



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## New Zealand – Northland

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Wellington
- ✓ **Language:** English / Māori
- ✓ **Population:** ± 175,500 (2017)
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 13,789
- ✓ **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 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: 9m (Whangarei). Climate: Subtropical (Cfb).

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Whangarei:** [Falls](#), Whangarei Heads hikes, [Art Museum](#), [Hātea Loop Walkway](#), [Abbey Caves](#).
- ☺ **Russell/Paihia:** [Flagstaff Hill](#), [Haruru Falls](#), Kairara.
- ☺ **Cape Reinga:** Mermaid&[Rainbow Falls](#), [90 Mile Beach](#)
- ☺ **Opononi:** [Tane Muhata](#), [Waipoua](#), Waimamaku.
- ☺ **Free glowworm caves:** [Abbey Caves](#), Waipū Caves.
- ☺ **More Beaches:** [Bream Bay](#) ([Te Whara Trail](#)), Ruakaka, [Sandy Bay](#), Taurikura, Ocean Beach, [Smugglers Bay](#) ...

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Museums & Sights:** [Kauri Museum](#) (*Matakohe*), [National Clock Museum](#) (*Whangarei*), [Dargaville Museum](#), [Russell Museum](#), [Quarry Gardens](#) (*Whangarei*).
- 👍 **Trips:** Bay of Islands boat tour, dolphin-spotting boat tour, [Waitangi Treaty Grounds](#) (*Paihia*).
- 👍 **Outdoor sports:** Skydive, kayak, zipline, scubadive (*Goat Island Marine Reserve & Poor Knights Island Marine Reserve & Tutukaka*), snorkel, parasail, paraglide... THESE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS, FULL LIST [HERE](#)

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** New World, Countdown, Pak 'n Save, Fresh Choice, Four Square.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Whangarei Growers Market (*every Saturday morning*), [Bay of Islands Farmers Market](#) (*Sunday & Thursday*).
- ⌘ **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 - Whangarei](#).

## Festivals

- ⚙ Endless Summer Festival: Jan-Mar (Whangarei)
- ⚙ Waipū Highland Games (Scottish): Jan (Waipū)
- ⚙ Northland Pasifika Fusion Festival: Feb (Whangarei)

## 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 Kiwi North Whangarei where animals are held in captivity.
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable, but contains a high amount of chloride. It can cause negative health effects, so it's better to drink filtered.
- ☠ When flying into NZ, double-check border regulations. Clean all outdoor gear and don't bring food into the country.

## 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 generally 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 [huts](#). 'Baches' are popular as holiday homes and can be booked via websites such as [Book-a-bach](#) or [NZ Holiday Houses](#).
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [housesitting](#)! Also check [WorkAway](#).

## Free-Riding?

- Northland's towns are not that big, so usually you'll be able to walk to the main central attractions. For daytrips alternative transport is necessary.
- Generally Northland doesn't have bicycle lanes, except of the city centre, what makes cycling quite dangerous on the curvy public roads. Also, cars don't take cyclists into account.
- The best way to travel through Northland is with your own car. However, it is possible to travel by bus and in some cases by train, although it won't bring you to the interesting off-the-grid destinations. Trains are operated by [Rail New Zealand](#), for Northland bus connections check out [Intercity](#), [Manabus](#) or [Kiwi Experience](#).
- Airport: Auckland Airport (AKL) & Whangarei Airport (WRE) for national flights.
- 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.

## Next?

- ➔ In New Zealand: Great Barrier Island, Auckland, Waitakere Ranges, Hamilton, Port Waikato, Raglan, Coromandel.
- ➔ 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.