



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## New Zealand – Queenstown

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Wellington
- ✓ **Language:** English / Māori
- ✓ **Population:** ± 15,300
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 8.705
- ✓ **Currency:** NZ Dollar (\$)
- ✓ **Country code:** +64 (409)
- ✓ **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	It's	always	high	season	in	Queens	town					

Altitude: 313m. Climate: Mediterranean Maritime (Cfb).

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Hiking:** [Ben Lomond](#) (via Tiki Trail), Fernhill Loop Trail, Queenstown Hill, Sunshine Bay Walk, [Mt. Crichton](#), [Moke Lake](#), [Lake Dispute Walkway](#), Kelvin Peninsula Track, [Lower Wye Creek Track](#), [Jacks Point Track](#), [Lake Alta Track](#), [Ararata Bridle Track](#), Frankton Arm Walkway, [Moonlight Track](#). Find all local hikes [here](#).
- Multi-day Hikes:** [Greenstone & Caples Track](#) (4d).
- ☺ **Arrowtown Hikes:** [Lake Hayes Trail](#), [Big Hill Trail](#), [Sawpit Gully Trail](#), [Bush Creek Trail](#), [Tobins Track](#), [Mount Dewar \(Atleys Track\)](#), [Chinese Settlement](#).

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Skiing / Snowboarding June-Oct:** [Remarkables](#), [Coronet Peak](#), [Cardrona](#), [Treble Cone](#) (*Wanaka*). Heli-ski possible. Ice-skating: [Ice Arena](#).
- 👍 **Adventure Sports:** Jet Boat Ride, [Bungy Jumping](#), mountain-biking, [Ziplining](#), Rafting, Skydiving, 4WD.
- 👍 **Sights:** Gondola, [Lakes District Museum](#), [Transport and Toy Museum](#).
- ☺ **Sights:** Lake Wakatipu, Queenstown Garden,

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** New World in Frankton, close to airport. In town you find more expensive Foursquare's.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Remarkables Market, [Queenstown Market](#), Farmers Market (*Sat 9AM-12:30PM*).
- ⌘ **Local food:** Meat Pie, Fish & Chips, Hangi (*vegetables & meat*), Crayfish, Kina (*sea urchin*), Pavlova (*dessert*), Honey, Jaffa's (*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 restaurants, especially in Christchurch: [Happy Cow - Queenstown](#).

## Festivals

- ⚙ Luma Southern Light Project: June.
- ⚙ Queenstown Winter Festival: June.
- ⚙ Winter Pride (*Gay Ski Week*): Sep

## 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!
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable.
- ☠ Avoid places like Kiwi Birdlife Park, Glenorchy Animal Experience or Underwater Observatory where animals are held in captivity.
- ☠ When going on a hike, inform someone about your whereabouts and expected return time. Bring extra food and inform about weather conditions. Take clothes for all climates, but here especially rain and mud! Stay on the tracks to preserve nature.

## 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.
- ❖ Wild camping is not allowed in New Zealand (*but you may be naughty*), unless you own a self-contained vehicle (*with proof*). Check [this link](#) for Queenstown campsites, free camping [here](#). 'Batches' are popular as holiday homes. Trail huts and campsites can be booked at the [Department of Conservation website](#) or at the i-Site Visitor Center.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([Kiwi Housesitters](#)). Also check [WorkAway](#).

## Nights Best Spent

- ◆ Nightlife areas: Touristic centre. You can join the [Kiwi Crawl](#) for an introduction to nightlife.
- ◆ Theaters: [Remarkable Theatre](#).

## Free-Riding?

- The centre of Queenstown is very compact and walkable.
- Biking is possible, especially mountainbiking in the region is spectacular.
- Bus services connect Queenstown and its direct environment. Cheapest is to buy a Go Card in the bus and charge it, as it will give discounts over 50%. Intercity buses depart from Athol Street or Queenstown Airport (*Frankton*).
- There are trains serving Queenstown, but it's more touristy than practical. Check [Dunedin Railways](#).
- Airport: Queenstown Airport (ZQN).
- Hitch-hiking is relatively safe in NZ and very easy.

## Next?

- ➔ In New Zealand: Glenorchy, Wanaka, Cromwell, Te Anau, Milford Sound, Doubtful Sound.
- ➔ International destinations close by: Australia, the Pacific Islands.