

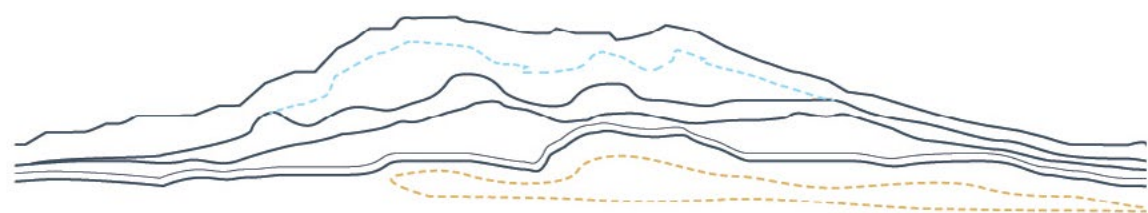
i-SITE Visitor Information Network Conference : Ruapehu

**ENGAGING
IN EXCELLENCE**
CONFERENCE 2017



2017
FAMILS





ENGAGING IN EXCELLENCE

CONFERENCE 2017



Welcome Ruapehu Mayor Don Cameron

I would like to offer you all a very warm welcome to Ruapehu and the 2017 i-SITE Visitor Information Network Conference.

Local operators have been very keen to support the conference with families that highlight the range of tourism and visitor experiences that we have to offer and that showcase our amazing district.

Everyone involved is looking forward to making this year's conference a most memorable experience for everyone attending.

I am sure you are going to leave Ruapehu as excited about the experiences on offer here as we are.

The 2017 i-SITE conference is taking place against unprecedented growth in the tourism sector.

Nationally the tourism sector is booming with growth in both international and domestic tourism spending up by a 12% to a massive \$34.7 billion.

It is undoubtedly a very exciting time to be involved in the New Zealand tourism and visitor sector.

While we look forward to hosting the i-SITE conference and providing delegates with some of the unique and authentic experiences that Ruapehu has to offer we are also looking to this year's conference with helping toward the development of much needed solutions for the issues facing the sector.

The unprecedented growth of NZ tourism is providing both exciting opportunities and complex challenges.

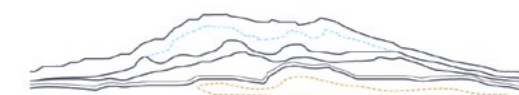
These opportunities and challenges provide plenty of material for delegates to consider.

For Ruapehu we are looking to our i-SITE network to help deliver sustainable sector growth that has real, measurable benefits for our local communities.

Ruapehu's tourism sector issues are New Zealand's tourism sector issues and we are looking forward to how the 2017 i-SITE conference can help in contributing toward finding sustainable solutions for these issues that we all share.

I trust that you will have a fantastic 2017 Conference and leave Ruapehu with new insights and ideas along with a raft of new experiences that you will be excited to talk about and recommend.

Don Cameron
Mayor JP
RUAPEHU DISTRICT



ENGAGING IN EXCELLENCE

CONFERENCE 2017



i-SITE Visitor Information Network Conference

Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th September

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2017 FAMILS

Whakapapa Ski Field

Ruapehu Alpine Lifts

Come and enjoy the breath taking views of the Tongariro National Park by stepping onto NZ's largest active Volcano at the Whakapapa Ski Field.

YouTube

Scenic Chairlift ride to Knoll Ridge Café

Ride two chairlifts up to New Zealand's highest café, to an altitude of 2,020 metres above sea level. You will be amazed by the stunning panoramic views and geological features when you take a scenic chairlift ride, as well as enjoying a latte or indulging in a glass of wine and food.

Snow Play in Happy Valley Snow Park

Those who wish to play in the snow can either build a snowman, make a snow angel or take a toboggan and slide down the Happy Valley Snow Park. Feel the exhilarating speed as you whoosh down the slope and create wonderful memories if you have never experienced snow before.

Day Ski Lift Pass

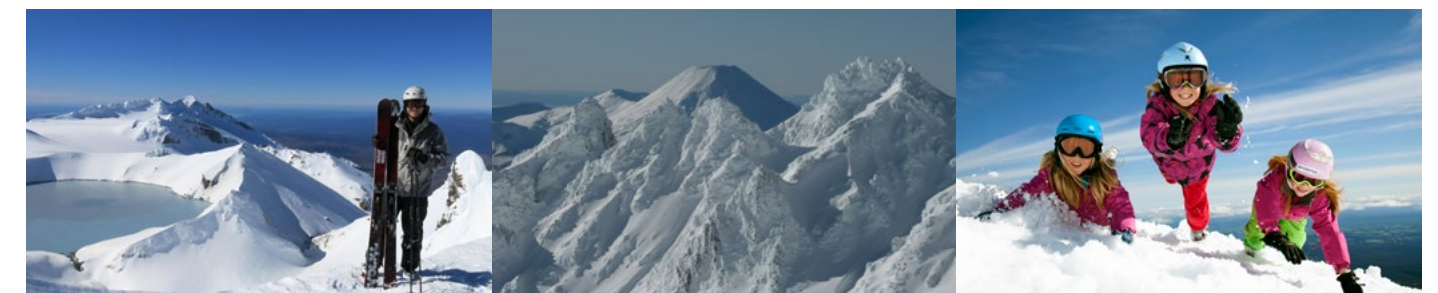
If you have skied or snowboarded before and would like to experience the unique terrain Whakapapa Ski Field has to offer, a 1 day ski lift pass is for you. For intermediate skiers & boarders there are more than 30 groomed trails that you will love.

If you are a more advanced skier/boarder with 24 black and black diamond runs, you will defiantly experience the best day ever! The volcanic terrain at Whakapapa offers a massive variety of trails, giving you the choice of bumps, chutes, drops, bowls or nice wide runs.

Beginner Lesson plus happy Valley Ski Pass

If you have never skied before or would like a refresher, this is the option for you! Whakapapa is home to New Zealand's premier beginners' area, Happy Valley where you can get the complete learning experience away from the worry of faster skiers/boarders. Whakapapa's experienced skiing and snowboarding instructors will help you along the way by tailoring your lesson to exactly what you need.

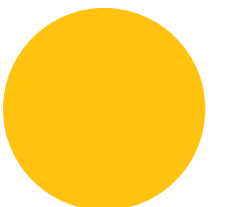
Includes: Lift Pass, shuttle to skifield



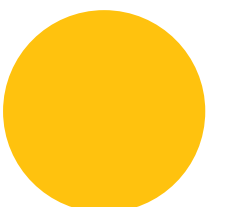
2 - 3 hours



2 - 5 hours



Full day



Full day

Fishers Track Mountain Biking

My Kiwi Adventure 

The trail starts from My Kiwi Adventures adventure centre in the heart of the National Park Village. After a short easy climb through native bush you will enjoy a spectacular 10 km decent into the valley offering stunning views and quality downhill mountain biking. The final 14km of the trail passes through peaceful farmland along the Retaruke Valley finishing by the monuments at the intersection of Oio road where your return shuttle will meet you.

Fishers track is a great option for mountain bikers with a basic level of fitness.

Includes: Bike, helmet, pump, map and return transfers

Departs: 1.00pm from Chateau Tongariro, returns 4.45pm



Tongariro Alpine Crossing

Adrift Outdoors 

This 19km trek is New Zealand's best day one day walk and a major attraction in the Ruapehu Region. The track leads up to the saddle between Mt Ngauruhoe and Mt Tongariro and then diverts over Mt Tongariro.

The landscape on Mt Tongariro is peppered with different coloured and shaped craters, scoured volcanic rocks, mountain springs, and brightly coloured emerald lakes. Adrift's fully experienced team guide the Tongariro Alpine Crossing all year round and while colder than summer, will supply all the warm gear needed to make you comfortable.

If snow is on the track you may have the opportunity to have a fun time learning how to walk in crampons. So not only do you get to complete the world famous Tongariro Crossing in winter, you also get taught how to walk in crampons.

A reasonably good level of fitness is required. Walking time around 8 hours including stops.

Includes: Guides, transfers, all equipment required (including crampons and ice axes) and any additional clothing that you need.

Departs: 7.00am from Chateau Tongariro, returns 5.45pm



Volcanic Explorer

Adrift Outdoors

If you want to enjoy the beautiful landscape of the Tongariro National Park without crossing the mountain, this half day option is for you.

Adrift guides will assess the groups ability and take you on a shorter walk to show you all things relevant to Tongariro including recent and past eruptions, geology, flora and fauna, local myths and legends and last but not least Lord of the Rings filming sites.

Includes: Transfers, guides, all equipment required and clothing to supplement that which you don't have and need

Departs: 7.00am from Chateau Tongariro, returns 1.30pm



Guided Walks

Department of Conservation



Taranaki Falls Walking Track

This loop track leaves and returns from the Chateau Tongariro with the spectacular Taranaki Falls at the half way point. There are excellent mountain views while you cross a range of land forms from tussock and alpine shrublands to pristine beech forest. The falls tumble 20 metres over the edge of a large andesite lava flow which erupted from Ruapehu 15,000 years ago.



Silica Rapids Walking Track

Starting near the Chateau Tongariro the track takes in a range of vegetation types as well as the creamy-white Silica Rapids terraces. Dense bush and boardwalks over mountain swamps home to freshwater crayfish plus bubbling streams with gold-toned beds make this a diverse walk.



Ridge Walking Track

Starting near the Chateau Tongariro, after a short climb through low beech forest the track emerges into alpine shrub lands with panoramic views of Mt Ngauruhoe and the surrounding landscape.



Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Old Coach Road Mountain Bike Trail

TCB - Ski, Board, Bike

A local favourite, the historical Old Coach Road trail is great for the beginner or novice mountain biker. You will follow the historical Old Coach Road trail taking in fantastic scenery, native bush and historical sites. Taonui Viaduct and the restored Hapuawhenua Viaduct are some of the highlights.

Along the trail there are signboards pointing out the history of the Old Coach Road, giving a great insight into the difficulty of building the rail trunk line. Starting in Horopito the track is mostly downhill with a few small climbs before finishing in Ohakune township. Time has been allowed for you to enjoy lunch at our local cafes and visit the Ohakune i-SITE.

Includes: Bike, helmet, pump and return transfers.

Departs: 8.45am from Chateau Tongariro, return 2.45pm



TCB
SKI BOARD BIKE

Bridge to Nowhere Jet Boat Tour

Whanganui River Adventures

The Whanganui river is of huge importance to local Māori who used it as a highway, a food source, a playground, and a spiritual home. There is a well-known whakataukī (proverb) which ends: ‘Ko au te awa ko te awa ko au.’ This means, ‘I am the river; the river is me.’

In the middle reaches of the river lies a Historic Landmark “The Valley of Abandoned Dreams” better known as “The bridge to nowhere”.

Departing from Pipiriki, the tour will take you on a jetboat 32kms up the Whanganui River through fern and flax cloaked gorges while your local guide shares historical and scenic points of interest. A 40 Minute walk to the ‘Bridge to Nowhere’ where you can stop for lunch before returning to the boat & back to Pipiriki.

Includes: Transfers, jetboat, guide, morning tea,

Departs: 8.15am from Chateau Tongariro, returns 4.15pm



**Whanganui
River**



Adventures

National Army Museum

Waioru

Make a visit to New Zealand's most comprehensive Army Museum for access to a unique collection of military exhibits, memorabilia and public research material. A place where families can seek out and relate to their military connections.

Honour the sacrifices, learn the campaigns, be inspired by the stories of courage, loyalty and comradeship. Expert guides will provide a comprehensive tour of the museums exhibits before leaving you to explore in your free time.

Includes: Transfers, guide

Departs: 7.45am from Chateau Tongariro, returns 12.00pm



Half day



NATIONAL
ARMY
MUSEUM
TE MATA TOA

Timber Trail Mountain Bike Trail

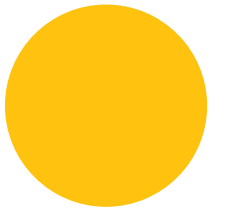
Epic Cycle Adventures

Situated in the magnificent Pureora Forest Park, the Timber Trail is one of New Zealand's "Great Rides" & follows old logging tramways through fantastic native podocarp forest.

Starting at the half way point of this 2 day trail you will ride 45km from Piropiro Camp to finish in Ongarue. Amazing suspension bridges, incredible views & the Ongarue Spiral make it a memorable trip. This is a grade 2/3 ride (easy/intermediate) suitable for anyone with a reasonable level of fitness.

Includes: Bike, helmet, pump and return transport

Departs: 7.00am from Chateau Tongariro, returns 4.45pm



Full day

You **Tube** 



Explore the Forgotten World

Forgotten World Adventures

Travel along an abandoned railway line, through deep hidden valleys and tunnels to townships that time forgot. The railcars are cleverly adapted to be self-driven along the tracks of the Forgotten World Railway with this tour taking in 5 tunnels.

You will then be transferred via shuttle to join the Forgotten World jetboat for an exhilarating ride on the upper reaches of the Whanganui River to Laurens Lavender Farm. Here you can explore the gardens, gift shop and café.

Includes: Transfers, railcart, jetboat, lavender farm

Departs: 7.00am from Chateau Tongariro, returns 3.00pm



Full day



Volcanic Explorer Scenic Flight

Mountain Air

Tongariro National Park Dual World Heritage Area is unique and spectacular in New Zealand. Its majestic volcanoes, beautiful lakes, rugged craters and contrasting forests and deserts make for a memorable scenic flight experience.

Mountain Air's 'Volcanic Explorer' takes in all three volcanoes in the Tongariro National Park, including the active crater lake of Mt Ruapehu. While this tour will come at a cost, it is certainly an experience to remember.

Cost: \$206 per person (minimum 3)

Includes: Transfer, 35min Scenic flight

Departs: On request



30 mins

