



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

New Zealand – South East Coast

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Wellington
- ✓ **Language:** English / Māori
- ✓ **Population:** ± 125,800 (Dunedin)
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 3.314 (Dunedin)
- ✓ **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												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 10m. Climate: Mediterranean Maritime (Cfb).

Bucket List For Free

☺ **Oamaru:** Local architecture (*especially around harbour*), [Grainstore Gallery](#), [Alps 2 Ocean Cycle Trail](#), [The NZ Whiskey Company](#), [Forrester Gallery](#), [North Otago Museum](#), [Bushy Beach Track](#).

☺ **Dunedin:** [Otago Peninsula](#), [Toitu Settlers Museum](#), [Otago Museum](#), [Art Gallery](#), Baldwin Street, [Botanic Garden](#), Signal Hill, Flagstaff Lookout, [Observatory](#), Architecture, Beaches. Check [all hikes](#) here!

☺ **Mouraki Boulders:** [Boulders](#), seals/penguins at Lighthouse, [Trotters Gorge Tracks](#).

Worth The Extra \$€¥

👍 **Oamaru:** [Whitestone City](#), [Steampunk HQ](#).

👍 **Dunedin:** [Olveston Historic Home](#) (*gardens free*), [Whakamana Cannabis Museum](#).

👍 **Kaka Point / Catlins NP:** Kayak, [Lost Gypsy Gallery](#).

☺ **Kaka Point / Catlins NP:** Beaches, [Nugget Point](#), [Roaring Bay](#), [Matai](#) / [Purakaunui](#) / [McLean Falls](#), [Cannibal Bay](#), [Cathedral Caves](#), [Jacks Blowhole Track](#), [Owaka](#), [Papatowai](#), [Tautuku](#), Teapot World.

Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** New World, Countdown, Pak 'n Save, Fresh Choice.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Oamaru Farmer's Market (*Sun morning*), Otago Farmer's Market (*Dunedin - Sat morning*).
- ⌘ **Local food:** Meat pie, fish & chips, hangi (*vegetables & meat*), crayfish, kina (*sea urchin*), pavlova (*dessert*), 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 restaurants, especially in Dunedin: [Happy Cow - Dunedin](#).

Festivals

- ⚙ Dunedin Fringe Festival: Dunedin, March.
- ⚙ Catlins River Festival: Purakaunui, April.
- ⚙ Steampunk Festival: Oamaru, June.

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 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.
- 💀 Tap water is drinkable.

Next?

- ➔ In New Zealand: Oamaru, Dunedin, Mouraki, Kaka Point, The Catlins, Christchurch, Stewart Island, Cromwell.
- ➔ International destinations close by: Australia, the Pacific Islands.

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 Catlins campsites. 'Batches' are popular as holiday homes. Trail huts and campsites can be booked at the [Department of Conversation website](#) or at the i-Site Visitor Center.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([Kiwi Housesitters](#)). Also check [WorkAway](#).

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ **Nightlife:** Downtown Dunedin will be your best bet.
- ◆ **Theaters:** [Oamaru Opera House](#), [Regent Theatre \(Dunedin\)](#), [Fortune Theatre \(Dunedin\)](#).

Free-Riding?

- In Oamaru and Mouraki all is walkable. In Dunedin and the Catlins alternative transport is necessary.
- Biking is possible and especially interesting at designated mountainbike trails like Alps 2 Ocean Trail. Along the roads there's not much space and cars race by very closely, which can be dangerous.
- Buses operate between Oamaru, Dunedin and Mouraki, operated by [Intercity](#). For the Catlins private transport is necessary. Within Dunedin buses are the main way of transport. A Go Card gives you big discounts. Check [info & a journey planner](#)!
- Train transport is more touristy than practical. Check out the journeys [here](#).
- Airport: Dunedin Airport (DUD).
- Hitch-hiking is relatively safe in NZ and very easy.

The Earth Becomes My Throne