

Out and about

pring 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 gardenloving 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: Welton House, Marlborough LEFT: Oakley garden, Taranaki

BELOW: Gabot's garden, Taranaki Fringe Festival OPPOSITE PAGE: Riverlea garden, Taranaki

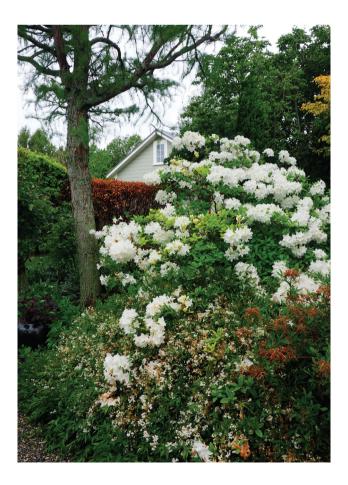


Back for its 38th year, the Centuria Taranaki Garden Festival will feature 43 gardens and more than 30 events and workshops to enjoy and explore. Crowned New Zealand's Favourite Event in 2023 by NZEA, this much-loved festival is a chance to connect with gardeners, pick up fresh inspiration, and enjoy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





TICKETS ON SALE NOW





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 subtropical 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. hurunuigardenfestival.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.

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. rotoruagardens.org.nz

NOV 15

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

NOV 22-23

Pūkaha Wairarapa Garden Tour. wairarapagardentour.co.nz

NOV 29

Great Barrier Island garden tours. gbigardentour.nz