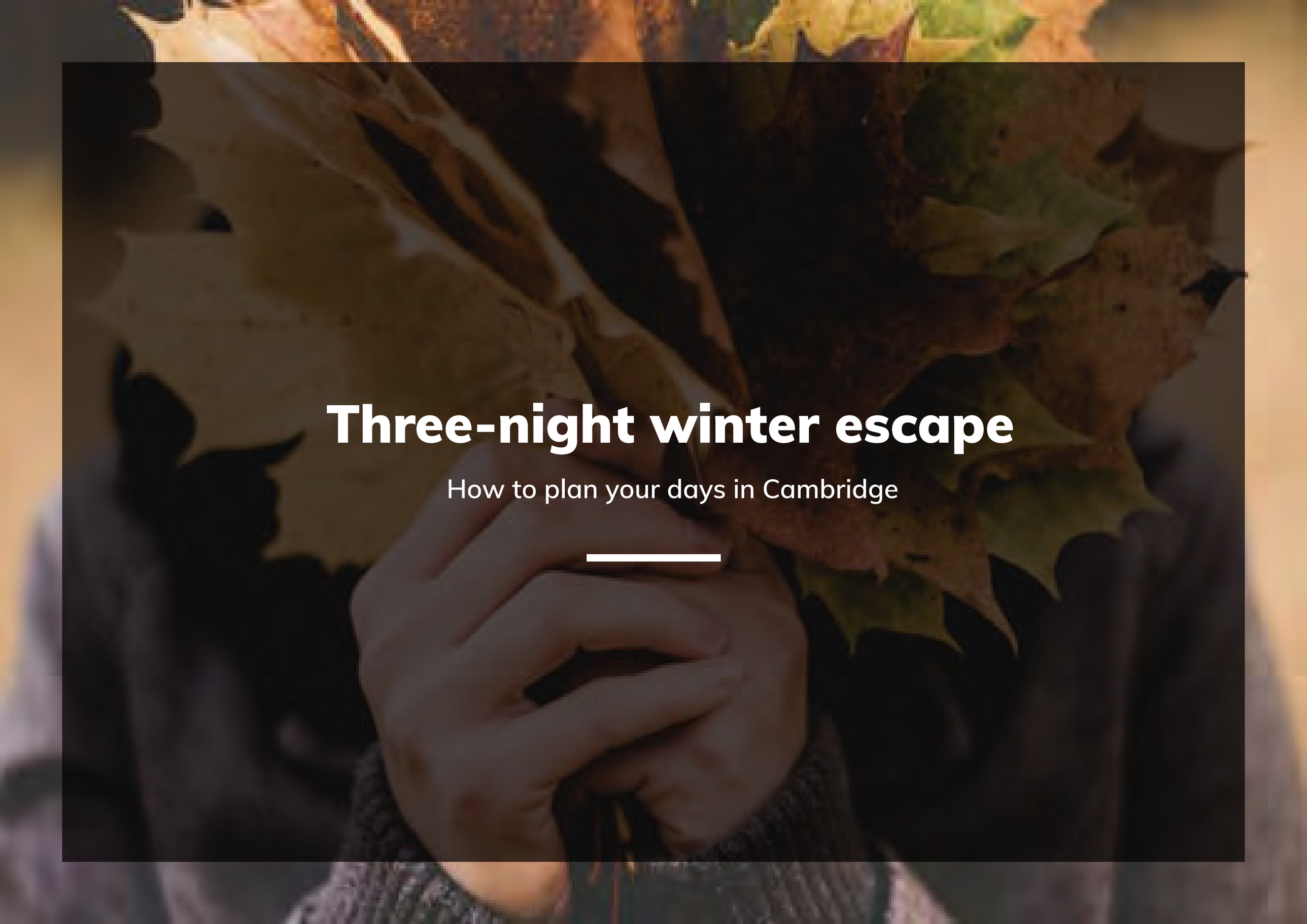

Three-night winter escape

How to plan your days in Cambridge

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Kelly Rd

Greetings from Cambridge

Cambridge is, quite simply, one of the nicest little towns you'll ever visit. Nestled in the heart of the picturesque Waipa district, it's the perfect place to enjoy a relaxed three-day winter escape.

Not only is Cambridge beautiful, it's also the ideal place to stay to enjoy the Waikato's best attractions. Bike, hike, drink and dine... the roads from Cambridge connect you to it all.

What's more, some of the region's best eateries are hidden away in Cambridge or close by. If good food and drink are high on your winter escape priority list, the town's hospitality scene won't disappoint.

Cambridge is nestled on the banks of the Waikato River, approximately 20 kilometres southeast of Hamilton. It's lovingly known as the town of trees and champions by locals and visitors alike.

Some of the trees in Cambridge were planted as early as 1880, from oaks to maples to chestnuts. Cambridge is particularly beautiful at this time of year, when the footpaths and fields are laden with the trees' autumnal and winter colour.

Cambridge and nearby Lake Karapiro are home to many of New Zealand's national sports organisations (cycling, mountain biking, rowing), and some of the country's most high profile sportspeople.

Nearly 20,000 people call Cambridge home, making it the third largest urban area in the Waikato. State Highway 1 connects the town with Hamilton in the northwest and Tauranga, Rotorua and Taupo in the southeast. Hamilton Airport is only a 20 minute drive from Cambridge, and a public bus connects Cambridge with central Hamilton.

This guide will help you to discover the delights of Cambridge. A three-day escape will only be the beginning.



Chapter 1

Arriving in Cambridge

Afternoon

Arrive in Cambridge and check in. Stroll into town to get your bearings. Explore Cambridge on foot. Start outside the Cambridge Town Hall, opposite Victoria Square, and wander down Victoria Street, Empire Street and Alpha Street. The town offers fantastic shopping, with a unique range of locally made goods.

Take some time out at Tivoli Cinema

Tivoli Cinema is a gorgeous boutique cinema showcasing independent films. Settle yourself on a lush couch and watch a quality film while sampling New Zealand food and wine.



Tivoli Cinema

07 823 5064
karen@tivolicinema.co.nz
32 Lake Street, Cambridge
www.tivolicinema.co.nz

Evening

Put aside a few hours for a relaxed dinner, chatting to locals and enjoying the town by night. Make sure you take an extra layer so you can take your time wandering back to your accommodation.

Dinner recommendation: Good Union Cambridge

One of Cambridge's newest watering holes, the Good Union is a popular spot for locals and out-of-towners. The Good Union folk are also behind Good George Brewing, Hamilton's own craft beer and cider which is distributed worldwide.



Good Union

07 834 4040
ask@goodunion.co.nz
98 Victoria St, Cambridge
Mon - Fri 11am - late
Sat and Sun 8am - late
www.goodunion.co.nz

Chapter 2

Day one:

To Middle Earth and back

Morning

Take a trip to the Hobbiton Movie Set

While you're in Cambridge, you can't miss the opportunity to visit Middle Earth at Hobbiton, just a 30minute drive away. The Shire at Hobbiton featured in Peter Jackson's The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit trilogies. The Alexander farm was first spotted by Sir Peter Jackson's team in 1998, who noted the area's striking similarity to The Shire as described by JRR Tolkein.

While there, refuel at the Shire's Rest Café.



Shire's Rest Café

07 888 1505
501 Buckland Road, Matamata
www.hobbitontours.com

Afternoon

Spend the afternoon under the colourful tree canopy at Lake Te Koutu, tucked away in Cambridge. The lake has a beautiful walking trail, suitable for pushchairs, and several lookout points, water features and a playground.

Dinner recommendation: Alpha Street Kitchen

Home to local, fresh and innovative food, served in a relaxed dining experience. Alpha Street Kitchen offers small and large plates, mouth-watering cheese and dessert menus, and a kids' menu.



Alpha Street Kitchen

07 827 5596
hello@alphast.co.nz
47 Alpha Street, Cambridge
Open 7 days 11am-late
www.alphast.co.nz

Chapter 3

Day two:

On your bike

Morning

Explore the Avantidrome and The Bikery Café

Hire bikes from the i-site (link: www.cambridge.co.nz) (corner Queen and Victoria Streets in Cambridge town) and bike along the river to the Avantidrome, home of cycling. This $28.5million world class facility is sure to impress. You can even take a lesson on the track (by prior arrangement).

Visit The Bikery Café (on site at the Avantidrome) for a nourishing lunch. This café offers local produce, a seasonal menu and guilt-free treats. Let the kids loose in the Gallagher Bike Skills Park while you refuel in preparation for the ride back to Cambridge.



The Bikery Café

07 282 0605
Mon 7.30am-3.30pm,
Tue – Fri 7.30am-4.30pm
Sat – Sun 8.30am-3.30pm
www.thebikerycafé.co.nz

Avantidrome

0800 VELODROME
(0800 835 637)
reception@avantidrome.nz
15 Hanlin Rd, Cambridge
www.avantidrome.co.nz





Afternoon

Keep exploring

The Te Awa Great NZ River Ride will give you a different perspective of Cambridge and the surrounding landscape. This 70km cycle way stretches along the Waikato River, from Ngaruawahia north of Hamilton to Horahora in the south. This shared cycle and walkway can be accessed from Cambridge and will take you through native bush and open farmland on the banks of the mighty Waikato River.

From Cambridge, cycle out to the Mighty River Domain at Lake Karapiro, approximately 15 kilometres. On a sunny winters day, wake boarders, kayakers and boaties will be enjoying all the water has to offer.

http://www.te-awa.org.nz/

Evening

Pre-dinner: Pony Bar and Provisions

After a day of cycling you'll have earned a hearty evening meal. Call into Pony Bar and Provisions to prepare your palate for dinner. Sample the impressive selection of cocktails, New Zealand wines and beautifully presented tapas.

Dinner recommendation: Alpino Cucina & Vino

Tucked into the old post office building, Alpino serves modern Italian food and pizza, with a great list of local and international wine.



Pony Bar

hello@ponybarprovisions.co.nz
55 Duke St, Leamington,
Cambridge
Open 7 days 12pm-late

Alpino Cucina & Vino

07 827 5595
Open Tuesday – Sunday,
11.30am-9.30pm
www.alpino.co.nz



Chapter 4

Day three:

Waitomo adventure



Morning

Waitomo caving and rafting

Hit the road to Waitomo (about an hour's drive heading south west), to discover the world famous Waitomo Glowworm Caves.

For the more daring travellers, The Legendary Black Water Rafting Company can take you on a thrilling adventure through the underworld of Ruakuri Cave.

Visit **www.waitomo.com** for tour information and pricing.



Afternoon

We imagine you'll be looking for a quiet afternoon after your morning adventures. Choose from a number of great lunch options around Cambridge.



Café Irresistiblue at Monavale Blueberries

07 834 3501
156 Turkington Road, Monavale, Cambridge
Open Monday
Sunday, 9.00am – 4.30pm
www.caféirresistiblue.co.nz



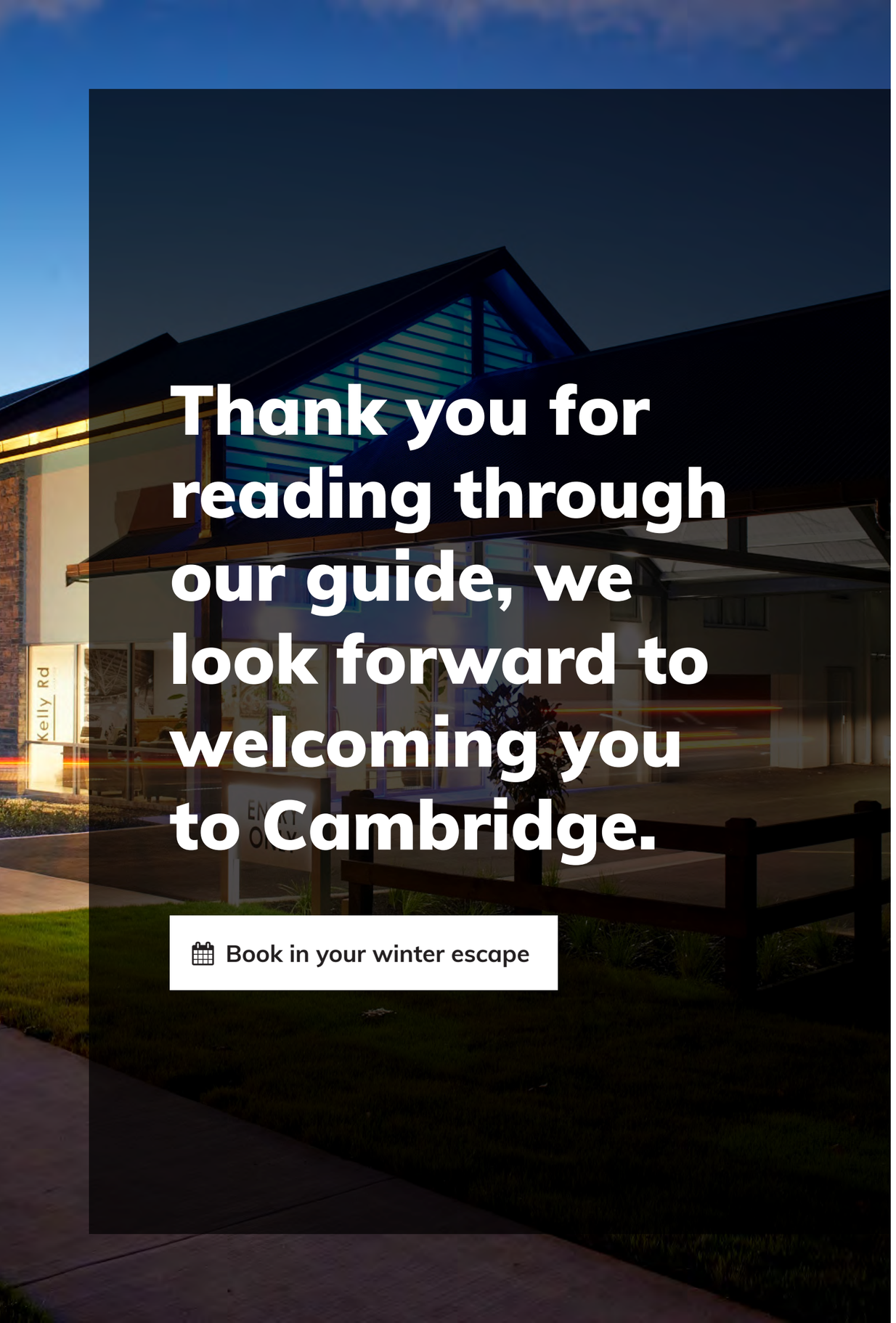
The Lily Pad Café

07 823 9134
manager@thelilypadcafé.co.nz
1234 Kaipaki Rd, RD3,
Cambridge
Open Tuesday
Friday 9.00am-3.30pm
Saturday – Sunday 8am-4pm
www.thelilypadcafé.co.nz



Paddock Cambridge

07 827 4232
46a Victoria Street, Cambridge
Open Monday
Thursday 8am-5pm
Friday – Saturday 8am-8pm
Sunday 8am-4pm



Thank you for reading through our guide, we look forward to welcoming you to Cambridge.

Book in your winter escape

Kelly Rd
CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge boasts charm, character and plenty of attractions – a three-day escape will be only the beginning of a long love affair with this beautiful and quintessentially English town in the heart of the North Island.

Whether exploring on foot, two wheels, or by car, the township boasts a wonderful community feel and a welcoming vibe to all who pass through or stay and visit.

To complete your winter escape in Cambridge, enjoy the hospitality of Kelly Rd, the town's newest accommodation. Relaxed, modern and contemporary, Kelly Rd is in walking distance to all of Cambridge's sites and attractions.

After a day exploring and an enjoyable evening meal, relax and unwind at Kelly Rd, your home away from home.



(0508) KELLY RD
(0508) 5355 973
stay@kellyrd.co.nz
1 Kelly Road, Cambridge
Waikato, New Zealand 3434
https://kellyrd.co.nz