

Must-Do Trail Runs in New Zealand

Lace up your running shoes and sign up for one of New Zealand's most spectacular running events. Along with a temperate climate – great for running year-round – you'll find a variety of rejuvenating experiences conveniently close to the finish line. Whether you're going for a personal best or simply want to have fun, these are five must-do running events your run club won't want to miss out on.



Mount Maunganui
Tauranga



RUN THE FOREST, ROTORUA

Held in August, **Run the Forest** follows an easy course through urban, geothermal and forest landscapes with plenty of cultural and adventure activities to be enjoyed pre- or post-run. Half-marathon, 6.2-mile and 4.3-mile distances offered.

Post-run recovery:

- Thanks to its geothermal activity, there are several hot springs and hot pools in Rotorua including **Polynesian Spa**, **Wai Ariki** and **Secret Spot Hot Tubs** – perfect for a relaxing soak.



THE SPECTACLE, NELSON

Hosted in December, **The Spectacle** caters to all fitness levels and abilities including elite athletes. Various distances include the 100-mile "endurance" challenge as well as marathon, half-marathon, 6.2-mile and 3.1-mile.

Post-run recovery:

- Sail the waters of Abel Tasman National Park during a full-day cruise with **Abel Tasman Sailing Adventures**. Keep your eyes peeled for basking fur seals!



FIRST LIGHT MARATHON, GISBORNE

Taking place in January, Gisborne's **First Light Marathon** is a great option for seasoned runners and those looking to complete their first trail marathon. Run through farmland, uphill to witness the sunrise and along golden sand beaches. A half-marathon and 3.7-mile fun run also available.

Post-run recovery:

- For pre- and post-race accommodation with a difference, book a cabin nestled amongst the vines at **Matawhero Wines**, known for their crisp chardonnay.



HAWKE'S BAY MARATHON

Base yourself in Napier – known for its Art Deco buildings – if competing in the **Hawke's Bay Marathon**. With options for marathon, half-marathon, 6.2-mile and 1.4-mile fun run, this event combines flat, well-maintained trails with incredible coastal and vineyard views.

Post-run recovery:

- For post-event luxury, book a stay at **Rosewood Cape Kidnappers** to relax and unwind at the on-site spa, championship golf course or wildlife sanctuary.

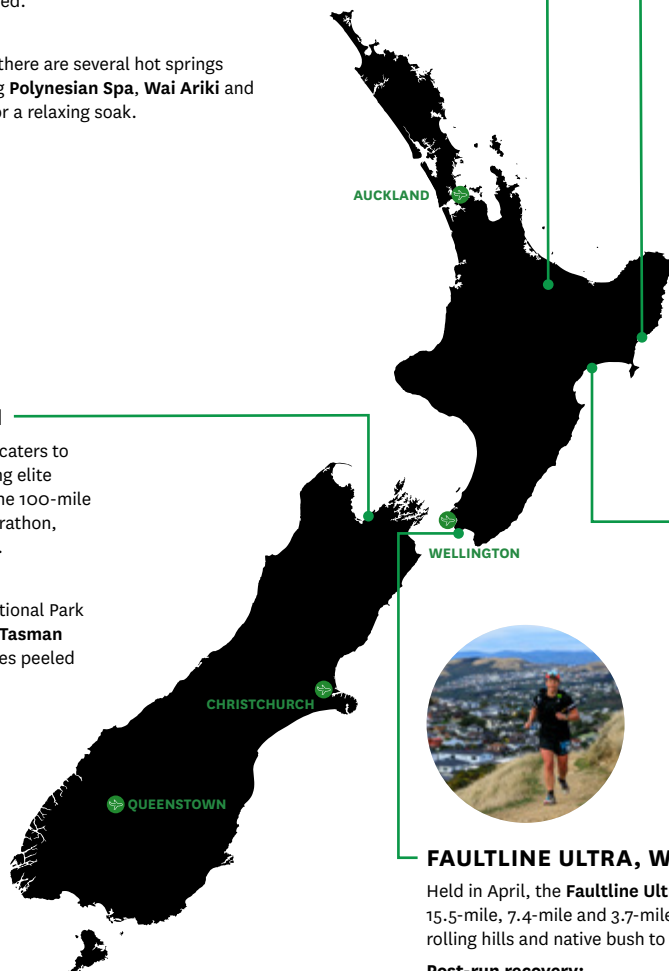


FAULTLINE ULTRA, WELLINGTON

Held in April, the **Faultline Ultra** offers six challenges: 100-mile, 64-mile, 32.3-mile, 15.5-mile, 7.4-mile and 3.7-mile. Depending on the event, enjoy diverse landscapes from rolling hills and native bush to the city's waterfront.

Post-run recovery:

- If you're feeling hungry post-run, taste your way around Wellington's incredible dining scene on a **guided foodie tour**, savoring coffee, chocolate, craft beer and more.



100% PURE NEW ZEALAND