

IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND TRAVEL ADVISORY

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1. PLANNING TRAVEL TO NEW ZEALAND

This Travel Advisory has been prepared for event participants planning to attend an event held in New Zealand and includes some basic preparation and visa information to ensure that you can fulfil the entry requirements and processes for New Zealand and will contribute to your experience in New Zealand being positive and memorable.

The following content is provided for information only and all participants must still complete their own specific individual requirements.

We encourage people to monitor the Immigration New Zealand (INZ) website ([Immigration New Zealand](https://www.immigration.govt.nz)) for any changes to the visa requirements for entering New Zealand, and up to date information on any travel requirements for New Zealand.

2. IMMIGRATION AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Well before you leave for your trip, check to make sure you have all the travel documents you will need and that they are all up to date.

The following outlines the visa requirements, documents, and application processes that INZ authorities may require to facilitate your entry into New Zealand.

If you do not have the correct visa or travel authority when you check-in for your flight to New Zealand, you may not be able to board or you may be refused entry on arrival. It is your responsibility to make sure you hold the correct visa or travel authority.

For complete and more detailed information on passports and visas you should visit the INZ website: www.immigration.govt.nz.

3. APPLYING FOR A VISA

The visa type you apply for, and the visa requirements will vary depending on your participation in the event as well as the number of times you intend to travel to New Zealand.

If you are from a “visa waiver country”, such as Italy, the United States or the United Kingdom (see [APPENDIX A](#) for a full list of visa waiver countries) and all your travel to New Zealand will be completed in less than three months, you will be able to travel to New Zealand on a New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) and be granted a visitor visa on arrival, subject to meeting standard entry requirements. You will be able to participate in the event on this visa provided your business in New Zealand can be concluded within three months.

If you will be making a number of visits over an extended period which is greater than three months, you will need to apply for a visitor visa before you come to New Zealand.

If you are not from a visa waiver country listed in [APPENDIX A](#), you will need to apply for a visa before you come to New Zealand.

4. VISA TYPES

The visa type you apply for will depend on your participation in the event, as well as your intended length of stay as noted in the table below as an example.

Participation in the event	Visa type required	
	Visa waiver country staying for less than 3 months	Non visa waiver country staying or staying for more than 3 months
Participants & Crew	Request an NZeTA online - Information about NZeTA: New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority Immigration New Zealand	Apply for a Visitor Visa General online here: Visitor Visa: Visa details Immigration New Zealand
Support staff, tournament officials, and <i>accredited</i> media/broadcasting personnel (if any)	Request an NZeTA - Information about NZeTA: New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority Immigration New Zealand	Apply for a Visitor Visa General online here: Visitor Visa: Visa details Immigration New Zealand
Non-accredited media/broadcasting personnel (if any)	Apply for a work visa under Specific Purpose category here: Specific Purpose Work Visa: Visa details Immigration New Zealand	Apply for a work visa under specific purpose category here: Specific Purpose Work Visa: Visa details Immigration New Zealand

For a full list of other visa options available, please visit the INZ website: www.immigration.govt.nz.

5. REQUIREMENTS FOR A VISA WAIVER TRAVELLER

INZ introduced the NZeTA in late 2019. You must request an NZeTA if you are travelling without a visa on a passport from a visa waiver country or travelling as a permanent resident of Australia. An NZeTA is valid for 2 years and you can use your NZeTA for multiple visits while it is valid.

You do not need an NZeTA if you have a valid New Zealand visa or are an Australian citizen travelling with an Australian passport.

Information on how you can request an NZeTA can be found here: [Request an NZeTA](#).

If you intend to stay in New Zealand for more than 3 months, then you must apply for a Visitor Visa General online: [Visitor Visa: Visa details | Immigration New Zealand](#)

6. REQUIREMENTS FOR A VISITOR VISA GENERAL

Visitor visa applications should be applied for online at: immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/about-visa/visitor-visa.

In order for INZ to be able to process the application quickly, all relevant fields in the online application form must be completed.

All of the following supporting documents must also be uploaded with the online application:

- i. Identity*
 - Passport size photo - The photo must meet the requirements otherwise it will not be accepted. Photo requirements can be found here: immigration.govt.nz/acceptablephoto.
 - Copy of passport bio page - The passport must be valid for at least 3 months beyond the intended date of departure from New Zealand.
- ii. Application fee*
 - You will need to have a valid credit card to pay for the application online.
- iii. Genuine intentions*
 - An invitation letter from the event organisers/host confirming your participation/attendance in the event.
 - You must be a genuine visitor to New Zealand and intend to leave at the end of your visit. When INZ decide if your intentions are genuine, INZ consider all the information you provide to support your application and reason for travel, all the information we have about your personal circumstances, and all information you may have provided in any previous application.
- iv. Evidence of funds or sponsorship*
 - At least NZ\$1,000 per month, or NZ\$400 per month if you have already paid for your accommodation.
 - If all costs associated to your travel and maintenance are being funded by a third-party organisation, please include a letter with information on who will be covering your costs and what will be covered.
 - If you are sponsored your sponsor must provide evidence that they meet the criteria and can look after you while you are in New Zealand. Process to become a sponsor can be found here: [Visitor Visa: Visa details | Process to become a sponsor](#)
- v. Onward travel*
 - When you arrive in New Zealand you may be asked to show that you intend to leave the country — for example, a return ticket or proof you have enough money to buy a ticket out of New Zealand. This is in addition to the funds you have to live on.
 - If you are sponsored and you do not have a return ticket your sponsor can provide recent bank statements to show they have enough money to buy you a ticket out of New Zealand.
- vi. Any other documents that show that you meet all of the criteria for the visa you are applying for. All other requirements on what you need to apply can be found here: [Visitor Visa: Visa details | Immigration New Zealand](#)*



Once your application has been submitted online, an automated message may appear requesting your original passport to be submitted to the relevant processing office. Instructions will be included in that message however, INZ will let you know if you need to send your passport after you have applied.

Each application is assessed on a case-by-case basis taking each applicant's individual circumstances into consideration. Therefore, INZ may request additional documents from you as part of assessing your visa application. If additional information is requested, it must be provided directly to your case officer.

If your application is approved, you will be granted an electronic visitor visa (eVisa) which will be uploaded on your Immigration ONLINE account. You must print this and carry with you when you travel.

7. FEES

People travelling under the visa waiver provisions who request an NZeTA will need to pay a NZD\$52.00 application fee if applying on the mobile app, or a NZD\$58.00 application fee if applying on the INZ website. This fee includes the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy of NZD\$35.00.

Anyone who will be applying for a visa (visitor or work) will need to pay the visa application fee. Any facilitation fees charged by the Visa Application Centres will also require payment. You can find out how much it will cost to apply, where to send your application or passport, and how long a decision will take here: [Fees, decision times and where to apply | Immigration New Zealand](#)

8. APPLY IN GOOD TIME

Please ensure that visa applications are submitted well before your intended travel date. It is recommended you apply at least 4 weeks in advance. Please also ensure that you check whether your proposed travel route will require any transit visas and allow sufficient time to obtain these.

9. REQUESTING AN ESCALATION

In some cases you can make an escalation request for your application to be allocated as priority to an immigration officer. Please note that certain criteria are required to be met for an escalation request to be accepted. You can find more information here: [Check if you can make an escalation request | Immigration New Zealand](#)

10. PASSPORT

To board your flight to New Zealand you need a valid passport or travel document. You may not be allowed to check in if your passport is not valid for travel to New Zealand. Check that your passport will not expire until:

- 3 months after the date you plan to leave New Zealand, or
- 1 month after the date you plan to leave New Zealand – if your passport was issued by a country that has a New Zealand embassy or consulate that issues passports of that country.

11. TEAM LISTS

Where possible, event organisers/hosts should send a list of participants, including name, date of birth, passport number, role in event (if applicable i.e presenter or guest speaker), and intended arrival and departure dates to the allocated INZ Advisor. This information can be provided to INZ by completing the below spreadsheet:



Name List
spreadsheet.xlsx

12. NEW ZEALAND TRAVELLER DECLARATION

Anyone travelling to New Zealand by air must complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration prior to check-in. The information you provide will be used to let you know what you need to do when you arrive in New Zealand such as self-test on arrival. You need to complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration and be issued with a Traveller Pass to board your flight to New Zealand. More information on this can be found here: [New Zealand Traveller Declaration](#)

13. ARRIVING INTO NEW ZEALAND

Completing the New Zealand Passenger Arrival Card

Before you disembark from your ship or plane you will be given a New Zealand Passenger Arrival Card to complete. This Arrival Card must be fully and accurately completed before you get to Passport Control on arrival.

Full compliance with Customs and Biosecurity requirements detailed on the Passenger Arrival Card is required and expected. On the Arrival Card you will declare what you are – or are not – bringing into the country.

Translations to assist with the completion of the Passenger Arrival Card are available in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), Cook Island Māori, Czech, Dutch, Farsi, Fijian, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Māori, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Samoan, Somali, Spanish, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Tongan, Urdu, Vietnamese.

Translated versions of the Passenger Arrival Card can be found on this link: [New Zealand Customs Service: Passenger Arrival Cards](#)

Either way, your Arrival Card must be fully completed in ENGLISH.

New Zealand Traveller Declaration

Note that the New Zealand Traveller Declaration (NZTD) is an online system that will soon replace the paper Passenger Arrival Card. Travellers arriving at all New Zealand international airports now have



the option to complete a digital declaration instead of a paper arrival card, before travelling to New Zealand as early as 24 hours before departure.

For complete and more details information on the NZTD and Passenger Arrival Card, please visit: [Arriving in New Zealand | Immigration New Zealand](#) and [Home | New Zealand Traveller Declaration](#)

SmartGate

SmartGate, or eGate as it is known in many parts of the world, is a fast and easy way to self-process through passport control. SmartGate facilities are available at Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch Airports for arriving (and departing) passengers. You can use eGate if you are 12 years of age or older, and have an ePassport from New Zealand, Australia, Austria, Canada, China (excluding Hong Kong), France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Japan, South Korea, United Kingdom or the United States. You will still need to complete a Passenger Arrival Card (or Departure Card when departing).

Further information about SmartGate can be found here: [eGate \(customs.govt.nz\)](https://www.customs.govt.nz/eGate)



14. APPENDIX A: VISA WAIVER COUNTRIES

A person who is visiting New Zealand for three (3) months or less and is from a visa waiver country (see list below), will not need to apply for a visitor visa before arriving in New Zealand as long as the purpose of the visit is for a lawful purpose as specified in immigration instructions. For more specific details on what a lawful purpose is, please follow this link: <http://www.immigration.govt.nz/opsmanual/34338.htm>.

A person is deemed to apply for a visitor visa by completing the “New Zealand Passenger Arrival Card” and if granted entry permission, will also be granted a visitor visa. A person may stay in New Zealand in accordance with the conditions on their visa. All visitor visas are now electronic, meaning a person may not be given a stamp or label in their passport.

United Kingdom (UK) passport holders who can produce evidence of the right to reside permanently in the UK can be granted a visitor visa for up to six months upon arrival in New Zealand.

Australian citizens and permanent residents do not usually need a visa to travel to New Zealand. For more information on this: [Australian Resident Visa: Visa details | Immigration New Zealand](#)

Citizens of the following countries do not require a visa to travel to New Zealand, but only if the person concerned is seeking a visitor visa current for not more than three months and the purpose of the visit is not for medical consultation or treatment:

Andorra	Macau (Macau Special Administrative Region passports only)
Argentina	Malaysia
Austria	Malta
Bahrain	Mauritius
Belgium	Mexico
Brazil	Monaco
Brunei	Netherlands
Bulgaria	Norway
Canada	Oman
Chile	Poland
Croatia	Portugal (with the right to live permanently in Portugal)
Cyprus	Qatar
Czech Republic	Romania
Denmark	San Marino
Estonia (citizens only)	Saudi Arabia
Finland	Seychelles
France	Singapore
Germany	Slovak Republic
Greece	Slovenia
Hong Kong (residents with HKSAR or British National (Overseas) passports only)	Spain
Hungary	
Iceland	



Ireland	Sweden
Israel	Switzerland
Italy	Taiwan (permanent residents only)
Japan	United Arab Emirates
Korea (South)	United Kingdom (must have the right to reside permanently in the United Kingdom)
Kuwait	United States of America (includes USA nationals)
Latvia (citizens only)	Uruguay
Liechtenstein	Vatican City
Lithuania (citizens only)	
Luxembourg	

IMPORTANT NOTE: It is a general guide only and there are some instances where special conditions apply. For full details of visa exemptions, and for the most complete information on all your immigration and visa requirements for visiting New Zealand, please go to www.immigration.govt.nz.