



SOLITAIRE LODGE  
LAKE TARAWERA • ROTORUA • NEW ZEALAND

*experiences*



*The Central Plateau region of New Zealand has drawn visitors from early settlement times, initially to see the now lost Pink and White Terraces, and continuing with the unique geo-thermal and cultural attractions around the city of Rotorua. Solitaire Lodge enjoys a spectacular position on historically important Lake Tarawera with many natural experiences available from Lodge Grounds or Jetty. Our selection of experiences showcases significant elements of this region with guiding and hosting services to match.*





## *Tarawera Thermal Springs*

(Approx. 75mins round trip)

Take a 15 minute private launch excursion to the natural hot springs of Lake Tarawera. Best accessed pre breakfast, - enjoy soaking in thermal waters rising gently through the lake bed as the morning sun filters through native bush.







## ***Tarawera Falls Hiking Trail***

(3 hours easy hike)

This half day experience starts with a short speedboat trip to the trout laden Tarawera outlet stream, - the starting point for the scenic hike to the Tarawera Falls. The stream is the outlet for several lakes and eventually heads underground to emerge later as a spectacular 200 foot high waterfall.

Walk through native bush alive with Pohutukawa and Rata trees and the chirping of the Tuis, Fantails and Kereru birds. Rest at swimming holes along the way and indulge in a picnic lunch to the rhythmic background of cascading waters. Return transfers included.





## ***Rainbow Trout Fishing***

(3 hours - tailored to the needs of beginners and skilled fisherman)

The Hamill family have been fishing stalwarts in the Rotorua region for many years. Departing from Solitaire Lodge's Jetty, John Hamill's generous Catamaran takes you on a private lake excursion jigging and trolling to proven fishing grounds. Lake Tarawera boasts the largest water volume in the Lakes District, at an average of 200ft deep, and is the ideal spawning ground for Rainbow Trout. Catching 4 to 5 pound trout is a regular occurrence, the excitement of which is only matched by the lure of the chase, and the enjoyment of fresh trout prepared for you by our Chef.

Another option is to combine a bathe in Lake Tarawera's natural hot springs, followed by breakfast on board and then a fish, - all in half a day.





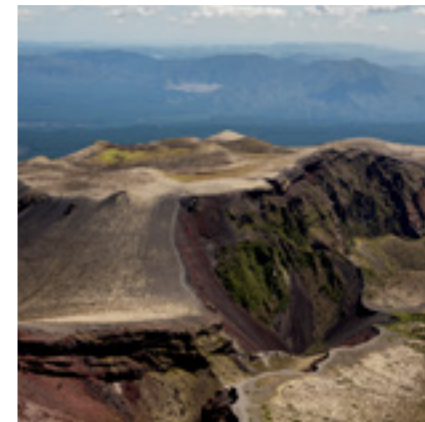
## *Helicopter to Whakaari (White) Island & Mount Tarawera*

(3.5 hours – includes professional tour guide)

Experience an unforgettable trip to New Zealand's most contrasting volcanoes, from the steaming crater floor of White Island to the exposed summit of Mount Tarawera. Departing from the Lodge helipad the tour takes you first to land and enjoy a guided tour of Whakaari (White Island) an active volcanic crater alive with constant rumblings. The sulfurous lush beds on the yellow crater floor give a "moon like" appearance. The Mount Tarawera landing boasts spectacular views over surrounding

lakes as well as the vast 8km crater of this now dormant triple cone volcano. The 1886 volcanic eruption and Maori legends are described while you absorb the spectacular views of the geothermal surroundings.

Other trip highlights include circling the Tarawera Falls, sighting marine life on the way, passing the steaming Donne Cliffs and flying overhead the natural thermal springs.







## ***White Island, the Eruption Trail and the Legend of Mokoia***

(3.5hours includes professional tour guide)

The flight intercepts the fault line above the steaming cliffs of Lake Rotomahana to gain an aerial view of the 8 km crater on Mount Tarawera. This void was formed from the destruction wreaked by the 1886 eruption of Mount Tarawera that also destroyed the once famous Pink and White Terraces. The Tarawera River exits as a 200 foot high waterfall cascading through a fissure of the ancient lava flow. A coastal flight path allows for landing on White Island. There are good opportunities to view sea life on the way.

White Island yields an active volcano with a barren and almost lunar landscape brought to life by the constantly steaming Crater Lake and active volcanic activity. On this crater floor you will view fumaroles (volcanic vents), colourful sulphur formations and hot streams. During your walk, learn about White Island's unique history and geology from your pilot/guide.

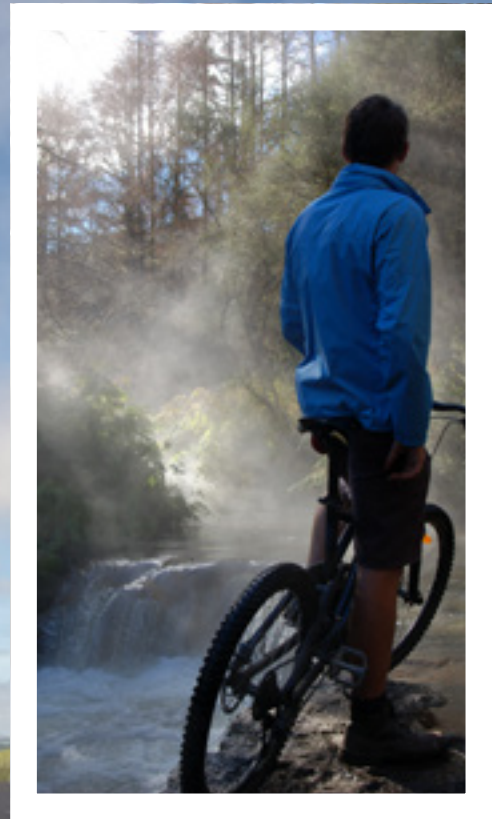
The following 30 minute flight lands on Mokoia Island, this sanctuary is steeped in culture, history and provides a tranquil and contrasting experience of the sights and sounds of native birds, - Saddleback, North Island Robin and Tui are abundant. The walk also takes in Hinemoa's Pool a geothermal hot pool, famous and central to the legend of Hinemoa and Tutanekai, - The Maoridom's most famous love story. The flight then passes over Lake Rotorua returning to Solitaire Lodge.



## ***Thermal By Bike***

(74km trail – leisurely 5 hours)

From a nearby junction, take the lush forestry trail past Rotokakahi (Green) Lake, Tikitapu (Blue) Lake and untouched forests to meet the geo-thermal cycle trail. Highlights along the route include a natural hot stream for soaking, Rainbow Mountain (a smoldering mountain of coloured earth and unique plant species), the Waimangu and Wai O Tapu valleys with steaming and multi coloured lakes. There is also a local bar and cafe to refuel. Thermal bathing is available at Waikite pools where you will be collected for return to the Lodge.





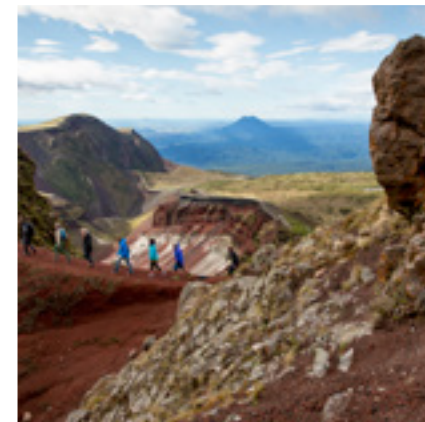


## *4WDrive and Hike to the Summit of Mount Tarawera*

(3hour tour with professional tour guide)

Your guide from the indigenous Ngati Rangitihi tribe, the Kaitiaki or 'Guardians of the Mountain', will drive you by private vehicle to the foot of the magnificent Mount Tarawera. There you will ascend part of the Maunga by 4WDrive, before beginning a hike to the 1111m Summit.

Along the way your guide will delight you with stories of the 1886 volcanic eruption and the area's colourful Maori legends including the tale of the mysterious Phantom Canoe. Enjoy lunch on the peak followed by the descent into the crater before returning to the vehicle for return to the Lodge.





## *Activity*



### *Lodge Activities*

Kayaks, Dinghies and Swimming – from Lodge jetty and Lakeshore



### *River Fly fishing*

With expert guide, journey to back country streams



### *Mountain Biking*

Through Rotorua's iconic forest trails



### *Horse Trekking*

On the local Lake Okareka farm overlooking nearby lakes

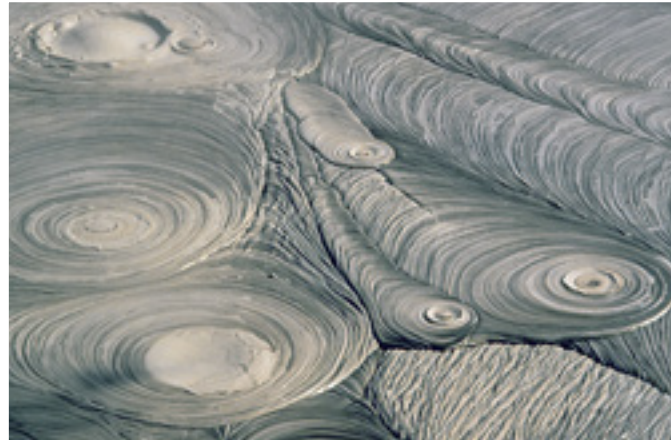


## *Tours*



### *Maori Guided Tour of Rotorua*

See Rotorua from a local's perspective



### *Thermal Park visits (Te Puia, Wai O Tapu, Waimangu)*

Offering unique viewing of geo thermal wonders



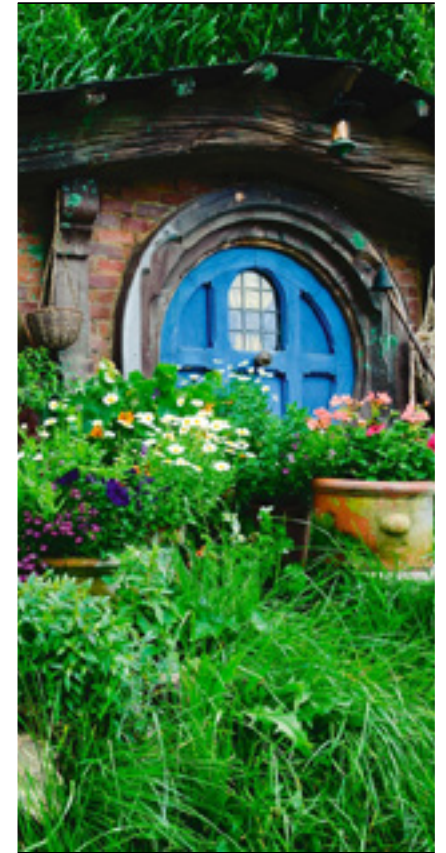
### *Rotorua Museum*

Showcasing the beginnings of tourism and the lost terraces



### *Central Plateau Road Tour*

From mountains to desert wilderness, snow to thermal, all in one day



### *Hobbiton Movie Set*

Rings and The Hobbit. The tour starts with a drive through the picturesque 1,250 acre sheep farm with spectacular views across to the Kaimai Ranges. Your fully escorted tour through the ten-acre site will reveal fascinating details of how the Hobbiton set was created.



## *Adventure*



*White Water Rafting*

Another adrenalin filled Rotorua experience



*Jet Boating Huka Falls*

Thrill seeking and scenic waterfalls



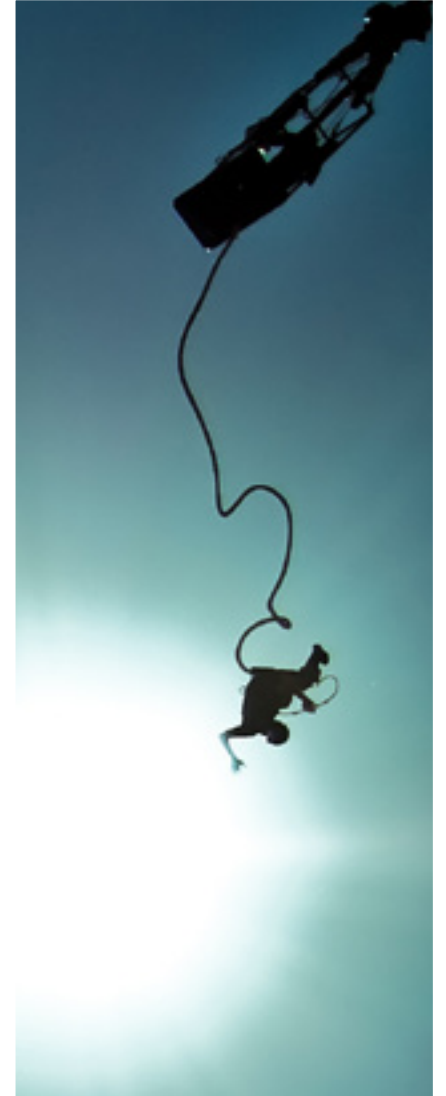
*The Luge*

Cart racing for the young at heart



*The Zorb*

A wild ride in an encapsulated ball



*Bungy Jumping*

A Kiwi invention available in Rotorua