



Te Urewera Treks Fact Sheet
for Sustainability in Action function
19 May 2010



Product Offering

Te Urewera Treks offers guided walks through Te Urewera National Parks, one of the wildest and scenic rain forests in New Zealand. The business's team of local guides brings a unique dimension to the walking experience. As well as having extensive knowledge of the forest and life within it, they also share with visitors their knowledge about local Maori history and their own personal stories in and around the bush. The business offers one, two and three day walks suitable to different fitness and ability levels. Some walks are along formed trails with gentle to moderate tracks while others are more challenging both in the steepness of the terrain and the rugged nature of the unformed wilderness trails. Groups are limited to twelve people, which ensures a personal experience and because all treks include at least one local Maori guide, treks offer a unique cultural dimension. A bush camp is used for the two and three day treks. This idyllic eco-bush camp is nestled amongst native trees with views of the forest valley. With only six sites, each surrounded by trees for privacy, it is a special and personal camping experience. Te Urewera Treks is committed to operating sustainably and as a member of the Rotorua Sustainable Tourism Charter are committed to continual improvements in this area. Following are some of the actions being taken by the company to improve its environmental, social, cultural and economic sustainability.

Examples of Sustainable Actions

- ▶ Ensure sustainability is reflected in the company's Vision and Mission Statement
- ▶ Both directors are actively involved in many voluntary community activities (e.g. Network Murupara, Te Urewera Rainforest Route, Tuhoe Tourism Federation, Manawa a Hiwi Whanau Trust, BOP DOC Advisory Board).
- ▶ Set up a new charitable trust, called the Tuhoe Tuawhenua Trust, with the goal of actively restoring the indigenous rainforests of Te Urewera. As part of this activity, Te Urewera Treks has a new tourism product which involves clients trekking in the morning and planting indigenous trees in the afternoon with \$25 from each visitor choosing this product going to the Trust for ongoing forest management. Also looking into the establishment of an indigenous tree nursery to supply seedlings for this activity and create local jobs.
- ▶ Monitor water and fuel consumption.
- ▶ Installed a solar lighting system for the bush camp toilet and shower block.
- ▶ Use rechargeable lanterns
- ▶ Ask guests to provide feedback on the company's sustainability performance.
- ▶ Consider the environmental aspects of purchasing decisions.
- ▶ Purchase paper with 100% post consumer recycled content
- ▶ Use Eco Store and other environmentally friendly cleaning products
- ▶ Purchase in-season NZ grown produce whenever possible
- ▶ Ongoing investigations into reducing reliance on hardcopy marketing collateral

Further Information

For further information on sustainable actions taken at Te Urewera Treks contact:

Joe Doherty - Director

Email: info@teureweratreks.co.nz

Phone: 07 366 6055