



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

New Zealand – Arthur's Pass

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Wellington
- ✓ **Language:** English / Māori
- ✓ **Population:** ± 30 (yes really)
- ✓ **Sq km:** ... 1 street / Nat. Park: 60 ha
- ✓ **Currency:** NZ Dollar (\$)
- ✓ **Country code:** +64
- ✓ **Visa:** Yes, check the various visas [here!](#)
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 111
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A & Hep-B



History Recap Over 1 Drink

1200-1300AD: Ancestors of Māori arrive by canoe from Polynesia. Country name: Aotearoa (*land of long white cloud*). 1642: Dutch Abel Tasman sights South Island, calls it Nieuw Zeeland (*after Dutch province*). 1769: British James Cook explores coastline. 1815: First British missionaries arrive. '40: Treaty of Waitangi between British and Māori tribes: protection Māori land and establishes British law. '45-'72: NZ Wars, Māori resistance against colonial rule. '93: NZ 1st country of women vote. '98: Introduction old-age pensions. 1907: NZ dominion within British Empire. '14: WWI→NZ troops to help British. '39-'45: WWII→again. '47: Full independence. '50-'53: NZ troops serve with UN in Korean War. '51: Anzus Pacific security treaty NZ-Aus-US. '60s: Small troops sent to Vietnam War to support US. '84: Labour government (*Lange*). '85: NZ refuses US nuclear-powered/armed ships to enter ports→Greenpeace ship blown up, Anzus obligations suspended. '89: Palmer, then Bolger Prime Minister (PM). '93: Proportional representation government →more Māori. '97: Shipley 1st female PM. '99: Peacekeeping force in East Timor. Clark PM. '01: Government rescues Air NZ. '02: PM apologizes to Samoa (colonial). '08: Economic recession. Key PM. '09: Troops to Afghanistan for US. '11: Earthquake Christchurch. '13: Gay marriage legal. '16: Bill English PM. '17: Jacinda Adern PM.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring										wettest		
Summer	warmest	driest										
Autumn												
Winter							coldest					
Budget						Local	Ski	Season				

Altitude: 747m. Climate: Mediterranean Maritime (Cfb). This place is famous for 'four seasons in one day'.

Bucket List For Free

☺ **Short hikes:** [Millennium Walk](#) (5min), [Arthur's Pass Historic Walk](#), [Devil's Punchbowl](#), [Arthur's Pass Walking Track](#), [Bealey Valley Track](#), [Dobson Nature Walk](#), [Lake Misery Track](#), [Otira Valley Track](#), [Cockayne Nature Walk](#), [Old Coach Road Walk](#), [O'Malleys Track](#), [Bealey Spur Track](#), [Temple Basin](#), [Mount Bealey](#).

☺ **More advanced hikes:** [Caroll Hut](#), [Avalanche Peak](#) (good weather only – only marked peak pole route) via Avalanche Peak Track or Scotts Track, [Cons Track](#), [Mt Aicken Track](#).

Worth The Extra \$€¥

👍 **Skiing/snowboarding:** [Porters](#), [Temple Basin](#), [Cheeseman](#), [Broken River](#) & [Craigieburn](#).

👍 **Overnight hikes (hut/camping reservations necessary):** [Hawdon Hut](#), [Carrington Hut](#) (deep river crossings), [Hamilton Hut](#) (avalanche hazard in winter), [Edwards Hut](#), [Casey Saddle](#), [Goat Pass Hut](#) (avalanche hazard in winter), [Three Passes Route](#), [Harman Pass](#), [Harper Pass](#), [Lake Kaurapataka](#), [Minchin Pass](#), [Mingha](#).

Enquire about weather conditions / risks. Inform someone about your route and expected return time.

Budget Bites

⌘ **Big supermarkets:** None! There's only a small overpriced dairy. Bring your food if you want to self-cater.

⌘ **Local food:** Meat pie, fish & chips, hangi (*vegetables & meat*), crayfish, kina (*sea urchin*), pavlova (*desert*), honey, jaffas (*sugarcoated chocolate balls*), kumara (*sweet potato*), paua fritters (*seafood*), marmite (*only if you're brave*).

⌘ **Go vegan:** Unavailable in Arthur's Pass. Make sure you bring groceries and arrange cooking facilities.

Festivals

⚙ Avalanche Peak Challenge: Feb

Mama Said

💀 New Zealand is generally safe, but use your common sense like everywhere. Don't leave valuables in the car or anywhere visible.

💀 In New Zealand they drive on the left side of the road, so everything is reversed. Pay attention when driving.

💀 Tap water generally comes straight from the rivers and waterfalls here, so cooking or filtering it is recommended.

💀 When flying into New Zealand, double-check border regulations. Clean all outdoor gear and don't bring food into the country.

💀 Bring food and money to Arthur's Pass. Besides a little expensive dairy there's no supermarket, and there's only one ATM that generally doesn't accept foreign cards.

💀 When hiking, inform someone about your route and expected return time or fill this in at the [Adventure Smart website](#). Use good waterproof footwear and clothing, prepare for all seasons in 1 day.

Sleep Cheap

❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are not cheap in New Zealand, so keep that in mind. Book via [this Booking.com link](#) and receive a \$15 discount. [Air BnB](#) usually gives more money's worth. Book ahead for Arthur's Pass, it's rather popular and (budget) options are limited.

❖ Wild camping is not allowed in New Zealand (*but you may be naughty*), but free and low-priced campgrounds are available. If there are no on-site toilet buildings you'll need a self-contained vehicle (*with proof*). Check [this link](#) for Arthur's Pass campsites. You can't leave your tent during the day, Kea's will destroy it. 'Batches' are popular as holiday homes. Trail huts and campsites can be booked at the [Department of Conversation website](#), they also own a basic hostel accommodation.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([Kiwi Housesitters](#))! Also check [WorkAway](#).

Free-Riding?

■ Arthur's Pass consists of one street with a few houses. Thus, everything's walkable and that's what you're here for.

■ Biking is possible on the main road, but forbidden on trails, except of Arthur's Pass Poulter.

■ The train is the [TranzAlpine](#) going once daily from Christchurch to Greymouth and back.

■ Airport: Christchurch International Airport (CHC).

■ Hitch-hiking is relatively safe in NZ and very easy. You can also use carpool apps or one of the many rideshare Facebook-groups to share petrol costs with someone.

Next?

➔ In New Zealand: Christchurch, Hokitika, Punakaiki, Fox Glacier.

➔ International destinations close by: Australia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Fiji, Palau, Micronesia.