

**LOCATION, LOCATION: THE AMAZING HUKA LODGE IN TAUPO**



THE FOOD HERE IS A WORK OF ART!

**TO GO:**

Pre-dinner drinks and canapes, as well as a gourmet five-course dinner (with set menu) each evening, accommodation and full breakfast, use of all lodge facilities and complimentary Taupo Airport transfers are all included in the tariff. Check for specials and packages at [hukalodge.co.nz](http://hukalodge.co.nz). Air New Zealand operates multiple daily direct flights between Australia and Auckland, with connections to Taupo. See [airnewzealand.com.au](http://airnewzealand.com.au).

golfing, relax in the lodge's heated pool and spas, or just lay in bed in one of the 18 riverfront suites – flanked by two larger cottages – and watch ducks waddle by on the Waikato.

**BON APPETITI!**

Royalty, celebrities and people looking for the trip of a lifetime or to celebrate, visit for the pure relaxation the lodge offers, and its exceptional cuisine. It's a member of the prestigious Relais & Chateaux Association.

Executive chef Paul Froggatt is one of just two chefs in the Pacific region to be admitted to France's exclusive Les Grande Tables du Monde listing. He spent his earlier career working in Michelin-starred restaurants, and anyone who meets this Brit will know his passion is palpable. Be sure to book one of his cooking classes.

A five-course meal in the Wine Cellar or Trophy Room is an extraordinary experience. The team choose fresh and local produce for the menu and each plate arrives presented like a work of art. A digestif by the fire in the main lodge is an essential way to end the evening.

Who knows who you might chink glasses with on the comfy couch. There's no doubt the Queen has recommended it to Harry and Meghan!



Luxuriate in one of Huka Lodge's riverfront suites.



**FIT FOR A QUEEN, THERE IS NOWHERE BETTER IN THE WORLD TO ENJOY A LODGE STAY THAN NEW ZEALAND**

**LOVE THE LODGE LIFE**

**LIVE LIKE AN A-LISTER**

I'm dining in the Queen's preferred venue of choice, the library room of Huka Lodge. Above the giant fireplace, there is a grand painting of a grazier with his flock, while plush tartan carpets lie underfoot, and perfectly plumped cushions and flower displays abound. I can see why it's queen-worthy.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II loves this place so much, she has stayed four times. Other royalty and big-name celebrities – Joan Collins, Bette Midler, and Rod Stewart, to name a few – fly across the world just to sample what is considered to be one of the world's best lodges.

This is the place to come to pick up impeccable design tips for your own home. Interior designer Virginia Fisher has managed to pair fishing paraphernalia, Maori artworks, antiques and bright velvets to make the place look incredible. It helps that every window offers a lush green vista of nature.

**NATURAL WONDERS**

No-one does lodges like New Zealanders. Located in Taupo on the North Island and

surrounded by an abundance of nature – with the Waikato River flowing and the foaming Huka Falls in the distance, as well as seven hectares of garden full of redwoods, maples, azaleas and magnolias to wander through – every angle of Huka Lodge is postcard picture-worthy.

You can take a walk along the Spa Thermal track to see Huka Falls, go on a fly-fishing boat cruise on Lake Taupo – with lunch provided by local operator, Chris Jolly Outdoors – go

**OTHER LODGES TO LOVE**

#The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs, perched on the edge of the Pacific on the North Island. [robertsonlodges.com](http://robertsonlodges.com).

#Otahuna Lodge, just outside Christchurch, where an extinct

volcano forms the backdrop to its glorious gardens. [otahuna.co.nz](http://otahuna.co.nz).

#Matakauri Lodge, looking over Lake Wakatipu in Queenstown. [robertsonlodges.com](http://robertsonlodges.com).

Text: Andrea Black.

Enjoy river views while you dine at Huka's Jetty Pavilion.

