

*From Barbara Hopkins in New Zealand*

## **Kaiteri Lodge, Abel Tasman National Park, New Zealand**

Kaiteri Lodge on New Zealand's South Island is so close to the beach that the sound of crashing waves will lull you to sleep. The only access to the walking trails, secluded bays and pristine beaches of the Abel Tasman National Park (no cars permitted in the park itself) are the boats docked right on the beach in front of the lodge.

Kaiteri is a “flashpacking” lodge which will dispel any doubts you ever had about a backpacking holiday. (And I was a prime doubter). “Flashpacking,” is just a more up-market version of a backpacking holiday—cheap, basic, but comfortable.

The modern building has both dormitory and self-contained accommodation. Our private double room was equipped with a refrigerator, tea-making equipment and a TV, and the bedding and towels were changed daily.

Scrupulously clean, the lodge has a huge kitchen with a cooking range, microwaves, giant refrigerators and plenty of utensils. There are coin-operated washing machines and dryers as well as several computers for Internet access. In other words, everything you could possibly want on this kind of holiday for \$50 per night, out of season. We stayed in July, the New Zealand winter time (average daily temperature 68° F) and had the place entirely to ourselves, apart from our welcoming hosts Tom and Birgitte.

**Kaiteri Flashpackers Lodge**, Inlet Road, Kaiteriteri, R.D.2 Motueka, New Zealand, e-mail: [stay@kaiterilodge.co.nz](mailto:stay@kaiterilodge.co.nz), website: [www.kaiterilodge.co.nz](http://www.kaiterilodge.co.nz).



You will be lulled to sleep by the sound of the waves, as the lodge is right on the beach.