



Polynesian Spa

Hinemoa Street, Rotorua

Polynesian Spa in Rotorua has been developed on the site of the historic Ward Baths built in 1932. Since 1987 each new development on this site has been in consultation with the Historic Places Trust. The design of additional buildings includes terracotta tiled roofs and structural elements copied from the old building. The result is a village of roofs that do not intrude on the landscape.

The buildings and landscape rest on an active thermal site providing one of the harshest environments possible for building materials and vegetation. Gas membranes are situated below most construction and under the Lake Spa bush gardens. This membrane protects the building foundations and, with the importation of richer soils, allows the growth of species not otherwise able to survive such acidic conditions. Lake Spa consists of four 'natural' rock pools surrounded by typical New Zealand indigenous planting, successfully giving a restful sheltered environment.

In contrast, the Priest and Cascade Springs are surrounded by hardy plants that can survive such acid conditions. The grey background of Sulphur Bay and its sinter outcrops reinforce the thermal nature of the site. Some of the thirteen private rock pools overlook Sulphur Bay.

With a separate Family Pools facility, Polynesian Spa now offers 27 pools for enjoyment and relaxation.



- Gravel
- Stromboli
- Burnham
- Natural

Architectural Specifier: Chris Stone – Landscape and Architectural Designer
Building Contractor: Parkes Construction
Colour Selection: Chris Stone
Landscape Contractor: Luke Brennan and Bruce Edwards
Painting Contractor: Polynesian Spa Maintenance Staff
Photographer: Brandon Stone, Shoot Out Photography

Colours Used: Resene Burnham, Resene Castle Rock, Resene Double Nullarbor, Resene Eighth Nullarbor, Resene Gravel, Resene Half Castle Rock, Resene Natural, Resene Stromboli
Products Used: Resene Lumbersider, Resene Lusta-Glo, Resene Uracryl 402, Resene Woodsman





Throughout the complex, Resene paints have been applied. The paints have performed well in this difficult environment on a variety of surface, both interior and exterior. Often buildings are enveloped by steam from both the pools and natural thermal springs.

Currently a new retail shop and additional therapy rooms are under construction. Resene paints are again specified for this development.

 Resene Kumutoto

Resene Total Colour Landscape Award





Double
Nullarbor

Eighth
Nullarbor

Castle
Rock

Gravel

Stromboli

Half Castle
Rock

Resene Total Colour Landscape Award

