



Rata Maire



Welcome to Rata Maire

Rata Maire is a world-class hunting facility in the central mountains of New Zealand's North Island. This destination provides hunters from all over the world the opportunity to take world-class Red Stag, Fallow Deer and an abundance of other species in their natural habitat with fair chase conditions.

Rata Maire is a privately owned hunting reserve complete with an on-site lodge. Our goal is to provide hunters with a complete trophy hunting experience with unrestricted hunting, scenic views, and world-class trophies.

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Rata Maire hunting facility is approximately 5,000 acres of privately owned land in the central part of New Zealand's North Island. We are located about 20 miles southwest of Taumarunui, at 2500 feet elevation. The topography is steep. We like to say that "we graze both sides of an acre."

Annual rainfall in our area is about 50-100 inches per year with a few winter snows. The high precipitation provides ample lush feed, allowing for development of some magnificent, well-fed animals.



Red Stag

Red Deer were introduced into New Zealand in 1851.


Red Deer live in herds of females, with young of both sexes, and a separate groups of stags. Their social system is strictly matriarchal.

Toward the end of September, the onset of new antler growth forces stags to cast their old antlers.

Calves are born in November or December, occasionally later, after a gestation period of about 8 months.

A week or two before the rutting season, the stag's neck begins to swell, giving him an impressive appearance. The actual rut (or roar) starts about the first week in April, depending on climate.



SPECIES	SPECS
	Mature Red Stag 45"-48" at shoulder 300 pounds Females (hinds) are smaller and lighter

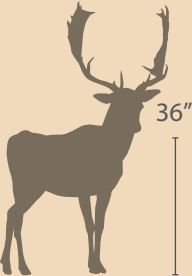


Fallow Deer

Introduced into New Zealand in 1864, Fallow Deer are the second most widespread of the deer species, after the Red. The Fallow stag is much smaller than the average mature Red Deer and seldom exceeds 3 feet at the shoulder. Color variation in animals of both sexes is wide, between white and almost black.

The antlers of Fallow stags are palmated or flattened towards the ends and divide into a number of points called spillers or snags. There can be difficulty in distinguishing between Fallow and Sika—positive identification of Fallow males can be made by extremely long hairs from the end of the penis sheath.



SPECIES	SPECS
	Mature Fallow Stag 36" at shoulder 200 pounds



Fallow Deer



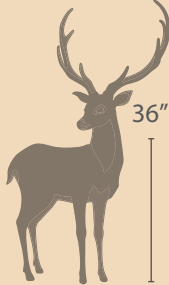
Sika Deer



Our Sika Deer are descendants of three stags and three hinds that were shipped in 1904 from London by the Duke of Bedford as a gift to the New Zealand Government.

Smaller and lighter in build than Red Deer, a mature Sika stag is about 3 feet at the shoulder. The antlers, unlike those of the Red stag, have no bez tine and generally have only four points on each side.

Because Sika are extremely elusive and cunning, hunters must exercise the utmost patience and stealth.

SPECIES	SPECS
	Sika Stag 36" at shoulder 200 pounds

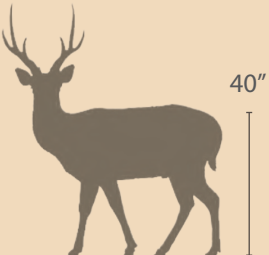


Rusa Deer

Rusa Deer were imported from New Caledonia in 1908, under the mistaken belief that they were Sambar Deer. The small colony was positively identified in 1955 by an American biologist. The confusion is understandable, as the Rusa and Sambar are closely related and have a close resemblance, but the former is in fact smaller.

A distinctive feature is the white chest, neck, and underparts. Rusa antlers are typically of only six points (three each side).



SPECIES	SPECS
	Mature Rusa Stag 40" at shoulder 250-300 pounds

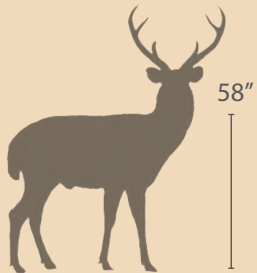
Sambar Deer

First introduced into New Zealand in 1875, the Sambar is the third largest of the deer species imported into New Zealand. A mature stag is smaller than a moose or wapiti but larger than a Red Deer stag. Sambar antlers are unique for their heavy weight and thick timber in relation to length.

The nocturnal feeding and movement of Sambar make daylight observation under normal conditions rare. During daylight they seldom venture from cover, preferring to remain concealed.

Sambar habitat favors short-range snap shooting. Because the animals are large, a rifle of relatively high-striking energy should be used. A minimum of .30 caliber is recommend for Sambar stags. In some areas shotguns using solid lead slugs are popular and have proven effective.



SPECIES	SPECS
	Sambar Stag Thick-set and heavily boned. 58" at shoulder 500 pounds



Feral Goats, Arapawa Rams & Wild Pigs



Feral goats live in groups of mixed ages, often containing both male and female animals. Males are the largest sex, with clearly heavier forequarters, shaggier coats and larger horns. There is great variability in the colour as they can be black, white or brown, or any combination of these. In New Zealand, both sexes have horns. For females, the horns are slender and curve upwards and backwards, with a clear space between the bases. In males, the horns are larger and sweep up and backwards or up and outwards in an open spiral. The horns are not shed annually like antlers but are retained for the life of the animal.

The Arapawa Sheep is a breed of feral sheep found primarily in the mountains of New Zealand, where they have probably been since they were introduced in 1867. Although there are many theories of how the sheep arrived, it is generally accepted that they are descendants of Merino strains from Australia. Most commonly the Arapawa colouring is all black. However, quite often, white points are displayed and on occasion, an all-white sheep can be found.



Wild pigs were introduced as early as 1769 by the French explorer Jean Francois Marie de Suville. A year later, Captain James Cook brought pigs with him, gifting some animals to local Maori that were then bred. These pigs occasionally escaped to form the wild pig populations that we have today. As a result, feral pigs in New Zealand are often referred to as 'Captain Cookers.' Most Captain Cookers are commonly black but there is considerable local variation in colour with ginger, sandy brown, white, grey and smoky blue, or combinations of these. Their tusks extend out from the lower jaw and curve upwards, outward and backwards and can protrude 150 mm plus.

Lodge

The lodge at Rata Maire has four guest bedrooms, each with its own private bath. Our rooms have a mix of bed sizes, including king, queen, and singles.

To provide you with our best service, we limit the number of guests to a maximum of eight at one time.

While here, we provide two cooked meals per day, plus lunch and snacks as needed. An average stay is four to five days.

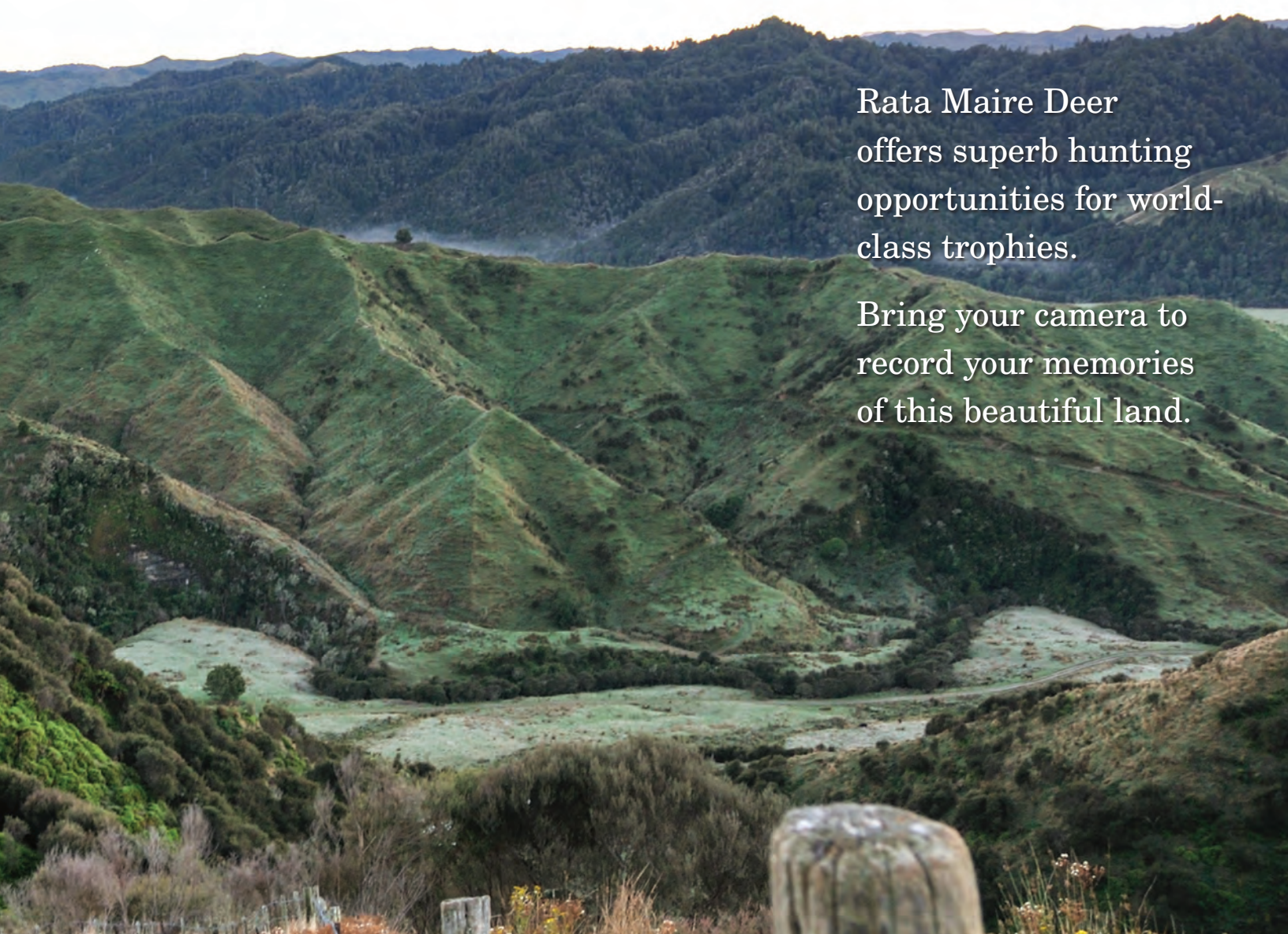
Enjoying a relaxing soak in the hot tub, then gather 'round the fire pit to share stories of the day's fun.

The lodge is powered by electricity, and we have current converters for most appliances for the U.S. Guest rooms have hair dryers provided.

We have a laundry facility for washing and drying clothes.

The nearest store is approximately a 30-minute drive from the lodge, and the closest town is 40 minutes away.





Rata Maire Deer
offers superb hunting
opportunities for world-
class trophies.

Bring your camera to
record your memories
of this beautiful land.

Fowl & Fishing

Turkey, duck, and upland game hunting is available. We have a great variety of wildlife providing wonderful photo opportunities.

For the anglers, we offer fishing in the river in our backyard, or we can arrange a guided fishing adventure.



Useful Information

Getting to Rata Maire

is an easy direct flight from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Vancouver, or Honolulu via Air New Zealand. Qantas Airways has a direct flight from Los Angeles. Flights on both Air Tahiti Nui and Air Pacific depart from Los Angeles, and have mid-Pacific stopovers.

Then there are shuttle flights from Auckland to Taupo where you can be picked up.

A great number of guests rent a car in Auckland, drive around the parking lot a few times to get used to right-hand driving, and then take off down Highway 1 to Taumaruni where they are met and led on to the ranch. The guest who have rented a car have enjoyed the freedom to take day trips to other parts of the island which further enhances the trip.



Firearms and Ammunition:

Taking your rifle to New Zealand is relatively easy. The airlines use United Nations rules—the rifle in a locked case with the bolt removed and no more than 11 pounds of ammunition, in factory boxes, in a separate case or in your luggage.

New Zealand has one police force for the entire nation including the cities. Visiting these web pages will answer all your questions about taking your rifle into New Zealand: nzhunt.com/laws.html and <http://www.police.govt.nz/faq/entering-nz-with-firearms>.

Sorry to say that semi-auto rifles are very difficult to take in country and handguns are prohibited.

The caliber recommendations are for a .243 Winchester or larger. Any caliber that is based on a .308, 7x57mm, or .30-06 case is plenty adequate. Anything larger or more exotic is acceptable. It is far more important to have confidence in the accuracy of the rifle you are shooting and confidence in your ability to use the rifle.

It is highly recommended that you get a certificate of ownership for your rifle from United States Customs before you leave for New Zealand. This will make re-entry into the U.S. much easier.

If you choose not to bring your own rifle, there are rifles available for rent at Rata Maire.

For the purists, we do encourage bow hunters and muzzleloader hunters.

Hunting Regulations:

Hunting in New Zealand is pretty much regulated by the property owners for their own properties. Because of this and through the excellent management techniques applied to the Rata Maire hunting reserve, some of the finest animals in the world can be hunted on a schedule that is controlled first by nature, then Tony Punch, and then your schedule. The hunter is not bound to a government-controlled hunting season or bag limit.

Getting Your Trophy Home:

At Rata Maire your trophy will be expertly caped and the antlers prepared for shipping. Your cape will be sent to a taxidermist where it will be dipped; the antlers are cleaned then forwarded to a shipping agent. When your trophy is ready for shipping you will be contacted as to where you want it delivered.

Once your trophy is in the U.S. it must then be cleared through U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and then through Customs. From there your trophy must be delivered to a USDA-approved taxidermist or tannery. From this point it can be delivered to the taxidermist of your choice.

Helpful Hints:

When entering New Zealand, be aware that any fresh fruits, vegetables or meat (including jerky) will be confiscated. Also, a ban of foreign soil is in effect, so please make sure your footwear is clean before entering the country.

Sightseeing Highlights from New Zealand's Nine Regions

NORTH ISLAND:

Northland

Cape Reinga – NZ's northernmost point where the Pacific Ocean and the Tasman Sea dramatically meet.

The Bay of Islands – a premier holiday destination and Deep Sea Fishing.

Poor Knights Islands – diving in pristine waters.

Auckland and Districts

Hauraki Gulf – Ferry trips from the Waitemata Harbour to the outer islands. Visit Waiheke Island wine trail.

Kumeu – a popular wine growing area in Auckland and beautiful bush walks.

Pahoi – Famous for boutique cheese. Visit the Art of Cheese shop to see how it is made.

Waikato and Waitomo

Hamilton – set around the beautiful Waikato River and the centre of prime farmland.

Cambridge – centre of horse-breeding and home of the famous horse, Sir Tristram.

Waitomo – World famous glow-worm caves and adventure caving.

Coromandel Peninsula, Bay of Plenty and Hawkes Bay

Coromandel Peninsula – Best known for its great beaches and home to alternative lifestyles and craftspeople.

Hot Water Beach – Dig your own spa pool in the sand at low tide.

Bay of Plenty – Subtropical fruit growing area in Tauranga. Pacific Coast Highway travels along wonderful beaches. Visit White Island, an active volcano. Rotorua, a thermal wonderland and Maori Culture centre.

Hawkes Bay – City of Napier has fine examples of art deco architecture. There are 40 wineries and a visit to the gannet colony at Cap Kidnappers is a must.

Taranaki, Lower North Island and Wellington

Wellington – Visit the Beehive where Parliament sits, and Te Papa the National Museum of NZ.

Taranaki – Visit magnificent public gardens in the coastal city of New Plymouth, and in particular Tuapre which has a wonderful historic Family Home which can be viewed daily. Mt. Egmont is a cone shaped peak.

Lake Taupo – world famous for trout fishing.

Tongariro National Park – Mt. Ruapehu for winter skiing and summer tramping. The famous Tongariro Track is visited by trampers from all over the world.

SOUTH ISLAND:

Marlborough, Nelson, Tasman and Golden Bay

Marlborough – NZ's largest and premier wine region.

The Marlborough Sounds provide hundreds of tranquil coves and waterways for sailing, kayaking, fishing and diving.

Canterbury

Kaikoura – Go Whale watching the sperm whales, and also seal snorkeling.

Mount Cook National Park – Where Sir Edmund Hilary trained for his Everest expeditions.

Christchurch – Take the Tranz Alpine train to Greymouth, a world-class attraction. And visit the International Antarctic Centre.

West Coast, Southern Lakes and Central Otago

The majestic Southern Alps, the rugged Franz Joseph and Fox Glaciers and Crystal Clear Lakes make up this region. Drive thru pristine rainforest to Jackson Bay to see seal and penguin colonies. Cruise the Milford Sound and view the magnificent Mitre Peak. Discover the unique "gold rush" township of Arrowtown, and the Victorian and Edwardian Heritage City of Dunedin which has the Royal Albatross Centre.



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