

A photograph of a forest at night. Several large, conical, lattice-like lanterns are hanging from the trees, glowing with a warm, golden light. The forest is dense with tall, thin trees, and the ground is covered in a thick layer of green moss or ferns. The overall atmosphere is serene and magical.

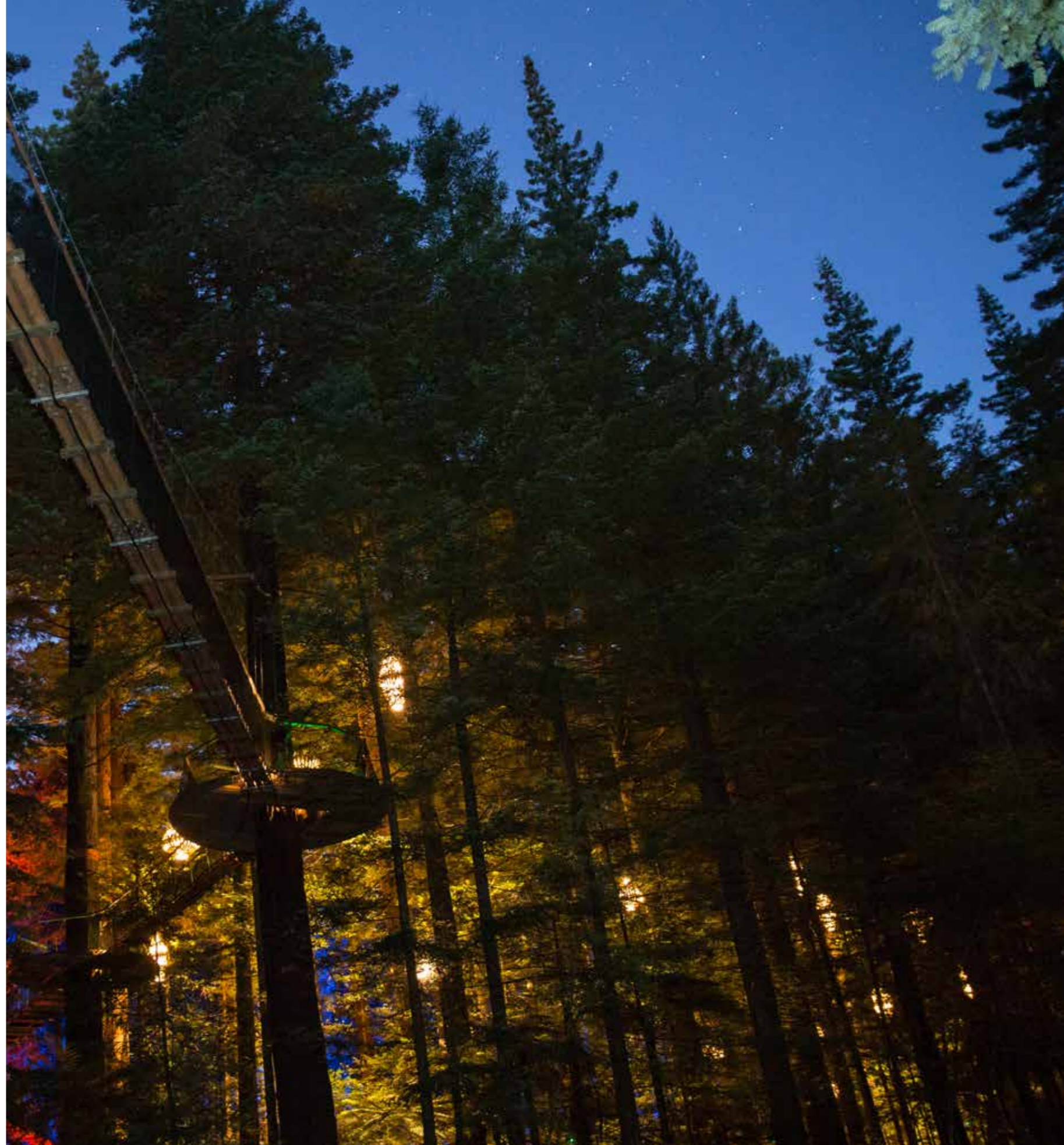
Treewalk Nightlights Rotorua.

Treewalk Nightlights

Located within Rotorua's Redwood Forest which attracts more than 500,000 visitors annually. At the time of completion in 2016, it was the world's longest suspended walkway. The walk, consisting of 23 elevated swing-bridges and living platforms, showcases one of Rotorua's most visited natural attractions.

We partnered with the Redwoods Treewalk to create an iconic nocturnal tourism experience: Nightlights. It is New Zealand's first design-led tourism experience.

The new night-time experience will offer visitors and locals the opportunity to explore Rotorua's majestic Redwood forest under the shroud of darkness; illuminated by our lights.



The Concept

The idea to marry design and tourist-attraction remains relatively unexplored in New Zealand and enhancing an already magnificent environment like the Redwoods was no easy task. We worked hard with arborists at the Treewalk to place the thirty (some 2.5m tall) lantern-like lights amongst the 115-year-old redwood trees.

In addition to this lighting, over forty infinite colour spots and feature lights will illuminate the redwoods, native ground cover and tree ferns/punga(Maori).

We were excited to take on the Nightlights challenge, initially finding inspiration in New Zealand native birds; the Ruru (NZ Owl), Karearea (NZ Falcon) and the Miromiro (Tomtit). Creating outdoor lighting was challenging especially for the forest environment.

The lights needed to feel weightless, yet be able to survive the conditions. Some are suspended over 25 metres above the ground, with others installed to circle the trees. In the giant scale of the redwood grove they had to be much larger than most lights we make.



(Top clockwise) 1. Feather detail of Ruru (NZ Owl) 2. Wing of Karearea (NZ Falcon)

3. Miromiro tail feathers (NZ Tomtit) 4. New Zealand Redwood forest.



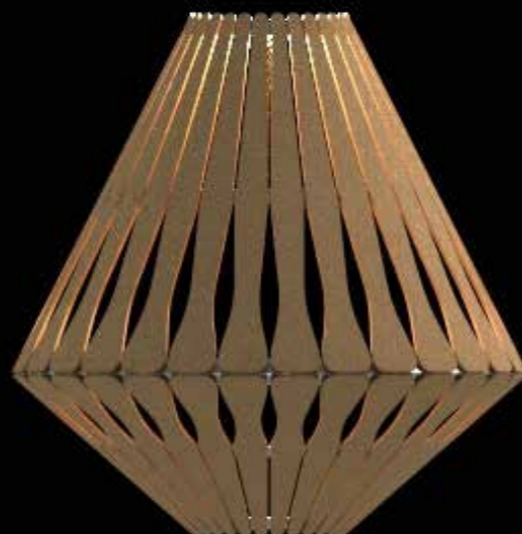
Karearea
(qty: 14)



1123mm (X)
(~44")

2266mm (Y)
(~89")

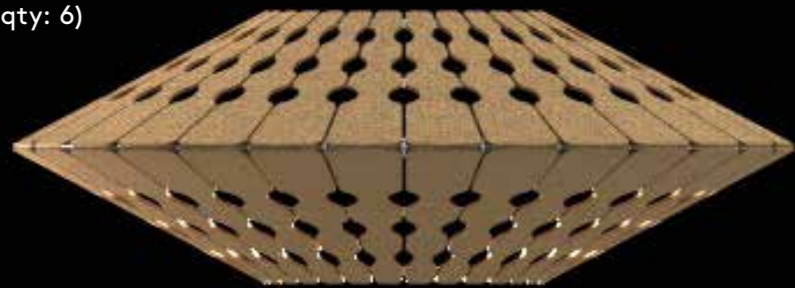
Ruru
(qty: 10)



1821mm (X)
(~72")

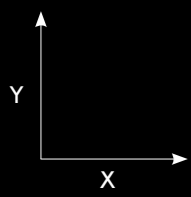
1848mm (Y)
(~73")

Miromiro
(qty: 6)



2400mm (X)
(~94.5")

853mm (Y)
(~33.5")



Technical Information

Light shades and structural members all made Tricoya modified wood fibre* panels.

Tricoya is considered the “gold standard” for high performance outdoor rated applications.

The base timber for Tricoya is fast growing, sustainable and renewable. Additional inputs into the manufacturing process include recycled and reclaimed wood sources.

Tricoya is used globally in high intensity outdoor application including replacement of failing exotic timbers in the canals of the Netherlands.

All lights are illuminated by LED fixture supplied by HUNZA

New Zealand based outdoor LED fixture manufacturer with North American presence.

All fixtures are supported via internal stainless steel frames/rings and assembled on-site (in the forest) prior to installation.



Elevation



David Trubridge

David Trubridge is an internationally renowned lighting designer who is resolute in his mission to create sustainably produced products with a natural and beautiful aesthetic. Trubridge believes that the combination of these two principles directly affects the product's sustainability, maintaining that consumers are less likely to discard products that are beautiful.

His work came to prominence in 2001 when the Italian design house Cappellini bought the rights for his steambent ash recliner. The Coral light followed in 2004, establishing a blueprint for kit-set products that minimised environmental footprint. The company is proud to hold Life Cycle Assessments (LCA's) and Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for their range of lights.

The company is driven by a strong environmental responsibility which informs all aspects of design and production and tries to create an caring and enjoyable workplace for all employees. Such motivations come before profit.



Learn More

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