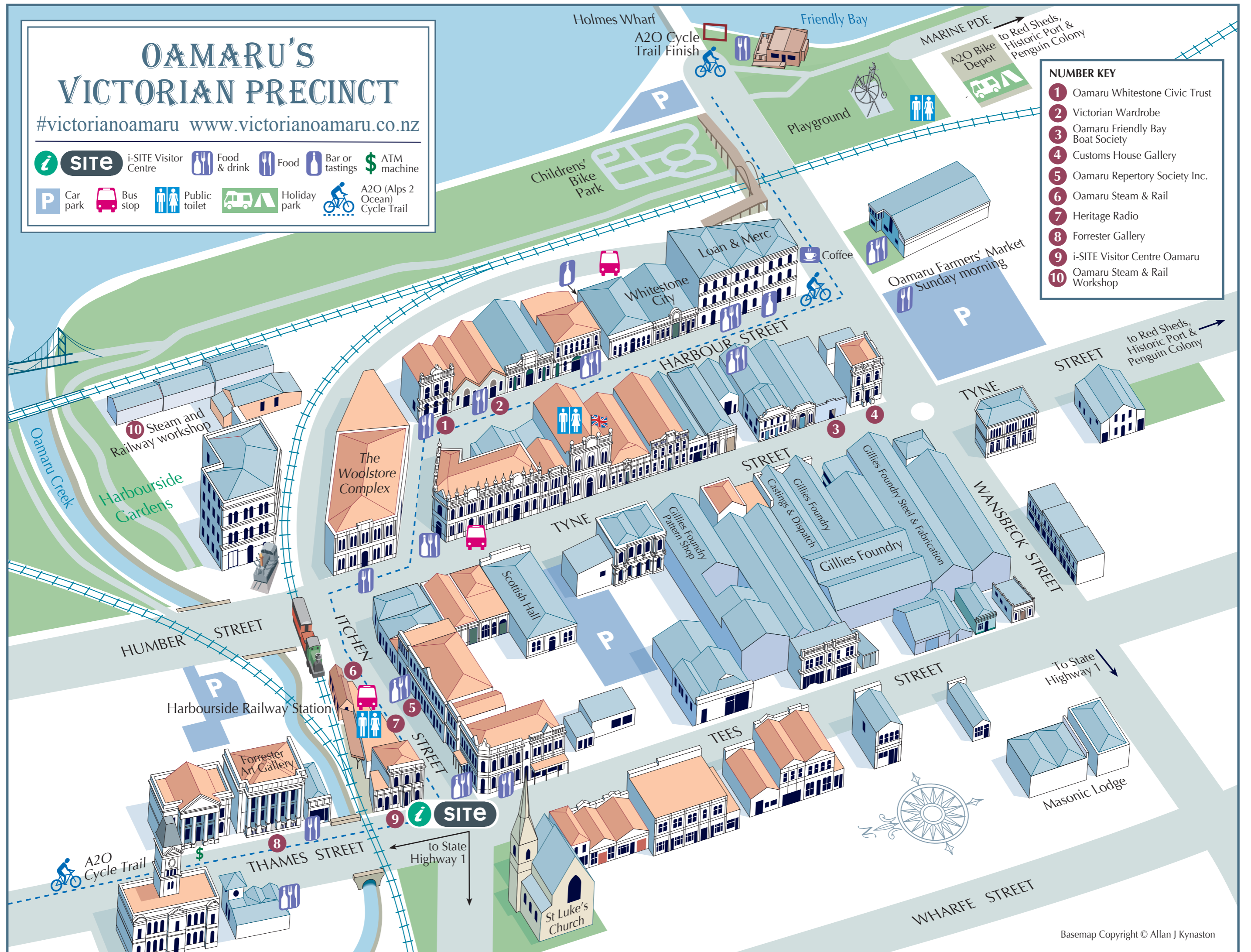


OAMARU'S VICTORIAN PRECINCT

#victorianoamaru www.victorianoamaru.co.nz

i SITE i-SITE Visitor Centre
 Food & drink
 Food
 Bar or tastings
 ATM machine
P Car park
 Bus stop
 Public toilet
 Holiday park
 A2O (Alps 2 Ocean) Cycle Trail

- NUMBER KEY**
- 1 Oamaru Whitestone Civic Trust
 - 2 Victorian Wardrobe
 - 3 Oamaru Friendly Bay Boat Society
 - 4 Customs House Gallery
 - 5 Oamaru Repertory Society Inc.
 - 6 Oamaru Steam & Rail
 - 7 Heritage Radio
 - 8 Forrester Gallery
 - 9 i-SITE Visitor Centre Oamaru
 - 10 Oamaru Steam & Rail Workshop



TOHU WHENUA

Landmarks that tell our stories



About Tohu Whenua

Aotearoa is bursting with stunning sites rich in culture and history – and Tohu Whenua highlights our special places worthy of inclusion on any visitor's itinerary.

From Māori pā sites and mission stations where battles were fought and treaties signed, to the towns, farms and other settlements linked by good old kiwi ingenuity, Tohu Whenua makes it easy to explore our most iconic landmarks and hidden gems that capture defining moments in our history.

Tohu Whenua include favourite Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga properties including Pompallier Mission and Printery in the north and Hayes Engineering Works in the south, scenically beautiful Department of Conservation sites like Denniston Mine and Bannockburn Sluicings, pioneer townships like Oamaru, Reefton and Arrowtown, and experiences that include the T.S.S. Earnslaw, Taieri Gorge Railway and Waitangi Treaty Grounds.

Tohu Whenua is a partnership between Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai, and Manatū Taonga – Ministry for Culture and Heritage.

Why Oamaru?

A grand Victorian streetscape carved in distinctive local stone and built on the bounty of wool and grain, Historic Oamaru is one of Otago's and New Zealand's most significant heritage landmarks.

The atmospheric setting tells the story of Victorian hopes and dreams during the boom years of the late 19th century.

There remains a strong sense of its former role as the majestic colonial outpost that played a key part in Otago's industrial and agricultural heritage. Visitors can walk in and around ornate and well-preserved buildings that housed merchant and engineering enterprises, grain stores and banks, and step back in time in Victorian fashion, alongside newer steampunk enthusiasts who come dressed for the part. A destination with something for everyone.

Dig a little deeper

Like many other Tohu Whenua around New Zealand, Historic Oamaru has some remarkable secrets that are slightly hidden from view.

- Long before humans lived in Oamaru, little blue penguins or kororā had a colony here (and still do). As the world's smallest penguin, they're accomplished at finding interesting nooks and crannies to call home including under some of the white stone buildings of Historic Oamaru.
- Another somewhat larger bird, the moa, would have been abundant in the countryside around Oamaru a few hundred years ago. They were an important food source for early Māori with the remains of more 29,000 moa discovered at the Waitaki River mouth¹ and a further 6,000 at the Shag River mouth, just south of Oamaru.
- In 1876 Oamaru had the widest bridge in the southern hemisphere (at the southern end of Thames Street). It wasn't until 1932 that another bridge became the widest – the Sydney Harbour Bridge².

¹ Estimates sourced from The Penguin History of New Zealand, Michael King, 2003.

² Oamaru 1878 A Colonial Town, K. C. McDonald, 2006.

www.tohuwhenua.nz TohuWhenua tohuwhenua



Streetscape, Thames Street, Oamaru. 1884. Collection of the Waitaki District Archive.



Corner of Tyne Street c. 1900. Collection of the Waitaki District Archive.



Thames St bridge and first Oamaru Post Office. 1864. Collection of the Waitaki District Archive.



Harbour Street, Oamaru. 2019. Tourism Waitaki



Criterion Hotel, Oamaru. 2019. Tourism Waitaki

Oamaru Heritage Walking Tours, Oamaru Whitestone Civic Trust and Tourism Waitaki hope you enjoy this complementary map & Oamaru Victorian Precinct.

Take a step back in time and discover Oamaru's vibrant colonial history. Daily walking tours start at the Oamaru i-SITE at 10.30am.

OAMARU WHITESTONE
 CIVIC TRUST

WAITAKI WHITESTONE
ASPIRING GLOBAL
GEOPARK
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

OAMARU HERITAGE WALKING TOURS

For more details refer to our website or enquire at your local i-SITE

WAITAKINZ.COM

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