

# Guysers Gazette

Is Rotorua really that smelly?

The 'Living Waters' of Waikite

Redwoods Nightlights

2017 Garden Art Festival



**The magic  
of Rotorua  
in winter**



**Guysers**  
GAYSTAY

Rotorua, New Zealand



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## Welcome

Welcome to the 2017 winter edition of the *Guysers Gazette* – the quarterly e-magazine produced by Guysers Gaystay B&B in Rotorua, New Zealand.

In this issue two special guests, Joey and Tom, from the USA who stayed with us give us their feedback and share some photos of their time spent here.

We give you some info on some awesome attractions in Rotorua that are perfect winter time activities.

We check out the hotpools at Waikite Valley and visit the *Te Manaroa Spring*, the largest single source of 100% pure boiling water in New Zealand.

Rotorua's latest addition is the *Redwoods Nightlights* – it's an after dark experience of the *Redwoods Treewalk* where the forest has been lit up with colourful lights and lanterns designed by David Trubridge.

We show you where to take in the best view of Rotorua City by night – Rotorua's *Skyline* complex and the award-winning *Stratosfare Restaurant*.

We went along to this years *Geyser Foundation Garden Art Festival* and took some photos of some of the artworks on sale there, and we purchased a nice piece which is now in our garden at *Guysers*.

Summer, autumn, winter or spring – there is always something great happening in Rotorua. We look forward to hosting you here real soon!

**Peter & Mike**

Guysers Gaystay, Rotorua, New Zealand

## GUYSERS GAYSTAY

Hosted B&B for gay men

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Guysers Gaystay is a member of **Gay Stay NZ**  
New Zealand's LGBT  
hosted accommodation  
[www.gaystay.co.nz](http://www.gaystay.co.nz)

# Debbie does Rotorua



Lake Rotorua overflows!  
(Normal lake level is 3 feet below  
the edge of the walkway)

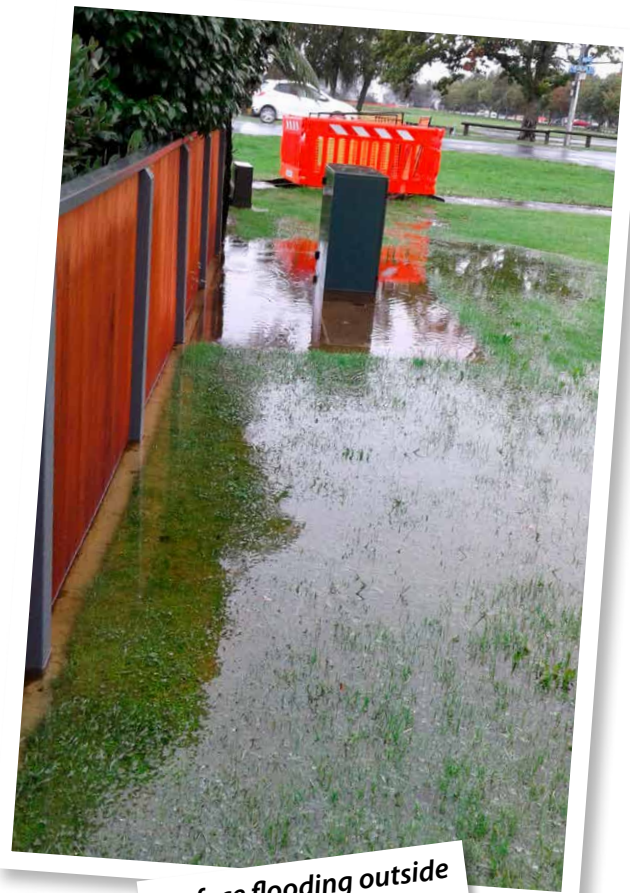
**Tropical Cyclone “Debbie” that hit Queensland in Australia on the 28th March 2017 causing lots of floods and property damage there soon made her fury felt over much of New Zealand.**

With major slips and flooding in many parts of New Zealand, evacuations in Whanganui and Edgumbe due to overflowing rivers, Rotorua wasn't left unscathed either. With incredibly heavy rainfall the water level of Lake Rotorua rose to record levels unseen in 40 years. Down at the Rotorua lakefront water was lapping in small waves over the cobble stone walkway (pictured above).

All rafting operations on the Kaituna River was cancelled due to too much water going over the falls!

On the 5th April when the rainfall was at its heaviest over Rotorua our grass lawns at *Guysers Gaystay* had 3 inches of water sitting on the surface. The ground was so sodden it took a long time to soak away.

Thankfully we're OK. We were just sorry to hear the stories of other people's property damage and misfortunes in other worse-hit parts of the country. 🌿



Surface flooding outside  
our property. But no  
harm done.



# Guysers Gaystay is central to everywhere!



**AUCKLAND**  
City 3 hours



**1 hour**  
**TAURANGA**  
Beaches



**WHAKATANE**  
White Island 1.2 hours



**45 mins**  
**TE PUKE**  
Kiwifruit country



**56 mins**  
**MATAMATA**  
Hobbiton



**Guysers Gaystay** is not only central in Rotorua City, we're also central to some of the best towns and attractions the North Island offers.

Basing yourself here in Rotorua not only gives you time to explore all that Rotorua offers, but you can also reach many of these other places as return day trip, or it's just a short drive to onward destinations such as Auckland, the Coromandel or the Hawke's Bay.



**WAITOMO**  
Caves 2 hours



**TAUPO**  
Huka Falls 1 hour

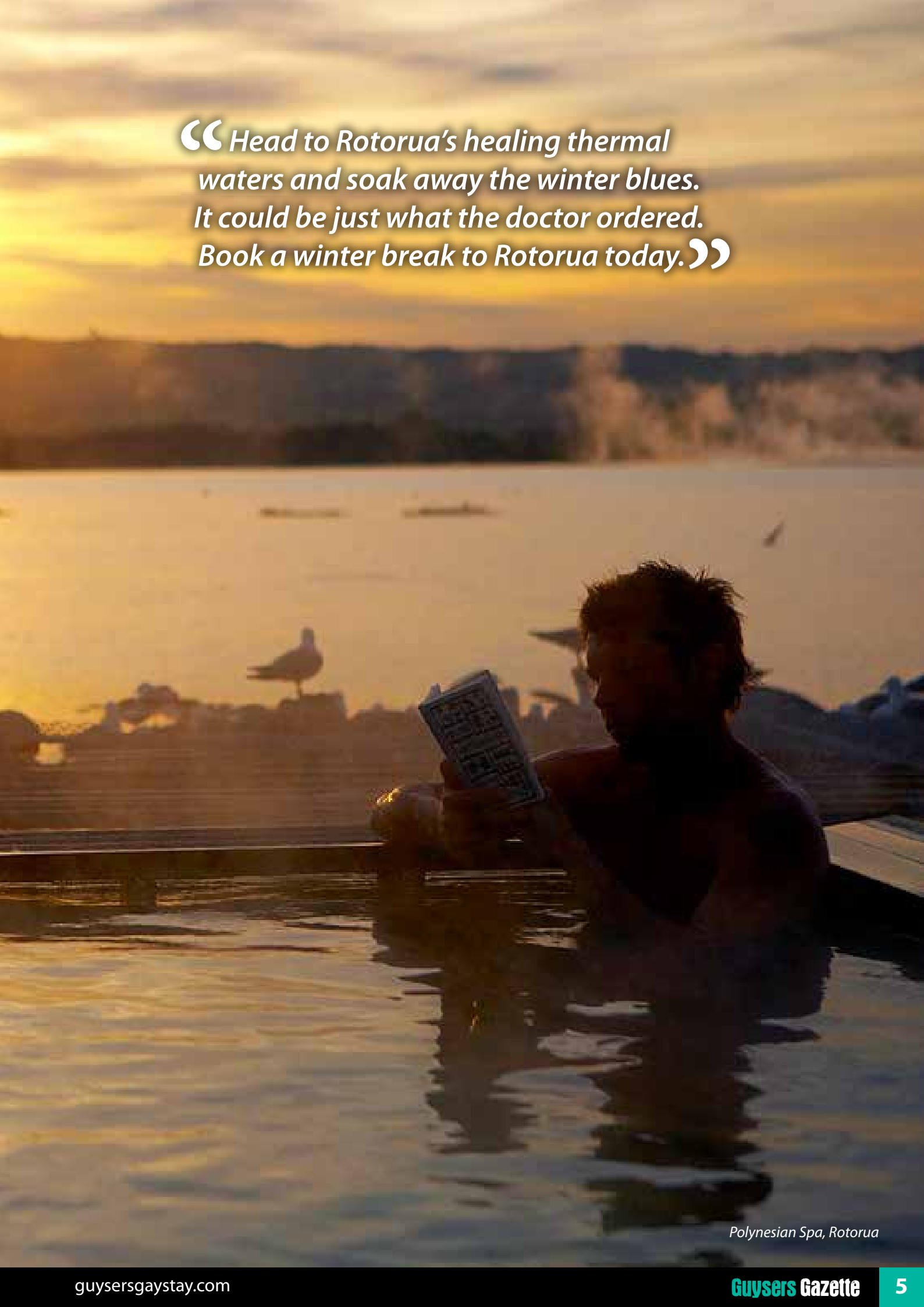


**2.6 hours**  
**HAWKE'S BAY**  
Wine country



**NATIONAL PARK**  
Skiing/Hiking 2.5 hours

“Head to Rotorua’s healing thermal waters and soak away the winter blues. It could be just what the doctor ordered. Book a winter break to Rotorua today.”



Polynesian Spa, Rotorua



# Guysers Gaystay FAQs

Here are the answers to some commonly asked questions about *Guysers Gaystay*.

## *What is Guysers Gaystay?*

*Guysers Gaystay* is a professional, quality, home-hosted Bed and Breakfast property for men in Rotorua City. *Guysers Gaystay* is a member of *Gaystay NZ* – the directory of LGBT owned and operated B&B's in New Zealand.



## *How many rooms do you have?*

*Guysers Gaystay* has 2 guest rooms. One room has a queen size bed, the other room can sleep up to three guys travelling together because it has a queen bed and a king-single bed in the room. (Maximum number of guests we can accommodate in the house is 5).



## *Do I get a private bathroom?*

Yes. **Room 1** has an ensuite bathroom and **Room 2** has a dedicated bathroom across the hall that is only for use by guests in Room 2.



## *Is breakfast included?*

A full hearty breakfast is included in the room rate. This consists of fresh fruit salad, yoghurt, cereals, toast etc, as well as a cooked breakfast that changes daily. Breakfast is served altogether in one sitting at a time discussed and agreed with all guests. If you require a very early breakfast we'll serve yours first.



### **How many guys will be there?**

*Guysers Gaystay* is not a resort with dozens of rooms, therefore don't expect dozens of guys to be here. Usually there are your hosts and a couple of guests here. **Note: *Guysers Gaystay* is also not a sauna or cruise club!**



### **Is *Guysers Gaystay* clothing optional?**

Yes. *Guysers* is clothing optional indoors, outside in our private garden courtyard and in the spa pool. Having a 'clothing optional' policy means just that – it's **optional**. If you are not into nudity/naturism that's perfectly OK, but you have to be aware that other guests may enjoy being nude. If you are modest, we have courtesy sarongs you can wrap around your waist, or you can wear what you like.



### **If I have a girlfriend travelling with me, can she stay at *Guysers Gaystay*?**

Because of our clothing optional policy, *Guysers Gaystay* is for men only. We are advertised and promoted that way and so other gay/male guests that may be staying here expect it to be men only. The only way you can have a girlfriend stay here is if you book both of our guest rooms.

### **What about lesbian couples, can they stay at *Guysers Gaystay*?**

We do allow lesbian couples to stay, but only if both rooms are booked as a whole-of-house booking (ie, 2 couples travelling together).

### **What are the room facilities?**

The guest rooms have super-comfy beds, quality linen, electric blankets, ceiling fans, LED TVs, mini-bar with drinks and snacks available, cotton robes, extra pillows and blankets and free Wi-Fi.



Continued over...



### **What shared spaces do you have?**

*Guysers Gaystay* has a communal lounge where you can sit and chat or watch TV or a DVD with your hosts and/or other guests. We have a private garden/courtyard with sun-loungers (for use in the warmer months), a covered pergola with table and chairs and a 5-man hydrotherapy (*Hot Spring* brand) spa pool.



### **Am I allowed outside visitors or Grindr hookups to come to the B&B?**

No. Only checked-in (booked and paid) guests are allowed in our B&B. *Guysers Gaystay* is a private home, it is not a motel/hotel room. We do not allow people who are not staying here or men from *Grindr* or *Scruff* that often have fake details and no ID to enter the house. This is for safety and security reasons not only for you and your belongings, but also for our other guests and us. However, once you have your key you can come and go as you please.

### **Can I get laundry done?**

We can do your laundry for you. We provide you with a basket for your clothes you'd like washed in the morning. We line-dry when possible, otherwise we use the dryer. The cost is \$10 for a basket full (up to 4.5 kg). We can provide you with an iron and ironing board.

### **What is the smoking policy?**

All indoor spaces at *Guysers Gaystay* is no smoking. You may smoke cigarettes on our front or back patios. Smoking illegal substances is not allowed on the property. If you wish to do this, you'll have to take it elsewhere.

### **Can you help us make tour bookings?**

Yes. We have extensive knowledge and personal experience of all the attractions in Rotorua. We have the full range of tourist brochures on display and can discuss and help you decide the activities you'd like to do and we have discount vouchers we can give you (for many of the attractions).

You can do some research on the attractions before you arrive by going to our website ([guysersgaystay.com](http://guysersgaystay.com)) and go to our 'Attractions' tabs for more info. Another great way to read up on Rotorua's attractions is by reading the back catalogue of *Guysers Gazette's*. Email us in advance and let us know what you'd like to do and we'll pre-book them for you and have the tickets ready.





### Do you have male massage available?

A 50-minute Swedish/Tantric-style massage is available on request. This is done on a professional massage table in a private room with soft spa music. The cost is \$50 for guests staying at *Guysers Gaystay*. We can discuss a suitable time for this when you are here.



### Do you provide evening meals?

No sorry. We are a Bed & Breakfast only. If we have no dinner plans ourselves we are certainly happy to join you for a meal out at a restaurant if you would like us to.



### Can I use the kitchen to cook meals?

No sorry. You will need to go out for lunch and dinner. You may bring takeaways back and eat this at the dining table (but not in your room). You can use our microwave to reheat food only.

### What is the parking situation?

There are several free on-street Council car park spaces directly outside our property as well as space for a guest car on our personal driveway should the Council car parks be taken. Both car park areas are monitored by cameras.

### How close is Guysers to the city centre?

*Guysers Gaystay* is a short walk to the city centre where you'll find all the restaurants, bars, shops and services. We are also directly opposite Kuirau Park and we are on the tourist bus route meaning many tour buses will pick-up and drop-off from our front door.

### Do I get a discount for longer stays?

No sorry. Our rates are already competitively priced based on other B&Bs and motels in our area. We also do not fluctuate our prices based on seasons or events happening in our city.

### How do I book?

The best way to book at *Guysers Gaystay* is on our own website (<https://guysersgaystay.com>). We are listed on other websites such as *AirBnB* and *Expedia*, but there are commissions involved with these. Booking direct means you get the cheapest price and we can communicate easier if needed. If you book direct you will be sent a one night deposit request which is to be paid via PayPal. Once we receive the deposit your booking is confirmed. Additional nights are paid in cash on arrival. 🌟





*Looking for Hobbits.*

## Joey & Tom's Rotorua adventure

Joseph (Joey) and Thomas (Tom) from Minneapolis, USA, stayed with us at *Guysers Gaystay* for six nights in Rotorua during their trip to New Zealand in March 2017. The guys had a blast in Rotorua taking in some of the sights and experiences this region is famous for.

### *Why did you choose New Zealand for your holiday?*

New Zealand was our first trip overseas as a couple. We had been discussing it for a few years as a place we would like to visit.

New Zealand offered promise of excitement, plenty of things to see and do, as well as options to relax in beautiful environments and take in the local culture.

We booked flights nearly a year before our trip, giving us plenty of time to research everything about New Zealand and prioritise. There's many things we didn't get a chance to see or do.

You could spend many weeks in New Zealand and still not experience everything. A few people we know back home said how much they loved their trip to New Zealand, so we just had to come and experience it for ourselves.

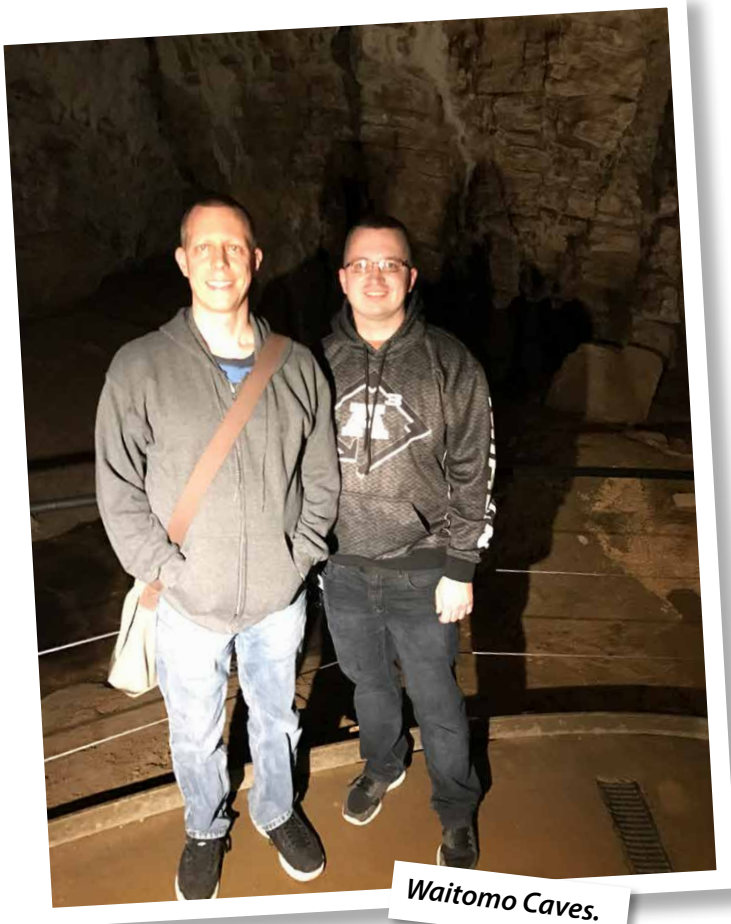
### *Was there something in particular that drew you to Rotorua?*

Rotorua offered a variety of attractions and activities as well a central location in the North Island for day trips. We wanted to explore the North Island without worrying about luggage or hotels. We also wanted the option to spend a few days not traveling and just relaxing.





Things are getting steamy at Hells Gate.



Waitomo Caves.

Rotorua also offered us many hot bathing opportunities: the *Polynesian Spa*, *Hells Gate* mud spa, the 'secret' thermal waterfall and the hot spa pool at *Guysers Gaystay*. A Maori cultural show/dinner was also on our list of things to do, so Rotorua was the natural choice for us to experience this.

**Tell us a bit about your time spent staying at Guysers Gaystay.**

When traveling so far from home it was important for us to stay at a welcoming, ideally gay (or very gay-friendly) place for at least a portion of our trip. This gave us a local perspective on Kiwi culture. Mike and Peter at *Guysers* were great about checking out our plans for the day and offering suggestions and recommending things we didn't know about, and pointing us to the best local restaurants. Their breakfasts each morning were really good too!

**Continued over...**



**What were some of the attractions you did while in Rotorua and what was the highlight?**

On our way to Rotorua from Auckland, we saw the *Glow Worm Caves* in Waitomo with the tour offered by *Spellbound* which has smaller group sizes. One day we went on the *Redwoods Tree Walk*, drove by the Blue Lake to take in the scenery, and went to *Hells Gate* geothermal park to explore and relax in the mud spa there. We also visited *Wai-O-Tapu*, and a secret hot waterfall that Peter and Mike took us to.

The most exciting and unique attraction for us was halfway between Rotorua and Taupo; the *NZ Riverjet* adventure and *"The Squeeze"*. It's a jet boat that takes a scenic tour down the Waikato river, passing by *Orakei Korako* geothermal park with great views from the river. Then you get off the boat and waded up to a water-filled chasm that you 'squeeze' through

to find a waterfall flowing with hot thermal water where you each get a turn to stand under. The return trip on the jet boat is fast with lots of crazy 360° spins. It's an incredible adventure we highly recommend.



Squeezing our way through "The Squeeze".

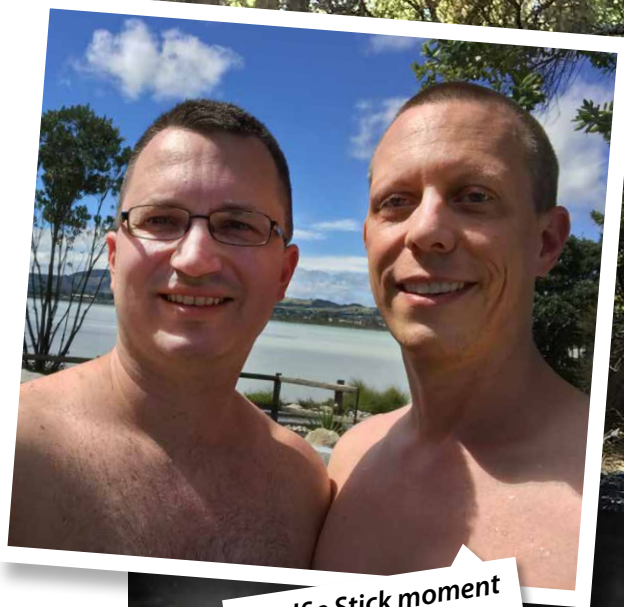


Holding on tight as we go into another 360° spin.



**Would you like to return to Rotorua some day?**

Absolutely! We had an excellent time in Rotorua, and there's still plenty to see, and places nearby we didn't have a chance to get to. Plus, relaxation is a crucial part of any holiday for us. We went to the Polynesian Spa twice, and made good use of the spa pool at *Guysers Gaystay* almost every night. What's not to like about Rotorua? 🌿



*A Selfie Stick moment at the Polynesian Spa.*



*First in sets the dress code! Skinny dipping at the 'secret waterfall', Wai-O-Tapu.*



# Tourism



Drama  
queen

## Is Rotorua really that smelly? Getting over the drama queen episode

Nick-named *The Sulphur City*, Rotorua does have a rather unique aroma due to its hydrogen sulphide emissions (in certain areas). Rotorua has been described as smelling distinctly like rotten eggs (*Rotten-rua* is another nickname given by some extremely sensitive drama queens!).

The strongest sulphur smell comes from the central-east area due to the dense sulphur deposits located next to the southern boundary of the Government Gardens, in the area known as 'Sulphur Point'. Sometimes the smell can be noticeable along the motel strip of Fenton Street and up through Whakarewarewa.

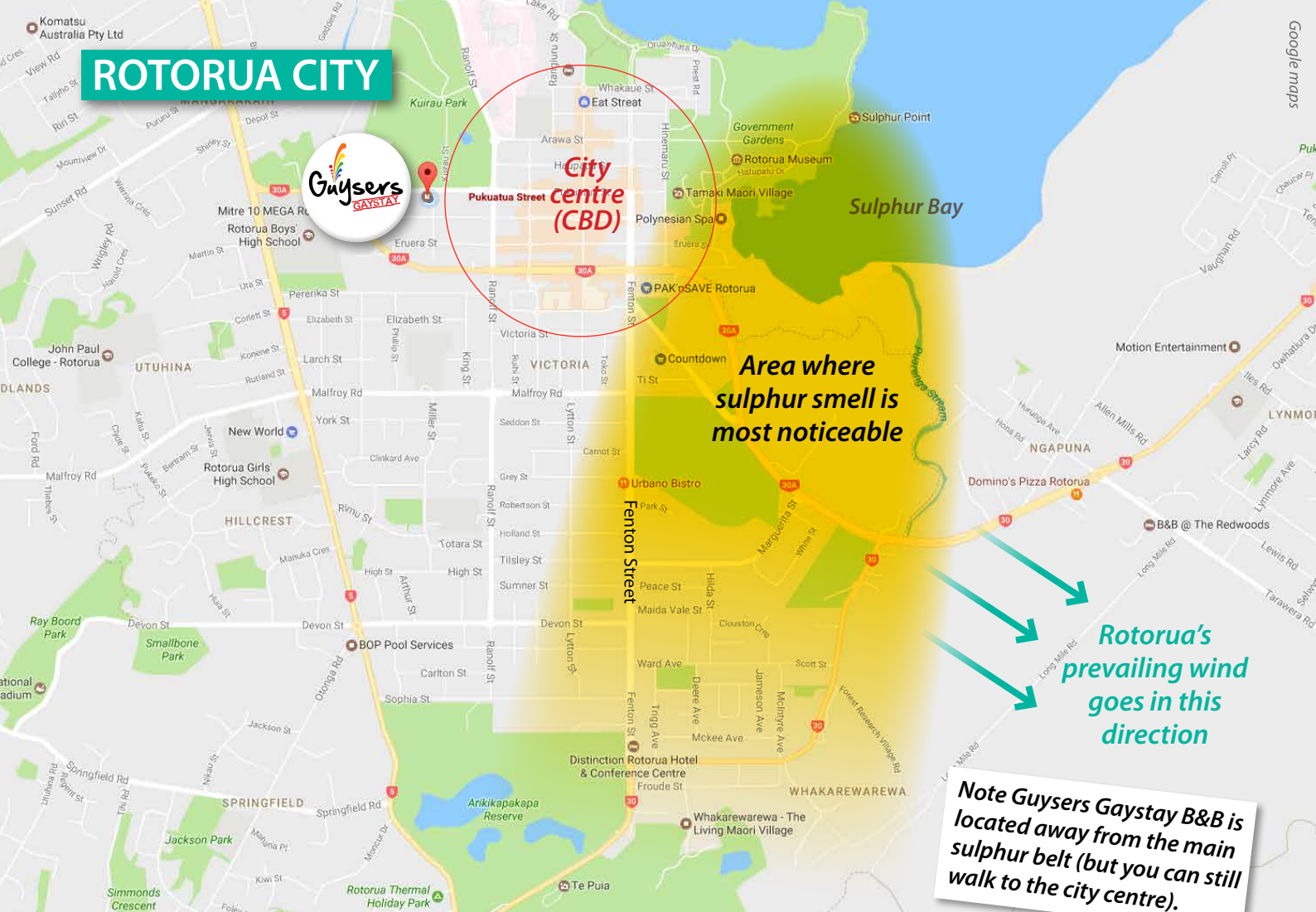
The smell does end up growing on you, and instead of the smell becoming unbearable the longer you stay, the noticeable aroma soon fades, and once a traveller has moved on from Rotorua, it may even be missed!

The occasional waft of sulphur is a reminder of the geothermal activity of this beautiful region, the intense presence of beneficial minerals and the readily available natural remedies that Mother Nature offers freely in Rotorua.

We've had several guests stay with us here at *Guysers Gaystay* who booked for just one night having been given dud advise that "*Rotorua stinks, you'd only want one night there*".



# ROTORUA CITY



What poor advise this is, as the smell is only noticeable in the area shown on the map above and some of the geothermal parks. It's also important to note that where *Guysers Gaystay* B&B is located, we rarely experience any sulphur smells here, unless there is low cloud cover and the wind is blowing in an easterly direction (which is seldom).

Despite popular myth, living with Rotorua's distinctive sulphur smell won't slow your mind nor will it aggravate asthma sufferers, according to a new study by US and Kiwi researchers. Before findings of this study, some researchers had inconclusively linked exposure to the gas to a range of negative effects on the brain. *"The key thing we found is there is no evidence of a harmful effect,"* said co-author Professor Michael Bates, of the University of California at Berkeley. More than 1600 residents aged 18-65 were surveyed.

**A 2009 Italian study found a link between hydrogen sulphide and male sexual arousal, suggesting Rotorua's aroma could benefit men's erections and sexual performance. Now there's a great reason to visit Rotorua!**

Rotorua is an experience not to be missed when travelling New Zealand. Its geothermal significance is profound and in most cases, a once in a lifetime opportunity to see such wonders up close. The sometimes overpowering, but most often just a whiff, scent of Rotorua is not a deterrent to visit, rather an invitation to the senses to envelope yourself in the natural marvels of this volcanic heartland. 🌿





*Taking a shower under a hot thermal waterfall. Nature at its best!*

# The magic of Rotorua in winter time

**Are you suffering from the winter blues? Feeling cold, depressed and house-bound? Maybe you need a break away in Rotorua.**

**Rotorua is a great destination to visit during winter time offering an array of thermal experiences, hot springs and spas to relax and unwind as well as high adventure activities for adrenalin junkies.**



*Smearing it all over at Hells Gate mud spa.*



A few days staying at **Guysers Gaystay B&B** in Rotorua could be just what you need to lift the spirits during winter time. Come and relax in our warm home and have a hot soak in our spa pool.

Rotorua City is in the base of a caldera which is dotted with geothermal parks, hot springs and bubbling mud. The geothermal waters in this area are enjoyed by thousands of people worldwide who flock here each year.

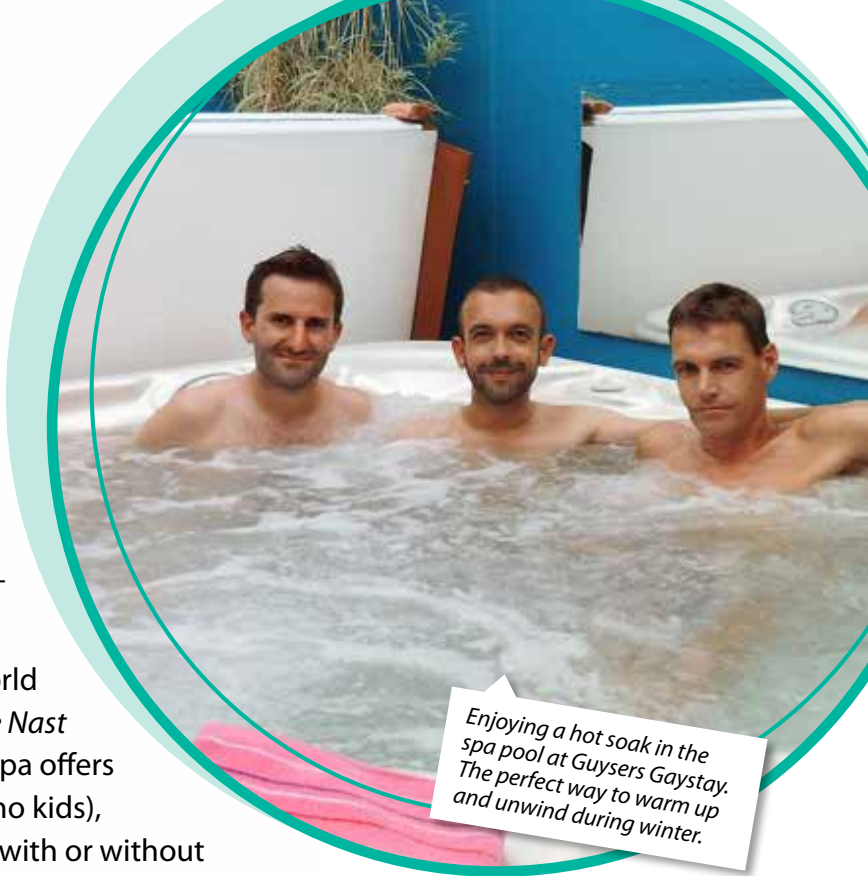
The **Polynesian Spa** in Rotorua is a World Top 10 Spa facility (as voted by *Conde Nast Traveller* magazine). The Polynesian Spa offers various spa areas – the Adult Pools (no kids), Deluxe Lake Spa, and Private Pools (with or without lake views). The Polynesian Spa also offers a range of treatments from therapeutic massage to facials and body wraps.

There are only two places on earth where the thermal mud mineral qualities are identical – here in Rotorua and Iceland! Head out to **Hells Gate** to immerse yourself in this healthy, smooth, silky mud that will leave your skin feeling soft as a babies.

Don't let wet or cold winter weather be a deterrent to come to Rotorua at this time.

Rotorua is a fun place to visit whatever the weather or season. A perfect winter activity is **Off Road NZ**. Here you can self-drive your own 4WD vehicle and manoeuvre through native New Zealand forest, over hair-raising obstacles and through loads of mud and slush. Such fun!

If you're still left wanting more action, strap yourself in on their Monster 4X4 vehicle with its giant fat wheels that can drive over anything!



Enjoying a hot soak in the spa pool at Guysers Gaystay. The perfect way to warm up and unwind during winter.



Buckle up for the greatest all-terrain 4WD adventure with Off Road NZ. Unbelievably steep climbs and descents. A great winter activity made even more fun when its wet!



The Monster 4X4

Continued over...



## Continued...

The **Polynesian Spa** has a unique reflexology walkway made with various sized pebbles that massage the soles of your feet as you walk along it. After an action-packed day of adventure in Rotorua, you'll be needing a walk on this!

Rotorua has several geothermal parks all with their own unique features. These can be visited any time of year and they are just as colourful even when it's raining. There is a saying in New Zealand: *"If you wait for the weather, you'll wait forever"*, so don't be a sissy, if it's raining take a rain coat and umbrella and just do it!

During winter when its wet outside, rather than try and hide from it, get out and embrace it!

I mean, if you're gonna get wet, you may as well get drenched! A great way to do this is with **River Rats Rafting** on the Grade 5 **Kaituna River**. This river is famous for its big plunges and the jaw-dropping 7-metre waterfall. No previous rafting experience is required. All instructions, wetsuits and safety gear is provided. Just be prepared to scream like a queen!

Rotorua's **OGO** and **Zorb** is another great winter activity. Providing there is not high wind about, they will operate. They throw 40 litres of warm water into the globe balls to keep you nice and warm. They even have a hot spa pool where you can keep warm between rides. Nice! 🌟

For more Rotorua activity information visit our 'Attractions' tab:

<https://guysersgaystay.com>



Waioatapu



Rotorua's OGO and Zorb have thought of everything – they put warm water in their balls during winter for you to slosh and slide down the hillside. Serious fun!







Australian Rugby League's Penrith Panthers enjoy the reflexology walk at the Polynesian Spa.  
Image: Tourism Industry Aotearoa



Experience Grade 5 whitewater rafting at its best on Rotorua's Kaituna River. It's a rush!





100%  
PURE


# The 'Living Waters' of Waikite Valley

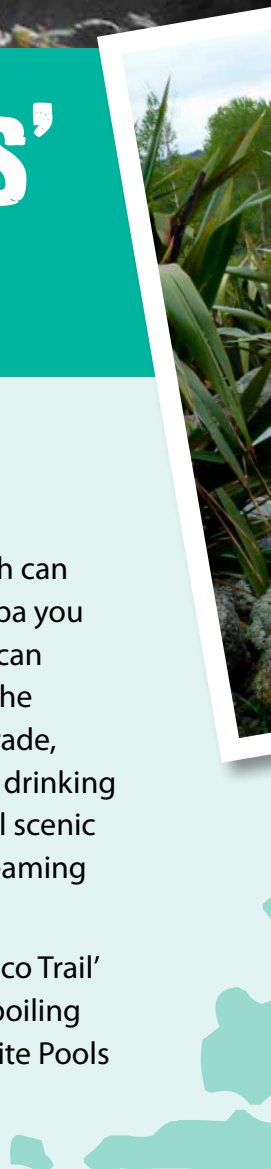
**See it! Hear it! Feel it! Breathe it! Experience it!**

Less than a 30-minute drive from Rotorua and close to the Waiootapu Geothermal Wonderland is the **Waikite Valley Thermal Pools** – a unique place to go to experience the 'Living Waters' from the magnificent *Te Manaroa Spring*, the largest single source of 100% pure boiling water in New Zealand.

There are six outdoor hot mineral pools to choose from including a family pool (for kids), adults passive bathing pools, a pergola pool with a roof over you, a garden pool with scenic views, and two round cool-down tubs that are set at a lower temperature.

They also have four private spas which can be hired for 30 minutes. In a private spa you can bathe naked if you wish and you can control the temperature yourselves. The 'Spa Plus' package includes pool upgrade, complimentary towel hire and spring drinking water. All private spas have open rural scenic views overlooking the boiling and steaming Otamakokore River.

After your swim take the 10-minute 'Eco Trail' walk to see the impressive, furiously boiling *Te Manaora Spring* for which the Waikite Pools sources its water from. 



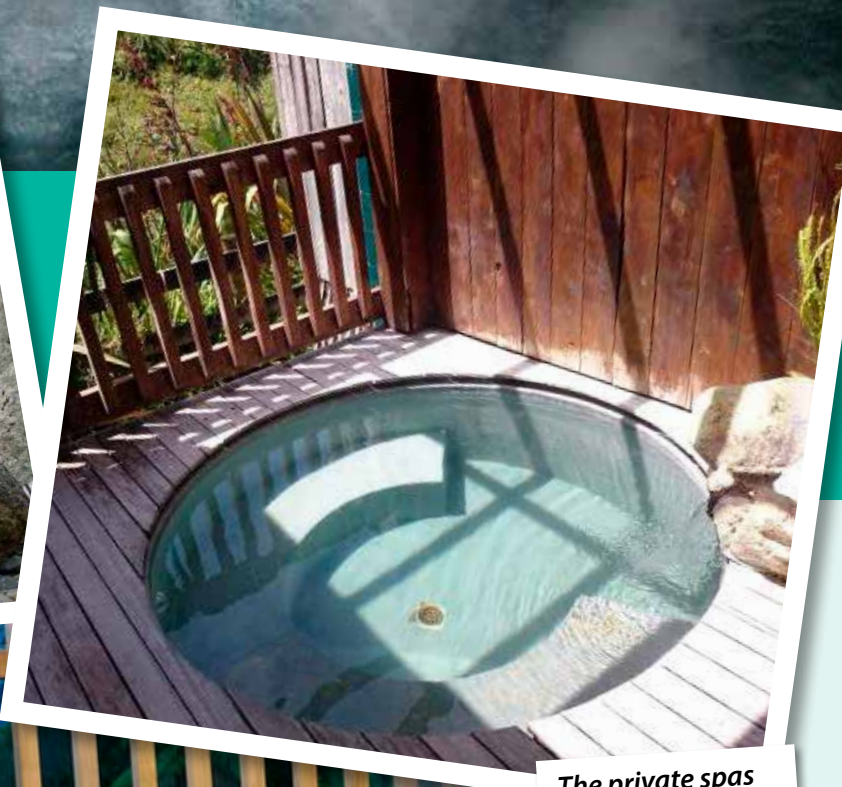




*The boiling Te Manaroa Spring.*



*The Garden Pool is the perfect place to soak away the worries and stresses of the day. Unwind and enjoy nature in this 39° C pool.*



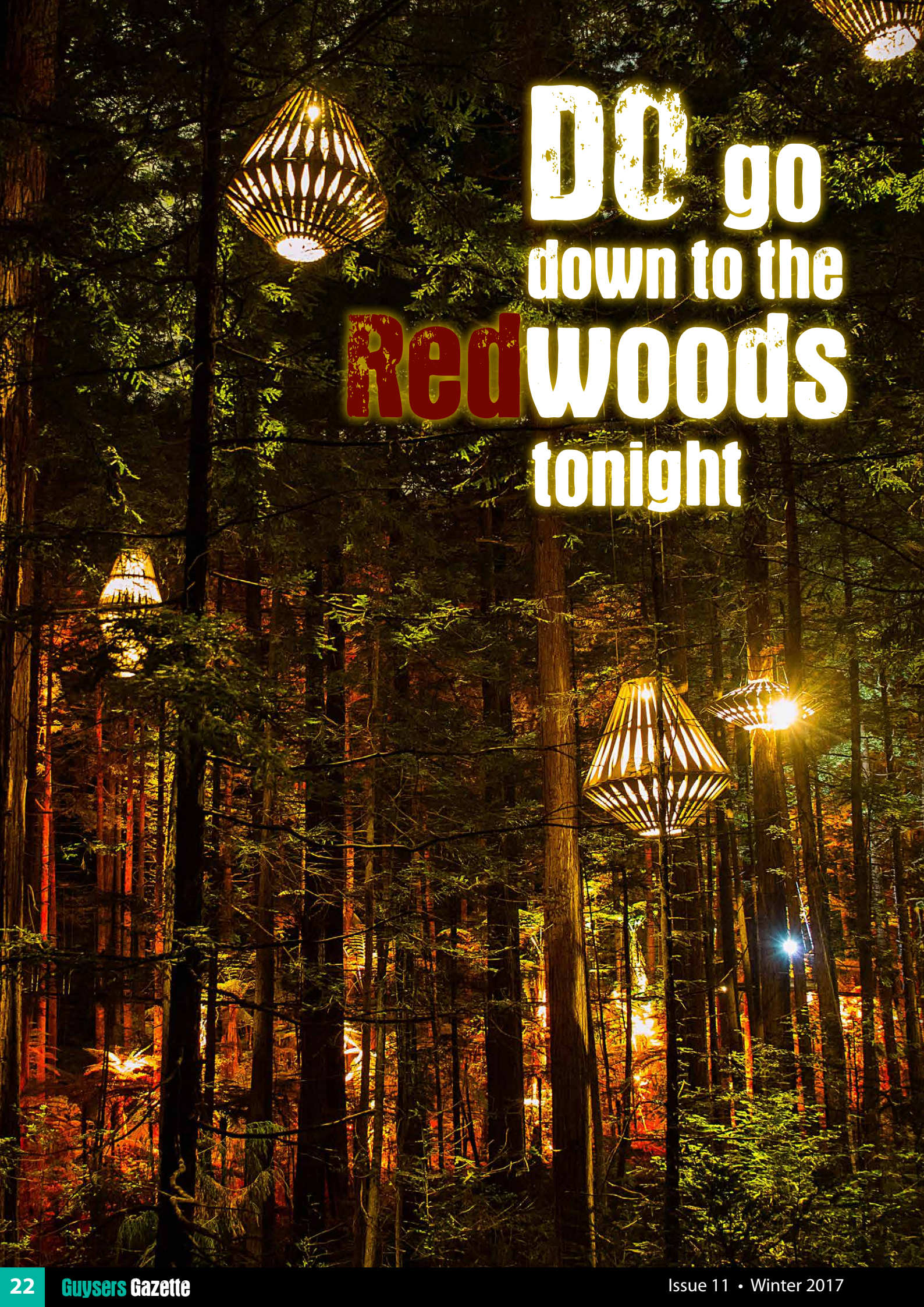
*The private spas have 3 walls with one end open to admire the view.*



*If you prefer to have quiet time by yourselves away from other people and kids, rent a private spa.*

Waikite Pools  
648 Waikite Valley Road, Rotorua  
Open daily  
10am – 9pm





**DO go**  
down to the  
**Redwoods**  
tonight



**Rotorua's greenest attraction, the *Redwoods Treewalk*, is now even more stunning by night with the illuminated '*Redwoods Nightlights*' after dark experience.**

*Redwoods Treewalk* and David Trubridge Design have partnered to create an iconic nocturnal tourism experience: the *Redwoods Nightlights*. Incorporating unique creations from New Zealand world-acclaimed design and sustainability champion David Trubridge; the *Nightlights* is one of New Zealand's few design-led tourism experiences.

The new night-time experience will offer visitors and locals the opportunity to explore Rotorua's majestic Redwood forest under the shroud of darkness; illuminated by Trubridges' bespoke creations to create an immersive and captivating environment.

In addition to the Trubridge lighting, which encompasses 30 lanterns, over 40 infinite colour spots and feature lights will illuminate the 115-year-old redwood trees, forest ferns and punga.

The lights are up to 2.5 meters tall and were made at the David Trubridge workshop in Hastings and assembled by a team in the forest. Creating outdoor lighting was challenging especially for the forest environment, however, all lights were assembled and installed by hand in the forest with the team taking care not to damage the forest environment.

***Nightlights* hours – Winter:** Check website  
**Daylight Saving months:** 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm  
(last tickets sold 30 minutes before closing).  
Best viewed once its dark. 🌟

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, additional photographs, FAQs, location and current prices and opening hours please visit:  
[www.treewalk.co.nz](http://www.treewalk.co.nz)



*David Trubridge-designed sculptural light shades being assembled in the workshop.*



# The best view in town

The end of Daylight Saving brings nights that are darker earlier. When dusk falls over Rotorua head up to the *Skyline* complex for the best views of Rotorua City by night and enjoy a delicious meal at the award-winning *Stratosfare Restaurant*.

First opened in 1985, *Skyline* has become one of the most iconic tourist attractions in Rotorua. The gondolas have transported over 8 million people on its 900 metre cableway system to the top of the *Skyline* complex on Mt Ngongotaha.

During daylight hours visitors can go wine tasting at *Volcanic Hills Wines*, shop for quality products at the *iNZpired Store*, take a walk on the nature trails or try the exciting activity options such as the *Luge*, *Skyswing* or the 383 metre *Zoom Zipline*.

When dusk falls head to the *Stratosfare Restaurant* for dinner while admiring the most stunning 180 degree views over Rotorua.

The *Stratosfare Restaurant* features a stunning array of freshly prepared buffet and cooked-

to-order dishes highlighting locally sourced seafood, meat and produce. This restaurant is a unique and decadent Rotorua dining experience not to be missed.

After your dinner you can view the stars and planets through powerful telescopes with *Skyline's Star Gazing* experience.

Soak up the views of Lake Rotorua and the city's lights by night returning down the hillside in complete silence and darkness inside the gondola.

*Skyline* will leave you with lasting memories. 🌟

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please visit:

[www.skyline.co.nz/rotorua/](http://www.skyline.co.nz/rotorua/)

If you stay with us at *Guysers Gaystay* we can pre-book a dinner reservation for you. Enquire with us:

[enquiries@guysersgaystay.com](mailto:enquiries@guysersgaystay.com)







PAST EVENT

# Events

## 2017 Geysers Foundation Garden Art Festival





**The Geyser Community Foundation is unique in Rotorua and Taupo in that it is the only charitable organisation established solely to seek legacies and gifts from throughout the community, invest those funds and distribute them back into the Rotorua and Taupo communities.**

**The Garden Art Festival organised by the Geyser Community Foundation has occurred each summer for 2 years now. It gives visitors a chance to stroll through one of the most beautiful gardens in Rotorua while viewing the many artworks that are for sale.**

This year the *Garden Art Festival* was held in late February over 3 gorgeous days of sunny weather.

The setting is held in a massive private property located at Kawaha Point, next to Lake Rotorua. The property and gardens are stunning in their own right let alone the wonderful artworks that were strategically placed around them.

There were artworks made of metal, stone, wood, glass, pottery, ceramics as well as paintings by established Rotorua artists such as Terry Fergusson. All works of art on display were for sale ranging from absolute bargains to more expensive art collector pieces.

We purchased a beautiful large Buddha head for just \$150 which we now have as a feature set in our front garden at Guysers Gaystay (see next spread).

What is great about Rotorua is there is always something good going on.

'Like' the Geyser Community Foundation's Facebook page to get notified of any future *Garden Art Festivals* that may be organised.

**Continued over...**



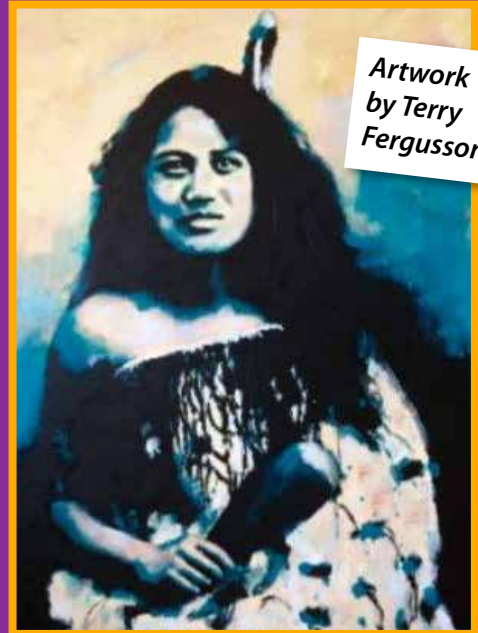




*Socialising with drinks and nibbles. A chance to chat with the organisers, Mayor Steve Chadwick, Rotorua MP Todd McClay, other VIPs and visitors.*



*Colourful glazed pottery flowers look effective in bunches.*



*Artwork by Terry Fergusson.*



*Contemporary design butterflies.*



*Quirky metal roosters randomly placed on the lawn brings smiles.*



Life is too short  
to have a boring  
garden!



We purchased this very nice Buddha head which now has pride of place in our front garden at Guysers Gaystay (to fit with our Asian-inspired theme).



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## RAGS

**Rotorua Area Gay Society (RAGS)**  
**Rotorua's weekly gay men's social group**

The RAGS group meets every Wednesday evening from 5 pm at a selected bar for a few drinks followed by dinner at a local restaurant. This social get-together is for both Rotorua locals and tourists/visitors alike who would like to join us.

To attend 'RAGS on Wednesdays' please email [info@gayrotorua.com](mailto:info@gayrotorua.com) with your name and mobile number and we'll be in touch with details.



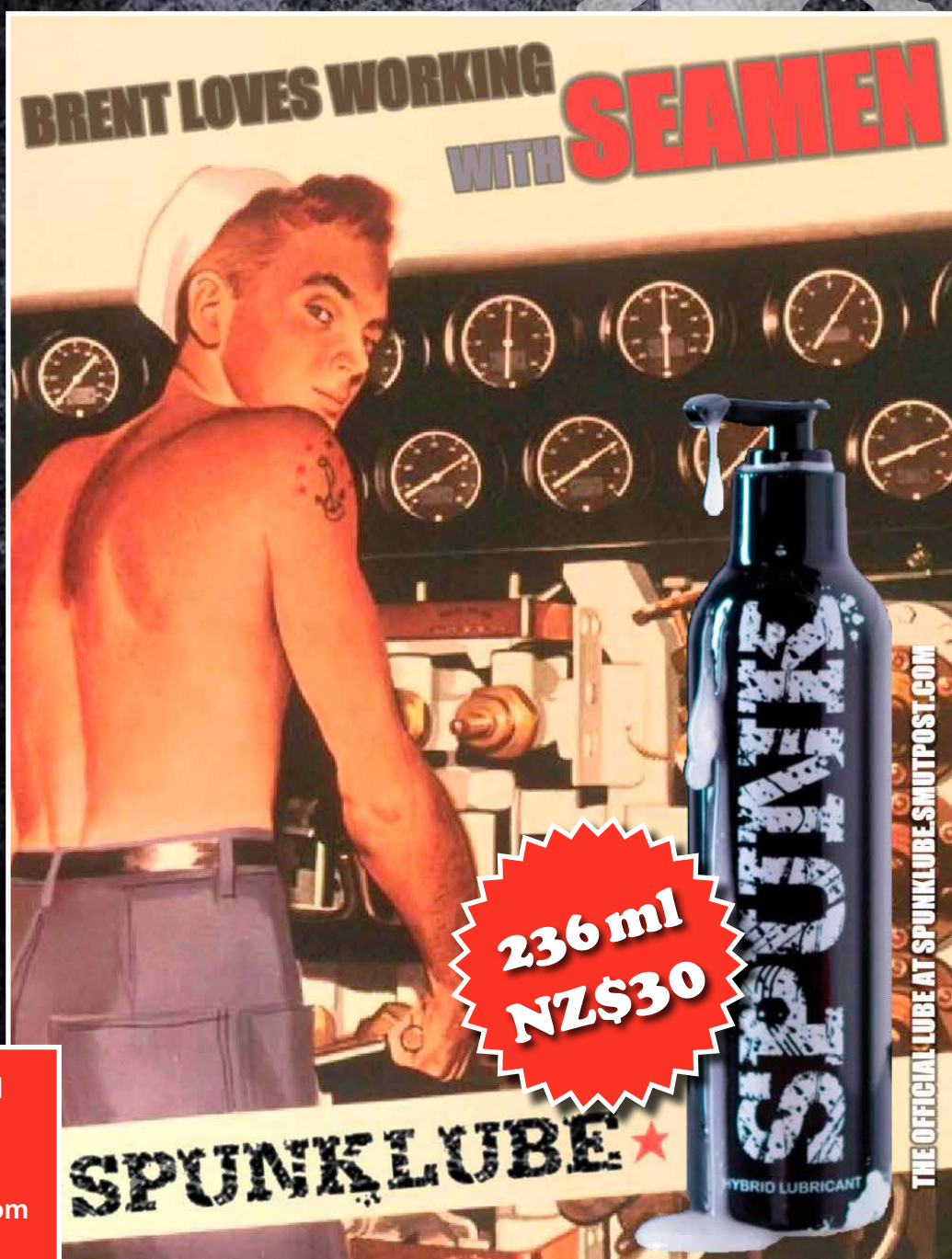
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