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Travel Diary: the Cast of *Ghost in the Shell* in New Zealand

Scarlett Johansson and castmates share images from their time exploring the area

Written by [Rachel Wallace](#)

Ghost in the Shell director Rupert Sanders and Takeshi Kitano dine at Whitebait in Wellington, New Zealand. "We got to enjoy Wellington's great food and culture, and especially loved the seafood. It's a beautiful city, easy to get around with nature so close by. It also has amazing restaurants and cafes," says Sanders.

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Actress Juliette Binoche at Annandale Luxury Villas on the South Island's Banks Peninsula. "I went to the red rock walk and I went to the forest as well. I saw the Manuka trees and I was very moved because Manuka is such a legend, the honey. So just seeing that and observing nature and understanding also the history; what happened to the island, why they don't have snakes and spiders. And knowing that it was an island that detached itself from Australia and came back from the sea and only birds lived here. It has a very special spirit," she says of her excursion.



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"I was able to take my family to Rotorua for a holiday during filming of *Ghost in the Shell*. Rotorua is a city full of Maori culture and great activities. We had a wonderful time luging, visiting the geothermal area and zip lining through the beautiful native bush," says Pilou Asbæk, pictured here experiencing a steambox lunch at Te Puia.



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Pilou Asbæk zip lining in Rotorua, New Zealand



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"It's a very beautiful city. Everybody here has been so friendly and warm, and it has this beautiful harbor, and it has the kind of outdoorsy vibe so it is nice on your days off to be able to walk by the water and be outside; you can drive to the mountains and go walking in the bush, it's great. It beats a lot of other cities that I have shot in," says the film's star, Scarlett Johansson, of Wellington.



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