

A man in a red t-shirt with a 'WETA WORKSHOP' logo is leaning over a table, interacting with two women. One woman is holding a small jar, and the other is holding a stick. They are in a dimly lit room with other people in the background, some wearing red shirts. The text 'weta WORKSHOP' is overlaid in the center.

weta
WORKSHOP

Events & Group Experiences
2020-2022

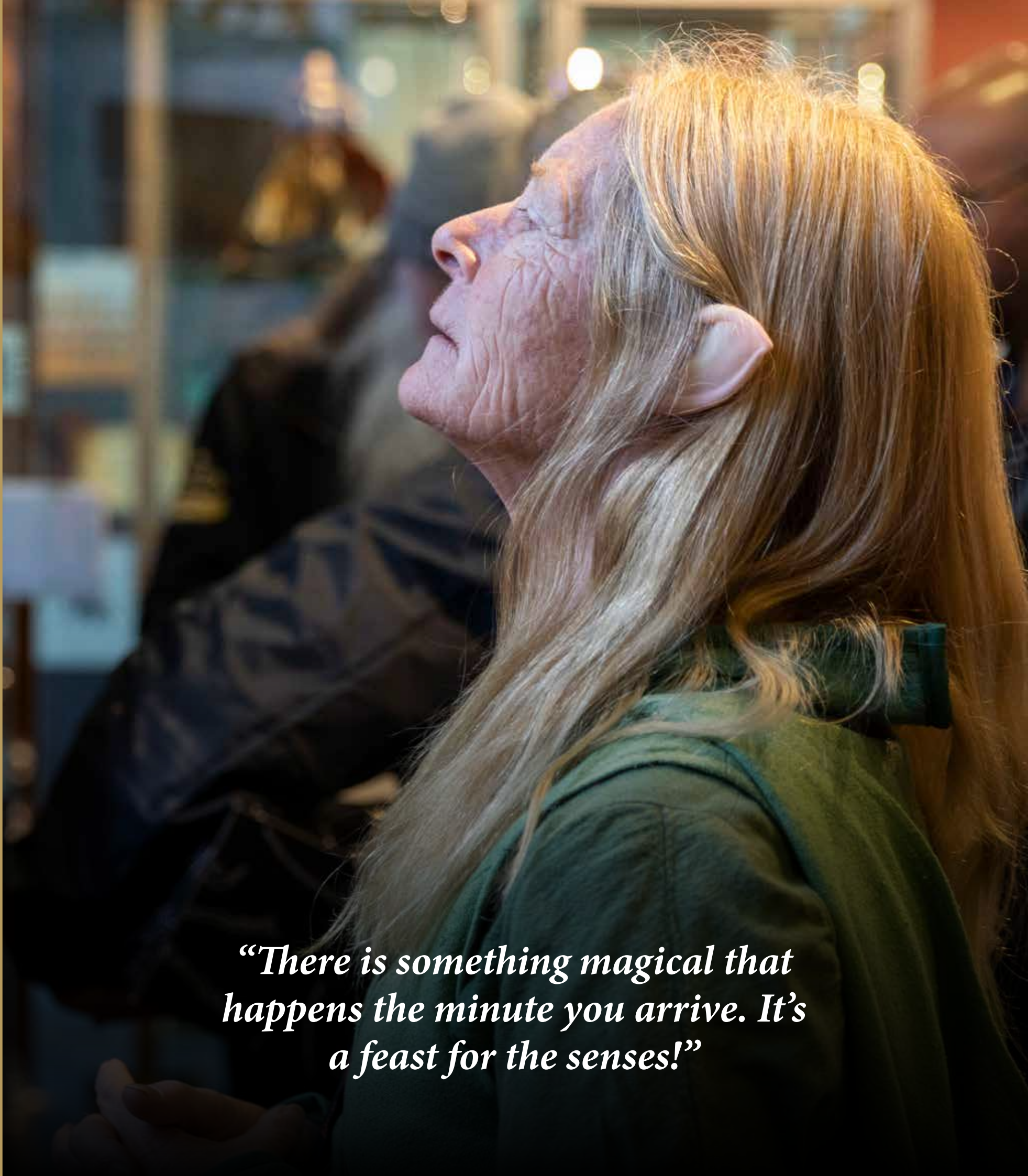
Extraordinary creative experiences

From small groups and team events to large-scale conferences, at your place or ours. Embark on a creative journey like no other and get lost in a world of movie magic.

CONTACT US

bookings@wetaworkshop.co.nz

Or speak with our experiences team:
04 909 4035



“There is something magical that happens the minute you arrive. It’s a feast for the senses!”

Our Story

WHO WE ARE

Weta Workshop is a five-time Academy Award®-winning creative design and practical effects company that services the world's creative industries.

We're also a hub of creativity with a diverse and passionate crew who love making cool stuff!

Our tours are our chance for us to share that with you.

A LITTLE HISTORY...

Like Weta Workshop itself, our Tourism offering comes from humble beginnings. We got our start in 2008, when Weta Workshop co-founders Richard Taylor and Tania Rodger – seeing the vanloads of hopeful Lord of the Rings fans pull up outside the workshop each day – opened the Weta Cave shop. Full of cool stuff to explore, buy, photograph, or simply gawk at, the shop quickly became an iconic landmark in the sleepy suburb of Miramar. But that was just the beginning.

Four years after opening the Weta Cave, in 2012 we transformed the section of the workshop closest to the shop into a fully-fledged tour space. For the first time ever, we were able to bring visitors up close and personal to the artistry and craftsmanship that happens within the four walls of our Workshop every day.

The rest, as they say, is history.

These days, more than 150,000 visitors flock to Workshop each year to learn about the magic behind the movies. And we love to share it with them.

OUR TEAM

Our Weta Workshop tour guides are storytellers first, tour guides second. Sure, it's our job to get you from A to B – but where's the fun in that?! Our mission is to take you on an epic journey through the imagination. More than giving you an insight into our creative process, Weta Workshop tours are our opportunity to share our passion and love for what we do. We're privileged to bring you along for the ride.



Our offerings

We do intimate. We do epic. Whether it's a guided tour or an adventure of epic scope, we pour the same passion, creativity and craftsmanship into everything we do.

Join us and discover the creative processes, physical effects, people and technology that have helped produce some of the most memorable films of the past 25 years.

Our offerings can be enjoyed on-site at Weta Workshop or let us bring the creativity to you.



Start with a tour...

MOVIE EFFECTS TOURS

Let our storytellers take you on a fantastical creative journey as we delve into the practical effects magic behind Weta Workshop's thirty-year history! Explore props, costumes, creatures, miniatures, models and more from your favourite films and hear incredible behind-the-scenes stories.

We also offer private and group tours. Contact us to learn more.

🕒 **45min**
📍 **Weta Workshop**

FEATURES:

- Engaging storyteller guides
- Explore props, costumes, creatures and models from the movies
- Learn the creative processes used by Weta Workshop's design & manufacture crew
- Chat to a Workshop artist on our Maker Stage

...then add more.

CREATIVE ADD-ONS INCLUDE:

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS

From sculpting to prosthetics, learn how to make your own film effects magic with our experienced event technicians.

CHARACTER TRANSFORMATIONS & DEMONSTRATIONS


Orcs, Dwarves and Elves – oh my! Witness a fantastical live transformation with prosthetics and SFX make-up demonstrations.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Gain unique insight into how we bring a director's vision to life and be inspired by the imagination and ingenuity of our artists, technicians and creative teams.

FEASTS

Enjoy a rustic Middle-earth inspired feast with your guests in fantastical surroundings in Weta Workshop's flagship tour space.



“The in-depth knowledge of our tour guide and insider info...everyone in our group was mind blown and really enjoyed the experience!”

Hands-on Workshops

Our motto is “be creative and make cool stuff.” We love to share our creativity with others – and what better way to do that, than to have our guests roll up their sleeves?

Get hands-on and learn the practical magic of film effects, guided by the Weta Workshop crew. Learn new skills, get tips and tricks of the trade, and take your creation home – along with a head buzzing full of new ideas.

Choose one workshop or combine multiple workshops to craft your own unforgettable creative event.

WORKSHOPS:

- Sculpting
- Special effects make-up
- Movie blood-making
- Leatherwork & Chainmaille
- Junk-building
- Make a Monster Illustration

-  **Small & large groups**
-  **Bespoke**
-  **Weta Workshop & off-site**

FEATURES:

- Experienced Weta Workshop crew share their authentic filmmaking techniques
- Can be combined with a tour or event
- Mix and match
- Hands-on creativity – roll up your sleeves!



Transformations & demonstrations

Transforming humans into Orcs, Elves, Dwarves, and all manner of fantastical creatures is part of Weta Workshop's creative DNA. Our artists are tasked with designing and applying complex prosthetic and make-up effects for blockbuster films like *The Hobbit*.

Witness a live transformation from human to creature and back again, through the application of prosthetics, hair, costume & special effects make-up. See the wonderful world of paint come alive before your eyes on a human canvas, as a Weta Workshop technician demonstrates the intricacies of body painting.

INVITE A CHARACTER

Add someone unexpected to your guest list to delight and entertain! A Dwarf or Orc to share a second breakfast with, perhaps?

-  **Small & large groups**
-  **Bespoke**
-  **Weta Workshop & off-site**

FEATURES:

- Meet Weta Workshop crew
- Witness a live transformation
- First-hand stories & genuine expertise
- Areas of expertise include special make-up FX and prosthetics, body painting, sculpture, concept design, and more



SMOKE Photography



Speakers

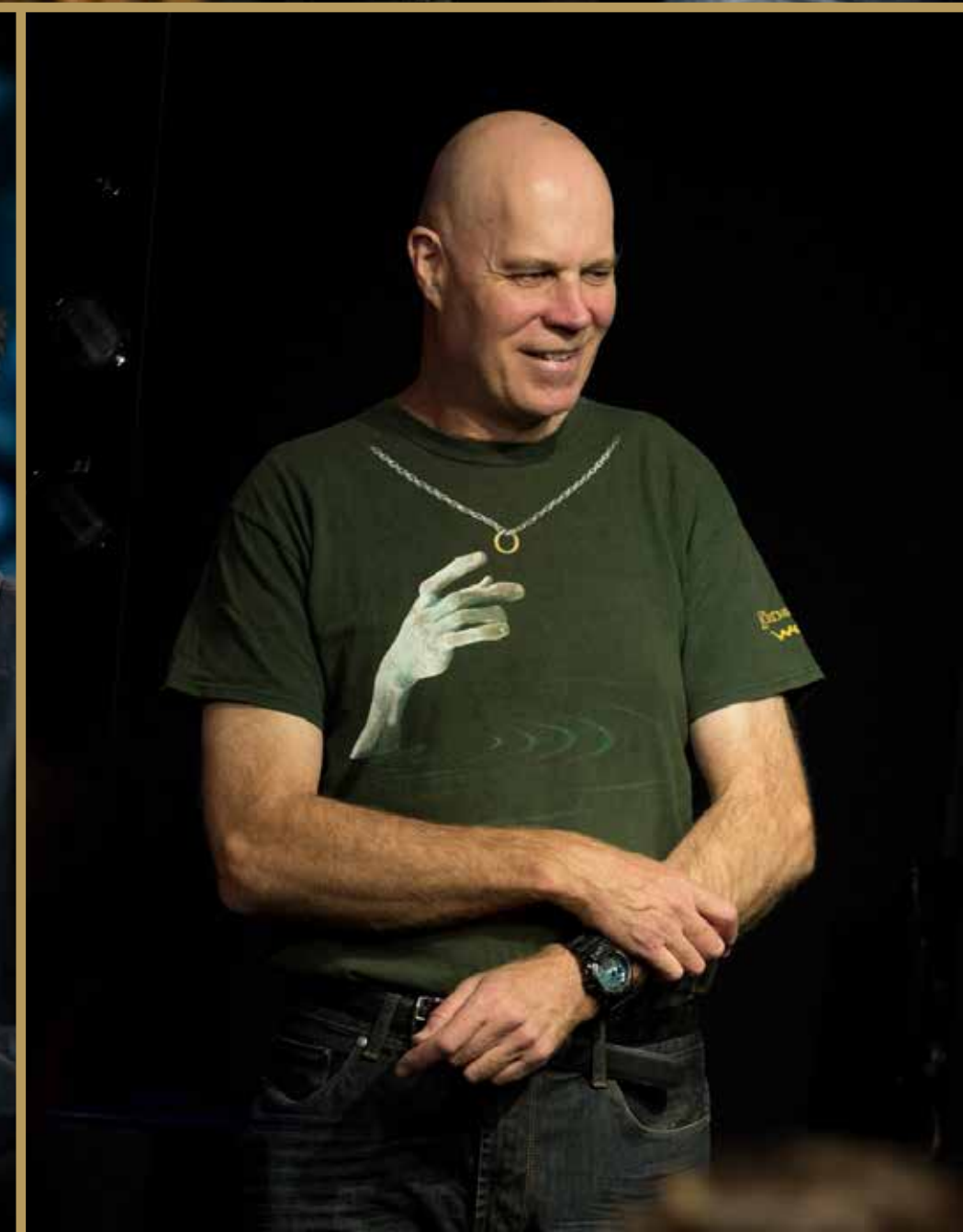
Weta Workshop is home to a family of passionate artists, technicians, and creative thinkers who are experts in their field and love to share what they do. Book our crew as keynote speakers or special guests to add a personal touch to your event.

With first-hand experience in the film industry and expertise in creating incredible things our speakers are known for being thought-provoking, energetic, humble, and creatively inspiring. Through behind-the-scenes stories and fascinating insights, your guests will be brimming with ideas for their own creativity!

-  **Small & large groups**
-  **Bespoke**
-  **Weta Workshop & off-site**

FEATURES:

- Engaging, energetic, and inspiring speakers
- Meet Weta Workshop crew
- First-hand stories & genuine expertise
- Areas of expertise include concept design, props, costume, special FX makeup & prosthetics, sculpture, miniature building, interactive design, gaming, acting, stunts, & more



Rustic feasts

Get your mouth watering for creativity... literally! Enjoy exclusive out-of-hours access to our tour space while you tuck into delicious food and drink. You'll have the unique opportunity to roam in the company of our crew, who are on hand to spill the secrets of movie magic!

A HEARTY FEAST

Feast together in the heart of Weta Workshop after dark. Includes a hearty meal and non-alcoholic drink.

A HEARTY BREAKFAST

Enjoy your first meal of the day together in the heart of the Workshop before the working day begins.

Experience our dining offerings on their own; add them to your event; or combine with our range of creative options and make a day of it!

 **Minimum 10pax / Maximum 20pax**
 **2 hours (time restrictions apply)**
 **On-site**

FEATURES:

- Dine with the Weta Workshop crew
- Exclusive access to our tour space with the unique opportunity to roam
- Add guest artist (extra cost applies)

SAMPLE MENU

Home-made crackers and cheese

Roasted pumpkin with pine nuts

Mini meat pasties

Roasted chicken

Cooked ham

Baked eel- The perfect center piece for your feast, not for the faint hearted!

Roasted new potatoes

Artisan bread and butter

Portuguese custard tarts

Apple strudel

Gandalf's Firework Cookies



Industry WOW day

INSPIRING CONNECTIONS WITH FELLOW ARTISTS

👥 **Approx. 120**
📍 **Weta Workshop**
▶ **Speaker, Transformation, Demonstration, Workshop**

THE BRIEF: INSPIRE US!

Spend the day with us! The tailor-made experience supported the theme of the competition (Sustainable Art) and inspired these phenomenally talented artists to create in new and collaborative ways.

WHAT WE DID

We kicked off the event with a body art transformation by Sofia Bue, Weta Workshop technician and award-winning body effects artist. During the transformation, Sofia spoke at length about her work and the innovative thinking that drives Weta Workshop's artistic process.

The group also enjoyed Steven Saunders, a Visual Effects Society award-winner and Weta Workshop model-maker, to share his experiences building miniature worlds for films like Blade Runner 2049. In a talk tailored to the WOW artists, he gave insight into how he recycles, reuses, and uses everyday objects to transform trash into treasure.

Full of inspiration, the WOW artists finished the day by getting hands-on and making their own miniature cities. Guided by the Weta Workshop crew, this was a fun learning opportunity that also proved to be a wonderful team-building exercise where new friendships were forged. The group departed brimming with renewed enthusiasm and inspiration for their own projects.



“A huge thanks to the team at Weta Workshop for an amazing afternoon... The designers were absolutely buzzing afterwards!”

CASE STUDY

Big night out

AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT

👥 220
📍 Auckland (private venue)
▶ Transformation, Photo Opportunity, Immersive

THE BRIEF: ENTERTAIN US!

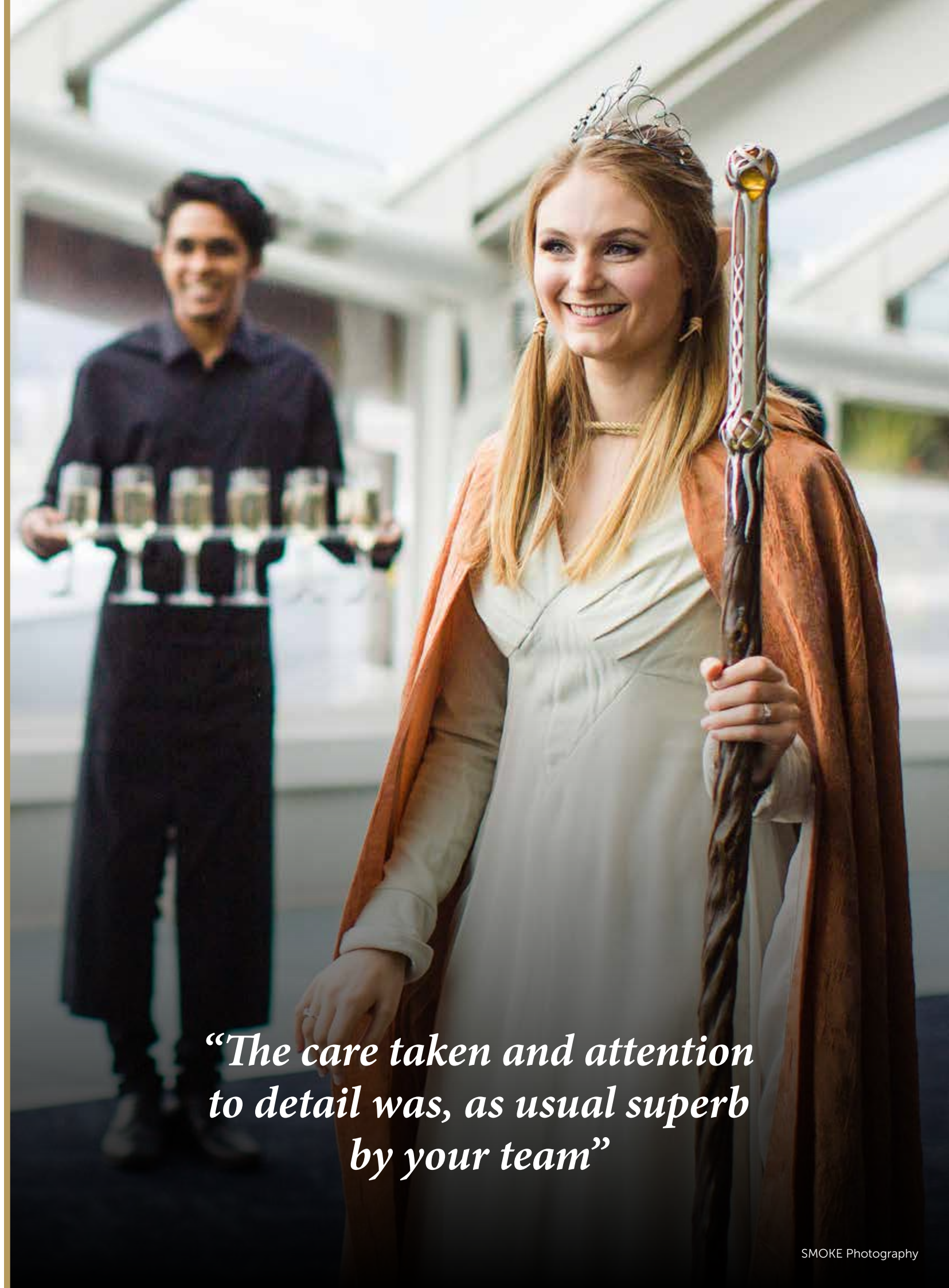
An event manager asked us to entertain over 200 people over a three-course meal. They requested a unique Weta Workshop experience that would wow their guests and capture their imaginations.

WHAT WE DID

To set the scene, we decorated the room with authentic film props from the Weta Workshop vault, and had the waitstaff sporting Hobbit ears. As the unsuspecting guests settled in, they were interrupted by a cantankerous Orc – one of our crew members dressed in full prosthetic gear. We had strategically placed dishes throughout the room, which the Orc promptly wreaked havoc upon. His devilish antics were a great ice breaker for guests as they met new people and cemented business connections.

Hot on the Orc's trail were a few brave members of the Fellowship, comprising two Halflings, a sturdy Dwarf, and a Regal Elf. A battle of good versus evil ensued during the main course. To the guests' amusement, our wise wizard appeared in the nick of time to vanquish the Orc and restore order to the night's festivities. Throughout the evening, our Middle-earth crew were on hand to pose for photos with guests.

The evening reached its peak with a Weta Workshop technician transforming a guest into a Dwarf, complete with bulbous nose and luscious beard, using the same prosthetics and costuming techniques we use in our film work.



“The care taken and attention to detail was, as usual superb by your team”

Creative lunch

MIDDLE-EARTH HEADS SOUTH

👥 Approx. 50
📍 Queenstown (private venue)
➤ Transformation

THE BRIEF: TRANSFORM US!

Our client was short on time in New Zealand. Rather than travel to the middle of Middle-earth, they requested the ultimate Lord of the Rings lunchtime experience in Queenstown. So, we did what any doting Hobbit would do – we brought the creativity to them.

WHAT WE DID

We planned a Middle-earth themed afternoon's entertainment complete with Dwarven transformations and tales from the making of Middle-earth. Two of our experienced technicians flew direct from Wellington to meet our client at a remote outdoor dining location.

Surrounded by spectacular views, we showcased our craftsmanship and creativity by transforming a guest into a Dwarf character that could have stepped right off the big screen. During the transformation, our crew shared the secrets behind designing and crafting Middle-earth for the film trilogy, sharing fun stories from behind-the-scenes. It was a supercharged creative afternoon; a fascinating, whirlwind glimpse into the techniques and processes used by Weta Workshop to create cool stuff.



“We’re so glad we got to be part of the magic for half a day!”

CASE STUDY

Family adventure

A DELIGHTFUL BIRTHDAY

6
Kerikeri (private venue)
Workshop, Immersive

THE BRIEF: DELIGHT US!

"If you're lucky, you'll meet a resident of Middle-earth." This is what two lucky children were told when they moved to New Zealand – and lo and behold, they got their wish. With a birthday fast approaching, Mum and Dad sought the help of Weta Workshop to make the dream a reality.

WHAT WE DID

We worked with the parents to craft a two-day family extravaganza that celebrated all things Middle-earth! Our crew joined forces with two iconic Kiwi actors to become Dwarves, Elves and Hobbits for two fun-filled days.

On Day 1, we guided the family through a scavenger hunt which was played out across a secluded location in full costume and prosthetics.

Day 2 was full of creative inspiration. With the help of our crew, the partygoers made fake blood and created masterpieces with everyday materials. Then, armed with foam swords, it was off to the beach to make a short film.

Our Elf Elder left the children with the important task of guarding the One Ring. Turns out we left a lasting impression. One year later, we were asked to return for another birthday. To our surprise, the children excitedly showed us the ring we had given them. They had taken it in shifts to guard the Precious for an entire year.



"My family came away from the entire experience pretty inspired. Thank you!"

Our spaces

Nestled in the heart of the film community on the Miramar Peninsula, our events and experience spaces are just as creative as our offerings.

FEATURES OF OUR SPACES:

- Audiovisual setup
- Catering
- Themed photo opportunities
- Behind-the-scenes documentary
- Combine with tours, workshops, and add-ons



CONFERENCE ROOM

The heart of Weta Workshop headquarters and where we keep our awards including Oscars and BAFTAs. Enjoy an intimate setting rarely seen by the public. It's the perfect meeting space to inspire and ignite creativity.

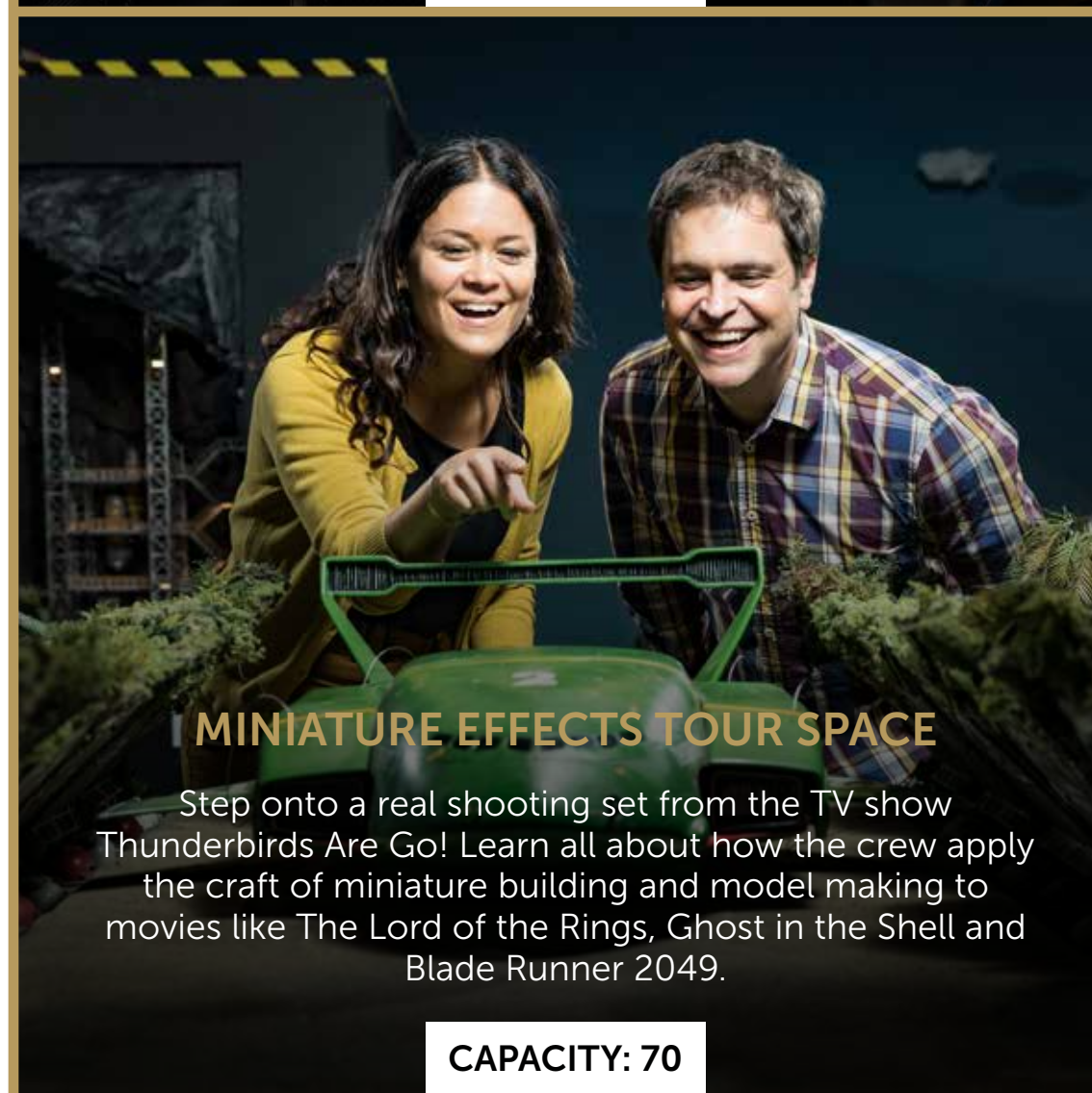
CAPACITY: 20



WETA CAVE WORKSHOP TOUR SPACE

Four rooms of props, costumes, concept art, and more to whet your creative appetite. Our flagship tour space is in the heart of Weta Workshop, with glimpses into the workshop beyond.

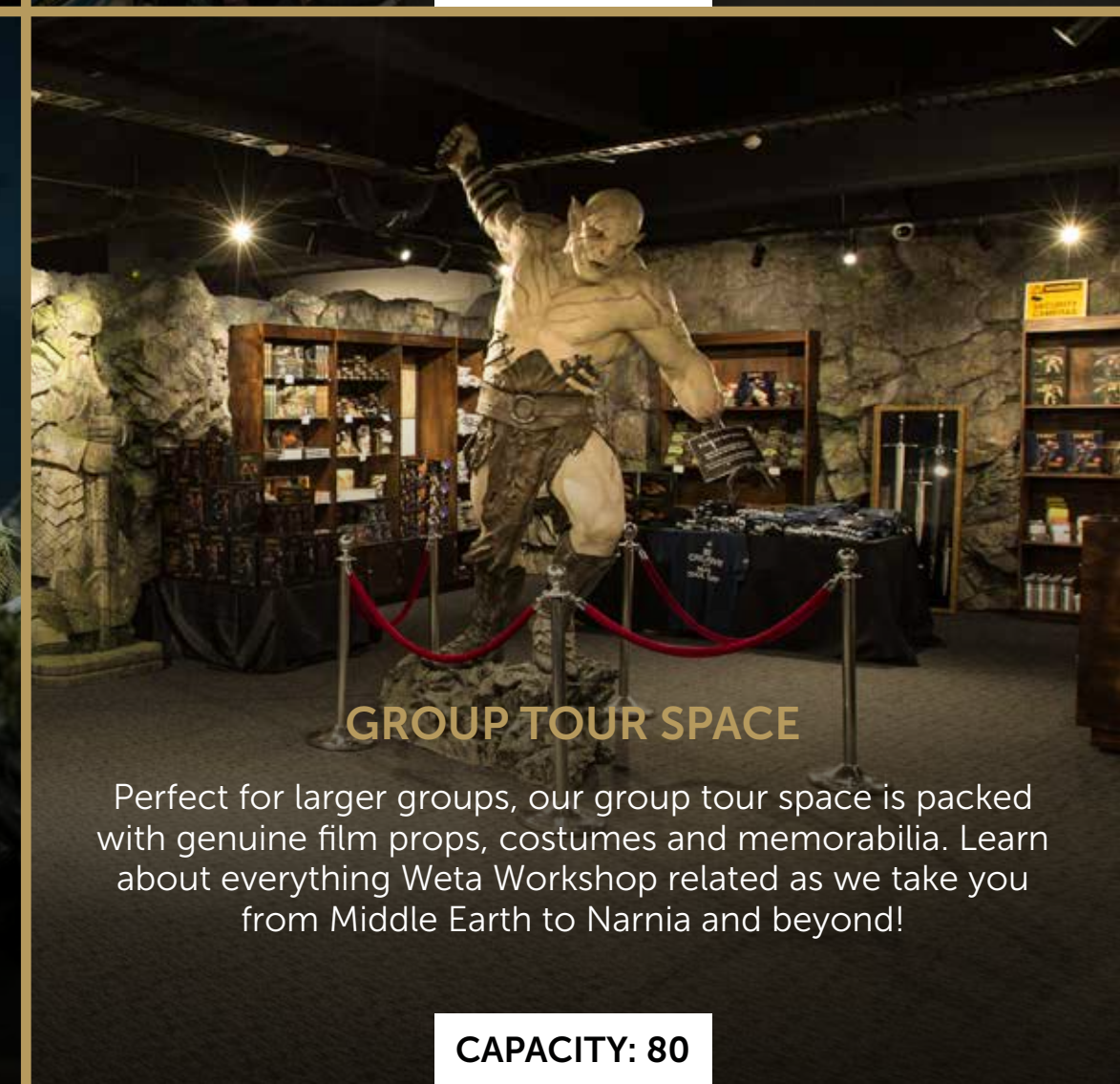
CAPACITY: 60



MINIATURE EFFECTS TOUR SPACE

Step onto a real shooting set from the TV show *Thunderbirds Are Go*! Learn all about how the crew apply the craft of miniature building and model making to movies like *The Lord of the Rings*, *Ghost in the Shell* and *Blade Runner 2049*.

CAPACITY: 70

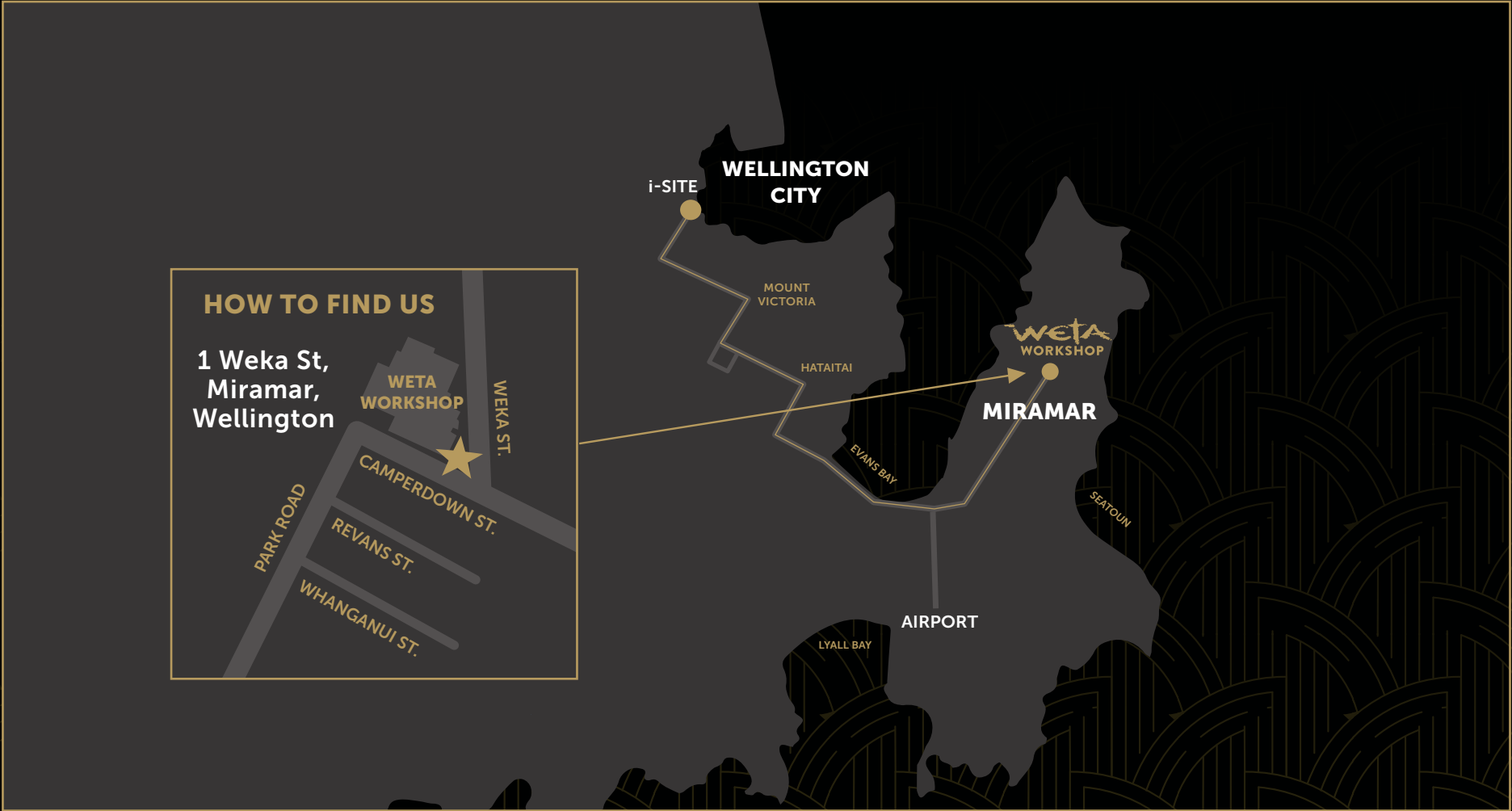


GROUP TOUR SPACE

Perfect for larger groups, our group tour space is packed with genuine film props, costumes and memorabilia. Learn about everything Weta Workshop related as we take you from Middle Earth to Narnia and beyond!

CAPACITY: 80

Where you'll find us



DRIVING DISTANCES TO WETA WORKSHOP TOURS

Wellington City	20 mins
Wellington Airport	5 mins

FLYING TIMES TO WELLINGTON

Auckland Airport	1 hour
Christchurch Airport	55 mins
Queenstown Airport	1.5 hours



Our partners

We love sharing our creativity with others. Here are just some of the terrific companies we have partnered with to offer extraordinary film effects experiences.



Craft your experience with us

Please get in touch with our Bookings & Events team to discuss how we can bring creativity, craftsmanship, and movie magic to life at your next event.

CONTACT US

bookings@wetaworkshop.co.nz

tours.wetaworkshop.com

Or speak with our team on:
04 909 4035

weta
WORKSHOP

“A magical experience”