

Ruapehu



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Getting There

Ruapehu is in the central North Island, halfway between Auckland and Wellington. It's less than 4 hours by car from either city, with the Adventure Highway connecting Ruapehu's cosy mountain towns and quaint alpine villages.

The closest regional airports are within a 2-3 hour drive including Palmerston North, Taupō and Hamilton.

Visitors can also arrive by train on the Northern Explorer Scenic Rail Journey with stops in National Park and Ohakune.

Home to ancient rainforests, sacred mountains, and magnificent rivers, Ruapehu is a destination that connects people to our special place in the world.

It's just a half day's drive from New Zealand's biggest cities but instantly feels like home.

Rich in culture and history with a flourishing food scene, unique accommodation options and one-of-a-kind experiences, Ruapehu is a year-round destination for immersive travel experiences in the heart of the central North Island.

Experience the raw natural beauty of its Greater Outdoors as you uncover cosy mountain towns, quaint alpine villages, and historic railway towns. Explore the epic trails at your doorstep, including the world-famous Tongariro Alpine Crossing, the Timber Trail, and the Mountains to Sea

Ngā Ara Tūhono Cycle Trails. Ski or snowboard breathtaking Mount Ruapehu, Tūroa Ski Field, or Whakapapa and Happy Valley. Experience the Sky Waka – New Zealand's longest gondola ride, or hike to spectacular waterfalls in and around Tongariro National Park. Hop on a fascinating rail cart journey with Forgotten World Adventures, cuddle a baby alpaca at New Zealand's largest alpaca farm, or take on the Whanganui River by kayak, canoe or jetboat as you relish the pristine wilderness of Whanganui National Park.

TOP 10 MUST DOS

1. Mini golf and Devonshire Tea at Bradley's Garden
2. Ride the Timber Trail, enjoy unique accommodation
3. Eat, sleep, and play at Blue Duck Station
4. Rail cart tours with Forgotten World Adventures
5. Sky Waka gondola ride over Tongariro National Park
6. Guided Tongariro Alpine Crossing tours with Adrift Tongariro
7. National Army Museum Te Mata Toa in Waiouru
8. Guided cultural river journeys with Owhango Adventures
9. Jet boat to Bridge to Nowhere with Whanganui River Adventures
10. Guided quad bike tours with Ruapehu Adventure Rides

TOP 5 for OLDER TRAVELLERS

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Rail cart and river cruise with Forgotten World Adventures
2. High tea at Chateau Tongariro in Tongariro National Park
3. Feel instantly at home at Tongariro Crossing Lodge
4. Taumarunui Canoe Hire for Whanganui River fun
5. Omaka Lodge's gorgeous gardens and boutique B&B

TOP 5 for FAMILIES

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Take NZ's longest gondola ride, the Sky Waka
2. Guided cultural journeys with Owhango Adventures
3. Visit Nevalea Alpacas, NZ's largest alpaca farm
4. Stay in stylish studio pods at Plateau Lodge
5. Paddle the Whanganui River with Whanganui River Canoes

TOP 5 for COUPLES

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Helicopter and Whanganui River tours with Blazing Adventures
2. A guided Tongariro Alpine Crossing with Adrift Tongariro
3. Escape to 5-star eco retreat Nightsky Cottage
4. Indulge in a secluded getaway at Retaruke Country Estate
5. Enjoy boutique accommodation at Powderhorn Chateau

