

Taste of Taupō

9-12 May 2025



Destination Great Lake Taupo - RTO

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Destination Great Lake Taupō trade@lovetaupo.com

Kia ora and Welcome to Taupō

Join the "Taste of Taupō Famil" program, fully hosted by the Love Taupō Team. This exclusive dual-track experience caters to both thrill-seekers and those preferring a calm, leisurely pace. Select your path based on your adventure preference. For adrenaline seekers, raft grade 3 rapids, bungee jump or take a spin on a jet boat, each offering unforgettable thrills against Taupō's stunning landscapes. Prefer a more relaxed itinerary? Visit the Wairakei Terraces for a rejuvenating retreat, cruise to the Huka Falls, or learn more about Taupō's rich culture. Both tracks will merge for shared culinary experiences. Tailor your "Taste of Taupō Famil" experience! Please note that this is a draft itinerary, and both timings and activities are subject to change. Additionally, spaces are limited.

OUTLINE

DAY 1

Fri, 9 May 2025

2:00pm | Millennium Hotel and Resort Manuels Taupo (3 nights)

Millennium Hotel and Resort Manuels Taupo, 243 Lake Terrace, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

3:00pm | Thermal Pools

Wairakei Terraces & Thermal Health Spa •

Wairakei Terraces & Thermal Health Spa, 671 Wairakei Drive, Taupō 3377

7:00pm | Dinner

Brantry Eatery • Brantry Eatery, 45 Rifle Range Road, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

DAY 2

Sat, 10 May 2025

8:00am | Private Charter and Breakfast on the lake

Chris Jolly Outdoors •

Chris Jolly Outdoors - Taupo Maori Rock Carving Cruises & Memorable Experiences, Redoubt Street, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

11:00am | Site Visit

Belle vue Boutique Lodge •

Belle vue Boutique Lodge, 39 Mapara Road, Taupō 3385, New Zealand

11:45am | Site Visit

Whakaipo Lodge • Whakaipo Lodge, 504 Mapara Road, Taupō 3385, New Zealand

Options

2:30pm | OPTION A: Rapids Jet boat ride

Rapids Jet • Rapids Jet Taupō, Nga Awa Purua Road, Taupō 3378, New Zealand

2:30pm | OPTION B: Scenic cruise

Huka Falls River Cruise •

Huka Falls River Cruise, Aratiatia Road, Rotokawa 3378, New Zealand

2:30pm | OPTION C: AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy

AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy & Swing •

AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy & Swing, 202 Spa Road, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

7:00pm | Embra

Embra • Embra, 97A Kaimanawa Street, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

DAY 3

Sun, 11 May 2025

Breakfast

Options

9:00am | Option A: Grade 3 Rafting

Tongariro River Rafting • Tongariro River Rafting, 95 Atirau Road, Turangi 3334, New Zealand

9:00am | Option B: Cultural Tour

Backyard Tours • Backyard Tours, Te Takinga Street, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

12:00pm | Site Visit

The Olive Rabbit Boutique Bed & Breakfast - Turangi •

The Olive Rabbit Boutique Bed & Breakfast - Turangi, 253 Taupahi Road, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

12:30pm | Site inspection at River Birches Lodge

River Birches Lodge, Luxury Accommodation •

River Birches Lodge, Luxury Accommodation, 19 Koura Street, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

4:00pm | Kura tunu kai' Cooking classes

Kai Waho • Kai Waho, Taupo, New Zealand

DAY 4

Mon, 12 May 2025

8:00am | Breakfast

Lava Glass - Glassblowing Studio, Sculpture Garden, Art Gallery, Café •

Lava Glass - Glassblowing Studio, Sculpture Garden, Art Gallery, Café, 165 State Highway 5, Taupō 3377, New Zealand

11:15am | Site Visit at Orakei Korako

Orakei Korako Geothermal Park & Cave •

Orakei Korako Geothermal Park & Cave, 494 Orākei Kōrako Road, Taupo 3083, New Zealand

Famil Ends!

Day 1 Friday, 9 May 2025

Millennium Hotel and Resort Manuels Taupo (3 nights)

Millennium Hotel and Resort Manuels Taupo, 243 Lake Terrace, Taupō 3330, New Zealand



Set on the shores of the country's largest lake, this is one of Taupo luxury hotels with uninterrupted views of the magnificent lake and mountains. Many of Taupo's famous attractions are just minutes away, including Huka Falls, water and snow skiing, hot mineral pools, golf courses, and lake cruises. The charming Edgewater Restaurant is a superb choice for savouring award-winning cuisine as swans gracefully swim by.

Our Lake Taupo resort has also been artfully decorated to create an air of glamorous elegance, and its heated swimming pool, private grotto plunge pool, sauna, and gym provide guests with leisure options right at their doorstep. With 3 stylishly appointed event venues, 12 luxurious suites, and 39 boutique guest rooms, Millennium Hotel and Resort Manuels Taupo is undoubtedly the town's most desirable location for events and vacations.

Date and time

Check-in: 9 May 2025 at 2:00 pm

Check-out: 12 May 2025 at 10:00 am

Location

243 Lake Terrace, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7-378 5110

<http://www.manuels.co.nz/>

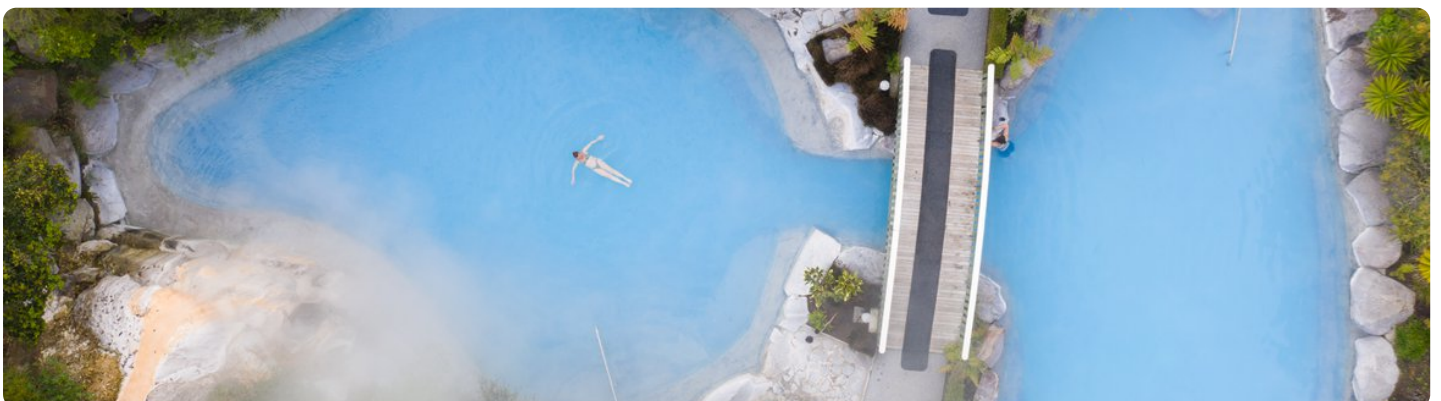
Details

Millennium Hotel and Resort Manuels Taupo (Room & Breakfast) x 12

Thermal Pools

Wairakei Terraces & Thermal Health Spa •

Wairakei Terraces & Thermal Health Spa, 671 Wairakei Drive, Taupō 3377



Bathe in mineral & silica enriched thermal pools strategically located below the Wairakei silica terraces and waterfall, providing a perfect setting for complete rest and relaxation and a 'feel back in time' sensation.

Date and time

Start: 9 May 2025 at 3:00 pm

End: 9 May 2025 at 5:00 pm

Location

671 Wairakei Drive, Taupō 3377

Contact

07 378 0913

<https://www.lovetapu.com/en/operators/wairakei-terraces-thermal-health-spa/>

Details

Thermal Pools (Adult) x 12

Dinner

Brantry Eatery • Brantry Eatery, 45 Rifle Range Road, Taupō 3330, New Zealand



Has built its long standing reputation on high quality New Zealand cuisine that is unique to Brantry, with a sophisticated wine list - to create a unique dining experience.

Has built its long standing reputation on high quality New Zealand cuisine that is unique to Brantry, with a sophisticated wine list - to create a unique dining experience.

Date and time

Start: 9 May 2025 at 7:00 pm

End: 9 May 2025 at 9:00 pm

Location

45 Rifle Range Road, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7 378 0484

<https://www.brantryeatery.co.nz/>

Details

Dinner (Dinner - 3 course) x 12

Day 2 Saturday, 10 May 2025

Private Charter and Breakfast on the lake

Chris Jolly Outdoors •

Chris Jolly Outdoors - Taupo Maori Rock Carving Cruises & Memorable Experiences, Redoubt Street, Taupō 3330, New Zealand



Chris Jolly Outdoors offers a wide range of activities, from scenic lake cruises and private charters to fishing trips, hiking, and biking adventures with expert guides. Their fleet of four fully equipped boats can accommodate groups from 2 to 140 people, providing options like skeet-shooting, onboard BBQs, a fully licensed bar, and fishing experiences. Whether you're planning a corporate event, team-building activity, or celebration, Chris Jolly Outdoors creates unforgettable experiences year-round, with heated boats in winter and open-air entertainment in summer.

Date and time

Start: 10 May 2025 at 8:00 am

End: 10 May 2025 at 10:30 am

Location

Redoubt Street, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7-378 0623

<https://chrisjolly.co.nz/>

Details

Private Charter and Breakfast on the lake (Adult) x 12

Site Visit

Belle vue Boutique Lodge •

Belle vue Boutique Lodge, 39 Mapara Road, Taupō 3385, New Zealand



Our Bed and Breakfast is situated on an acre of perfectly private gardens, native bush and trees and manicured

lawns. Whilst sharing this space with our native birds, the Tuis will entertain you as they sip the nectar from the blossom trees, or you may prefer a game of petanque or croquet on the lawn with a New Zealand wine and cheese platter on the veranda.

Date and time

Start: 10 May 2025 at 11:00 am

End: 10 May 2025 at 11:30 am

Location

39 Mapara Road, Taupō 3385, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7 377 6259

<https://bellevueboutiquelodge.co.nz/>

Details

Site Visit (Adult) x 12

Site Visit

Whakaipo Lodge • Whakaipo Lodge, 504 Mapara Road, Taupō 3385, New Zealand



Whakaipo Lodge is an architect-designed lodge offering relaxed luxury in a beautiful location. Two spacious guests suites, each with luxurious beds & linen and private ensuites in a romantic, secluded sanctuary. Enjoy the beautiful views and peace and quiet from your very own patio.

Date and time

Start: 10 May 2025 at 11:45 am

End: 10 May 2025 at 12:30 pm

Location

504 Mapara Road, Taupō 3385, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7 378 9298

<https://www.whakaipolodge.co.nz/>

Details

Site Visit (Adult) x 12

Options

Below you will see Option A,B,C. Please advise Alice what option you would like to do!

Date and time

10 May 2025

OPTION A: Rapids Jet boat ride

Rapids Jet • Rapids Jet Taupō, Nga Awa Purua Road, Taupō 3378, New Zealand



Rapids Jet offers a 35 minute jet boat journey for the whole family, from 5 to 93 (and up!). We promise an exhilarating ride of spins, squeals and peals of laughter with the odd splash of pure Waikato blue. And there's nothing wrong with getting a bit wet when you're having this much fun!

Date and time

Start: 10 May 2025 at 2:30 pm

End: 10 May 2025 at 3:00 pm

Location

Nga Awa Purua Road, Taupō 3378, New Zealand

Details

Rapids Jet boat ride (Adult) x 12

OPTION B: Scenic cruise

Huka Falls River Cruise • Huka Falls River Cruise, Aratiatia Road, Rotokawa 3378, New Zealand



Cruise to New Zealand's most visited natural attraction, Huka Falls, in our purpose-built riverboat. Enjoy incredible views of this spectacular waterfall in comfort with Huka Falls River Cruise.

Date and time

Start: 10 May 2025 at 2:30 pm

End: 10 May 2025 at 4:00 pm

Location

Aratiatia Road, Rotokawa 3378, New Zealand

Contact

+64 800 278 336

<http://www.hukafallscruise.co.nz/>

Details

Scenic cruise (Adult) x 12

OPTION C: AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy

AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy & Swing •

AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy & Swing, 202 Spa Road, Taupō 3330, New Zealand



Turn up the heat with a Bungy or Swing in the heart of Aotearoa's geothermal region. Hanging off a cliff-top high over the Waikato River is Taupō Bungy and Swing. Famed for its awe-inspiring location, it provides all the adventure and adrenaline you'll ever need and only five minutes from central Taupō.

Date and time

Start: 10 May 2025 at 2:30 pm

End: 10 May 2025 at 3:30 pm

Location

202 Spa Road, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

Contact

+64 800 286 4958

<http://www.taupobungy.co.nz/>

Details

AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy (Adult) x 12

Embura

Embura • Embura, 97A Kaimanawa Street, Taupō 3330, New Zealand



A contemporary restaurant offering a dining experience in a relaxed and intimate setting. The menu showcases seasonal New Zealand produce, prepared using French & British techniques.

Date and time

Start: 10 May 2025 at 7:00 pm

End: 10 May 2025 at 9:00 pm

Location

97A Kaimanawa Street, Taupō 3330, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7 929 8633

<https://embra.nz/>

Details

Embra (5 courses with matching wine package) x 12

Day 3 Sunday, 11 May 2025

Breakfast



Enjoy Breakfast Inhouse!

Date and time

11 May 2025

Options

Below you will see Option A or B. Please let Alice know what Option you would like to do.

Date and time

11 May 2025

Option A: Grade 3 Rafting

Tongariro River Rafting • Tongariro River Rafting, 95 Atirau Road, Turangi 3334, New Zealand



Tongariro River Rafting is the most experienced white water rafting provider in the Taupō region and the #1 rated rafting experience on the entire North Island, according to Trip Advisor. Paddle through the heart of the Great Lake Taupō region and take in stunning scenery that's only accessible by water. Surround yourself with towering pine forests, native bush, and volcanic cliffs as you embark on an epic journey down the Tongariro River. Keep an eye out for New Zealand wildlife at every turn. You might spot Whio, our endangered blue ducks, nesting along the riverbanks or even giant New Zealand trout swimming below—some so large they've been known to feast on the occasional mouse!

Date and time

Start: 11 May 2025 at 9:00 am

End: 11 May 2025 at 12:00 pm

Location

95 Atirau Road, Turangi 3334, New Zealand

Contact

(07) 386 6409

<https://trr.co.nz/>

Details

Grade 3 Rafting (Adult) x 12

Option B: Cultural Tour

Backyard Tours • Backyard Tours, Te Takinga Street, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand



Backyard Tours offers an authentic and immersive cultural experience in New Zealand, giving visitors a unique opportunity to connect with the natural beauty and rich heritage of the Taupō Region. Led by passionate local guides with deep ties to the land, Backyard Tours specializes in personalized tours that highlight Māori culture, stunning

landscapes, and hidden gems often overlooked by mainstream tourism. Whether it's exploring the sacred Whanganui River, engaging in traditional Māori customs, or discovering picturesque bush trails, Backyard Tours creates unforgettable journeys that foster a deeper understanding of the land, people, and stories that make New Zealand so special. Their mission is to provide not just a tour, but an enriching experience that celebrates the essence of Aotearoa.

Date and time

Start: 11 May 2025 at 9:00 am

End: 11 May 2025 at 11:00 am

Location

Te Takinga Street, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

Contact

+64 22 314 2656

<https://www.backyardtours.com/services/tongariro-shuttle-transfer/>

Details

Cultural Tour (Adult) x 12

Site Visit

The Olive Rabbit Boutique Bed & Breakfast - Turangi •

The Olive Rabbit Boutique Bed & Breakfast - Turangi, 253 Taupahi Road, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand



Set against the backdrop of the iconic Tongariro River and very close to the Tongariro Alpine Crossing makes The Olive Rabbit, the best accommodation in Turangi. It is the closest accommodation choice to the shuttle service carpark near Ketetahi. And, there's more: smaller hikes, cycling tracks, white-water rafting, & horse trekking. A one-night stop will not be enough.

Date and time

Start: 11 May 2025 at 12:00 pm

End: 11 May 2025 at 12:30 pm

Location

253 Taupahi Road, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

Contact

+64 274 473 150

<https://www.theoliverabbit.co.nz/>

Details

Site Visit (Site Visit) x 12

Site inspection at River Birches Lodge

River Birches Lodge, Luxury Accommodation •

River Birches Lodge, Luxury Accommodation, 19 Koura Street, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand



River Birches is the closest boutique five-star Luxury Lodge to the Tongariro Crossing. The lodge is set within a peaceful garden-scape beside the renown Tongariro River.

Date and time

Start: 11 May 2025 at 12:30 pm

End: 11 May 2025 at 1:30 pm

Location

19 Koura Street, Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7 386 0445

<http://www.riverbirches.co.nz/>

Details

Site inspection at River Birches Lodge (Adult) x 12

Kura tunu kai' Cooking classes

Kai Waho • Kai Waho, Taupo, New Zealand



Kai Waho, located 700 meters above sea level on the rim of the Taupō basin, offers an authentic experience on Tuwharetoa tribal land, surrounded by stunning sub-alpine forest and rich in culture and food. Accessible only by air or a thrilling four-wheel-drive adventure, this exclusive destination is led by Tom Loughlin, who serves as host, chef, and caretaker. Guests can explore the land and enjoy unique experiences such as 'Kura tunu kai'—cooking classes that showcase traditional and fast cooking techniques, including the iconic Hāngī. Due to popular demand from the luxury travel industry, plans are underway to build a 'Kauta' (cookhouse) on tribal land in Taupō, offering 3-4 hour classes that focus on creating authentic meals for lunch or dinner.

Date and time

Start: 11 May 2025 at 4:00 pm

End: 11 May 2025 at 7:00 pm

Location

Taupo, New Zealand

Details

Kura tunu kai' Cooking classes (Adult) x 12

Day 4 Monday, 12 May 2025

Breakfast

Lava Glass - Glassblowing Studio, Sculpture Garden, Art Gallery, Café •

Lava Glass - Glassblowing Studio, Sculpture Garden, Art Gallery, Café, 165 State Highway 5, Taupō 3377, New Zealand



Enjoy Breakfast at Lava Glass - Glassblowing Studio, Sculpture Garden, Art Gallery, Café

Date and time

Start: 12 May 2025 at 8:00 am

End: 12 May 2025 at 9:30 am

Location

165 State Highway 5, Taupō 3377, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7 374 8400

<https://lavaglass.nz/>

Details

Breakfast (Breakfast - cooked) x 12

Site Visit at Orakei Korako

Orakei Korako Geothermal Park & Cave •

Orakei Korako Geothermal Park & Cave, 494 Orākei Kōrako Road, Taupo 3083, New Zealand



Come and explore a volcanic world of gushing geysers, hot springs, bubbling mud pools and some of the largest and most amazing silica terraces in the world.

Wander through the Hidden Valley and visit the thermal Ruatapu Cave which extends more than 36m down into volcanic tuff to the 'Waiwhakaata' or 'Pool of Mirrors' hot pool at the bottom.

Date and time

Start: 12 May 2025 at 11:15 am

End: 12 May 2025 at 1:00 pm

Location

494 Orākei Kōrako Road, Taupo 3083, New Zealand

Contact

+64 7 378 3131

<http://www.orakeikorako.co.nz/>

Details

Site Visit at Orakei Korako (Adult Entry) x 12

Famil Ends!
