

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

IUFRO Working Party 2.09.02 SOMATIC EMBRYOGENESIS AND OTHER VEGETATIVE PROPAGATION TECHNOLOGIES (DIVISION 2. PHYSIOLOGY AND GENETICS)

ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND

3-8 MARCH 2024



HOST ORGANISATION

Scion



Scion is a Crown research institute that specialises in research, science and technology development for the forestry, wood product, wood-derived materials, and other biomaterial sectors.



YOUR HOST CITY

Meet in Rotorua

Our Cultural Heartland

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[Watch our Rotorua events video](#)

YOUR HOST CITY

Meet in Rotorua

Rotorua's Māori heritage and unique geothermal landscape make it one of the most memorable conference and event locations anywhere in the world.

The city and wider region has been one of New Zealand's premier tourist spots for generations and continues to be a major drawcard for visitors seeking adventure and rejuvenation. With a wide selection of venues and thousands of rooms in everything from luxury lodges to accessible, central city hotels, Rotorua is hard to beat for conference and business event organisers.

Rotorua boasts a panorama unlike any other. Wisps of steam betray geothermal hotspots, and around every corner you will stumble across one of the 18 breath-taking lakes and acre upon acre of majestic forest. Māori claimed this area as their cultural heartland, and when the geothermal resources were harnessed first them and later by the European settlers, Rotorua established itself as New Zealand's first tourism destination.

Fast forward to today and the city has developed into an iconic travel hub and premier event destination. It has a diverse range of event venues and accommodation as well as a cornucopia of attractions and activities, some of which are unique to Rotorua. This makes it an event organiser's 'pick-and-mix' paradise. Rotorua is still the best place to experience authentic

Māori hospitality and culture, while several geothermal parks afford great opportunities to witness bubbling mud pools, erupting geysers and vibrantly coloured mineral pools. Thanks to these geothermal resources, the city also boasts an award-winning spa industry.

While the number of things to do is mind-boggling, the majority are within easy reach of the compact central business district, with most venues being no more than a comfortable 20 minutes' drive.

Rotorua is the best place to experience authentic Māori hospitality and culture...

 [Visit Destination Rotorua Website >](#)



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CONFERENCE VENUE

Novotel Rotorua Lakeside

Located on the shores of Lake Rotorua,
central to local cafes and attractions.

The complex offers 199 accommodation rooms and 11 function rooms. With a stylish bar, new spa and gym facilities, heated pool and geothermal plunge pools Novotel Rotorua is also a great place to relax

Featuring 11 meeting and event rooms, ranging in size with the largest having capacity for 350 people and some with natural daylight. In addition the conference space features an extensive pre-function area suitable for trade exhibitions, catering or pre-event gatherings. Your event will be supported by state of the art audio visual equipment, a professional and responsive conference team, and onsite support around the clock.

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[Visit venue website >](#)



CONFERENCE VENUE

Novotel Rotorua Lakeside



Batten 1 & 2



Mansfield



Rutherford

Capacity Chart

Venue	Floor space	Theatre	Classroom	Boardroom	Banquet	U-Shape	Ceiling height
Batten 1	128 m ²	120	40	30	100	30	4 m
Batten 1 & 2	320 m ²	350	144	60	300	70	4 m
Batten 2	192 m ²	170	72	40	120	48	4 m
Blake Room	32 m ²	-	-	12	-	-	2 m
Dodd	49 m ²	40	15	16	40	15	2 m
Executive Boardroom	32 m ²	-	-	12	-	-	2 m
Hillary	49 m ²	40	15	16	40	15	2 m
Mansfield	66 m ²	60	27	20	50	24	2 m
Rutherford	279 m ²	260	108	50	200	55	4 m
Seddon	49 m ²	40	15	16	40	15	2 m
Stafford	49 m ²	40	15	16	40	15	2 m

[Visit venue website >](#)

ACCOMMODATION



1. Pullman Rotorua

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

8 min 3 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



2. Novotel Rotorua

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

12 min 5 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



3. ibis Rotorua

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

15 min 5 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available

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4. Millennium Hotel

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

10 min 4 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



5. Sudima Lake Rotorua

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

8 min 3 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



6. Prince's Gate Hotel

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

5 min 1 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available

ACCOMMODATION



7. Distinction Hotel

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

40 min 8 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



8. Rydges Rotorua

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

25 min 5 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



9. Arawa Park

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

25 min 5 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



10. Jet Park Hotel

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

17 min 4 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



11. Copthorne Hotel

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

33 min 6 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available



12. Quest Rotorua Central

[Visit website >](#)

To venue:

13 min 4 min

Qualmark rating:



Accessible Rooms Available

ACCOMMODATION

Proximity Map

Location of accommodation providers and venue options in Rotorua.

ACCOMMODATION PROVIDER

	STARS
1 Pullman Rotorua	4
2 Novotel Rotorua Lakeside	4.5
3 ibis Rotorua	3
4 Millennium Hotel Rotorua	4
5 Sudima Lake Rotorua	4
6 Prince's Gate	4
7 Distinction Hotel	4
8 Rydges Rotorua	4
9 Arawa Park	3.5
10 Jet Park Hotel	4.5
11 Copthorne Hotel	3.5
12 Quest Rotorua Central	4.5

CONFERENCE VENUES

- 1 Novotel Rotorua Lakeside

SOCIAL VENUES

- 1 Mitai Māori Village
- 2 Skyline Rotorua
- 3 Te Puia
- 4 Redwood Forest Sails
- 5 Eat Street

rotoruanz.com/accommodation



ATTRACTIONS

The Best of Rotorua

Te Puia

Nestled in the Whakarewarewa Geothermal Valley, Te Puia takes its Māori name from the gushing waters, steaming vents and natural beauty of the valley. You will be enthralled by the delicate silica terraces, bubbling mud pools, unique geothermal vegetation and the world-renowned Pohutu Geyser, which reaches heights of up to 30 metres.

Te Puia aims to preserve the heritage of the Māori people and their culture and is home to the New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute.

Skyline Rotorua

Perched on Mount Ngongotaha, Skyline affords the most spectacular views of Rotorua, as well as a world-famous luge experience! The Luge was proudly designed and built in Rotorua. This 3-wheel gravity cart ride runs on concrete tracks down Mount Ngongotaha and is pure Kiwi ingenuity at its best. Skyline Skyrides boasts the longest tracks in the world and three tracks of varying terrain.

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Polynesian Spa

The Polynesian Spa is New Zealand's leading international spa, providing visitors with a unique thermal spa experience on the shores of Lake Rotorua. Enjoy this wonderful fusion of relaxing, hot-mineral-spring bathing, exquisite spa therapies and the picturesque lake view.

The Polynesian Spa was voted a World Top Ten Spa (thermal and medical spas) by the prestigious Condé Nast Traveller magazine from 2004 to 2006.

Redwoods Treewalk & Nightlights

New Zealand's longest living Treewalk set in Rotorua's iconic Redwoods Forest. A self-guided 40-minute experience along 28 suspended bridges and 27 living decks, which are all attached via tree-friendly slings to the 120-year-old Redwoods.

By night, the Treewalk is illuminated by 34 David Trubridge designed lanterns, coloured spot lights and projections – a truly unforgettable and unique nighttime experience!



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ATTRACTIONS

Te Pā Tū (formerly Tamaki Māori Village)

Te Pā Tū shares 4-hour evening feasts aligned to and changing with the maramataka (Māori lunar calendar). Feast on Māori song, tradition, and divine seasonal kai (cuisine) within our forest Pā (village), towering Tawa trees, blazing bonfires, and forest-formed amphitheatre. Hākari (feasting) begins with forest horotai (canapes) and culminates in a lavish 3-course fusion feast.

Hell's Gate Mud Spa

For more than 700 years, Rotorua Māori (Ngati Rangiteaorere tribe) have lived on this land and have treasured this special site as a place of healing and revitalisation. Here, warriors would bathe in the sulphurous waters to heal their wounds after battle and remove the 'tapu' (sacredness) of war. Hell's Gate encompasses the Kakahi Falls, which is the largest hot waterfall in the southern hemisphere, a sulphur spa, a mud spa and traditional Māori massage therapy. This is a truly unique cultural wellbeing experience.

Rotorua Canopy Tours

Rotorua Canopy Tours embraces the cooler, wetter months when the forest really begins to pop. Dewy days cast a unique light through the flowering canopy. Moss and mushrooms appear, while cheeky juvenile birds fly up to say hello. Visitors can experience it for themselves with a New Zealand eco-tour through our awesome backyard.

ZORB Rotorua

Owned and operated by the Kiwi inventors. Rotorua is the only location to experience this iconic bucket list adventure activity. With four different track options ZORB is suitable for all ages and abilities. The secret ingredient is 40 litres of warm water and no tumbling involved!



ATTRACTIONS

Mitai Māori Village

An evening at Mitai will give you an authentic introduction to Māori culture, leaving you amazed and in awe. Be enthralled by the natural bush setting and see warriors in traditional dress paddling a waka (an ancient warrior war canoe). Marvel at the crystal clear water flowing directly from the earth at Fairy Springs.

See your traditional meal being lifted from the ground, cultural performances, learn about the past, Māori carvings and ta moko (tattoo art). Be captivated by the displays of weaponry and combat coupled with the grace of the poi dance and a spine-tingling haka finale.

Mountain Bike Rotorua

Mountain Bike Rotorua is your gateway to both Whakarewarewa, Redwood Forest and the Skyline Gravity Park. You'll find a full service workshop, retail options and bike hire facilities. There are also options for rentals at the Tawa carpark and an on-demand drop off service for the Skyline Rotorua mountain bike park.

Rotorua Rafting

White water rafting over the highest commercially rafted waterfall in the world – 7m Tutea Falls. Voted #1 Travellers Choice Activity in NZ, South Pacific and #2 in the World 2019 and 2020 on Trip Advisor. Making Okere Falls Great Again.

Rotorua Ziplines

Soaring through the air like a bird over three waterfalls — including 7m Tutea Falls — on a total of four thrilling ziplines, one swing bridge and a series of boardwalks within the Ōkere Falls forest. Plant a native tree, becoming a part of our reforestation mission — a project where we aim to plant 60,000 native trees by the end of 2025, so Ōkere Falls will thrive for generations to come. Suitable for all ages and abilities.



ATTRACTIONS

The Redwoods

Experience the peace and beauty of the Whakarewarewa Forest and The Redwoods. This majestic, century-old Redwood grove, located just five minutes' drive from Rotorua city centre, is the most magical, memorable location.

Secret Spot

Secret Spot is a fabulous hot tub experience where you can relax surrounded by ferns, overlooking the stunning Whakarewarewa Forest and Puarenga Stream. Enjoy the sights and sounds of nature while soaking in your own luxurious, deep pool of fresh spring water, which is heated to a perfectly wonderful 39.5 degrees Celsius.

Volcanic Air

A scenic flight with Volcanic Air embraces the culture and pride of the mysterious and breathtaking destination that is Rotorua. Volcanic Air delights in providing varied in-flight products, exceptional service and a team of highly qualified pilots. Choose from the thrill of the helicopter or the elegance of the floatplane to view some of New Zealand's most dramatic geothermal scenery, and combine this with an unlimited selection of activities and attractions.

Hobbiton Movie Set

Discover the real Middle-earth on the most picturesque private farmland near Matamata, in the North Island of New Zealand. During a fascinating two-hour guided tour, visitors can explore the Hobbiton Movie Set, used for The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit film trilogies. The set has been completely rebuilt and can be seen as it appeared in the films. The Green Dragon Inn is now open and is a special feature of the tours. All tour groups visit the inn as part of their tour and receive a complimentary refreshment.



Mitai Maori Village



Zorbing

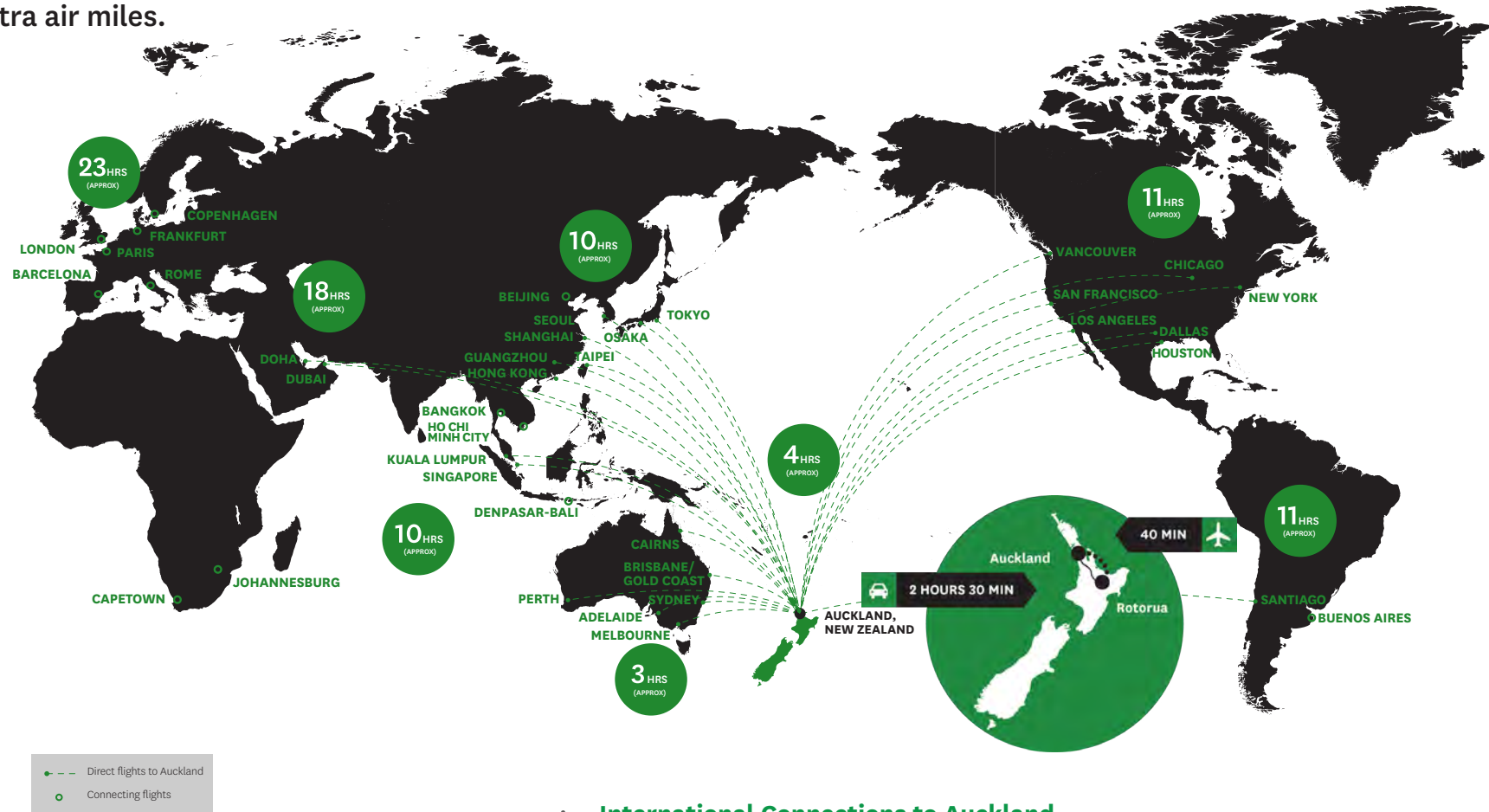


Whakarewarewa Forest Park

ACCESSIBLE NEW ZEALAND

Travelling to Rotorua to attend a conference

Accessible from anywhere in the world, New Zealand is just a meal, movie and a sleep away for delegates. With stunning landscapes, welcoming locals and so much to see and do, New Zealand is the ultimate conference destination that is worth the extra air miles.



New Zealand is serviced by airlines in Star Alliance, oneworld and SkyTeam.



International Connections to Auckland

- 540+ weekly flights connecting Auckland to the world.
- 150+ international flight arrivals every day.
- 30 international airlines fly direct to Auckland from 43 destinations around the world.

ACCESSIBLE NEW ZEALAND

Getting here is easy

It's easy to hop across the ditch
to attend a conference.

Auckland International Airport is the largest and busiest airport in New Zealand with modern facilities that make it the ideal place for your delegates to arrive at before making a leisurely transfer to Rotorua.

Domestic Connections to Rotorua from Auckland Airport


28 flights a week from Auckland to Rotorua.

40 minute flight.

2 hour 30 minute drive.

3 hour bus transfer.

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 [Read more about Rotorua Airport](#)



TRAVEL INFORMATION

New Zealand: what you need to know



Climate

The far north of New Zealand is subtropical, whilst the south is more temperate. The warmest months are traditionally December, January and February, and the coolest are June, July and August. In summer, the average maximum daytime temperatures range between 20–30°C and in winter between 10–15°C. You can check weather conditions in New Zealand on the New Zealand MetService website:

www.metService.com.



Internet and Wi-Fi access

If you're looking to stay connected to the internet everywhere you go, it's recommended that you purchase a plan from one of New Zealand's main networks. Purchasing a plan from a network will allow you to access a mix of data, calling and texting throughout your trip to suit your communication and connection needs. You will find that free Wi-Fi is available in most hotel accommodation and hospitality outlets.



Healthcare

New Zealand's public and private medical and hospital facilities provide a high standard of treatment and care. Medical services are not free to visitors. It's recommended that you purchase travel and health insurance before you visit. No vaccination certificates are required. There are no snakes or dangerous wild animals in New Zealand.



Mobile telephones

Like most countries, New Zealand operates on a 900 or 1800 MHz network. However, some mobiles cannot use international roaming on this frequency. Check with your phone company before leaving home about international mobile roaming facilities available in New Zealand. Alternatively, you can hire or buy mobile phones or SIM cards in New Zealand. Note that signal is not available in all rural areas.



Money

New Zealand's currency is the dollar (NZD). You can use all major credit cards in New Zealand, with Visa and MasterCard accepted most widely.



Electricity

New Zealand's electricity supply runs at 230/240 volts, and we use angled two or three-pin plugs (the same as Australia).



i-SITE Visitor Information Centres

i-SITE New Zealand is our official visitor information network. There are over 80 i-SITE Visitor Centres around New Zealand, which provide international visitors, domestic travellers and locals with comprehensive, up-to-date information and a New Zealand-wide booking service for activities, attractions, accommodation and transport.



Hamurana Springs

VISA INFORMATION

Hassle-free travel

Having the right passport and visa organised is the key to a trouble-free entry for delegates into New Zealand.

Passports, visas and electronic travel authority (NZeTA)

When you arrive, your passport must be valid for at least three months beyond your intended departure date, and if required, have a valid New Zealand visa.

New Zealand is visa free from 60 countries and territories.

Visitors from visa-waiver countries must request an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) prior to coming to New Zealand. You may also have to pay an International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy (IVL). For more information on the ETA and IVL, visit Immigration New Zealand.

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Visa Waiver Countries

Andorra	Ireland	Qatar
Argentina	Israel	Romania
Austria	Italy	San Marino
Bahrain	Japan	Saudi Arabia
Belgium	Korea (South)	Seychelles
Brazil	Kuwait	Singapore
Brunei	Latvia (citizens only)	Slovak Republic
Bulgaria	Liechtenstein	Slovenia
Canada	Lithuania (citizens only)	Spain
Chile	Luxembourg	Sweden
Croatia	Macau (Macau Special Administrative Region passports only)	Switzerland
Cyprus		Taiwan (permanent residents only)
Czech Republic	Malaysia	United Arab Emirates
Denmark	Malta	United Kingdom (must have the right to reside permanently in the United Kingdom)
Estonia (citizens only)	Mauritius	United States of America (includes USA nationals)
Finland	Mexico	Uruguay
France	Monaco	Vatican City
Germany	Netherlands	
Greece	Norway	
Hong Kong (residents with HKSAR or British National (Overseas) passports only)	Oman	
Hungary	Poland	
Iceland	Portugal (with the right to live permanently in Portugal)	

 www.immigration.govt.nz

Nau Mai, Haere Mai – Welcome!

We look forward to welcoming you to Rotorua for IUFRO 2.09.02 conference in 2024.

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