

Taranaki Tourism Summit

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF TOURISM

Tuesday 2 December | Novotel Ngāmotu New Plymouth

PROGRAMME

Pouākai Tarn



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venture
TARANAKI
Te Puna Umanga


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Programme

Programme details subject to change as final speakers and session details are confirmed.

DATE	SESSION / SPEAKER
8:45am	Mihi Whakatau Mana whenua: Ngāti Te Whiti
9:00am	Housekeeping and Introduction MC: Dinnie Moeahu
9:10am	Welcome and opening address <i>Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki Trust</i> Kelvin Wright, Chief Executive
9.25am	Tourism for Good: Walking together towards a shared future <i>This keynote explores how tourism can become a force for collective wellbeing when shaped through community voices and indigenous leadership. By focusing on purposeful engagement, tourism moves beyond economic benefit to create social, cultural, and environmental legacies. Attendees will be challenged to consider how collaboration over competition builds stronger, more resilient destinations.</i> <i>TRC Tourism</i> Kylie Ruwhiu-Karawana, Managing Director
9.55am	Tourism New Zealand: Marketing Aotearoa through Authentic Storytelling <i>Tourism New Zealand</i> Karl Burrows, General Manager Pou Ārahi Māori
10.10am	Panel: The stakeholders and the system: Ngā mata tini o te hāpai. <i>This panel brings together voices from across the visitor sector, to explore what it takes to grow a thriving and cohesive visitor economy. Together they will unpack the nuances, complexities, and opportunities within the system, and share insights on what needs to improve and evolve as we look to the horizon.</i> Panel includes: <i>Regional Tourism New Zealand</i> Andrew Wilson, Chair <i>Department of Conservation, Ngāmotu/New Plymouth, Taranaki</i> Gareth Hopkins, Operations Manager <i>Tourism New Zealand</i> Karl Burrows, General Manager Pou Ārahi Māori Speaker TBC <i>MBIE</i> Speaker TBC <i>Māori Tourism New Zealand</i> Facilitator: Kylie Ruwhiu-Karawana
11:00am	MORNING TEA
11.15am	Sector spotlight: Kai Waho – harnessing the manaaki and the whenua <i>Kai Waho</i> Tom Loughlin, Owner Operator
11.35am	Investing in tourism, the Ngāi Tahu Story <i>Ngāi Tahu Tourism</i> Jolanda Cave, General Manager
11.55 am	Tourism for good, Zealandia Te Māra a Tāne <i>Zealandia Te Māra a Tāne</i> Gabby Lawton - Manager, Members and Supporters
12.15pm	Keynote – Tara Howell, Derby Blue Pods Ride <i>Blue Derby Pods Ride</i> Tara Howell, Director
1:05pm	LUNCH
1.50pm	Pukerangiora Visitor Experience – The power of kōrero tāwhito <i>Pukerangiora Pā</i> Jacqui Lichtwark, Treasurer of Pukerangiora Hapū and Rūmātiki Timu <i>Locales Agency</i> Chris Hay, Founder and Director
2.05pm	Panel discussion – Realising opportunities in Taranaki. <i>This panel will explore the region's unique strengths and opportunities, featuring expert voices from Māori Tourism, Agri-tourism, and more, facilitated by Jason Dawson, Regional Affairs Manager at Air New Zealand.</i> Panel includes: <i>Novotel New Plymouth Taranaki</i> Jayesh Bala, General Manager <i>Agritourism New Zealand</i> Marijke Dunselman, Founder and CEO <i>Tourism New Zealand</i> Karl Burrows, General Manager Pou Ārahi Māori <i>Tawa Group</i> Peter Crawford, General Manager <i>Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust</i> Gina Blackburn, Pouwhakakaupapa Facilitated by: Jason Dawson, Regional Affairs Manager, <i>Air New Zealand</i>
2.50pm	North Taranaki Visitors Centre – developing the future of Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa <i>Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust</i> Joshua Hitchcock (Te Atiawa, Taranaki Iwi), Pou Iho Tū / General Manager, Economic Development
3.10pm	AFTERNOON TEA
3.30pm	Announcement coming soon
3.50pm	Reflections and regional opportunities <i>Te Tōpuni Ngārahu</i> Wharehoka Wano, Chief Executive <i>King & Queen Hotel Suites</i> Daniel Fleming, General Manager – Co-owner <i>Port Taranaki</i> Ross Dingle, GM Commercial <i>Te Tōpuni Kōkōrangi</i> Liana Poutu, Chair <i>He Toronga Pakihi ki Taranaki</i> Paora Rauputu (Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Tama), Pouwhakahaere Facilitated by: <i>Venture Taranaki</i> Brylee Flutey, General Manager – Destination
4.40pm	Summary of day and next steps
5:00pm	Networking drinks – supported by Juno Gin and Shining Peak
6:00pm	Event ends