

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, bungy 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

Accom - TBC

3:00pm | Thermal Pools

Activity • Taupō 3377

7:00pm | Dinner

Meal • Taupō 3330, New Zealand

DAY 2

Sat, 10 May 2025

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

Activity • Taupō 3330, New Zealand

11:00am | Site Visit

Activity • Taupō 3385, New Zealand

11:45am | Site Visit

Activity • Taupō 3385, New Zealand

Options

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

Activity • Taupō 3378, New Zealand

2:30pm | OPTION B: Scenic cruise

Activity • Rotokawa 3378, New Zealand

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

Activity • Taupō 3330, New Zealand

7:00pm | Embra

Meal • Taupō 3330, New Zealand

DAY 3

Sun, 11 May 2025

Breakfast

Options

9:00am | Option A: Grade 3 Rafting

Activity • Turangi 3334, New Zealand

9:00am | Option B: Cultural Tour

Activity • Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

12:00pm | Site Visit

Activity • Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

12:30pm | Site inspection at River Birches Lodge

Activity • Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

4:00pm | Kura tunu kai' Cooking classes

Activity • Taupo, New Zealand

DAY 4

Mon, 12 May 2025

8:00am | Breakfast

Meal • Taupō 3377, New Zealand

11:15am | Site Visit at Orakei Korako

Activity • Taupo 3083, New Zealand

Famil Ends!

Day 1 Friday, 9 May 2025

Accom - TBC

Date and time

9 May 2025

Thermal Pools

Activity • 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

Taupō 3377

Details

Thermal Pools (Adult) x 12

Dinner

Meal • 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.

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Date and time

Start: 9 May 2025 at 7:00 pm

End: 9 May 2025 at 9:00 pm

Location

Taupō 3330, New Zealand

Details

Dinner (Dinner - 3 course) x 12

Day 2 Saturday, 10 May 2025

Private Charter and Breakfast on the lake

Activity • 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

Taupō 3330, New Zealand

Details

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

Site Visit

Activity • 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 Taupō 3385, New Zealand	Details Site Visit (Adult) x 12
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Site Visit

Activity • 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 Taupō 3385, New Zealand	Details Site Visit (Adult) x 12
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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

Activity • 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

Taupō 3378, New Zealand

Details

Rapids Jet boat ride (Adult) x 12

OPTION B: Scenic cruise

Activity • 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

Rotokawa 3378, New Zealand

Details

Scenic cruise (Adult) x 12

OPTION C: AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy

Activity • 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	Details
Start: 10 May 2025 at 2:30 pm	AJ Hackett Taupo Bungy (Adult) x 12
End: 10 May 2025 at 3:30 pm	
Location	
Taupō 3330, New Zealand	

Embra

Meal • 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	Details
Start: 10 May 2025 at 7:00 pm	Embra (5 courses with matching wine package) x 12
End: 10 May 2025 at 9:00 pm	
Location	
Taupō 3330, New Zealand	

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

Activity • 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

Turangi 3334, New Zealand

Details

Grade 3 Rafting (Adult) x 12

Option B: Cultural Tour

Activity • 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

Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand

Details

Cultural Tour (Adult) x 12

Site Visit

Activity • Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand



Set against the backdrop of the iconic Tongaririo 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 Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand	Details Site Visit (Site Visit) x 12
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Site inspection at River Birches Lodge

Activity • 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 Tūrangi 3334, New Zealand	Details Site inspection at River Birches Lodge (Adult) x 12
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Kura tunu kai’ Cooking classes

Activity • 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
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Day 4 Monday, 12 May 2025

Breakfast

Meal • 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 Taupō 3377, New Zealand	Details Breakfast (Breakfast - cooked) x 12
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Site Visit at Orakei Korako

Activity • 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 Taupo 3083, New Zealand	Details Site Visit at Orakei Korako (Adult Entry) x 12
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Famil Ends!
