

Where magic runs deep

WAIKATO



The Waikato, with its metropolitan hub of Hamilton, is renowned for its natural beauty, powerful history, and out-of-this-world experiences. Visitors to Waikato will enjoy a wealth of world-class

attractions. Go underground and experience the subterranean wonders of the Waitomo Caves, with a playground of glowworms, black water rafting, abseiling, and cave exploration.

Movie buffs will love a slice of the 'real Middle-earth' at Hobbiton Movie Set™, as seen in The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies, while the west coast bohemian town of Raglan is famous for its left-hand surf break. Don't miss the iconic Hamilton Gardens, which recreates historically important garden styles from the farthest reaches of the world.

Lovers of the great outdoors

are spoilt for choice with mountain ranges offering fantastic walking and cycling trails including the Great Rides – Hauraki Rail Trail, Waikato River Trails and The Timber Trail, and the mighty Waikato River offering a range of water-based activities, from kayaking to rowing, fishing or cruising.

Foodies can indulge in a delicious assortment of gourmet options including award-winning eateries, microbreweries, artisan producers and farmers' markets throughout the region. Always far from ordinary, this is a magical region of villages to play, relax, connect and explore.

TOP 10 MUST DOS

1. Experience a slice of Middle Earth magic at Hobbiton Movie Set™
2. Get lost exploring the award-winning Hamilton Gardens
3. Discover Waitomo - limestone caves and twinkling glowworms
4. Sample local gourmet ice-cream, Oolong tea or craft beer
5. Visit Raglan for cruising, canyoning, surfing or boutique shopping
6. Get close to nature at Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari
7. Waitomo underground adventures with abseiling, ziplining or blackwater rafting
8. Enjoy a country escape to beautiful small towns such as Cambridge
9. Iconic events include Fieldays and Balloons over Waikato
10. Ride cycle trails: Te Awa, The Timber & Hauraki Rail Trails

TOP 5 for COUPLES

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Adventure underground with The Legendary Black Water Rafting Company
2. Guided tours and picnic baskets at Hamilton Gardens
3. Hobbiton Movie Set™ for Middle Earth movie magic
4. Enjoy a romantic Cambridge escape at Hidden Lake Hotel
5. Riverside Adventures for cycle trails bike hire and shuttles

TOP 5 for FAMILIES

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Raglan Rock - canyoning, caving, and glowworms
2. Troll Cave, Waitomo Adventures: escape room fun with an underground twist
3. Cornerstone Alpacas for tours and hands-on experiences
4. Camjet, Cambridge's wild Waikato River ride
5. Hidden Lake Hotel Cambridge's modern hotel and apartments

TOP 5

for ACTIVE RETIREES

Paid Activities & Accommodation

1. Waihinemoe - Raglan Boat Charter sunset cruise
2. Zealand Tea Estate for high teas and tours
3. Sanctuary Mountain, the largest eco-sanctuary on mainland NZ
4. Ruakuri Cave - spectacular limestone formations and glowworms
5. Waitakaruru Sculpture Park, for art and nature combined



DO SOMETHING
NEW
NEW ZEALAND