



TASTY TIMES IN COROMANDEL



WHITE SANDY BEACHES, ROLLING SURF, SUN, SNORKEL TRAILS, CATHEDRAL COVE, HOT WATER BEACH, ...YES, ALL GREAT SUMMER STUFF. BUT WINTER HOLIDAYS IN THE COROMANDEL HAVE A SIZZLE ALL THEIR OWN.

First up in May is the **Coromandel Home Grown Festival** – a tongue-in-cheek take on one of the region’s more legendary crops. A month long celebration leading into Winter featuring the Coromandel’s cuisine, wine, music and arts, the **Home Grown Festival** features 57 individual events ranging from the **Great Coromandel Arts Tour** to the **Ha Hei Tractor Bash** and the **Home Grown Food Trail**.

New in the seaside town of Whitianga and guaranteed to warm you up this winter is **The Lost Spring**, Whitianga’s international Spa. The hot natural mineral springs are surrounded by lush native bush and as well as a full spa treatment complex there is an excellent restaurant. It is the place to be for



thawing winter chills and soothing aches. In Southern Coromandel, there is the fascinating **Windows Walk** in the **Karangahake Gorge**, the opportunity to visit the working **Gold Mines of Waihi** or to poke around the antique shops of **Paeroa**.

The Coromandel is fast developing a reputation of being the place to go for fresh seafood. Scallops, Oysters, Mussels, Snapper, King and Crayfish. Coromandel’s bounty is yours to enjoy.

As winter draws to a close the Coromandel pulls out the stops for a final celebration, the **Whitianga Scallop Festival**. Appropriately, the festival is held in the last weekend of August and centre stage are the region’s delectable



scallops. Favoured for their intense flavour, there will be more than 100,000 scallops starring along with at least 50 stalls dishing up a wonderful range of local cuisine. The Scallops are opened on the day at the festival. How fresh is that!

And by the way, being the so called off-peak season, the competitive accommodation rates in the Coromandel are appetising, too.

