areas

This is reserved for those who saw active service in the Armed Forces in a variety of overseas wars. The plots are provided by the Department of Internal Affairs. The only charge is the digging fee.

Cultural Distinctions

Whereas there were once many separate areas set aside within Waikumete to accommodate cultural,

religious and even denominational differences, today there are only three areas which are specifically reserved in this way: the Urupa, the Hebrew Section and the Muslim Section. The Hebrew Section incorporates the Beit Olam

Prayer House and the starkly beautiful Holocaust Stone, at the foot of which are buried ashes taken from Auschwitz Concentration Camp in 1945.



Urupa

The Urupa was opened in 1996 to meet the needs of Maori - both adults and children. Children's needs are met in a specially selected area within the Urupa.



Mausoleum Sites

Mausoleum sites are readily available within Waikumete. The common site size is 2.5 by 6 metres. Plans for a mausoleum must be approved by Waitakere City Council engineers and a consent obtained, before building begins.

Burial Vaults

Underground and above ground vaults are available in certain areas of the Cemetery. Plans of vaults require Waitakere City Council engineers' approval.

Chapel of Faith in the Oaks

This chapel was built in May 1886 and was fully refurbished in 1996. The chapel is commonly used for weddings and occasionally for funerals.



Friends Of Waikumete (Incorporated)

This group was established in 1995 and incorporated in August 1996. Its aim is to promote the unique historical and horticultural features of the old cemetery. Friends of Waikumete organise guided walks through the cemetery, pointing out the historical grave sites and those of the famous and infamous.

