

**THE TOPP TWINS**  
**SUMMER HOE-DOWN 2011**  
**at Wineries Nation-wide**



[www.topptwins.com](http://www.topptwins.com)

## The Tour

The Topp Twins Summer Hoe-down will present the best of NZ contemporary country music at select wineries around NZ in January and February 2011.

Last year the Topps and Don McGlashan, with Don's band the Seven Sisters, sold-out six wineries around Auckland and the Bay of Plenty/Hawkes Bay. We are now extending the tour and bringing the best of country-roots flavoured music to 14 regions around NZ. **The Topp Twins** will headline a bill featuring :-

The legendary **Hamilton County Bluegrass Band**

Fiddler extraordinaire, **Marian Burns**

Best Female Artist 2010 Country Music Awards, **Tami Neilson**

Rising star and perhaps our next Keith Urban, **Cameron Luxton**

Favorite Topp Twins' characters, including Ken & Ken, will deliver comedy as well as Kiwi country classics, while the Hamilton County Bluegrass Band with Marian Burns on fiddle will get the whole crowd stomping. The Topps will perform with other artists and you will hear them like you haven't heard them before! This will be the Summer Concert of Fun even non-country-music lovers will love.

### SOUTH ISLAND

Wed 5 Jan	Olssen's Garden Vineyard – CROMWELL
Thurs 6 Jan	Anderson Park – INVERCARGILL
Sat 8 Jan	Opihi Vineyard Café – PLEASANT POINT
Sun 9 Jan	Hagley Park – CANTERBURY (tbc)
Tues 11 Jan	Forrest Wines - MARLBOROUGH
Wed 12 Jan	Neudorf Vineyard – NELSON

### NORTH ISLAND

Sat 29 Jan	Cable Bay Vineyards – WAIHEKE ISLAND
Wed 2 Feb	Mystery Creek Wines – HAMILTON
Thurs 3 Feb	Wharepai Domain – TAURANGA
Sat 5 Feb	Black Barn Vineyards – HAWKES BAY
Sun 6 Feb	TW Wines – GISBORNE
Fri 11 Feb	Gladstone Vineyard – CARTERTON
Sun 13 Feb	Ascension Wine Estate - MATAKANA

## The Talent

### The Topp Twins

New Zealand's well-loved entertainers need little introduction. They have an incredibly diverse appeal like no other act - their audience includes a huge cross-section of NZers, from farmers, mums, kids, and those of liberal persuasion. And now, after 25 years, their popularity has never been higher thanks to the success of their recent movie.

*The Topp Twins, Untouchable Girls*, released in cinemas nationwide last year, has affectionately cemented the Lynda and Jools as a New Zealand cultural institution. The film was the highest grossing documentary ever released in New Zealand, and has won many Audience Awards at international film festivals, including the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival (2009). It also won Best Feature Film at the NZ Qantas Film & TV Awards as well as Best Music in a Feature Film.

This year the Topp Twins TV Special with the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra is a Finalist at the NZ Qantas Film & TV Awards for Best Entertainment Programme. Who would have thought country music and the classics could go so well together?

While the Twins are better known as their comedy characters, they are also "seriously good singer-songwriters" (Edinburgh Herald). They won Best Country Album at the NZ Music Awards 2007 and 2005; were inducted into the New Zealand Music Hall of Fame (2008), won the Country Music Group/Duo of the Year Award at the 2009 National Country Music Awards, and at this year's CMA were named Legends of Country Music.

### The Hamilton County Bluegrass Band



The HCBB exploded into the New Zealand Folk and Country music scene in 1968, and were the first group to popularise bluegrass music in New Zealand. In its heyday the band anchored a widely enjoyed TV show; *Country Touch* on Saturday evenings from 1968 to 1970.

They toured the country extensively and became one of NZ's best-loved groups. After extensive Australian touring with Slim Dusty, the band became the first and only NZ group to play the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Highway of Legends Tour in 2005, featuring the HCBB, was one of NZ's most successful homegrown tours, selling out more than 35,000 tickets.



### **Marian Burns**



New Zealand's top fiddle player, Marian has been playing the violin and delighting audiences since she was 4 years old. She has a dynamic and unrestricted style that captivates audiences everywhere. An accomplished classical performer and music teacher, Marian's first love is country music. Since winning the New Zealand Country Music Entertainer of the year award in 1993, Marian has been performing regularly through New Zealand and Australia and has a dedicated following. She has performed with the Chieftains, the Irish "Fire Dance" stage show, and opened for the Ricky Skaggs and Dr John NZ tours.

a pocket dynamo, a ball of fire, a violin virtuoso, the most infectious laugh, an incredible talent ...the list goes on" - Capital News Brisbane

### **Tami Neilson**



Two-time winner of the New Zealand Tui Award for Best Country Album 2009 and 2010, Canadian-born Tami Neilson comes from a country music pedigree – she performed with her family's band The Neilsons from the age of 10, and even shared the stage with Johnny Cash. Best Female Artist at the 2010 Country Music Awards, Tami's music is a hybrid of acoustic torch and stripped-bare alt-country.

Her debut solo album, "Red Dirt Angel", included the single "Sister Cash", a duet with Joanne Cash, while her latest album, The Kitchen Table Sessions, contains hectic bluegrass versions of Dave Dobbyn's "Slice of Heaven" and Scribe's "Not Many" as well as original haunting heartbreak ballads and foot-stomping, hand-clapping, harmony-infused numbers. Now married



to a Kiwi and living in NZ, Tami is one of the rising new stars of country music. Recently the cover girl of the Sunday magazine, she definitely proves it is “hip to be hick”.

[www.tamineilson.com](http://www.tamineilson.com)

<http://www.youtube.com/user/tamineilsondotcom>

### Cameron Luxton

Only 15 years old but Cameron already has a list of achievements under his belt. At 11 he became the Junior Overall Winner at the 2006 Gold Guitars and went on to perform at the Tamworth Country Music Festival. Lynda Topp’s protégé, Cameron performed with the Topp Twins on their 2007 National Tour, and charmed audiences with his mature voice and stage presence. This year he became the Intermediate Best of the West Country Music Awards Overall Winner, and also took out the Open Instrumental Award.

Cameron will be the youngest member of the Topp Twins Summer Hoe-down Tour but watch this space as he is one of New Zealand’s up and coming country music stars.

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The Topp Twins’ Summer Hoe-Down Tour will be a unique celebration of Kiwi country & bluegrass music – our legends and the next generation of stars performing together to create magical moments of entertainment at its finest - and is sure to be a musical feast as well as a damn good night out! As last year’s tour will testify, audiences loved it.

### REVIEWS – TOPP TWINS SUMMER WINERY TOUR 2009



#### WAIHEKE WEEKENDER by John Hawkesby, 15/01/2010

A beautiful thing and a joy to behold  
 "...when it comes together with the right sized crowd in good spirits, the appropriate performers and a genuine appreciation for the wine, the food, the environment and the music – it’s a beautiful thing and a joy to behold. Such an event took place very recently on a balmy majestic sunset evening at Cable Bay Vineyard and Restaurant in Church Bay....The Topp Twins were up first. You had to feel sorry for whoever was to follow but Don McGlashan was up for it. This was not a concert of two halves although each act had their moment in the sun – this was a unified celebration, an occasion for laughter, reflection, a bit of a singalong, lots of good natured, spontaneous banter and irreverent observation....and some mighty fine songs. I’ve seen the Topp Twins live in concert before, but indoors. In the wide open spaces of Cable Bay Vineyard they grabbed the sell-out crowd of 1400 by the laugh

glands and more than filled the peaceful valley with their gentle, self-deprecating, edgy, unorthodox and thoroughly engaging and entertaining performance.

...It was a wonderful event, great crowd, and majestic music. Y'all come back now ya hear?"

**IN REVIEW by Michele McPherson, 11/01/2010**  
**Topp Twins Summer Winery Tour with Don McGlashan and the Seven Sisters Band**  
**Wharepai Domain, Tauranga.**

ON A sun-soaked, windless Tauranga evening, icons of the New Zealand music scene, Lynda and Jools Topp, were the perfect remedy for those facing the dreaded return to work after the holidays. Deckchairs under arms and cooler bags brimming with the goodies of the festive season, hundreds settled in at Wharepai Domain last night for an evening of comedy and musical talent from some seasoned professionals.

Laughter rippled through the crowd before the Topp Twins, appearing on stage in horrendous outfits, had barely got their first words out. The ripple soon turned to full-blown belly laughter as the pair made good-hearted fun of themselves and members of the audience.

After winning over the crowd with their sharp wit and disregard for the politically correct, the pair took a break while friend Don McGlashan, who produced the twins' latest album, took the stage. He and his band the Seven Sisters covered some Kiwi summer classics including The Mutton Birds' Anchor Me, Dominion Road and Nature.

Lynda and Jools joined them back on stage to perform songs from their new album Honky Tonk Angel, with the selection ranging from love songs to a line dancing number which had many of the crowd off their chairs. When the show finished about 8.30pm the only complaint seemed to be that the crowd hadn't had enough of the Topp Twins yet. A very enjoyable evening out and a great dose of Kiwi humour to dull the harsh reality of a return to work.

Happy summer days ....music, laughter and wine

