

Media Release

Cathedral Square Walkway to reopen

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A walkway into Cathedral Square will reopen this weekend and next, to give people a last chance to see the ChristChurch Cathedral before it is deconstructed.

The Anglican Church last week decided it will not rebuild its Cathedral, which has suffered severe damage in the series of earthquakes over the past year.

The demolition schedule of the BNZ in Cathedral Sq will allow for the pedestrian use of Colombo Street into the Square for two weekends only.

Last year a total of 110,000 people took advantage of the bus and walkway trips that visited Cathedral Square. Since then the Anglican Church has made its decision to deconstruct its building. But many people may not have taken the opportunity last year to see the Cathedral for themselves, so CERA is endeavouring to provide another chance.

For many people this may be a solemn and sobering experience and for that reason it is hoped other people act respectfully and maturely.

The walkway route will be the same, leaving from and exiting at the Re:START Mall.

It will be open from 9am to 5pm this Saturday and Sunday, March 10 and 11, and the following weekend, March 17 and 18. Pedestrians will not be admitted in after 4.30pm.

The walkway will be free, although as with last time a contributions box will be available and any donations will offset the costs of fencing and security staffing.

The walkway follows the lowest risk route in the area, but CERA's advice remains that given the potential for danger, people should wear sturdy shoes and carry ID on their body rather than in a bag.

A high volume of people are expected to use the walkway and for safety reason no pets, skateboards, scooters or bicycles will be allowed.

And while this is a low risk event, the public must remain aware of the dangers involved given the condition of the Cathedral building and other buildings in the area.

Walkway users must stay in the designated fenced area for their own safety and in the event of a major aftershock, everyone must follow the directions of the New Zealand Police and security staff that will be on hand.

Please be aware that in the event of bad weather or aftershocks the walkway may not open as planned.

This announcement was originally published on cera.govt.nz and beehive.govt.nz

Related information

[Cathedral Square Walkway](#) - includes safety information, a map of the route, and a video of the route.