# Music, gigs and live entertainment in Whangārei

### **1** | **Butter Factory** | Butter Factory Lane

With an outdoor courtyard perfect for summer gigs, a large selection of craft beer, and midweek food deals, it's no surprise that the Butter Factory is one of the most popular venues in town. With everything from DJ sets and live bands to comedy, beer tastings and jazz nights, you'll probably end up visiting this historic stone building a few times. All events are listed on the venue's Facebook page @butterfactory.

### **2** | **Loco** | *Quayside*

Right in the town basin this Latin American bar and restaurant has ice-cold beer, frozen cocktails and a DJ on set Friday evenings and Salsa on Sundays. It's easy to get into the party vibe here. Grab a table outside for views of the water and peoplewatching. Check out their Facebook page (@loco. whangarei) for more info.

# 3 | Roost | Bank Street

This place is all about chicken-themed comfort food and live events. Laugh over the fortnightly comedy in the garden bar, or hit the dancefloor and watch the regular live music acts up on stage. Follow them on Facebook (@roostonbank) to keep abreast of what's on.



# Music, Venues and Nights Out

Port Nikau

# Enjoy a Night Out

Here's our round-up of the best places in town to grab a drink with friends, meet locals, and listen to some tunes.

New events and venues pop up all the time, but we think these spots are the most reliable for scheduling regular events.

### 4 AstroBoy Bank Street

This is a fun and busy bar with good crowdpleasing food like cheeseburger spring rolls and sticky cola Korean short ribs. There are cocktails on tap, literally, and interesting craft beers. There's even a karaoke room for when you need an excuse to sing your heart out. Book one of the bottomless brunches or seasonal events on the website: astroboy.co.nz.

#### **5** One One Six Bank Street

One One Six is a relaxed, community-run venue that is perfect for everything from theatre, poetry and live music to community gatherings, improv nights and dance parties! You'll find an impressive lineup of local and international musicians and acts covering a wide spectrum of genres and tastes - there's something for everyone! You can check what's on and get tickets on their website: oneonesix.nz

### 6 Semenoff Stadium | Okara Drive

Credit: Northland Events Centre (2021) Trust and BlackHawk Film

Rugby union matches are the norm here, but the venue is also regularly used for festivals, concerts and events. The schedule is well advertised on boards by the stadium, or you can keep an eye on the eventfinda page. The Fritter Festival is an annual March fixture or you can check out the epic Guy Fawkes display in November.