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To visit New Zealand, you may need to apply for a visitor's visa or permit. This booklet provides you with information on how to apply.

A visitor's visa

This is an endorsement in your passport allowing you to travel to New Zealand. It shows you have permission to travel to New Zealand and may be granted a visitor's permit when you arrive. The visa may be valid for one journey (single) or for more than one journey (multiple).

A visitor's permit

This is an endorsement in your passport allowing you to visit New Zealand. It states the expiry date of your permit and allows you to:

- ◆ visit as a tourist, see friends and relatives
- ◆ study (one course of up to three months)
- ◆ play sport or perform in cultural events without pay
- ◆ undertake a business trip
- ◆ undertake medical treatment.

Who does not need a visa or permit to visit New Zealand?

You do not need a visa or permit to visit New Zealand if you are:

- ◆ a New Zealand citizen or resident permit holder; or
- ◆ an Australian citizen or resident who holds a current Australian resident return visa; or
- ◆ exempt from the requirement to hold a permit to be in New Zealand.

How do I apply for a visitor's visa?

You may apply for a visitor's visa if you are outside New Zealand, and need:

- ◆ a visa to travel to New Zealand; or

- ◆ to re-enter New Zealand; or
- ◆ a visitor's visa but wish to stay longer than the set time granted on arrival.

If you wish to transit New Zealand you may need to apply for a transit visa (see page 4).

How do I apply for a visitor's permit?

The arrival card you complete as you enter New Zealand is an application for a visitor's permit.

You may also apply for a visitor's permit if you are in New Zealand as a visitor and wish to stay longer, or are a worker or student wishing to holiday after your employment or course.

What do I have to provide to get a visitor's visa or permit?

Visitor's visa and permit requirements are found on the form **Application for Visiting New Zealand**, under the heading The Visitor's Guide.

How long can I stay?

A visitor may stay a total of nine months in an 18 month period.

If you have stayed in New Zealand for a total of nine months in the last 18 months, you are required to remain out of New Zealand for nine months before returning as a visitor.

You can apply for a further three months to give a total stay of 12 months. You may qualify for a further three months if you have financially supported yourself, not worked or studied or been sponsored throughout your stay. If you stay a total of 12 months in the last 24 months, you are required to remain out of New Zealand for 12 months before you can return as a visitor.

Do I need a visitor's visa to travel to New Zealand?

If you are a citizen of one of the following countries which have visa waiver agreements with New Zealand, you do not need to apply for a visitor's visa if you are visiting New Zealand for up to three months.

Argentina	Iceland	Netherlands
Austria	Ireland	Norway
Belgium	Israel	Portugal*
Brazil	Italy	Singapore
Brunei	Japan	South Africa
Canada	Kiribati	Spain
Chile	Korea (South)	Sweden
Czech Republic	Liechtenstein	Switzerland
Denmark	Luxembourg	Thailand
Finland	Malaysia	Tuvalu
France	Malta	United States of America**
Germany	Monaco	Uruguay
Greece	Nauru	
Hong Kong***		

* *Portuguese passport holders must have the right to live permanently in Portugal*

** *including nationals of the USA*

*** *residents of Hong Kong travelling on Hong Kong Special Administrative Region or British National (Overseas) passports.*

If you are a British citizen or British passport holder who has evidence of the right to live permanently in the United Kingdom, you may be granted a visitor's permit valid for six months on arrival.

If you are a visa waiver visitor, you must:

- ◆ hold a valid ticket to a country you have the right of entry to; and
- ◆ have sufficient money to support yourself during your stay; and
- ◆ hold a passport valid for three months beyond the date you are leaving New Zealand; and
- ◆ only visit New Zealand for the time granted on arrival. If you wish to visit for a longer period you will need to apply for a visitor's visa.

What if I want to transit New Zealand?

If you are travelling through New Zealand on your way to another country, you may need to apply for a transit visa.

You need a transit visa if you are a citizen of:

Afghanistan	Ethiopia	Namibia
Algeria	Gabon	Niger
Angola	Gambia	Nigeria
Armenia	Georgia	Pakistan
Azerbaijan	Ghana	Russia
Bangladesh	Guinea	Rwanda
Belarus	Guinea-Bissau	Senegal
Benin	India	Sierra Leone
Botswana	Indonesia	Somalia
Bulgaria	Iran	Sri Lanka
Burkina Faso	Iraq	Sudan
Burundi	Kazakhstan	Swaziland
Cameroon	Kenya	Syria
Central African Republic	Kyrgyzstan	Tajikistan
Chad	Lesotho	Tanzania
China (PRC)	Liberia	Togo
Colombia	Libya	Tunisia
Congo	Malawi	Turkey
Cote d'Ivoire	Mali	Turkmenistan
Djibouti	Mauritania	Uganda
Ecuador	Moldova	Ukraine
Equatorial Guinea	Morocco	Uzbekistan
Eritrea	Mozambique	Zaire
	Myanmar	Zambia

travelling between New Zealand and

Cook Islands	Niue	Tokelau
Fiji	Samoa	Tonga
Marshall Islands	Solomon Islands	Vanuatu
New Caledonia	Tahiti	

and you are going to be in New Zealand as a transit passenger for no more than 24 hours, and will not leave the transit area of the airport. If you wish to leave the transit area, or remain longer than 24 hours, you must apply for a visitor's visa before coming to New Zealand.

Special visitor categories

Business Visitor

If you intend to visit New Zealand to discuss and negotiate business arrangements, and your stay is no longer than three months in any one year, you will need to meet visitor requirements.

Conference Delegate

Those attending a conference in New Zealand should check with the organiser to see if special arrangements have been made for conference cards to replace visitors' visas. Conference organisers will need to make these arrangements in advance of the conference.

Dependent Children

A child travelling alone or with one parent may be asked to provide evidence that they have the right to leave their country of residence. This may be in the form of custody papers or guardianship papers.

Group Visa

If you are travelling in a group you may apply for a group visa. The group must be travelling for the same purpose, have the same travel arrangements, and a leader is required to take charge of the visa and arrival formalities.

Travelling by private yacht or private aircraft

If you arrive in New Zealand in a location which is not a Customs seaport or airport, you are required to report to an immigration officer within 72 hours of arrival, and you will need to meet visitor requirements. If it is necessary to wait out the hurricane season (October to April), or undergo a refit or major repairs on your vessel, you may be granted a visitor's permit beyond the normal maximum stay.

Medical treatment/consultation

If you travel to New Zealand for medical treatment and consultation you must apply for a visitor's visa and complete the form **Intended Medical Treatment**. If this is not possible due to an emergency, you should contact the New Zealand Immigration Service who may be able to make special arrangements for you.

Residence applicants requiring occupational registration in New Zealand

If you have applied for residence and require New Zealand registration to work in your profession you may undertake practical or educational training for three months on a visitor permit. If you require longer to obtain registration you will need to apply for either a student or work visa before you travel to New Zealand.

Can I be refused a visa or permit?

Yes

- ◆ if you do not meet the entry requirements; or
- ◆ if you are a person to whom section 7 of the Immigration Act 1987 applies and you do not have an exemption.

Section 7 applies to people who:

- ◆ have been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more (this applies even if any of your offences have later been taken off the record)
- ◆ in the past ten years were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for 12 months or more
- ◆ are the subject of a current New Zealand removal order
- ◆ have been deported from any country
- ◆ are suspected of being likely to constitute a danger to New Zealand's security or public order
- ◆ are believed to be associated with an organisation or group with criminal objectives, and for that or any other reason considered to be a threat to the public interest or public order.

Medical insurance

Most visitors are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand unless they:

- ◆ are a resident or citizen of Australia; or
- ◆ are a national of the United Kingdom in New Zealand; or
- ◆ hold a temporary permit that is valid for two years or more.

If you do not belong to one of these special categories and you receive medical treatment during your visit, you or your sponsor may be liable for the full costs of that treatment. We therefore strongly recommend that you have medical insurance for the duration of your visit.

Where can I get more information and advice?

You can get more information about visitors' visas or permits:

- ◆ from New Zealand diplomatic and consular offices
- ◆ from any of our branches, which are located in Auckland, Manukau, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.