



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

New Zealand – Wanaka

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Wellington
- ✓ **Language:** English / Māori
- ✓ **Population:** ± 7850
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 192
- ✓ **Currency:** NZ Dollar (\$)
- ✓ **Country code:** +64 (443)
- ✓ **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	Hiking	Season										
Autumn												
Winter						Start	Ski	Season				
Budget												

Altitude: 290m. Climate: Mediterranean Maritime (Cfb).

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Hiking:** [Roys Peak](#), [Rob Roy Glacier](#), [Diamond Lake & Rocky Mountain](#), [Eely Point & Fisherman's](#), [Mount Iron](#), [Butterfield Wetland](#), [Grandview Ridge](#), [Deans Bank](#), [Minaret Burn](#), [Newcastle](#), [Upper Clutha River](#), [Blue Pools](#) (far), [Thunder Creek Falls](#), [Isthmus Peak](#), [West Matukituki](#), [Glendhu Bay](#), [Fern Burn](#), [Outlet Track](#), [Skyline](#) (1-2 days), [Motatapu](#) (to Arrowtown; 3-4 days).
- ☺ **Free wine tastings:** [Aitken's Folly](#), [Rippon](#) (donation).
- ☺ **Sights:** Lake Wanaka, That Wanaka Tree.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Skiing / Snowboarding June-Oct:** [Cardrona](#), [Treble Cone](#) & [Snow Farm](#).
- 👍 **Adventure Sports:** [Canyoning](#), [Riverboarding](#), River Speedboat, Mountainbiking, 4WD, [Rock Climbing](#), [Skydive](#), [Paragliding](#), [Heli-Hikes](#).
- 👍 **Paid wine tasting:** [Maude](#).
- 👍 **Other Activities:** [Puzzling World](#), [Transport & Toy Museum](#), [Wanaka Community Pool](#), [Lavender Farm](#).

Budget Bites

⌘ **Big supermarkets:** New World.

⌘ **Markets:** Sunday Craft Market (*Sun 10AM-3PM*), Farmers Market (*Thu 3PM-6PM*).

⌘ **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, also in Wanaka (*expect high prices*): [Happy Cow - Wanaka](#).

Festivals

⊗ Tuki Festival: Music, Feb.

⊗ Festival of Colour: Music, Apr.

⊗ Audi Quattro Winter Games: Ski, Aug-Sep.

See all annual festivals [here](#).

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! As there are generally only two-lane roads, give way to faster traffic when possible.

💀 Tap water is drinkable.

💀 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. 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 Wanaka 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 areas: Downtown, Lakeside. Check [here](#)!

◆ Movie theatres: [Cinema Paradiso](#), [Rubys Cinema](#).

Free-Riding?

■ The centre of Wanaka is bigger than you think. Within the business centre all is walkable, but suburbs can be further away than you think.

■ Biking is possible, especially mountainbiking at designated biking trails is spectacular. Be careful when sharing the main roads with cars, as its narrow and they aren't very considerate of cyclists.

■ Bus services connect Wanaka and its direct environment, bus services mainly operated by [Intercity](#) and [Ritchies](#). There is no citybus-system in Wanaka to get to the main hikes and highlights.

■ There are trains serving Queenstown, but it's more touristy than practical. Check [Dunedin Railways](#).

■ Airport: Wanaka Airport () / Queenstown Airport (ZQN).

■ Hitch-hiking is relatively safe in NZ and very easy.

Next?

➔ In New Zealand: Queenstown, Cromwell, Kinloch, Glenorchy, Haast, Fox / Franz Josef Glacier.

➔ International destinations close by: Australia, the Pacific Islands.