

This lodge heralds the dawn



Lofty ideal: Acacia Cliffs Lodge occupies a commanding position above Lake Taupo

Don't miss sunrise: it's the best part of the day at New Zealand's Acacia Cliffs Lodge. **Brian Crisp** reports.

IT took 12 hours for Acacia Cliffs Lodge to reveal its wow factor.

After arriving in darkness, it wasn't until dawn on the Wednesday that my eyes were open to the true beauty of this boutique lodge.

It started as a burnt orange glow in the distance. I deliberately had left open the curtains on my floor-to-ceiling windows to witness what had been described to me as the perfect sunrise.

The morning streams of light were not only bringing me to life, but they were creating a masterpiece worthy of the signature of one of the great painters.

As the sun climbed, Lake Taupo, in New Zealand's North Island, was coming to life in spectacular fashion.

The mist was rolling across the lake as the colours of winter were exposed for all to see.

As the boats bob about in the cove below you can't help but draw comparisons with the New England area on America's east coast.

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