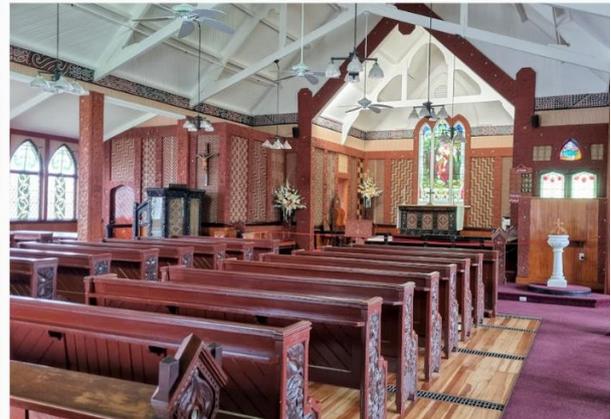




RELAX & REJUVENATE IN SPRING  
Women's only long weekend

30 Sep - 03 Oct 2021

# Rotorua NZ



**Roam**  
Travel Adventures

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## Thu 30 Sep 2021

Please arrive by midday. You will be picked up from Rotorua airport and transferred into town. If you live in Cambridge/Hamilton area we can pick you up this morning and drive to Rotorua.

Welcome to Rotorua - a fascinating town where you will witness plumes of steam rising out of the ground in all sorts of places, boiling water and jumping mud, a distinctive smell of sulphur, Maori culture, stunning lakes, picturesque forests, and tracts of native bush.

At **Te Puia** we have an afternoon guided tour of the geothermal wonderlands where you'll get up close to Pōhutu Geyser and bubbling mudpools, watch master carvers and weavers at work, and even see our native flightless bird – the Kiwi.

Spring is the perfect time of year to visit Rotorua. Enjoy a stroll around the colourful **Government Gardens** which will be brimming with tulips and other spring flowers. There are several elegant historic buildings in this area including the Museum and Blue Baths.

By late afternoon we will be roaming amongst giant upright Redwood trees on easy paths. Let the serenity of the majestic **Whakarewarewa Forest** wash over you - a great way to unwind and ease into your short break.

After dinner at the nearby **Good Eastern Taphouse**, we return to the forest for a **magical night walk** through the treetops on eco-suspended bridges and platforms. If you thought the forest was enchanting in daylight, wait until you see it in the dark lit up by fabulous David Trubridge designed lanterns!

## Fri 01 Oct 2021

We have a big day of exploring and after breakfast will set off on our adventure. We drive through the living Maori settlement of **Ōhinemutu** on the shores of Lake Rotorua. There are several maraes located here, while soldiers of Te Arawa lie in the urupa at the lake's edge. We are here to visit **St Faith's Church** and a guided tour of its rich history and interesting artwork, carvings, weaving, and stained-glass windows.

At **Wingspan**, we'll have a unique educational experience learning all about New Zealand's birds of prey including our Falcon, Swamp Harrier, Morepork and Barn Owl.

Enjoy a picnic lunch at **Hamurana Nature Reserve** and a pleasant walk to see the natural springs. Time permitting, we will have a swim in a hot river.

Prepare to get muddy at **Hells Gate!** The healing properties of the geothermal mud will open your pores and clean your skin before you exfoliate and cleanse with a soak in sulphur mineral water.

After two hot swims, you might need a wee lie down back at the hotel! This evening, we'll meet for drinks and then dine in one of the many tasty restaurants on nearby **Eat Street**.

## Sat 02 Oct 2021

This morning we drive out to **Waimangu Volcanic Valley** and explore the world's youngest geothermal valley. On our picturesque nature walk you will view volcanic craters, enormous hot water springs and colourful geothermal features. We'll take a boat ride on one of New Zealand's deepest lakes, Lake Rotomahana and learn all about the legendary eruption of **Mt Tarawera**. Picnic lunch onboard.

In the afternoon we drive past the Blue and Green Lakes to **Te Wairoa Museum**. The eighth wonder of the world once graced this area – the Pink & White Terraces were certainly world-famous and widely visited up until June 1886 when Tarawera erupted and totally obliterated the landscape. The Museum is extremely interesting, and we will have a good amount of time to take in the exhibits and walk through the archaeological site.

This evening we travel by **gondola up Mt Ngongotaha** for wine tasting and dinner. There are no grapes grown in the area but the clever people from **Volcanic Hills** bring together the best grapes from each NZ wine region to produce their own wine. From here we wander across to the **Stratosphere Restaurant** for dinner overlooking Rotorua.

### **Sun 03 Oct**

The tour ends after breakfast today and there will be scheduled transfer times to the airport. We recommend you take an afternoon or evening flight out allowing you more time to explore.

If you find yourself with the morning free, there is plenty to do in Rotorua, eg. Canopy tours (ziplining/high ropes), 3D Trick Art Gallery, Polynesian Spa.

If you have the day free, we recommend walking one of New Zealand's undiscovered secrets - the 15km Tarawera Trail. An absolutely stunning walk with a rewarding geothermal lake swim at the end. Walk one way and return by water taxi!

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#### **Cost:**

NZ\$1735 per person twin share

NZ\$530 single supplement

#### **Includes:**

- Tour Escort
- Transportation by minicoach
- Scheduled airport transfers on Day 1 and Day 4
- 3 nights accommodation 4\* centrally located hotel
- Daily buffet breakfast, two picnic lunches, one dinner, one wine tasting
- Sightseeing as specified
- Entry to Te Puia, St Faiths, Wingspan, Soda Spring swim, Hellsgate mud bath & spa, Redwoods Twilight Walk, Waimangu Valley, Te Wairoa Buried Village

#### **Excludes:**

- Flights
- Meals not specified
- Refreshments
- Items of a personal nature and optional excursions