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INSPIRATIONS

HOW TO BRING HOTEL COMFORT INTO YOUR HOME

TIPS BY WORLD RENOWNED INTERIOR DESIGNERS



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by Elena Salmistraro



MATAKAURI LODGE CLOSEBURN, NEW ZEALAND

The Matakauri Lodge is situated in an alpine lakeside retreat nearby Queenstown, in New Zealand and it is celebrated for its diverse leisure activities and adventurer essence, guaranteeing exclusive landscapes and memorable vacations. Featuring a contemporary New Zealand design, Matakauri was constructed in 2000, but after an extensive process of refurbishment by interior designer, Virginia Fisher, the retreat reopened its doors in 2010, looking fresher than even. The Main lodge offers twelve glamorous guest rooms and suites in addition to eight outlying cottages and four suites, including the Owner's cottage that provides some of the best hospitality amenities one could hope for. Each suite is fully equipped with a series of enticing accommodations and provide phenomenal views over Lake Wakatipu and the mountains. Furthermore, guests can benefit from generous lounges, living and dining areas with an indoor or outdoor option. The Lodge also has an exquisite luxury spa service, an infinity pool, a well-equipped fitness centre, as well as a sophisticated meeting and business centre. It is the perfect location for connoisseur and admirers of wine, as guests can take a drive to the nearby town, Central Otago, which is known to be a southernmost pinot noir region in the world. The hotel organizes several full-day tours to explore the most alluring regions, like Bannockburn, Cromwell and Gibbston Valley wine regions.





In the afternoon, visitors can spend their time walking on the shores of Lake Wakatipu and the Paradise estuary, while being accompanied by a photography expert guide, giving one the opportunity to be fully embraced in the striking landscapes of this natural region, and know a little bit about its history as well.

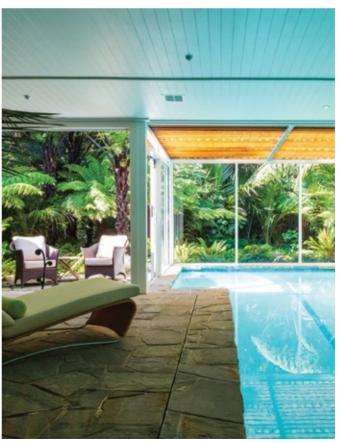
In addition, the Lodge offers Queenstown's Dart River Jet Safaris experiences, which combine heritage and adventure. Guest will be able to discover awe-inspiring sceneries, Maori heritage, kayaking down the river, a visit to the superb Mt. Aspiring National Park, mountain bikes to Skippers Canyon, getting to know the wilderness through jet boating or a scenic flight tours to Doubtful Sound, located in the heart of Fiordland National Park, where guests can enjoy the natural beauty of rainforests, rugged peaks hidden inlets, and countless other activities that will leave guests grasping for more.

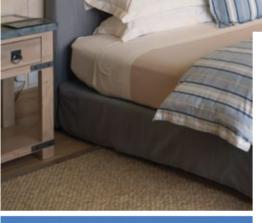
Matakauri offers yet a naturally ambient spa service, which is located on the edge of a pine forest offering unobstructed views not only to the mesmerizing Lake Wakatipu but also to the towering Cecil Peak. One of the main treatments that the spa offers is the Aromasoul Body Scrub that eradicates dry and tired skin. A steamy shower is available before a grandiose and specialised body massage to treat the more concerning areas of your body. Fundamentally, the spa will revitalise and rejuvenate your mind and body to no accounts.

THE LODGE AT KAURI CLIFFS MATAURI BAY, NEW ZEALAND

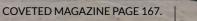


Regarded as the premier luxury destination in the Northland region, the Lodge at Kauri Cliffs is located on 6,000 acres near Matauri Bay. The Lodge offers the most awe-inspiring views of the Pacific Ocean, as well as Cape Brett and the offshore Cavalli Islands. It is bound to be an experience nature lovers are never to forget. The Lodge offers a series of accommodations, activities and services fit for kings and queens. The Lodge presents twenty-two guest suites that are personalised with a private porch, an open fireplace, a walk-in-wardrobe and many other hospitality perks. The luxurious retreat has yet a two Bedroom Owner's cottage with generous living and dining areas, which were designed by Virginia Fisher in a soft palette of colours, such as sky blue, taupe and pale green. The cottage is settled in a native forest that oversees the golf course and the Pacific Ocean and it is idyllic for families and friends to spend some much-need time together. The cottage has a striking infinity pool, spacious ensuite bathrooms, and an outdoor Jacuzzi and barbeque, among many comforts. At Kauri Cliffs, guests can enjoy a scrumptious barbeque in one of the most stunning beaches in the world, Pink Beach. Besides fresh grilled seafood and/or lamb, one can also taste fine New Zealand cheese and wines.





Another activity that is much appreciated in this part of the world is fishing, not only due to the calmness that it brings, but also by allowing one to be fully immersed in the naturally beautiful surroundings of New Zealand's pristine shorelines. A Quad biking experience takes you on a scenic journey to exclusive and spellbinding places within the 6000 acres propriety. Kauri Cliffs is a region that is rich in heritage and culture, becoming a seamless destination to discover and understand New Zealand. One of the most alluring destinations is the Waitangi Treaty Ground, which is quite sacred for many locals. One can explore the wonders of this exceptional place through a guided tour. Driving excursions to the Northland are also organised, including to the town of Kerikeri, which is defined as the "Craddle of the Nation". The Lodge also offers a prestigious class golf course that measures 7,119 yards and was designed by Dave Harman. Guests can also enjoy a luxurious spa facility that is located in the Totara Forest. The treatments are best described by holistic and natural therapies, and by the use of exclusive native products. One of the leading treatments is the Manuka Honey massage which nourishes the skin and helps with the anti-aging process.



THE FARM AT CAPE KIDNAPPERS TE AWANGA, NEW ZEALAND





Cape Kidnappers is a headland at the south-eastern extremity of Hawke's Bay on the east coast of New Zealand's North Island and sits at the end of an 8 kilometres peninsula which protrudes into the Pacific Ocean. Set atop 6,000 rolling acres of stunning pasture-land in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, The Farm at Cape Kidnappers is the perfect setting for romantic getaways whether it is celebrating your wedding, vow renewals, engagements or anniversaries, since everything can be tailored for the special day to be unique and magical.

Offering 22 guest suites and a four-bedroom Owner's Cottage just a 60-minute flight from Auckland, the Farm affords spectacular 180-degree views of the Pacific Ocean. The cluster of luxury lodge buildings suggests a working farm with the buildings combining rustic and textured materials with comfortable modern furniture. Every suite offers its own private balcony and affords spectacular views of the property, golf course and the Pacific Ocean. The main lodge features lounge and dining spaces, outdoor rooms, roaring open fireplaces, a wine cellar complete with tasting room plus a fully-equipped gymnasium.

The Farm at Cape Kidnappers has a range of facilities to accommodate all of your vacation requirements. The common areas of the lodge offer numerous welcoming and comfortable spaces in which to relax; including the intimate snug, stylish lounges complete with roaring open fires and outdoor conservatory areas, so you can enjoy the picturesque landscape from wherever you are in the lodge. The set of available leisure facilities includes a heated infinity pool and Jacuzzi, Spa treatments with beautiful forest and ocean views, Golf course and Club House, fully equipped Gym, offering Yoga, Pilates, Golf Specific Fitness and Personal Training by appointment.

Cape Kidnappers boasts some of the most inspiring trails in the North Island. You are welcome to explore a variety of terrain, from moderate forest walks to ocean-side hikes along the cliffs. Backpacks, blankets, picnics and directions are always available. If you prefer a more structured experience, trail guides are available for hire by reservation.

Each year The Farm at Cape Kidnappers hosts an array of internationally acclaimed celebrity chefs who join them for fabulous weekends! Guests meet and chat to the chefs at these exclusive events, enjoy the guest chef's tasting menu to experience their innovative cooking style alongside matching wine and hear firsthand their often thought-provoking views on the international food scene. All summed up, allow yourself to experience the very best of the North Island with this special ambience, making the most of the great activities at The Farm at Cape Kidnappers and The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs!