

# Planning Your New Zealand Holiday Frequently Asked Questions

## How Can I Find Out More Information On New Zealand?

Tourism New Zealand's official website is [www.newzealand.com](http://www.newzealand.com). It offers an abundance of information on accommodation, activities, tours and transport options available. It's never been easier to plan and book your holiday now at [newzealand.com](http://newzealand.com)

## Do I Need A Visa To Stay In New Zealand?

Passport holders of many countries including Singapore and Malaysia do not require a visa for stays less than 90 days. For further information on Visa requirements, visit [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz) or e-mail them at [NZISingapore@nzis.dol.govt.nz](mailto:NZISingapore@nzis.dol.govt.nz) Passports for those entering New Zealand should be valid for at least 6 months after your intended date of departure from New Zealand.

## Where Can I Find The Schedule For Train And Coach / Bus Services And The Ferry Between North And South Islands?



For fares and schedules, visit [www.interislander.co.nz](http://www.interislander.co.nz) or [www.bluebridge.co.nz](http://www.bluebridge.co.nz) for ferry information, [www.tranzscenic.co.nz](http://www.tranzscenic.co.nz) for train information and [www.intercitycoach.co.nz](http://www.intercitycoach.co.nz) for coach information.

## Do I Need An International Drivers License To Drive In New Zealand?

Singapore driver's licenses are valid in New Zealand for up to twelve months. New Zealanders drive on the left-hand side of the road as in Singapore and Malaysia. Drivers must be 21 years or over and have a full license.

Visit [www.itsa.govt.nz](http://www.itsa.govt.nz) and click on "New Residents and Visitors" for more information. If the license is NOT in English, than you must carry a certified translation.



## Tourism New Zealand Do Provide Map & Planning My New Zealand

Tourism New Zealand has a general map produced to help you plan your traveling route. The map contains essential information such as state highway numbers, driving distances and what each region can offer. Your car rental agency will usually provide you with a district or regional street directory when you pick up your car. You may otherwise, purchase a copy of New Zealand Street Directory from any general bookstores in New Zealand. Further information on route planning can also be found at [www.jasons.co.nz/nz/travelguides/index.cfm](http://www.jasons.co.nz/nz/travelguides/index.cfm) or <http://www.newzealand.com/travel/getting-to-around-nz/driving-routes/driving-routes-home.cfm> for regional planning guides.



## When Is The Best Time To Go To New Zealand And What Kind Of Temperatures Should I Expect?

Located in the South Pacific, New Zealand has four distinct seasons each with their own attractions. Daytime temperatures in most towns and cities are as follows:

Spring (Sept - Nov)	12°C - 22°C
Summer (Dec - Feb)	14°C - 28°C
Autumn (Mar - May)	10°C - 24°C
Winter (Jun - Aug)	8°C - 20°C

Detail information about New Zealand's climate is available at [www.met.co.nz](http://www.met.co.nz) or [www.stuff.co.nz/weather.html](http://www.stuff.co.nz/weather.html)

## What Food Products Can I Bring Into New Zealand And How Much Duty Free?

New Zealand is an island nation and has not been exposed to some pests and diseases that exist in other countries. In order to screen out items harmful to New Zealand's interest, it is necessary for customs to prohibit the importation of some goods. Information about what must be declared at customs to determine whether it is restricted or prohibited is available at [www.quarantine.co.nz](http://www.quarantine.co.nz) Information about duty free allowances, restricted prohibited items is available at [www.customs.govt.nz](http://www.customs.govt.nz)

Heavy penalties including instant fines apply for those failing to observe the customs regulations. If in doubt - declare it!

## Do I Have To Pay A Departure Tax When Leaving New Zealand?

Departure tax is included in your airline ticket for International Passenger departing Auckland and Christchurch.

## Can I Use My Credit Card And / Or Atm Card In New Zealand?

All major credit cards may be used in New Zealand. ATM cards can be used with four digit personal identification numbers (PIN) and must have either Interlink, Star, Plus or Cirrus symbols.

## Can I Use My Hairdryer Or Electric Razor In New Zealand?

Electricity in New Zealand is 230/240 volts a.c. 50Hz. (The same as Singapore and Malaysia) Most hotels provide 110 volt sockets for electric razors only. You will need an adapter for Singapore/ Malaysia appliances, as the three-pin plug layout is different.

(NZ style) → 

## Planning My New Zealand Trip – What Should I Consider?

### Itinerary Planning:

New Zealand is roughly the same size as California, Britain or Japan and as such plenty of time needs to be allowed to travel from place to place. To give a local example, Singapore is about the same size as Lake Taupo (the lake in the middle of New Zealand's North Island. The drive from Johor to Penang is about half the length of New Zealand!

Leave plenty of time for fun experiences. Plan what you want to do before where you want to go. Remember you want to go to New Zealand for a holiday - not driving practice.

We do have some suggested itinerary planning information on [www.newzealand.com/travel/destinations/driving-routes/driving-routes-home.cmf](http://www.newzealand.com/travel/destinations/driving-routes/driving-routes-home.cmf)



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## Packing:

As New Zealand's is a temperate climate, the weather can change at any time. At all times of the year the weather can give all sorts of surprises, to manage these changes and cater for the changes from our tropical climate, we suggest you pack the following items in your luggage:



- Anorak or waterproof jacket (keeping the wind and water out is one of the best ways to stay warm in the outdoors)



- Hat and gloves (a woolen hat will preserve up to 70% of your body's own heat)



- Warm sweater (wool or polypropylene fleece is recommended)



- Polypropylene or woolen thermal wear (in winter or for snow experiences especially) Cotton will not keep you warm if it is damp.



- Strong walking shoes (to help you enjoy the outdoors or maximize the shopping hours)



- Sunhat, sunglasses and sunscreen - even in winter (and especially in the snow) the sun is very strong.

Don't worry about items you may not have - New Zealand have lots of exciting shops with good prices for all of above items.

Fruit Seasons:											
Spring	Lots of blossom including apple and cherries. Don't forget daffodils and rhododendrons.										
Summer	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Apricots</td> <td>Nectarines</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boysenberries</td> <td>Peaches</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cherries</td> <td>Plums</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Feijoas</td> <td>Raspberries</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Melons</td> <td>Strawberries</td> </tr> </table>	Apricots	Nectarines	Boysenberries	Peaches	Cherries	Plums	Feijoas	Raspberries	Melons	Strawberries
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Winter	Lemons Oranges										

The season's changes depending on the climate, ask a local what is in season when you arrive and try your own fresh off the tree!