



Sport Bay of Plenty
more people, more active, more often

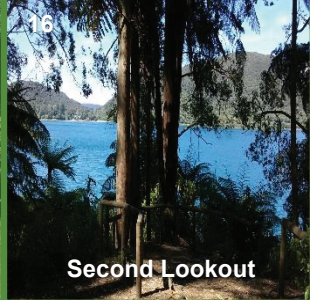
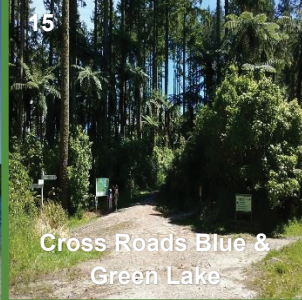
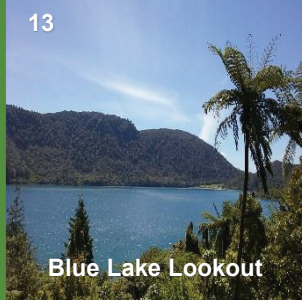
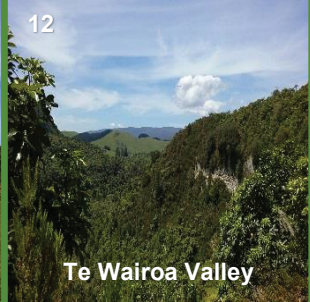
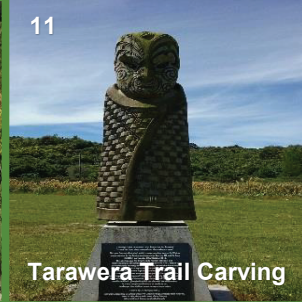
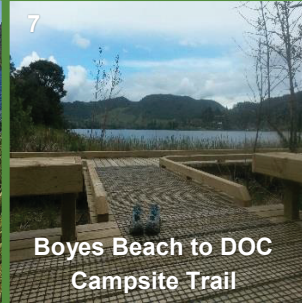
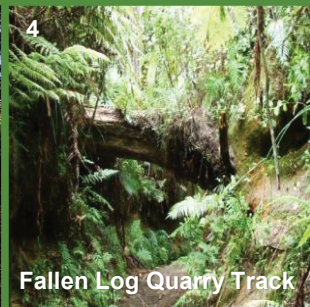
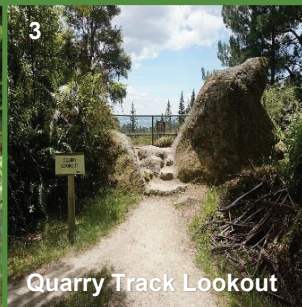
PLAY 'JOIN THE GEMS'

In the Bay of Plenty we are blessed with stunning parks, beaches and reserves to explore. This summer, Sport Bay of Plenty challenges you to discover, explore and connect with these amazing sites.

Visit the Gem sites in your local area and explore until you find the iconic locations shown below. Complete either a 'Join the Gems' horizontal line or full card by snapping a picture/selfie of yourself at each location.

Locations in a horizontal line can all be found at one Gem site - a full card means you will have explored 4 sites.

JOIN THE GEMS



Central Bay of Plenty

JOIN THE GEMS – CENTRAL BOP

GEM: The Redwoods/Whakarewarewa Forest

FIND IT: Long Mile Road, 10 min drive from Rotorua CBD

1. **Wood Sculptures Redwoods Carpark:** Strike a pose before you head off on your Waitawa/Quarry walk.
2. **Swamp:** Roughly half a kilometre along the Waitawa or Quarry Track, walking in an anticlockwise direction from the information centre, get a photo looking across the swamp towards the lookout.
3. **Quarry Track Lookout:** Once you've passed the swamp, look for signs for the green track. You'll head up & around until you reach the lookout which gives a wonderful view over the Redwood Grove, out to Lake Rotorua and the main city centre.
4. **Fallen Log Quarry Track:** After the lookout, the track descends - be careful not to knock your head. Once you have reached the quarry basin you can follow Quarry Rd back down to the Redwoods carpark to shorten the walk to about 1 hour or keep following the green arrows to continue on the full walk - allow 1.5 hours to complete the full 4.8km Quarry Track.

GEM: Lake Okareka

FIND IT: 12km South East of Rotorua. Follow Tarawera Rd, & turn left on to Loop Rd. 18 min drive from Rotorua CBD

5. **Bird Hut Okareka Walkway:** From Loop Rd turn onto Acacia Rd. Follow the road around to the small carpark and start of the Okareka Walkway. You will find the bird hut early on in your walk.
6. **Seat With a View Okareka Walkway:** Wind your way over the boardwalk & past the grazing stock in the fields to find this peaceful resting spot. Allow 1.5-2 hours to complete the 5.5km Okareka Walkway.
7. **Boyes Beach to DOC Campsite Trail:** From Loop Rd, turn left on to Miller Rd. Follow this to Boyes Beach carpark. The trail starts at the left end of the beach.
8. **DOC Campsite:** Follow the trail from Boyes Beach through to the DOC campsite for this photo.

GEM: Lake Tarawera

FIND IT: 18km to the east of Rotorua, follow Tarawera Rd. 21 min drive from Rotorua CBD

9. **Tarawera Landing:** Follow Tarawera Rd past the Buried Village. Continue on Tarawera Rd, then turn right towards the lake.
10. **Wairoa Stream Fish Trap:** To the right of the carpark when facing the lake there is a path, follow this for about 500 meters until you reach the Wairoa Stream Fish Trap. Stand on top for your picture.
11. **Tarawera Trail Carving:** You'll find this at the carpark & start of the Tarawera Trail. It's not far from the Green Lake on the right-hand side of road when coming from Rotorua.
12. **Te Wairoa Valley:** Follow the Tarawera Trail for 1km (roughly 10 minutes) until you reach Te Wairoa Valley, stopping to take in the breath-taking views.

GEM: Blue Lake

FIND IT: 10km from Rotorua - follow Tarawera Rd. 14 min drive from Rotorua CBD

13. **Blue Lake lookout:** Follow Tarawera Rd to the south end of the Lake and carpark. Walk up the stairs to the lookout & face the Blue Lake for your picture.
14. **Blue Lake Beach:** Head down the stairs to the right of the carpark to get this picture (2min).
15. **Cross Roads Blue & Green Lakes:** Head back up the stairs and start the walking track. Walk for roughly 1km (10min) before finding a clearing where you can walk to the Green Lake or keep following the Blue Lake track.
16. **Second Lookout:** Keep walking for roughly another 1km (10min) until you reach the fenced off lookout on the right with views back towards the beach & campsite.