



HAMILTONS
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An essential guide to relocating in

New Zealand



If you are moving house to New Zealand, there is a lot more to consider than choosing an international removals service. Our relocation guide below provides additional information on choosing schools, working abroad, sorting your finances and more. Please note this information is believed to be accurate at the time of writing, but please check with our international removals department prior to your moving date.

Visa and work permits

New Zealand has a well-developed economy and a low unemployment rate. The country welcomes job applications from skilled professionals in other countries and currently has long-term skill shortages in a number of areas including specialised health professions, creative industries and electronics.

Foreign nationals wishing to work in New Zealand are required to obtain a work permit. Most types of work visa can only be obtained once you have an offer of work, and there are many web sites that you can search for New Zealand jobs online. Work permits are granted on a temporary resident basis.

Other visa types that provide permanent residency status include Skilled Worker visa, Business visa and Family visa.

A Skilled Worker visa is awarded to individuals who are highly skilled and will boost New Zealand's work force.

A Business visa can be awarded to an investor, entrepreneur or an employee of a relocating business. This visa category is designed to increase economic growth in New Zealand.

A Family visa will allow an existing New Zealand citizen or resident to sponsor their spouse, child, parents, siblings or an independent child to come and live in New Zealand.

Finances

It will make your transition to your new life much simpler if you open a New Zealand bank account prior to your move. An account can be set up from the UK with Bank of New Zealand, The National Bank of New Zealand or Westpac. Your new bank will assist you with transferring money and managing foreign currency and can provide financial advice and guidance on buying property and setting up a business.

Other specialist finance companies can help you to transfer your pension, arrange a mortgage for your new home and deal with the difference in taxes.

Schools

The New Zealand educational system is made up of state schools, integrated schools, private / independent and boarding schools. Some children are also taught at home.





The majority of New Zealand students attend state funded schools and every student has the right to enrol at the school nearest their home. These schools are funded by the government, and are co-educational at primary and intermediate level and co-educational or single sex at secondary level.

Private schools operate in a similar way to the UK in that each charges their own set of fees.

Integrated schools are schools that have a religious focus such as Roman Catholic. They are part government funded and also charge fees.

Healthcare

Healthcare in New Zealand is paid for through the general taxes, and consultations are either free or subsidised. Overall the standard of medical treatment is high. It is also possible to pay for private healthcare, and many New Zealander's opt for this to bypass long waiting times for non-urgent procedures.

People moving to New Zealand are eligible for publicly funded healthcare provided that they are ordinarily resident in New Zealand. This means that the person must be a permanent resident or a work permit holder (and the work permit must be valid for two years at the time of issue). Providing these criteria are met, the healthcare covers their partner and children too if applicable.

To register for healthcare, you need to take your passport along to your local GP on arrival in New Zealand.

Moving Your Pet

Providing your pet is in good health it is fairly straightforward to take him or her with you. There are certain animals that are not allowed entry into NZ which include the following dogs: American Pit Bull Terriers, Dogo Argentinos, Japanese Tosas or Brazilian Filas and also pet birds, reptiles, snakes, ferrets, guinea pigs, mice and rats.

The specific requirements and regulations relating to importing your pet will depend on the type of animal you have, and the country you are travelling from. For more information see <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/personal/pets>

Cats and dogs being imported from non-rabies affected countries such as the UK do not require a quarantine period, however there are other tests that they will have to undergo, including blood tests and micro-chipping. The pet owner is responsible for all applicable costs.

Your pet must be transported in an IATA approved container. To reduce the stress on your animal, it is a good

idea to familiarise him or her with it for several weeks prior to departure. You can find out the cost of transporting your pet by contacting your airline

New Zealand Customs Information

Many people who are considering relocating to New Zealand will have only moved within the UK up until now. International removals to overseas destinations are more involved than UK house moves due to import and export laws and Customs regulations.

Below is a guide to current customs regulations. Please note that information is correct at time of publishing but may change at any time. Hamiltons International removals department will guide you through all relevant customs regulations and importing law prior to your overseas move. If you are not in the country when your container arrives, it is possible to nominate a third party to clear your effects on your behalf. This person must pay a financial deposit to Customs & Excise, which is then refunded once you arrive in the country and present your passport.

You will be entitled to duty free entry providing that you are taking up residency in New Zealand for the first time. Returning New Zealanders that have been away from the country for at least 21 months will also be granted duty free admission. Items that are new may be liable for duty and goods and services tax.

Household and personal effects are subject to physical examination by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. It is strongly advised that all items that have come into contact with soil and vegetation - e.g. bikes, garden furniture and equipment, golf clubs etc are thoroughly cleaned prior to packing to minimise extra cleaning costs.

Motor vehicles and most boats may be imported tax and duty free by first time residents, providing the owner meets the following criteria;

- the owner is taking up permanent residence in New Zealand for the first time
- the owner has personally used the vehicle for a year or more prior to the departure date
- the owner is importing the vehicle for personal use and will keep the vehicle for at least two years after importing.

Returning New Zealanders

- importing a vehicle will be required to pay goods service tax on the CIF value of the car.

To clear your goods through customs we will require the following:

- Completed unaccompanied personal baggage form (NQS QD1)
- Completed application for client code
- Passport copy photo page
- Copy visa
- Inventory or packing list (this will be completed by our removal crew)
- Quarantine declaration (this will be completed by our removal crew).

Below is a list of documentation required for motor vehicles:

- Verified Statement of Compliance
- Vehicle registration form
- Sales or purchase invoice
- Evidence of intended permanent residence in New Zealand
- Driving licence.

Restrictions

You are not allowed to import food items including eggs, dairy and meat products. Alcohol may be imported as long as a full listing has been made. Untreated wooden items, skins and feathers. Furs and tusks from endangered species are prohibited. Pistols and revolvers are prohibited.

Prior authorisation required

Used rifles and shotguns may be imported but require a permit from the firearms officer at the local police station.

Useful Information

Currency	New Zealand Dollar (NZD)
Electrical Supply	240 -250 volts Most domestic appliances from the UK should operate with a power adapter.
Time	GMT + 12 hours
International dialing code	00 64 followed by local code – 9 for Auckland, – 4 for Wellington, – 3 for Christchurch



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