



# WAIKATO

## TOP 10 THINGS TO DO



The Waikato region is famous for Middle-earth movie magic, underground wonders, legendary surf beaches and the iconic Waikato River.

### HAMILTON GARDENS

Explore the story of gardens through time including Te Parapara, New Zealand's first traditional Māori garden at [Hamilton Gardens](#).

### HOBBITON™ MOVIE SET

Experience the real Middle-earth with a visit to the [Hobbiton™ Movie Set](#).

### WAITOMO GLOWWORM CAVES

Enjoy a [gentle walk and unique boat ride](#) under thousands of awe-inspiring glowworms.

### ZEALONG TEA ESTATE

Participate in a tasting at New Zealand's only [tea plantation](#), producing organic Oolong tea.

### OTOROHANGA KIWI HOUSE & NATIVE BIRD PARK

See the [great spotted kiwi](#) up close in specialised enclosures.

### RAGLAN SURFING SCHOOL

Enjoy a surfing lesson at New Zealand's first sanctioned [surf school](#).

### WAITOMO ADVENTURES

Head underground and experience [blackwater rafting and cave abseiling adventures](#).

### LAKE DISTRICT ADVENTURES

Explore the Waikato River Trails with guided mountain bike rides or enjoy an evening kayak tour guided by the light of glowworms.

### CYCLE TRAILS

Experience three of New Zealand's Great Rides: the Hauraki Rail Trail, Waikato River Trails and the Timber Trail.

### SANCTUARY MOUNTAIN MAUNGATAUTARI

Discover what the New Zealand forest was like hundreds of years ago on a [guided tour](#).



Waitomo Glowworm Caves



Raglan beach



Takahe at Sanctuary Mountain