

Fact sheet

New Zealand

What to expect

- If you are used to staying on Club sites you may find camp sites abroad quite different. Facilities and pitches vary from site to site and from country to country. In particular, you should note that there is no six metre rule.
- Members report that kitchens are of good quality on New Zealand camp sites and washing machines are readily available too.



Photographer Chris McLennan



Motoring Information

Driving licence

New Zealand has a reciprocal agreement to automatically recognise full UK driving licences. If you hold a valid overseas driving licence, or an international driving permit, you can drive for up to a year after you first arrive. You will only be able to drive those types of vehicles for which you are licensed in your country of origin and must carry that licence or permit with you whenever you drive.

Vehicle Insurance

On individual tailor made holidays, basic public liability coverage is included in your vehicle rental fee, but details may vary between rental companies. A typical arrangement is that you leave a NZ\$7,500 vehicle security deposit. This is debited from your credit card and held as your excess for damage to your vehicle or the property of a third party. There are, however, two excess reduction options available, by paying a daily charge. With option one, your bond and excess are reduced to NZ\$2,500. If paying by credit card, an imprint is taken. Excess Reduction Option two is the most comprehensive available. It enables you to benefit from a reduced vehicle security deposit of NZ\$220. You will not have to pay any excess for damage to your vehicle or the property of a third party if this damage is not from misuse of the vehicle under the 'exclusions' clause. On escorted tours, your vehicle rental includes Excess reduction 2 (nil excess) insurance.

Driving in New Zealand

New Zealand's roads are very pleasant to drive on in comparison to many in the UK. Once out of the few major conurbations, you will find the open road a motorist's dream. Rules of the road will be provided with your motorhome. In New Zealand, vehicles are driven on the left, as in the UK. All traffic approaching or crossing from the right has right of way.

Speed limits

The legal speed limit is 100 km/h (60 mph) on the open road and 50 km/h (30 mph) in built up areas.

Mobile phones

You should not use a mobile phone while driving.

Drinking and driving

The legal blood alcohol limit is 80mg in New Zealand and drink driving laws are strictly enforced.

Signs

Distances are given in kilometres. Signs follow standard international symbols.

Parking

Parking facing against the direction of traffic is illegal.

Seat belts

Seat belts must be worn at all times by drivers and passengers.

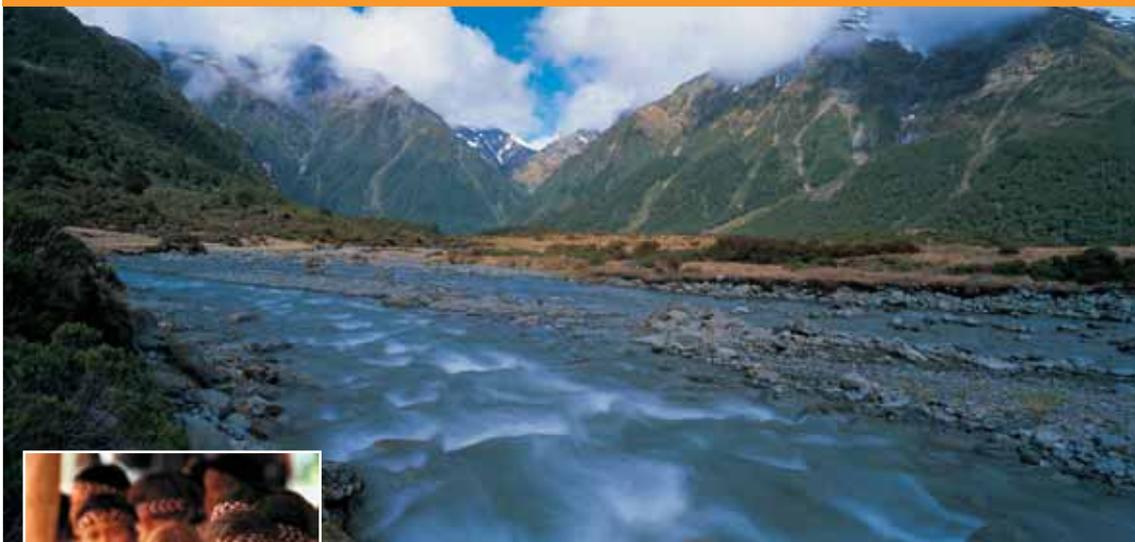
Fuel

Diesel costs about NZ\$1.70 (about 70 pence) per litre. Many petrol stations are open 24 hours a day and credit cards are an accepted method of payment. If long stretches of particularly sparsely populated country lie ahead of you (e.g. the South Island West Coast) it is advisable to tank up when you have the opportunity, even if you still have half a tank or so of fuel.



Photographer Chuck Berry

General Information



Photographer Gilbert van Reenen

Transit arrangements are very strict in the USA, so please be patient and expect to queue more than once during your transit through Los Angeles airport. The Department of Health makes no specific recommendations for visitors to the USA. Consult your doctor for further details.

Be sure to take the normal precautions with your valuables that you would in any large city.

Health

The Department of Health makes no specific recommendations for visitors to the USA or to New Zealand. However, you may like to check with your doctor before departure and read the Department of Health booklet Health



Photographer Tim Whitaker

Passports and visas

Your passport must be valid for at least three months beyond the date you leave New Zealand and must be machine readable for transit through Los Angeles. Passports issued on or after 26 October 2006 will have to include biometric data for transit through Los Angeles. A visa is not required by holders of UK passports, as long as you are described as a "British Citizen" on the personal information page. If you hold any other passport, you should contact your consulate or embassy to find out about requirements.

Prohibited items

No sharp objects, even penknives or nail scissors, must be taken into the plane cabin. All liquids may also be refused in

cabin baggage, unless you can prove, with appropriate certification, that they are for essential use (please check your airline's documentation for its specific policy on this).

Because of the importance of agriculture and horticulture to the New Zealand economy, certain animal products, fruit, plant materials or foodstuffs that could contain plant or animal pests may not be allowed into the country. You should also make sure that shoes do not have soil or dirt attached to them.

Transit through Los Angeles

British machine readable passport holders who are also British citizens need to follow no special procedures for their brief transit through the USA at Los Angeles airport. Forms regarding the transit formalities will be handed to you on the plane, so make sure you have a pen with you. Anyone who does not hold a British machine readable passport, or who does but whose status is anything other than that of British citizen should be especially sure to check transit requirements before travelling.

A machine readable passport can be identified by the presence of two lines of text as letters, numbers and "<"s, printed at the foot of the personal identification page at the back of the passport.

Further information is available on www.usembassy.org.uk

Advice for Travellers, available from post offices and supplied with your travel documents. There are reciprocal health agreement between New Zealand and the UK, so UK citizens are entitled to free treatment as a hospital in-patient, but must pay some charges for services provided as outpatients and by private doctors. Visitors bringing in medications should make sure that they also carry a doctor's certificate in order to avoid problems with customs. Please note that full and comprehensive medical and personal holiday insurance with Europ Assistance is available through Carefree Travel Service.

Sandflies In wetter areas, such as Fiordland, sandflies can be pests, but are effectively controlled by use of insect repellent.

Giardia This is a water-borne parasite that causes diarrhoea. To avoid contracting it, it is best not to drink water from lakes, ponds or rivers without first boiling, chemically treating or filtering it.

Sunburn New Zealand's clear, unpolluted atmosphere and relatively low latitudes produce sunlight a great deal stronger than much of Europe, so be prepared to wear hats and high factor sun block when out in the sun for more than a few minutes.

Smoking

To protect people from the health effects of second-hand smoke, smoking in all hospitality venues, including bars, restaurants, cafes, and casinos, is prohibited in New Zealand. If you smoke, please remember to smoke outside.

Tourist Information

The address of the New Zealand Information Service in London is:

Tourism New Zealand

New Zealand House

80 Haymarket

London SW1Y 4TQ

Tel: 0207 930 1662

Website: www.purenz.com

Tourist information will be supplied with your travel pack before departure.

British High Commission in New Zealand

The British High Commission in New Zealand is at:

44 Hill Street,

Wellington.

Tel: (0) 4 924 2888.



Photographer David Wall



Photograph Adventure Films



Photographer Chris McLennan

Currency

The New Zealand dollar comprises 100 cents and there are (as of 4 March 2008) NZ\$2.47 to the pound. Currency can be purchased in advance from your bank or from bureaux de change. Visa and MasterCard credit cards can be used to withdraw cash from cash machines in New Zealand, as long as you have your PIN number. You should check with your bank regarding charges and interest rates. Plus and Cirrus debit cards may be used in cash machines displaying the appropriate logo.

Travellers Cheques and credit cards are widely accepted at banks, hotels and some shops. We recommend credit cards and Travellers Cheques as the most effective way to pay for your purchases, as they avoid the need to carry large sums of cash, and give you a slightly better exchange rate than the standard tourist rate.

Banks are open from 0930 to 1630 Monday to Friday.

Time zone

All of New Zealand lies in one time zone, twelve hours ahead of GMT, thus making the country one of the first in the world to see each new day. New Zealand's summer "daylight saving" makes this difference 13 hours between the first Sunday of October and the third Sunday in March.

Telephones and postage

International Direct Dialling is available, the country code for calls to New Zealand being 64. To call the UK from New Zealand dial the outgoing international access code (00). Follow this with the UK's country code (44) and then the full UK STD number minus the leading zero.

Most public phones take cards purchased from newsagents. Some accept credit cards, but very few accept coins.

Post offices are open Monday to Friday from 0900 to 1700. Airmail to Europe usually takes four to five days.

Security

New Zealand has a reputation for being one of the safest countries in the world, particularly in the countryside. In general you should meet polite, helpful, down-to-earth, friendly people, but it is still wise to apply normal caution and pay attention to securing belongings. No one wants any unnecessary trouble while on the holiday of a lifetime!

Weather and clothing

The north of New Zealand is subtropical and the south temperate. The warmest months are December, January and February, and the coldest June, July and August.

In summer, the average maximum temperature ranges between 20-30°C and in winter between 10-15°C with temperatures warmer in the north and cooler in the south.

You should bring, comfortable clothing, with plenty of layers and a warm waterproof jacket to take care of any cool or wet weather. Expect some rain, particularly in the south and west of the country and most especially on the west coast of the south island. A comfortable pair of shoes for walking and sightseeing is essential and a walking stick is also highly recommended. You should take a wide brimmed hat to protect against sunburn.

Tipping

Procedures for tipping in New Zealand are very similar to home. People tip by way of thanking particularly good service. Service charges are not added to restaurant bills.



Before you travel, be sure to make **photocopies** of all the documents you are taking with you – including your **passport, driving licence** and insurance documents. Take one set with you and **keep** it in a **separate place** from the originals and leave one set at home with someone who can send them to you if needed.

Shopping

Shops are generally open on Monday to Friday, 0900 to 1700 as at home. Most shops also open on Saturday morning, and some are now open on Sundays. Items that you might like to buy in New Zealand include sheepskins, or sheepskin clothing, items of wood craft generally and Maori woodcarvings in particular (indigenous New Zealand woods are varied and beautiful), paua (abalone) shell, local jewellery items and woolly jumpers. Around Auckland, the Coromandel and Nelson in particular, there are communes of craft people who sell their art and craft in shops, galleries and stalls around the country. New Zealand sportswear and outdoor clothing and equipment also enjoy a very good reputation and make excellent presents.

Local taxes

All goods and services in New Zealand are subject to a 12.5% Goods and Services Tax (GST). This is usually included in the price and is non refundable. However, many imports carry very low, or no, tariff or duty, and you may find many consumer goods cheaper in New Zealand than at home.

There is a departure tax of NZ\$25 per person at Auckland International Airport that cannot be included in your ticket price and must be paid at the airport. It may be easiest to keep back this amount in cash, ready for your departure.



Photographer Rob Suisted



Photographer Gilbert van Reenen



Bringing goods into the UK

You are entitled to the allowances shown below

- 200 cigarettes; or 100 cigarillos; or 50 cigars; or 250g of tobacco
- 60cc of perfume
- 2 litres of still table wine
- 250cc of eau de toilette
- 1 litre of spirits or strong liqueurs over 22 per cent volume; or 2 litres of fortified wine, sparkling wine or other liqueurs such as port or sherry
- £145 worth of all other goods, including gifts and souvenirs.

If you want to bring back more, you will have to declare it to customs on your way back and pay Customs duty and VAT. For more information, visit <http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk> and select the "Travel home page" icon.

Water

New Zealand's cities and towns have excellent water supplies and in all cases tap water is fresh and safe to drink. Water from rivers and lakes should be boiled, chemically treated or filtered before drinking, to avoid stomach upsets.

Electricity

Electricity is supplied throughout New Zealand at 230/240 volts (50 hertz), although most hotels and motels provide 110 volt AC sockets (rated at 20 watts) for electric razors only. For all other equipment, an adapter/converter is necessary, unless the item has a multi-voltage option. Please note that power outlets only accept flat three or two-pin plugs, depending on whether an earth connection is fitted. Your motorhome will have the appropriate site hook-up equipment.

Propane Gas

Your motorhome cooking and heating facilities run off propane stored in an on-board tank that will be full when you pick it up. This should last you for approximately three to four weeks and should you need to top it up, you can do so at petrol stations at a cost of NZ\$15 to NZ\$20.

Lonely Planet guides

The Lonely Planet guide to New Zealand is also recommended. All Lonely Planet guides can be ordered from Carefree.

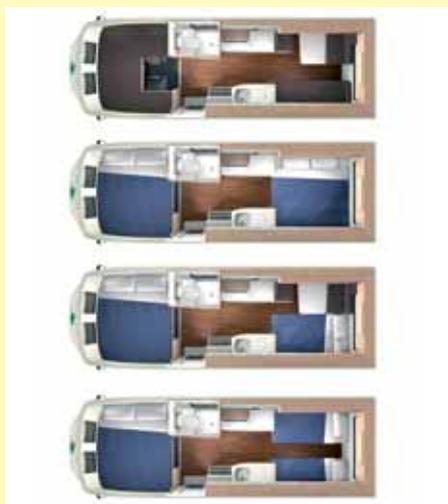
Revised on 24/01/08. Information correct at the time of going to press.

Motorhomes and Floor Plans

Kea 4-berth



Kea 4-berth day and night floor plan options



Apollo 4-berth



Apollo 4-berth day and night floor plans



	Kea 4-berth	Apollo 4-berth
Transmission	Manual	Manual
Petrol(P)/Diesel(D)	D	D
Fuel Consumption per 100km (litres)	14	16
Power steering	Y	Y
Air conditioning	Y	Y
Flyscreens	Y	Y
Sleeps	4	4
Double Bed	2.10m x 2.0m	1.97m x 1.31m
Overall length	6.90m	6.40-7.35m
Overall width	2.20m	2.10m
Overall Height	3.10m	3.00m
Kitchen Kit	Y	Y
Personal Kit	Y	Y

Carefree Travel Service, The Camping and Caravanning Club, PO Box 309, Coventry CV4 8YT

To book call **0845 130 7701**

Visit www.campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk/travelabroad