

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

# ROTORUA

**YOUR  
GUIDE TO  
ROTORUA**

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**THE BEST**  
MOUNTAIN BIKING

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**YUMMY**  
SUMMER EATS

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ITINERARY IDEA:  
**FAMILY FUN**

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**STRICTLY FOR  
THE BIRDS**







## ARONUI INDIGENOUS ARTS FESTIVAL

Date to be confirmed



ARONUI Indigenous Arts Festival

This 11-day event showcases amazing entertainers, artists and kaupapa Māori practitioners sharing their talents, defining why Rotorua is the heart of Te Arawa culture. Theatre, dance, music, visual arts, film will be featured at various days and times, and the festival will culminate at Ōhinemutu village with the ARONUI Māori Market where you can enjoy a range of delicious Māori kai, arts, crafts, kids' activities, live music, and a theatre performance.

[aronuiartsfestival.com](https://aronuiartsfestival.com)

## EMERSON'S WHAKA 100

22-24 October 2021

Emerson's Whaka 100 proudly holds the reputation of being one of the toughest mountain bike marathons in the Southern Hemisphere. With races throughout Whakarewarewa Forest ranging from a 5.5km kids race, through to 100km solo, pairs and teams, there's an option for all.

Proposed Covid backup dates are 29-30 January 2022. Keep an eye on the Facebook page.

[facebook.com/Whaka100](https://facebook.com/Whaka100)



Mead Norton

## CRANKWORX ROTORUA

1-7 November 2021



Chester Boyes

The world's largest mountain biking festival returns, bringing the best mountain bikers to compete in several events. Crankworx Rotorua is more than just pro-athletes going head to head in downhill, jump and trick events, it's an exciting festival atmosphere that celebrates the world-renowned mountain biking culture of Rotorua. This is the perfect spectator event, too, with track-side views as well as giant screens so you'll catch all the action.

[crankworx.com](https://crankworx.com)



# KIA ORA & WELCOME

to the latest edition of the Rotorua Visitor Magazine.

As we get ready to hit "print" on this edition of Rotorua magazine, we find ourselves, yet again, in the midst of a Covid lockdown.

During times like this, it's good to have something to look forward to; a distraction from our current situation (whatever that may be when this lands in your lap); and a bit of help planning a future break, whether for a day, a weekend, or a week-long holiday.

Spring and summer are rife with events, so check out pages 2, 4 and 5 for a chocka schedule. As always, dates are

correct at the time of printing, but we encourage you to check again before you leave home.

We're always asked where to go for authentic Māori cultural activities, so we've put together a great story on the many options you'll find here. Most of them feature our incredible geothermal landscapes, as well. Bonus!

As dining and travelling go hand-in-hand, we've included a Summer Eats story, and of course we can't talk about Rotorua without highlighting our mountain biking scene.

Last but certainly not least, a story to warm the hearts that involves two very different native birds that both need our help.

We hope this issue inspires you and keeps you looking forward. So, keep dreaming and planning. We're looking forward to seeing you!

Operating days and hours for some businesses may change following publication, so it always pays to check before you go.

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RotoruaNZ



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RotoruaNZ.com

Cover photo: "Tarawera Jumping" by local photographer Mark Smith was shot at Lake Tarawera.

Below: Wingspan founder Debbie Stewart with a karearea (New Zealand falcon).



Wingspan National  
Bird of Prey Centre





To see more Rotorua events and confirm dates, check out [RotoruaNZ.com/whats-on](https://RotoruaNZ.com/whats-on)

# WHAT'S ON

## Movie Nights at Waimangu Volcanic Valley

9 & 23 OCTOBER 2021



Grab your camp chairs and enjoy a movie on a huge outdoor screen in the otherworldly geothermal environment at Waimangu Volcanic Valley. Family favourite *How to Train Your Dragon* will screen on 9 October, and cult classic *Jurassic World* screens on 23 October. These events are very popular, with limited tickets available.

[waimangu.co.nz](https://waimangu.co.nz)

## Rotorua Blues Festival

22-25 OCTOBER 2021



A festival of blues with artists from all over New Zealand.

[facebook.com/rotorua blues fest](https://facebook.com/rotorua blues fest)

## Canoe Racing NZ Blue Lake 1 & 2

16-17 OCTOBER 2021 & 4-5 DECEMBER 2021



A national sprint regatta held on Lake Tikitapu caters for all age groups, with event distances of 100m, 200m, 500m, 1000m, 5000m and 5km.

[canoeracing.org.nz](https://canoeracing.org.nz)

## Children's Weekend

5-6 MARCH 2022



This fun-filled weekend offers a wide range of free family activities hosted in various venues around Rotorua to celebrate children around the world.

[rotorualakescouncil.nz](https://rotorualakescouncil.nz)





## WEEKLY

**Rotorua Night Market** – Thursdays 5-9pm, Tutanekai St. Food & boutique shopping  
**Rotorua Farmers Market** – Sundays 9am-1pm, Tutanekai & Hinemoa streets. Fresh produce & crafts

### Rotorua Walking Festival

18-20 MARCH 2022



Sign up for 1-3 days, including the Nocturnal Walk on Friday. Several distances are available from 5km up to 42km along various routes through Rotorua's most scenic spots.

[rotoruawalkingfestival.org.nz](http://rotoruawalkingfestival.org.nz)

## Mountain Biking



### Rotorua Bike Festival

7-10 OCTOBER 2021

The festival returns this year, celebrating all things with two wheels, and wrapping up nearly three weeks of epic biking events in Rotorua.

[rotoruibikefestival.com](http://rotoruibikefestival.com)

### Emerson's Whaka 100

22-24 OCTOBER 2021

See page 2 for details

[whaka100.co.nz](http://whaka100.co.nz)

### Crankworx Rotorua

1-7 NOVEMBER 2021

See page 2 for details

[crankworx.com](http://crankworx.com)

### < Giant 2W Gravity Enduro series

RACE 1 – 16 OCTOBER 2021

RACE 2 – 27 NOVEMBER 2021

RACE 3 – 19 FEBRUARY 2022

[enduronz.com](http://enduronz.com)



### ^ XTERRA Rotorua Festival

9 APRIL 2022

NZ's largest multisport event and the world's largest XTERRA event.

[xterra.co.nz](http://xterra.co.nz)

### Merida Highlander Geyser to Lake

16 APRIL 2022

A 23km, 40km and 63km mountain bike race Te Puia geothermal valley, through Whakarewarewa Forest to Lake Tikitapu.

[highlandermtb.co.nz](http://highlandermtb.co.nz)

## Running & Swimming



### Blue Lake 24hr Challenge

25-26 SEPTEMBER 2021

A 24-hour, self-supported walk/run event around Lake Tikitapu. Runners and walkers of any fitness level are invited to try the 100km, the mile, or maybe just two or three laps, whatever you're comfortable doing.

[bluelake24hr.com](http://bluelake24hr.com)

### Copthorne Rotorua Off-Road Half Marathon

27 FEBRUARY 2022

Events include an off-road half marathon, 10km, 5km, and the Little Devils Race for kids aged 3-10, all in the stunning Whakarewarewa Forest.

[eventpromotions.co.nz](http://eventpromotions.co.nz)

### Rotorua. Suffer.

18-19 DECEMBER 2021

Multiple daily events include 21.1km and 10.5km run, half and quarter Ironman, and a swim and cycle Aquabeer race.

[facebook.com/rotorua.suffer](https://facebook.com/rotorua.suffer)

### Generation Homes Legend of the Lake

19 MARCH 2022

Looking for an open swim for the entire family? This event on Lake Tikitapu includes 100 and 200m courses for kids 7-10 years old, and everyone else can sign up for 500m, 1000m or 3.5k distances.

[oceanswim.co.nz](http://oceanswim.co.nz)

### Tarawera Ultramarathon

12 FEBRUARY 2022

New Zealand's most prestigious trail ultra sees runners compete in 21km, 50km, 102km distances or the ultimate 100-mile endurance run.

[taraweraultra.co.nz](http://taraweraultra.co.nz)

### Rotorua Marathon & Red Stag Half Marathon

7 MAY 2022

New Zealand's most iconic marathon features hidden gems, surreal scenery and stunning natural wonders with the full marathon around Lake Rotorua.

[rotoruarun.co.nz](http://rotoruarun.co.nz)



# ARONUI

INDIGENOUS ARTS FESTIVAL



THEATRE



FILM



VISUAL &  
TRADITIONAL ART



MUSIC



## COMING SOON



GET UPDATES AND INFORMATION AT [WWW.ARONUIARTSFESTIVAL.COM](http://WWW.ARONUIARTSFESTIVAL.COM)





Mitai Māori Village

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI!

# WELCOME TO ROTORUA, THE HEART OF MĀORI CULTURE

Māori cultural knowledge and experiences are as popular as ever, with New Zealanders keen to delve further into knowing the cuisine, customs, traditions, historical facts and stories of our indigenous people.

Māori tourism operators in Rotorua have redeveloped their tours to provide more time with their guests in order to create more personal connections and opportunities to learn, and form a deeper understanding of the Te Arawa story.

Starting at **Buried Village of Te Wairoa**, you'll learn about the significant role the Pink and White Terraces played in creating a tourism economy in New Zealand (c. 1850s), and how guiding became a formalised profession, largely led by the local bilingual Māori women of Ngāti Tūhourangi.

The museum and archaeological site also tell the stories of those who tragically perished in the devastating 1886 eruption of Mount Tarawera, and how Te Wairoa was slowly rebuilt afterwards.

Another fantastic and very personal

way to learn about the Tarawera area is through an exclusive cultural and geothermal tour with **Totally Tarawera** which is led by a descendant of the famous Māori guide Sophia who guided visitors to the Pink and White Terraces.

**Whakarewarewa - The Living Māori Village** offers guided tours through a geothermal village which is still home to the ancestors of the original inhabitants. Hear the history and stories of the iwi from guides who are direct descendants of those who began hosting visitors in the 1800s.

The Whakarewarewa Geothermal Reserve is also home to **Te Puia**. Take part in either one of the guided daytime tours or the Geyser by Night tour, both offering ways to discover the history and lineage of this area and the Māori inhabitants who have lived here for generations. Te Puia is also where you'll find the

**New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute**. Watch and meet the artists at work on traditional Māori toi (art) such as carving and flax weaving.

Head to **Tamaki Māori Village** to visit a re-created village under the canopy of a 200-year-old forest. Learn about Māori traditions, customs and ways of life through a traditional Māori welcome ceremony, stories, songs and performances, interactive experiences, and the sharing of traditional food – activities of old that remain relevant today.

At **Mitai Māori Village**, the story of the migration of Tamatekapua of the Te Arawa waka (canoe) to Aotearoa and the Māori-Pacific connection are told in dance form in the Mitai Māori Hula Haka - Cultural Experience and Buffet. This Māori and island fusion extravaganza includes a feast for the ravenous. 🌀



Buried Village of Te Wairoa



Te Puia



Whakarewarewa - The Living Māori Village

Please note that days and hours of activities vary, and some require advance bookings. We suggest checking before you go.





# MOUNTAIN BIKING - THE BEST IS IN ROTORUA



Emmerson's  
Whaka 100





**Rotorua is the home of mountain biking in the Southern Hemisphere and is universally acclaimed as one of the world's best year-round riding destinations for both newbies and professional riders.**

As one of only two gold-level International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) Ride Centers in New Zealand (and only six in the world), and the only Kiwi destination to host the world mountain biking championship Crankworx, Rotorua has an unmatched pedigree.

Whether you live to ride, are just starting out, or you're a track-side supporter, we've got you well covered.

#### **RIDING IS ALWAYS FREE, THE TRAILS ARE ALWAYS OPEN**

Rotorua's commitment to the mountain biking scene is as deep as Whakarewarewa Forest is wide. It has the full support of the community, from the city council (our deputy mayor has been riding since forever ago!) and non-profit organisations such as Rotorua Mountain Bike Club (RMTBC), RMTBC First Response Unit, and Rotorua Trails Trust, to event organisers who create incredible races and festivals that bring riders from every corner of the country.

Every person big or small from near and far who gets on a bike and hits our dirt gold also contributes to the success of this activity, whether they consider it a trial run, hobby, sport or their life blood – the trails wouldn't be what they are without their riders, and there are trails for every level of experience and fitness.

Because of this support and hard work of so many, our network of nearly 200km of world-class mountain biking tracks is a destination known the world over for both sport and recreation.

#### **SINK YOUR TEETH INTO SOME COMPETITION**

Whakarewarewa Forest is home to hugely popular annual events such as New Zealand's favourite Enduro race the Giant 2W Gravity Enduro, which enjoyed its largest season ever last year. This year's first race, on **16 October**, is already sold out, but you can still enter races 2 and 3 (27 November and 19 February, respectively)

Emmerson's Whaka 100, planned for **22-24 October**, is also sold out. It's described as the toughest, and most satisfying one-day mountain bike marathon in New Zealand. The race combines endless single-track with relentless climbs and descents, leaving mountain bikers not knowing whether to cry with happiness or pain. Most of them probably do both!

With world-class trails and more than 3,000 riders, six different distances – including 5km and 10km Whaka Kids races – plus event management all rolled into one weekend, no other race compares.





### A MOUNTAIN BIKING SOUNDTRACK

If mountain biking had a soundtrack, who would feature? It would have to include Kiwi performers, right?

Well, get your tickets now to experience Kiwi dub and bass legends Salmonella Dub raging it up at Rotorua Energy Events Centre on **23 October**. As part of their "Return to Our Kowhai" Spring 2021 tour, this will be a truly special event.

Joining the band are old-time members Conan Wilcox and Tiki Taane, with Whirimako Black and Laughton Kora as special guests. And in a nod to the early days, Tiki will also feature on the decks as dub meister for a bracket of new album tunes as he did when he first joined the band back in 1996.


### THE NEW ZEALAND HOME OF CRANKWORX

The jewel in the Aotearoa New Zealand mountain biking crown is Crankworx Rotorua, the world's most popular mountain biking event. This week-long festival planned for **1-7 November** brings together elite riders from all over the world to compete in front of huge crowds.

The majority of the events will be held at Skyline Rotorua and require tickets to enter. Events will include Maxxis Slopestyle in Memory of McGazza, Rockshox Rotorua Pump Track Challenge presented by Torpedo7, Mons Royale Speed & Style, Crankworx Rotorua Downhill presented by Gull, the Official Oceania Whip-Off Championships presented by Spank, and a full line up of Kidsworx activities and events.

### SEE YOU SOON

With so much happening here, Rotorua is definitely the hottest place to be if you have any skin in the mountain biking game.

Come for the fun, challenge and atmosphere, there's truly something for everyone. 







Mistress of Cakes

# SUMMER EATS

## GREAT PLACES TO DINE IN ROTORUA

Summer is a fantastic time for alfresco dining, whether grabbing something for a picnic at the newly redeveloped Rotorua lakefront or enjoying a sunny patio with scenic views. Here's a brief go-to guide for gooey, gorgeous and gorge-worthy spots.

### START YOUR DAY RIGHT

If you believe a good breakfast sets you up for a good day, Rotorua has a vast offering of cafés to choose from. Our first-place vote here goes to **Third Place Café** for their Roasted Kumara Mumble Jumble for breakfast (available until 2.30pm) – and anything sweet from the cabinet. On sunny days, grab a seat near the windows or outside on the patio for a beautiful view over historic Ōhinemutu village, Lake Rotorua and Mokoia Island. This place is always buzzing, there's lots of seating, and a play area for the little ones. Open daily 7.30am until 3pm.

Head to **Mistress of Cakes** for gorgeously gooey options and savoury specialties, plus a spot of tea. Tucked away in the suburb of Lynmore, locals from everywhere know the Mistress for her tasty tarts with bacon, caramelised onion and spinach, super-cheesy scones, and

massive, award-winning sausage rolls. Grab one of the Mistress' brownies smashed full of caramel, raspberry and white chocolate, or one of her sell-out cinnamon scrolls to snack on later, but get in early! Dine in, out, or on the go. Open Wednesday to Saturday.

### MUNCH ON LUNCH HERE

Multi-award winning **Scope** is known for their motto "wild about flavour". Their hunting-themed café features cabinet and menu items such as a venison burger, spicy squid salad, sirloin steak sandwich, crispy chicken burger and daily chef's specials – all roaring with flavour. Not to worry if you're not a carnivore, there are plenty of dishes for vegetarians too, as well as gluten-free options. To round out your meal, each dish has a wine and beer match suggestion, too, so you can really savour your afternoon break. Open daily until 2pm.

**Eastwood** is a great spot for family, friends and fur babies. Just head to the end of Titokorangi Drive (formerly Longmile Road), hitch Marley to one of the outside tables with a doggy water bowl, then place your order at the counter. Options include brunch items and bites, to wood-fired, house-made, sourdough-based pizzas to die for, and a loaded food cabinet. Must-tries are Funghi pizza and TK fried chicken with Sichuan glaze. Open daily 8am until 4pm, except Friday and Saturday when they're open until 8pm.



Eastwood



Pig and Whistle  
Historic Pub

### WINE AND DINE AT DINNERTIME

**Pig & Whistle Historic Pub** is housed in a gorgeous building that's part of Rotorua history, being the original police station for our district. It's been beautifully maintained over the years and offers a variety of characterful spaces for enjoying a huge menu of up-market pub fare. Their famous curly fries are a must. A great range of craft beer and ciders are on tap, and big screen TVs and a sunny patio in the back make this a great spot for taking in the weekend's sport. Open daily from 11.30am.

If you're after a hearty, home-style, meat-and-three-vege feast, head to **Pātaka Kai** at Te Puia for their amazing hāngī buffet – with the added bonus of overlooking the world-famous Pōhutu Geyser and geothermal valley whether you're seated inside or on the covered patio. Of course, it wouldn't be homelike without steamed pudding, and theirs is one of the best around (shhh, don't tell Nan!). Open Friday and Saturday, 5.30 until 9pm.

### EAT STREET OPTIONS

The bustling hub of **Eat Street** boasts a dozen or so restaurants and bars, and the iconic **Lady Janes Ice Cream Parlour** – all in one spot a city block long. Live music and a covered central walkway make this the perfect all-weather alfresco dining spot, and the changing colourful lighting makes Eat Street a unique and vibrant place to gather.

**CBK** boasts a new garden bar, perfect for summer. Local favourite **Atticus Finch** offers delicious tapas options. **The Rotorua International** cocktail lounge and eatery is a great place to relax with your favourite



Lady Janes  
Icecream Parlour

bevvie. **Brew Craft Beer Pub** and **Sobar** fill out the pub-style eateries, while **Ambrosia** offers smart-casual dining with three-course specials daily. Two Italian restaurants, **Leonardo's** and **Urban Gusto**, plus **Wild Rice Thai Restaurant**, **Indian Star**, **Wholly Smoked**, **Our House** and **Mac's Steak House** round out the selection.

Found at the lake end of Tutanekai Street, you'll satisfy any craving at Eat Street. Days and hours vary.

Rotorua has so many more eateries. For more locations, info and mouth-watering photos, check out **RotoruaNZ.com**.



# A PACKED ITINERARY FOR A FUN-FILLED FAMILY HOLIDAY IN ROTORUA

If yours is a family that loves to squeeze in the most fun possible on your holidays, you're in luck. Not only does Rotorua have so many options to choose from, loads of them are along the same route, making time in the car minimal while you maximise the fun factor!

## DAY 1

Activities today and tomorrow are mainly located along Fairy Springs Road, just a few minutes' drive north of the city centre.

Rotorua is the perfect playground for kids and kids at heart, so put your adventure pants on and head to **Adventure Playground, Off Road NZ** or **Velocity Valley**. All three have multiple activities to get the blood pumping and the laughter flowing. The fun can include Freefall Xtreme, jet boat rides, 4WD self-drives, and so much more.

All this action has surely created an appetite so head just down the road to 171 Fairy Springs Road for your one-stop shop for food and more fun. **Heritage Farm Café 171** offers both a la carte and quick cabinet items. Enjoy lunch on the patio overlooking a kids' playground area.

Once you're fuelled up, there's no need to drive anywhere. Just rock up to The Farm Tour at **Rotorua Heritage Farm** at 1.30pm, a highlight for the animal lovers in the

family. This hour-long guided tour takes you through a farm in covered trailers. Not only do you learn about the animals on the property, but you'll love feeding and petting the sheep, alpaca, goats, deer and more.

Following the tour, there's time to check out **3D Trick Art Gallery** also onsite, so get the camera ready as everyone becomes part of the art by inserting themselves into 50 crazy trick artworks on display.

Wrap up your day with a sunset tour to see magical glow worms in their natural habitats. **Real Rotorua** offers a two to three-hour walking tour, or you can opt to explore via three-hour kayak tour with **Paddle Board Rotorua**.

## DAY 2

Pack your swimwear and head to **ZORB** where you'll roll downhill in a giant inflatable ball with just enough warm water added to keep you sloshing around inside. Choose from four different tracks (or all of them!) and let the hilarity ensue.



 Adventure Playground



 3D Trick Art Gallery





Just down the road is **Skyline Rotorua**, another family fave. Board your own gondola and enjoy the views over Lake Rotorua and the city as you gently glide to the top of Mt Ngongotahā. From here, it's time for a family luge race back down the mountain. At the track's end, a ski lift takes you back to the top so you can do it all again.

Parents, if once is enough for you, let the kids carry on as you sneak over to **Volcanic Hills Winery & Tasting Room** onsite to sample a selection of vino from Rotorua's only winery. This is not your typical formal wine-tasting; this is about discovering what you like and why, and having fun along the way!

**Redwoods Treewalk & Nightlights** are not to be missed. Starting at dusk is the perfect time as you'll get the benefit of seeing the forest in daylight as you traverse 27 eco-suspended bridges. As you make your way up, the sun sets before you know it and you'll find yourself 20 metres up and surrounded by magical fairy lights and giant David Trubridge lanterns.

### DAY 3

On day three, will you be up for more adventure, or something a bit more down to earth? If the former, book a **whitewater rafting** trip down the Kaituna River, an epic activity that any of our local rafting companies are happy to help you tick off your bucket list. If the latter, head to **aMAZEme** to get lost in a 1.4km maze constructed from an immaculately pruned, head-high escallonia hedge.

Since we're famous for our many hot pool experiences, it would be a shame to miss out on a soothing soak before you head home.


**Waikite Valley Thermal Pools** is a family favourite and their onsite café offers excellent food to keep hungry tummies happy.

Or, why not combine adventure and relaxation on a jet boat ride with **Katoa Lake Rotorua** to the very special Lake Rotoiti Hot Pools at Manupirua Bay.



### ACCOMMODATION RECOMMENDATION

To find the perfect place to stay in Rotorua to match your budget, taste and even location, we recommend using our i-SITE team's expertise and free booking services.

They're the only booking agent in New Zealand to guarantee that your accommodation will be exactly as they promise, or you'll get 100% of your money back – no questions asked! 





*For the world's best all year riding...*



**ROTORUA**  
rotoruanz.com

[www.rotoruanz.com/explore/mountain-biking](http://www.rotoruanz.com/explore/mountain-biking)





# IT'S ALL FOR THE BIRDS

IF YOU'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT OUR  
NATIVE WILDLIFE, YOU'RE NOT ALONE

**New Zealand flora and fauna are not only dear to us Kiwis, but most are unique as well, having evolved in isolation since the country's split from the supercontinent Gondwanaland 85 million years ago – so they're well worth saving, lest they go the way of the unfortunate moa.**

Fortunately for us, Rotorua is home to two invaluable organisations working hard to protect some of our native birds.

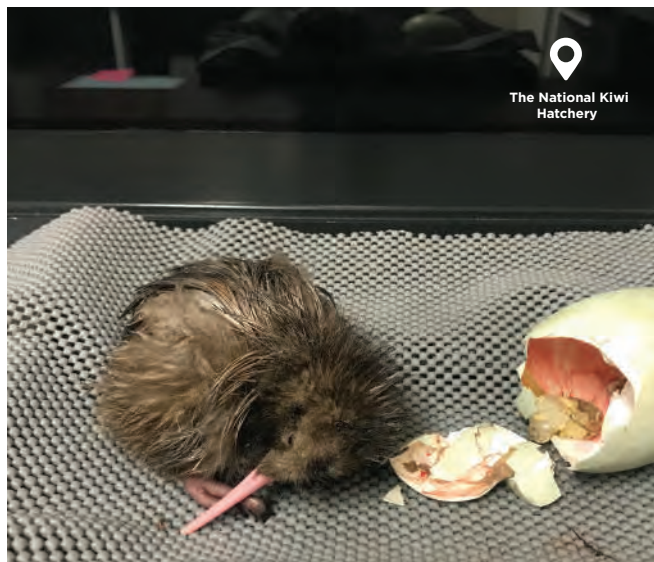
## SAVING OUR KIWI

**The National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa** is all about saving our world-famous national bird, the kiwi. Using state-of-the-art equipment and simulated environments, the hatchery's team of specialists have expertly incubated, hatched, reared and released more than 2,000 New Zealand brown kiwi since 2008.

In nature, out of every 100 kiwi eggs laid in their ground-level forest burrows, only five kiwi chicks will make it to adulthood due to predation by pest species, particularly stoats.

Kiwi Hatchery manager Emma Bean says, "By hatching the kiwi eggs in safety, we have over 90% hatching success rate. The National Kiwi Hatchery Aotearoa plays a vital role in saving kiwi, as we keep kiwi chicks safe when they are most vulnerable. When the chicks are released at a stoat-proof weight, it increases survival rates in the wild from 5% to 65%."

Just three days prior to writing this story, Emma contacted us with some eggcellent news. Not only had they welcomed this season's first kiwi hatchling, via



local project Otanewainuku Kiwi Trust who collected the egg from Otanewainuku Forest - but have also just won the Zoo Aquarium Association Conservation Award, acknowledging their important mahi and leadership in conservation across Australasia.

The award recognises exceptional outcomes in conservation in the wild, particularly species restoration and minimising the impacts of key threatening processes on biodiversity. Entrants must do more than just feather the judges' nests to stand a chance at winning; they're assessed on measurable achievements such as conservation gains and outcomes, and contribution to biodiversity.





But wait, there's more. The team at the hatchery could add another trophy to their collection in late November 2021, as they've been nominated as a finalist for the Tourism Industry Aotearoa Conservation Award.

Meanwhile, the young kiwi chick, knowing nothing about his or her fortune being in the care of such an esteemed team, will spend three to four weeks in the brooder room, before joining the other resident kiwi in natural, outdoor, predator-proof enclosures onsite.

You can head to The National Kiwi Hatchery (located next to Skyline Rotorua) to visit this youngster, other newly hatched chicks, or breeding pair Koru and Tika in their Nocturnal House.

Visit [www.nationalkiwihatchery.co.nz](http://www.nationalkiwihatchery.co.nz) for information on availability and booking. For Save Kiwi Month in October, the hatchery will be launching a new exclusive Premium Tour, where you get the chance to meet a kiwi chick behind the glass.

Every tour booked is a 100% donation to the kiwi hatching programme and you'll get to see how the team is helping kiwi at the largest and most successful kiwi hatchery in the world.

### SAVING OUR MOST THREATENED BIRD OF PREY

Needing to save a flightless, seemingly humble little bird that mainly goes about its business at night sounds quite reasonable, maybe even expected.

But a bird that flies at speeds up to 200kmph, can snatch its dinner mid-flight, and is known for its incredibly aggressive nature? Yes, even this, our native karearea (New Zealand falcon), needs our help.

**Wingspan National Bird of Prey Centre** has been dedicated to bringing back our most threatened bird of prey, as well as other raptors such as harriers (pictured above), barn owls and ruru (morepork), and more than 1,000 birds have gone through the centre for care, rehabilitation and release.

From its grassroots beginnings in the 1980s and the founding of the Wingspan Charitable Trust in

1992, the centre has become New Zealand's leading conservation, education and research organisation for birds of prey.


Founder Debbie Stewart's unapologetic empathy for the needs of wildlife meant she not only believed Wingspan had an invaluable role to play, but she also pioneered the breeding of New Zealand falcons and morepork – and even kiwi, back in the day.

Acknowledging her services to birds of prey and raptor conservation, Debbie was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2013 Queens Birthday Honours list, the first conservation-related award for New Zealand.

"This coming year is our 30th anniversary. I'm quite proud of that achievement. At the time [when Wingspan began], not a lot was known about birds of prey, so our education programme was holistic in terms of the breeding and rehab, but also education, and contribution to research publications. We also wanted to give people the opportunity to learn more about the birds."

And learn, they have. Debbie says just over 80,000 children have held a falcon on a glove, untethered, like the young girl on page 16.

Like the Kiwi Hatchery, Wingspan welcomes visitors, through advance bookings, to come see birds of prey up close during natural, interactive flying displays hosted by the country's leading experts. The displays showcase the spectacular flying skills of these amazing birds and provide a unique educational experience enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Both of these amazing organisations are well worth a visit and your entry fees help continue their efforts. 







## Q&A WITH KIM CROSSMAN



Kimberley Crossman is a Kiwi actress, author, producer, writer and presenter. She'd been splitting her time between L.A. and New Zealand for work late last year, and visited Rotorua for a bit of fun while she was back home. Here's what she got up to.

### **What activity would you say is a must-do for people visiting Rotorua this spring or summer and why?**

Night-time paddle boarding was epic with Paddle Board Rotorua, and whitewater rafting!

### **Are there any hidden gems that you discovered during your visit to Rotorua?**

We started our day at Secret Spot Hot Tubs. It was a wonderful way to kick off our weekend and shake off our city vibes and feel immersed in nature! I loved it!

### **Through your career, you must do amazing things. Were any of the activities you did in Rotorua different from anything you've experienced before?**

I really enjoyed Rotorua Canopy Tours. I have never been on ziplines of that length before and got to learn about the area



from a different vantage point high above the trees. You also spend quite a bit of time with your group and we were able to make some mates which is always a great bonus when on a holiday!

### **Do you have any childhood memories visiting Rotorua? If so, what are they and why did they leave a lasting impression?**

I think the sulphur was the most lasting impression I had of Rotorua as a child but coming back and spending two days of full-on activities, I can't wait to get back there. I loved going in the helicopter with Volcanic Air and landing on the summit of Mt Tarawera, and seeing some of Rotorua from the sky!

### **What is your favourite café or restaurant in Rotorua? What did you eat there and why would you recommend this establishment?**

I loved the food at Atticus Finch! I would recommend getting dinner there and brunch at Terrace Kitchen (they have great cocktails).

### **What would you recommend people do to relax when visiting Rotorua?**

I wasn't much in the mood for relaxing – but I would say Secret Spot is the place to go to chill!

### **Would you recommend that others visit Rotorua? If so why?**

100% - I love trying new things and all the activities in Rotorua are not only fun and adrenaline-filled, but the staff and environments are excellent too!

### **What are you busy with at the moment?**

I am back in New Zealand working on a film before heading back to L.A. Hoping to make it back down to Rotorua to take the family rafting ASAP!

### **When you aren't busy with work what are you up to?**

At the moment, between filming I am doing a paper in Ecology and Animal Welfare which keeps me busy and out of trouble, ha.





## SELF-DRIVE RAIL CARS RAILCRUISING

Imagine sitting in control of your own rail car travelling along a railway line with nothing ahead but the unobstructed curve of the rail stretching out into the distance.

RailCruising is the new tourist activity that allows people just like you the ability to travel along railway lines in your own powered self-drive, 4-seat railway vehicle called the RailCruiser.

The rail journey of 20km takes approximately 1.5 hours return through the beautiful Dansey Native Forest and rolling farmland with views out over Lake Rotorua. Listen to the commentary and discover a unique piece of New Zealand railway and local history.

The RailCruiser has comfortable seats with unobstructed views, is fitted with clear drop-down waterproof sides, windscreen wipers, blankets provided and comes with onboard heating.

RailCruising is a special experience to be shared with family and friends. It is popular with clubs and social groups with many combining RailCruising with lunch or dinner at the iconic Mamaku Railway Station.

How does RailCruising work? Groups of RailCruisers spaced apart, travel 10km together in one direction from Mamaku Railway Station to Tarukenga Railway Station. At Tarukenga the Rail

Cruisers are then turned and head back to Mamaku.

Cruising along at 20km/hr, you can listen to the audio tour and discover a unique piece of New Zealand railway history. This is the ultimate way to experience a railway.

The RailCruiser V3000 is the world's first fully automated, state of the art petrol-electric four seat self-drive hybrid rail vehicle. The RailCruiser has comfortable seats with unobstructed views, is fitted with clear drop down waterproof sides and comes with onboard heating.

Trips depart daily from Mamaku Railway Station at:

11am, 1pm & 3pm (Nov-Apr)  
and 11am & 1pm (May-Oct).

**Bookings are essential.**

*"What a great innovation! These little trains take you on a wee journey of 19km's return through the native forest seeing Farmland and Lake Rotorua."*

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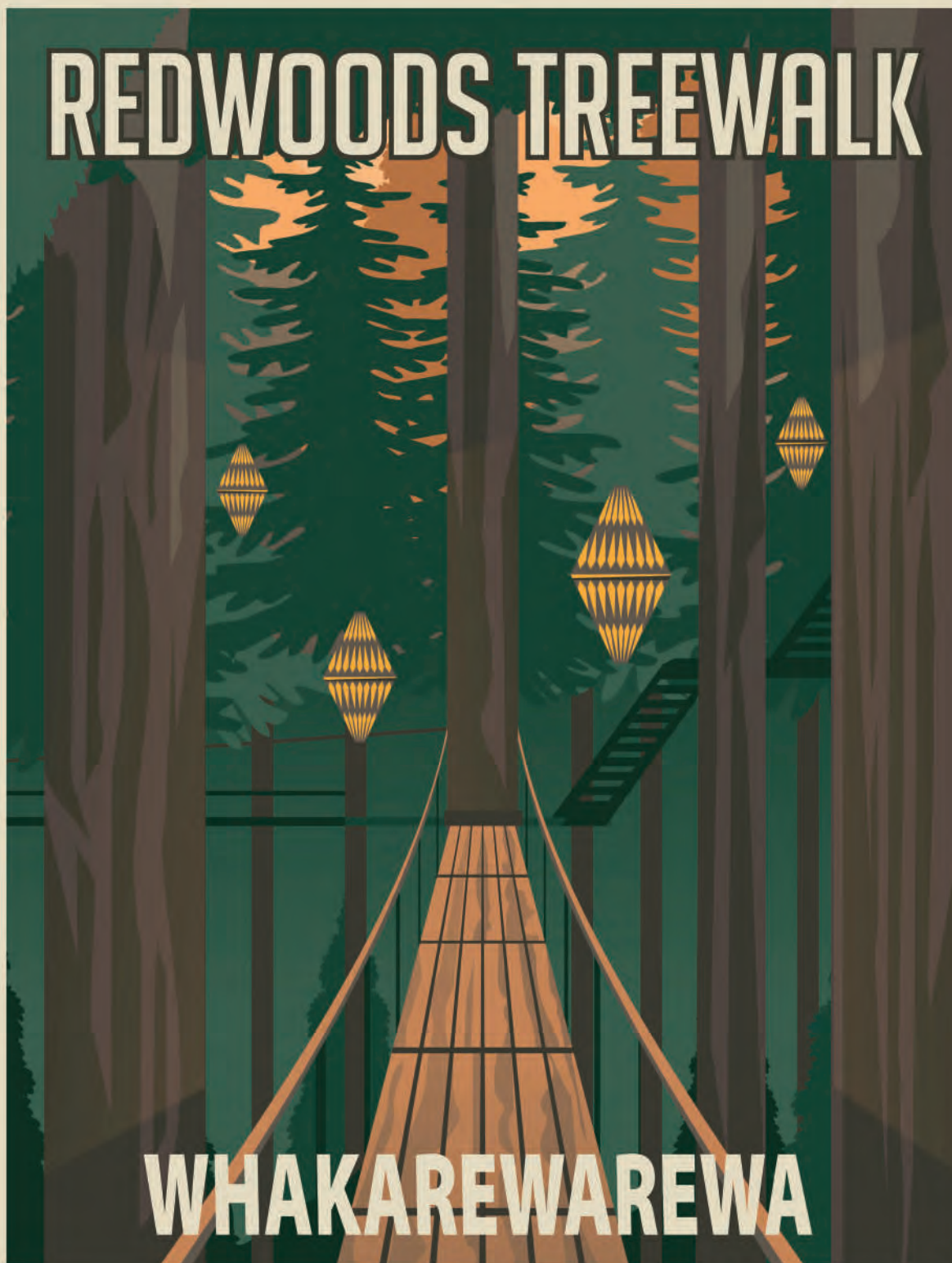
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## UNDER FUNSTRUCTION - SKYLINE'S LUGE MAKEOVER

For the ultimate thrill, few attractions beat the thrill of lugging down a mountain, and if you're a fan of Skyline Rotorua, you're one step closer to a new adrenaline fix, with three new and improved luge track options coming this summer.

As part of the ongoing evolution of the Luge experience, the world-famous advanced track is 'under FUNstruction' while Skyline Rotorua have been hard at work, re-envisioning the park's classic luge adventure into a more exhilarating ride, making the fun last longer.

The existing 550 metre track will trade its thrilling ride for 1500 metres of three new tracks, with more corners, tunnels, 360-degree corkscrews, and multiple pathways to the bottom. It will be a first-of-its-kind immersive luge experience in New Zealand. In addition, all tracks will be decked with new lighting, which means night luge options will be available on every path.

Details of the project were unveiled earlier this year in celebration of 35 years since Rotorua's luge track opened as the first commercial luge operation in the world, and the development of luge carts for the rest of the world.

"Since 1985 when Skyline Rotorua became the first luge site in the world to operate commercially, visitors both young and old have grown to love this must-do iconic kiwi adventure, the

Luge." Says Skyline Rotorua's General Manager, Andrew Jensen. "I'm thrilled that this exciting project will refresh and improve the experience for our customers over the many years to come", he adds.

The project blessing took place last year in partnership with local Ngati Whakaue kaumatua and other iwi representatives throughout the planning and consenting processes, while archaeologists have overseen the initial earthworks stage of the build. Skyline is very grateful for their support and continued guardianship of the land Skyline Rotorua occupies on the side of Mt Ngongotaha.

The scenic and intermediate tracks will continue to operate throughout the construction period, so you can still get your fix while you wait.







## WAIKITE VALLEY THERMAL POOLS, SPRINGS 'N' SPA

100% pure natural geothermal water, direct from the largest single source of boiling water in New Zealand provides a natural geothermal bathing experience for all to enjoy.

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Waikite Valley Thermal Pools, Springs 'n' Spa is a unique place to experience bathing in 100% pure natural geothermal waters. The boiling, sulphur free, calcite laden waters, direct from the depths of the earth, cascade into our outdoor Settler's Pool, Pergola Pool and Garden Pools, Sit 'n' Soak Pool and Tubs. All pools are drained and refilled daily. Private Pool options (bookings recommended) are also available, as is swimsuit and towel hire.

As well as the pool complex is a simple yet quaint 28 site campground with shower, laundry and kitchen facilities.

Opening hours 10.30am – 8.00pm  
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## POLYNESIAN SPA

Polynesian Spa is perfect for those seeking to rejuvenate their health and wellbeing and brings you our Mindful Moments retreat to help you switch off from your busy life to bring mind, body and spirit into balance.

Spend two days on our **Mindful Moments Retreat** surrounded by the natural elements of Rotorua and Polynesian Spa's therapeutic alkaline and acid waters. You will be guided through yoga, mindfulness, meditation, wellness workshops and take time to indulge in world-renowned Polynesian Spa therapy treatments.

Mindful Moments is hosted by our highly experienced Spa and Retreat Manager Helena Keenan and inspirational Polynesian Spa Health and Wellness ambassador Rachel Grunwell. This unique geothermal bathing and soul soothing retreat originated here at Polynesian Spa in 2016 and has established itself as a must do health and wellness experience for those wanting to unwind, relax and reset.

### BOOK YOUR 2021 MINDFUL MOMENTS RETREAT NOW

Saturday 14th August – Sunday 15th August

Saturday, 13th November – Sunday, 14th November

Visit [www.polynesianspa.co.nz/mindful-moments-retreat](http://www.polynesianspa.co.nz/mindful-moments-retreat) for more information and to secure your mindful moments weekend.







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GEOTHERMAL HOT SPRINGS  
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## ROTORUA HERITAGE FARM

Rotorua Heritage Farm presents "Family Fun for everyone". We offer fun, exciting and educational activities for all visitors - The Farm Tour, 3D Trick Art, Café 171.

### THE FARM TOUR

An hour long tour led by a qualified team of guides, includes meeting nursery animals, travelling through our farm environment on covered trailers while experiencing and feeding farm animals with the guide providing educational information about the farm and its livestock.

### 3D TRICK ART

A 3 dimensional experience of 50 paintings that all ages can enjoy and is a first in the New Zealand market. It offers an educational, creative and imaginative experience. 3D Trick Art has been rated as 2nd out of 68 attractions in Rotorua according to Tripadvisor.

### CAFÉ 171

Based on a kiwi farm landscape, Café 171 offers a stunning venue for the special events. Enjoy a coffee and a meal while the kids are romping in the playground. We can host up to 200 people for weddings, birthdays or conferences. We also offer a perfect, unique setting for your wedding photos







## ROTORUA CANOPY TOURS

Experience the world's best zipline adventures - Immerse yourself into a restored ancient forest that's like NZ like you've never seen it. Soar high above this intact native eco-system filled with towering trees, native flora, and beautiful birdsong

Tucked away in an unrevealing location is the entrance to an ancient forest. As soon as you step into its ambience you know you're somewhere special. Surrounded by unique flora and fauna found nowhere else in the world, a green filmy layer carpets the rainforest while outstretched branches lift your eye through layers of lush foliage and up massive ancient giants standing proud. You've never seen a place quite like it and with the guidance of Rotorua Canopy Tours you can see the forest through (and above) the trees!

Named in the top 11 experiences out of 400,000 tourism activities in the world, by TripAdvisor, these are must-do experiences in NZ. There are two unique eco-tours to choose from to keep everyone engaged and excited. Conservation of the forest is a big part of the story and guests become part of this restoration journey with every ticket purchased contributing back to the rehabilitation of Dansey Road Scenic Reserve.

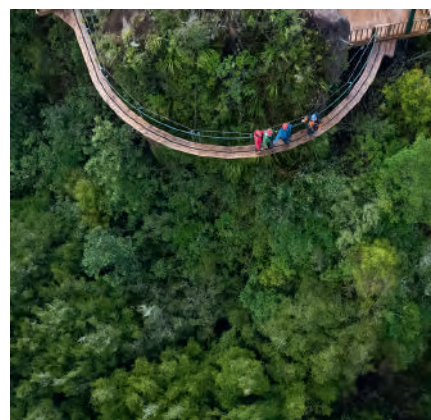
### THE ORIGINAL CANOPY TOUR

Awarded the #1 Nature Activity in the World, this three-hour experience is perfect for all ages. Your world-

class guides will show you what New Zealand was once like from the top of the forest canopy and explain the conservation challenges that now exist. In between the thrill of ziplines and suspended tree bridges, you'll see and hear wood pigeons, tui, North Island robins, bellbirds, tomtits, fantails, and more as they flit amongst the tree canopy around you. Come and explore this unique environment and create amazing memories that will last a lifetime.

### THE ULTIMATE CANOPY TOUR

After opening 3 years ago, The Ultimate Canopy Tour has leaped to notoriety and is the 11th Best Adventure Experience in the World. It's higher, longer, and even more spectacular than the world's best Original Canopy Tour. This experience is a step up in adventure level and incorporates some incredible new features that will blow you away. A 50-metre high suspended cliff-face walkway, swing bridges, controlled descent, and an impressive 400-metre long tandem zipline, so you can share the experience of our longest zipline together! Glide across wide open valleys, deep gorges and lose yourself in this remarkable forest.







## PARADISE VALLEY SPRINGS WILDLIFE PARK

Interact closely with a range of New Zealand's Wild Animals, Native Birds, Farm Animals and Trout, and get close to a pride of African Lions and pat a Lion Cub.

### DON'T JUST LOOK, GET HANDS ON

Animals that are found wild around the country such as deer, goats, tahr and wallabies, as well as a range of sociable farm animals like alpacas, emus and sheep can all be hand-fed throughout the day.

### UP CLOSE WITH THE NATIVE BIRDS

Visit the Kea, New Zealand's infamous and comical parrot in their walk-through aviary and see kakariki and kereru birds. Stroll through our waterbird wetland for great views of native and introduced waterfowl, and look out for the different native birds living wild around the park.

### CASCADING WATERWAYS

Fern edged pools show off hundreds of rainbow and brown trout. Feed the wild trout in the natural stream and get eye to eye at the underwater window. Look out for large native long-finned eels lazing in their ponds.

### NATURE AT ITS BEST

Pathways through native trees lead to our freshwater spring where you can drink straight from the source, then purchase some of our own bottled

'Paradise Pure' to take away with you. Take our elevated treetops walk in a tranquil and secluded area of the park, putting you up near the canopy of the trees.

### THE PRIDE OF PARADISE

Our pride of African Lions can be seen all day in an enclosure allowing visitors to get close to these wild animals. The 2.30pm feeding show is a great time to see the lions active and to learn more about the pride.

### PAT A LION CUB

Meet and pat our Lion Cubs who were born in May 2021 at no additional charge. As cubs grow larger, safety mesh barriers are in place to make patting safe for all ages to enjoy.

Paradise Valley Springs is open every day of the year from 8am to dark, with last entry at 5pm. Adult lion feeding is at 2.30pm everyday, followed by kea and possum feeding at 3pm. Lion cub patting is from 10.45am, 1.00pm and 3.15pm daily.

We hope to see you at Paradise soon.







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Experience the unique opportunity to discover one of New Zealand's most magnificent geothermal wonderlands – featuring the largest active geyser in the Southern Hemisphere, Pōhutu Geyser, bubbling mud and beautiful native bush, as well as the New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute training the next generation of artists from around the country.

### BY DAY

Te Puia offers a sprawling 60-hectare landscape of uncovered natural bush, geysers and mud pools with a remarkable walk along the Te Whakarewarewa geyser terrace. Discover Te Puia's history and lineage with a guided personalised tour – each guide adds a personal touch to inspire and help visitors truly connect with the Te Puia experience. Join one of our two hour guided experiences at 10.30am and 1.30pm, showcasing our geothermal valley, Māori culture and Kiwi Conservation Centre with five Kiwi in our state of the art enclosure. Visit our stunning restaurant Pātaka Kai serving fresh coffee and lunch each day of operation as well as Sunday brunch. Not just a restaurant but a cultural food and beverage experience, Pātaka Kai makes for a truly unforgettable feast.

### GEYSER BY NIGHT

Our latest experience, Geyser By Night – Te Puia Light Trails, reveals for the first time our geothermal valley under night skies, providing a multi-sensory experience that can not be replicated anywhere else in the world. Hear the stories of the past and feel the beauty of Pōhutu in an interactive journey guided by light.

The night walk is led by our knowledgeable kaiarahi (guides) who are passionate about sharing the stories of our people and our connection to the whenua (landscape) that has nourished us for hundreds of years. Geyser By Night is a 3km personally guided night trail under the stars, through Te Puia's geothermal valley (approx. 2 hour duration). Until now, the magic hidden within Te Puia after hours has remained a secret that only Mother Nature has truly been exposed to. Discover the magic of Rotorua's geothermal wonderland under the stars.



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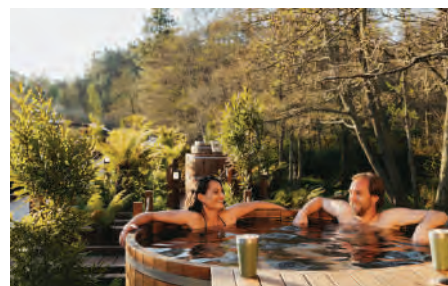


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By day enjoy the beautiful natural surroundings, swing bridges and waterfalls. By night Secret Spot becomes magical with tasteful lighting, and burning flames, while moreporks call to each other. Try dipping your toes into the new “Shinny Dip” foot hot tubs, FREE with any drinks purchase.



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retelling stories of the past, along with providing information on Maori culture, geothermal wonders, historic sights, flora and fauna and much more. Learn about the Ducks WWII history. Two tour options available, the Rotorua City and Lakes Tour (90min) and the Tarawera and Lakes Eco-Tour (120min) running every day in



all weather. Our Tarawera & Lakes Eco-Tour is a more focused look at Rotorua's rich history and environment. Tours depart at regular intervals throughout the day and is perfect for both young and old.



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501 Buckland Road, Hinuera | 07 888 1505 | [www.hobbitontours.com](http://www.hobbitontours.com)

## ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND ROTORUA

We are having a great time hosting our fellow kiwis who are exploring their own back yard. What better way to do it, than in our amazing 750 acre adventure playground.

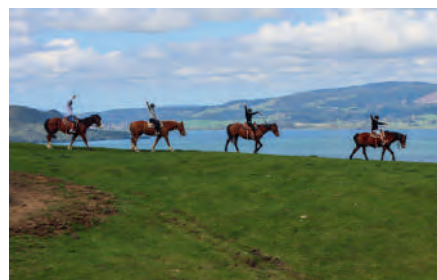


Imagine being able to travel over 750 acres of native bush taking in the spectacular views over Lake Rotorua and beyond. Our Rotorua Adventure Playground trails are made from old forestry tracks dating back to the 1930s. Winding between totara, rewarewa and tawa trees, the native trees cast long shadows all along the



trails. You can either ride at pace on our new 4x4 self drive buggies or take things a little slower in the four wheel drive buggies which will be driven by one of our professional guides.

Whether you are after an adrenaline-filled off road experience, a stunning scenic horse trek or simply some fun



with a gun claybird shooting, our Rotorua Adventure Playground is the place to be. All activities take in the spectacular scenery overlooking Lake Rotorua and our beautiful native bush set on Mount Ngongotaha. Buggies and claybird shooting are available in all weather. We love what we do and we know you will too....

📍 451 Ngongotaha Rd, Rotorua  
☎ 0800 782 396

✉ [info@adventureplayground.co.nz](mailto:info@adventureplayground.co.nz)  
🌐 [adventureplayground.co.nz](http://adventureplayground.co.nz)





# ELECTRIC BIKE

1265 Fenton St, Rotorua



Rotorua

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A great place for adults and children to explore what life was like in Biblical times.

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See website for opening hours.

**Free Entry for all visitors!**

1141 Eruera St, Rotorua

(021) 909 842

bibleworld@xtra.co.nz

bibleworld.org.nz



## HORSE TREKKING LAKE OKAREKA

Horse and pony rides through native bush, over green pastures and spectacular views of Lake Tarawera.

Rides to suit all abilities from beginners to experienced riders. Experienced riders are able to trot and canter. Daily departures at 10am, 1.30pm, and times to suit. Various trekking routes on offer, depending on trail conditions and rider experience. Trek through dense native bush, onto green pastures, across

sheep and cattle country, and to the top of the farm with views over Lake Rotorua, Lake Okareka, Lake Tarawera, Lake Rotomahana, Lake Okataina, the Green Lake and Mount Tarawera. What a fantastic way to enjoy the fresh air and experience the region. Treks from 30 minutes to 3 hours.

51 Acacia Rd, Lake Okareka, Rotorua

(021) 292 2233

lucy@treklakeokareka.co.nz

treklakeokareka.co.nz



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**Website**



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## PEPPERS ON THE POINT

Staycation in lakeside luxury. Five star boutique luxury lodge.

On the shores of Lake Rotorua, overlooking the sacred island of Mokoia sits Peppers on the Point, a luxury 5-star rated boutique lodge.

Choose accommodation from lakeview lodge suites, self-contained cottage suites or apartment style.

Unwind and relax on 5 acres of peaceful and tranquil beautifully manicured grounds and enjoy the many onsite activities - from tennis, massages and feeding the petting animals to reading a book at the lake edge.

Enjoy the fine dining in the à la carte Mains Restaurant. Breakfast is served daily, and lunches or picnics can be pre-arranged.

It's hard to believe the property is only minutes from the centre of Rotorua and within easy commute to the many adventure activities and cultural experiences in this destination.



📍 214 Kawaha Point Road, Rotorua  
☎ (07) 348 4868

✉ info@onthepoint.co.nz  
🌐 www.peppersonthepoint.co.nz







## BLUE LAKE TOP 10 HOLIDAY PARK - ROTORUA

Blue Lake Top 10 is the perfect destination for your escape, boasting panoramic views of the stunning Blue Lake, as well as proximity to the vibrant town and attractions.

### STAY

We offer an abundance of accommodation styles to suit any singles, families, groups or budgets.

- Lake-view motels
- Self-contained units
- Kitchen and standard cabins
- Powered and non-powered sites

### PLAY

Located in the perfect spot to take advantage of Rotorua's 15 beautiful lakes. Just across the road from Lake Tikitapu and a short 5-minute drive to Lakes Okareka or Tarawera.

- Water activities galore - swimming, boating, fishing, kayaking or simply relaxing on the beach.
- Access to the Redwoods' walking, running and mountain bike tracks - various trails from beginner to experienced.
- Explore surrounding native bush and walks around the lake.





## ROTORUA THERMAL HOLIDAY PARK

With more than 150km of purpose built mountain biking trails just a 5 to 10 minute bike ride from our park, you won't find a better location for your forest adventure.



Enjoy FREE hot mineral pools, on-site bike wash and storage. Stay in our tent, campervan or caravan sites, dorm rooms, studios, authentic log cabins, ensuite log cabins, fully self-contained flats, or luxurious fully equipped and spacious motel units.



Our guests have access to our well maintained communal kitchen facilities, gas BBQs, bathrooms, laundry, TV rooms, swimming pool (seasonal), kids play area and kids mountain bike track. A visit to Rotorua is not complete without soaking in our free hot mineral pools which are accessible to all guests.



All this surrounded by mature trees and gardens. Rotorua has become a mecca for mountain bikers, travelers and visitors from around the world.

📍 463 Old Taupo Rd, Rotorua  
☎ (07) 346 3140

✉ info@rotoruathermal.co.nz  
🌐 rotoruathermal.co.nz



## ROTORUA FAMILY HOLIDAY PARK

Our family owned holiday park is in a quiet ideal location, no sulphur odour and just three minutes to many of Rotorua's major tourist attractions.



Enjoy our FREE UNLIMITED WiFi. In our park like grounds we offer various options of accommodation from sites, self contained, family or motel units. When staying with us your children can enjoy our playground and TV room with air hockey table. We also offer a solar heated swimming pool (seasonal), hot spa pool, and free



BBQ's in a covered outdoor dining area. For your convenience we have a 9kg gas bottle exchange, trout fishing tackle shop, dump station and full camping facilities.

We are ideally situated to take advantage of a three-minute drive to Skyline Rotorua Gondolas, mountain



biking, ZORB, Rotorua Canopy Tours, Adventure Playground, Velocity Valley, 3D Trick Art Gallery, Heritage Farm, aMAZEme, and Mini Golf Rotorua with rabbits. Discount vouchers available. From camp it is a short walk to our local Ngongotahā shopping centre, world famous trout fishing streams and Lake Rotorua.

📍 22 Beaumont Rd, Rotorua  
☎ (07) 357 4289 or 0800 574 289

✉ stay@rotoruafamilypark.co.nz  
🌐 rotoruafamilypark.co.nz





## REGENT OF ROTORUA

Escape ordinary. For that romantic retreat, or an adventure for the family, Regent of Rotorua is an urban oasis, a sanctuary in the city, offering a restorative, rejuvenating experience.



### STAY...

The Regent marks the epitome of chic, luxury accommodation in the city.

Our boutique suites are perfect for your next romantic getaway, or for those families or friends travelling together, our 2-bedroom Executive Suites offer additional space for the



family. Our thermally heated swimming pool is a constant 28°C for year round enjoyment. Soak away aches & pains in our indoor mineral pool drawn from deep underground.

### DINE...

The hip and stylish Regent Room Restaurant & Bar offers you a range



of contemporary New Zealand cuisine from our extensive menu including degustation dinners, plant-focused menu options and sharing plates & tapas.

Open 7-days a week from 6.30am until late serving breakfast, lunch, high teas, dinner and bar snacks.

📍 1191 Pukaki St, Rotorua  
☎ 0508 734 368 (within NZ)

✉ info@regentrotorua.co.nz  
🌐 regentrotorua.co.nz



## AURA ACCOMMODATION

Centrally located accommodation setting the benchmark in friendly personalised service and sustainable practices.



Located within a block of the newly redeveloped lakefront, 'Eat Street' and Government Gardens, Aura has become the hub for those seeking to make the most of their time in Rotorua. Whether that be taking the local team's advice and exploring a wide range of sights or enjoying the extensive facilities at Aura.



The geothermally heated pool (30 degrees- 38 degrees), private thermal pools, free scooter use, BBQ and steambox cooking facilities, Sky TV and Netflix give every reason to laze about the property.



Come and experience this unique place putting people and the environment at the forefront.

**Proud winners for the 2021 Trip Advisor Travellers Choice Award and Qualmark 4 Star Silver Award.**

📍 1078 Whakaue St, Rotorua  
☎ 0800 333 799

✉ info@aurarotorua.co.nz  
🌐 aurarotorua.co.nz





# PRINCES GATE HOTEL

A hotel so good they built the city around it!



Prince's Gate Hotel was built originally in 1897 in Waihi, some 120 km's north of Rotorua, from Kauri timber which was celebrated for its unsurpassed building qualities. It has endured trials and tribulations during its long and eventful history but remains today a prominent showpiece in the very heart of Rotorua.

Whether you're looking for a single guest room or a little bit of luxury in one of our spacious suites, all our 50 bedrooms and suites at the Prince's Gate Hotel Rotorua are designed to offer a luxuriously comfortable night's sleep. Home of the Duke's Bar and Restaurant serving a mix of all-time classic favourite

dishes and award-winning dining experiences catering to groups big and small.

Iconic High Tea and event spaces a plenty, makes the perfect place for a quiet night at your local or your next glitzy event.

📍 1057 Arawa Street, Rotorua  
☎️ (07) 348 1179

✉️ info@princesgate.co.nz  
🌐 princesgate.co.nz

  
**PRINCE'S GATE**  
BOUTIQUE HOTEL SINCE 1897



## VR ROTORUA LAKE RESORT

Set on 6 acres on the shores of the beautiful Lake Rotoiti.

VR Rotorua Lake Resort is located just 15 minutes drive from central Rotorua. It features an outdoor pool, a sauna and tennis courts. Guests enjoy free unlimited WiFi.

All rooms feature a private balcony or patio offering either stunning views

over Okawa Bay or the surrounding gardens. Each includes satellite TV, and tea/coffee making facilities. The Grill Restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner and serves modern New Zealand cuisine.

For more information please visit [vrrotorua.co.nz](http://vrrotorua.co.nz)

📍 366 State Highway 33,  
Mourea, Rotorua  
☎️ (07) 362 4599  
✉️ [rotorua.gm@vrhotels.co.nz](mailto:rotorua.gm@vrhotels.co.nz)



## CENTRALLY LOCATED 5 STAR HOLIDAY PARK

Rotorua TOP 10 Holiday Park is Rotorua's multi award winning 5 Star -Premium graded Holiday Park.

The Rotorua TOP 10 Holiday is only a short walk to the heart of the city, with a range of affordable accommodation options to suit families, couples, or corporate travellers during their visit to Rotorua. Offering TOP quality accommodation ranging

from our 4 star motels to our well-equipped cabins-perfect for those looking for accommodation on any budget. We also offer all-weather powered campsites, ideal to experience & re-discover those childhood memories.

📍 1495 Pukuatua St, Rotorua  
☎️ 0800 223 267  
✉️ [stay@rotoruatop10.co.nz](mailto:stay@rotoruatop10.co.nz)  
🌐 [rotoruatop10.co.nz](http://rotoruatop10.co.nz)







## HEAVENLY DINING AND ADRENALINE-FILLED ADVENTURE AT SKYLINE

Award-winning dining meets adrenaline at Skyline Rotorua. Build up your appetite mountain biking, lugging or ziplining before settling in for an incredible dining experience at Stratosfare Restaurant and Bar.

### GOURMET CUISINE

Famous throughout the Bay of Plenty and beyond, a night (or day) to remember is ahead of you at Stratosfare beginning from the moment you step into the Gondola and ascend Mount Ngongotaha.

Let the stunning views of Rotorua set the scene before beginning your evening with a signature cocktail before admiring the lavish sight of Stratosfare's magnificent buffet stretching the length of the restaurant.

Inspired by iconic kiwi cuisine infused with international influences, Stratosfare's head chef prides himself on delivering an unforgettable menu featuring locally sourced fresh seafood, meat and produce.

The new autumn menu includes a rich and creamy butter chicken, a mouth-watering coconut curry laksa soup and a host of favourites. Room for dessert? Check out the waffles with a selection of sweet toppings, preserves and assorted New Zealand ice cream.

**Check the website for the most up-to-date hours of operation**

### ADVENTURE AWAITS

If you prefer to build up an appetite, then look no further! With their own Mountain Bike Park, Luge track, Skyswing and zipline there's something for every level of adrenaline junky.

Home to New Zealand's first year-round Gondola-assisted bike lift, Skyline Rotorua MTB Park is your gateway to world-class downhill mountain biking on your back doorstep with a trail for every level of expertise.

The Luge is a firm favourite for the whole family with both the scenic and intermediate tracks continuing to operate while the track that was formally known as the 'Advanced', is under FUNstruction.

Dare to face your fears at New Zealand's only Skyswing – the three-seated Skyswing hoists you 50m into the air reaches speeds of up to 150kph!

Feel the thrill of flying with Zoom Ziplines – the 400m dual ziplines allow you to race family and friends at speeds of up to 60km/h; it's the closest you can get to flying without wings!

Make your next family day out or fine dining experience one to remember at Skyline Rotorua.







At Abracadabra Cafe and Bar Rotorua we believe in Good Food, Good Vibes in a unique, groovy atmosphere. We are passionate about providing delicious food & drinks - you'll love the ambience, friendly staff & magic that creates an excellent dining experience.

**CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT  
WHERE GUEST SATISFACTION IS  
OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY.**



1263 AMOHIA ST, ROTORUA \ 07 348 3883 \ [WWW.ABRACADABRACAFE.COM](http://WWW.ABRACADABRACAFE.COM)

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Corner Fenton & Arawa Streets, Rotorua



**Visitor  
Information**



A portrait of Sam Sutton, a smiling man wearing a grey beanie and a grey zip-up jacket. The background is a vibrant Maori waka hui, featuring concentric circles of red, orange, and yellow lines on a black field. The name 'SAM' is written vertically in large white letters on the right side.

# SAM

## OUR WAIRUA OUR STORIES

Born and bred in Okere Falls, Sam Sutton is a 4 x Sickline Extreme Kayak World Champion who heads to Europe every year to take on the world's best and win. A proud father of 3, home is still Okere Falls, where his heart, his whānau and his iwi have always been.  
#RotoruaProud

# THIS IS

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[rotoruanz.com/proud](http://rotoruanz.com/proud)

Visit here for more stories about our amazing Rotorua whānau