travelpeint

New Zealand





2011/12



Welcome to Travelpoint Holidays' New Zealand

Travelpoint Holidays has been a leader in creating holiday experiences for over 15 years and our team of 250 travel experts are here to create the most wonderful holidays for you and your family.

We can craft your Travelpoint Holiday from hundreds of fantastic hotels, apartments, resorts and lodges, as well as day and extended cruises, car and campervan hire, extended touring, rail journeys and a huge range of sightseeing tours. Whatever you want to do and wherever you want to go we not only know all about it but we also know the best people to do it with!

For diverse experiences and unspoilt landscapes, you can't go past New Zealand. The whole country is photogenic, from the bubbling mud pools of Rotorua (p33), to the lakes and waterfalls of Fiordland (p79). There are spectacular alpine glaciers, rivers and beaches, farmland and mountain ranges – stunning natural landscapes that are the setting for many an epic movie. The cultural scene is first class with Te Papa in Wellington (p49) among the best, or learn of the history and heritage of the Maori culture with a traditional hangi feast or haka performance (p37). For a gourmet getaway, New Zealand is an epicurean delight. Food and wine experiences range from the famous wines of Marlborough to Bluff oysters in Southland. For adventure seekers there's everything from jet boating and white water rafting, to bungy jumping and hiking.

Travelpoint Holidays has a comprehensive brochure range covering all parts of Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific available through our 4,000 travel agency partners in Australia and New Zealand. For copies of our other brochures see your travel agent or call us on 1800 TRAVEL (Australia) or 0800 408 708 (New Zealand).

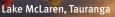
So have a great time on your Travelpoint Holiday to New Zealand and thank you for letting us create the perfect holiday for you.

Andrew Burnes CEO Travelpoint Holidays



From north to south, New Zealand boasts awesome landscapes, lush forests, amazing wildlife and fascinating culture.



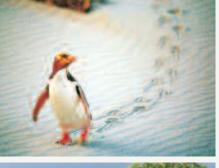








First Edition Valid 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012. Cover Photo: Hongi, traditional Maori greeting





Contents

PLANNING YOUR TRAVELPOINT HOLIDAY	4
NEW ZEALAND	6
OUR FAVOURITE EXPERIENCES	8
TRAVELTIPS	9
HOLIDAY PACKAGES	10
SELF DRIVE HOLIDAYS	11
NORTH ISLAND	13
Auckland	14
Northland and Bay of Islands	26
Coromandel Peninsula and Bay of Plenty	31
Rotorua	33
Lake Taupo and Tongariro	41
Napier and Hawke's Bay	44
Wellington	45
SOUTH ISLAND	51
Nelson and Marlborough	52
Canterbury and Christchurch	55
West Coast and Glacier Region	65
Mount Cook and Wanaka	68
Queenstown	71
Dunedin and Te Anau	81
EXPLORING NEW ZEALAND	84
Extended Walks	84
Extended Tours	85
Accommodation Passes	87
Campervan Hire	88
Car Hire	91
Rail, Ferry and Coach Travel	93
ACCOMMODATION INDEX	94
IMPORTANT BOOKING CONDITIONS	95

travelpeint



Planning your Travelpoint Holiday

Whether you are holidaying in New Zealand for the first time or returning again, our travel planners will go to great lengths to create your dream holiday. Here are just a few reasons to entrust your holiday plans to the experts at Travelpoint Holidays.

100% Australian Owned

Travelpoint Holidays is operated by AOT Holidays, a division of The AOT Group, one of Australia's largest travel companies. The AOT Group has been in the travel business for over 22 years and is proudly Australian owned with offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Auckland.

The Travel Specialists

Travelpoint Holidays has been specialising in Australian holidays for over 15 years. We have built on this expertise and added an amazing array of new destinations to our range including New Zealand and the South Pacific. Our New Zealand product team is based in Auckland and travels to the destinations we feature in the brochure searching for new products and the best deals available. Our knowledgeable team will provide expert advice to ensure your holiday is a memorable one.

Travelpoint Bonus Offers

At Travelpoint Holidays we are passionate about offering you value for money. Throughout this brochure, you'll find hotels and tours with bonus offers ranging from free nights to free room upgrades. Just look for the 'Travelpoint Bonus' box.

Travelpoint Holiday Packages

We've taken the hard work out of planning your holiday by putting together a range of packages which partner the 'must do' activities in the region with a choice of accommodation options to suit every taste and budget. These packages represent excellent value for money. Our great Holiday Packages start on page 10 and Self Drive Holidays on page 11.

Stephen's Hot Tips

Our Product Managers are passionate about travel and have visited the destinations they look after many times. Throughout this brochure, Stephen, our New Zealand Product Manager, shares his favourite experiences. Check out his 'Hot Tips' on page 9.

Crafting Your Experience

This brochure provides you with a wide choice of holiday options including accommodation, day tours, cruises, car hire and more. So whether you're planning a short break, the perfect romantic retreat or the grand New Zealand tour, we can tailor make a holiday just for you. Our team of travel experts will combine the best available airfares, car hire deals, accommodation and touring experiences to create your dream holiday. Use this brochure for inspiration, then let us help you create your adventure.

Customer Care Helpline

We know your holiday experience doesn't end until you are safely home. That's why our Customer Care Team is only a phone call away seven days a week, should you require any assistance during your Travelpoint holiday. All the necessary information will be provided with your travel documentation and you can contact the team at any time during your holiday. We're with you on the journey.

More Holiday Ideas...

AOT Holidays has a fantastic range of products covering Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Ask your travel agent for one of our many brochures.





The information on the following pages is designed to help you plan your perfect New Zealand getaway. Check out how to use this brochure, find out where to stay and where to go on pages 6 and 7, then get in the know with Our Favourite Experiences on page 8. There's more insider tips on page 9 as well as other Travel Tips for planning your holiday to New Zealand.

School Holidays

New Zealand	16 April – 1 May 16 – 31 July 8 – 24 October 21 December 11 – 29 January 12
Queensland	16 – 25 April 25 June – 10 July 17 September – 2 October 11 December 11 – 22 January 12
New South Wales	9 – 25 April 2 – 17 July 24 September – 9 October 21 December 11 – 26 January 12
Victoria	9 – 26 April 2 – 17 July 24 September – 9 October 23 December 11 – 31 January 12
ACT	16 April – 1 May 9 – 24 July 1 – 16 October 22 December 11 – 2 February 12
Tasmania	22 April – 1 May 4 – 19 June 3 – 18 September 22 December 11 – 13 February 12
South Australia	16 April – 1 May 25 June – 10 July 17 September – 2 October 10 December 11 – 22 January 12
Western Australia	20 April – 4 May 9 – 24 July 1 – 16 October 16 December 11 – 31 January 12
Northern Territory	2 – 10 April 25 June – 24 July 1 – 9 October 17 December 11 – 29 January 12

Accommodation Ratings

Star and Diamond ratings are used throughout the brochure to describe the standard of accommodation.

STAR RATINGS Properties bearing the Star symbols are independently assessed by Qualmark New Zealand, the official quality agency of Tourism New Zealand and the New Zealand Automobile Association. Travelpoint Holidays has no input into the assessment process.

DIAMOND RATINGS Properties bearing Diamond symbols do not participate in a recognised rating scheme. The rating is supplied by the individual property based on their own assessment. We therefore recommend they be used as a guide only.

 ★★
 Budget standard of accommodation

 ★★★
 Comfortable standard of accommodation

High standard of accommodation and facilities

Superior standard of accommodation and facilities

Denotes additional half rating

Apartment Style Accommodation

In general, self catering apartments feature cooking facilities with a minimum of microwave, hot plates, saucepans, crockery, cutlery and cooking utensils. Laundry facilities will be located either in the apartment, or in a guest laundry within the property. Most apartments are serviced every 7 days and do not provide hotel facilities such as porterage, room service or mini bars. Most apartments provide an initial supply of items such as tea, coffee, soap and toilet paper.

Room Images

♦

Room images featured on property listings are the lead-in room type, unless captioned otherwise.

What the Symbols mean



- the property has one or more rooms providing wheelchair access with assistance.
- A bonus is available if you are celebrating a special occasion (eg. honeymoon). Advise your travel agent when booking. The definition of 'special occasion' and type of bonus offered is at each property's discretion. Conditions may apply.

Pricing Guide

Prices featured in accommodation listings are per room for the period specified unless otherwise stated. The "from" price in the property heading has been calculated using the cheapest nightly rate available, ie. in the lead-in room type, in off-peak season using the longest stay (eg. 7 nights). If a free night offer is available, even if for part of a season, this has been included when calculating the "from" price. A minimum stay is generally required. Where prices for more than a one night stay are featured, the prices refer to stays of consecutive nights. We are always sourcing great deals throughout the year, so we recommend you use the prices in this brochure as a guide and ask your travel agent for the best available deal when booking.





New Zealand

North Island

Lose yourself in the rich culture, natural wonder and unmatched beauty of New Zealand. Two islands of new experiences are there waiting to be explored.

Visit Auckland and enjoy a city boasting exquisite food and wine, exciting shopping and a vibrant night life before sailing off for an adventure at a nearby island such as Waiheke Island, Rangitoto Island or Rakino Island. They're all within easy reach and serve up everything from tranquil beaches and boutique wineries to fast-paced adventures.

Discover the scenic beauty of the North Island as you wander the stunning white beaches of the Coromandel Peninsula or cycle through picturesque wine villages in the Hawke's Bay region. You never know what you might find once you start to explore.

New Zealand is a place unlike anywhere else on earth, visit Rotorua and see first hand the awesome raw power of a truly unique geothermal wonderland. Discover bubbling mud pools and steaming geysers or take an afternoon dip in a healing mineral spring. The people of New Zealand open up their traditions to visitors with pride. Immerse yourself in the culture and learn about the rich history of the Maori people. See native weaponry displays and live performances of the haka or chat with expert carvers and weavers.

Pick up the pace with an exhilarating jet boat ride through soaring river canyons near Huka Falls or mountain biking, native bush walking or trout fishing at Lake Taupo. If it's a full itinerary of sightseeing you are up for, you're well and truly covered.

The beauty of the North Island is in its diversity. Soak it up as you enjoy a day around the sparkling bay of Wellington Harbour, discover the cultural heritage of this fascinating country at Te Papa national museum or visit a boutique vineyard in the beautiful Wairarapa region.

An adventurous spirit needs to be well fed. Luckily on the North Island, wherever you go, food and wine are top priorities. Enjoy the specialities of each region such as the fresh produce of Northland, Taranaki's seafood splendour, the gourmet cheeses, honey and wines of Hawke's Bay or Martinborough's famous Pinot Noir wines. Whether it's a café lunch and a spot of shopping after you hop off the ferry from Auckland to Devonport, a traditional hangi feast and Maori concert in Rotorua or dinner by the water in Wellington, the North Island ensures a gourmet adventure with unique flavours to delight your tastebuds.

South Island

New Zealand's South Island earns its reputation as a holiday fun zone. Base yourself in Queenstown for an adventure menu of jet boating, skiing, golf, four wheel driving and any number of thrilling pursuits. If it's fun and it's meant for the outdoors, you'll find it here.

For an adrenaline packed experience, take a helicopter flight around the Mount Cook region, enjoy the alpine scenery and up close views of Fox Glacier and Tasman Glacier or join a hiking tour on the spectacular Franz Josef Glacier.

If a slower pace is more your style, head for the coast and make a day of it wandering gardens or touring seaside villages such as the historic fishing village of Riverton in the south. Visit the city of Christchurch to see the historic buildings, stunning parks and gardens and surrounding natural beauty of the Canterbury Plains. Cruise the serene waters of Milford Sound and view stunning scenery including waterfalls, or get a taste of the French colonial past in Akaroa before sampling local arts and crafts.

Taste the gourmet flavours of the largest wine growing region in New Zealand; Marlborough, renowned for its world famous Sauvignon Blanc, or treat your tastebuds to fresh seafood including crayfish and paua at Kaikoura. No matter what your culinary choice, there's something to satisfy everyone's palate.

Wildlife is a big drawcard on the South Island. Go whale watching any time of the year and see dolphins and penguins off the coast at Kaikoura, where the mountain landscape meeting the sea makes for truly spectacular sights. Bird watching is another popular pursuit for those with a keen eye, see the world's only mainland albatross colony as well as other sea birds on the Otago Peninsula. And if you're lucky enough to join a snorkelling tour, you can get up close to some of the country's cutest residents, the fur seals.

Picturesque doesn't even begin to describe the beauty of the South Island of New Zealand. From golden sandy beaches to jagged remote coastline, expansive rolling plains to snow capped mountain vistas, lush wilderness and rainforest to clear pristine fiords and glaciers. Be amazed by each new outlook as the landscape becomes increasingly impressive and diverse as you travel through the natural wonder that is New Zealand.

Calendar of Events

APRILThe National Jazz Festival, Bay of Plenty21st-25thArrowtown Autumn Festival29th Apr-8th May
MAY Bluff Oyster and Food Festival 21st
JUNE Queenstown Winter Festival 25th Jun-3rd Jul
JULY Tri Nations Rugby, Wellington 30th
AUGUSTWellington on a Plate5th-21stTri Nations Rugby, Auckland6thWinter Games13th-28thWorld of Wearable Art, Wellington 25th Aug-10 Sep
SEPTEMBERRugby World Cup9th Sep-23rd OctReal NZ Festival9th Sep-23rd OctHastings Blossom Festival, Hawke's BayTBCWhitianga Scallop Festival, Coromandel24th
OCTOBER Rugby World Cup Final, Auckland 23rd
NOVEMBER Toast Martinborough, Wairarapa 20th
JANUARY Harvest Hawke's Bay TBC
FEBRUARYNational Kapa Haka Festival, Bay of PlentyMarlborough Wine Festival11thArt Deco Weekend, Napier14th-19th
MARCH Auckland Cup Week TBC
TBC – Dates for this event were yet to be confirmed at the time of printing.





Our Favourite Experiences

The Classics

New Zealand's diverse and interesting culture is a huge part of its appeal. The traditional Maori and Polynesian cultures blend with European influences in cosmopolitan cities and historic out of the way villages.

See the world's best collection of Maori treasures at the Auckland War Memorial Museum and be treated to a welcome dance, weaponry display and haka. See unique and vibrant Maori arts and crafts and enjoy a traditional hangi meal in Rotorua. At Te Papa in Wellington, get an insight into New Zealand's cultural past and present. In the south, a self-drive tour of South Canterbury will reveal Maori rock art and stunning Victorian and Edwardian architecture. The French influence is very much evident in seaside Akaroa, with French street names and French cuisine, whilst Dunedin displays a rich Scottish heritage and boasts New Zealand's only castle.

Walks

New Zealand is made for walking. How else are you going to get close enough to appreciate the views from the waterfront in Wellington, or the giant kauri trees of the rainforest in Northland? Add to the list the 26 kilometre Rotorua Walkway the Queenstown Hill Time Walk and glacial walks on the West Coast.

In fact, make sure your walking shoes are in good order for any part of New Zealand.

For something a bit more substantial, there are no walks on earth quite like the nine Great Walks of New Zealand, including the Kepler, Routeburn, Milford and Abel Tasman Coastal Tracks. Treks from three to five days in length can take you from ridgelines to coastlines, from native bush to glaciers, from watching seals to spotting kiwis and are sure to refresh the mind and rejuvenate the soul.

Sport and Adventure

If you're going to get the adrenaline pumping, New Zealand's the place to do it. The choices could fill the most energetic traveller's schedule several times over. Start with a picnic on a volcano in Auckland, or abseiling, swimming and rock sliding in the nearby Waitakere Ranges. Test your limits with a Sky Jump from Auckland's Sky Tower, a 192 metre cable-controlled base jump thrill.

In picturesque Wellington, be whisked skyward in a cable car, taking in views of the city and harbour. Mountain bike through the bush of Makara Peak or get your skates on to zoom around Oriental Bay.

For a real kick, tour live volcanoes around Rotorua. Take the four wheel drive to the crater's edge or tackle a jet boat ride in the geothermal valley of Orakei Korako. Catch the gondola to the top of Mount Ngongotaha and luge back down or climb inside a giant ball and experience the thrill of zorbing 150 metres downhill.

The action continues in the south. Soar above the plains of Christchurch in a hot air balloon or go whale watching off the coast. Consider things you never thought you'd be brave enough to do - like skydiving!

This September and October, the eyes of the world will be on New Zealand for the Rugby World Cup. With 20 competing nations playing in 11 locations throughout the country, rugby fans are sure to be well entertained both on and off the field.

For skiing, the fields around Queenstown and Wanaka offer the best snow. Find adventure at every turn from the famed skiing and snowboarding to the heart-pumping thrill of a bungy jump. New Zealand makes anything possible.

Food and Wine

The great thing about wining and dining your way around New Zealand is that you can enjoy it in such beautiful settings.

Sample a Polynesian feast in multicultural Auckland or spend an afternoon sampling wines at a hillside vineyard. Pick up some locally grown hazelnuts and olive oil north of Christchurch, or near Queenstown tour the Central Otago region, stopping for sensational stone fruit and a few tasty treats from the cheese factory.

Create a winery tour of New Zealand through the Wairarapa region near Wellington, the boutique wine village of Martinborough or the famous Marlborough region.

With so much coastline, seafood is fresh and expertly prepared. Specialties include scallops, green lipped mussels, and the biggest oysters known around the world – the Bluff oyster. Fish for your own dinner or let the chefs prepare you something special.

Must See & Do

Visit the **WAITANGI TREATY GROUNDS** and see an authentic kapa haka performance – page 30

Enjoy the best views of Auckland from **SKY TOWER** and stand on its thick glass floor – page 23

See geysers, steaming lakes and **BOILING MUD** pools at Rotorua – pages 37 and 38

Witness the power of waterfalls like **HUKA FALLS**, at Taupo – page 43

Visit **TE PAPA** in Wellington, New Zealand's national museum – page 49

Be part of the action at the 2011 RUGBY WORLD CUP

View some of the LORD OF THE RINGS filming locations, including Mt Ruapehu and sites around Wellington and Queenstown – page 50

Trek breathtaking walks – TONGARIRO CROSSING, MILFORD, KEPLER, HOLLYFORD, or ROUTEBURN TRACKS – pages 80 and 84

Soak your stresses away in GEOTHERMAL HOT POOLS around ROTORUA, TAUPO and HANMER SPRINGS – pages 38 and 39

Tour the best **WINE REGIONS** – Hawke's Bay or Martinborough in the North and Marlborough or Central Otago in the South – pages 50 and 64

SWIM WITH DOLPHINS in the Bay of Islands, Akaroa or Kaikoura – pages 29 and 63

Walk on glacial ice at FOX and FRANZ JOSEF GLACIERS – page $67\,$

Take a thrilling **JETBOAT** ride along the famous **SHOTOVER RIVER** – page 77

Cruise the natural wonders of **MILFORD SOUND** or **DOUBTFUL SOUND** – pages 79 and 80



Travel Tips

How to Get There

BY AIR Pacific Blue, Air New Zealand, Qantas and Jetstar operate direct flights between most Australian capital cities and New Zealand. Connecting flights are available from other Australian cities and major regional centres. Pacific Blue, Air New Zealand and Jetstar operate regional flights within New Zealand.

North Island Direct flights operate to Auckland from Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Gold Coast, Cairns, Adelaide and Perth; to Wellington from Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne; and to Hamilton from Brisbane and Sydney. Air New Zealand also operate direct flights to Rotorua from Sydney.

South Island Direct flights operate to Christchurch from Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Gold Coast. Direct flights operate to Queenstown from Sydney, with additional direct flights from Brisbane and Melbourne in winter. Pacific Blue and Air New Zealand also operate direct flights to Dunedin from Brisbane.

FLIGHT DURATION

FROM / TO	AUCKLAND	WELLINGTON	CHRISTCHURCH
Sydney	3 hrs 45 mins	3 hrs 40 mins	3 hrs 30 mins
Melbourne	4 hrs 15 mins	4 hrs 5 mins	3 hrs 50 mins
Brisbane	3 hrs 50 mins	4 hrs	3 hrs 55 mins
Auckland	-	1 hr 5 mins	1 hr 25 mins
Hamilton	30 mins	1 hr 5 mins	1 hr 45 mins
Rotorua	40 mins	1 hr 5 mins	1 hr 45 mins
Queenstown	1 hr 50 mins	1 hr 55 mins	50 mins
Dunedin	1 hr 50 mins	1 hr 45 mins	45 mins

The above table shows flight durations for direct flights only. Connecting flights from other destinations are also available. Times are a guide only and subject to change.

DISTANCES BY ROAD (KM)

SOUTH	ISLAN	ID				NOF	RTH ISL	AND												
BLENH	EIM					AUC	(LAND	484	126	319	426	361	219	520	235	284	204	195	449	640
316	CHRIS	TCHURC	н				GISBO	ORNE	389	797	217	573	720	396	280	335	277	414	467	536
661	363	DUNE	DIN					HAMI	LTON	445	300	244	345	403	109	158	110	78	332	523
497	388	558	FRANZ	Z JOSEF					K/	AITAIA	733	680	101	839	554	603	523	514	768	959
328	252	512	180	GREY	MOUTH					N	APIER	422	645	179	218	142	282	291	250	319
648	528	418	140	320	HAAST					NE	W PLYN	IOUTH	580	231	298	281	312	182	160	351
871	573	210	531	697	391	INVER	CARGILL					F	AIHIA	751	454	503	438	414	668	859
1058	760	414	631	796	481	275	MILFO	RD SOU	ND			PALMER	RSTON I	NORTH	324	248	405	341	71	143
630	332	327	485	470	345	438	538	MOUN	т соок					ROT	ORUA	76	62	141	318	451
113	417	774	458	296	616	984	1083	743	NELSO	N					T/	AUPO	141	149	224	375
28	344	689	521	356	665	899	1086	658	110	PICTO	N					TAU	RANGA	146	370	532
782	484	286	355	522	215	190	290	262	811	810	QUEE	NSTOW	N			WA	ITOMO	CAVES	270	461
942	644	298	515	681	365	159	116	422	970	970	174	TE ANA	U					WANG	GANUI	191
726	428	279	285	465	145	246	346	206	746	754	70	230	WANA	KA				1	WELLIN	GTON
262	332	614	280	100	420	811	897	572	230	290	635	781	565	WESTPO	ORT					

Getting Around

BY CAR Take the time to explore and discover as you make your way through New Zealand by road. For getting around New Zealand, we recommend Avis car hire. See page 91 for details or ask your travel agent about the great specials Avis has to offer. New Zealand is the perfect destination for a driving holiday. While driving distances may be short, it is important to note that the winding roads can mean travel times are longer than anticipated.

Auckland to Paihia	219km	3 hrs 22 mins
Auckland to Coromandel	169km	2 hrs 27 mins
Auckland to Rotorua	235km	3 hrs 5 mins
Rotorua to Taupo	76km	1 hr 5 mins
Christchurch to Mt Cook	332km	4 hrs 33 mins
Christchurch to Queenstown	484km	7 hrs
Queenstown to Milford Sound	290km	4 hrs 13 mins
Queenstown to Fox Glacier	332km	4 hrs 48 mins

BY RAIL Journey through New Zealand's most picturesque scenery by rail. Travel on The Overlander between Auckland and Wellington, The TranzCoastal between Christchurch and Picton or The TranzAlpine between Christchurch and Greymouth. See page 93 for details.

BY COACH InterCity's coach network covers the whole of New Zealand, with over 600 destinations to choose from. See page 93 for details.

Weather Guide

	Auckland	Christchurch								
Summer	12°C to 24°C	12°C to 22°C								
Autumn	13°C to 20°C	8°C to 18°C								
Winter	9°C to 15°C	3°C to 12°C								
Spring	11°C to 18°C	7°C to 17°C								

Visas and Passports

A passport valid for 6 months beyond the intended stay is required. A visa is not required for Australian passport holders.

Currency

New Zealand Dollar (NZD).

Electricity

230/240 volts. Power outlets take Australian style plugs.

STEPHEN'S HOT TIPS

For a special occasion visit... Mudbrick Vineyard and Restaurant on Waiheke Island for wine tasting with glorious views.

Wind down in Wellington at... The Wellington Writer's Walk where poetry and book excerpts are part of the scenery.

After a day of adrenaline-filled activities in Queenstown... Catch a movie at Arrowtown's hip boutique cinema and bar.

The perfect place to pick up something special? The Jewellery Quarter in Moray Place, Dunedin.

travelpeint