



CAMP GROUND

Off the well-trodden tourist path, Waikite Valley Thermal Pools will more than repay the small effort required to take the short 6km detour off SH5. Set in green rolling farmland, this easily accessed rural gem offers 10 mineral pools ranging in temperature from 35-40°C (95-104°F) that are drained and refilled daily. An adjacent campsite, with free access to the pools, makes it an attractive option for a overnight stay for those heading south from Rotorua, north from Taupo and Tongariro National Park or trampers in need to rejuvenation after spending time in the Whirinaki Forest, Lake Waikaremoana or Te Urewera National Park. (103 words)

Those looking for a thermal bathing experience as part of an accommodation package would be hard pressed to find a better choice than Waikite Valley Thermal Pools, 35km south of Rotorua on SH5. The fully serviced campground (complete with thermal drying room) features 20 small powered and non-powered sites catering for cycle tourists, backpackers, motorhomers and caravanners looking for something different as an overnight or short stay option. Camp fees include unlimited access to the six outdoor pools. From May 2012, the camp and pools are likely to become a favoured stopping off point for cyclists on the new 2-day Pathway of Fire (Te Ara Ahi) Cycle Trail. (109 words)