

Guests' Amenities at Magic Cottages

Guest Office:

WiFi internet and guest desk top computer (free for limited data usage); telephone for free local calls, with calling cards available; guest information folders (also in each cottage); local information brochures, maps, photos and visitor information.

Activity Booking/Concierge Service:

We meet and greet all our guests, providing an orientation of their accommodation and the property. We provide suggestions on what to see and do locally according to their interests and needs, as well as offering great insider knowledge on local 'hidden gems'. This is a free service. Please ask guests to contact us when they arrive and we can work with them to book trips, or help arrange activities. Often the best need little pre-planning, and are free!

Books, Games, CDs & DVDs:

Reference books (NZ and local history, bird life, native plants etc.) plus games, novels, CDs & DVDs are available to borrow from the Guest Office.

Massage & Spa Treatments:

We work with an excellent, and very experienced local massage therapist offering relaxing or therapeutic massage and spa treatments in the privacy of each cottage. Pre-bookings are required.

Self-catering:

The Lodge, River, Summer & Shearers' Cottages have full kitchens equipped with electric oven & grill, 4-ring gas hob, microwave, fridge-freezer, espresso coffee machine, kettle, toaster, hand appliances (beater, blender etc), crockery, cutlery, glassware, utensils and cooking pans, bowls. Magic Cottage has a simpler kitchen with small gas oven, 2 ring gas hob, fridge, kettle, toaster and cooking utensils, crockery, cutlery and glassware. The Glamping Site has a vintage styled kitchen with solar power, gas hob & oven, electric fridge, kettle, toaster and cooking utensils, crockery, cutlery and glassware. Each property has a gas bbq.

Gourmet Meals:

Three-course gourmet meals may be pre-booked and delivered to the Cottage/Lodge ready to 'heat and eat' at guests' leisure. We work with an excellent award-winning chef in Kerikeri who prepares each meal.

Laundry:

The Shearers' Cottage and Lodge both have washing machines available, free to use. There is a shared guest laundry for all guests to use, with pegs, airers, laundry baskets, irons and ironing boards in each property and a large shared drying line in the garden.

Hot Tub:

Our relaxing free standing hot tub (no chemicals, freshly filled for each guest), set up in a secluded position, perched on the river bank under the Pohutukawa Trees; the perfect romantic treat. Guests arrive to a steaming tub by the river, bottle of bubbly on ice, candles and warm robes. Ask guests to contact us on arrival to book the hot tub. Perfect for honeymoons, proposals, anniversaries & special occasions.

Guests' Amenities at Magic Cottages - Continued

Boathouse, Kayaks, Canoes & Fishing Rods:

Private boathouse on the waters edge, with kayaks, canoes, life-jackets, paddles & fishing rods, free for guests to borrow at their leisure. Glamping Site has its own private jetty ideal for swimming, fishing & kayaking

Outdoor Baths:

Private, romantic and secluded, our unique alfresco claw foot baths are a signature experience at Magic Cottages. All supplied with mains hot water and for exclusive use by guests at each cottage.

Takou River:

Private and pristine river front with full riparian rights, free to fish, kayak, swim or just enjoy.

Takou Bay Beach:

A short paddle downstream, or a 15 minute drive will take guests to deserted sandy beaches at Takou Bay, perfect for surfing, swimming, walking or beach combing. Beautiful all year round.

Gardens:

The Cottages and Lodge are set in 5 acres (2 hectares) of mature sub-tropical gardens, bordering the river, and dating to the time of the first European settlers. Complete with lily ponds, swing, hidden paths, glades, native, sub-tropical and European trees and plants, they are stunning throughout the year. We also have our own organic vegetable garden, orchard and free-range ducks and chickens.

Farm:

Surrounding the Cottages and Lodge is our 150 acre (60 hectare) certified organic farm, bordering the Takou River. Marked walks take guests through organic pastures, along the river, through native bush, past streams to hidden picnic and swimming spots. We have planted over 60,000 native trees since 2005, manage our own predator control and biodiversity programme.

Waka Mataatua Monument:

Situated on the river bank overlooking the site of the final resting place of the Maori *Waka Mataatua* (one of the seven original migratory canoes to bring Pacific Islanders to New Zealand over 600 years ago), the monuments commemorates the Waka's voyage to New Zealand, and final resting place in the Takou River. A site of significant cultural importance, and designated under the New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT).

Grid Free Home:

Built by Ian and Anna as their family home, perched high on the hill looking over the river and out to sea, the house is completely 'Grid Free' generating all its energy through solar and hydropower. Ian and Anna welcome guests to their home, and regularly host morning coffee and cakes on the deck. Guests are also welcome to use the stunning family pool by prior arrangement and view the house.

Children:

The Shearers' Cottage is ideal for families, set apart from the other cottages allowing guests with children to enjoy their stay without impinging on the privacy of couples looking for a childfree escape. A portacot, buggy, climbing frame, bikes & toys, children's kayaks and life-jackets are available FOC.

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