



Head Medical

NZ LOCATION GUIDES

Bay of Plenty - North Island

The Bay of Plenty area has long been a popular visitor destination. The region enjoys a subtropical climate with warm summers and mild winters, and experiences at least 2,000 hours of sunshine annually. The region is ideally

situated for accessibility, being less than an hours drive to **Rotorua**, and less than three hours to **Auckland**, **Hawkes Bay**, **Gisborne**, **Hamilton** and **Taupo**. There are two regional airports and numerous direct daily flights to and from Auckland, **Wellington**, and **Christchurch**. The population is around 260,000, the 5th highest out of New Zealand's 16 regions. The region stretches approximately 60 miles along the coastline from **Waihi** in the north to **Te Puke** in the south and about 20 miles inland to the rugged, bush covered **Kaimai Ranges**.



Bay of Plenty
Region



Living in the Bay of Plenty

The Bay of Plenty is one of New Zealand's most unique and varied regions. Here, you can experience everything from lush native forests and waterfalls to spectacular beaches and even an active island volcano. Beach lovers flock to **Mount Maunganui** and **Ohope**, where white-sand coastline meets rolling ocean waves. For those fascinated by lush forests and waterfalls, head to the **Kaimai Mamaku Forest Park** - home to over 300km of walking tracks. **White Island** is the region's active volcano, situated off the coast of **Whakatane**. The volcanic activity is generally limited to steaming vents, and can be visited via helicopter depending on the status of the current volcanic situation.



The sunny climate and easy-going atmosphere of the Bay Of Plenty lends itself to excellent dining and great cuisine. Because of the widespread agricultural base in the Bay Of Plenty, you can expect fresh food from both land and sea, and some of the finest wines in New Zealand. The Bay Of Plenty remains steeped in Maori culture and tradition, so you can take your time in exploring the history of the indigenous people of this land - be it taking in their local food, discovering the skills behind their arts and crafts, or simply by immersing yourself in Maori culture. The region boasts strong horticultural and agricultural sectors and is renowned for growing kiwifruit, avocados, grapes, citrus and other subtropical fruits. Over 80% of New Zealand's kiwifruit exports are grown in the Bay of Plenty.



Tauranga and **Whakatane** are the Bay of Plenty's two main cities, both located two and a half hours drive from Auckland and Rotorua. Tauranga is the sixth-largest city in New Zealand, but it is expected to grow to be the fourth largest within the next five years. It is also home to New Zealand's largest port, making it one of the country's key transportation, logistics, warehousing and manufacturing hubs. Located five minutes from downtown Tauranga is the amazing Mount Maunganui. Renowned for its Maori history and pristine walking tracks, the Mount offers magnificent views from its 232m summit.

Education

The Bay of Plenty region is well-equipped with a good range of high quality teaching options available for students from pre-school to tertiary level. There are 25 primary schools, four intermediate schools, and seven secondary schools in the region. These include public and private schools, as well as a Rudolph Steiner School at primary level. Tertiary education facilities in the Bay of Plenty region are of a very high standard, with the two main tertiary education providers being the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic and the Waikato University at Tauranga.

Housing

The residential real estate market in the Bay of Plenty and Tauranga has been very active over the recent years. The number of people moving into the area has been increasing, and to meet demand there has been an upturn in the supply of new land and housing. As the population of the area continues to increase, more subdivisions are being developed and more sections sold. House prices in the region vary considerably depending on the size of the house, its facilities, and the area in which a property is located. Housing in the Bay of Plenty region is affordable, with harbour or ocean views priced higher, and high-quality properties on the beachfront demanding the highest prices. While the house prices in prime locations are quite expensive, the general cost of living in Tauranga is less expensive than in other larger centres in New Zealand.



Things to do in the Bay of Plenty

- Learn to surf off Mount Maunganui's white sand beaches
- Enjoy a 30-minute jet boat ride on the spectacular Kaituna River
- Swim with the regions friendliest dolphins with one of the many tour operators in the area
- Visit McLaren Falls, 170 hectares of beautiful lake land reserve

- Experience the nightlife on the The Strand in Tauranga with live music and clubs
- Unwind at the Mount Hot Salt Water Pools at the base of Mount Maunganui
- Explore local wines at two award-winning estates – Morton Estate in Katikati and Mills Reef in Tauranga (both offer free wine tasting!)
- Take a tour around a working kiwifruit orchard
- Experience the historic walkway Nga Tapuwae o Toi. This 16km walk takes in cliffs, bird colonies, beautiful bays and pohutukawa forests
- Take a look at the works of master Maori carvers along the main street in Opotiki
- The Tauranga Art Gallery on the corner of Wharf and Willow Streets showcases exhibitions of historical, modern, and abstract art
- Visit the award winning fresh fish market on Dive Crescent (Tauranga) for some of the region's tastiest fish and chips.
- During harvest time, stop at a roadside stall to pick up your fruit and veggies, straight from the growers' gardens
- Pick up a map from Katikati's information centre, then stroll the streets to inspect the town's numerous hand painted murals



For further information on the Bay of Plenty and the job opportunities we have to offer there, don't hesitate to contact us on 0131 226 2200 or email info@headmedical.com