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FREE
GUIDE

ROTORUA

SUMMER 2012

What's On

VISITOR GUIDE WITH MAPS & VOUCHERS

Skyline Rotorua

See What's Hot
page 14



**SAVE
\$\$\$**

see our fantastic
voucher offers inside

ROT@RUA
feel the spirit
Manaakitanga



©NZ River Jet

New Zealand Riverjet

More than just a jet boat ride! New Zealand's only jet boat thermal safaris combine scenic and action jet boating, with geothermal attractions, nature's flora and fauna, hot pools and fun, informative driver-guide commentary. Start with a scenic jet boat ride on the magnificent Waikato River - see forests, farmlands, wildlife, the Tutukau Gorge and steaming volcanic river banks. Then choose from two geothermal attractions: 1) Thermal Safari - explore Orakei Korako geothermal wonderland with gushing geysers, incredible silica terraces, boiling mud pools, and a rare geothermal cave, or 2) The Squeeze - wade through a hot thermal bush-edged stream, squeeze through moss covered canyon walls, and swim in a natural waterfall-fed hot pool (20°C-40°C). A spin-thrilling high-action jet boat ride concludes the safaris. Want more? Easy! These safaris have optional extensions that include experiencing additional renowned geothermal attractions and a natural bush-setting Maori cultural experience. So climb on board!

Phone 07 333 7111. sales@riverjet.co.nz www.riverjet.co.nz

Rainbow Springs Kiwi Wildlife Park

Rainbow Springs is a place of learning and fun! A stunning kiwi wildlife park where you can get up close and personal with all of NZ's favourite native birds and lizards, including the kiwi and tuatara. Take a behind the scenes look



at the kiwi conservation project and come back at night to see kiwi under the stars in their outdoor enclosure. Just on display our 10 newly hatched baby tuatara and the Behind the Scenes tour at Kiwi Encounter has hatched plenty of kiwi chicks for viewing. In early 2012, a free flight bird show will operate twice daily and "The Big Splash" - an interactive and highly themed water ride will open. Pricing is \$30 per adult and \$17.50 per child. \$5 additional for a Behind the Scenes tour of Kiwi Encounter.

Fairy Springs Road, Rotorua. phone 07 350 0440,
info@kiwiencounter.co.nz, visit www.rainbowsprings.co.nz



©Buried Village

Buried Village

A place of exceptional beauty has been created around the fascinating remains of a settlement buried by the eruption of Mount Tarawera in 1886. Before the eruption took place, Te Wairoa was the base for visitors setting out on guided tours of the world famous Pink and White Terraces. Today at the Buried Village an award winning Museum houses many precious objects dug from the ruins, guides in period costume escort groups through the excavated sites and the walk to the base of one of NZ's most stunning waterfalls should not be missed. Delicious food including Devonshire teas are served in the Café and distinctive gifts are available in Smith's Store. The Buried Village is located fifteen minutes from Rotorua on one of the districts most scenic drives.

Open daily from 9:00am (except December 25).
Adults \$31; children \$8; family pass \$62

1180 Tarawera Road, Rotorua, for bookings phone (07) 362 8287,
[email discover@buriedvillage.co.nz](mailto:emaildiscover@buriedvillage.co.nz) or visit www.buriedvillage.co.nz

The Blue Baths

From an illustrious beginning as a 30's Bathhouse - today the Blue Baths provides a spectacular venue for a night out with friends or for your private event. This summer sees the launch of Emerge - a professional mentoring programme for 20 of New Zealand's finest young musicians, actors, dancers and singers.

Enjoy their live music over fine wines, platters and tapas at the venues stylish new Wine bar - Summertime. Set in the original foyer and terrace area, open daily from 3.00 pm.

1931 - The Show! This musical theatre extravaganza takes you back to the electrifying heyday of swing. With jazz band, dance troupe, stunning vocal performances and comedy - 1931 is an absolute 'must-see' this summer!

The Blue Baths, Government Gardens, Rotorua. phone 07 350 2119.
shows@bluebaths.co.nz www.bluebaths.co.nz





©Skyline Rotorua, The Luge

Skyline Rotorua

Skyline Rotorua is an all weather all year round attraction suitable for all ages. Only 5 minutes drive from the Rotorua CBD, and set into the side of Mt Ngongotaha, Skyline Rotorua – Higher Views, Wider Smiles.

View - Gondola

The Skyline Gondola is the best way to see the most spectacular views in Rotorua. Take a ride in our 8 seater gondola, the first of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere you will enjoy a 487 metre ride up the side of Mt Ngongotaha.

Taste - Cableway Restaurant

Open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner this restaurant is known for its stunning 180 degree views over the city of Rotorua, Lake Rotorua and Mt Tarawera.

Thrill - Luge – Once is never enough

A world first proudly designed and built in Rotorua. This fun filled gravity ride on a 3 wheel cart uses a unique steering and braking system providing the rider with full control. With 3 Luge tracks of varying terrain ranging from the Scenic Track to the Advanced Track, the Luge is a great fun filled family activity.

Additional Activities include: The Sky Swing, Skyvue 4D Motion Theatre, Simply NZ Souvenir Shop, Scenic Walking Tracks and scenic helicopter flights. Terraces Café is also available for more casual / alfresco dining. Open 7days, 9am – late.

Fairy Springs Road, Rotorua. Phone + 64 7 347 0027. rotorua@skyline.co.nz
www.skyline.co.nz

U-Fly Rotorua

U-Fly Rotorua offers a personalised 2 in 1 scenic flight experience plus the fun chance to fly the plane. You fly over the eastern volcanic lakes, Mt Tarawera and the geothermal wonderlands - Waimangu and Wai-O-Tapu. We offer three scenic flight options starting from 20minutes at \$199.00. Scenic flights cater for a maximum of 1 passenger at a time. The brand new Tecnam Series plane is one of the latest of its kind environmentally friendly with less noise pollution will ensure that you have a comfortable as well as spectacular scenic flight. U-Fly Rotorua operates from 9am-5pm daily (weather permitting) with courtesy transfers from Central Rotorua. U-Fly Rotorua is based at the Rotorua International Airport.

Ph: +64 21 029 76281. Free Phone: 0800 02U FLY info@u-flyrotorua.co.nz
www.u-flyrotorua.co.nz



River Rats

River Rats have been offering quality adventures for almost 30 years. There's something for everyone, from a gentle grade 2 scenic raft trip down the Rangitaiki River- suitable for participants as young as 5- through to full on grade 5 action on the Kaituna River which features the world's highest commercially rafted waterfall! If you are lucky enough to be around Rotorua this summer on one of the Sundays we raft the Wairoa River come join the trip that the locals love! This ultimate Grade 5 river is only available 26 days a year and is the most technical of rafting trips we offer. It combines turbulent rapids with exciting drops all encompassed in stunning New Zealand scenery.



©River Rats

River Rats Raft & Kayak, 391 SH33, Mourea, Rotorua
Phone: 0800 333 900 info@riverrats.co.nz www.riverrats.co.nz

Escape Cruises – Lake Rotoiti

Escape Cruises offers you the opportunity to enjoy the wonderful picturesque Lake Rotoiti up close. Our luxury pontoon boat is like a lounge room on the water with plush seating, carpeted floors and a changing room when the excitement changes a gear. Whether you want to swim, fish or just relax a while, our pontoon boat has the perfect solution no matter what your mood. The beautiful Lake Rotoiti has many bays to explore, so leave the crowds behind and claim your spot in paradise. The onboard changing room allows for many changes of activity during the cruise so don't hesitate to step it up. The pristine fresh water surroundings mean a swim is a must, but don't worry, a hot soak in the thermal springs will soon warm you up. The unique Manupirau Thermal Springs are only accessible by boat so come on board with us for a visit. The comfortable seating and the onboard tables means you can enjoy refreshments on the move.

For bookings or enquiries on one of our standard cruise options please call: Free phone 0508 Escape (0508 372273) or www.escapecruises.co.nz



©Escape Cruises



©Buried Village

Exhibitions

3 December-5 February, Bohemians of the Brush

Bohemians of the Brush takes us on a visual journey with James Nairn and his colleagues, who, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries went against the mainstream to develop a unique, New Zealand Impressionist style of painting. Phone 07 350 1814. rotoruumuseum@rdc.govt.nz

Venue: Rotorua Museum, Government Gardens. www.rotoruumuseum.co.nz

10 December-22 April, Brian Brake: Lens on the world

Developed and curated by Te Papa, this stunning exhibition features over 150 works by internationally acclaimed photographer Brian Brake. It is the first comprehensive retrospective of this notable Magnum photographer's work, and spans his forty-year career. Phone 07 350 1814. rotoruumuseum@rdc.govt.nz

Venue: Rotorua Museum, Government Gardens. www.rotoruumuseum.co.nz

To 19 February, A Catalogue of Wonders

Curated by Damian Skinner, A Catalogue of Wonders presents highlights from the Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust Heritage Collection, revealing the rich heritage of artworks that have been collected as a visual 'catalogue of wonders' from the Rotorua region. Phone 07 350 1814. rotoruumuseum@rdc.govt.nz

Venue: Rotorua Museum, Government Gardens. www.rotoruumuseum.co.nz

Daily, Nga Waru Pu Manawa Gallery – Te Puia: Kupe Sites

A unique encounter with New Zealand's past as it portrays the stories of the great Polynesian explorer Kupe, using various landmarks and places.

Venue: Te Puia, Hemo Road (southern end Fenton Street), phone 348 9047, visit www.tepuia.com

Daily, The Buried Village

The museum houses many hundreds of objects dug from the ruins of Te Wairoa village, the settlement buried by the eruption of Mount Tarawera in 1886. Daily from 9am-4.30pm.

Venue: Tarawera Road, phone 07 362 8287, email discover@buriedvillage.co.nz or visit www.buriedvillage.co.nz



Ngā Pūmanawa o Te Arawa

Daily, Rotorua Museum

Discover the fascinating stories which have shaped the Rotorua region. Permanent exhibitions include the stunning new gallery Nga Pamanawa o Te Arawa – The Beating Hearts of Te Arawa, the history of the Rotorua spa, the exciting Rotorua Stories cinema experience and much more. Phone 07 350 1814.

Venue: Rotorua Museum, Government Gardens.

www.rotoruumuseum.co.nz. rotoruumuseum@rdc.govt.nz

Music

4 December, Christmas Pops - The Heartland Tour

The perfect way to capture the happy spirit of the festive season with those you love! Invite family and friends out for an evening of fun with the NZSO! 7:30pm. All Ages. 0800 111 999.

Venue: Civic Theatre, 1170 Fenton St. www.nzso.co.nz

16 December, Carols by Candle Light

Choir, band and solo artists, plus entertainment for the children are featured. Lighting the candles after dark is the highlight of the evening. Sausage sizzle and food stalls available. Gold coin donation.

Contact Wayne hall: 07 345 3867 hallhousehold@actrix.co.nz

Venue: Kuirau Park.



Carols by Candle Light



©The Blue Baths



Raggamuffin Festival



Pig & Whistle



Soundshell Markets

27 & 28 January, Raggamuffin Festival

With over 12 hours of great reggae, roots and funk with a dash of RnB and hip hop, two stages and twice as many artists than ever before, this will be our hottest event yet. Tickets at www.ticketmaster.co.nz 0800 111 999.

Venue: Rotorua International Stadium, Devon St, Rotorua. www.raggamuffin.co.nz

First Wednesday of every month, BOP Blues Club/Jam night

This is an opportunity to network with others who love the blues, both musicians and enthusiasts. \$5 door charge or free to BOP Blues Club members and participating musicians. (Door charge may vary on nights with featured guest musicians). www.bopblues.com

Venue: The Belgian Bar, 1151 Arawa Street, Rotorua, ph 07 3486190, info@bopblues.com

Wednesday-Sunday, Live Music at the Pig & Whistle

The historic Pig and Whistle pub has a live band every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, and a solo guitarist on Wednesday and Sunday nights.

Venue: The Pig and Whistle Historic Pub, Cnr Haupapa and Tutanekei Streets, Rotorua, phone 07 347 3025, www.pigandwhistle.co.nz

Daily, The Blue Baths

Enjoy live music, 30s ambience and stunning views over Government Gardens, all while indulging in fine wines, platters and tapas at The Blue Baths stylish new Wine bar - Summertime. Set in the original foyer and terrace area, from 3pm. 07 350 2119. shows@bluebaths.co.nz

Venue: The Blue Baths, Government Gardens. www.bluebaths.co.nz



©Rotorua A&P Show

Special Events

4, 11, 17, 18, 26 & 27 December, 2, 3, 4, 15, 28 & 29 January, 4, 5, 26 February - Soundshell Market

Take a stroll and enjoy the huge variety of indoor and outdoor stalls, with crafts, curios, collectables, great food and coffee. A fabulous way to spend the day at our lovely Lakefront. Free entry and plenty of free parking. 9am-3pm.

Venue: Rotorua Soundshell, Memorial Drive, Lakefront.

29 January, NZ Body Painting Festival

Live entertainment, judged competitions, body painting workshops. Maori Myths and Legends theme. Phone 09 486 8028. 027 687 3444. info@bodyartawards.co.nz

Venue: Taupo. www.nzbaa.co.nz

28 & 29 January, Rotorua A & P Show

Agricultural & Pastoral show - Held on one of NZ's most picturesque show grounds which is also the venue of the famous Agrodome and Adventure sight. Lots of yummy food and trade sites plus great entertainment. A great family day out. 8:30am-5:00pm. Phone 07 357 2979. rotoruaashow@xtra.co.nz

Venue: Rotorua A&P Showgrounds, Western Road, Ngongotaha. www.ras.org.nz

4 February, Wooden Boats Cruise with Pure Cruise

Join a special Pure Cruise sail to see the Lake Rotoiti Classic and Wooden Boat Association's 15th annual flotilla of classic and wooden boats. 9am to 1pm. Contact: Tina Masters. 0800 272 456. info@purecruise.co.nz

Venue: Lake Rotoiti. www.purecruise.co.nz

6 February, Waitangi Day Celebration - 'WHAKANUIA'

A celebration involving the entire community, with entertainment, food stalls, arts and crafts, wearable arts and so much more from our African and wider communities. Entry by gold coin donation for locals. For more information please contact Renee Raimona 021 741 210 or 07 349 3463 or renee@whakarewarewa.com

Venue: Whakarewarewa Thermal Village, 17 Tryon Street.



Te Puia



Whakarewarewa



Tamaki Maori Village



Mitai Maori Village

Daily, Te Puia

Watch Maori artisans at work, join the guides for a tour (on the hour from the main courtyard), or experience Te Po, an evening feast of cultural performance with storytelling, entertainment and Maori kai (indigenous food).

Venue: Te Puia, Hemo Road (southern end Fenton Street), phone 07 348 9047, visit www.tepuia.com

Daily, Whakarewarewa – The Living Thermal Village

Discover the living culture of Whakarewarewa with guided tours hourly, and a cultural performance at 11.15am and 2pm.

Venue: Whakarewarewa – The Living Thermal Village, Tryon Street, phone 07 349 3463, visit www.whakarewarewa.com

Daily, Tamaki Maori Village

A unique blend of guided tour, storytelling and character theatre that traces the story of a young Maori warrior, Uitara.

Venue: Tamaki Maori Village, 1220 Hinemaru Street, Rotorua, phone 0508 TAMAKI, visit www.globalstorytellers.com

Daily, Mitai Maori Village

An authentic cultural experience incorporating a ground-cooked hangi meal, cultural performance, waka and a guided bush walk including glow worms.

Venue: 196 Fairy Springs Rd, Rotorua, phone 07 343 9132, visit www.mitai.co.nz

Daily, Agrodome Show

Enter the world of a New Zealand farmer and experience the famous Agrodome Sheep Show daily at 9.30am, 11am and 2.30pm.

Venue: Agrodome, Western Road, Ngongotaha, freephone 07 357 1050, visit www.agrodome.co.nz



Rotorua Christmas at the Races

Daily, Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland

Watch the famous Lady Knox Geyser erupt, reaching heights of up to 20 metres. Daily at 10.15am.

Venue: Wai-O-Tapu Loop Road, Off State Highway 5, Rotorua, phone 07 366 6333, visit www.geyersland.co.nz

Daily, Waimangu Volcanic Valley

Walking, hiking and boat cruises in the world's youngest geothermal area.

Venue: 587 Waimangu Road, Rotorua, phone 07 366 6137, visit www.waimangu.com

Daily, Kiwi Encounter at Rainbow Springs

Visit the hatchery and nursery on the 45 minute guided Kiwi Encounter – tours hourly between 10am and 4pm.

Venue: Rainbow Springs, Fairy Springs Road, freephone 0800 724 626, visit www.rainbowsprings.co.nz

Daily, Paradise Valley Springs

See New Zealand and exotic wildlife and watch the lions being fed daily at 2.30pm.

Venue: Paradise Valley Springs, 467 Paradise Valley Road, phone 07 348 9667, visit www.paradisev.co.nz

Sports

1 December, Rotorua Christmas at the Races

Rotorua Racecourse rocks at Christmas time with this special festive favourite. It's an occasion not to be missed with live entertainment, great food and thrilling thoroughbred racing action. All ages. 11:45am–5:30pm. Free.

Where: Arawa Racecourse, Fenton Street. www.theraces.co.nz



Wai-O-Tapu



Rainbow Springs



Paradise Valley Springs



Blue Lake Multisport

1931
The Show

28 & 29 January, Blue Lake Multisport Festival

With five events over two days there is something for everyone. Races are an aquathon (5.5km run, 800m swim), open water swim (incorporating the 2km Hinemoa Swim, 750m option available) and the Sprint Triathlon (individuals and team entries). There is also a fun run around the lake. Enquiries to info@rats.org.nz or see website for entry details.

Venue: Blue Lake. www.rats.org.nz

25 & 26 February, Relay for Life

A celebration and awareness-raising event which involves team members walking or running around a track for 22 hours - the team must always have one member on the track. A festival atmosphere is created by team members camping out and enjoying entertainment. The event is open to everyone! 12- 2pm. 07 349 4556.

Venue: Rotorua International Stadium, Devon St West. www.relayforlife.org.nz

Theatre, Comedy & Dance

7&8 December, The Royal New Zealand Ballet presents The Sleeping Beauty

Set to Tchaikovsky's soaring score, The Sleeping Beauty tells the timeless story of young Princess Aurora who falls prey to the evil fairy Carabosse – only a kiss from a handsome prince will break the spell and ensure her future happiness. \$25 - \$140. 0800 BUYTICKETS or www.buytickets.co.nz

Venue: Civic Theatre, 1170 Fenton St.

10 December, The B Party

Boogie on down at our BBQ buffet beach bash at the beautiful Blue Baths! Dress up as anything starting with B - there's prizes for the best! So bling it up baby, book now and bring it on! 7:30pm-12am. R18 Adult: \$80. 07 3502119.

Venue: Blue Baths, Queens Drive. www.bluebaths.co.nz

To February, 1931 – The Show!

This musical theatre extravaganza takes you back to the electrifying heyday of swing. With jazz band, dance troupe, stunning vocal performances and comedy – 1931 is an absolute 'must-see' this summer! Tickets from \$45pp. Book at The Blue Baths or online. 07 350 2119. shows@bluebaths.co.nz

Venue: The Blue Baths, Government Gardens. www.bluebaths.co.nz

For further information visit www.rotoruaNZ.com/events



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