

DID YOU
KNOW?

THE PINK AND WHITE TERRACES



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Te Whare Taonga o Te Arawa
ART | CULTURE | HERITAGE

The Pink and White Terraces were considered to be the eighth natural wonder of the world and were positioned on the edge of Lake Rotomahana near Mt. Tarawera.

In the 1800s, tourists came from around the world to see this special place and soak in their hot waters.

The terraces were formed over 500 years ago by silica minerals flowing from the geysers above. The water then cooled and the silica crystallised, slowly forming these terraces.

Sadly the Pink and White Terraces were destroyed on 10 June 1886 during the Mt. Tarawera eruption.



TE PAEA HINERANGI (GUIDE SOPHIA)

One of New Zealand's first tour guides showed tourists around the Pink and White Terraces.

Have a look at the image of the famous guide Te Paea Hinerangi. She was born in Kororāreka (Russell) in the Bay of Islands in the early 1830s. She had 14 children and has many descendants today.

She lived at Te Wairoa village near the Terraces and during the Mt. Tarawera eruption sheltered 60 people in her whare. After the eruption she moved to Whakarewarewa Village and continued to work as a tourist guide.

CHALLENGE

Have a look at these images showing the Pink and White Terraces before the eruption and after.

Have a kōrero (talk) to someone in your household about how the landscape has changed. What do you notice and what are you wondering?

AFTER



BEFORE



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Image Credit: Top - The Pink Terraces, circa 1875, Auckland, by John Hoyte. Gift of the Family of Patrick and Davina Foot, 2016. Te Papa (2016-0003-1)

Bottom: Sophia Hinerangi. Ref: 1/2-061777-F.

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