## GUYSGIS Gazette

**Barefoot and kilted in Rotorua** 

Wai-O-Tapu Wonderland

**Escape to the Redwoods** 

**Sniffing Poppers** 



## Contants

Enjoying a sunny day out at Papamoa Beach. Just 45 mins drive from Rotorua.

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#### **GUYSERS GAYSTAY**

Hosted B&B for gay men

1406c Pukuatua Street Rotorua, New Zealand

Phone: NZ +64 (0) 21 0298 8093

enquiries@guysersgaystay.com

https://guysersgaystay.com



facebook.com/GuysersGaystayRotorua

## Welcome

Welcome to the summer edition of our very own quarterly e-magazine "Guysers Gazette".

Summer is now in full swing and we are very much in holiday mode! New Zealand is getting an increased flow of overseas visitors – most of whom have Rotorua on their itinerary. Here at *Guysers Gaystay* we have been hosting gay travellers from all over the world including America, Canada, Europe, the UK, Australia, and even Chile, to name a few.

In this issue of *Guysers Gazette* we share with you one couples experience of their time spent in Rotorua during their summer holiday, we visit two of Rotorua's major tourist attractions; *Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland* and the *Redwood Forest*, and we sample the street food at the *Rotorua Thursday Night Market*.

We check out a few NZ online shopping websites where you can buy some cool summer essentials, and we look into the good, the bad, and the ugly side effects of sniffing poppers (amyl).

We finish with a favourite recipe of ours that will sure to be a pleaser at your next party – our sticky Indonesian meatballs, and we have 3 yummy Mojito recipies perfect for summer. *Enjoy!* 

**Peter & Mike** 

Guysers Gaystay, Rotorua, New Zealand

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## Return of the great Kiwi summer



Summer has returned to New Zealand and with daylight saving in full effect we are having many long, hot, glorious days of sunshine lasting well into the evenings.

The sunny weather sees everyone in holiday mode and looking forward to some time off over the Christmas/New Year period. Jeans, hoodies and sweatshirts are put to the back of the wardrobe and replaced with shorts, singlets, jandals (flip flops) and sunglasses.

For many New Zealanders Christmas parties and BBQ's are frequent and day trips to the beach or lakes have to be juggled with summer DIY projects around the house. People all over the country are travelling around visiting friends, family, grandparents and relatives and spending a few days away here and there, using their time wisely before having to head back to work in the New Year.

At *Guysers Gaystay* in Rotorua we are seeing an influx of overseas tourists coming here to enjoy the best of our summer weather and to experience the many scenic and outdoor activities this great city has to offer. Summertime is the best time of year to experience the many outdoor tourist attractions in Rotorua such as the geothermal parks, rafting, kayaking, ziplining, Zorbing, jet boating, luge rides, Maori cultural villages and hot pools (to name a few).





If you are on a tighter holiday cash budget or are not interested in doing the commercial tourist attractions, you can simply jump in the car with a picnic hamper and head off to one of 18 lakes in the district or to several of the rivers or thermal streams and waterfalls around the Rotorua region. Most of these lakes and rivers can be reached in 30 minutes or less by car and we can provide you with a map or take you there ourselves by arrangement.

Continued over...

If you feel like a day at the seaside head up to Mt Maunganui or Papamoa Beach for the day just 45 minutes from Rotorua City. Here you can enjoy the sun, sand, sea and surf and work on achieving a golden tan (safely of course - the New Zealand sun can be harsh at times and you can burn easily without the right level of sunscreen).

Papamoa Beach stretches for miles and has soft white/grey sand and a lovely ocean ideal for swimming or boggie boarding. Generally most areas are safe for swimming but occasionally you will see indications of rips so avoid these.

Papamoa Beach has been a well-known nudist beach for some 30 years, but in recent times with beachside housing developments the 'nude section' has been reduced in size to a just a few hundred

If scenic bush walks or hiking is more your style a trip to see the spectacular Tarawera Falls is achievable in a few hours from Rotorua. A 35 minute drive from Rotorua City to the township of Kawerau is where you will need to purchase a permit to enter the forestry area (NZ\$5). From here its another 20 kilometres to the car park area where the walk begins to the stunning Tarawera Falls. This is a beautiful walk to do in summertime and a great picnic spot too.

Tarawera Falls.



**Guysers** Gazette

Summer in New Zealand is when the Pohutukawa trees burst into red flower. These trees are nicknamed the 'New Zealand Christmas Tree' because of their bright red and green colours and the fact they are looking their best in December. Pohutukawa trees are seen in many coastal areas around New Zealand as they are hardy and can cope with the conditions, but they also grow inland as well. Rotorua also has some fine specimens and these can be seen in flower within the Polynesian Spa grounds and other areas around the city.



Our garden at *Guysers Gaystay* also comes to life in the summer months. Maroon coloured Canna Lilies, ice blue Hydrangeas, white flower ginger plants and orange ground covers all put on a great display.



As well as Rotorua being one of the top tourist destinations in New Zealand our location is such that we are never far from the beach, lakes, rivers or forests – all of which make a great summers outing.

Returning back to *Guysers Gaystay* in the afternoon guests are able to enjoy the remaining sunshine with a glass of wine or a cool beer in the privacy of our sunny back yard or have a relaxing hot soak in the spa pool before heading out to dinner.

https://guysersgaystay.com







We had the pleasure of hosting two lovely guys from England, Sean (far left) and Mark, during their summer holiday in New Zealand. Sean has been to New Zealand many times, but this trip was a first to New Zealand for Mark (who not only enjoys wearing kilts but chooses to walk barefoot wherever he goes!)

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

I (Sean) have visited New Zealand 11 times in the last 12 years for holidays of 4-7 weeks, so have spent about 18 months in total exploring Godzone country. I still havn't seen everything the place has to offer.

Mark lives to travel and explore the world having visited over 60 countries from Madagascar to Everest Base Camp, loving serious tramping ALL barefoot! However, this was his first trip to New Zealand and I was keen to show him what he had been missing all his life.

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

The amazing contrast between the familiar and unfamiliar, the ordinary and the extraordinary. Parks and gardens which would not look out of place on an English country estate yet turn your head and there are boiling mud pools behind you. A stroll down a street full of great restaurants which could be anywhere, then a whiff of

sulphurous steam from just below the pavement reminds you that this is no ordinary place. Fast flowing streams through green countryside turn out to be HOT natural spa baths.

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

We always try to stay at a recommended Gaystay B&B and we were so pleased that we had chosen *Guysers*. Really welcoming

hosts who made us feel at home instantly. Being clothing-optional was a bonus as we feel even more relaxed without any inhibitions. Breakfasts were relaxed, sociable affairs with plenty to choose from and our hosts couldn't have been more helpful suggesting trips and tours. At the end of a long day seeing the sights it was wonderful to have a hot soak in the spa pool.

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

Over the years I have visited so many of the attractions that Rotorua has to offer, from the float plane trips over the lake and on to Tarawera, the must-see Pohutu geyser and surrounding geothermal wonders and the Buried Village are all high up on the list. We visited the Jade Factory, rather commercial but with some excellent carvings. Mark treated himself to a very special Manaia pendant and was able to speak to the artist as he worked. For us, everything was a highlight but in a different way.

## Would you like to return to Rotorua someday?

You bet! I've always wanted to take a tour up to the rim of Tarawera and I've always run out of time on previous visits. Another helicopter trip to White Island would be nice too!

Next year we have trips to Central Africa, Japan and Iceland booked so I won't be getting my New Zealand fix this time, but rest assured we'll be back in 2016.



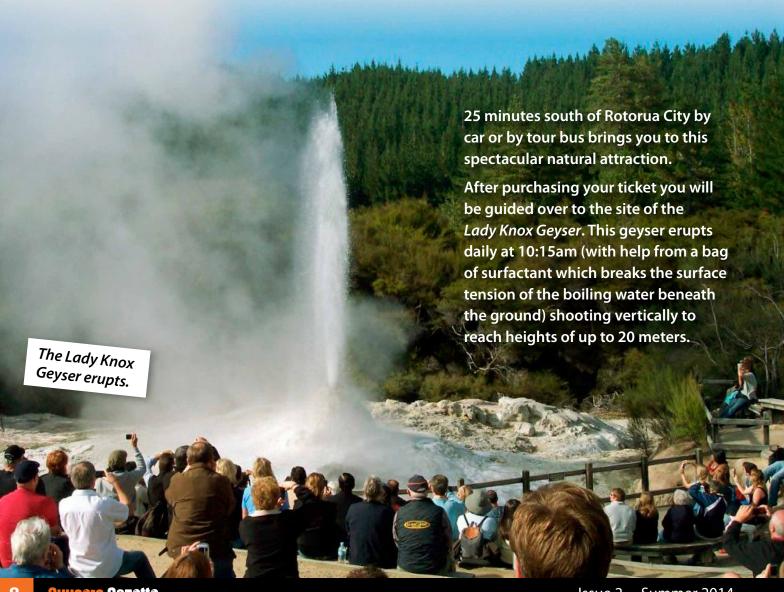
Mark's beautiful Jade Maori pendant, purchased from Mountain Jade, Rotorua.

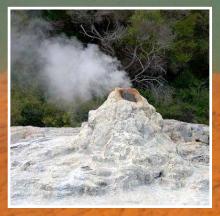


Mark, Sean, Pete and Mike skinny dipping at Kerosene Creek, Rotorua.

# Tourism Wai-O-Tapu A geothermal wonderland

No trip to Rotorua (or New Zealand for that matter) is complete without visiting Wai-O-Tapu Thermal Wonderland – New Zealand's most colourful and diverse volcanic area. Full of spectacular geothermal activity, violent boiling mud pools, volcanic craters, steam vents and colourful lakes and mineral pools.









The Lady Knox Geyser begins to erupt.

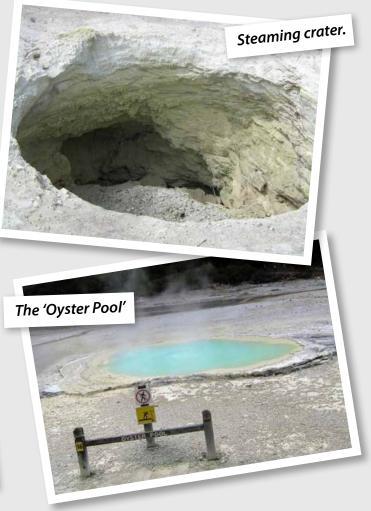
I know what you're thinking: 'it's not a real geyser because they have to put soap down it to make it go'. Well, it is a real geyser. Around 1908 the Wai-O-Tapu area was home to a prison camp. Prisoners sent out to plant trees (for the forestry industry) came across a small pool of hot water. After working up a sweat their clothes got a bit smelly so they decided to strip off and wash their clothes with soap in the hot pool they discovered. A few minutes later the prisoners got one hell of a shock as the pool began to erupt!

Since the discovery of the geyser people have been adding soap down the hole (or these days surfactant which is more eco-friendly) to make the geyser erupt. Without this help, the geyser would erupt naturally, but the timing of each eruption would be at random.

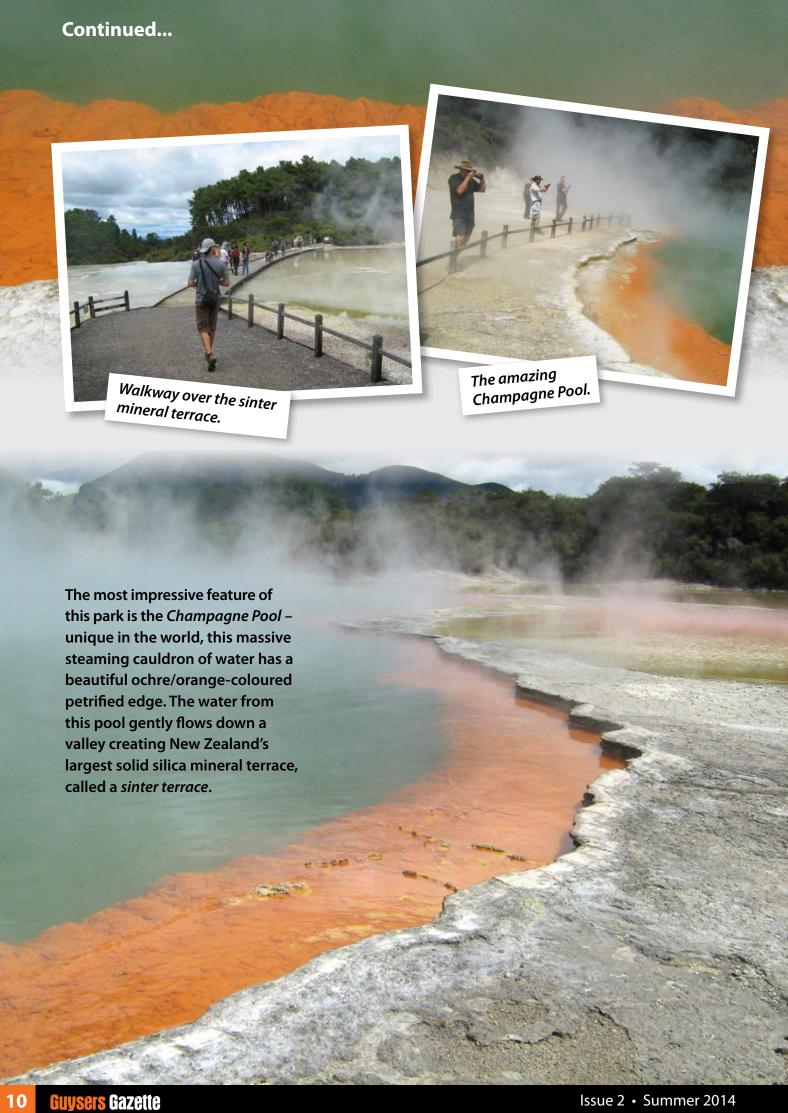
'Soaping the geyser'. 1927

Over time the build up of mineral deposits created the cone shape that it has today.

After the geyser has finished you will then begin your walk around the geothermal valley. Following the well-formed paths you will pass dozens of craters and pools of varying colours.



**Continued over...** 





Other features in the valley include boiling mud pools and black ink pots. Sulphur vents colour rock caves bright yellow including the water in one last pool towards the end of the walkway (shown above).

After you have walked around the entire geothermal field and have run out of batteries taking photos you can stop by the souvenir shop or grab a bite to eat or a drink at the café.

If you have brought your own car (or hire car

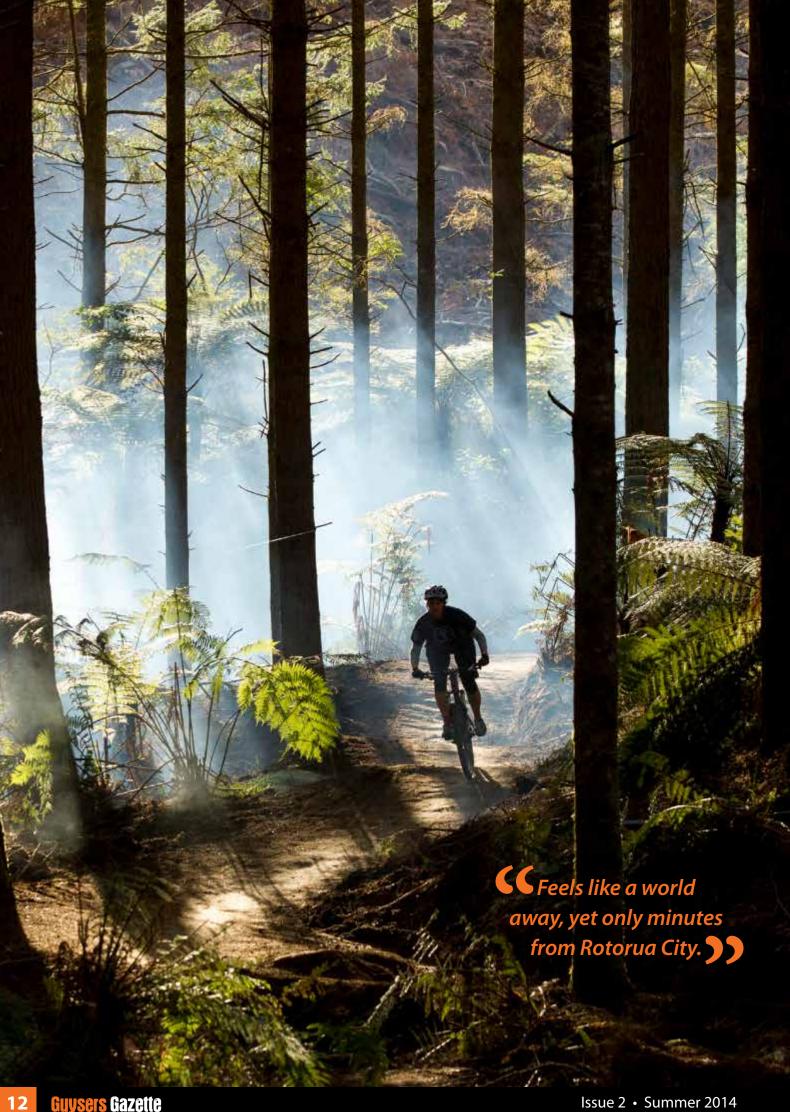
Guysers Gaystay in Rotorua take a hot dip at 'The Secret Spot' waterfall. As this private waterfall is a bit of a local secret we will have to give you instructions on how to get there.

Before leaving the Wai-O-Tapu area don't forget to stop at the *free* mud pool on the Wai-O-Tapu Loop Road – this is Rotorua's largest mud pool. A must see! 🌞

enquiries@guysersgaystay.com



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## Escape to the Redwoods

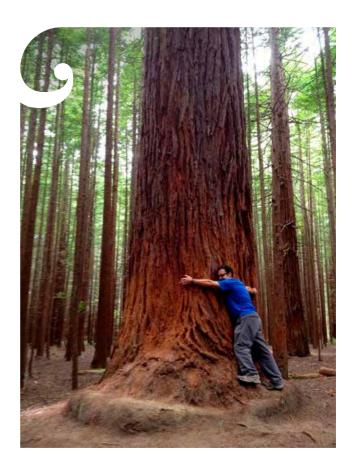
Just a few minutes drive from the Rotorua City CBD is the Whakarewarewa Redwood Forest. Free to explore and enjoy by foot or mountain bike, this forest encompasses 5667 hectares (13,993 acres) of native and exotic trees including the impressive Californian Redwood trees that stand to a whopping 72 metres.

170 tree species from all over the world were originally planted in the Whakarewarewa Forest from 1899 making it the first exotic forest in New Zealand. The intention was to see which tree species could be grown successfully as timber trees in the central North Island. Radiata pine's outstanding comparative advantages were discovered as a result of these plantings, and they have become the most important commercial species in the country.

While many of the trees planted did not survive the conditions, six hectares (15 acres) of majestic Californian Redwoods planted in 1901 proved to thrive which now form the heart of this recreational forest.

The Redwood Forest is one of Rotorua's most spectacular natural assets and has some of the finest walking and mountain bike trails in the world. Not to mention taking in superb panoramic views of Rotorua City, Lake Rotorua and the surrounding district.





From the Visitor Centre there are 6 sign posted walking tracks (that are colour-coded) that cater for half hour leisure walks through to all-day hikes and all length of walks in between.

If you enjoy mountain biking, the Redwood Forest offers 90km of continually evolving trails with an unbeatable blend of riding surfaces, topography and scenery.

Bikes can be hired from cycle shops within the Rotorua CBD, from the Rotorua Mountain Bike carpark (mtbrotorua.co.nz) or from Planet Bike Hire (planetbike.co.nz).

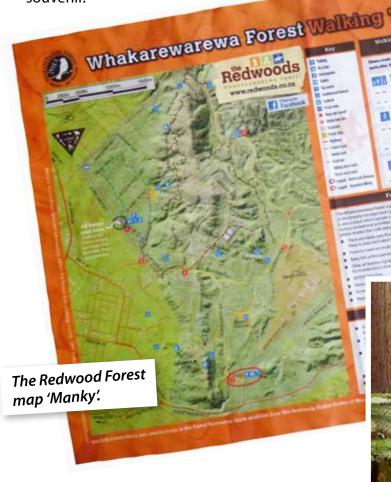
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#### Continued...

All walking tracks are well-formed and clearly sign-posted. However, if you choose to go on a particularly long walk or bike ride you may like to think about purchasing a Redwood Forest 'Manky' (a map on a hanky).

This map is printed on a washable soft silk material which shows all the paths and trails so you can find your way back safely. The Manky can be stuffed into your pocket or used as bandana. The cost of a Manky is approx NZ\$20 and makes a great souvenir.





The Redwood Forest is open 7 days all year round and entry is free. The main gates for vehicle access open at 5:30am and close at 8:30pm. At the Redwoods i-SITE Visitor Centre there is a gift shop selling an extensive range of quality handcrafted native wooden gifts, natural skin care products, jewellery, ceramics, stationery and much more.

Be sure to visit the Redwood Forest when you come and stay with us in Rotorua. \*\*





Discover a secret spot in the forest where you soak in your own cedar hot tub surrounded by New Zealand native plants and ferns.

If you don't feel like full body hot tub try a "Shinny Dip" foot hot tub FREE with any drinks purchase. A great place for pre-dinner drinks or a hot soak after mountain biking in the Whakarewarewa forest.

Open daily 9:00am to 10:00pm



## A guide to New Zealand

Here are a few helpful things you should know about New Zealand if you are planning your next vacation here.



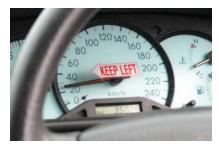
New Zealand has very strict quarantine rules when entering the country. Do not bring in any food, seeds, plant material, illegal items (including some forms of pornography) or drugs of any kind. Follow the entry card well. If in doubt, declare it.



New Zealand (or Aotearoa) means 'the land of the long white cloud'. Our weather can change dramatically from day to day, even in summer. Always bring a range of clothes to suit all weather conditions from warm to cool to wet or windy.



New Zealand has a strong Maori culture and presence throughout the country (although most are not dressed in grass skirts!). To learn about Maori history, culture, cuisine, traditional dress, arts, song and dance, be sure to head to Rotorua!



In New Zealand we drive on the left. If you want to hire a car bring your international drivers licence with you.
Always drive to the conditions. Our speed limits are not a target! Always check travel distances and times between destinations. Although we are a small country many of our roads are single lane, windy or pass through many small towns with reduced speed limits. Always have plenty of petrol in the tank too!



New Zealand has many sheep and cattle farms. When travelling through rural parts of New Zealand it is not uncommon to encounter farmers moving stock down the road. Always drive with caution particularly around blind bends. Be sure to have travel insurance when coming to New Zealand to cover you for any mishaps. It is not wise to hitchhike or pick up hitchhikers here as there have been crimes in the past.



New Zealand is a pretty safe country to visit. However, like most places in the world these days, crimes and theft is always a possibility. Never leave any bags, money, passports or desirable items to view on the seats of your car. Always lock your vehicle and take all valuables with you. When checking into your accommodation bring all belongings into your room and lock your door and close windows if going out.



Tap water is drinkable throughout New Zealand. Some cities and towns have fluoride added to the water and some towns (like Rotorua) do not. If you dislike fluoride poison in your drinking water, bottled water is available.



New Zealand power sockets are 240 volts and use a 3-pin plug (see pic). It is handy to carry an international adapter when travelling. NZ power adapters can be purchased from the airport or from electrical stores nationwide.



Credit card facilities are generally accepted everywhere. Cash in NZ\$ is always welcome. International money must be changed as other currencies are not accepted. In some cases (like B&Bs) credit card facilities are not always available.



Homosexuality and gay marriage is legal, recognised and accepted in New Zealand (although public affection between gay men such as holding hands or kissing is still a rare sight, especially outside of the main city centres).



Gay saunas, cruise clubs & bars are in the main city centres of New Zealand (Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin). However, most gay travellers are not coming for these things, they are coming to see NZ!



To protect yourself from any unwanted sexually-transmitted nasties while on holiday always carry your own forms of protection. If you don't use condoms be sure to bring enough PrEP or meds for the duration of your trip.



The standard of restaurants and café food is very high in NZ. We have some of the best beef and lamb (and wines) in the world and we have plenty of seafood too. New Zealand offers many multi-cultural cuisines suitable for everyone.



It is impossible to see all of New Zealand in 2 or 3 weeks. Do your research and work out which areas interest you the most and spend a few days at each. You won't get to see much spending just one night here and there!



If you would like to stay in TRUE gay owned and hosted accommodation during your visit to New Zealand, be sure to check out the Gaystay NZ website (www.gaystay.co.nz). Guysers Gaystay is of course a member of this directory.

## Wisine A taste of the Rotorua Night Market

Every Thursday night, rain or shine, Rotorua's Tutanekai Street (better known as 'Eat Street') comes to life with a buzzing night market selling delicious street food, artisan breads, cheeses, fresh veggies, crafts, cosmetics and jewellery and each week there is a different band playing to entertain the crowds.

The Rotorua Night Market is just 5 minutes walk from *Guysers Gaystay*. We check out the street stalls and show you just some of the food on offer...



Sweet or savoury crepes - delish!



Artisan breads & cheeses



Venison, lamb or chicken pita pockets



Fresh Whitebait or Massel fritters



Super Long Dogs in crusty roll!



Steamed Dumplings and Dim Sims



Mexican taco or nachos, yum!



Uapanese Okonomiyaki pancakes



Italian ravioli, 2 flaours in creamy sauce



Cronuts and custard filled pastries

... and much, much more! Come and check it out in Rotorna.





## **Sniffing Poppers:**The good, the bad and the ugly

Once used to treat angina (chest pain), "amyl nitrite" (or poppers) was discovered by the gay community in the late sixties because it helps relax the sphincter making anal penetration more comfortable and pleasurable and gives the user a head rush and heightened sensations.

We've listed here the good, the bad and the ugly side effects of sniffing poppers so you can be better informed about this liquid recreational drug, otherwise known as 'amyl' and sold in sex shops and mens saunas under the guise of 'leather cleaner', 'aromas' or 'room odourisers'.

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## The good



Many gay men use poppers (the most common being isobutyl nitrite) because of the head rush and warm, relaxed feeling it creates. The vapour causes your veins and arteries to dilate resulting in the blood flowing faster through the heart and the brain creating that 'rush'.

When inhaled during sex it feels like your sexual organs have grown to Herculean proportions and you feel an almighty burst of dizzying energy.

Some men say that sniffing poppers during sex makes their orgasms feel like they last longer, and other men say it enhances their erections. Poppers is also said to help relax the anal sphincter making it easier for a bottom to be penetrated.

Poppers come in various brands and are sold in sex shops, gay saunas or are available online. They usually cost around NZ\$30-\$40.

Poppers are not addictive like cigarettes or Marijuana and is legally sold in New Zealand.

### The bad

Some common side effects of sniffing poppers are: a pounding headache, dizziness, a flushed face, nausea and disorientation.

Don't get the liquid on your skin or let the bottle touch your nose or upper lip as it will cause a burning sensation and can even leave a burn mark!

Poppers lowers your blood pressure so if you stand up after snorting it you may well faint.

Poppers and Viagra (or Cialis) taken together is a no, no – it will put too much strain on your heart. Do not take poppers if you have circulatory problems, low blood pressure, breathing problems, anaemia or have glaucoma.

The high 'rush' feeling that poppers gives you lowers your inhibitions which is why many men use it, but it can lead you to engage in riskier sexual practices you may not normally partake in, such as barebacking.

The effect of sniffing poppers is fairly short-lived. Sniffing too much can have an opposite effect and cause you to loose your erection thus spoiling your sex session.

Poppers is also highly flamable. Though not specified, it is almost certainly not allowed to be carried onto aircraft.

## and the ugly

Some men put their mouth over the bottle and inhale the vapour rather than sniffing it up their nose. However, never get any liquid in your mouth as it will burn and if swallowed will burn your insides and could cause a heart attack!

There is evidence that suggests regular use of poppers can lower your immune function – this, if combined with unsafe sex practices, can lead to easier HIV transmission or other STIs.

Poppers can cause your blood pressure to drop to dangerous levels. You can die due to injury to red blood cells and reduced oxygen supply to vital organs.

Some studies have concluded that there may be increased risk for at least temporary retinal eye damage with habitual popper use in certain users.

If you suffer from bronchitis or have a lung condition poppers may not be for you – it will leave you with a nasty cough.

Poppers combined with cannabis can cause loss of consciousness, and if used excessively can cause a fit.

Heavy use of poppers together with alcohol can increase the risk of reducing the oxygen supply to the bodies vital organs, resulting in unconsciousness and possibly even death!



If you've been invited to a summer party or BBQ and have been asked to bring a plate but are unsure of what to make, these Sticky Indonesian Meatballs make excellent finger food that are sure to please! They are lip-smackingly delicious and are cheap to make. The unique flavor of this recipe comes from the Kecap Manis which is a dark sticky soy sauce available from most supermarkets in the International section or from Asian grocery stores.

#### **Meatballs:**

2 cloves garlic finely chopped 2 spring onions finely chopped 500 grams minced beef  $1^{1/2}$  tsp five spice powder Salt and pepper

1 egg

2 tblsp Kecap Manis

<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup white breadcrumbs

2 tblsp cornflour

2 tblsp peanut oil

#### Glaze:

2 tblsp seasame seeds

2 tblsp Kecap Manis

4 tblsp Hoisin sauce

#### **Method:**

In a bowl add garlic, spring onions, beef, five spice powder, salt, pepper, Kecap Manis, egg and breadcrumbs and combine well.

Roll mixture into small balls and toss in cornflour to coat.













Heat peanut oil in a large fry pan and cook the meatballs turning often until browned all over and cooked through.

Add to the pan the glaze ingredients (seasame seeds, extra Kecap Manis and the Hoisin sauce) and shake the pan so the meatballs are totally coated in the glaze and the seasame seeds start to brown.

Serve on a presentation plate with toothpicks. 🌞



## Summer Mojitos

The classic Mojito recipe uses mint, lime, white rum, sugar and club soda. But here are 3 heavenly flavour variations of the Mojito that are sure to have your summer parties in full swing! Try substituting the mango with strawberries, kiwifruit or peach nectar for more alternatives.





## WATERMELON MOJITO

4-6 mint leaves
1 tbsp sugar
1/2 Lime
4 oz watermelon, cubed
1 ¹/2 oz white rum
Club soda water

Muddle together mint leaves, sugar and lime. Add in cubed watermelon and crush melon with the muddle until watermelon is almost a puree. Add in rum. Pour into serving glasses filled with ice. Top with a splash of soda water, garnish with a slice of watermelon, lime or mint.

#### **COCONUT COJITO**

4-6 Mint Leaves

1/2 Lime
2 parts white rum
1 part coconut rum
Sprite or club soda

Bruise mint leaves in a glass. Add squeezed lime juice. Fill glass with ice and add the rums. Top with Sprite or Soda.





## GAY NAKED DESTINATIONS

GAY NAKED DESTINATIONS – a series of 5 e-books designed for gay men who like to travel light! These 5 e-books cover the world's best known travel destinations where gay men can get NAKED!

Find clothing optional resorts, B&Bs, gay campgrounds, nudist beaches, men's nude groups, annual nude events, nude venues and more!

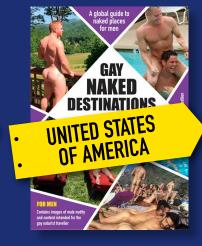




These 'must have' naked travel planners are just \$8.95 each!









https://gaynakeddestinations.com

## 



SPUNK Lube Hybrid is a water based hybrid lube that resembles the look and feel of natural lubrication. It's white and creamy - just like cum, and feels unlike any other lubricant available.

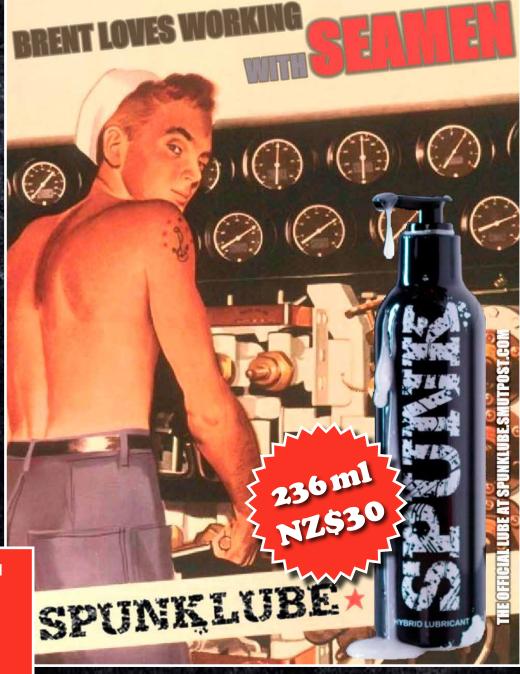
SPUNK Lube Hybrid is safe to use with all sex toys and condoms. It's non-staining and reactivates with water or saliva. SPUNK Lube Hybrid contains the perfect blend of water and silicone.

It's smooth and slick and not sticky or messy. It's the perfect all- round personal lubricant for any occasion. SPUNK Lube Hybrid uses the highest quality ingredients and will leave your skin feeling soft and conditioned.

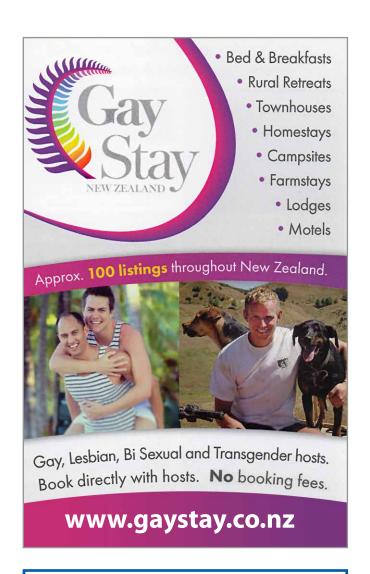
Orders within New Zealand are available from us at **Guysers** 

info@guysers.co.nz

Postal charge is additional.



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The site is, and always will be free, to guarantee its independence, its quality and, most importantly, its friendly atmosphere.

ohnaturist.com



### 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 with your name and mobile number and we'll be in touch with details.