Weddings

A Special Venue For That Special Occasion

RIVER VALLEY
RANGITIKEI AOTEAROA
LODGE
Est 1982

River Valley Ventures LTD
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Taihape 4792, New Zealand.

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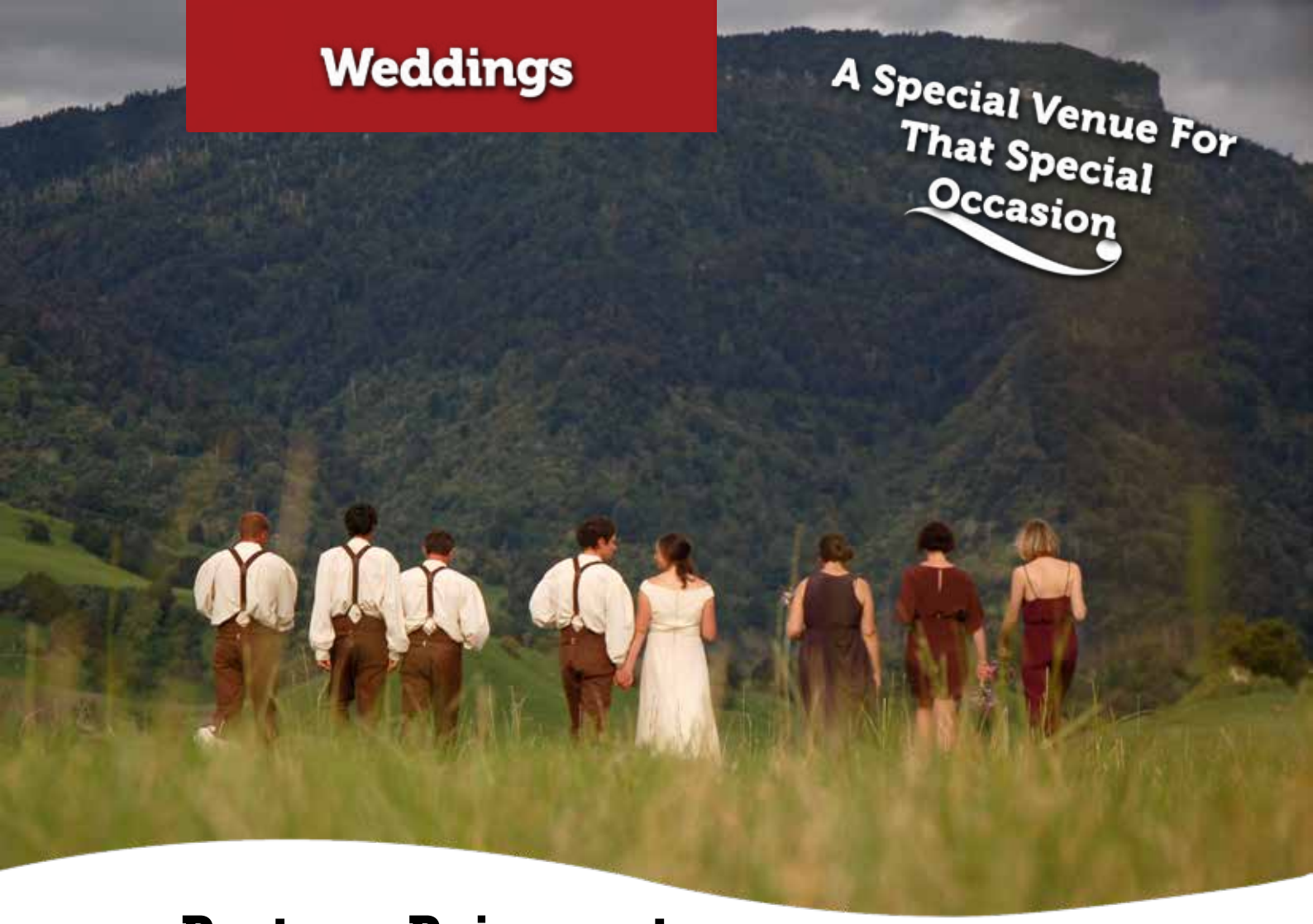

Restore, Rejuvenate, Re-Create, Regenerate

Welcome to River Valley - a truly one of a kind wedding venue for those with an adventurous spirit or a love of nature and the outdoors.

River Valley was originally founded by the family on the genuine dream of sharing the remarkable landscape and the river that makes up the Rangitikei District. The dream lives on through now four generations of family, and committed staff. On the river there can be over 80 years of guiding experience amongst the senior guides.

Why River Valley?

We are a small, family run business and this allows us to offer you a more personal service. We want to help you make your wedding a memorable experience, and understand that everyone is different. We can offer you exclusive use of the venue for the full day, allowing you to personalise things to your needs. And if you have any special requests, we will work with you to tailor make the wedding you've always wanted.

River Valley is a truly unique and exclusive venue, providing luxury accommodation, Farm-To-Table food, and a range of adventure activities. A River Valley wedding will be different to anything either you or your guests have ever been to before and the memories will last a life time.

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Is River Valley The Venue For You?

River valley is not your 'main stream' (pun intended) wedding venue.

Does the idea of planning a traditional wedding give you stage fright? Especially when you could be planning something fun like your next adventure together? Well, why not combine the two! If you love the outdoors and adventures, and want to incorporate this into your wedding, then River Valley could be the perfect venue.

To help you decide if River Valley is right for you, we put together this handy quiz...

Do you want a small, intimate wedding?
We can only seat up to a maximum of 90 people in the lodge, perfect for an exclusive, intimate and cosy wedding. A small wedding can still be a big celebration but less stressful and less expensive!

Will your big day be ruined if your wedding dress gets dirty?
River Valley is a great venue if you are an 'outdoorsy type' and have a love of nature. If the thought of getting your shoes or dress dirty on the big day worries you then perhaps this is not the right place for you. We want people who will make the most of the location - the river, waterfalls and native bush right on our doorstep make an amazing natural backdrop for wedding photos.

Are you up for an adventure?
How many of your friends can say they went white water rafting, or horse riding when they got married? Our wedding package includes a free adventure activity for the bride and groom - a great way to test your relationship! We encourage you to get your friends and family involved too!

Are you a 'viewer' or a 'doer'?
Due to our remote (but beautiful) location, we do not have cell phone coverage at the lodge and rural WiFi is tempermental. River Valley is not the right choice if you're hoping to spend your wedding day posting photos on Instagram, or updating Facebook.

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Our Wedding Package

Cost: $5250 (Inc GST)

Exclusive Hire
Our exclusive venue hire means you will have River Valley all to yourselves from 10am on the day of your wedding, until 10am the morning after. Unlike other venues you will have exclusive use of the lodge, grounds, and all the facilities for the day.

The Package
Planning a wedding can be a stressful time, and we know budgets can be tight, so we wanted our package to be great value and include everything you'll need to get started.

The Package Includes:
- Your wedding ceremony and reception at River Valley.
- Exclusive venue hire from 10am on the day of your wedding, until 10am the next morning.
- 2 nights accommodation for the bride and groom in one of our Riverside Deluxe ensuite rooms.
- A 3 course dinner with a complimentary drink for the bride and groom on both nights
- Cooked breakfast for the bride and groom on the 2 days they are staying.
- A gourmet bridal hamper
- An adventure activity for the bride and groom. Choose from our grade 5 white water rafting, scenic rafting or a Burn The Breeze ride
- Complimentary use of our spa and sauna facilities.

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What Is Included In The Venue Hire

A lot of wedding venues these days will try to charge you extra for anything they possibly can. We don't believe in that, and want our venue hire to be simple and value for money. Below is a list of what our venue hire includes, and if you have any additional requests we are happy to help you with these...

- Exclusive use of all the facilities and venue from 10am on your wedding day until 10am the next morning.
- Provision and management of staff to be of service to you throughout the time.
- A bartender to pour bubbles after the ceremony.
- Use of furniture, equipment and accessories.
- Table cloths and cutlery (although we can't guarantee all the cutlery will be matching!)
- Complete room set up and clean up after the wedding (excluding decorations, that's up to you).
- Ceremony seating for up to 12 people (more can be arranged on request)
- Signing table and chairs for the ceremony.
- Use of our sound system including microphone (which can also be set up outdoors).
- A complimentary shuttle (within an 8km radius) and a bridal hamper for wedding photos, if requested.
- Complimentary tea and filter coffee during the set up (you'll probably need it!)

What we won't charge extra for (but some places do!)...

- Playing your own playlist
- Taking photos on our property and using our beautiful natural backdrop.
- Toilet paper, or using a certain number of toilets.
- A table and a knife for your wedding cake.
- If you want to hire your own marquee and set it up on the grounds (as long as you put it up and take it down!)
- An administration fee for us communicating with your wedding planner, florist or guests.

What we do charge extra for (but highly recommend)...

- Guest accommodation
- Food and drinks (we are a licensed premises so you cannot BYO)
- Extra activities
- Hire of horses or rafts for the ceremony
- Music played down into the valley

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Catering

At River Valley Lodge we major in Farm-To-Table style cooking. Our on site vegetable garden (River Valley Acres) compliments almost all of our dishes, ensuring freshness, taste and nutrition.

Our meals consist of three courses of freshly prepared dishes made on site. Most dietary requirements can be catered for with notice.

In winter the huge open fire provides an ideal atmosphere for any occasion.

Our food and beverage staff will be delighted to work with you on the catering for your wedding. Our wedding catering costs $85 per head ($38 for children), for 3 courses. This includes platters served after the ceremony, followed by family style main and desserts. We also include a hamper for the bridal party to enjoy while getting ready or for photos.

Our sample menu, and bar menu, is available on request, or on our website, and our catering team are happy to work with you to create a custom menu.

The Bar

Our licensed 'Fulcrum Pit' bar serves a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. The bar features a range of New Zealand wines, craft beers and ciders. Your group can pay as you go at the bar, or set up a tab for the group.

As we are a licensed premises **you cannot bring your own alcohol** but if you have any drink requests for your event please let us know.

Please note: All refreshments and catering for the function are to be purchased through River Valley, unless prior arrangements are made with management. There is a minimum spend of $1500 for catering, and $1000 for the bar.

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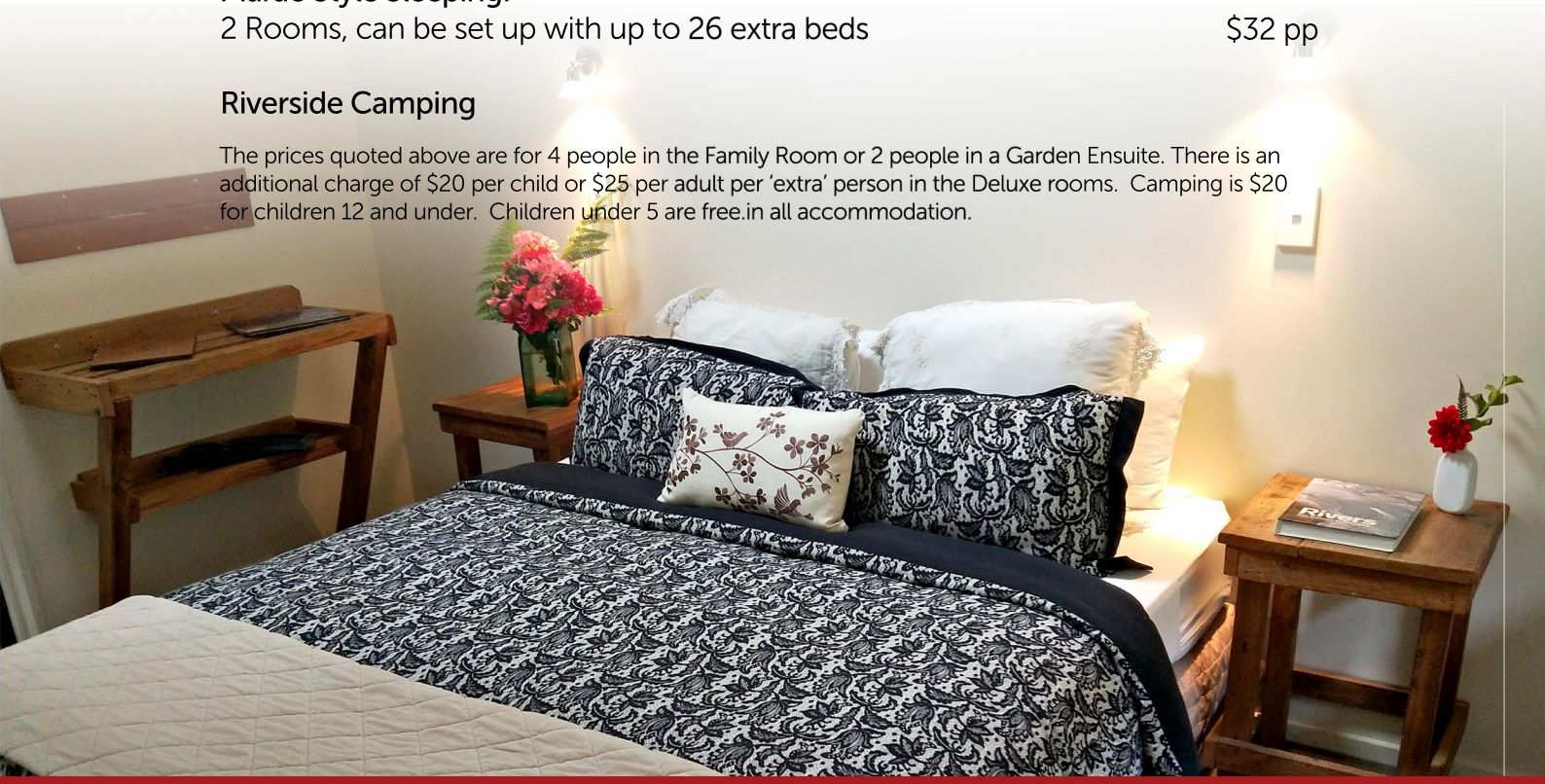
Accommodation Options

	Sleeping Arrangements	Capacity	Price
Terrace Bunks:			
4 x Bunk Rooms	Single Bunks	Sleeps 6	$48 pp
The Bus:			
The Bus	1 x Double	Sleeps 2	$250
Ensuite Family Room:			
Family Room	1 x King and 4 x Single or 6 x Single	Sleeps 6	$280*
Ensuite Garden Deluxe Rooms:			
Paua	1 x King and 1 x Single or 3 x Single	Sleeps 3	$200*
Native	1 x King and 1 x Single or 3 x Single	Sleeps 3	$200*
Blue	1 x King or 2 x Single	Sleeps 2	$200
Burgundy	1 x King or 2 x Single	Sleeps 2	$200
Ensuite River Deluxe Rooms:			
Classic	1 x King or 2 x Single	Sleeps 2	$220
Lilac	1 x King or 2 x Single	Sleeps 2	$220
Funky	1 x King or 2 x Single	Sleeps 2	$220
Ensuite Treetop Deluxe Rooms:			
Rua	1 x King or 2 x Single	Sleeps 2	$220
Tahi	1 x King or 2 x Single	Sleeps 2	$220
Marae Style Sleeping:			
2 Rooms, can be set up with up to 26 extra beds			$32 pp

Riverside Camping

The prices quoted above are for 4 people in the Family Room or 2 people in a Garden Ensuite. There is an additional charge of $20 per child or $25 per adult per 'extra' person in the Deluxe rooms. Camping is $20 for children 12 and under. Children under 5 are free.in all accommodation.



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Activities

If the wedding didn't give you enough of an adrenaline rush and you're looking for your next adventure then why not try one (or more!) of our adventure activities. Our wedding package includes a free activity for the bride and groom - a great way to test your relationship! We encourage you to get your friends and family involved too, we offer a 10% discount for any wedding guests going with the bridge and groom - weddings are one of the very few times in life that you have everyone you love together in one place, so take the opportunity to have an adventure together. Give everyone an experience they'll never forget!

Rafting

Grade 5 White Water Rafting (All year round)*

Increasingly claimed to be New Zealand's best half-day white water raft trip. Drive by shuttle 20 minutes and raft 11 kms and 25 rapids on the spectacular Rangitikei Grade 5 Gorge over the next 2-3 hours. A full adrenaline experience that will have you talking about the adventure for a long time to come. The trip finishes right outside River Valley Lodge to finish with hot showers.

$230.00 per person

*Please note we need a minimum of 4 people to run this trip

The Awesome Scenic Rafting Adventure (October-April)

Allow a whole day. We pack a picnic lunch as you take in the truly beautiful scenery of the Rangitikei River. More than likely you will have this special piece of the river all to yourselves. With over 30 Grade 2 (easy) rapids, a side hike to a spectacular waterfall (weather dependent), the 13 km scenic section of the Rangitikei River downstream from River Valley Lodge is a great full day activity to get your group immersed in the outdoors.

$230.00 per adult / $99 per child

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Horse Trekking

Please note, the stables Is closed 1st June-1st November

At River Valley Stables we offer half and full day 'rides for riders'. Our rides are only suitable for intermediate-advanced riders. We practice natural horsemanship, which uses natural training principles (and our horses are ridden bit-less and barefoot).

Half Day Treks $230 per person / Full Day Treks $350 per person

E-Bikes

Explore our beautiful surroundings by e-bike. We offer full and half day freedom hires, and can also arrange full day group rides including a yummy picnic lunch.

Other Activities

- Hot Tub (45 minutes) $25.00 or complimentary with all deluxe guest rooms
- Wood Fired Sauna (45 minutes) $25.00 or complimentary with all deluxe guest rooms
- Infa Red Sauna (45 minutes) $25.00 or complimentary with all deluxe guest rooms
- Volleyball, petanque or giant chess free of charge For all guests.
- There are some short walks around the lodge and by the stables
- Access to the hunting block across the river can be arranged for $100 pp
- Bring your fishing rod & license and catch some trout in the river outside

Additional Information

Local Service Providers

We think it is important to support, and be involved with the local community. We are happy to recommend local celebrants, photographers, make up artists and transport providers. Please ask if you would like us to put you in touch.

Room Layout And Presentation

If a seating plan is required, then it will be your responsibility to submit this, and the room layout, at least 10 working days prior to the day of your function. Every endeavour will be made by staff to adhere to the proposed table plan. Management will advise immediately of any change that is necessary to the plan, in order to better facilitate the function. Any special table arrangements and decorations can be set up from 9am the day of the function.

Preparation and Clean Up

Preparation before and clean up after the wedding (with the exception of decorations) is the responsibility of River Valley.

Damages and Breakages

Any damage to, breakage or loss of River Valley property or equipment will be charged at replacement cost.

Additional Information - Cont'd

Child Pricing

- A 'child' is aged 5-12 years. We offer discounted child pricing for meals and our scenic rafting trip (for all other activities the minimum age is 13).
- Infants under 5 stay for free, and also get free meals.

Provision of Staff

River Valley will provide sufficient staff to set up, serve meals and refreshments, and manage all requirements during your stay.

Purchase Of Refreshments

All refreshments for the function are to be purchased through River Valley,

Licensed Premises

River Valley is a licenced premises under the Sale of Liquor Act 1989 and therefore reserves the right to refuse to serve alcohol to anyone who does not comply with the provisions of the Act relating to under age, intoxication etc. We do not allow BYO alcohol due to licensing regulations.

Smoke Free

The Lodge is a smoke-free building, including the accommodation units. There are designated smoking areas outside of the Lodge.

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Terms And Conditions

To secure your wedding with us we require a 30% deposit at the time of booking.

Any remaining payments must be made 30 days prior to the date of your wedding. Please make sure you have read and agreed with these terms and conditions, prior to confirming your wedding with River Valley.

Venue Charge

Our 'wedding package' must be booked to confirm your wedding with us, and the exclusive hire of the venue. Please note guest accommodation and catering is additional to the package.

Confirmation of Menu and Guest Numers

We require final numbers 10 working days prior to your function. This will be the minimum number of guests you will be charged for. Please advise us of any guests who have special dietary requirements at this time.

Cancellations & Covid-19 Policy

If you need to reschedule your wedding for any reason, including covid-19 related restrictions, we are happy to reschedule at no additional charge.

If you choose to cancel your wedding completely for any reason, including covid-19, the 30% deposit is non-refundable. If the cancellation is more than 30 days in advance we are happy to refund all other payments except the deposit. If cancelled within 30 days the deposit and any other payments will not be refunded.

Pricing

All prices are GST inclusive.

Due to fluctuating product prices, all menu and drinks prices are subject to change without notice. Please check with us for current menus and prices before making menu choices.

There will be a surcharge for all bookings on public holidays.

Payment

Payment for any bar tabs or extras is due the day after your function, unless prior arrangement has been made with management.

All function costs can be allocated to one account, or split between guests - please let us know prior to the function how you would like to pay.

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Contact Details

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rivervalleylodge

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