

The Signal Hill lookout

Local lingo

'The Buddhas' is the name given to the two seated figures at the Signal Hill lookout due to their cross legged positioning. It's a popular spot for car enthusiasts who enjoy the drive up the hill and cyclists who enjoy the trip down!

X marks the spot

To get to Signal Hill: travel up Opoho Road from Great King Street, take a right turn into Signal Hill Road, and keep going until you reach the top!

From boy racers to Sunday drivers, Signal Hill is the perfect spot to take in the breathtaking view of Dunedin and its surrounding ocean from the north.

After travelling 393m up the winding access road through dense bush and plantation, stepping out to the panoramic view of the harbour and the city is spectacular, and even better with the night time lights. The lookout has a deeper symbolism for Dunedin residents as it houses the only New Zealand Centennial Memorial of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840. The flag was raised for the first time at the memorial in April 1941 by the Governor General, Sir Cyril Newall.

After World War Two, two bronze figures were placed at the memorial, a man and a woman. The man holds a book and represents the history of the 100 years following the signing of the Treaty; the woman sits spinning with a spindle, which represents the possibilities unfolding in the next century. A piece of rock from the site on which Edinburgh Castle was built is also embedded in the memorial in recognition of Dunedin's Scottish connections.

The surrounding reserve and plantation is a popular spot for downhill biking and tramping, and is now recovering from a damaging bushfire that occurred in 2006.



The female figure with her spindle



Downhill mountain biking on Signal Hill

