

# ***Hotspot Guide***

*New Zealand*

***A Sample of what's on Offer***

*Hot Spot*

***Introduction***



## Why Invest in New Zealand?

New Zealand's demographics replicate those of larger markets and provide an excellent test-bed for new products and services.

New Zealand has the highest proportion of opportunity entrepreneurs in the OECD and ranks significantly higher than the USA

Creativity drives New Zealand from design and production of pleasure craft to super yachts, from electric fencing to ion-beam magnets, and from animated commercials to The Lord of the Rings.

Overseas companies are already well represented in New Zealand, enjoying success in their own right or as part of a joint collaboration with local enterprise



### Fast Facts:

- **Location:** New Zealand is in the Southern Hemisphere, lying between 34 and 46 degrees of latitude south in the Pacific Ocean
- **Capital City:** Wellington
- **Climate:** Has mild temperatures, moderately high rainfall, and many hours of sunshine throughout most of the country
- **Average Temperature:** 15 C
- **Total Land Area:** 268680 square kilometres
- **Official Language:** : Maori
- **Total Population:** 4,173,460
- **Population Density:** 15/km<sup>2</sup>
- **Major Religion:** Christianity
- **Currency:** NZD
- **GDP:** \$112.4 billion
- **GNI per capita:** :US \$28,780
- **Inflation:** 2.4%
- **Annual Growth:** 2.5%
- **Main Exports:** Wool, food and dairy products, wood and paper products
- **Main Sources of Income:** : Taxes and Tourism
- **Unemployment:** 3.6%
- **Population Below Poverty Line:** NA
- **Literacy:** 99%
- **Life Expectancy:** 78%
- **Time Zone:** NZST
- **Internet Domain:** .NZ
- **International Dialling Code:** +64



## Geography

- Around about 1,250 mi (2,012 km) southeast of Australia,
- Consists of two main islands and a number of smaller outlying islands so scattered that they range from the tropical to the Antarctic.
- The country is the size of Colorado
- New Zealand's two main components are the North Island and the South Island
- The Maori call New Zealand, Aotearoa which means “The land of the long white cloud”.
- New Zealand is located in Oceania, in the South Pacific Ocean.
- New Zealand has two main islands the North Island and South Island and it is surrounded with small islands. The South Island is the twelfth largest island in the world and the North Island is the fourteenth.
- The official languages in New Zealand are English and Maori. The Capital city of New Zealand is Wellington, located on the North Island.
- New Zealand has a population of over 4 million.



## Economy

- The Economy of New Zealand is a market economy which is greatly dependent on international trade, mainly with Australia, the European Union, the United States, China and Japan.
- It is also strongly focused on tourism and primary industries like agriculture, while having only small manufacturing and high-tech components.
- Economic free-market reforms of the last decades have removed many barriers to foreign investment, and the World Bank in 2005 praised New Zealand as being the most business-friendly country in the world, before Singapore



## Politics

- The politics of New Zealand takes place in a framework of a parliamentary representative democratic monarchy.
- The basic system is closely patterned on that of the Westminster System, although a number of significant modifications have been made.
- The head of state is Queen Elizabeth II, but actual government is conducted by a Prime Minister and Cabinet drawn from an elected Parliament.



## A Brief Guide to Purchasing Property in New Zealand

- The reasons to buy property in New Zealand far outweigh the reasons not to for example, the fact that the nation is roughly the same size as the UK but has a fraction of the population means that there is plenty of space for each citizen, additionally there is lower unemployment in New Zealand than in the UK and the cost of living is lower too.
- Despite a house price boom of late, property prices are also more affordable and the process to purchase real estate is as simple as it is in Great Britain.



## Property Market

- Even in spite of the global financial turmoil that's affecting property markets everywhere, every property market also faces a further slowdown during the winter months - and the market in New Zealand is no exception.
- The only difference is that, as in the Northern Hemisphere head towards spring and summer, usually times of increasing interest



## Fees and taxes

**Land Transfer Registration Fee:** This is around \$130 and is sometimes included in the legal fees (see below).

**Solicitors Fees:** There's no fixed scale of conveyance charges and conveyance by a lawyer (the only professional allowed to charge for conveyance) normally costs between \$600 and \$2,000, so it's worth shopping around and haggling over the cost. It's possible to find a lawyer who will do the job for as little as \$400.

**Mortgage Fees:** Banks charge a mortgage processing fee equivalent to 1 per cent of the mortgage amount.

**Land Information Memorandum (LIM):** This is obtained from the local council and contains information about a property's zoning, boundaries, building consents etc. Costs vary greatly, from around \$2 to \$1,500.

**Inspection or Survey Fee:** Although it isn't compulsory to have a building inspection or structural survey carried out, it's often wise, particularly when you're buying an old detached house. You should allow from \$500 to \$750 for a structural survey.

**Building Insurance:** It's invariably a condition of lenders that properties are fully insured against structural and other damage. It may be necessary to insure a property from the day you sign the purchase contract.

## Hotspots



### **Old St. Paul's**

Old St. Paul's is a former cathedral in the Diocese of Wellington of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. It is an example of 19th-century Gothic Revival architecture adapted to colonial conditions and materials

### **Katherine Mansfield Birthplace**

Katherine Mansfield Birthplace was the home of Katherine Mansfield, New Zealand's most famous author. The Birthplace is open to the public, having been restored and furnished by the Katherine Mansfield Birthplace Society Incorporated

### **Museum of New Zealand**

The museums principles incorporate the concepts of unified collections; the narratives of culture and place; the idea of forum; the bicultural partnership between Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti; and an emphasis on diversity and multidisciplinary collaboration

