

Book in advance  
 & save up to 40%  
 At hundreds of Hotels & Resorts

BOOK NOW >

spg.  
 Starwood  
 Preferred  
 Guest



Search traveller

[Home](#) [Guides](#) [Australasia](#) [New Zealand](#) [North Island](#) [Where To Stay](#)



## Guide to New Zealand's North Island

11 November 2009

**NEW ZEALAND** The North Island's beautiful landscape comprises pristine lakes and is home to cosmopolitan cities. Although a mecca for backpackers and bungee jumpers, it also appeals to the rich and retired who come for the bountiful trout fishing and the new 'superlodges' - small country hotels in remote and

### Guide Contents

[Where To Stay](#)

[Where To Eat](#)

[What To See](#)

## Where To Stay

---

### BOLTON HOTEL

**Corner of Bolton and Mowbray Streets, Wellington, New Zealand (00 64 4 472 9966)**

This sleek hotel is well located in the heart of Wellington's business district, and its 142 rooms and suites have been left with contemporary New Zealand touches. The Bisque on Bolton restaurant serves modern New Zealand cuisine and has an excellent choice of wine.

### EAGLES NEST

**60 Tapeka Road, Russell, Bay of Islands, New Zealand (00 64 09 403 83333)**

High on a bluff overlooking the Bay of Islands on New Zealand's North Island, the five-villa Eagles Nest combines privacy and great service with style. The ultra-chic villas are a slick design fantasy with glass walls and chrome bathrooms. The resort's chefs provide in-villa dining, and in-villa massage and fitness sessions can be arranged too. Activities include waterskiing, diving, kayaking, tennis and golf.

### HUKA LODGE

**Huka Falls Road, Taupo (00 64 7 378 5791)**

Set in a low gorge 300 metres upstream from the Huka Falls, this hotel started as a simple fishing lodge on the banks of the Waikato River and the area still produces trophy size rainbow and brown trout. The Swiss-styled chalets, with overhanging unpainted eaves and a circumambient wooden balcony, house 20 suites. Guests can drink, eat and warm themselves at an ingenious outside fire, placed back to back with that inside the main sitting room. The Owner's Cottage, hidden from view within the park-like grounds, offers the ultimate Huka Lodge experience with four sumptuous rooms. Golf, horse trekking, nature walks, kayaking, aquatic adventure and a wide variety of recreational pursuits are available nearby. Within the grounds, guests have the use of both swimming and spa pools, tennis courts and can play both croquet and petanque. Breakfast, pre-dinner cocktails, a five-course meal, the use of all lodge facilities and Taupo Airport transfers are included in the price.

### KAURI CLIFFS

**Matauri Bay Road, Matauri Bay, New Zealand (00 64 9 407 0010)**

A colonial-style hotel and restaurant in the remote far north, Kauri Cliffs is popular among golfers as it has a professional 18-hole golf course, but it also has a two-mile beachfront, an infinity-edge swimming pool, horse-riding and kayaking on its premises. Staff have a boundless enthusiasm for the area too.

### THE FARM AT CAPE KIDNAPPERS

**448 Clifton Road, Te Awanga, Hawkes Bay** (00 64 6 875 1900)

The Farm at Cape Kidnappers, further south in the renowned Hawke's Bay wine region, will surely become known as a super-luxury lodge with the world's 27th-best golf course attached. You can (and must) say hello to the world's largest mainland colony of gannets, and look forward to seeing the endangered native kiwi birds and tuatara lizards which Robertson is gradually reintroducing. The lodge is spectacular, built on a vast scale and to a design that blends rustic chic with a Californian-resort feel. There's a room for every purpose here, whether you need a business meeting, a front-row seat at one of the massive fireplaces, a quiet nook with a stunning ocean view, brunch in the light-drenched loggia or a drink on the balcony of one of the 22 suites decorated in soothing tones of cream and honey. The main dining room might seem a little formal at first, but everyone loosens up once the light, stylish and highly accomplished modern food from chef Dale Gartland arrives.

## WHAREKAUHAU COUNTRY ESTATE

**Western Lake Road, Palliser Bay, RD3 Featherston, Wairarapa** (00 64 6 307 7581)

The elegant Wharekauhau, pronounced 'Forry-koe-hoe', is set on a 5,000-acre working sheep station in a remote area of the North Island. A 90-minute drive from Wellington, the lodge is in a league of its own as far as setting, architecture and service are concerned. Set back from the cliff edge, the tall chimneys, sloping roofs and green-rimmed French windows accompany nature's high green hills and the view over Palliser Bay. The chalets house 10 suites and activities include riding, fishing, hunting, golf and clay pigeon shooting. Getting here is a pleasure - as the crow flies, it is no distance from Wellington, and the lodge can be reached within 12 minutes in a helicopter. Driving takes longer, but the road takes you through the high green Rimutaka Mountains, the vineyards of Wairarapa Valley and along the dusty track to the dun cliffs, black sands and roaring surf of the bay. Summer season prices include breakfast, pre-dinner cocktail and a five-course dinner.

---

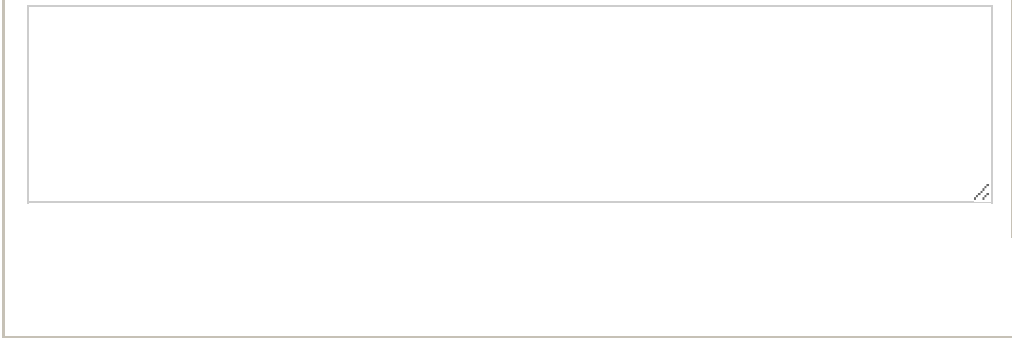
---

### Your comments

Name

Email

Comment



*Book your hotel directly with our new booking service*

*Hotel or destination*  [Go](#)

Check in

Check out

**Get 12 issues  
for only £24**

Plus a free Body & Soul escapes guide worth £19.99.

**[FIND OUT MORE »](#)**

**Tourism Australia**



Click here to WIN a luxurious holiday in Australia

**[MORE](#)**

## THE CUNARD SALE

---

FJORDS, BALTIC, CARIBBEAN,  
HAWAII, CANARIES  
& THE MED

*Brrrrr! Time to book somewhere warm?*

<http://www.cntraveller.com/bookings>

*The best new hotels for 2010 - check out the new Gold List*

<http://www.cntraveller.com/magazine/the-gold-list-2010>

*Newcomers who made a mark in 2009 - check out The Hot List*

<http://www.cntraveller.com/magazine/the-hot-list-2009>

Follow us on twitter

Sign up for Condé Nast Traveller daily news updated via email

Sign Up

**Read**

Comments

- 1 Guide to North America
- 2 Guide to USA
- 3 Guide to Europe
- 4 Guide to Italy
- 5 Guide to Asia

[North America](#)  
[South America](#)  
[Europe](#)  
[Africa](#)  
[Asia](#)  
[Australasia](#)

[Active](#)  
[Beaches](#)  
[Cities](#)  
[Food](#)  
[Hotels](#)  
[Itineraries](#)  
[Tropical](#)  
[UK](#)  
[Villas](#)  
[Weekends](#)

[Photo Galleries](#)  
[User Photos](#)  
[Video](#)

[The Hot List 2009](#)  
[Readers' Travel Awards...](#)  
[The Gold List 2010](#)  
[Classified links](#)

[Destinations](#)  
[Flights](#)  
[Holidays](#)  
[Hotels](#)  
[Offers](#)  
[Business travel](#)  
[Competitions](#)

[Q&A](#)  
[Itineraries](#)



[Vogue](#)  
[Glamour](#)  
[Stylefinder](#)

[GQ](#)  
[GQ Style](#)  
[CN Traveller](#)

[Easy Living](#)  
[Tatler](#)  
[Brides](#)

[House & Garden](#)  
[Vanity Fair](#)  
[Johansens](#)

[Condé Nast Digital Britain](#)  
[Condé Nast Digital International](#)

[Terms & Conditions](#)  
[Contact Us](#)

© Condé Nast Digital Britain 2009