

# Rotorua **duck** Tours



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

## Rotorua **Product Manual** **Rotorua Duck Tours** **Ltd**



**Rotorua Duck Tours**  
8 Lynbert Rd  
P O Box 310, Rotorua, New Zealand



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## Rotorua Duck Tours Key Contacts

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## Introduction

Welcome to Rotorua Duck Tours a unique tour company offering amphibious sightseeing tours of Rotorua City and its spectacular lakes area. We are located in Rotorua city Central North Island New Zealand

This is a unique opportunity to discover Rotorua and its spectacular lakes area in our authentic World War II Amphibious landing crafts (which travels on land and water).

A family affair (Rotorua Duck Tours is owned by husband and wife, Peter and Anna Weir and Peter's brother Trevor), the 'duck' was an idea conceived at a family Christmas four years ago. Peter had seen them in the US and thought it was a concept that would work well in New Zealand.



**Trevor, Anna & Peter Weir**

We are currently in our fifth year of operation and attract FIT's from New Zealand, Australia, UK, The Americas and Europe (usually couples aged 35+). Asia is an emerging market. The group market is very much a growth market with the duck being seen as a passive attraction that all ages can enjoy. The Conference and Incentive Market is very much increasing with the ducks providing a unique alternative.

As a testament to the success of the product a second duck was purchased in 2006, and a third duck has been purchased from the US and should be operational by summer 2008/9. "I think people appreciate that we have a unique product that offers a versatile Rotorua experience that's a fun and educational adventure" says Trevor.

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Rotorua Duck Tours takes you on a tour of exploration and discovery of Rotorua's most famous lakes and landmarks.

The fun begins and soon as you climb aboard these amazing WWII military landing crafts, where you will meet your legendary 'Conductor' who is in charge of the guided tour. The 'Ducks' are able to travel on land and water and are able to get to some of those out-of-reach places and with an abundance of beautiful lakes and reserves in the region, there is no shortage of places to visit.

Our qualified friendly and professional conductors offer great local knowledge and ensure guests complete satisfaction and safety.



**You haven't seen Rotorua until you've seen it from a Duck!**

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## General Information about the Tours:

**Capacity:** we have 2 ducks each with a capacity of 28 (total capacity 56). Third Duck will be available September 2008 pushing our capacity to 83.

**Adverse weather:** the ducks are the perfect ALL WEATHER activity because they can be fully enclosed by rolling down the clear Perspex sides.

**Safety:** Our vehicles have been converted to comply with strict New Zealand LTSA and MSA safety regulations.

**Flexibility:** You can choose your tour departure time and we can pick up from your accommodation (if within a 3km radius of Rotorua CBD).



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## Products

### **FIT and Group Series Product Rotorua City and Lakes Tour**

Discover Rotorua on a unique 90 minute sightseeing adventure onboard our WWII amphibious vehicle able to travel on land and water! Tours depart 6 times per day during summer and 4 times per day during winter from the Rotorua I-Site Fenton St. **Pickups are available on request for groups (centrally located).**

Join us on this fascinating journey of discovery that begins in town where Rotorua's rich history unfolds before you as we tour local landmarks and share stories and legends of the past. Highlights include Lake Rotorua, Mokoia Island, Geothermal Sulphur Point, Government Gardens, The Museum, Blue Baths and much more...



The adventure continues as we venture out to the spectacular lake's area for "SPLASHDOWN" (entry) into Lakes Tikitapu (Blue Lake) and Okareka. Visit a small lakeside community where the Duck's elevation affords magnificent views of Mt Tarawera.

With Rotorua Duck Tours you experience the once-in-a-lifetime thrill of riding in an authentic WWII amphibious "duck" as well as getting a great introduction to Rotorua and its attractions.

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## Group, Corporate, Special Interest and Incentives

Rotorua Duck Tours is the perfect activity for groups and corporate events including client entertainment, conferences, partner programs and staff functions. With 2 ducks we are able to accommodate up to 56 passengers. Our 6 wheel drive landing crafts are able to travel on land and water, providing a unique way to experience Rotorua's spectacular lakes and giving you an exciting new transport option between centrally located destinations.

Rotorua Duck Tours offer a highly personalized experience with a small but energetic crew that will ensure your team has an absolute blast! Please see below tour suggestions or give us a call for a customized package to fit your group size and budget.

## Scenic Lakes BBQ Tour

What an awesome way to entertain your group. Imagine being picked up in one of our WWII Landing Crafts (Capacity 56) before embarking on a leisurely cruise out to spectacular lakes Tikitapu (Blue Lake), Okareka and Tarawera. Enjoy the sounds of our local guitar playing maestro and hear stories and legends of the past while enjoying this magnificent scenery. Alight on a sandy lakeside beach to enjoy your professionally catered BBQ and entertainment (Covered options available).

This is a great option for entertaining and relaxing your work group.



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## DuckTaxi

You can even use the Duck as a unique means of transport to your chosen venue or between activities. Why use a bus when you can entertain your staff and use a unique WWII Amphibious Landing Craft.

Get picked up from your Hotel and driven to your dinner venue while being entertained by your extremely funny and informative Conductor.



## The Amazing Duck Race (Team Building)

For something a bit different Rotorua Duck Tours offers a hilarious activity for team building and a lot of raucous laughter! This activity requires two teams, each in a duck, pitted against one another to complete a list of fun challenges. We have road blocks, detours, questions to be answered, photos to be taken and items to collect. We may even splash down into one of the many Lakes in the Rotorua Region.



(Contact us to see your sample itinerary)

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## Rotorua Duck Tours Combo Options

Rotorua Duck Tours has teamed up with other operators to give you some great new combination products. **Check it out!!!!**

## Duck Food Combo Options

Rotorua Duck Tours has teamed up with Rotorua's most popular eating establishments to bring you these great combos.



## The Seismic Corporate Package

After embarking from your Hotel on your 90-minute Scenic Lakes Tour through Rotorua's Highlights you will head over to Rotorua's latest dining Experience, The Seismic Gastrobar. An establishment specialising in the enjoyment of beverages and the art of good eating... The Seismic Gastrobar also offers Rotorua's best Wine List.

### Seismic

1. Of, subject to, or caused by an earthquake or earth vibration.
2. Earthshaking: an issue of seismic proportions and ramifications

Our tagline "WHERE WORLDS COLLIDE" relates to the name SEISMIC in terms of our interpretation of tectonic plates colliding with each other to create our volcanoes and landscape.

A collision between the WORLD OF PREMIUM NZ BEVERAGE & PRODUCTS and the WORLD OF INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

**Please contact us for the current menu selection**

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## The Duck and Fat Dog Combo

The Rotorua Duck has teamed up with the Fat Dog Café to provide clients with a healthy picnic lunch options.

These are to be booked through Rotorua Duck Tours and will be made available when clients are on the duck. A lunch stop can be made on the tour route.

**Please contact us for the current menu selection**

## Duck Activity Combo Options



Rotorua Duck Tours and Rotorua Paintball Club brings you this exciting new option. Enjoy a Duck Tour before experiencing the madness of paintballing. This is great for Team Building, Stag Weekends and Birthday Parties.

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Don't you just love the idea of running around and legally shooting your mates, work colleagues and family in a controlled and safe environment????

## Rotorua Site – Urban Attack



This site has it all for the Ultimate Paintball Experience

- Tactical urban attack field
- Fully screened for unmated safety and viewing
- Extensive undercover staging and hospitality area
- Elevated viewing and BBQ area with outstanding views over the playing areas.
- Full lighting for night games.
- Clay bird shooting also available

**Contact Rotorua Duck Tours for more information.**

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## History of the Ducks

General Motors developed the unique vehicle commonly called a “Duck” in 1942. Despite early skepticism it became a vital asset to military operations during World War II. As amphibious vehicles – able to operate both on land and in water – Ducks were a valuable asset for transporting U.S. troops and supplies into hard-to-reach areas.



The vehicle’s technical title is DUKW, which is a military equipment code representing the features of the vehicle. D = 1942, U = amphibian, K = front wheel drive, W = rear wheel drive. However, U.S. servicemen affectionately nicknamed the vehicles, Ducks.

Ducks went on to become one of the most celebrated vehicles of World War II and have been credited for playing an integral role in winning the wars in Europe and the Pacific.

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With 21,200 Ducks manufactured over a three year period between 1943 and 1945. Between March 7 and March 31, 1945, seven Allied armies involving 370 Ducks crossed the Rhine to penetrate the heart of the Reich, playing a large role in the success of the operation. The Duck's most famous military usage was participation in the historic D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944 at Normandy, France where 2,000 Ducks were used to transport men and supplies from ship to shore.

Ironically, despite the success of the Ducks, the vehicle and its predecessors were initially viewed with tremendous skepticism and even hostility. When Roger W. Hofheins first approached the U.S. government on the subject of creating an amphibious vehicle, the nation was at peace and there was little need for such a vehicle.

The skepticism soon turned into optimism when a U.S. Coast Guard vessel became shipwrecked along the Massachusetts coast during unstable sea conditions, causing normal lifeboats to be unable to reach the stranded crew. Coincidentally, two Ducks happened to be stationed nearby awaiting demonstration tests. Desperate to save the crew, the Coast Guard requested that the Ducks attempt to reach the stranded boat. Accompanied by a Coast Guard officer, Putnam and two others largely responsible for the design of the Ducks maneuvered the vehicle and brought the stranded crew back to safety in less than six minutes.

The creation of the Ducks provided the army with a sophisticated transport vehicle with enough marine capabilities to overcome the rugged sea conditions. The technological advances of the Ducks allowed amphibious operations to reach their zenith during World War II.

## **TODAY**

Today, whilst rare and usually requiring extensive restoration, they are increasingly used as tour vehicles to bring fun and enjoyment to people all over the world. Our ducks have been restored to an extremely high standard and meet LTSA (Land Transport Safety Authority) and MSA (Marine Safety Association) standards.

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## Disclaimer

Rotorua Duck Tours manages the hazards of road and lake transport. You must follow the instructions of the crew and parents please ensure your minors do the same. Please advise your driver if you have any physical conditions that affect enjoyment of the tour. Tickets may be refundable at our discretion. We reserve the right to cancel or amend any tour. To the extent permitted by law, all our liability for damage to your property, disruption to travel plans, or mental injury is excluded. These exclusions are subject to any rights or remedies you may have under the Consumer Guarantees Act 1993

## General Rule for Cancellation

Cancellation fees for Rotorua Duck Tours are as follows:

- Minimum 24 Hrs to avoid cancellation Fees  
(Fees set at 50% of the cost of the trip)
- Cancellation 1 hour before trip will incur full price cancellation fee.
- No shows pay full price unless a sufficient reason can be given.
- Rotorua Duck Tours will give a full refund in the event of a breakdown.



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