

# Christchurch

The Garden City

## Peace Walk



**Peace Bell (17)**  
The World Peace Bell Association in Tokyo gifted New Zealand's only peace bell to Christchurch in 2005. The first peace bell was installed at

the United Nations in 1954. Each bell is made from coins and medals donated by 103 countries, which have been mixed with copper, is a symbol of peace and gives an impression that the world is one. The aim of the association is to install World Peace Bells around the globe promoting mutual understanding which transcends national boundaries and religions. The Bell and its stunning pavilion were unveiled on October 3, 2006.

In July 2002 Christchurch was declared a Peace City. This was seen as a way for Christchurch to celebrate its peace history. This decision was a way to show Christchurch's commitment to actively contribute to a more peaceful future.

**Enjoy Christchurch!**  
Allow yourself time to enjoy the rest of the central city, including the Cultural Precinct. The Precinct provides a vibrant scene of ever-changing arts, cultural and heritage activities and is easy to walk around or travel by tram to hear stories about the area's history. There are shops, cafes with fabulous coffee, galleries including inspiring artworks at the spectacular Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, the stunning Botanic Gardens, and beautiful historic buildings such as Our City O-Tautahi and the Canterbury Provincial Council Buildings.

It's easy to spend an hour or a day here in the heart of Christchurch.

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This brochure is a guide linking many of Christchurch's peace icons with a leisurely one to two hour walk along the Avon River.







### Fire Fighters' Memorial (1)

Commemorating 343 New York fire fighters who lost lives following the terrorist

attacks September 11, 2001. Some steel from the New York World Centre site was gifted by the city of New York to the city of Christchurch to honour all fire fighters world-wide. This sculpture, designed by Graham Bennett was unveiled on October 26, 2002.



### Clock Tower (2)

Emblazed with the words 'peace, faith, hope and charity' this stone clock tower was presented to the City, September 26, 1929 by TJ

Edmond to celebrate 50 years residence in Christchurch.



### Elsie Locke Park (3)

Elsie Locke (1912-2001) had been involved in peace issues all her life, such as the massive campaign against conscription in the late 1940s.

Nuclear disarmament became her driving passion. She wrote Peace People, the definitive history of peace activists and the New Zealand peace movement. This park is in recognition of her as a peace activist and her voluntary work for the wellbeing of urban communities and the preservation and enhancement of city heritage.



### Site of lantern ceremonies (4)

Since 1975, as part of the City's Peace week in early August, candlelit lanterns are floated down the Avon River in

remembrance of the victims of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



### Queen Victoria Statue (5)

Bronze statue of Queen Victoria mounted on large square stone base. There are six bronze

castings on the base depicting early colonial occupation. There are also two bronze plaques, one of which is a memorial to Canterbury's sons who fought in the 1899 - 1902 African War (Boer War).



### Cenotaph in Cathedral (6)

Square, Citizens' War Memorial Dedicated in grateful

remembrance of the Sons and Daughters of Canterbury who fell in the Great War 1914 - 1918. It wasn't unveiled until June 9, 1937, some 19 years after the war had ended. The bronze figures depict Victory at the peak of Youth, Justice, Valour, Peace and Sacrifice.



### Cathedral Square (7)

Cathedral Square has always been a popular site for peace protests and marches. Here, speakers such as former Prime

Minister, Norman Kirk, rallied support for the Southern Hemisphere Nuclear Free Zone in the early 1960s. Peace campaigners held stalls to collect signatures for petitions calling for a nuclear free New Zealand and South Pacific; spoke out against wars such as Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq; and commemorated the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

### Memorial to Vivienne Mountfort, Artist and Peace Campaigner (8)



Vivienne Mountfort (1918 - 2004) works focus upon the human condition - how we can best live; harmony in

coexistence with one another and the environment. A Mountfort Peace Mandala tapestry was purchased by the Christchurch City Council in 2002, to commemorate the declaration of Christchurch as a Peace City and now hangs in the City Council's offices.

### Kate Sheppard National Memorial (9)

Kate Sheppard (1848-1934), was a strong advocate for equal rights for women.



Sheppard realised that with the vote women could achieve social reforms. Subsequently this concept developed into her struggle for the rights of New Zealand women to vote. The fifth petition to parliament in 1893 contained 31,872 signatures, a number that was a third of the female adult population of that time. It was due to the efforts of Kate Sheppard that on September 19, 1893 universal suffrage was granted, making it the first country to grant full voting rights to women.

### Purple Plum Tree (10)

Planted "In memory of the A-bomb victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki" The commemorative plaque is written in English, Japanese and Maori.



### Bridge of Remembrance (11)

Erected by the citizens of Christchurch in grateful remembrance of the sacrifice of Canterbury's servicemen and women. The foundation stone was laid on Anzac Day, April 25, 1923 and the bridge was opened on Armistice Day, November 11, 1924. The bridge and its surroundings have become a focus for the commemoration of service in several world wars and of individual war heroes.



### Peace Pole and Friendship Corner (12)

Japanese members of the Society of Prayer for World Peace planted the Peace Pole in 1987.

Written on the pole in Japanese, English and Maori are the words "May peace prevail on earth." The group's aim is world peace and they hope to influence people through the written peace message.



### Bandsmen's Rotunda (13)

Opened September 19, 1926. This was the first memorial in New Zealand to be erected to the memory of bandsmen who died in World War 1. Designed as a circle of columns with a flat roof and lion head corbels, it is surrounded by Turkish oak trees, which was thought fitting for those who died at Gallipoli.



### Dalai Lama Stone (14)

A large rock 'mani stone' sits at the foot of a Himalayan Pine tree. The tree was planted by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet to mark his first visit to Christchurch, May 16, 1992. The carving on the Mani stone is a Buddhist prayer Om Mani Padme Hum, which means "for the peace and liberation of all beings."



### Camphor Tree (15)

This Camphor tree, planted by Deputy Mayor Carole Evans on 21 September 2007, is a second generation cutting from a tree which survived the atomic bombing of Nagasaki. The original cutting was gifted to Christchurch by the Mayor of Nagasaki during a visit to Christchurch in 2003. Cuttings from this tree have since been propagated and have been gifted to Auckland, Wellington, Southern Wairarapa and Palmerston North.



### Rotary plaque (16)

Declaring Christchurch a Rotary District D9700 Peace Community on 21 September 2007, whereby Rotarians pledge to promote "Peace, Understanding and Goodwill" between people residing here and in communities around the world.

