



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## New Zealand – Te Anau / Milford Sound

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Wellington
- ✓ **Language:** English / Māori
- ✓ **Population:** ± 2000
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 344
- ✓ **Currency:** NZ Dollar (\$)
- ✓ **Country code:** +64 (0324)
- ✓ **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: 214m. Climate: Mediterranean Maritime (Cfb).

### Bucket List For Free

☺ **Day Hikes:** Parts of the [Kepler Track](#), [Lake Mistletoe](#), [Key Summit](#) & [Lake Howden](#) & [Earland Falls](#) (part [Routeburn](#)), [Lake Marian Falls](#), [Humboldt Falls](#), [Gertrude Saddle](#), [Milford Lookout](#), [Piopiotahi](#), [Hidden Lakes](#), [Lake Gunn Nature Walk](#). Find all day hikes [here](#).

☺ **Stops along Milford Highway:** [Henry Creek](#), Te Anau Downs, [Walker Creek](#), Totara, [Mackay Creek](#), [Eglinton Valley](#), [Mirror Lakes](#), [Deer Flat](#), Knobs Flat, [Kiosk Creek](#), The Divide, Pops View, Marian Corner, [Monkey Creek](#), [The Chasm](#). Check out the Milford Highway map [here](#).

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

👍 **Multi-Day Hikes:** [Kepler Track](#) (2-4 days), [Routeburn Track](#) (2-4 days), [Milford Track](#) (4 days – no camping; boat from Te Anau Downs). These are the most popular tracks of NZ, huts need to be booked months in advance and are expensive. In winter limited accessibility. [Dusky Track](#) (8-10 days), [Hollyford Track](#) (4-5 days 1-way), [Greenstone & Caples Track](#) (2-4 days). Find more hikes [here](#).

👍 **Milford Sound:** Cruises (cheapest [Bookme](#)), Helicopter Flight, Scubadiving / [Doubtful Sound](#).

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Fresh Choice. Milford Sound doesn't have supermarkets, all grocery shopping should be done in Te Anau.
- ⌘ **Markets:** Community Market (*last Saturday of month*).
- ⌘ **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, although limited in Te Anau: [Happy Cow - Te Anau](#).

## Festivals

⚙ Tartan Festival: Easter.

⚙ Winter Lights Festival: July.

Find all festivals and events on [this calendar](#).

## 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! Pull over to give way if you hold up traffic behind you. Allow 2:30hr for the trip from Te Anau to Milford. Bring snow chains in winter (*can be hired in Te Anau petrol stations*).
- ☠ Tap water is drinkable.
- ☠ Gas up before going to Milford Sound, there are no gas stations along the way. Do your grocery shopping in Te Anau.
- ☠ Sand fly invasion! Bring insect repellent.
- ☠ 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, including for alpine conditions and heavy rain. There's no cell phone coverage and food must be bought in Te Anau.

## Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are not cheap in New Zealand, especially not in this highly touristy part, 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*). '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](#).

## Free-Riding?

- The centre of Te Anau is very compact and walkable. The residential area is quite wide. Everything in Milford Sound is at walking distance.
- Biking is possible, especially mountainbiking in the region is spectacular. Be careful around the main roads, there's little space for bikers and cars race by fast and way too close by.
- Bus services connect Te Anau with Milford Sound and Queenstown, served by [Intercity](#).
- Boat cruises are very popular in Milford and Doubtful Sound, and served by several companies (*find the best deals on [Bookme](#)*). To reach the Milford Track a boat from Te Anau Downs is necessary. Book ahead.
- Airport: Queenstown Airport (ZQN).
- Hitch-hiking is relatively safe in NZ and very easy.

## Next?

- ➔ In New Zealand: Manapouri, Queenstown, Glenorchy / Kinloch, Cromwell, Wanaka, Stewart Island.
- ➔ International destinations close by: Australia, the Pacific Islands.

The Earth Becomes My Throne