



# PAWHAOA BAY LODGE

Whangaruru Harbour, Bay of Islands Region, Northland, New Zealand



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **PAWHAOA BAY LODGE THE FIRST IN NORTHLAND TO BE AWARDED ENVIRO- GOLD**

Opened in 2003, Pawhaoa Bay Lodge, a small luxury Qualmark 5 Star self-catering and hosted Lodge situated at the water's edge of the pristine Whangaruru Harbour in Bay of Islands region Northland, is the first such accommodation in Northland to be awarded Qualmark Enviro-Gold under the new Qualmark Green programme.

The owners, Bill and Claire Hurst, were from the beginning mindful of their responsibility to reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to the enhancement of their local environment. Starting with such basic design features as solar water heating and a sophisticated effluent disposal system, the property subsequently benefited from a recycling scheme, the monitoring of energy usage, the establishment of an organic vegetable garden and native tree planting programme, and the development of a community pest control initiative on Whangaruru North Head Peninsula. The owners say that they have also enjoyed the opportunities their business has provided for supporting and participating in community activities and initiatives.

The owners believe that the Qualmark Green Programme is a vital component of New Zealand's future as a Tourist destination.

“As we talk to our international guests we see they are increasingly weighing up their impact on the global environment through their travel. We are very proud to have achieved Qualmark Enviro-Gold which demonstrates that we care about the sustainability and eco-friendliness of what we do.”

Geoff Penrose, Chief Executive of Qualmark says that achieving Qualmark Enviro Gold is no mean feat. “It involves rigorous on site assessment by a Qualmark assessor and demonstrating you have achieved optimal performance in the five categories of Energy Efficiency, Waste Management, Water Conservation, Eco Conservation and Community,” he says. “The owners, Bill and Claire, deserve congratulations on their achievements to date – their Enviro Gold rating is a testament to the range and significance of the initiatives they have under way.”

Pawhaoa Bay Lodge has two spacious Villas each with one super/ king ensuite bedroom, and two super king ensuite bedrooms in the main Lodge House. Situated on the water's edge, it is set in an acre of mature subtropical gardens and is surrounded by Department of Conservation land offering complete privacy, peace and quiet – a paradise for nature lovers. Claire and Bill also take great pleasure in using locally caught fish and their own home produced vegetables, olives and olive oil, pickles, jams and preserves in their ‘pacific rim’ cooking, rated by guests as some of the best they have tasted in NZ.

### Mission Statement

*The owners of Pawhaoa Bay Lodge appreciate that their unique natural environment is one of ecological and cultural value, and blessed by great beauty. Enjoying the support of tangata whenua and the local community, they are committed to the principles of conservation, sustainable use and the enhancement of the local and global environment for the present and the future.*

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