

Investing in Ruapehu



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www.ruapehudc.govt.nz



Why Ruapehu?

Growth Potential and Lifestyle

"Investing in Ruapehu" gives you the right information to make your business investment choice here. In writing this profile, we didn't want to make it sound like another advertising brochure. That's because we know that you need the "hard facts" not the "hard sell".

"Investing in Ruapehu" will give you the up to date statistics to make your decisions, but probably can't answer all your questions.

We also know that decisions to invest in business in a new area are not taken independently of your family. We are confident that you will find the range of school and other needs are well catered for here. But we always look for new people to get involved.

Ruapehu is a District on the move and the smart investor will recognise another Coromandel in an earlier stage.

Message from Ruapehu's Mayor

The Ruapehu District is the jewel in the central North Island crown.

Nestled alongside Lake Taupo and containing the Whanganui National Park and the Tongariro National Park with Mt Ruapehu, a dual World Heritage location, the Ruapehu District offers unlimited opportunities as a region in which to live, work or visit.

Ruapehu is a great place to live and work. Whatever product, service or adventure you are looking for, you will be able to find it within the District. Ruapehu has well developed farming, forestry, manufacturing and visitor industries, offering many employment and investment opportunities. The local communities are extremely entrepreneurial and, along with Council, are focused on achieving and maintaining sustainable development.

Our vision for Ruapehu aims to drive District growth through initiatives that improve the economic, environmental,

social and cultural wellbeing of our local communities. The Ruapehu District offers an enviable lifestyle, easily accessible from major cities and airports, with affordable real estate and good schools. Whether you are looking for a rewarding career opportunity, a holiday with a difference, a change from big city pressures or a great place to raise a family.

I encourage you to take time with family and friends to experience what the Ruapehu District has to offer.

Sue Morris JP
MAYOR



For more information that Council may be able to help with, please contact Paul Wheatcroft, Communications Manager, on 027 243 3064.

The Case for Investing in Ruapehu

"We believe that investment in Ruapehu is secure and forward-thinking because the area is growing annually. Although resident population is static, holiday home owners and visitor growth is booming, even through recession. The following information can be included in your business projections."

Population - How Many Customers Can You Bank On?

Ruapehu's usually resident population is 13,569 but, like holiday areas, the population of home owners is actually hugely larger. The graph shows that Ruapehu's "peak" daily population is 22,579, which will increase by 24% to 27,978 in 2018.

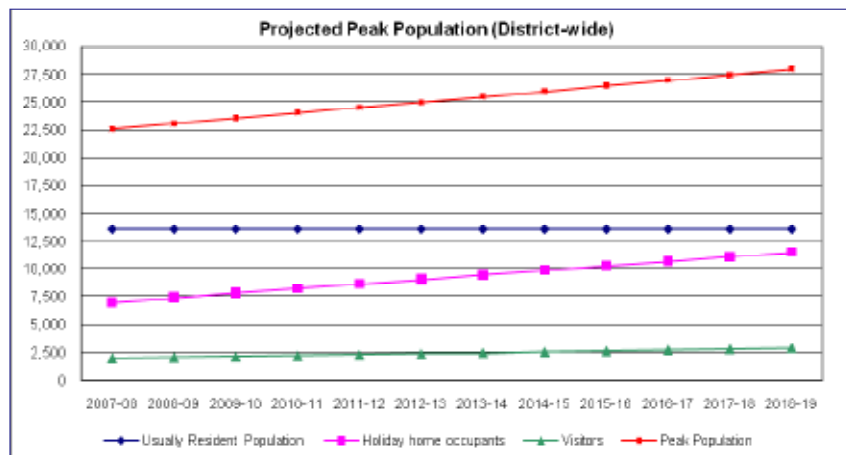
How long is a "peak" season? Peak season for Ruapehu is June to early November. Our peak lasts all through the ski season and the District is also investing heavily into summer tourism.

So, in your business projections you need to factor in:

- A consistent, all year local market of some 13,569 people.

- A five month (June to October) increase of up to 9,010 visitors on any given day to the District.

- A long term projection of population daily between March and November of 14,409 visitors daily to the District.



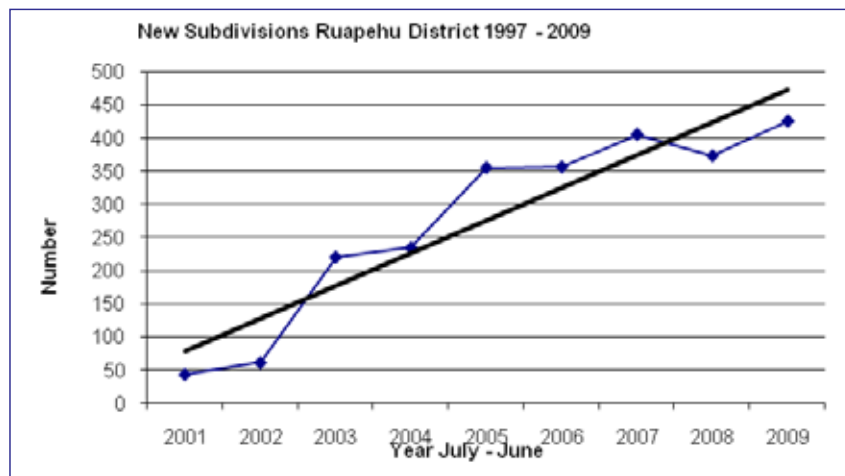
Boom in Holiday Home Ownership

The last two years (2007 - 2009) have seen over 900 Building Consents for the District.

The number of new subdivisions is also still trending upwards, despite the current recession.

The District has grown by 1,741 new properties in 10 years - that's 22% growth.

What's happening here? It's obvious really - another Thames-Coromandel and Queenstown in the making, just several steps behind in time.



No of Rating Units

Year	Number
2000	8004
2001	8160
2002	8360
2003	8480
2004	8607
2005	8673
2006	8730
2007	8882
2008	9067
2009	9745

The Case for Investing in Ruapehu

Visitor Boom Even Through Recession

Visitors to Ruapehu have increased steadily over this decade. While winter numbers are still the highest, summer and "shoulder" seasons are also steadily increasing. The number of travellers who stayed overnight in

Ruapehu was 17% higher in the first half of 2009 compared to the same time last year. That's good news for your customers. The 2009 ski season saw 453,000 visitors come to Ruapehu.

Actual Numbers of Visitors to Ruapehu

Source: Statistics NZ

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	24,975	27,884	26,815	30,798	29,417	30,111
February	20,109	26,601	26,861	32,847	26,985	29,524
March	23,780	26,400	23,598	29,405	28,377	30,441
April	18,303	17,687	19,222	22,847	20,621	28,047
May	10,855	10,869	11,739	12,552	13,757	17,324
June	15,202	15,161	18,653	16,171	15,819	23,590
July	54,605	50,174	54,862	53,414	50,898	67,277
August	48,626	51,359	59,353	51,260	53,339	57,653
September	52,302	55,797	62,517	53,892	51,405	52,740
October	34,140	31,091	32,941	26,012	39,100	31,754
November	25,941	21,065	24,777	23,735	27,024	23,070
December	21,842	24,208	26,253	23,830	25,263	

What we are seeing is a recession-proof growth industry in tourism bringing increasingly more customers past your door. In the 2009 year (of recession), an extra 40,440 more visitors came to Ruapehu in the first six months compared to last year. That's 22% growth in customers!

Investment in Tourism is Paying Off

So says David Hammond, Ruapehu District Council's Chief Executive and head of the Ruapehu-Rangitikei-Wanganui Economic Development (RED) Trust.

"In 2009, we surveyed visitors here as part of the Te Kahui Tupua major regional initiative. Eight out of ten international visitors came to Ruapehu for the first time, with more than half saying they were "extremely interested in returning", he said.

He added: "Te Kahui Tupua and all the other investment into tourism, like Council's partnership in two quick-start National Cycleway projects, and its support of the "Visit Ruapehu" Regional Tourism Organisation, is paying off for us."



"This is a golden age of Ruapehu Tourism and driving District growth on the back of its solid farming economy" Mr Hammond observes.

"In the 2009 ski season, Mt Ruapehu had 453,000 skiers between 20 June and 8 November. That's the population of the whole of the Wellington Region coming to Ruapehu as your potential customers."



"We sold a record 25,000 season passes for 2009, which is an increase of almost 30% on last year. We also broke our previous July school holiday record. Not surprisingly, there's been an increase in the number of Kiwis visiting the mountain who have preferred to holiday at home rather than take a trip overseas".

- Mike Smith,
Mt Ruapehu
Marketing Manager

The Case for Investing in Ruapehu

Vehicle Growth - Customers Travelling by Road

The population of the Wellington Region drove into Ruapehu in four months this year. And you're not here yet!

Ruapehu District Council has vehicle growth figures that you can request. For instance, traffic on the "BP end" of Taumarunui exceeded 14,000 per day in 2009. The route from Auckland to Wellington via Ruapehu is more direct, 20 mins faster and vehicles (your customers) are increasing.

The Land Transport Agency figures prove this further:

Between September 2008 and September 2009 the monthly average daily traffic for all vehicles has increased in Ruapehu by 1.2%, which is now equal to the national average (which includes motorways), and ahead of the entire Region's average.

*For more information contact:
Warren Furner
Team Leader Land Transport
07 895 8188 or 027 490 8648*



National Cycleway Project: Ruapehu Invests in its Own Economic Future

Ruapehu invests heavily in growth initiatives and was successful in being allocated two 'Quick Start' New Zealand Cycleway Projects.

These are the "Central North Island Rail Trail" and "Mountains to the Sea". Taumarunui and Ohakune will be major accommodation points for people riding these Trails and taking part in other Ruapehu cycle rides (42nd Traverse) as well as activities within the Tongariro and Whanganui National Parks.

The development timetable of this trail is completion in Summer 2010. Be ready!

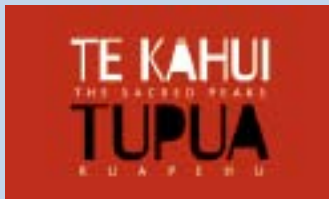
A recent independent report entitled "A Strategic and Business Plan for the King Country Eco-Cultural Corridor" by University of Waikato economist, Dr Pamela Kaval, estimated that recreation days on the Central North Island Rail Trail alone could reach as high as 36,000 visitors per annum with a benefit to the region of \$7.2 million per annum.



© Visit Ruapehu



Ruapehu's Significant Marketing Partnerships



Contact information:

Te Kahui Tupua
Ph: +64 6 385 9431
www.sacredpeaks.co.nz

Te Kahui Tupua (TKT)

A major project being undertaken by the Regional Partnership Programme (RPP) and RED Trust is the tourism Major Regional Initiative (MRI) as a partnership with the Government through significant project funding by New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (some \$2 million), Council funding (\$40,000 annually from Ruapehu and Wanganui District Councils, and \$20,000 from Rangitikei District Council), as well as significant in-kind funding by many parties.

The tourism MRI has developed the brand called Te Kahui Tupua which highlights the cultural and historic experience offered in these areas of New Zealand, which together form the North Island's premier outdoor recreation region. Its aim is to increase international visitor numbers in the region and to provide collaborative marketing of the area. As an umbrella, it is more cost efficient to combine in marketing.



Contact information:

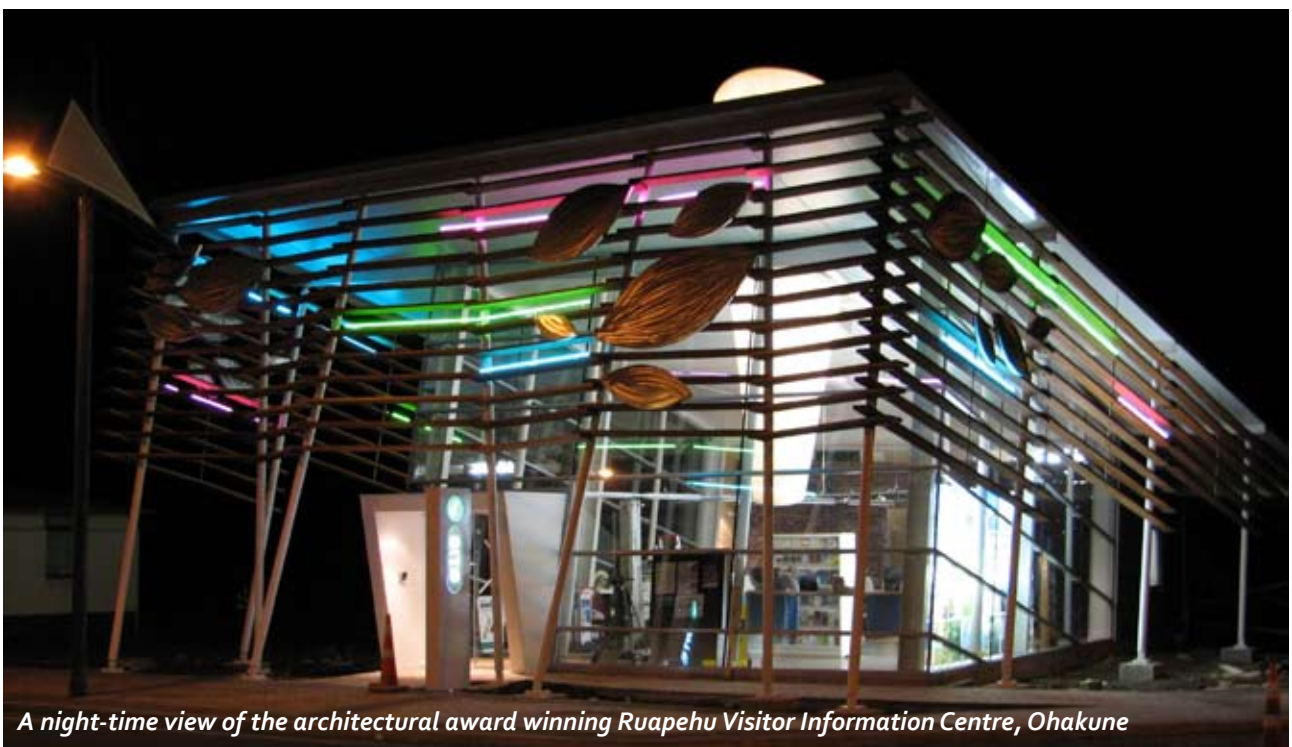
Mike Wiggins, Chairperson
Ph: 021 546 702
www.visitruapehu.com

Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO)

The RTO (Visit Ruapehu) and Visitor Information Centres are functions for the stimulation of growth in the tourism sector, as well as having local community support functions.

The District is positioned as the North Island's premier outdoor recreation centre of National and World Heritage Parks, rivers, skifields and a growing network of trails.

The RTO has a strong focus on domestic and international marketing to increase tourism to Ruapehu, linking to both Te Kahui Tupua and the new Central Park marketing alliance based around the Trans-Tasman flights to nearby Rotorua.



A night-time view of the architectural award winning Ruapehu Visitor Information Centre, Ohakune

Consents Made Easy in Ruapehu

Introduction

Ruapehu is a Council that puts in the resources to make sure that it gets your consents processed in a timely and painless way. An important tip is for applicants to get as much information as they can up front before they launch into consent planning processes.

Business Customer Service

To help our customers, this is what we do:

Pre-Consent Meetings

Council holds pre-consent meetings free of charge to applicants for resource or building consents, to walk them through the processes and timeframes.

Efficient Consent Processing

In 2009, Ruapehu District Council had improved its consent processing, in timeframe, to 90%. Council

jumped 41 places nationally, whilst the national figure reportedly slumped to 65%.

Case Managers

For our more significant consents, Council assigns a "Case Manager" to be one point of contact through all its consent processes.

Parallel Processing

Council will process both building and resource consents of an application at the same time, because it is faster that way.

Urgent Consents

Council can process consents in urgency by outsourcing to

consultants. Proper planning of the timeframes is cheaper for applicants.

District Plan

The Ruapehu District Plan is being updated at the time of writing. The Plan will work through statutory processes, but will always be available on Council's website www.ruapehudc.govt.nz.

Private Sector Business Support

Ruapehu towns have a range of business support, including accounting, consent planning, surveying, farm advisory and legal.

*For more information on Consent processing contact:
Kevin O'Shannessey
Regulation Administration Manager
on 07 895 8188*

Council's Business Commitments

Ruapehu District Council makes the following business commitments to you:

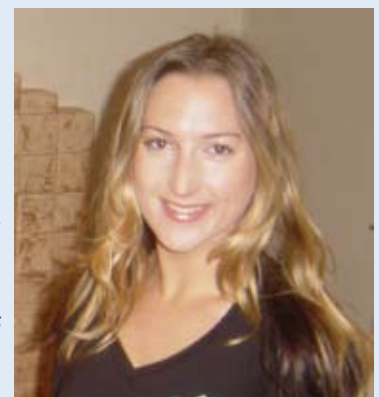
1. High standard of customer service and of processing consents to timeframe.
2. Confidentiality.
3. Free up-front pre-consent meetings to clarify our requirements and timeframes.
4. Processing of consents under urgency, if required; additional fees apply.
5. A case manager on staff to act as a single point of contact for your consent, if required.
6. A hotline to the Chief Executive and/or Mayor, if you require.
7. To take fee reduction proposals to Council for significant economic developments with significant employment opportunities expected.

From the applicant, we ask:

- Earliest possible heads-up so we can manage resourcing.
- That you carefully select your planning support professionals to ensure that they are experienced to fully understand Council's requirements from the earliest stages.
- A single point of contact on the applicant's side to deal with any issues is preferred.

Why I Invested in Ruapehu

Snowy Waters Lodge
 58 Ward Street, Raetihi 4632
 Ph: (06) 385 3157
 Mobile: 021 AT SNOWY (+64 21 287 6699)
 Website: www.snowywaterslodge.co.nz
 Email: info@snowywaterslodge.co.nz



Sandy Waters first moved to the Ruapehu District in June 2006 when she became the owner/operator of Snowy Waters Lodge in Raetihi. In 2008/09 she was instrumental in the success of the Te Kahui Tupua tourism initiative to develop the region's tourism capability and brand. Since 2009 she has been the Chairperson of Raetihi Promotions and is part of the superb marketing team at Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Ltd.

"I was attracted to starting a business/working in Ruapehu because I could see tremendous potential for Raetihi, given its central location to Mt Ruapehu's ski areas, the Whanganui River and two National Parks. I was able to start a tourism business at a fraction of the cost than in other parts of the country, while enjoying a more relaxed lifestyle.

"It's been brilliant for business and professional goals because what I didn't anticipate and what has become more rewarding than running my own business is the time I get to spend helping the community. In a big company you're

just a number. Here your efforts have an enormous impact and are hugely appreciated.

"It's good for family life (work/life balance) because you get the best of both worlds, as quiet or as busy as you like. I thought I'd be bored having travelled and lived overseas, but I've never had a more active social life. People have time for a catch up. There's always a friendly face at the supermarket and when you need to borrow milk, spuds or a trailer there's someone around the corner willing to help.

"Ruapehu is such a wonderful place to have fun, live a life you love and build a sustainable future. It is

possible to have a career outside of climbing the corporate ladder. I've never understood why people "wait until they're old" before making a lifestyle choice. You've missed the best part of your life by then!

"A lot of people ask 'why Ruapehu?' I just tell them that I wake to the sound of tuis and admire the spectacular view of Mt Ruapehu every day. In winter I snowboard and in summer I host people from all over the world. They tell me about their travels and I share with them my knowledge of the area. I have places to stay in every corner of the world now. How could I trade that for sitting in traffic for two hours a day?"



Bin Inn Taumarunui
 12 Manuate Street
 Taumarunui 3920
 Ph: 07 895 8350
 Email: Taumarunui@bininn.co.nz

Te Maari and Tamati Gardiner-Ngata own the Taumarunui Bin Inn and have been in Taumarunui since 2004.

"We were attracted to starting a business and working in Ruapehu because we love the area with the mountains, the bush and rivers and the people are so friendly. The whole region is very people orientated to local people as well as visitors."

"The area has been brilliant for our business and professional goals because we feel very much part of a community. We love the relationship with our customers and genuinely

seek to provide them with quality and personal service."

"Ruapehu has been good for our family life because everything is here for us. My adult children and their families have since moved here as well now. To own their own homes is an achievable goal and pre-schools and schools are all within easy reach."

"Ruapehu provides a wonderful combination of opportunities for

work and play. We have the most fabulous all seasons playground with the potential to live the best of both worlds of work and play."

"When people ask 'why Ruapehu?' - I just tell them that it's the centre of the universe - say no more!"



Why I Invested in Ruapehu

4 FOUR SQUARE

Four Square Taumarunui
97 Hakiha Street
Taumarunui 3920
Ph: 07 895 7982
Email: tmn4sq@xtra.co.nz



Tom and Sarah Daniell own the Four Square on the main street in the Taumarunui CBD (Hakiha Street). They purchased the business in 2005, after looking at Four Square businesses throughout NZ



"We had looked at a number of Four Square businesses for sale throughout New Zealand and settled on Taumarunui. It offered the best business potential as our goal has always been to work hard and build the business up so that we can develop our capital base for future opportunities."

"It's been brilliant for our business and professional goals as we have been able to build a great business as well. Sarah has also been able to use her degree in aviation to work as the Operations Manager for the Taumarunui Aerial Co-operative Ltd."

"Living in Taumarunui and the Ruapehu District has been great for family life - we have been able to

create our own 'work/life' balance. As a family we have taken advantage of the fantastic ski fields on nearby Mt Ruapehu and, every winter, get into snowboarding and skiing."

"We are able to work longer hours over summer and take more time off in winter - it suits us well."

"Ruapehu District is a wonderful place to live. Its central North Island location puts it in the centre of everywhere."

"A lot of people ask 'Why Ruapehu' and I say 'just step outside and take a look around'. Why would you want to be anywhere else - it's just beautiful."

"Taumarunui is a great community and we have always felt welcome."

"We are very excited about the future for the Ruapehu District. People with an entrepreneurial mind will see all sorts of commercial opportunities in Ruapehu, including tourism, which is growing every day."

"Opportunities are well-established in the skiing industry and the fast growing cycling tourism, as well as accommodation options. Already, over 10,000 people cycle the 42nd Traverse every year and Ruapehu is getting two cycle trails as part of the NZ Cycleways development."

"We have already noticed Taumarunui getting a lot busier as Ruapehu's attraction as a summer destination grows - the opportunities are endless."



Unichem Clayton & Hayes Pharmacy
93 Hakiha Street, Taumarunui 3920
Ph: 07 895 7326

John and Margie Clayton first came to Taumarunui in 1986 to take advantage of an opportunity to buy into a well-established pharmacy (now Clayton and Hayes Pharmacy, Taumarunui). In 2001, the opportunity became available to buy the pharmacy in Ohakune. They also have part ownership of a pharmacy in Te Kuiti.

"We first came to Taumarunui in 1986 when we heard that Wiles and Hayes Pharmacy, which was already a well-established business, was looking for an investor/partner. In 2001 we purchased the Pharmacy in Ohakune and have since taken a part ownership in a Te Kuiti pharmacy."

"The Ruapehu District has been brilliant for our business and professional goals. We are able to find excellent staff and opportunities are always presenting themselves, such as the opportunity to buy the Ohakune pharmacy and take a part-owner position in Te Kuiti."

"Ruapehu has provided all the opportunities we've needed to be happy with work and financially successful."

"We really like the community feel in Taumarunui and the Ruapehu District, and the fact that everyone knows and looks out for each other."

"As our children have grown, we have been accessing the outdoor life available in Ruapehu together."

"As a family we ski in winter and, in summer, enjoy mountain biking and canoeing."

"We live on the western shores of

Lake Taupo and so also enjoy regular boating and fishing."

"Access to this lifestyle is more important now as my family grows."

"When people ask me about life in Ruapehu I tell them it has allowed me to develop a financially rewarding career, while giving me access to a lifestyle my family and I love. And, importantly, I can work to free up my time to enjoy all that Ruapehu and the surrounding area has to offer with my family."

"A perfect work/life balance."

Why I Invested in Ruapehu



Alex Ferrier Building Services Ltd
PO Box 338
Taumarunui 3946
Ph: 07 895 5890



Alex and Sharon Ferrier moved to Taumarunui in 1994 when Alex took a position with Ruapehu District Council as a Building Inspector. Alex Ferrier Building Services Ltd was launched in 2000 and is now a successful building consultancy services business providing building plans and specifications, bracing calculations, pre-purchase building inspections and supplies all types of garage doors.

"Before I took the Building Inspector role with Ruapehu District Council I had been self employed and had always wanted to be self employed again."

"In 2000 I started Alex Ferrier Building Services Ltd, based in Taumarunui, providing specialist building consultancy services including building plans and specifications, bracing calculations to NZ Standard 3604, pre-purchase building inspections, as well as supplying all types of garage doors."

"Since starting the consultancy I have seen a huge increase in the amount of interest in the Ruapehu District with the volume of building work and development growing significantly over the last ten years."

"It's been great to be a part of the growth and development of the Ruapehu District."

"Ruapehu is good for family life because you can really achieve a successful work/life balance here. You can build and maintain a successful business and still have time for family."

"Ruapehu is fantastic for all outdoor activities and, in my spare time, I regularly get to go hunting and tramping."

"I tell people that if you are looking for a place where you can get into the great outdoors on a regular basis while still having a great career, you could not live in a better place."

"And if every now and then you want a fix of the city, it's not far if you want to go there."

Taumarunui New World
Hakiaha Street, Taumarunui 3920
Ph 07 896 0070

Michael Scott is the owner/operator of the New World supermarket in Taumarunui which he has owned and run since March 2001. Taumarunui New World is the largest retailer in Taumarunui, with the next closest supermarket of similar size being in close to an hour away. As such the business, as well as being a major employer, also provides a vital service to Taumarunui township and the surrounding rural area.



Michael Scott is the owner/operator of the New World supermarket in Taumarunui which he has owned and run since March 2001. Taumarunui New World is the largest retailer in Taumarunui, with the next closest supermarket of similar size being in close to an hour away. As such the business, as well as being a major employer, also provides a vital service to Taumarunui township and the surrounding rural area.

"I've found Ruapehu to be an attractive District for my business because it provides a stable and

loyal customer base with a large employee pool to support my business and its growth needs."

"This business-friendly environment makes its easy to plan ahead with some certainty, which any business owner knows is invaluable."

"Ruapehu allows me to have an enjoyable life outside of the business by utilising all that Ruapehu has to offer in the way of its outdoor attractions and still being central to major cities and airports so I can get away on holiday or business very easily if I need to."

"The things I love about Ruapehu are its community feel and the lack of big city stress."

"When people ask me about why I chose Ruapehu I just tell them that the business opportunity was too good to not take up, as well as being a busy and enjoyable place to be outside of my business life."



Why I Invested in Ruapehu



The power behind our community

King Country Energy Ltd
PO Box 363
Taumarunui 3946
Ph: 0800 523 637
Fax: (07) 896 6036
www.kce.co.nz

enquiry@kceenergy.co.nz



Rob Foster, Chief Executive of King Country Energy Ltd (KCE) and his family moved to the Ruapehu District in September 2009, KCE is the main electricity supplier for the Waitomo, King Country and Ruapehu Districts, with 19,000 customers, owns five hydro electric power stations and has a market capitalisation of \$75 million.

"I first started working in the Ruapehu District in 2009 and came here because I saw an opportunity to be involved with KCE, a progressive local company blessed with vibrant, enthusiastic staff. I was also impressed with its commitment to strongly supporting the wider community.

"At the same time, my wife and I saw this as a perfect opportunity to

provide our children with an ideal New Zealand lifestyle growing up in a rural environment. My children are primary school age and the selection of schooling options is very good. Plus, the numerous options for outdoor adventure pursuits are a great attraction, especially with the Whanganui River, Lake Taupo, several forest parks and the Ruapehu skifields all within a short drive from Taumarunui.

"The Ruapehu District is an excellent base for KCE - operating from within the heart of where our customer base lives and works has strong advantages for our business. This proximity advantage means we know our customers and their energy needs better than any competing electricity retailers ever could, and we can serve them better too.

"One of the key benefits of running a business in the Ruapehu District is the access to enthusiastic and stable staff. The people are full of loyalty and commitment to their jobs. In my view this attitude has developed as local people have grown up being part of this supportive community.

"Having access to great staff is particularly important to KCE. As

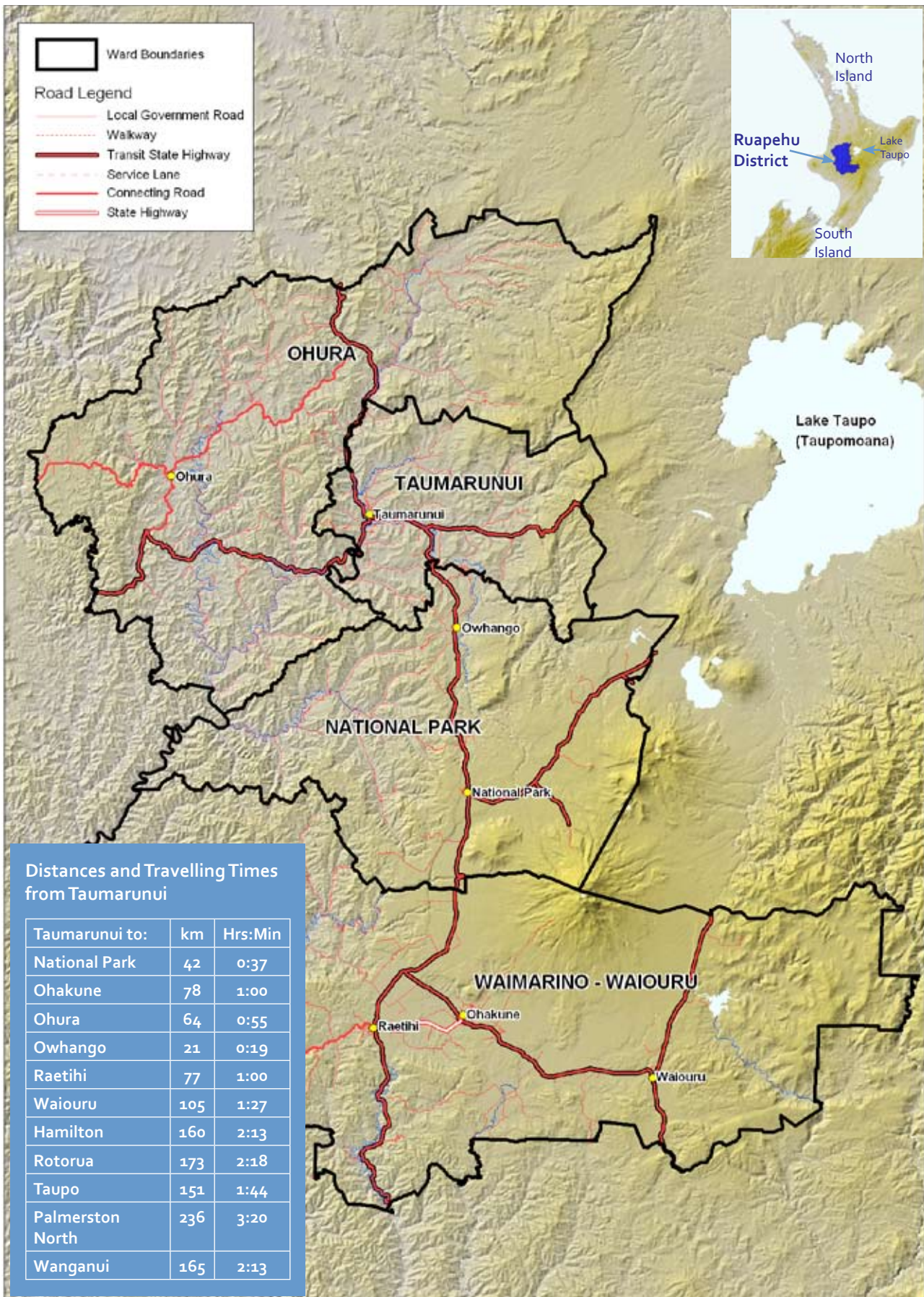
a service-oriented company our people are our most important asset. They all live in the community, are enthusiastic and flexible, and provide our company with the strong foundation we need to support local community initiatives that encourage growth and prosperity District-wide.

"With any business or employment commitment, achieving an appropriate work/life balance is always a challenge. I have found that, following my family's move to the Ruapehu District, managing my business and family needs is far easier than I have ever experienced. The opportunity for outdoor activity during the week after work with my family has increased significantly, and the move has given us far superior access to the water sports, snow sports, mountain and outdoor activities we enjoy as a family.

"Another great advantage of living and working in Ruapehu is its central location. Taumarunui is a three hour drive to Auckland and a four hour drive to Wellington. So, a trip to the main centres - for work or pleasure - is within easy reach, allowing us to maintain the rural lifestyle we enjoy with the ability to travel for a taste of the city whenever we like."

“Another great advantage of living and working in Ruapehu is its central location. Taumarunui is a three hour drive to Auckland and a four hour drive to Wellington.”

District Map



Towns and Villages in the District



Taumarunui

Taumarunui

The town is 45 mins from Whakapapa skifield, located at the meeting place of the Whanganui and Ongarue Rivers. Taumarunui has a rich history of Iwi settlement, farming, sawmilling, railway and river. The local golf course is listed amongst the country's top 50. In recent years, the town's economy is being boosted by its River tourism and it is ideally positioned to service travellers and cyclists from the nearby Central North Island Rail Trail.



Ohakune

Ohakune

Ohakune is a resort town at the southern gateway to Tongariro National Park, 20 minutes' drive from Turoa skifield on the south-western side of Mt Ruapehu. Winter sees Ohakune transformed into the bustling ski capital of the North Island. It is also the start of the Mountain to the Sea cycleway.



Raetihi

Raetihi

Raetihi was founded in 1893, initially with access only via river steamer. It is a unique example of a pioneer timber town and is recognised as such through the look and feel of its main street restorations. In recent years, Raetihi has positioned itself on a gateway to tourism around the Whanganui River and nearby Mountain to the Sea cycleway.



Mt Ngauruhoe from National Park Village

National Park Village

National Park offers spectacular views of the three volcanoes – Mt Ruapehu, Mt Ngauruhoe and Mt Tongariro. A compact village, it is approximately 20 minutes' drive to Whakapapa ski area. The town is a major accommodation point for winter skiers and summer trampers on the Tongariro Crossing and other attractions.



Waiouru

Waiouru

Waiouru is home to a major NZ Army base. The town hosts the Army Memorial Museum, which features static displays of New Zealand's military heritage. The township caters well for passing motorists along State Highway 1, on the fringe of the famous "Desert Road".



Owhango

Owhango

This small village borders the Tongariro Forest Park. Many of its former mill houses are now holiday homes owned by city dwellers keen on the skiing, fishing, hunting, canoeing and tramping. Many young families have moved to the area and its school. Nearby Raurimu is also experiencing this popularity amongst young families.



Ohura

Ohura

A rural service community, connected to the world via fibre optic cable. A picturesque location with a vibrant community group passionate to grow the town. Connections to this high value farming area are improving with the sealing of a major road and improvements to the nearby "Forgotten World Highway" tourism and cycling trail.