

*"We are in the midst
of a terrible convulsion
of nature..."*

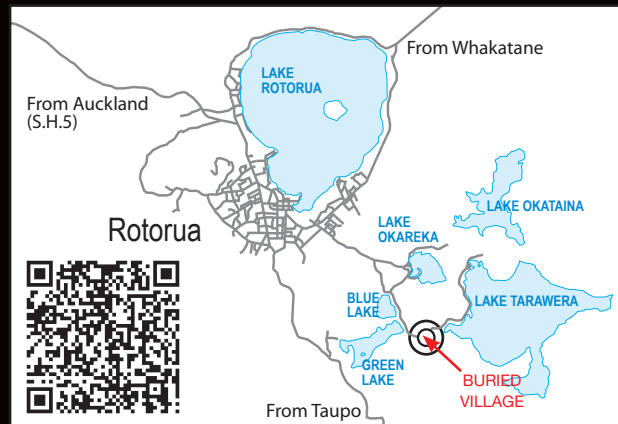
Violent and unexpected, the volcanic eruption of Mount Tarawera during the early hours of June 10, 1886, was New Zealand's greatest natural disaster. For more than four terrifying hours, rocks, ash and mud bombarded the peaceful village of Te Wairoa. As well as ending more than 150 lives and many livelihoods, the eruption destroyed the eighth wonder of the world – the magnificent Pink and White Terraces, and buried the staging post for travellers to the Terraces – Te Wairoa village under two metres of thick volcanic material. In the gloom of the day the wreckage of the hotels and houses, and the burial of 8,000 square kilometres of scenic countryside brought awe and dismay to survivors and rescuers.

What do you experience?

- World-class museum
- New Zealand's only excavated village
- Nature walk and waterfall trail
- Guided tours
- Vi's Teahouse and Smith's Gift Store
- Picnic areas, wheelchair accessible, children's playground
- Allow 60-90 minutes to visit
- Open daily from 9:00am (except December 25)

Where do you find us?

Only 15 minutes from central Rotorua on one of the districts most scenic drives. Drive East on Te Ngae Rd and turn right at Tarawera Rd roundabout. Transport options available.

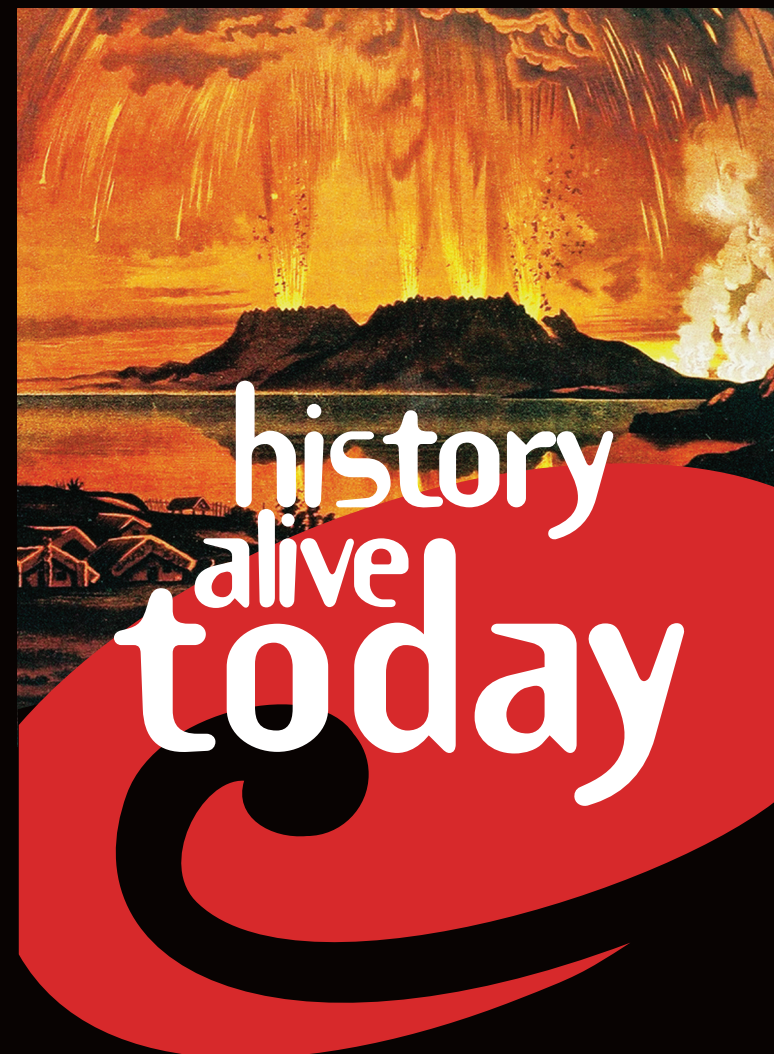


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BURIED VILLAGE

Rotorua, New Zealand

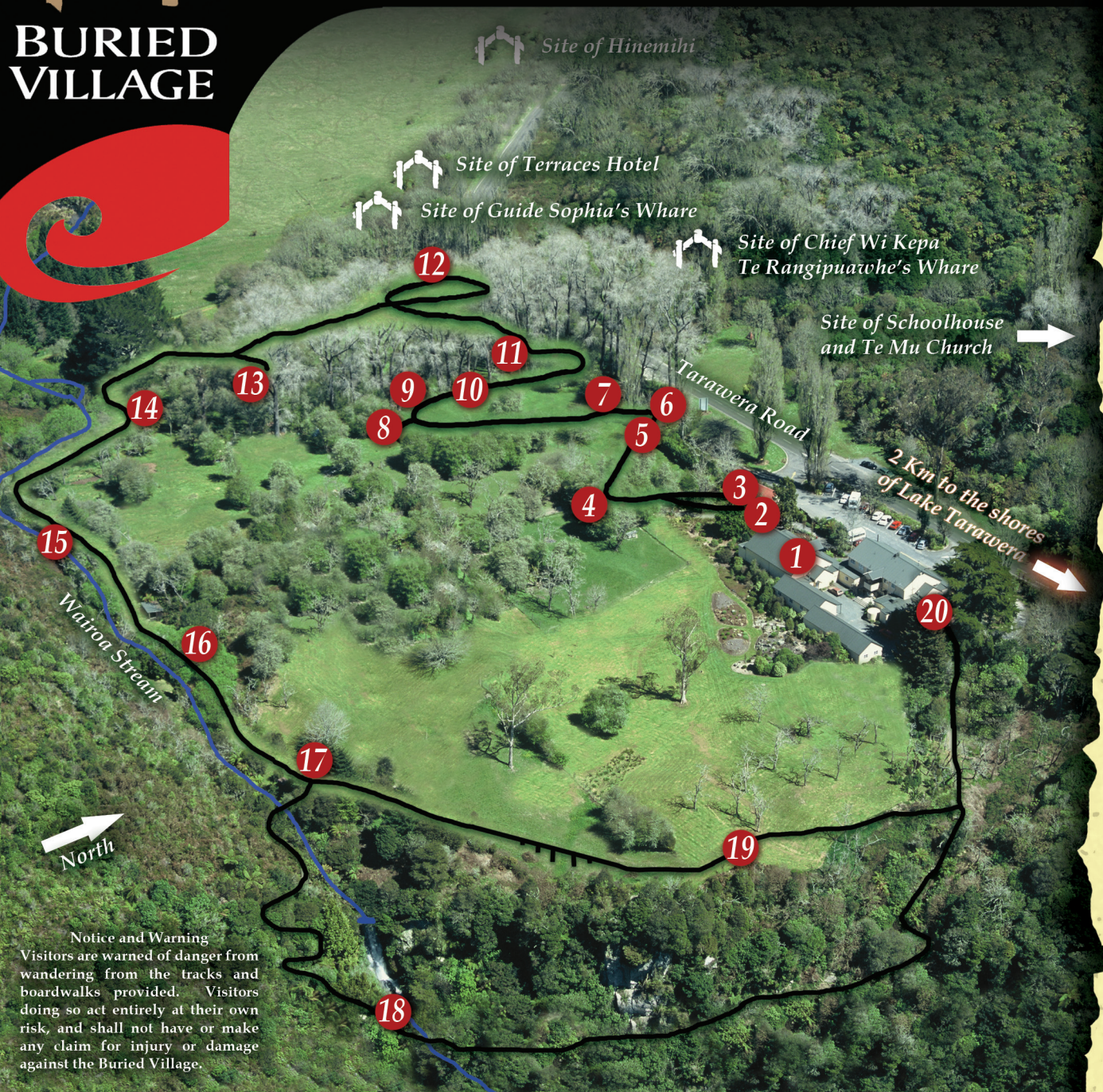




BURIED VILLAGE

Guide Map

Optional guided tours or go at your own pace on a self-guided walk.



Notice and Warning

Visitors are warned of danger from wandering from the tracks and boardwalks provided. Visitors doing so act entirely at their own risk, and shall not have or make any claim for injury or damage against the Buried Village.

- 1 Te Wairoa Museum**
The award winning display tells the story of the people and places involved in the eruption of Mt Tarawera.
- 2 Pioneer House**
A depiction of the way of life in the late 1800s.
- 3 Barracks Museum**
Meet some of the people of Te Wairoa.
- 4 Whare (House)**
This site was excavated in 1938 and shows the depth of volcanic material that was piled on the buildings at Te Wairoa.
- 5 Blacksmith's House**
Home of the village blacksmith, Albert Fretwell, and his family when he was working in Te Wairoa.
- 6 Blacksmith's Workshop**
Where Albert Fretwell worked at his trade.
- 7 Tohunga's Whare**
Where Tuhoto Ariki, the tohunga (priest), lived. He was rescued after spending four days trapped inside.
- 8 Whare**
Also excavated in the 1930s this site has since been covered.
- 9 Flour Mill**
Relocated mill equipment used to grind wheat using river power.
- 10 Poplar Trees**
These trees grew from fence posts and are over 100 years old.
- 11 House**
Home of an employee of the Rotomahana Hotel.
- 12 Rotomahana Hotel**
Owned by Joseph Mcrae this two-storied building collapsed under the weight of mud and was excavated in 1986.
- 13 Whare**
Excavated in the late 1930s.
- 14 Stone Storehouse**
Rare food store carved from perlite, a locally quarried stone.
- 15 Trout Stream**
The Wairoa Stream, which flows from the Green Lake, is home to wild Rainbow Trout.
- 16 Maori Waka (Canoe)**
Broken into sections to allow transport between lakes.
- 17 Track Junction**
Choose the track to the Wairere Falls or the track to look out over the valley below.
- 18 Wairere Falls**
The Wairoa Stream plunges 30m over the Waitoharuru cliffs.
- 19 Waitoharuru Valley Lookout**
A spectacular view of the valley, Lake Tarawera and beyond.
- 20 Café, Playground and Rest Rooms**
Enjoy a refreshing drink and a bite to eat after your journey.

