

Stratford's Shakespearean Links



- 1877** Naming of town
- 1878** Streets are named after Shakespeare plays
- 1898** Borough of Stratford formed with Shakespeare coat-of-arms on the Borough Crest
- 1939** Mayoral links with Stratford-upon-Avon result in tree planting in both towns
- 1978** Centennial of Stratford features reciprocal visits between Mayors of Stratford, New Zealand and Stratford-upon-Avon, England
- 1990's** Several Stratford businesses adopt Shakespearean names
- 1991** Refurbishment of 'Kings' Theatre on Broadway
- 1993** Shakespearean/Elizabethan theme chosen by Stratford 'Mainstreet' committee for the 'Streetscape' project
- 1995** 'Streetscape' initiatives include Elizabethan street signs, iron grills on Broadway and tree planting with flower beds in Miranda and Juliet Streets
- 1996** First annual medieval market day 'Baldrick's Big Day Out'
 - Opening of the Elizabethan Clocktower on Broadway
 - Lychgate, seats and flower-beds developed on Broadway
- 1997** Delegation from Stratford, New Zealand to Stratfords of the World Reunion in Stratford-upon-Avon, England.
- 1998** Bronze bust of William Shakespeare cast by Kaponga sculptor Roger Peters placed on plinth
- 2000** Ongoing events and performances to celebrate Shakespeare
- 2019** Stratford District Council formally adopts Shakespeare as the town's identity

Stratford District Council

61-63 Miranda Street
Stratford

Opening hours
Open 5 days a week
8.30am – 4.30pm weekdays
Closed weekends

Phone: 06 765 6099



Stratford & District Centennial Library

Prospero Place
Stratford

Opening hours
9.00am – 5.30pm weekdays
9.00am – 12noon Saturday
Closed Sunday and Public Holidays

Phone: 06 765 5403

Stratford Visitor Information Centre

Prospero Place
Stratford

Opening hours
8.30am – 5.00pm weekdays
10.00am – 3.00pm weekends and public holidays
(Closed Christmas Day)

Phone: 06 765 6708

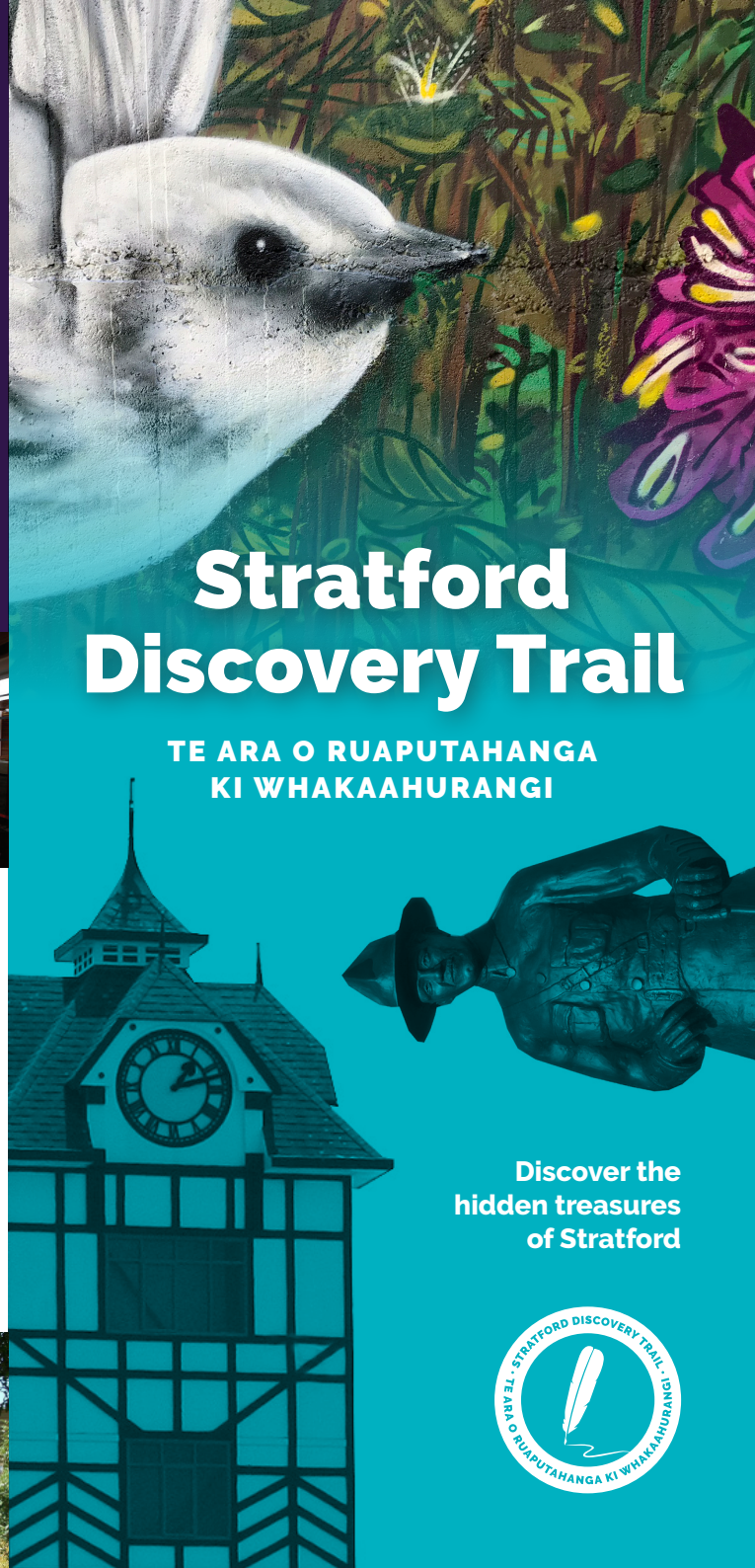


Percy Thomson Gallery

Prospero Place
Stratford

Opening hours
Open 7 days a week
10.30am – 4.00pm weekdays
10.30am – 3.00pm weekends

Phone: 06 765 0917



Stratford Discovery Trail

TE ARA O RUAPUTAHANGA
KI WHAKAAHURANGI

Discover the
hidden treasures
of Stratford



About Stratford

Stratford District has a varied and interesting history.

You're invited to take a stroll around town to discover the hidden treasures and stories Stratford has to tell.

Stratford is a playground for literary lovers with its Shakespearean identity. Outside of town, Stratford offers the best access points to Mount Taranaki and is the gateway to the Forgotten World Highway and the famous Republic of Whangamomona.

There is a lot to see and do, so get going!



COLONEL MALONE STATUE



Colonel Malone Statue

Located on Broadway South, the statue of a dapper soldier facing Mount Taranaki topped in his signature lemon squeezer hat serves as a reminder of his great leadership and sacrifice he made for the country.



GLOCKENSPIEL



King Edward Park

Located within easy reach of the town centre King Edward Park is an ideal sanctuary to experience countless varieties of plants, mature trees and birdlife and fast-flowing mountain streams.

KING EDWARD PARK



Places & Spaces

Glockenspiel



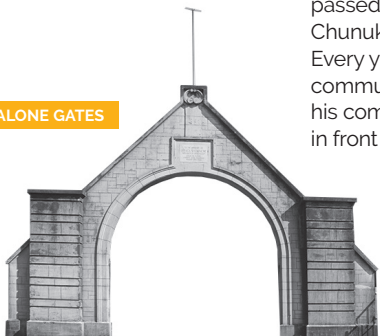
The only glockenspiel in the southern hemisphere attracts tourists from all over the world year round. Standing tall in the centre of town, Shakespeare's famous star-crossed lovers, Romeo and Juliet, perform and reaffirm their vows of love for approximately 5 minutes after the hour chimes at 10am, 1pm, 3pm and 7pm. For a behind the scenes look you can participate in tours during the monthly markets and at special community events.

Malone Gates



Said to be the largest war memorial to an individual soldier in New Zealand, these gates were erected in 1923 by officers and men of the Wellington West Coast Regiment to permanently recognise the outstanding bravery and leadership of their commander, Lieutenant-Colonel W.G. Malone of Stratford. The lone pine tree located near the gates grew from a seedling brought back from Gallipoli where he passed away on the slopes of Chunuk Bair on 8 August 1915. Every year on 8 August the community acknowledges his commitment with a service in front of the gates.

MALONE GATES



TET King's Theatre



The King's Theatre has a unique cinematic history that includes being the first theatre in the Southern Hemisphere to play the 'Talkies' films, pictures with sound.

www.kingstheatre.co.nz

Percy Thomson



Late Stratford businessman and former mayor Percy Thomson, by his will, left the district a significant bequest towards the establishment and maintenance of an arboretum and herbarium of the native flora of New Zealand, and an art gallery. Located in Prospero Place, the art gallery has received national recognition as a thriving and diverse exhibition space catering for all age groups and interests involving the community at large.



PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

The arboretum, located on Cloten Road, represents native flora and fauna of New Zealand and descendants of plants on the former Gondwana continent. The virtual herbarium was designed as an educational resource to introduce users to the types of native and introduced plants found in Taranaki.

www.taranakiplants.net.nz

Walkways



A network of stunning tracks and pathways provides a link between attractions and a unique perspective of the dramatic Taranaki landscape. These trails offer the chance to escape the hustle and bustle of urban life and discover some of the region's many reserves, parks, areas of historical interest and natural beauty.

Windsor Park



Located on the bank of the Patea River, this small park gets its name from Shakespeare's play The Merry Wives of Windsor. Gently sloping towards the river, and shaded by established trees, Windsor Park offers a tranquil escape.

Victoria Park



Victoria Park gained its name and many of its trees in 1897, when £5 was spent on the purchase and planting of trees to commemorate 60 years of reign by Queen Victoria. From its early days, Victoria Park has hosted organised sport – it is home to Stratford's rugby, cricket and croquet clubs.

Prospero Place



Named after a character in Shakespeare's play The Tempest, Prospero Place is at the heart of Stratford's business district and is seen as the hub that connects the District and Centennial Library and Percy Thomson Art Gallery to the main shopping area.