

Apartments in the suburbs are becoming increasingly popular as more Aucklanders opt for a public park they share with their community over a private backyard (and a bigger mortgage).



Bernoulli Gardens

The Unitary Plan has allowed for higher density living outside the city fringe and developers are responding with a variety of new apartment offers in appealing locations near the beach, the bush, or the train that gets you to work. The trick to becoming a satisfied suburban apartment dweller is to ensure that you choose your neighbourhood just as carefully as your building.

With no back yard to call your own it's important that you can get outdoors to connect with nature and your community. Hobsonville Point in Auckland's northwest provides a good example of a new 'medium density/high amenity' suburb that gives apartment dwellers the benefits of suburban living without the cost associated with buying and maintaining a house and garden.



Parks, walks and harbourside location

Hobsonville Point – eventual population 11,000 – is being viewed as a blueprint for how Auckland can intensify without compromising the lifestyle Aucklanders love. The peninsula, which juts out into a sheltered stretch of the upper Waitemata, has 26 hectares of parks, two new schools, a commuter ferry service to the CBD, and a 5km walkway around a picturesque part of the coastline, which is fast becoming one of the city's most popular walks.



Hobsonville Point Coastal Walkway

New waterfront precinct

The waterfront area known as Catalina Bay is currently being transformed by developer Willis Bond. The first stage of the multi-million dollar development is nearing completion, featuring restaurants, office space and a Farmer's Market in refurbished heritage buildings. The market is already operating every Friday, Saturday and Sunday and 'Fabric', a new restaurant on the water's edge will open within the month. A Little Creatures micro-brewery with restaurant, is expected to open late this year.



Little Creatures, Geelong, Victoria

Apartment living is on trend worldwide as people opt for smaller homes, pare back their belongings and prioritise experiences

over 'things'. HLC, the company overseeing the development of Hobsonville Point, has planned the township from scratch around research showing that people are more than satisfied with apartment living when their neighbourhood provides places to enjoy nature and connect with the community.

Lots of choice

A number of apartments will be completed this winter at Hobsonville Point and they are available for sale off the plan now. Bernoulli Gardens by Ockham Residential is based on the art deco character flats of the 30s. Ngāi Tahu Property has launched Kerepeti, offering 208 homes, many of them apartments, over two neighbourhoods. And Tallwood and Twenty Twenty Property Partners have teamed up to create The Grounds, 42 apartments built with sustainable engineered timber.

