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... > North Island > Taupō > Top 10 things to do in Taupō

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN TAUPŌ

With some of the North Island's most impressive landscapes right on its doorstep, the Taupō region is perfect for outdoor adventures.

1. Encounter geothermal wonders



The valley of [Orakei Korako Cave & Thermal Park](#) is a real hidden gem. Accessible only by a short ferry trip

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2. Sample delicious New Zealand honey



New Zealand honey is famous for its purity and healing properties. Visit the [Huka Honey Hive](#) and take a tour that teaches you about the benefits of mānuka honey, royal jelly and bee pollen. Enjoy a honey ice cream before sampling a raft of honey-based products.

3. Soak in geothermal waters



With a wealth of thermal attractions and cultural experiences, the [Wairakei Terraces](#) offers something for everyone. Soak in naturally heated geothermal pools below ancient silica terraces; enjoy a guided tour of the Wairakei steam field or relax during an evening of Māori cultural experiences.

4. Hike the Tongariro Alpine Crossing



Arguably New Zealand's greatest day walk, the [Tongariro Alpine Crossing](#), travels through volcanic alpine terrain, hikes around an active volcano and descend into the water-filled explosion craters known as the Emerald Lakes. Enjoy views of Mount Ngauruhoe - also known as 'Mount Doom' in the [Lord of the Rings](#) trilogy.

5. Visit the thundering Huka Falls



Get up close to the mind-blowing roar and rumble of the [Huka Falls](#) where New Zealand's longest river, the Waikato, is squeezed through a ravine of hard volcanic rock. Watch 220,000 litres of water blast by every second. View the falls from above via the footbridge, or get up close with a thrilling jet boat ride.

6. Ride the Great Lake Trails



Pedal along the forested shores of Lake Taupō and admire the volcanic peaks of [Tongariro National Park](#) on the [Great Lake Trail](#). Enjoy a fully catered cycling trip or a guided ride with Tread Routes. Bike hire and shuttles are also available from [Adventure Shuttles](#).

7. Rafting the mighty Tongariro River



With over 60 Grade 3 roller-coaster rapids, a [rafting](#) trip on the Tongariro is a must. Wind through pristine forests & volcanic landscapes near [Tūrangi](#). You may be lucky and catch a glimpse of the 'whio', New Zealand's rare native blue duck in its traditional home.

8. Indulge in a volcanic wine and craft beer tour



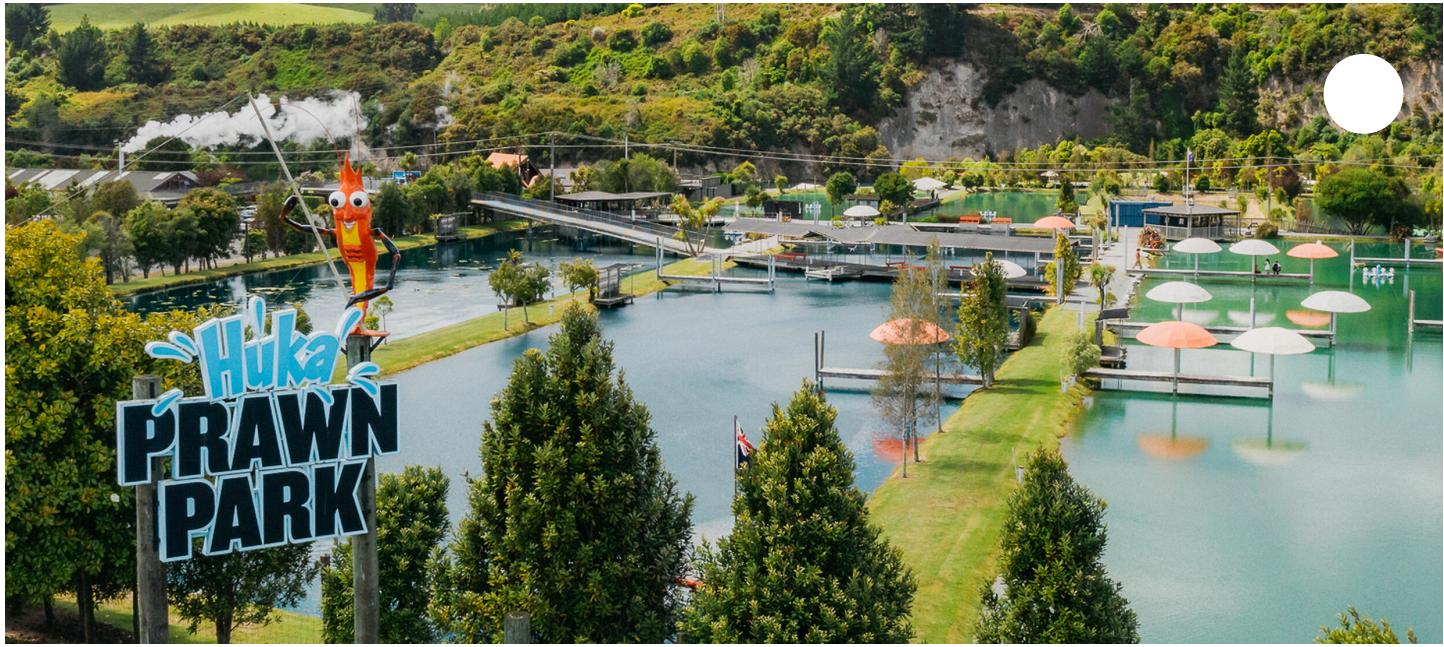
Taupō's free-draining volcanic soil and pure alpine water means that the wines, craft beers and cider crafted in this region are both distinctive and delicious. Discover them for yourself with a volcanic wine and craft beer tour.

9. Cruise on Lake Taupō



Cruise the largest lake in New Zealand with a scenic boat trip to Ngātoroirangi Mine Bay Māori Rock Carvings with [Chris Jolly Outdoors](#) and catch your own lunch. Try your hand at living off the land, test your survival skills and learn to navigate the celestial way with a hands-on interactive survival walk.

10. Explore the Prawn Park



With activities that will entertain the whole family for hours, [Huka Prawn Park](#) is a must-do. Take a guided tour. Race the Boat Lake on paddleboards, water trikes and pedal boats. Embark on the parks activity trail with interactive water features. Pack a picnic or dine at the Riverside restaurant soaking in the spectacular views of the Waikato River.

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