



# Cambridge

## Rowing's biggest weekend

After months of hard training, more than 2,000 of New Zealand's best rowers will come to Cambridge in January to compete for titles and, for some, a chance to represent their country.

The Cambridge Town Cup is New Zealand's biggest rowing regatta and our town becomes host to athletes and supporters.

The 2014 event is being held at the same time as the Parachute music festival, expected to draw more than 17,000 to the Mystery Creek Events Centre, near Cambridge.

It promises to be an exciting and busy weekend for Cambridge, the town that makes you feel you've arrived home.

If you intend to attend the regatta, it'll pay to plan ahead — here are some suggestions for your visit:

### 1 Book your accommodation

Cambridge is only a 12-minute drive from Lake Karapiro, making it easy to get to and from each day's event programme.

Our town has eight motels and about 75 bed and breakfasts, ensuring you'll get a good night's sleep away from home.

Teams can use a number of budget accommodation options, and some local sports clubs pitch in to help. For help with accommodation, contact the Cambridge i-SITE Information Centre.

### 2 Don't rush away

With the regatta finishing on Sunday, why not spend an extra night in town, so you can travel on Monday, which is a public holiday?

Cambridge's excellent range of bars, cafes and restaurants has something to suit everyone.

### 3 Check out nature

On Monday, go for a ramble at nearby Maungatautari mountain, a fenced

nature reserve, or the Maungakawa Scenic Reserve. More details and directions are at [www.cambridge.co.nz](http://www.cambridge.co.nz).

### 4 Find a hobbit

Cambridge is just 21.5km or an 18 minute drive from the world famous Hobbiton where you can enjoy a tour of where Sir Peter Jackson filmed parts of his *Hobbit* and *Lord of the Rings* movies.

### 5 Get in a round of golf

With more than 40 courses within an hour of Cambridge, you'll be spoilt for choice. You can choose a round at one of the North Island's premier courses, such as Hamilton's St Andrew's, or dodge the sheep while you yarn with locals at a country course such as Hukanui.

Whatever you decide, you're sure to get a friendly welcome in Cambridge, the Town of Champions.

## Plan it now!

Ready to find out more or to book your visit to Cambridge? The Cambridge i-SITE Information Centre can help you plan or book any of the activities described here. We're on the corner of Queen and Victoria Streets, Cambridge — next to the Town Hall.

Phone: 07 823 3456

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[www.cambridge.co.nz](http://www.cambridge.co.nz)

## When is it?

The 2014 Cambridge Town Cup will be held on Lake Karapiro between January 24–26, which is Anniversary Weekend for the Waikato and other northern regions, including Auckland.

## What is it?

The Cambridge Town Cup has become the country's biggest domestic rowing regatta with more than 2,100 rowers and coxswains taking part in the 2013 event, won by the Waikato Rowing Club.

More than 1,500 crews competed in 2013, about 100 more than took part in the 2011 Maadi Cup regatta, thus becoming the largest domestic rowing event ever held in this country.

The regatta is a crucial part of the rowing calendar as it is used to identify athletes capable of being selected for the High Performance Programme run by Rowing New Zealand. Winning a cup event can offer automatic selection for national trials.

Competition usually starts on Friday morning and builds to finals day on Sunday when 76 events are decided before a cheering crowd.

The cup is one of at least eight major regattas held at Lake Karapiro each year, bringing thousands of rowers and supporters to Cambridge every rowing season (September to April).