



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## New Zealand – Auckland & Region

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Wellington
- ✓ **Language:** English / Māori
- ✓ **Population:** ± 1,4 mln
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 1.086
- ✓ **Currency:** NZ Dollar (\$)
- ✓ **Country code:** +64 (9)
- ✓ **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 21m. Climate: Mediterranean Maritime (Cfb).

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Nature:** [Waitakere Ranges](#) (4-8 day [Hillary trail](#) or daytrips), [Tawharanui RP](#), [Shakespear RP](#), Mount Eden, One Tree Hill, Mount Victoria, [Auckland Domain](#), [Northhead Historic Reserve](#), [Hunua Ranges](#), [Omana & Duder RP](#), [Goat Island Marine Reserve](#), [Waitawa RP](#).
- ☺ **Beaches:** Piha, Muriwai, Takapuna, Orewa, Bethells.
- ☺ **Free museums:** [Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki](#).
- ☺ **Sights:** [Viaduct Harbour](#), Waitemata Harbour, [Devonport](#), [Kumeu wine region](#), [Silo Park](#) (free events).

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Museums & Sights:** [Auckland Museum](#), [Maritime Museum](#), [Museum of Transport and Technology](#), [Torpedo Bay Navy Museum](#), [Skytower](#) (cheap deal: [Orbit lunch](#)), [Stardome](#), [Spookers](#).
- 👍 **Trips:** [Waiheke Island](#) (wine tastings), [Rangitoto & Motutapu Island](#) (for both check online [early bird/hot seat/grabone deals](#)), [Tiritiri Matangi Island](#), [Matakana](#) (Brick Bay Sculpture Trail).
- 👍 **Outdoor sports:** Skydive, kayak, zipline, scubadive, snorkel.

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** New World, Countdown.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Avondale Sunday Market, Matakana Village (*Sat morning*). More about markets [here](#)!
- ⌘ **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:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in New Zealand. Every supermarket has a wide array of vegan products and there are many vegetarian and vegan restaurants... check them on [Happy Cow - Auckland](#).

## Festivals

- ☼ St. Jerome's Laneway Festival: Music, Jan.
- ☼ Auckland Pride: Gay, Feb.
- ☼ Round the Bays: Run, March.

## 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 Zealand they drive on the left side of the road, so everything is reversed. Pay attention when driving.
- ☼ Boycott zoos like Auckland Zoo, Reptile Park and Sealife where animals are held in captivity.
- ☼ Tap water is drinkable, but contains a high amount of chloride in Auckland. It can cause negative health effects, so it's better to drink filtered.
- ☼ When flying into Auckland, double-check border regulations. Clean all outdoor gear and don't bring food into the country.

## Next?

- ➔ In New Zealand: Great Barrier Island, Waitakere Ranges, Hamilton, Port Waikato, Raglan, Coromandel, Northland.
- ➔ International destinations close by: Australia, Samoa, Fiji, New Caledonia, Vanua Levu, Niue, Tahiti, Vanuatu, Tonga, Tuvalu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Cook Islands, Rarotonga, Kiribati.

## Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are not cheap in New Zealand, especially not in summer season, so keep that in mind. Find a hostel list [here](#).
- ❖ 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 Auckland campground bookings and this link for [huts](#). 'Batches' are popular as holiday homes.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [housesitting](#)! Also check [WorkAway](#).

## Nights Best Spent

- ◆ Nightlife areas: Downtown, K-Road, Ponsonby Road.
- ◆ Theaters: [Pop-up Globe Theatre](#) (*in summer*), [Mercury Theatre](#), [Aotea Centre](#), [Auckland Civic Theatre](#), [Whoa Studios](#), [Corban Estate Arts Centre](#).

## Free-Riding?

- Auckland has a rather compact city centre and many of the main attractions can be found around Queen Street. For the suburbs and region you'll need alternative transport.
- Auckland has good roads and biking is possible, but watch out: Traffic isn't very considerate of bikers at all and it's very hilly. Check out [Nextbike](#).
- Buses, ferries and trains bring you everywhere within the center and to the Auckland Region and islands. Find a journey planner [here](#). They stop only at designated bus stops are at the area terminals. You're much cheaper off when buying an [AT HOP card](#) which you can charge, but you can also pay the driver in cash. Destinations are displayed up front. Download the very helpful Moovit app to plan out inner-city bus routes. The bus terminal for long-distance buses is located at Hobson Street, the most central train station is Britomart. Fullers ferry service also accepts the AT HOP card, Sealink doesn't.
- Airport: Auckland Airport (AKL). Small planes fly to [Great Barrier Island](#).
- Hitch-hiking is relatively safe in NZ. You can also use apps like [Blablacar](#) or one of the many rideshare Facebook-groups to share petrol costs with someone.