Famously Rotorua

WORLD’S LARGEST MOUNTAIN BIKE FESTIVAL
CRANKWORX COMES TO ROTORUA

DISCOVER THE DIVERSITY
SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO

SIZZLING SUMMER OF EVENTS
PLAN YOUR TRIP NOW

PHOTO CREDIT: Sean St Denis

rotoruaNZ.com
Crankworx Rotorua

Mountain biking is getting the biggest shake up in Australasia with the world’s largest festival, Crankworx, rolling into Rotorua this March.

Crankworx Rotorua brings with it the best mountain biking pro-athletes for competitions, concerts and culture. Check out the Australasia Whip Off Champs, Rotorua Pump Track Challenge, Dual Speed and Style, Downhill, Crankworx Rotorua Enduro and the kickoff of the Crankworx Triple Crown of Slopestyle over the five days. There will also be a raft of other events surrounding the festival for keen spectators, including Kidsworx and a music festival featuring top New Zealand artists.

Make sure you lock in tickets and accommodation fast as people from around the globe are filling up spaces and we’d love to see you there cheering on New Zealand’s best at the spectacle that is Crankworx!

Single-day and five-day Crankworx Rotorua passes are available (adult $35 for single-day/$69 for five-day, child $25/$49). For more information about the event, including tickets and the schedule check out www.crankworx.com/rotorua

Crankworx Rotorua Enduro

Enduro racing has rapidly become one of the most popular mountain bike events on the planet and the world’s best riders are coming down under for the first time in March for the Crankworx Rotorua Enduro – round one of the Enduro World Series.

Enduro originates from Italy and France, and anyone who has followed car rallying should find it instantly similar. The most basic definition is timed downhill and untimed uphill’s over many hours riding replicating what many mountain bikers do every weekend, over a series of special stages.

Up to 30 Official EWS Teams are handpicked featuring the world’s best riders, representing the biggest brands and fastest racers on the planet. Kiwi’s are also guaranteed to see at least 20 of our very best Enduro riders competing.

If you would like to also race you can, but with the 400 entry spots expected to sell out fast (one hour is the record) you’ll need to get in quick to take part. However this event is also a spectacle in itself – so make sure to come and watch it all unfold and join in the Crankworx festivities.
Welcome to this exciting Summer Edition of the Famously Rotorua Visitor and Lifestyle Magazine. We’re gearing up for a big summer of events, with some world-exclusives and old favourites coming to Rotorua.

Summer’s a perfect time of year to visit. With 18 sparkling lakes, three major rivers, and the best mountain bike trails in the southern hemisphere right here, Rotorua is the place for your summer getaway.

This summer we’re thrilled to announce we’re hosting the New Zealand National Sevens Tournament, the ever-popular Rotorua Bike Festival, family friendly GLO New Year festival, and to top it off we have the world’s largest Mountain Bike festival Crankworx coming for the first time.

Around this we’ve got a natural playground and a raft of attractions and experiences on offer to keep everyone happy. The best thing is we’re just a 2.5 hour drive from Auckland and one of New Zealand’s most diverse, exciting and accessible holiday destinations. Inside this magazine you’ll get a feel for why we love living in Rotorua and why we want to share our coolest hot spot with you.

We look forward to seeing you soon.
What's on
EVENT CALENDAR

DECEMBER

Dec 13
Rotorua Half Ironman
Starting and finishing on the shores of Lake Tikitapu, New Zealand’s toughest Half Ironman is sure to push and challenge even the fittest.

Dec 13
Giant 2W Gravity Enduro
Everything you love about mountain biking - fast single track, technical terrain and adventure. Challenge yourself on Rotorua’s famous Whakarewarewa Forest Trails.

JANUARY

Jan 24 – 25
Blue Lake Multisport Festival
Swim the length (or width) or Lake Tikitapu at the Blue Lake Multisport Festival this January. The first male and female non-wetsuit-wearing swimmers in the 2km event win the Hinemoa Swim Trophies.

FEBRUARY

Jan 31 – Feb 1
N-Duro 24 Hour MTB Race
Designed by mountain bikers for mountain bikers, the N-Duro 24 Hour is a race like no other. Enter as a team or solo and ride rings around the Redwoods.

Feb 7
Tarawera Ultra Marathon
Share the trails with world famous ultra-marathon runners. Choose from the 100km (Rotorua to Kawerau via Tarawera), 85km, or 65km options.

Feb 14 - 15
2015 Mountain Bike National Championships
Join the elite riders from the Southern Hemisphere for the pinnacle of cross country and downhill mountain bike racing in NZ. Being held in the Whakawerawera Forest and Skyline Rotorua’s new Gravity Bike Bike, the event is a must for those who enjoy watching and competing in the sport.

Feb 15
Art in the Park
Set in the magnificent Rotorua Government Gardens next to the Museum, Art in the Park is an event for all art lovers. Attracting the best talent from around the region, this once a year event offers art and craft demonstrations, great music and kids entertainment, an event for all of the family.
EVENTS

Mar 8
Copthorne Off Road Half Marathon
With a choice of distances including the full half marathon, 10.5km and 5km courses, runners and walkers can enjoy travelling through the spectacular Whakarewarewa Forest, utilising scenic trails and smooth gravel forest roads. You can also enter the younger ones into kids into a 2.5km or 1.5km kids race.

Mar 14 – 15
NZO Moonride
An overnight mountain bike event that’s become legendary. The NZO Moonride’s 24, 12 and six hour events occur simultaneously around Rotorua’s world famous Whakarewarewa trails.

Swim The Lakes Summer Series
Take on Rotorua’s lakes this summer in a swim series on three of the region’s most stunning lakes – Rotoma, Okataina and Tikitapu (Blue). Whether you’re training for a multisport event, wanting some fitness training or just keen to make the most of Rotorua’s beautiful lakes, join up for this summer series. With the aim of promoting fitness and fun through swimming, there are a range of distances and events suitable for most ages and abilities. Complete all three events and secure yourself a Famously Rotorua Swim the Lakes t-shirt to celebrate your achievement!

Jan 24 – 25
Eves Blue Lake Multisport Festival - 750m or 2000m open water swim

Feb 6
Lake Rotoma Kiwanis Open Water Swim – 20 events ranging from 100m – 15km

Mar 15
Swim Rotorua Open Water Swim at Lake Okataina – 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m

To find out more visit rotoruanz.com/swimthelakes.

Feb 21
Lakeside
Bring a picnic and join the 20,000 people expected to attend this iconic Rotorua outdoor concert held annually at the Lakefront. With a variety of music, song and dance on stage, followed by a spectacular firework display to finish, there is no better free concert held in New Zealand.

MARCH

Mar 14 – 15
Rotorua Walking Festival
Now in its 22nd year, come celebrate the Rotorua Walking Festival. With walks ranging from 10km to 42km, this festival has a distance for everyone, with spectacular walks guaranteed.

Mar 20 - 21
NZO Moonride
An overnight mountain bike event that’s become legendary. The NZO Moonride’s 24, 12 and six hour events occur simultaneously around Rotorua’s world famous Whakarewarewa trails.
**EVENTS**

**DEC 30, 2014 – JAN 1, 2015**

**Rotorua GLO Festival**

**Bring in the New Year in Rotorua with three days of celebrations.**

Looking for somewhere fun for the family to spend New Year’s? Rotorua’s GLO Festival has three days of activities and events all designed with the family in mind.

On December 30, enjoy the Hits Flicks where you get the chance to watch a family friendly movie on the big screen.

New Year’s Eve starts with Party in the Park, a concert at the Lakefront which culminates with a fantastic laser and firework display.

At midnight, experience one of the best firework displays in New Zealand where the sky is lit up above Lake Rotorua.

Celebrate the first day of the year with friends at the 1st Big Brunch. Enjoy great food, win prizes and relax whilst listening to local artists on the main stage.

To find out more visit the Facebook page – Rotorua Glo Festival

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**JAN 17 – 18, 2015**

**Bayleys National Sevens**

**See the future super stars of Sevens representing their regions at the National Sevens Tournament.**

This January Rotorua hosts the National Rugby Sevens Tournament. Come along and see the action as regional teams battle it out for Sevens supremacy.

With the Rio Olympics just around the corner, get an inside glimpse into the stocks of Sevens talent NZ has on tap.

Head down to Rotorua International Stadium for two days of fast paced Sevens action.

Don’t forget to dress up in your favourite team colours, or do it at the Stadium at the kids zone. As well as face painting and flag making stalls, there will also be bouncy castles and the occasional mascot there to entertain.

To find out more visit nationalsevens.co.nz.
From the fall-off-a-cliff extreme rider to kids experiencing the freedom and the unforgettable exhilaration of that first ride. The Rotorua Bike Festival has a biking event for everyone, from 2 to 72, and with all disciplines represented: BMX, road and mountain bike.

Friends and families will connect and enjoy the environment, the biking and the spirit of the event. There’s something magical about a gathering like this and a sense of excitement and anticipation.

Defining what a Bike Festival is, this is the best one in the country in the world’s premier, all-year-round, mountain bike resort.

Keep an eye out for updates on rotoruabikefestival.com. or by liking the Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/RotoruaBikeFestival

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Fat Freddy’s Drop

New Zealand’s favourite sons and other great soul and reggae artists live at the Lakefront.

FAT FREDDY’S DROP need no introduction. They have carved a place in New Zealand music history with sold out and legendary live performances across the globe. They mix soul, reggae and techno with a side order of dub, ska and blues...no two live Freddy’s gigs are ever the same, making them the must-see summer act on every kiwi’s list year after year.

African soul, reggae artist META & THE CORNERSTONES, funk remix masters HIPSTAMATICS, dubtronic jungle dwellers MANALION, neo-Soul children THE BOOM CAT and local ska heroes, STRANGELY AROUSING round off this exceptional line up.

If you are looking for a chilled out festival in a stunning location to kick off the New Year with your friends and family, this is it! Gates open at 4pm and the event is family-friendly with 12yr olds and under free.
Rotorua Visitor Centre & i-SITE

Your one stop hot spot rotoruaNZ.com/hotdeals

A visit to the i-SITE on arrival to Rotorua will help you uncover the hidden gems that will make your visit truly memorable. Our friendly staff can assist with advice and planning for sightseeing, accommodation, activities and more. So make us your one stop hot spot for a unique Rotorua experience.

Corner Fenton & Arawa Streets, Rotorua
Telephone +64 7 348 5179
Email info@rotoruaNZ.com
NZ freephone 0800 ROTORUA (768 678)

For more Official Famously Rotorua Packages
Scan Here!

Rotorua Family Getaway
Treat the family with a weekend escape for 2 adults and 2 children. Staying two nights at the Millennium Hotel Rotorua including fully cooked breakfast and access to the heated swimming pool. Included is a 'Family Pass' on board Rotorua Duck Tours – a fun for all the family city & lakes tour including a 'splashdown' into two lakes.

BOOK NOW $473

Rotorua Pamper Weekend
Take time out and unwind together with this all-inclusive package. Stay one night in a Designer Room at the historically boutique Princes Gate Hotel. Included is a QE Spa Aix Massage – combining massage with jets of warm thermal water - a truly relaxing experience for two.

BOOK NOW $331

Cruise & Stay Weekend
Enjoy a well-deserved weekend away staying one night in a studio unit at Havana Motor Lodge. Included is a one hour breakfast cruise for two on board the Lakeland Queen. A unique dining experience on Lake Rotorua offering spectacular views of Sulphur Bay, Mokoia Island and commentary of the local area.

BOOK NOW $185

Call us free on 0800 ROTORUA or online at rotoruaNZ.com/hotdeals

Rotorua’s official BOOKING EXPERTS!

I SUMMER EDITION 2014
Geothermal Walk & Sulphur

Experience Hells Gate Rotorua’s most active geothermal park, featuring hot water lakes, erupting waters and New Zealand’s largest active mud volcano. Then it’s time to relax in the newly developed Hells Gate Spa offering a soothing mineral soak over-looking the geothermal reserve.

BOOK NOW $99pp

NZ Riverjet – The Squeeze

A unique combination of a scenic jet boat ride and the challenge of manoeuvring your way through narrow crevasses, climbing boulders, and wading through warm waist deep water until you emerge in stunning native New Zealand bush. The tour finishes with a soak in the thermal waters of a naturally heated waterfall.

BOOK NOW $159pp

Quad bike Bush Tour

Ride through a working farm up into native bush with an experienced guide. The tour allows for multiple stops at various locations along the way to capture the stunning views over Lake Rotorua and beyond, so remember to pack your camera.

BOOK NOW $140pp

Rail Cruising

The ultimate railway experience, cruise along the Rotorua Railway Line in your self-drive RailCruiser with comfortable seats, unobstructed views and listen to the history of Mamaku, Rotorua and the Railway. An extraordinary experience suitable for all ages.

BOOK NOW $76pp

‘Give it a Go’ MTB Bike Hire

If you’ve always wanted to try mountain biking, this is the package for you. This two hour bike hire includes a helmet and trail map. An appropriate bike size is matched for each individual along with an overview of the bike’s operation, basic riding techniques and a recommendation on where to ride helps first timers find the trail which best suits their skill level.

BOOK NOW $35pp

Scenic Helicopter Flight

Stunning crater lakes, imposing national parks and Rotorua’s renowned thermal activity all feature in this captivating scenic flight. Enjoy spectacular aerial views of six Rotorua lakes while your pilot provides an informed commentary.

BOOK NOW $195pp

Rotorua’s official BOOKING EXPERTS!

Call us free on 0800 ROTORUA or online at rotoruaNZ.com/hotdeals
Top 10 – Rotorua in Summer

1. Get out and explore Rotorua’s myriad of mountain bike trails.

2. Make the most of the daylight and bring your board for some twilight wakeboarding.


5. Need to clear your mind? Head into the Redwoods for a run.
Get your crew together and raft the Kaituna River.

Bring your bike for a week of all things biking - the Rotorua Bike Festival.

A Kiwi classic for a good reason. Make sure to get a few Luge runs in this summer.

Head down Eat Streat for some live music, a few drinks and a heap of delicious dinner options.

Pack the tent and treat the family, spend a weekend at one of Rotorua’s lakeside camp grounds.
Feel a million miles away

Rotorua’s the perfect place to push your boundaries, and make the most of the beautiful natural environment New Zealand has. Here are a few hidden gems that are sure to make this summer one to remember.
Take a Mt Tarawera guided tour
Head up Mt Tarawera on a guided tour with Kaitiaki Adventures before going on a short hike to the mountain summit. This really is one of the best views you will ever see - from the summit you look out over the North Island and can see White Island to the East, the Rotorua lakes district directly below you, as well as Ruapehu and Tongariro to the South. Get the heart pumping with a scree run into the crater!

Explore Whakarewarewa forest by bike
Check out the world-famous Whakarewarewa Forest mountain bike trails (voted by Red Bull as being the best in the Southern Hemisphere), and if you’re new to mountain biking a quick lesson and a guided ride are great ways to whet your appetite to this growing sport. For the more experienced riders, pick up a trail map and go for it! There’s 140kms of old and ever-evolving trails to explore.

Take to the sky
Want to check out the North Island Lakes District from above? Hop in a Volcanic Air helicopter or float plane and take a guided tour of the region. This breath-taking flight takes you over the region’s lakes, mountains and bush. Maybe tie in an afternoon of trout fishing, or hiking the Tarawera Trail and get dropped off at the beginning of your next adventure.

Treat yourself to a soak
Shake off those work-week blues and book yourself in for some pampering at one of Rotorua’s world class spas. Begin by soaking in Rotorua’s famous hot mineral waters before heading off for the treatment of your choice. This is the perfect way to unwind, relax and pamper yourself. Spas to check out include Polynesian Spa (pictured), Wai Ora Day Spa and QE Spa.

Not for the faint of heart
Ever heard of sledging? This is an adventure you’ll never forget. Think a specially designed body board that you ride white water with… this is not for the faint of heart.
For those keen on an adventure, check out Rotorua’s rafting companies who will happily strap some flippers onto your feet, put a sledge in your hands and guide you down the Kaituna River’s white water.

Explore an untouched rainforest
Take a guided tour of the Whirinaki Rainforest. This untouched podocarp forest is stocked full of some of NZ’s tallest trees, native birds and stunning scenery. There are a range of short day walks and hefty hikes just waiting to be explored.
Skyline Gravity Park
Ride downhill all day, without any of that uphill slog. The new Skyline Gravity Park is a gondola accessed bike park which means you get to spend the day exclusively riding downhill. There are a number of trails to choose from offering everything from flowy bermed runs, to technical off camber descents and park obstacles. The best bit is the gondola is always running, meaning next to no down-time in between runs.

Adventure Playground
Hop on a horse or quad bike and head high into the hills around Mt Ngongotaha with Adventure Playground Rotorua. Suitable for all levels of riders, the tours run throughout the day and cross farmland into native bush, through mud puddles (if that’s your thing) and culminate with a breathtaking view across Lake Rotorua.
NZ Riverjet – Squeeze
A true hidden gem near the Orakei Korako thermal park, let NZ Riverjet zoom you down the Waikato River in one of their jet boats to a secluded hot water spring. After a short 5 minute walk, squeeze between two cliff faces as you make your way upstream to a spectacular geothermal waterfall.

Off Road NZ
Take the wheel for a 4WD Bush Safari around the Off Road grounds before hopping into the passenger seat of their 4X4 Monster Truck and see how a pro boosts around the bush circuit. Next up hop into a Raceline Kart and race your mates, hitting speeds of up to 100km on the 150m straight, around the specifically-built Kartsport circuit.

Zorb - Zurfing
Bounce and bound about downhill with the Kiwi classic – Zorbing. Try the classic wet ride straight track, the more adventurous courses, or the new Zurfing ride (surfing inside a Zorb). This is a must-do while in Rotorua and is a guaranteed laugh.

Kawarau Jet
Take an action packed jet boat ride on stunning Lake Rotorua, and if it’s heights you’re after try a tandem parasail with sweeping views over the city.
Morning:
A great way to start the day is with a big breakfast at local favourite café Abracadabra who have a specific menu just to keep the kids happy. Then head off to the world famous Whakarewarewa Forest where Plant Bike or Mountain Bike Rotorua will happily hire you a bike, and show you the basics of biking a couple of great tracks to begin your ride with.

Afternoon:
Grab your paddleboards and go exploring the Rotorua lakes district. There are plenty of cool coves to explore. Make a point of checking out Lake Tarawera’s Hot Water Beach where you can build your own natural spa in the sand.

Evening:
Head to Skyline Rotorua where the kids can tucker themselves out on the Luge while parents enjoy the wine tasting at Volcanic Hills Winery. Afterwards you can all enjoy dinner and the view at the Stratosfare Restaurant.
COUPLES

Morning:
Begin the day with a delicious smoked salmon and spinach omelette and a coffee to die for at Capers Epicurean. Next head up to Rotorua Canopy Tours where you’ll have a great time checking out the native forest from above, as you zipline from tree to tree.

Afternoon:
Jump aboard the Kawarau Jet boat on Lake Rotorua and head through the Ohau Channel into Lake Rotoiti, on to Manupirua Hot Springs – an accessible only by boat hot spring on the shores of Lake Rotoiti. This hidden gem is the perfect place to wind down.

Evening:
Now that you’re nice and relaxed, head into town and take your pick of one of the many restaurants dotted around the city, or head to Eat Streat where you can dine alfresco on the weekend and catch a live band.
Rotorua’s got a burgeoning foodie scene, with a strong café and artisan culture. Here are some of the secret spots and hidden gems you may not have discovered yet.

**Ciabatta Bakery**
Found in an unassuming industrial area, the Ciabatta Bakery produces some of the best bread in NZ. Master Baker Alex Burge loves bread and baking. His ciabatta and pizza are simply out of this world, and he’s got an ever growing range of cronuts, paleo treats and classic ciabatta-base baked goodies.

**Okere Falls Store**
This lakeside community store, café and beer garden is one of Rotorua’s best kept secrets. The Okere Falls Store is a great place to pop in for a coffee or brunch, or to stop off for a drink after a day on Lake Rotoiti.

**Mokoia Restaurant**
This restaurant on the shores of Lake Rotorua incorporates indigenous herbs and spices into their a la carte Pacific themed menu. Piko piko and horopito and kawa kawa often make their way into the fine dining dishes served here – giving Mokoia Restaurant a high-end dining experience with a NZ twist.

**Top 5 Rotorua foodie favourites**

- **Skyline Rotorua Stratosfare Restaurant and Bar**
  Set high on the side of Mt Ngongotaha at Skyline, Stratosfare (pictured) is a dining experience at the forefront of innovation. With live mussels in a tidal tank designed to replicate the ocean, a meat curing fridge to perfectly age meat sourced from Mangatu farms and state of the art rotissaries – you just know the food is going to be delicious.

- **Rotorua Night Market**
  Every Thursday the Rotorua Night Market lights up Tutanekai Street. There’s a ton of artisan stores selling everything from homemade Italian pasta, Cornish pastries, French crepes to mussel fritters, fresh kaimoana and tapas. A great place to grab a casual bite while in Rotorua.
Amazing Race: Australia VS New Zealand contestant Carla Beazley recently revisited her home town Rotorua.

What is your connection to Rotorua?
I lived in Rotorua until I was eight so it holds my earliest memories. I went to both Rotorua and Owhata Primary schools. My husband’s family is also from Rotorua, his iwi is Te Arawa, so we are often in town as it’s an easy 40 minute drive from Tauranga.

How often do you come home to visit?
Several times a year for family birthdays and gatherings etc.

What’s your favourite thing to do in Rotorua?
The OGO is heaps of fun, a really unique experience and the kids love it!

Where do you go to eat in Rotorua?
Ambrosia on Eat Streat. Actually anywhere on Eat Streat is great.

Are there any hidden gems you discovered? What was it that really impressed you?
The customer service everywhere in Rotorua is fantastic, much better than in Tauranga (where we live). The locals are used to looking after visitors and they do a super job. The whole vibe of Rotorua is really chill, it’s an easy place to unwind.

What activity is a must do in Rotorua this summer?
Mountain biking in the Redwood forest. We did it for the first time recently and I was surprised how much I loved it. I felt so stimulated and healthy that day (and then I had a coffee and muffin damn it!). Can’t wait to go back.

For more great Rotorua getaway ideas and to discover some of our hidden gems and amazing activities - check out rotoruanz.com/
WHATS ON

ROTORUA STORIES CINEMA
Discover the legends and science behind Rotorua’s awesome volcanic landscape in this 20-minute immersive cinema experience.

BIZARRE HISTORY OF THE SPA
Explore the history of Rotorua’s iconic Bath House building and find out why people from all over the world came to bathe here. Venture into the depths of the mudbath basement; enjoy panoramic views from the rooftop viewing platform; and learn about the bizarre spa treatments once offered here.

LEGENDS OF TE ARAWA
Enter the amazing world of the Arawa tribe, Rotorua’s original inhabitants, and follow their dramatic journey, from origins across the Pacific to their lives in Rotorua today. Discover the epic stories that have shaped this region, meet famous leaders, explore the stories of many beautiful Taonga (treasures), and learn about Te Arawa’s unique culture and how society changed with the arrival of settlers from overseas.

ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW
From family fun to contemporary art, our changing galleries showcase a variety of exhibitions. Summer exhibitions include:
• Pick & Mix: Selected works from Rotorua Museum’s collection - until 10 May 2015
• Body in Action - 13 December 2014 to 15 March 2015
• On the Wing: Urban release of the New Zealand Falcon - 20 December 2014 to March 2015

MUSEUM SHOP & CAFÉ
The Museum Shop has a great range of quality New Zealand crafts, souvenirs and books. At the Museum Café enjoy delicious coffee, tasty snacks and fresh lunch options with lovely views over Government Gardens.

HOURS
Open daily from 9am (except Christmas Day). Admission charges apply.

IMAGE CREDITS
Rotorua Museum. Photograph by Adrian Hodge
Te Arawa Waka. David Hamilton Photography
Body in Action. Courtesy of Te Manawa Museum of Art, Science and History, Palmerston North

ROTORUA MUSEUM
Explore the region’s rich culture, volatile landscape and dramatic history in this innovative, award-winning museum. Where great stories begin...

Oruawhata Drive,
Government Gardens, Rotorua
(07) 350 1814
rotoruamuseum@rdc.govt.nz
rotoruamuseum.co.nz

rotoruaNZ.com
Crankworx is coming and we’re amping up and getting ready to host the biggest mountain bike festival to ever hit the southern hemisphere.

Are you ready for the madness? From March 25 to 29, 2015, the festival will come alive at Skyline Mountain Bike Gravity Park for five days of two-wheeled competition, spectacle and celebration.

The Crankworx spectator five day pass is Adult: $69NZD* and child (14 years and under) $49*. A one-day pass is Adult: $35* and Child: $25*. All passes include Skyline Rotorua gondola access and tickets can be bought through Ticketmaster with a link accessible at www.crankworx.com/rotorua. * Booking/Payment processing Fees apply.

EXPERIENCE IT BEFORE THE PROS DO
Even the pros reckon mountain biking doesn’t get any better than this. Make sure to share your ride with #ridemorenz #crankworxiscoming #CWXrotorua

To get your Gravity Park mountain biking fix before Crankworx, choose from a half-day: Adult $55, full-day: $75, or a range of season passes - see all pricing and pass options online at www.skyline.co.nz.

A season pass gives you free gondola mountain bike access, one free full day pass for Queenstown Bike Park, mates rates for luge rides, discounted buffet dinner, lunch, cafe purchases and souvenir shop purchases.

CRANKWORX EVENTS AT SKYLINE:

**Wednesday 25th March**
- Official Welcoming and Opening
- Kidsworx - Pump Track Skills Session
- NZ Whip Off Champs
- Crankworx Expo

**Thursday 26th March**
- NZ Pump Track Challenge
- NZ Dual Speed and Style
- Kidsworx - Pimp My Bike
- Crankworx Expo

**Friday 27th March**
- NZ Downhill Race
- Kidsworx - Hipster Downhill Race
- Bikes and Beats Music Festival (Rotorua lakefront)
- Crankworx Expo

**Saturday 28th March**
- Crankworx Rotorua Enduro
- Kidsworx - Big Game Hunt Comp
- Kidsworx - Pump Track Skills Session
- Bikes and Beats Music Festival (Rotorua lakefront)
- Crankworx Expo

**Sunday 29th March**
- Crankworx Triple Crown of Slopestyle
- Kidsworx Crit
- Crankworx Expo

Photo credit: Clint Trahan
WHATS ON

ROTORUA’S 3 DAY NEW YEARS CELEBRATION
30-31 December 2014 & 1 January 2015

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ROTORUA DAILY POST

THE HITS FLICKS
Enjoy an outdoor movie on the green
SPONSORED BY

PARTY IN THE PARK
A free family concert with a spectacular fireworks finale at 9.15pm
SPONSORED BY

THE 1ST BIG BRUNCH!
Bring the family and a picnic and enjoy the FREE entertainment with prizes up for grabs!

6pm - 9pm
ROTORUA LAKEFRONT
30 DECEMBER 2014

6pm - 9.30pm
ROTORUA LAKEFRONT
31 DECEMBER 2014

11am - 2pm
ROTORUA LAKEFRONT
01 JANUARY 2015

For more information visit
www.facebook.com/rotoruaglofestival

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
GET AMONGST THE ACTION
Chasing an adrenalin fix just got a lot easier with our Skyline Half Day Adventure Pass. The ultimate way to explore gravity attractions with your family and enjoy a fun filled summer day of adventure at Skyline Rotorua.

The half day pass means you can experience four must-do activities in one easy pass, in one great location giving you a return Gondola ride, the Skyswing, five Skyline Luge rides plus access to one of Skyline’s newest gravity attractions, the Zoom Zipline.

The Pass provides a great saving for Skyline Rotorua visitors retailing at $125 for Adults (15yrs+) and $105 for Children (5-14yrs)

TWILIGHT LUGING IS BACK!
Twilight luging kicks off for another summer this December 20th. Grab an awesome deal and luge into the evening with friends and family.

Skyline Luge is the ultimate fun, fast-paced family activity that everyone will love! Part go-cart, part toboggan, you can’t beat this truly unique New Zealand outdoor experience.

The Twilight luge pass can be used from 6.00pm - 8.00pm nightly, so grab your kids or mates and head to Skyline Rotorua for some entertainment - the fun starts at sundown.

Check out the great deals online at www.skyline.co.nz or at the front counter

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
Upload fun snaps of your day to friends and family back home. Make sure you also find us on Facebook and share your pics on our page at: www.facebook.com/skylinerotorua.
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE BURIED VILLAGE?

A buried village? Yes. But here you can step back in time and explore the Village we have excavated from the mud and ashes of Mt Tarawera, hear the stories of the fateful night, experience nature’s force at Wairere Falls and share our fascinating stories...

THE SITE OF THE ACTUAL VILLAGE.
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NATURE TRAIL.
If you dare, take the waterfall trail! The Wairere Falls is an exciting walk down to the base; stand in the spray from the waterfall as it plunges 30 metres over the Waitoharuru cliffs. Wild trout swim freely in the crystal clear Wairoa stream.

FAMILY FUN.
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THE JOURNEY OUT.
Follow the same journey taken 130 years ago by the visitors to Te Wairoa, past the Blue and the Green Lakes and onto the spectacular view of Lake Tarawera and the volcano.
Have you ever wondered what it would be like to visit the real ‘Middle-earth’? A tribe of 75 Hobbit fans, their guests and 40 high-profile international media recently experienced a trip of a lifetime as part of an exclusive global online competition – The Hobbit Fan Fellowship - which began with a visit to Te Puia’s geothermal wonderland where the die-hard fans received an official Māori welcome.

Te Puia’s Renata West says staff at the visitor attraction are as excited about the 11 December release of The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies as the rest of the fans around the world. He says the competition winners were lucky enough to enjoy their own private screening at Sir Peter Jackson’s private studio.

“T	heir enthusiasm for the films, our country and our unique geothermal landscape was catching and made us proud that we were able to show them our sense of manaakitanga (hospitality),” says Renata.

Te Puia, along with Waitomo Glowworm Caves and Hobbiton Movie Set Tours, is part of the Middle-earthTM Trilogy – a package that brings the Lord of the Rings and Hobbit movies to life for young and old.

“Middle-earthTM Trilogy Supercharged has been tailored for those looking for an even greater sense of adventure with the Steambox experience at Te Puia and the Black Labyrinth Tour (The Legendary Black Water Rafting Co.) at Waitomo as well as the Hobbiton guided tour.

Te Pō Indigenous Evening Experience welcomes visitors after dark to experience the mystique of Te Whakarewarewa Geothermal Valley after the sun goes down. The evening includes a traditional Māori welcome and cultural performance followed by a feast and concludes with a hot chocolate on the warm geothermal steps of the geyser terrace.

The Steambox experience involves a special guided tour of Te Whakarewarewa Geothermal Valley and national carving and weaving schools, and either a Māori cultural performance or an interactive weaving session. The tour concludes with guests watching their food being lifted from a ngawhā (natural geothermal steam vent) and enjoying their steam cooked lunch on the terrace overlooking the Pohutu Geyser gushing 30 metres high into the air.

Hemo Rd, Thiotonga, Rotorua 3040
0800 TE PUIA (0800 83 7842)
(07) 348 9047
info@themiddle-earthtrilogy.com
www.themiddle-earthtrilogy.com
A warm welcome awaits you at Polynesian Spa, a place to truly relax and unwind this summer, on the shores of Lake Rotorua.

Entering Polynesian Spa is like stepping into another world, a sanctuary where the mind and body are calmed by steam and the sound of running water. It’s a place where time is forgotten and relaxation is compulsory.

The natural mineral waters at Polynesian Spa provide a variety of bathing areas; adults only, luxury, private and family pools. The uniqueness of the two hot mineral springs that feed into the 27 pools at Polynesian Spa with their own unique curative properties, have seen guests from all over the world visit this location for centuries as a place of healing. The Priest Spring provides great relief for tired muscles and sore joints due to its acidity level, whereas alkaline water from the Rachel Spring is very soothing on the skin. Historically, it was said that those who swam in the Rachel Spring water would be blessed with ageless beauty.

Polynesian Spa offers a wide range of relaxation massage experiences, from invigorating and re-energising to balancing and relaxing. Retreat guests receive a fluffy robe to wear on arrival, and get complimentary access to the Lake Spa, Polynesian Spa’s luxury bathing area. Here you can let your mind drift away and enjoy the stunning lake views, as the mineral waters provide their healing powers.

This summer try Polynesian Spa’s renowned Aix Spa therapy in combination with the tropical aromas of coconut or mango oils from Pure Fiji. These oils rapidly hydrate the skin and lock in the moisture, not to mention they contain a bounty of nutrients essential to the support and good health of your skin. Aix therapy combines jets of warm water with a relaxation massage to rejuvenate and revitalise the mind and body. After your spa therapy, enjoy herbal teas served to you in the relaxation lounge.

Or let the Polynesian Spa retreat staff give their personal recommendations; they will be able to answer any questions you may have. Spa packages and group offerings are also available.

After your therapy, visit the Polynesian Spa shop and view the beautiful ranges of spa products and accessories. A wonderful way to remember your visit, and great gift ideas for friends and family.

Polynesian Spa is open daily from 8am – 11pm.
Back in 2008 an idea was born to create one of the world’s most exciting and engaging zipline Canopy Tours. After 5 years of painstaking development, negotiation, red tape and all sorts of other things Rotorua Canopy Tours opened to the world in mid 2012. That was 2 years ago now and since then tens of thousands of people have come to experience the rare combination of fun, education, adventure, conservation and nature this 3 hour journey provides.

It all takes place in the virgin native forests of the Mamuku Plateau only 10 minutes out of Rotorua where you will traverse a 1.2 kilometre network deep in the forest of ziplines, swingbridges, treetop platforms and walking trails.

It’s a small personal experience escorted by two guides who will bring the environment to life, keep you safe and entertain you throughout the journey taking you up 22 metres into the canopy. If you’re lucky you’ll handfeed wild New Zealand birds and you’ll see the results of the inspiring conservation project the company is undertaking to restore the entire forest.

The highlight for many however, is the jaw dropping 220 metre “Tui Song” zipline where you will drop out of the canopy of a 500 year old Rimu tree and fly over a long forgotten valley to a landing platform hidden in the distance.

This experience is great for all ages from 6 to our oldest to date at 93 and it’s something that most people can achieve. Above all it’s time out from busy lives, connecting with nature, having fun and achieving something that maybe you didn’t think you could. It’s not mass tourism – it’s small, personal and creates memories that will linger long after the thrill of the final zipline has passed.

So come and experience it for yourself and see why Rotorua Canopy Tours is the number 1 ranked activity on TripAdvisor in the entire North Island.

“This is simply world class and a 100% MUST DO adventure, thrilling, exciting, informative, and above all HEAPS OF FUN. Loved it loved it loved it!!! Ty R, Auckland, TripAdvisor - August 2014

Mention Famously Rotorua when you book a tour and get a half price Go Pro video camera hire to capture your experience.

Tours go from 8am until 4pm every day.

173 Old Taupo Road, Rotorua
(07) 343 1001 or 0800 226 679
hello@canopytours.co.nz
www.canopytours.co.nz
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE BURIED VILLAGE?

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AMAZING GEOTHERMAL ACTIVITY

Waimangu and Rotomahana comprise of 22 volcanic craters created on 10 June 1886 by the eruption of the Mt Tarawera Volcano, which totally devastated this area.

Since 1886, life and the new geothermal system has become established at Waimangu. Described by our visitors as “fantastic” and “amazing”. Waimangu and Rotomahana are must do eco-experiences for those who wish to experience NZ’s unique ecology, botany and geothermal features.

Unique Waimangu: easy walking to Frying Pan Lake, one of the largest hot water springs in the world. Inferno Crater Lake, mysterious and beautiful, rises and falls as it heats and cools. Delicate Sinter Terraces grow from the minerals in the hot spring water. Rare and unusual plants have adapted to grow on the hot earth of Waimangu, amongst the regenerating native forest.

UNSPOILT LAKE ROTOMAHANA

Take a relaxing and informative boat cruise, featuring hot springs, steaming vents and geysers, which can be seen only from our boat. Rotomahana was home to the Pink and White Terraces prior to the 1886 eruption.

This is a Scenic Reserve, Wild Life Refuge and a nature lovers’ paradise. Open 8:30am. Last admission 2.00pm for walk + boat / 3.00pm for walk.

587 Waimangu Road Rotorua.
07 366 6137
07 366 6607
www.waimangu.co.nz
TO DO

Walk through this amazing geothermal landscape in Rotorua’s most active region surrounded by boiling mud and steaming sulphur pools, see a mud volcano and the largest hot waterfall in the southern hemisphere.

At Hells Gate you can get hands on with the earth and the Maori culture as you stroll through this untamed wonderland.

Touch the geothermal mud and do your own Maori carving as a souvenir of your visit. Guided tours operate twice a day at 9.30am and 1.30pm, or walk through the park at your leisure and only a 20 minute drive from central Rotorua.

As New Zealand’s historical site for geothermal bathing, Hells Gate is famous for its unique mud baths, sulphur pools and “health giving” waters. Since the 1840s visitors have travelled to Rotorua to experience these beneficial waters and today, Hells Gate Geothermal Park & Mud Spa invites you to experience this for yourself.

Covering your body in the unique geothermal mud from Hells Gate actively removes any excess oils from within the pores and leaves you feeling very soft and smooth. Cool off under the mineral enriched waterfall before relaxing in the freeform sulphur pool overlooking this unique geothermal landscape.

There is no better way to relax and rejuvenate after a day of Rotorua activities than with a Mud Bath and Spa. If you’re looking for something truly one of a kind try a Wai Ora Miri Miri Massage based on the traditional Maori massage which not only relaxes the body, but through karakia (Maori prayer) relaxes the mind as well. Other therapies available at Hells Gate include Geothermal Mud Facials or Geothermal Mud Body Scrubs for the total Rotorua experience.

Evening bathing is now available in our Twilight Spa - the perfect place to escape it all. Bookings are required for therapies.

Complimentary interactive experiences onsite include wood carving and the use of our genuine geothermal mud foot pool. Our Volcanic Café offers café cuisine with flair from 11am daily and shuttle transfers operate from central Rotorua three times daily – bookings required.
Whether it’s a quick dip in the Rachel Pools, a Mud Bath experience, or a luxurious Spa and Beauty package, QE Health Spa is the perfect place to relax and unwind, as well as heal and rejuvenate.

Many specialty massages such as Therapeutic, Sports, Lymphatic Drainage and Pregnancy are available, as well as our signature Aix Massage—a gentle, relaxing massage experience that embraces the essence of Rotorua. Aix is performed with flowing strokes and use of oils while jets of warm thermal water shower your body.

**THE BEAUTY ROOM**

We complement our health and wellness treatments with The Beauty Room. As Rotorua’s exclusive supplier of Thalgo, the French marine-based beauty range, our facials and body treatments cater for all ages and skin types. Skin Brightening Snowberry facials are also available, along with a full range of waxing, eye treatments and nail care.

**THE WOF**

People wanting to combine a total wellbeing check with relaxation have the perfect opportunity with QE Health’s Warrant of Fitness. There is a growing focus encouraging people to manage their own health care needs in the light of an aging population. The check is designed to give you a snapshot of your health, mobility and fitness levels. The four hour WOF combines a health check, musculoskeletal and fitness assessment. After a short break, warm volcanic mud packs are applied to areas that hold tension such as neck, shoulders and lower back. A therapeutic massage and relaxing soak in the mineral rich Rachel Pools completes your WOF. You are provided with recommendations for potential lifestyle changes which are designed to work alongside your health care providers.

**GOOD HEALTH, RELAXATION AND WELLBEING**

As a spa within a health facility, QE Health Spa combines professional health and wellness expertise with the geothermal resources Rotorua is renowned for; volcanic mud, steam and healing mineral waters.

Come and experience one of our spa treatments, or attend over several days for a health maintenance programme. For more information, visit our website or contact one of our friendly team. Voted Rotorua’s No.1 Spa on Trip Advisor.
A Rotorua based company, Rail Riders Ltd, has developed a world-first way for people to experience the joys of running a railway in your very own powered four seat rail car. The experience is called ‘RailCruising.’

Imagine sitting in your own rail car travelling along a railway line with nothing ahead but the unobstructed curve of the rail stretching out into the distance, with the countryside drifting by and the clickety clack sound of the rail beneath you.

Railcruising was designed to provide for people, just like you, the freedom to experience rail travel in your own personal rail car called a RailCruiser. RailCruising is a special experience to be shared with family and friends. Popular with clubs and community groups, many combine RailCruising with lunch or dinner afterwards at the iconic Mamaku Railway Station. RailCruising is particularly popular with work groups as a Christmas social event.

Based just outside Rotorua, RailCruising excursions depart from Mamaku Railway Station at set times throughout the day. The RailCruisers are designed for riders to stay warm and dry regardless of the weather outside. The rail journey is 19km taking approximately 1-1/2 hours return through the beautiful Dansey Scenic Reserve and rolling farmlands overlooking Lake Rotorua.

Trips depart daily from Mamaku Railway Station at 11.00am, 1.00pm and 3.00pm.

This is an experience not to be missed!

Gift Vouchers
RailCruising Gift Vouchers are a very popular special gift for loved ones, particularly for those who still have fond memories of when rail was once the only way to travel. These can be ordered online. RailCruising is an activity that all the family can enjoy together.

Kaponga Street, Mamaku Village, Rotorua, NZ
0800 72 45 74
info@railcruising.com
www.railcruising.com
WHERE KIWIS PLAY THIS SUMMER

Visit the World’s Largest Kiwi Hatchery and Nursery this summer and get closer to kiwi than ever before. Cool down with a ride on The Big Splash or be entertained in our free-flight bird show.

There has never been a better time to visit Rotorua’s original kiwi wildlife park, with the kiwi hatching in record numbers, the sun shining and the birds in full song in the park.

The National Kiwi Trust at Rainbow Springs is the world’s largest kiwi hatchery and nursery and you can go behind the scenes to see this amazing conservation project on a 30-minute guided tour. New Zealand’s national icon, the kiwi, is super endangered so this is your chance to get a glimpse of the kiwi up close and personal. Take a look at the incubation rooms where the eggs are brought to from the wild; if you’re lucky you may even catch a glimpse of an egg in the hatch process; then wander through to the brooder room, where the baby kiwi stay for a couple of weeks as their health and eating habits are monitored before they head outdoors to grow. It’s just a $10pp upgrade to your Rainbow Springs entry ticket and all proceeds go back into hatching and saving more kiwi! Don’t forget to come back at night to see the kiwi in the outdoor enclosure, under the stars, with just a knee-high fence separating you from the birds.

While you’re walking around the park, join in on one of the many interactive encounters that take place throughout the day – learn about the tuatara, or help the wildlife keepers feed the friendly parrots. A full programme of events is available at www.rainbowsprings.co.nz.

And don’t forget the free-flight bird show – it’s on twice a day during the holidays, at 11.30am and 2.30pm. You’ll see Richie the Macaw in free-flight just above your head and see Charlie the cockatoo’s cheeky antics as he plays games with his handler. Then test your skills at Kāhu’s Rescue Laser Maze before relaxing in the café with a cold drink and ice-cream.

SUMMER DEAL – KIDS GO FREE

This summer, Rainbow Springs is offering a special summer deal and Christmas gift to all visitors with a Kids Go Free promotion. It’s valid for visits from 15th December through until 1st February. Yes, kids get free entry with a full paying adult to Rainbow Springs (valid for maximum 3 children per two full paying adults).

192 Fairy Springs Road, Rotorua, NZ
(07) 350 0440
info@rainbowsprings.co.nz
www.rainbowsprings.co.nz
**SAVE WITH SUPER PASSES**

**See and experience the best of Rotorua at reduced prices with Rotorua Super Passes.**

Rotorua Super Passes is a one stop shop to purchase the best of what Rotorua has to offer. Super Passes gives you flexibility to visit attractions when it suits you and most Passes can be done in one day or spread out over several days. Because we combine many different activities and attractions together to create a Super Pass, we are able to offer significant savings.

There is a wide selection of Passes and packages on offer, ensuring that there is something for everyone, whether it be passive or adventurous.

Try our popular Rotorua Escapade Pass which includes Skyline Gondola with 5 luge rides, choice of 1 ride at Agroventures, entry to either Rainbow Springs or Paradise Valley Springs and a soak in the hot pools at Polynesian Spa.

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**OGO ROTORUA – THE INVENTORS**

In 1994 Andrew Akers and his friend had the idea to walk on water in a big inflatable ball. They soon discovered that there was more fun to be had rolling down hills with water added inside too!!

The first downhill ball rolling was tested at the Akers’ family farm near Kawerau which sparked an idea and created a vision.

Introducing the world’s longest Sidewinder track with six massive corners, you and a friend can laugh, slosh & slide downhill for over 350m. Then why not try out the dual H2OGO Straight Tracks with up to 3 people in each as you race one another down the 250m long course. Not into getting wet? Then try out our newest creation the DRYGO or stick to the head-over-heels craziness of the Harness ride.

There are also two lovely hot tubs to soak in, hairdryers, H2Gear for hire (in case you forgot your swimsuit) & heated changing rooms.

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For bookings and further information visit www.rogoturasuperpasses.co.nz or www.facebook.com/RotoruaSuperPasses

- (07) 349 0388
- res@rotoruasuperpasses.co.nz
- www.rogoturasuperpasses.co.nz
WHAKAREWAREWA, 
THE LIVING MAORI VILLAGE

Nestled amongst a geothermal wonderland sits the Living Maori Village of Te Whakarewarewa. Nau Mai Haere Mai.

Whakarewarewa Village has been home to the Maori people from this area for over 700 years. Learn how our people adapted to the geothermal environment, living in harmony and utilising the natural resources to cook, bath, wash and preserve. Let us share with you our culture, traditions and history as you join one of our guided tours.

View the spectacular landscape of geothermal pools, erupting geysers and bubbling mud pools set in the Whakarewarewa Geothermal Valley. Take the opportunity to experience one of Rotorua’s leading Maori Cultural Performance groups as they serenade you with song and dance.

Your experience with us will not be complete without a Geothermal Hangi Meal, tasting the foods that are cooked within the bubbling hot pools and steaming fumaroles you will see throughout our village.

AWARD WINNING WAI ORA SPA

Internationally acclaimed Wai Ora Day Spa offers quality New Zealand based spa therapies in a contemporary 4.5 star resort setting.

The Wai Ora Day Spa offers a unique range of New Zealand Spa Therapies designed to relax and rejuvenate the mind, body and soul using elements of traditional Maori healing including the Wai Ora Miri Miri Massage, available in both a 30 minute and one hour option.

Pamper yourself with our exclusive Rotorua geothermal mud body therapies, wraps and facials or utilise our full range of beauty therapies. Enjoy the hot pools, steam room and kawa kawa infused sauna while enjoying a glass of wine or tasty platter.

With eight therapy rooms, including two couples rooms, Wai Ora offers a peaceful, private setting ideal for individuals, couples or small groups indulging in a special day out.

Open Daily 9.00am to 9.00pm – reservations required.

Complimentary return Shuttle transport available from Rotorua Central.
VOLCANIC AIR – HELICOPTERS & FLOATPLANES

Located at the Rotorua City Lakefront Volcanic Air offers you the opportunity to view stunning crater lakes, geothermal and volcanic landscapes including Mt. Tarawera and White Island in your choice of floatplane or helicopter.

From the first experience of flight in either a floatplane or helicopter through to the thrill of exploring our stunning lakes district, vibrant geothermal reserves and remarkable volcanoes Volcanic Air have an option for everyone.

Trek the active crater floor of “White Island” New Zealand’s only permanently active volcano or enjoy spectacular views of Mount Tarawera from above before either combining to explore the hidden valley of Orakei Korako or New Zealand’s Hottest geothermal Reserve “Hells Gate”.

Our helicopter and floatplane tours combine to offer the most comprehensive scenic flights in Rotorua and are all available from our convenient downtown Rotorua helipad and floatplane dock. Whatever your timeframe, budget or interest join us for the experience of a lifetime and discover New Zealand’s most unique and diverse landscape!

- Memorial Drive, Rotorua City Lakefront
  - 0800 800 848
  - www.volcanicair.co.nz
  - info@volcanicair.co.nz

River Rats Raft & Kayak have been offering quality adventures for over 30 years. We are Qualmark endorsed and are proud to be the first operation of our kind to receive Qualmark Enviro Gold Certification.

There’s something for everyone, from a gentle grade 2 scenic raft trip suitable for participants as young as 5, through to full-on grade 5 action featuring the world’s highest commercially rafted waterfall.

Kayaking is available as freedom hire or a guided tour. Paddle the local lakes to a secluded beach or enjoy a hot water swim only accessible by boat.

Rafting
- Kaituna (Grade 5) Awesome, with a 21ft waterfall.
- Wairoa (Grade 5) Wild, full-on action. Runs selected Sundays from September to May.
- Rangitaiki (Grade 3 - 4) Adventurous, fun and beautifully scenic.

- 391 State Highway 33, Mourea, Rotorua
  - 07 345 6543
  - www.riverrats.co.nz
  - 07 345 6321
ROTORUA DUCK TOURS
AMPHIBIOUS FUN

Experience the thrill of riding on a WWII Amphibious Landing Craft. Our fully guided sightseeing and informational experiences are an absolute blast.

Rotorua Duck Tours has been providing amphibious sightseeing and history tours of Rotorua since 2003. With 18 magnificent lakes in the Rotorua region, there is no shortage of places to visit. On a guided tour with us you will experience the thrill of riding in an authentic WWII amphibious craft, affectionately known as a “duck”, view spectacular scenery and “splashdown” into pristine lakes.

Our experienced Conducktor will bring Rotorua alive by retelling the most famous stories and legends of the past, as well as providing information about local flora and fauna, as well as the many natural and cultural landmarks. Our tours are very history focused from Māori migration through to geothermal history.

Rotorua Duck Tours has two tours available, the very popular Rotorua City and Lakes Tour (90 min) and the all new Tarawera and Lakes Tour (120 min).

LAKE TARAWERA EXPERIENCE

Highly recommended, fun, cultural and geothermal ecotours for all ages.

YOUR EXPERIENCE

With a 2014 TripAdvisor “Award of Excellence” our exclusive tours speak for themselves. Relax in a natural bush hot pool and experience the unique lake edge geothermal at Hot Water Beach. (Locals cook their freshly caught trout in the hot sand). Learn from your knowledgeable and entertaining guide about the amazing geothermal, volcanic and cultural history of this pristine area, once devastated by the Tarawera volcanic eruption.

OTHER GREAT OPTIONS

Hot pool and sunset dinner at Hot Water Beach; a personally guided cultural day tour that includes Whakarewarewa and Lake Tarawera; a Tarawera Falls walk; Private boat charter from 10 to 40 guests.

TARAWERA TRAIL WALK

Walkers are raving about the new 15km (4.5hr) Tarawera Trail bush and lake edge walk to the Hot Water Beach campsite. Take the boat trip in or out on the lake’s sole water taxi service.

The Landing, Tarawera Road, Lake Tarawera
(07) 362 8080 or (07) 362 8428
info@ecotoursrotorua.co.nz
www.ecotoursrotorua.co.nz
LOOKING AFTER YOUR WELL BEING

Reward yourself with a relaxing experience at The Spa, Millennium Hotel Rotorua.

Warm serene spa waters and soothing treatments await the body looking for relaxation & revival. With a luxurious menu of over thirty different massages, facials, body and beauty treatments, reward yourself with a truly indulgent experience.

Unique to The Spa is the warm bamboo massage, known for its effectiveness in the release of tension, by the rolling of varying sizes of heated bamboo over the body. Feeling refreshed, rejuvenated and renewed, follow on with a soak in the thermally heated spas or try a sauna.

For the ultimate treatment we offer an invigorating Salt Glow Body Polish and detoxifying Rotorua Thermal Mud Wrap, a sense of wellbeing as your body is exfoliated with salt scrub, followed by the application of warm thermal mud, natures cleanser drawing impurities and excess oils from the skin.

The Spa...Something for Everyone

MITAI MAORI VILLAGE CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

A Sacred Place... A Spiritual Place...

Our cultural performance is real, raw and earthy offering a fascinating performance full of emotion and power.

Mitai Maori Village will give you an authentic introduction to Maori Culture leaving you amazed and in awe.

Enter the world of Mitai and be enthralled by the natural bush setting, witness warriors paddling an ancient canoe (waka) dressed in the traditional costume, view a rich and powerful cultural performance which is informative and entertaining – you’ll learn about our past, carvings and tā moko (tattoo art).

Be captivated by the displays of weaponry and combat, coupled with grace and beauty of the poi dance, witness a ferocious Haka, view the uplifting of a traditional earth cooked Hangi as it is being lifted from the ground.

Marvel at the crystal clear water full of eels and trout, flowing directly from the earth at the sacred Fairy Spring, and don’t miss your opportunity to see glow worms in their natural habitat.

Return transport provided from your Rotorua accommodation.

Open nightly with bookings essential.

196 Fairy Springs Rd, Rotorua
(07) 343 9132
reservations@mitai.co.nz
www.mitai.co.nz

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196 Fairy Springs Rd, Rotorua
(07) 343 9132
reservations@mitai.co.nz
www.mitai.co.nz
Off Road NZ has been operating for 21 years and is a sustainable premium adventure experience which will leave you with fun memories.

We offer an extensive range of off road vehicle-based adventures for individuals, couples, families, groups and thrill seekers of any kind.

Come and have a go at driving one of our 4WDs into a journey of the unknown, experience the buzz and adrenaline of racing a kart on our 1 km outdoor circuit or take on our Monster 4x4, it’s huge, it’s loud, it roars with V6 power. You will be excited, challenged and enthralled. Open every day, except Christmas Day, in all weather from 9am - 5pm.

**KAITIAKI RAFT & SLEDGING**

Kaitiaki Adventures are Whitewater Rafting and River Sledging Specialists, blending culture and adventure into an unforgettable experience.

Kaitiaki Adventures is based on the Okere Section of the Kaituna River, mixing the amazing scenery of the river with a Grade 5, 14 Rapids, 3 Waterfall Rafting experience, including the World’s Highest Commercially Rafted Waterfall, 7m Tutea Falls.

All your gear is provided for you by our highly trained and professional staff. Kaitiaki are a Qualmark Rated and Maritime New Zealand approved adventure tourism operator, who are Kiwi and Proud. Experience the Kaitiaki difference today!

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“Licensed To Thrill” We are part of the World’s first Jet Boat company established in 1960.

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Want to experience life on an authentic kiwi farm?

Well it’s worth paying a visit to the Agrodome – one of New Zealand’s most iconic and loved tourist attractions. Located just 10kms north of the Rotorua CBD, the Agrodome is home to the multi-award winning Sheep Show.

Our famous farm attraction features the FARM SHOW with 19 breeds of champion rams, live sheep shearing, cow milking, lamb feeding, dog demonstrations as well as a full New Zealand dog trial.

Our FARM & ORCHARD TOUR gives you the chance to get up close and personal on the land, feed the llamas, deer, ostriches and more sheep! You’ll also visit the kiwifruit orchard, the olive grove and feijoa orchard. Along the way the tour takes a break at the Education Centre for tasting of kiwifruit juice and honey.

Book online, use promo code ‘FAMOUSLY’ & save 15% on your visit!*

*Valid for visits until 30 November 2014. Not valid with any other offer.
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Distinction Rotorua offers guests complimentary, unlimited, high speed WiFi in all guest rooms, and public areas of the hotel. Staying connected whilst being away from home has never been easier.

MODERN, REFURBISHED ACCOMMODATION FOR COUPLES, FAMILIES & BUSINESS TRAVELLERS
From a comfortable superior room to an elegant suite, Distinction Rotorua has a range of recently refurbished accommodation options to suit every traveller’s needs.

Families can choose one of the purpose-built family hotel rooms with 2 bedrooms, or the option of interconnecting superior rooms. For the business traveller, the hotel offers corporate deluxe rooms to relax in after your day of work. Couples will appreciate the spacious and chic suite accommodation, featuring the latest technology and of course FREE WiFi.

SUPERB RESTAURANTS & GUEST FACILITIES
Located only metres from your hotel room door, you’ll be spoilt for choice at Distinction Rotorua’s four on-site restaurants, which serve up tantalising cuisine.

The heated outdoor swimming pool and spa are a great place to entertain the kids, no matter what time of year you visit. Alternatively, get away from it all and venture into the underground private grotto spas for a relaxing soak - all free for guests to use.

390 Fenton Street, Rotorua, NZ
0800 654 789
reservations@distinctionrotorua.co.nz
www.distinctionrotorua.co.nz
The Wai Ora Lakeside Spa Resort offers the ultimate getaway on the edge of Lake Rotorua. Luxury hotel accommodation, fine dining and the internationally acclaimed Wai Ora Spa.

Surrounded by beautiful gardens on the edge of Lake Rotorua, Wai Ora Lakeside Spa Resort is the perfect place to relax and unwind while enjoying the beautiful nature, activities and attractions that Rotorua has to offer. It is conveniently located two minutes from Rotorua International Airport and 10 minutes from central Rotorua. Voted fourth in TripAdvisor’s Travellers Choice Top 25 New Zealand Hotels Award (2013) and ranked in the TripAdvisor 2010-2012 Top Ten Relaxation Spa Hotels in the South Pacific.

Wai Ora Lakeside Spa Resort offers 4.5 star hotel style resort accommodation with 20 deluxe studios and 10 superior suites all overlooking the beautifully landscaped pool and gardens. Room facilities include exclusive Wai Ora bathroom amenities, individually controlled heating and air conditioning systems, tea and coffee making facilities, complimentary fruit bowl on arrival, complimentary high speed internet access (Wi-Fi- Ethernet), LCD television with Sky, 24hr room service, luxurious bath robe and slippers. Complimentary use of our Wai Ora Spa Water Experience facilities including hot mineral pools, spas, steam room and kawakawa infused steam sauna.

WAI ORA SPA
Winner of the World Spa Awards for the last four years. Indulge in the pampering and relaxation therapies of our internationally acclaimed spa featuring the award winning New Zealand Cultural Spa regime which includes the Wai Ora Miri Miri Massage, and products that are unique to New Zealand. Enjoy the couples spa therapy facilities including private spa, couples treatment facility, spa platters, wines and cocktails.

MOKOIA RESTAURANT
NZ Beef and Lamb Award Winner since 2010. Tantalise your tastebuds in our award winning Mokoia Restaurant, reputedly Rotorua’s best fine dining experience featuring the use of indigenous herbs and spices. Relax and enjoy the fine range of New Zealand wines and experience our shared dining concept which allows guests to enjoy a variety of tasty dishes from our a la carte menu. Signature dishes include New Zealand rack of Lamb with Kawakawa, Seared scallops and prawns, or New Zealand Angus eye fillet steak all garnished with unique Pacific Rim flair.
Have you thought about a summer getaway yet?

Cedarwood Lakeside – Motel & Conference Venue would be one of the most relaxing motels in Rotorua. Positioned on two acres of park like surroundings, Cedarwood is located directly on the shores of Lake Rotorua.

With endless views across to Mokoia Island, Cedarwood offers 16 quality, comfortable units ranging from Studios to 2 bedroom Lake Edge Suites. All units are fully self-contained and are spread across the complex which gives the ultimate feeling of a quiet, tranquil break.

Facilities available for your getaway include the in-ground heated swimming pool, outdoor hot tub with stunning views across the lake, private indoor hot tub, BBQ & picnic area, children’s playground, petanque, guest laundry, conference facilities, Wi-Fi, bike shed & wash down area, Blu ray DVD players in every unit, book swap library, minutes from the boat launch, plenty of parking for the jet ski, trailer or boat and information & suggestions readily available to make the most of your visit to Rotorua.

Cedarwood is conveniently located a short 8 minute drive from the city centre and only 2 minutes to the Rotorua International Airport.

Cedarwood is the perfect base to unwind and relax after your exhilarating days exploring the many sights & sounds of Rotorua.

Bookings are filling fast for the upcoming holiday season, so to avoid disappointment, call us today or book directly online via our website.

We look forward to seeing you soon!
SUMMER HOLIDAYS START AT QUEST ROTORUA CENTRAL

Take a break this Summer at Quest Rotorua Central - Rotorua’s newest accommodation provider.

Offering a home away from home experience with fully self-contained apartments in the heart of the city. Five minute walk to restaurants, cafes, bars, shops and supermarkets.

Many guests before you have loved the place:

“The room was very comfortable, nicely fitted out, bed a delight. Loved the balcony and sitting in spa watching sun set over the hills. Location fab, in centre of town but very quiet” (Frances, Auckland. Source: Booking.com 10/10)

“Excellent accommodation, centrally located. I stayed in a beautiful one bedroom apartment which had so much space, good sized kitchen, full sized fridge, so clean and tidy to the highest standard. Staff were amazing and great selection of free movies!!! Handy to supermarkets too. I would definitely recommend Quest Rotorua!” (Danelle, Auckland. Source: Trip Advisor 5/5)

Phone or email direct and save. Quote “Famously Rotorua Summer” to instantly receive a free continental breakfast on your first morning’s stay. Based on minimum two night stay. One breakfast per adult only. Subject to availability.

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Stay two nights and receive a complimentary breakfast each day

Situated in the main tourist centre of New Zealand, Rotorua is the spiritual home to the local Maori and host to some of the world’s most incredible earth forces. We are central to a wide range of tourist attractions, cultural experiences, exciting adventure activities, great trout fishing, world-class golfing, hiking and nature tours, as well as some of the best cycle tracks in the Southern hemisphere. Located 200 km from Auckland International Airport and 10 minutes from Rotorua Airport.

• 18 Modern units: studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units.
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www.fentoncourt.co.nz
For your Rotorua accommodation we offer 63 guest rooms with a choice of studio rooms or family suites. Our Deluxe studios feature king size beds and a corner spa bath. Nine of our 63 rooms are Motel style rooms with parking right outside the door.

The Hotel offers FREE WiFi, 24hr reception, a pool area, fitness room, internet kiosk, onsite parking and guest laundry facilities. Start your day off with a cooked or continental breakfast served in our Q Cafe.

The Hotel offers FREE WIFI, 24hr reception, a pool area, fitness room, internet kiosk, onsite parking and guest laundry facilities. Start your day off with a cooked or continental breakfast served in our Q Cafe.

Self-contained 2 and 3 bedroom town houses set within the grounds of the Marama Resort bordering the shores of Lake Rotorua and the Ohau Channel, just 20 minutes from town and 10 min from the Rotorua Airport.

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Location is Everything

Millennium Hotel Rotorua is perfectly situated close to the central city, adjacent to the Polynesian Spa and only five minutes from the Redwoods Mountain Bike trails.

This deluxe property offers a warm & welcoming feel throughout the 227 rooms with a friendly & professional team ensuring your family stay, romantic getaway or relaxing weekend is a memorable one. Enjoy the upgraded Poolside area or treat yourself at the hotel Day Spa, try the gymnasium, or relax in the thermally heated waters of the outdoor pool, the indoor spas & saunas.

Indulge your taste buds in Restaurant Nikau, or sip away in Bar Zazu. Kick start your day with an extensive buffet breakfast in our Brasserie Poolside Restaurant, or book a meeting in one of the seven conference rooms available. Choose your free parking with over 100 car parks available.

Corner Eruera & Hinemaru Streets
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millennium.rotorua@ milleniumhotels.co.nz
www.millenniumrotorua.co.nz

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ENJOY THE FREEDOM OF YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME AND THE FACILITIES OF THE RESORT.

- Beautiful Natural Surrounding
- Outdoor Pool (not heated)
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- On Site Café
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“OPPOSITE SKYLINE GRAVITY PARK”
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The Resort features a licensed restaurant, bar and conference centre, heated swimming pool, spa pool, hot pool, mini gulf and BBQ area.

A range of units are available, (studio to three bedrooms) also offering you the choice of a private spa.

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The retreats talented chefs are renowned for their fabulous New Zealand cuisine accompanied by the finest internationally acclaimed wines. Peppers on the Point can cater from 2-70 guests for a romantic dinner, special occasion or for no reason at all. Experience Peppers.

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Ledwich Lodge is ideally situated in a quiet location at the lakefront directly in front of the Novotel and Ibis hotels in the central business district within walking distance of the Government Gardens and Lake Rotorua and in close proximity to the Convention Centre, Energy Events Centre, Rotorua and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals. Just 200 metres from Lake Rotorua, Ledwich Lodge offers studio and family units which are fully self-contained and serviced daily. Thermally heated throughout, free parking, heated outdoor swimming pool, wireless internet and tour desk.

The bustling hub of the newly renovated Eat Street” boasts a huge variety of bars and restaurants that will impress even the most discerning diner - offering a mix of fine dining, contemporary and casual eateries. Rotorua’s restaurant scene is a global smorgasbord of gastronomical delights just waiting to be sampled.
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Best street address in Rotorua!
Luxurious Italian marble, granite, schist stonework and timber set the scene for a memorable experience where David Trubridge light frames your dinner setting for an evening that is sure to delight all your senses.

Skilled chefs at their stations craft your cuisine, while cocktail connoisseurs mix and shake at the bar - and the sights don’t stop - there’s also an incredible 180 degree panorama of Lake Rotorua and the city to soak in amongst the atmosphere.

Did we mention the menu? A range of cuisine is presented to tantalise your taste buds, from the tidal mussel tank, ensuring the freshest steamed mussels you can find, to the flame rotisserie, aged prime cuts, Art of the Grill, seasonal salads and the freshly cooked-to-order crepes, we are sure you will leave wanting to come back again and again.

THE FRESHEST NZ PRODUCE

Featuring a stunning array of freshly prepared buffet and cooked-to-order dishes highlighting locally sourced seafood, meat and produce, Stratosfare will take you on a gastronomic journey.

Our commitment to quality begins long before our produce arrives at our pinnacle site. We work in partnership with local NZ farmers and growers who share our commitment to food excellence, from the pasture to the plate.

Our award-winning Wagyu Angus cross fillet steak is just one example. Our prime beef comes from 16,000 hectares of coastal farms near Gisborne. The people of Mangatu Farms have been working their ancestral lands for more than 200 years. They can tell us exactly where the beef has come from, how it was reared and what it was fed.

It’s the little details like these that set our dining experience apart. We think you will be able to taste the difference too.

DRINK IN THE VIEW

Why not combine your Stratosfare dining experience with a Volcanic Hills wine tasting before dinner? The Tasting Room allows you to sample the Volcanic Hills wines, made on site in their winery, while enjoying the views over Lake Rotorua.

Choose a wine to accompany your meal and perhaps a few bottles for the collection at home.

Stratosfare also boasts a fabulous cocktail bar ensuring that your good times will continue throughout the
evening, featuring an extensive wine list with the star Volcanic Hills range amongst other regional wines.

Finish your memorable evening with a spectacular gondola ride back down Mt Ngongotaha taking in the city lights.

BOOK YOUR EVENING AT STRATOSFARE NOW

Stratosfare Restaurant & Bar is located at Skyline Rotorua, Fairy Springs Road, Rotorua. We are open Monday to Sunday for lunch beginning at 11.30am and dinner commencing from 5.30pm.

Pricing is from $54 per adult for lunch including return Gondola trip and dinner from $64.00 per adult. We also offer our night diners the opportunity to upgrade their dining experience from $10 p.p with our Premium Cure Cabinet Cuts range grilled to perfection by our chefs.

We know you’ll enjoy every moment of your dinner experience at Stratosfare and we look forward to welcoming you soon.

To book please call 07 347 0027 or visit www.skyline.co.nz for more information.
From making award winning beer to opening an award winning craft beer pub, the guys from Croucher Brewing are on the roller coaster and hanging on for dear life! Come on down to BREW | Craft Beer Pub and we’ll tell you all about it.

BREW | Craft Beer Pub is Rotorua’s Mecca of great beer.

BREW is owned and operated by Croucher Brewing, Rotorua’s award winning brewery. The natural thermal wonders of Rotorua have made it renowned as the aromatic capital of New Zealand (if not the world), hence our desire to create beautiful rich flavoured aromatic beers.

In April 2011 Paul Croucher and Nigel Gregory from Croucher Brewing decided it was time for Rotorua to have its very own craft beer pub. After six weeks of graft we opened BREW, home to the full range of Croucher Brewing beers on tap, along with an ever changing selection of other great NZ craft beers, wines and ciders.

Grab a ‘tasting rack’ of any four tap beers if you are having trouble deciding where to start.

Need something to eat with your beer? BREW’s Gastropub style menu is both delicious and affordable. BREW is also the only commercial coffee roaster in town.

BREW Rotorua was named best bar and best bartender at the 2013 Rotorua Hospitality Awards.

Regular events include: Tuesday Open Mic Night, BREW Beer Club (first Wednesday of the month), hoppy hour each Friday from 5pm 7pm, and live music with the Sunday Session.

There is simply no good excuse for not visiting BREW in Rotorua (or our brand new pub on The Strand in Tauranga). Come and experience the BREW way of doing things...
CAPERS

A café restaurant that ticks more boxes than Capers Epicurean would be a hard to find. Breakfast, lunch, dinner and great coffee – it covers them all with style. Capers has the look and energetic bustle of a European Café.

Capers is an award winning central city café offering great coffee along with a terrific breakfast, lunch and dinner menu, or choose from the cabinets brimming with a wide range of delights from salads to slices.

The in store deli offers a wide range of gourmet products and ingredients including oils, rubs, preserves, chocolates, teas, balsamic vinegars, dressings, syrups and sauces.

Children love to escape to the newly decorated playroom equipped with building blocks and entertainment in the form of (G) rated children’s videos. There is also a delicious children’s menu that includes the ever popular crunchy munchy picnic plate.

PIG AND WHISTLE

A bar with atmosphere, historical charm and style. Come on in and enjoy the atmosphere of Rotorua’s only historic pub. Centrally located in a classic piece of 1940’s architecture, the Pig and Whistle is a local landmark.

Refreshing drinks, hearty food and live entertainment in combination with friendly staff will make your visit one you will want to repeat.

The pub menu includes favourites like Seafood Chowder, New Zealand Lamb Salad and Pork Spare Ribs, our menu caters for children too. Our snack menu is available from 11.30am till close, 7 days a week and we have a great selection of desserts.

With a wide range of beers by the bottle, and favourites such as Stella Artois, Guinness, Steinlager Pure, Emerson’s Craft Beer and Isaac’s cider on tap, you need look no further than the Pig and Whistle for a refreshing beverage. Emerson’s Craft Beers are brewed in Dunedin, New Zealand and are a success story we are proud to serve you. Their commitment to producing fresh, natural beers places Emerson’s amongst the best in the world.

The Pig and Whistle also has an extensive and varied wine list including Rotorua’s own Volcanic Hills and the ever popular Withers Hills and Mt Difficulty.

The Pig and Whistle have live bands every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night and you can find out who is playing each weekend by checking out our Facebook page.

We have big screen Hi Definition Sky Digital TV so you can catch your favourite sport on one of our big screens. The Pig and Whistle is a great place for a fantastic meal and a catch up with friends.

PIG AND WHISTLE

Cnr Haupapa and Tutanekai Streets, Rotorua
(07) 347 3025
www.pigandwhistle.co.nz

CAPERS

Capers is fresh, colourful and inviting – a fantastic ‘shop window’ for how great the food is here. Another measure of that is how busy Capers is with a lot of regulars.

Capers is a place you want to come back to, relax and explore the menu more. Come and try the award winning formula of great food and superior staff.

CAPERS

1181 Eruera Street, Rotorua
(07) 348 8818
www.capers.co.nz
In 2013 Rotorua’s Michael Huang was named the inaugural Chip Champion to acknowledge his outstanding contribution to the chip industry.

Mr Huang is the owner of Rotorua’s Oppies Takeaways and the award celebrates that he has trained and inspired hundreds of operators throughout New Zealand to follow his example and adopt the Industry Standards for best practice frying.

By following the example set by My Huang, other operators have been able to remove a huge amount of fat from the New Zealand food supply, Chip Group chairwoman Glenda Gourley said.

Chip Group training and education manager Kate Underwood said in Matamata Mr Huang was able to motivate 10 operators to remove 1711kg of fat from that town’s food supply. It showed when individual operators made small changes to their frying techniques it had a big impact on the food supply, she said.

This is the first time the Chip Group has handed out the award and it was reflected Mr Huang’s unique contribution to the industry.
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What do you get when you cross an award-winning tertiary institute with an award-winning city? You get an incredible place to live, learn and grow!

Business and community awards, world-class sporting events and entertainment, New Zealand Aria competitions, Rugby World Cup host, Te Matatini National Kapa Haka Festival host, home of Australasia’s best mountain biking trail network, world-firsts in adventure such as the luge, Zorb, Shweeb and more – all of these and more can be proudly claimed by the place named New Zealand’s Most Beautiful City six times.

Waiariki Institute of Technology is also proud to be a significant part of the vivid and dynamic Rotorua tapestry, and since the tertiary institute first opened its doors more than four decades ago, it and its staff have been regularly gaining recognition for their contributions to this fine city.

**Award-winning institute**
The most recent accolades were received in October when Waiariki proudly accepted The Hits Community Organisation Business Award at the Westpac Rotorua Business Excellence Awards.

This was Waiariki’s second Rotorua Business Excellence Award, having won the same award in 2009.

The Business Excellence Awards is the city’s biggest business event of the year with dozens of Rotorua businesses and individuals vying for awards across 13 categories.

As a community polytechnic, Waiariki is dedicated to creating work-ready graduates who receive the most up-to-date skills and education. Waiariki works with community stakeholders, government and industry to create the best courses and qualifications for its students. The institute also develops new qualifications to fill the gaps in the skills shortage list for the Rotorua region and beyond.

**Top tutors teaching top students**
Waiariki wouldn’t be successful if not for its dedicated and skilled staff – both teaching and administrative – and its students, both of whom have also been recognised by local and national industries.

In October Waiariki agriculture tutor, Greg Brady, was named one of the top agriculture tutors in the country and awarded the AgExcel Excellence in Tutoring Award.

In the same month, Waiariki hairdressing graduate, Lucia Hutton, won the Waiariki-sponsored Apprentice of the Year Distinction Award at the Westpac Rotorua Business Excellence Awards.

Jasdeep Singh, graduate of Waiariki’s Diploma in Hospitality Management, won the Outstanding Waiter Award, while Waiariki hospitality tutor Thomas George received the Restaurant Association of New Zealand Icon of Hospitality Award.

Waiariki Diploma in Fashion Technology student Kharl-William Wirepa entered a collection at the 2014 Miromoda Māori Fashion Design Awards Competition and walked away with both the Supreme Winner and Emerging Designer Awards at the prestigious Māori fashion showcase.
Creating courses that fit the terrain
Waiairiki is well known for particular programmes such as the Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Teaching Early Childhood Education, and business, computing and trades qualifications.
But, did you know that many programmes developed by Waiairiki have been developed specifically for the region to take advantage of our natural resources and major industries?

Tourism and hospitality hot spot
Being located in one of New Zealand’s most-visited cities means Waiairiki’s top-quality programmes in tourism and hospitality are in high demand.
The plethora of tourism operators, hotels, cafés, restaurants and bars means students have plenty of places in which to gain hands-on experience while they study toward a qualification in culinary arts, patisserie and bakery, hotel management, tourism, tourism management and more. This is the place to be to earn a certificate, diploma, degree or graduate diploma in one of these exciting industries, as well as the place to be to start a career.

Primary industries abound
Rotorua is also surrounded by vast forests and farm land and the industries that manage those are always seeking qualified employees.
Waiairiki has been teaching agriculture, dairy, forestry and wood manufacturing for decades and is the country’s largest vocational forestry training institute.

Purpose-built facilities such as the Waiairiki National Centre of Excellence for the Forest and Wood Industry on Mokoia Campus, and the wood manufacturing centre, timber testing lab and gasification plant on Waipa Campus just five kilometres from the city, are world-class facilities that offer hands-on practical training for students and industry workers alike.

Waiairiki’s qualifications are approved by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) and have international recognition.

Applied learning is provided at master’s, postgraduate, graduate, degree, diploma and certificate levels in technical, vocational and professional fields.
Enrolments for Semester 1, 2015 are being accepted now. More information can be found at www.waiariki.ac.nz.

Waiairiki Diploma in Hospitality Management graduate, Jasdeep Singh, won the Outstanding Waiter Award at the 2014 Rotorua Hospitality Awards.

Waiairiki won The Hits Community Organisation Business Award at the 2014 Westpac Rotorua Business Excellence Awards.

 rotoruaNZ.com
It’s no wonder Lake Okareka is regarded as a special haven. A short drive from the inner city of Rotorua, Okareka is a small sheltered lake surrounded by hills and offering the best family fishing in the district.

The area oozes charm, tranquility and a real sense of community spirit. The village settlement comprises long-term renters, holiday home owners and permanent residents, including retired, semi-retired, business owners, young professionals and families.

With a population under 1000, the people of Lake Okareka have a great love for the outdoors and their environment. Fenella Playne is the matriarch of this diverse community, having lived here most of her life. At 80 years of age she continues to play an active role.

There are many other inspiring individuals and families residing in Okareka. They know how to make things happen and have achieved great success driving initiatives to make it an even better place to live, play, and visit.

Out of sight but not out of mind

Key community groups include:
- The Lake Okareka Community Association
- Lake Okareka Fishing Club
- Lake Okareka Volunteer Rural Fire Force - okarekaruralfire.com
- Lake Okareka Tennis Club
- Lake Okareka Preschool - lakeokarekapreschool.co.nz
- Landcare Okareka
- Lake Okareka campsites

If you’re looking to reside somewhere close to the city but far enough away to escape the pressures of ordinary and everyday life, then Lake Okareka could be perfect for you.

Visit lakeokareka.org to find out more about this amazing, caring community.
Pursuing a dream

Chester Boyes

RESIDENT PROFILE

Chester grew up at Lake Okareka and recently moved back after five years travelling around some of the best adventure destinations in the world. Although a qualified engineering geologist, Chester is now pursuing his dream of being a full-time lifestyle-adventure photographer.

How would you describe Lake Okareka as a place to live?

It’s paradise. It’s relaxing. I love the community at Okareka and I have so many good memories of the place. Times change but the community feel and the way of life in Okareka has always been the same – it attracts people who don’t mind being away from the convenience of the city and want to enjoy the lake and everything there is to do out here. There are always things going on, hubs like the volunteer fire brigade and local tennis club are where people can join and take part in the community. You can run, swim, play tennis and wakeboard and not worry about getting home late.

Where have you lived in the last five years?

I have had stints working in Australia with a couple of snow seasons in Chamonix, France, and Fernie, Canada. I lived in Yosemite Valley in California for almost a year and other places in between travelling. Before moving home I was based in New York developing my portfolio as a photographer.

As a young professional, what draws you back to Rotorua?

The lifestyle and variety here is unlike anywhere else I have experienced. Living overseas has given me a greater appreciation for what we have here. Being able to go mountain biking, paddling, surfing or wakeboarding after work every day, and in internationally renowned places, is very unique. It’s also a photographer’s dream. So many cool spots all within driving distance make it such a great place to be based.

To find out more visit chesterboyes.com
An unbeatable work environment

Imagine fishing, wake-boarding, paddling or mountain biking before and after work every day. Living at Lake Okareka gives residents the chance to do exactly that.

The inner city is only a 10 minute drive away, so there are plenty of opportunities to work fulltime, part-time or be self-employed. Lake Okareka also offers the chance to pursue work in the agribusiness, tourism, hospitality, education, health and business consultancy sectors.

Find out what jobs are available on rotoruaNZ.com/jobvacancies
Lucy Playne, owner of Horse Trekking Lake Okareka, has been riding for 40 years across land her family has owned and developed for three generations.

**When did you start?**

We set up business five years ago. Riding horses and enjoying the beauty of the farm has been a passion of mine for as long as I can remember. I love meeting people and showing them our little piece of paradise with its spectacular views over some of the lakes in the Rotorua area and diversity of both farm and bush trekking.

I am passionate about horses and love being around them every day. I love that I get to share my passion of horses and New Zealand landscape with people.

**What do you enjoy most about living and working at Lake Okareka?**

What’s not to enjoy? I’m living the dream. I live down the road in Okareka. I drive around the corner to the farm every day to saddle up my 18 horses. I get to enjoy their different personalities from an ex-racehorse to ‘mobile armchair’. I can’t think of anything I would rather be doing. Horse trekking is certainly a great way to see the beautiful countryside we have here.

To top it all off its loads of fun. The half hour to three hour treks cater for all abilities and follow various routes across 800 hectares of Playne land, which has proved perfect for trekking. We’ve got the amazing views and plenty of land to ride over. The farm is incredibly scenic, has a range of different routes we can take and there’s some amazing bush. It’s a horse paradise, and a rider’s dream.

Being a 15 minute drive to the inner city, I couldn’t think of a better place to live or work.

To find out more visit [treklakeokareka.co.nz](http://treklakeokareka.co.nz)
Depending on the type of business, you can operate from home or set up closer to the city - a quick 10 minute drive away.

Lake Okareka attracts people who certainly have a zest for life and a passion for success, whether it is on a personal, community or a professional level. With a myriad of personalities and backgrounds, Lake Okareka’s community can best be described as dynamic and vibrant. Setting up business in Okareka, or elsewhere in Rotorua, is easy. Geographically, Rotorua is very central, with excellent resources, infrastructure and support in place. There are a number of organisations, including Rotorua Chamber of Commerce and Grow Rotorua to assist you. Here is a quick look at of some business owners living in Okareka:

- Carol Bannister, Careem Wellness Spa (massage, beauty, spa, B&B and retreat services). See careem.co.nz

- Dave and Michelle Umbers, VIP Realty (buying and selling homes). See viprealty.co.nz

- Harm Zuidmeer and Aly Bennett designers and makers of native inspired giftware. Also interior architecture, retail design and spatial planning. See nativecreative.co.nz and studioZedd.co.nz

- Peter Weir, Rotorua Duck Tours (sightseeing tour). See rotoruaducktours.co.nz

If you’re looking to relocate or set up business in Rotorua visit rotoruaNZ.com/do-business
Gregg and Susan Brown

BUSINESS PROFILE

Gregg and Susan Brown own two leading inner city restaurants in Rotorua – Capers Epicurean (capers.co.nz) and the Pig and Whistle Historic Pub (pigandwhistle.co.nz). Both places are consistently praised for great food and service on Trip Advisor, which Gregg and Susan credit to their amazing team of talented and loyal Rotorua staff. They have also set up and operate Lake Okareka Cottage and Loft (lakestay.co.nz) and Susan Brown Celebrant - Weddings, Funerals & Naming Days. With three school-age children, here is what they have to say about Lake Okareka.

What’s special about living in Okareka?

We have lived here for 17 years. The area’s natural beauty and tranquility, the views to Mt Tarawera, proximity to town and distance away from it, and of course the people, are all great reasons for living here. There’s an eclectic mix of good people of all ages. We have supportive neighbours and a strong community that’s environmentally aware and really cares. New residents are warmly welcomed and feel at home straight away.

Why is Okareka ideal to raise a family?

Children here grow up in a rural environment. There is always plenty to do, such as fishing competitions, community projects, and fabulous family-friendly social events at the hall or at the lake. We also have a wonderful pre-school, a good school bus system for the older kids and a great tennis club that brings families together. We have about 50 children being coached on Friday evenings and the tennis club is one of the focal points for the community. Okareka is an easy 10 minute drive from the city.

What’s great about Rotorua?

We love it here! Gregg is a local boy and his parents are here. Above everything else though, we have incredible friends to hang with, along with magic lifestyle choices that are nearly impossible to duplicate anywhere else in the world. We enjoy world class mountain bike trails, beautiful lakes (to swim, ski and kayak on), an outstanding Go Kart track and horse trails and these are all close to motorbike trails, ski fields and fantastic coastal beaches. Rotorua has it all.
Lake Okareka is one of the most beautiful lakes in Rotorua and a residential paradise.

Okareka means ‘bowl of sweetness’. In early times, Maori grew sweet potatoes or kumara around the outside of the lake. Today, there is a sizeable permanent population residing on the western shore of the lake. Apart from its scenic beauty, the lake is popular all year round for various recreational, sporting and cultural activities.

Lake Okareka is also home to popular annual events such as the New Year’s Day Yacht Race (first held in 1974) and the Boyes Beach community Guy Fawkes evening. The tennis club, fire brigade and preschool hall are all focal points for the community.

Must see and do activities at Lake Okareka include:
- A picnic at Boyes Beach
- A night or more in your tent or motorhome at the DOC campsite
- A half or full day picturesque horse trek
- Mountain biking through the forests
- Kayaking around the peninsula or an evening kayak to see the glow worms
- Wakeboarding or waterskiing across glassy waters
- Catching a big rainbow trout
- Lake Okareka, Lake Tikitapu and Lake Okataina scenic walks
- A massage and beauty therapy treats
- Paddling in a waka

For more information about this slice of paradise visit: rotoruaNZ.com/live or lakeokareka.org

Hon Steve Chadwick JP
Rotorua Mayor
Famously Rotorua

LIVE
A residential paradise

WORK
An unbeatable work environment

INVEST
Okareka - close to all the action

rotoruaNZ.com