

Lawn cottages

It's all about creating an ambience in an environment of privacy and space to give guests an unequivocal experience of home away from home.

editorial judi hopkinson / **pictures** richard brimer

Set in lush and extensive park-like gardens on the outskirts of Clive, just a 10 minute drive along the waterfront from Napier, Lawn Cottages offers delightful self-contained and exceptionally well-appointed tranquil and relaxing accommodation.

Owner Shona Walding has continued to creatively review and update her popular boutique accommodation and has now earned a 5 Star rating from Qualmark (NZ Tourism). The interior is exquisite with every comfort catered for in the two-bedroom cottage. The beautiful linen is cosy and very luxurious with new furnishings, designer cushions, flat screen TV, Sky, wireless broadband internet and an iPod dock where soft music plays to greet newly arrived guests. It is very elegant and comfortable with a lovely restful atmosphere, and always a vase of freshly picked flowers from the garden.

Outside is a lush, private garden with outdoor furniture – very inviting for a relaxing

barbeque and perfect for chilling out. Shona has created 'rooms' in the park-like surrounds that include a picking garden with beautiful roses, and in between the fruit trees, a pottager and veggie garden abundantly planted with salad greens and herbs for the guests to help themselves.

Wander through the garden and you will be treated to the bird song of Tui and Bellbirds. A stone-lined stream meanders under the trees to the pond. "Children love this area," said Shona. "They love the ducks and the space to play." And never far away is 'Truffle' the very friendly and extremely docile Chocolate Labrador.

Lawn Cottages is a perfect retreat with unequivocal hospitality. It's easy to see why Shona's guests keep returning to stay and bringing their families and friends with them. It's a wonderful find in a countryside setting and so close to Napier.

www.lawncottages.co.nz

