



TAKING LEARNING TO NEW HEIGHTS

When stepping into our native forest you instantly know you're in a special place.

Layers of greenery stretch from the filmy fern floor through the canopy layers to ancient giants towering towards the sky. It's breathtaking, an eye-full experience that stimulates your cells and showcases endemic New Zealand like nowhere else on Earth.

From the early days of planning and construction James (creator and founder) realised, it was not just about people. The forest on Dansey Road Scenic Reserve needed to be restored back to health as it was debilitated from introduced pests. The condition of the flora and fauna within the forest has improved exponentially with our pest management. But, we don't do it alone! Together, with our guests, the restoration story becomes your story and continues to evolve and improve our natural world.



“ AWESOME EXPERIENCE. FLYING THROUGH THE AIR WAS EXHILARATING. LEARNING ABOUT THE ECO AREA AND WHAT IS BEING DONE TO KEEP THE INTEGRITY OF THE FOREST AND GETTING THE BIRDLIFE BACK WAS FANTASTIC ”

TripAdvisor review - March, 2021



www.canopytours.co.nz



FEAR CONQUERED

Did you know that over 20% of our clients say they have a fear of heights. Our amazing guides are there to support you, keep you safe and help you overcome your fears once and for all.

“ IF YOU HAVE A FEAR OF HEIGHTS AND ARE UMMING AND URRING ABOUT IT, DO IT. THEY REALLY DO CARE ABOUT YOUR SAFETY AND MAKE YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE THE WHOLE WAY THROUGH. SIT DOWN AND LET YOUR BODY MOVE INTO IT AND IF YOU CAN, LET GO! SUCH A GOOD FEELING/VIEW/ EXPERIENCE. HIGHLY, HIGHLY RECOMMENDED!”

– TripAdvisor review, the-savvy-travel, July 2018



“ SO RELAXED BUT PROFESSIONAL. YOU CAN TRULY SEE THEY HAVE A PASSION FOR THEIR GUESTS AND ALSO THE ECOLOGY OF THE AREA.

I WAS GIVEN ALL THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND PATIENCE I NEEDED.

WAS IT SCARY.... YES!!! BUT SO VERY VERY WORTH IT. I CAN HONESTLY SAY THAT, FEAR N ALL, I HAD AN AMAZING DAY!! ”

– TripAdvisor review, Wayne March 2021



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

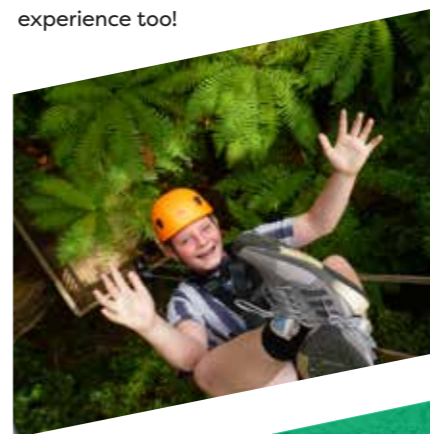
There are a number of learning opportunities within the forest and within our small business whanau. From conservation, tourism, business studies, biology, geology, team building & of course hands-on experiencing.....to name a few!

Ziplines started as a bit of a mouthful, an "elevated transport system propelled by gravity, using a harness and pulley through a simple horizontal line", but it explains the gist. Biologists were using them to get into the treetops of old growth trees to research micro ecosystems never studied before. The first official zipline opened in Costa Rica in 1998 and from there they started to pop up globally as an exciting adventure tourism product.

The whole experience can inspire curiosity and requires decision making and taking action. People need to actively listen to our guides instructions while being able to share thoughts and encourage peers to conquer fears. Everyone hears about how they are making a difference to the natural

environment by coming along and helping to improve the overall health of our communities, creating a sense of achievement and belonging.

With safety as our number one priority it's not just the kids that will have a good time, you adults will love this experience too!



CANOPY TOURS IN THE RAIN

If it rains during your tour, count yourself lucky.

Rain is one thing that makes Rotorua Canopy Tours even more magical. Raindrops make the green colours in the forest really come alive, especially our beautiful native ferns whose fronds act as one giant umbrella. The canopy surrounding you is so thick you often won't feel the rain at all. The damp air also enhances the fresh earthy smell and really adds to the sense of adventure.

We provide waterproof jackets and pants, plus beanies and gloves if it's a cold day. It can rain at any time of the year in Rotorua but we promise this WON'T spoil your experience – it'll make it even more special.

“ THE TOURS I HAVE DONE IN THE RAIN ARE SO MUCH BETTER! I LOVE THE SMELL OF THE RAIN AND THE FOREST JUST GLISTENS. THE ABSOLUTE BEST TIME IS WHEN IT HAS JUST FINISHED RAINING AND THE SUN STARTS TO PEAK THROUGH THE CANOPY.”

– Sam Robinson, Australia - visited 7 times.

OUR CORE VALUES

SAFETY - Is our number one priority

EVERY INTERACTION COUNTS Every Time!

BE SUSTAINABLE - Inspire change

OWN IT - Take charge, be proud and kick butt!

BETTER NEVER STOPS We push to be the best in everything we do.



CONSERVATION UPDATE

When we launched Rotorua Canopy Tours in 2012, the Dansey Road Scenic Reserve in the Mamaku Forest was deathly silent. Rats, possums, ferrets and stoats had decimated the bird life and chewed parts of this 1000 year-old forest to pieces.

We immediately began setting traps and we're proud to say over half the reserve is now under active pest control. We have 615 re-settable traps spread over 280ha. Our entire staff regularly head into the forest to re-bait these traps and spread a special cinnamon paste along tree trunks to lure pests towards their fate.

The results have been amazing! Birds have flooded back into the forest and its diverse eco-system is flourishing once again. North Island robins now flock to our treetop platforms and allow us to hand-feed them with mealworms (one of the few places you can do this in NZ). It's also quite common to see wood pigeons, tui and fantails flitting amongst the trees.

A portion of every ticket sold at Rotorua Canopy Tours is reinvested back into our conservation efforts to help bring this incredible forest back to life. A huge thanks to everyone who's contributed so far.

2012 - Trees ravaged by possum browse



2018 - Same trees 6 years later after possums removed



HOW DO YOU CREATE AN AWARD WINNING ADVENTURE TOURISM PRODUCT

After seeing ziplines starting to emerge overseas as adventure tourism products James had a light bulb moment, what better way to showcase our spectacular forests and give people the chance to get to a location they would otherwise never see? Well, the saying goes, it all started with a dream. Mix that with two good mates, some kiwi ingenuity and a hand made spud gun and you're away!

When James found the perfect forest to showcase on Department of Conservation (DOC) land, he didn't think he had a chance working with a government agency but decided to approach the relationship anyway. His idea was received warmly and that was the beginning of a successful partnership we have today with DOC and the Canopy Conservation Trust.

"We applaud this programme. This is a great example of a business working in partnership with DOC to achieve significant conservation gains in an area that all New Zealanders and international visitors can be proud of and enjoy.....The scope of

the company's vision to control pests throughout the 500 hectare reserve is fantastic and we're delighted to be working with James and his team on this significant conservation initiative," says Rob Griffiths (DOC's Community Relations Ranger).

Once James had crafted up a plan he reached out to long time uni mate, Andrew (founder & director), who was handy on the tools and had completed an Engineering degree. With James having a degree in Accounting and Marketing the lads had a great skill set to get stuck in.

It wasn't an easy road ahead as trials presenting themselves constantly along the way. The construction alone was slow and hard work, each plank of wood on the Original Canopy Tour was hand carried into the forest, largely by James (who wasn't allowed on the tools), he lost an incredible 16kgs during this construction phase being the mule.



FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR JAMES GETTING STUCK INTO THE PEST CONTROL

DOING YOUR PART

Doing your part is easy, by coming on one of our tours you become part of our forest restoration journey.

Since 2012 Rotorua Canopy Tours and our customers have been responsible for transforming our forest into a flourishing native eco-system. A percentage of each tour is put towards the Canopy Conservation Trust, which goes towards trapping and conservation initiatives in the forest.

"THIS IS SUCH AN INSPIRING STORY OF HOW STORYTELLING AROUND THE VISION OF PREDATOR-FREE NEW ZEALAND CAN BE A MARKET LEADER IN THE NEW ZEALAND TOURISM INDUSTRY"

Lou Sanson, Director-General of the Department of Conservation

CONSERVATION IN ACTION

The Dansey Road Scenic Reserve is ancient forest. Unlike most native forests in the North Island which were milled or burnt when humans arrived, this special patch of bush is an original remnant of native forest in New Zealand pre-humans.

The forest was crawling with pests In the first few weeks **OVER 800 PESTS WERE CAUGHT!**



TRAPPING RESULTS FROM THE FIRST NIGHT!

The Department of Conservation recognised our efforts and came onboard to help us form the



2015
100HA TRAPPED

Replaced manual traps with Good Nature traps

BIRDS & INSECTS slowly began returning to the forest

Rare striped skink and pacific geckos discovered in the forest

2016
180HA TRAPPED

We now have **1100** AUTOMATED TRAPS

THE RARE AND CHEEKY NEW ZEALAND ROBIN

BIRDS & INSECTS have come flooding into the area as it's a safe place to live and breed.

2017
250HA TRAPPED

RARER BIRDS LIKE TOM TIT & ROBIN

are regular visitors on tour and will come and feed from guests hands

An ecologist visited and reported on our forest and was excited about all our indicator species for **FOREST HEALTH** and the **SIGHTINGS OF RARE SPECIES.**

2018

We are now monitoring a new, special piece of forest at the end of the Dansey Road Scenic Reserve and have had some great volunteer involvement with this.

2019

Dan the trapping man visits and estimates **3% POSSUM** and **16% RAT** saturation. In 2012 our saturation for these pest was at **100%**

2020

Goodnature gift **\$27,000** worth of trapping kit including bluetooth monitored chirps



GOOD NATURE TRAP

2021

WHICH TOUR IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

There are three unique eco-tour experiences to choose from, both featuring a network of ziplines, suspended swingbridges, treetop platforms and forest trails as you journey deep into ancient native New Zealand forest.

QUICK TOUR COMPARISONS

	TOUR TIME	LONGEST ZIPLINE	TOTAL ZIPLINES	NUMBER OF ZIPLINES	NUMBER OF SWING BRIDGES	CONTROLLED DESCENT	CLIFF WALK	SPIRAL STAIRCASE	FREE PHOTOS	COMPLEMENTRY CENTRAL ROTORUA TRANSPORT
THE EMERGING CANOPY TOUR	1.45hr	70m	110m	2	1	X	X	X	✓	X
THE ORIGINAL CANOPY TOUR	3hr	220m	600m	6	2	X	X	X	✓	✓
THE ULTIMATE CANOPY TOUR	3.5hr	400m	1200m	6	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



For school groups looking for a more introductory experience with a tighter budget or time frame.

We have selected a portion of the Original Canopy tour to give a perfect mixture of a bit of everything. You'll get the same awesome walk into the forest, learning about some of our flora and fauna and maybe even feed a native bird! There are two ziplines and a swing bridge before climbing down a platform ladder to the ground and having a conservation walk out of the forest. This is the perfect option for our younger primary school kids.

Minimum age: 6 years. Maximum weight: 120 kg (264lb)



An unforgettable and enlightening adventure.

The Original Canopy Tour is our award-winning experience that has been enjoyed by over 150,000 guests. Experience New Zealand like it once was on this personal and unforgettable journey, perfect for all ages. In-between the thrill of ziplines and suspended tree bridges, your authentic kiwi guides will bring the forest to life as you become part of our conservation story. They are highly trained to keep you safe, make you smile, teach you amazing things and create memories that will last you a lifetime.

Minimum age: 6 years. Maximum weight: 120 kg (264lb)



"EVERYONE NEEDS TO DO THIS!! AMAZING EXPERIENCE"

TripAdvisor review - Catherine, January 2021

"FROM THE MOMENT WE ARRIVED WE KNEW WE WERE IN FOR SOMETHING SPECIAL..."

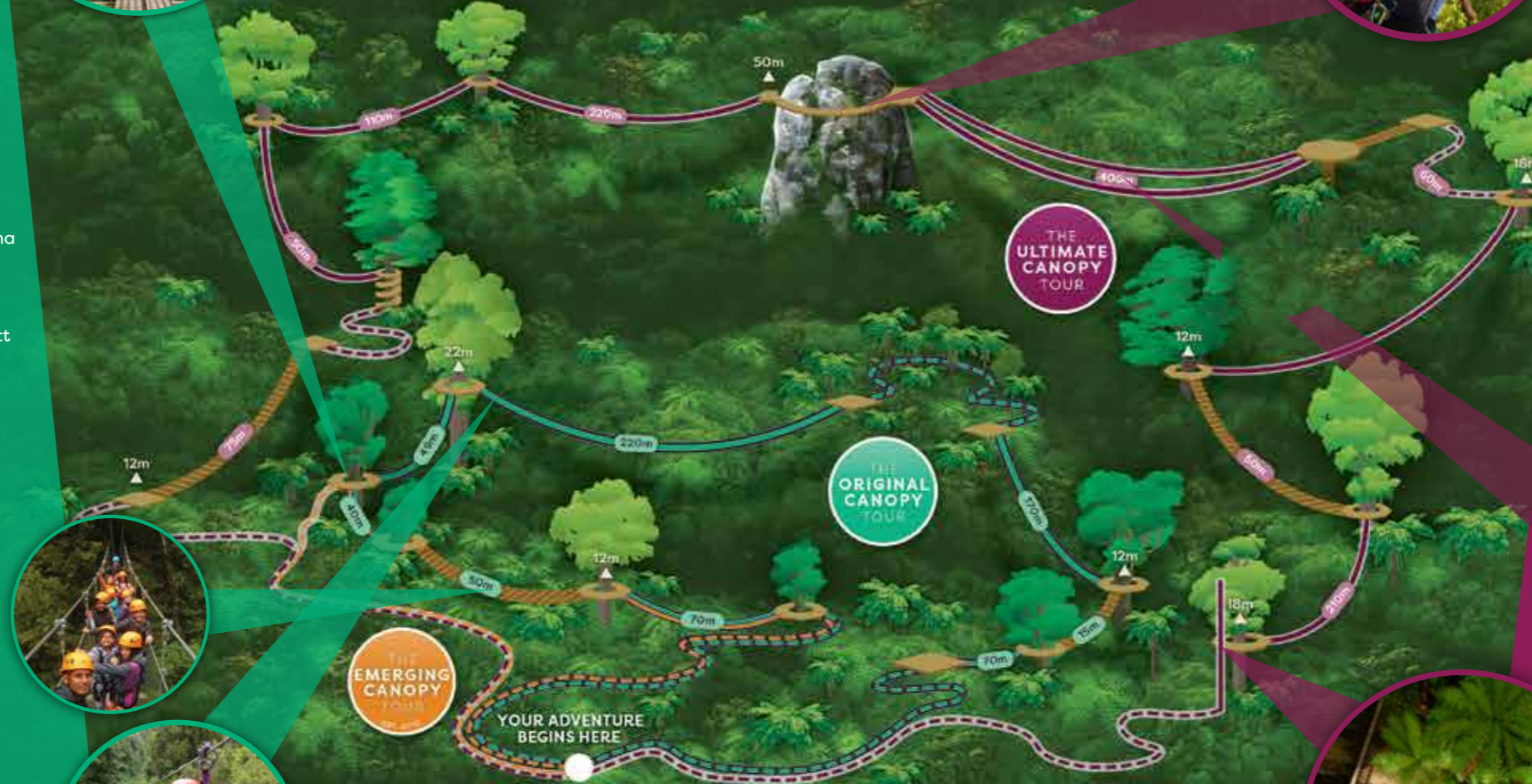
TripAdvisor review - aaron, 2018.



Higher, longer and 100% more spectacular!

The Ultimate Tour opened in July 2018 and is higher, longer and even more spectacular. Not for the faint of heart, this experience is a step up in adventure level. Including a 400m long zipline, a suspended cliff-face walkway, swingbridges, a controlled descent and an impressive spiral staircase, you'll be blown away. Glide across wide open valleys, deep gorges and lose yourself in this untouched forest - it's New Zealand like you've never seen it.

Minimum age 10 years. Maximum weight 120kg (264lb).



"THIS IS A GREAT EXPERIENCE! I CAN SEE WHY IT'S WON SO MANY AWARDS."

TripAdvisor review - krickels, 2018.

"YOU GET AN A PLUS FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY. VERY THOROUGH AND I FELT TOTALLY SAFE..."

TripAdvisor review - Gerri, February 2021.



"TRULY MEMORABLE ADVENTURE WITH INFORMED AND PROFESSIONAL GUIDES MAKING YOU FEEL AT ONE WITH THE FOREST AROUND YOU."

TRIPADVISOR REVIEW - Brad, March 2021

SO, WHICH TOUR IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

SOME OTHER FAQ'S YOU MAY LIKE TO KNOW

Each departure has two fully trained guides to help students, we just ask for one teacher/ adult to accompany each group (1:10 ratio). One teacher per group is FOC!

We run in all weather conditions and each season brings something new and interesting.

We can be flexible with tour times to work with time restraints, just let us know.

We have RAM's forms ready on request as well as our SMP, standard operating procedures, risk & hazard register, crisis plan, Outdoors Mark accreditation & Qualmark gold.

We have transport options available to collect and drop off after tours.

We have no hidden fees and do 100% refunds so long as we have 24 - 72hours notice (depending on the group size).

We have heaps of untapped information inhouse so if you're after specific learning objectives for your curriculum, let us know!

We partner with other tourism operators and can assist lunch options to help make a whole day of it (and make your planning easy)!

We can do up awards and/or worksheets to offer a bit extra on top of the experience.



"I RECOMMEND CANOPY TOURS AS AN ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME, THE ZIPLINING AND ENVIRONMENT WAS AMAZING AND FUN. THE GUIDES WERE EXCEPTIONAL AND ENSURED THAT SAFETY WAS PARAMOUNT. NOT ONLY IS IT AN ADVENTURE BUT ALSO AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND YOU TAKE THE RISK AND JUST DO IT".

Rawiri Wihapi Principal Mokoia Intermediate /
President Rotorua Principals Association

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

We're proud of where we've come from and even more excited about where we are going!

2012 First two customers came on tour on 17th August (full paying although bribed with pizza and beer) and first 5 star Trip Advisor review received that same month titled "the best NZ activity"

2013 Over 18,000 guests through the door and recognised in DOC's conservation week as the start of a forest restoration success story. The canopy conservation trust was created.

2014 First Qualmark Gold award received

2015 Lou Sanson, the Director-General of the Department of Conservation visited Rotorua Canopy Tours and is "incredibly impressed" with what he sees. The first self setting Good Nature trap is set up by Lou.

2016 Was a big year!

Winner of Westpac's Excellence in Sustainability Award

Winner of Westpac's Attractions Business of the year Award

Winner of Westpac's overall Business of the year

Winner of NZ Tourism Environmental tourism award

Winner of NZ Tourism Visitor Experience Award

Winner of NZ Tourism Supreme Tourism Award

2017 We won Tourism Export Councils Operator of the year Award

2018 The Ultimate Canopy Tour opened up July 1st

2019 Winner 100% pure award

Winner Trip Advisors Top 10 Experience in South Pacific

2020 Top two businesses in the NZI Sustainable business network awards

2021 Survived a Pandemic!

HOW TO BOOK

WE ARE AT

147 Fairy Springs Road, Rotorua

CONTACT US

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