

Congress Chatter

Tuesday, 5 October 2004 - Auckland, New Zealand



Photograph: Kerry Johnstone

Yesterday, our first garden centre, was also New Zealand's first garden centre.

WHAKAREWAREWA

A must see! Whakarewarewa, several hours south of Auckland, is an area of natural geothermal activity. The Maori settled this area around 300 years ago and harnessed the geothermal power to aid every day activity, such as in cooking, bathing and doing laundry.

As well as hot water springs, area is known for it's geysers and active mudpools. Mud from this area is full of minerals and renown internationally for it's benefits in facial mud-packs.

The area also includes traditional Maori buildings and carvings. The carvings and panelling in the building tell legends, such as creation and where fire came from.

TODAYS PROGRAMME

- 5.45am Delegate Buffet Breakfast, Stamford Hotel - Ballroom
- 6:15am Meet at Bus Gates
- 6:30am Board Buses
- 6:45am Buses Depart Stamford Hotel
- 9:15am Site Visits : Tauranga Décor Gardenworld & Pacifica Garden Centre
- 11.45pm Buses Depart
- 12:15pm Site Visit : Tauranga Palmer's Gardenworld
- 1.15pm Buses Depart
- 1:45pm Scotts' Naturally Native Lunch, Tauranga
- 3.00pm Buses Depart
- 4:00pm Scotts' Whakarewarewa Experience, Rotorua
- 5.25pm Buses Depart
- 6:00pm Scott's Tamaki Maori Village Encounter and Hangi Dinner, Rotorua
- 9.00pm Buses Return to Auckland

Note: Please ensure you are on the bus, before the departure time as the buses will depart at the times stated. If you miss the bus, there are phone numbers for the local taxi companies in your handbook.



Today is
SCOTTS TIKI TOUR TUESDAY



NATURALLY NATIVE

Today's lunch at Naturally Native will be a little later than normal and will be a little different too.

Naturally Native is New Zealand's leading specialist grower of New Zealand Native Plants. To see their Tauranga nursery and gain an insight into the processes from propagation, through growing, to sales and dispatch you will need to, move around the grounds.



So that you can enjoy your lunch while you browse the nursery, we have fabulous New Zealand food available at various stands around the nursery. There are five locations around the nursery grounds, each serving different dishes. If you explore the nursery you will find them all.

The stands will serve kiwi delicacies, such as whitebait fritters and barbecued green lip mussels, baby New Zealand lamb chops and zespri gold ice cream.

BIRDS, BIRDS, BIRDS ...



Photographs: Kerry Johnstone & Kathiy Watson



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Want: Scared or Alive.
 MAF (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries) has issued a warrant for Native Bird Rustlers

TAMAKI MAORI VILLAGE

Everyone we speak to, who has experienced this uniquely New Zealand event has enthusiastically recommended it - including Robert on our Congress Forward Crew.

The Maori believe that the greatest thing about a place, is it's people. The Tamaki staff will join us when we leave Whakarewarewa, and act as our guides as we journey into a different world - the land of the early Maori.

WEDNESDAY'S WEATHER

Auckland:	Cloudy, but fine Southwest winds
Wellington:	Fine, with cloudy periods Northwest winds

Wednesday morning's wake-up call will be at: 6.30am
 Breakfast will start at 7.00am
 If you want to be woken at a different time please contact the Hotel to make other arrangements.
 The Congress registration desk will be open between 7.30 and 8.00am on Wednesday morning