

Out and about

Spring has sprung! It's the perfect time to cast off the weight of the world and indulge the senses in everything bright, fragrant, and beautiful. A warm and sincere thank you goes out to the incredible Kiwi gardeners who generously open their private slices of paradise for others to experience and enjoy.

Exploring some of New Zealand's finest private gardens isn't just a feast for the eyes - it's also a wonderful source of inspiration for our own backyards and green spaces. It's an opportunity to connect with nature, and each other, as we discover new ideas and maybe even uncover hidden corners of the country we've never seen before. So, gather your garden-loving friends and family, map out a route and plan a delightful day trip (or a whole week) full of creativity, exploration, and shared joy.

Taranaki comes alive each spring with two vibrant garden festivals held simultaneously over ten days.



ABOVE: **Welfon House, Marlborough**

LEFT: **Oakley garden, Taranaki**

BELOW: **Gabot's garden, Taranaki Fringe Festival**

OPPOSITE PAGE: **Riverlea garden, Taranaki**



PHOTO: KATHY KEDDIE

Back for its 38th year, the **Centuria Taranaki Garden Festival** will feature 43 gardens and more than 30 events and workshops to enjoy and explore. Crowned New Zealand's Favourite Event in 2023 by NZEA, this much-loved festival is a chance to connect with gardeners, pick up fresh inspiration, and enjoy the stunning landscapes around Taranaki Maunga.

The Mitre 10 Garden Speaker Series includes talks and demonstrations on the importance of pollinators, soil science, propagating plants, hanging baskets - and more.

The **Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival** showcases 40 private gardens, from small urban havens to expansive rural gardens amid breathtaking landscapes. At its heart, it is about celebrating the love of gardening, sharing ideas, and encouraging everyone, no matter their skill level, to get involved.

This year we welcome a brand new North Island event. The **Hawke's Bay Garden Affair** is a 3 day self-drive event in early November featuring gardens across the region, from Waipawa to



Real Gardens for Real People

Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival

31 October to 9 November 2025

Explore a variety of beautiful gardens
Purchase plants you've seen in the gardens
Get practical advice from garden hosts
Enjoy arts and crafts

Only \$2 per person, payable at each garden gate

Programme downloadable from our website
TaranakiFringeGardenFestival www.taranakigardens.co.nz



TICKETS ON SALE NOW

garden marlborough

New Zealand's premier garden event

with **BAYLEYS**

6-9 NOVEMBER 2025

gardenmarlborough.co.nz

Marlborough Lines (Empowering Marlborough's Future)
Churchill Hospital (Excellence in Healthcare)
CRAIG'S (INVESTMENT PARTNERS)
MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL
Marlborough

Keynote Speaker Jamie Durie – Global Garden Star
Don't miss award-winning garden designer and TV host Jamie Durie as he shares bold ideas, expert insights, and entertaining stories.



Napier. Also in Hawke's Bay, lovers of historic homesteads and gardens will find some gems in Central Hawke's Bay's **Spring Fling**, on throughout September and October.

North of Auckland, the **Kerikeri Garden Safari** showcases sub-tropical and coastal plantings. In November, beautiful Bay of Plenty gardens are open to visit in the **Katikati Garden Ramble** and **Rotorua Festival of Gardens**.

Wairarapa's annual garden ramble is a fundraiser in support of the **Pūkaha National Wildlife Centre**. The not-for-profit charity manages a 942-hectare forest sanctuary for native wildlife and is a breeding centre for kiwi, kākā and kākāriki.

In the South Island, **Garden Marlborough** is a major annual

event, now in its 32nd year. The popular bus tours offer comfortable rides through Marlborough's stunning landscapes between garden stops. As well as beautiful gardens, large and small, there are workshops, celebrity speakers, a Garden Fête and cocktail party.

In North Canterbury, the **Hurunui Garden Festival** is a great self-drive garden trail which stretches from Amberley in the south to Hanmer Springs in the north. Enjoy a wide range of garden styles and meet the garden owners.

At the end of September, a garden ramble is one of the highlights of the **Alexandra Blossom Festival** - another golden opportunity to explore garden gems while soaking up the beauty of the region. It's just one of many local rambles (with more still to be announced) that promise a delightful day out in a beautiful corner of Aotearoa. 🌿

LEFT: Barewood garden, Marlborough

SPRING DIARY

SEPTEMBER

SEP 1-14

Taniwha Daffodils, Waipukurau.
thespringfling.nz

SEP 27-28

Botanical Expo 2025,
Lincoln Event Centre,
Canterbury.
botanicalexpo.nz

SEP 27-28

South Island National
Daffodil Society Show, Lincoln
Event Centre, Canterbury.
daffodil.org.nz

SEP 28

Alexander Blossom
Festival Delta Garden Tour.
blossom.co.nz



OCTOBER

OCT 5

Central Hawke's Bay
Homestead Trail.
thespringfling.nz

OCT 11-12

Wellington Orchid Society
Spring Show.
Email: debsrodley@gmail.com

OCT 12, 19, 26

High Tea Amongst the
Roses, Woburn Homestead,
Hawkes Bay.
thespringfling.nz

OCT 30 - NOV 2

Hurunui Garden
Festival, Canterbury.
hurunui-garden-festival.com

OCT 31 - NOV 9

Centuria Taranaki
Garden Festival.
gardenfestnz.co.nz

OCT 31 - NOV 9

Taranaki Fringe Garden
Festival. taranakigardens.co.nz

NOVEMBER

NOV 1-2

Kerikeri Garden Safari.
gardensafari.co.nz

NOV 2

Altrusa Home and
Garden Ramble,
Te Awamutu.
altrusateawamutu.co.nz

NOV 2

Picnic in the Peonies,
Tikokino, Hawkes Bay.
thespringfling.nz

NOV 6-9

Garden Marlborough.
gardenmarlborough.
co.nz

NOV 7-9

Hawke's Bay
Garden Affair.
hbgardenaffair.co.nz

NOV 8-9

Katikati Garden Ramble.
facebook.com/
KatikatiGardenRamble/

NOV 8-23

NZ Sculpture OnShore,
Devonport, Auckland.
nzsculptureonshore.co.nz

NOV 13-16

Pacific Rose Bowl Festival,
Hamilton Gardens.
waikatonz.com/all-events/
pacific-rose-bowl-festival

NOV 14-16

Rotorua Festival of
Gardens.
rotorua-gardens.org.nz

NOV 15

Cross Hills Gardens
Country Fair, Kimbolton,
Manawatu.
crosshillsfair.co.nz

NOV 22-23

Pūkaha Wairarapa
Garden Tour.
wairapagardentour.co.nz

NOV 29

Great Barrier Island
garden tours.
gbigardentour.nz