

Sail Around Lake Taupo in a Zedy or BUST



A COFFEE BREAK BOOK

by
JOHN

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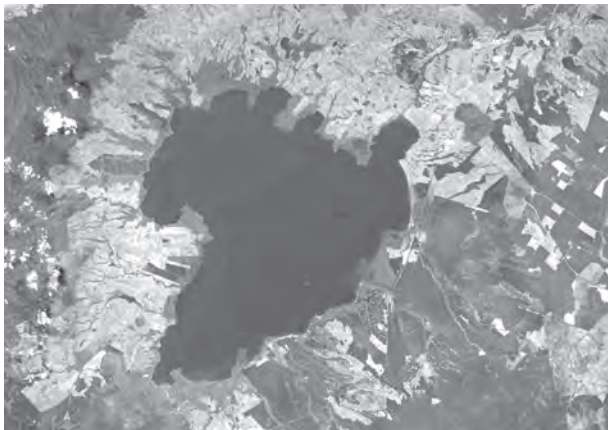
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Sail Around Lake Taupo in a Zedy or **BUST**



As you drop in on this story, I'm 24, young, single and about to buy another boat. I have been looking at a Takapuna, which is known as a Z class racing yacht, about 12ft long. I went to the yacht clubs around Wellington and asked them if they had any Z class yachts that always come in last, so I was able to buy one cheap, cheap. It was too true though, I did enter a race and came last; from then on I stuck to cruising.



Lake Taupo, NZ (Google Earth)

I did many trips with a friend of mine who was interested in doing a trip with me to Lake Taupo. He was an ideal companion: tall, lean, blond hair with high cheekbones, the sort of guy girls take a second look at. He was an amazing builder, he would put the foundation down in the morning when people were going to work and when they came home at night, the people would be moving in! Or so they say.

People told us not to sail on Lake Taupo, and that it was dangerous because of the storms that came up so quickly. They could knock you down. Up until 1955 no-one had attempted it. We accepted the challenge, and at Easter weekend we were on our way. On Thursday night we arrived halfway around the lake at Hatepe. It was a full moon as we laid our sleeping bags out next to the boat and trailer and went to sleep. My friend was a hunter and had a rifle with him. During the night I awoke and saw a deer standing in the moonlight, but it didn't hang around long enough for us to aim the rifle.

Next morning we put our vessel into the water, but we did not make the trout fishermen's day as we launched the boat upstream of the entrance to the lake. Once out on the Lake we had fair winds from the northwest, on our port beam. My friend walked on the edge of the Lake beside the boat for a while, hunting. Then we both set off in the boat and sailed fourteen miles up towards Taupo city.

About three miles before Taupo we crossed the lake and found a beach on the other side. We pulled the boat out of the water, and then pitched our tent. We fried steak for tea, after my friend had tenderised it with a tomahawk. Next morning we were on the Lake early, heading back down the west side. There was no wind so we were becalmed, but we were drifting and there was beautiful native bush all along side us, so we were enjoying it. We were becalmed for two days but we had plenty of food and we sunbathed, and I wrote an hourly log. When progress got too slow we took turns to throw out the anchor ahead of the boat about ten feet, and pull ourselves forward on the anchor.

Out of the blue, a forest ranger's launch crept up alongside to see if we were fishing for trout. We said no, we were just cruising. Sunday night came and we managed to get a tow into Taupo, so we pulled the boat up on the beach and went into town to find a restaurant and had a truckie's meal. After waddling back to the boat, we slept on the beach.



The next day was Monday and again there was no wind. We had to sail back to the car that day, and then drive back to Wellington to get back for work on Tuesday. So we prayed about it, and then launched the boat before breakfast. No time for making our beds, cleaning our teeth or having a shower. My friend always had porridge for breakfast, so he set the stove up in the boat and cooked the porridge. But!! Just then 'WIND AHOY' the wind got up and we were flying along, even beating the motorboats. So we stowed the stove, quickly ate the porridge, and then settled in for some serious sailing. There were white caps on the lake and people lined the shore to see if we would capsize. But we didn't. We sailed 14 miles in record time, even though we were carrying a bit too much sail.

After such an exciting adventure we were pleased to go back to work for a rest. I have noticed that people do sail on Lake Taupo now.



When on the
Lake looking
ashore, it
reminded

me of Lake Galilee and I could imagine
Jesus standing on the lake edge asking the
fishermen if he could use their boat to talk to
the people who thronged him.

The fishermen were helpful, and Jesus talked
about fishing for men that were lost in this
big wide wonderful world, because of their
sinful deeds. So Jesus cast a net of salvation
around them and pulled it in quickly in case
any of them were lost. Then he said to James

& John, the sons of Zebedee: “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men”. Straight away they left their Father and hired help and followed Jesus. Why? Because they could see that Jesus had unlimited love for the people. Through God with all power, this love was greatest: John 3:16 “FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVED IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT WILL HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.”

There is no substitute for the love of God, so make it a two way thing and fall in love with him by reading the Bible - the best love story ever written.





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Getting the best out of life? You can do what I have done, and even better!

Life is for living, so trust in the Lord and **Go, Go, Go!**

I can do all things through Christ that can strengthen me. (Phil. ch4:v13)

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