



Head Medical

NZ LOCATION GUIDES

Auckland - North Island

Auckland offers a perfect blend of city living and outdoor beauty that makes it one of the most desirable destinations in the world. Located in the upper North Island of New Zealand, Auckland is home to over 1.2 million people (a third of New Zealand's total population) and is the fastest growing area in the country as well as New Zealand's largest city. It's a diverse mix of contemporary lifestyle, cultural heritage, sporting achievements, economic vibrancy and multi-cultural uniqueness, set in a stunningly beautiful environment.



Some of the many benefits of making Auckland home include:

- Vibrant, multi-cultural and safe city providing good standard of living
- Easy access to beaches, wilderness & skiing
- A relatively cheap cost of living in comparison with big cities worldwide
- Excellent schools and universities

Located in an 11 km-wide isthmus surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and Tasman Sea, the city enjoys a mild, sub-tropical climate and diverse landscape encompassing golden beaches, bush-clad hills, native forest and 50 beautiful Hauraki Gulf Islands, meaning you also have a real choice with regards to where you live. Will you choose close to one of the beautiful north shore or eastern beaches, in the west near native bush, or in the city itself in a trendy suburb? The region is a fusion of four cities - Auckland, Manukau, North Shore and Waitakere - with cultural elements that span from Polynesia and Asia to the United Kingdom and Europe.



Wherever you are in this city, you are only a matter of minutes from beaches, native bush, look-outs, mountain biking tracks, open parkland and fantastic shopping and eating places. Quite simply, if you're expecting life in New Zealand to be rich and varied in culture, the arts and the great outdoors, then the area of Auckland will exceed your expectations! Residents here enjoy an outdoor lifestyle all year round, making the most of urban living with the tranquility of



stunning parks and beaches always close by.

The region is family friendly with many options for recreation and 'the great outdoors' in abundance, so you'll quickly become used to people running, cycling, kayaking and generally living an active life. As a major city, Auckland offers world class entertainment, an extensive range of pubs and bars, and a seemingly endless list of cafes and restaurants. There are countless events in the city - free festivals, community markets, art exhibitions, dance, music, theatre and cultural performances, sport and leisure opportunities.

One of the greatest attractions for migrants to Auckland is the lifestyle that this country has to offer. Not only do Kiwis seem to enjoy a more relaxed living philosophy, the cost of living an enjoyable lifestyle seems to be more obtainable compared to many other major cities, such as London or Sydney.

Climate

Auckland enjoys warm, rather dry summers and mild, wet winters. The climate is comfortable all year round except in the summer months when a combination of heat and humidity can lead to some rather sticky days and nights. Frosts in winter are very rare. Auckland enjoys greater year round warmth than NZ's other largest cities - Christchurch and Wellington. Christchurch is cooler than Auckland and enjoys fewer rainy days. Wellington is also cooler than Auckland and, although wetter than Christchurch, has more dry days than Auckland. The driest areas in the country are in the east - Blenheim and Napier, for example.

Transport:

Auckland Airport is just a 45-minute drive away from the city centre! As the largest airport in New Zealand it operates flights to Australia, Asia and the United States of America-as well as domestic flights. Whilst private vehicles are the main form of transport in the city, trains, buses and ferries are provided by Auckland's regional travel authority. Please see the transport link below for more information about the public transport that Auckland has to offer you!

Education

The education system in New Zealand is similar to that of the UK. The education is of a high standard and includes pre-school in most areas. Education is compulsory from the age of 5 years and can continue until 18 years. Students who choose to study from years 11 to 13 will take the National Certificate of Educational Achievement. There are a number of Universities and fees are subsidised by the state and there is a student loan system. There are a number of private educational establishments in New Zealand and English Schools.

Auckland's education system enjoys a good reputation worldwide. International





students are able to choose from primary, intermediate and secondary schools, universities, polytechnics and technical institutes, as well as privately-run education providers. The ACG New Zealand International College in Auckland offers high school programs, pre-university courses, university preparation and the prestigious and world-renowned University of Cambridge International Examinations. Auckland also has a range of excellent private single-sex schools: for boys, King's College and Saint Kentigern College are two of the most popular. Single-sex girl schools available are Diocesan and St Cuthbert's. Auckland has only one International College (school for children ages 13 - 17, or Years Nine - 13) located in the Central Business District. On the North Shore, Kristin School is an excellent coed private school offering the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. Pinehurst is also a coed private school offering Cambridge International Examinations.

- Places to visit - Devonport, Waiheke Island (day/overnight trips), One Tree Hill.
- Ponsonby is generally regarded as the coolest area for the café culture; its where a lot of young and hip tend to live and there are some great restaurants and bars
- Parnell is known for being home to artists and designers, again with some fantastic restaurants and bars
- New Zealand Fashion Week kicks off each year from 29th Aug - 3rd Sept, they schedule lots of events and draws a lot of business to the Auckland area
- Viaduct on the harbourfront - where all the America's Cup and large yachts are housed, it's also got great restaurants and views. Wynyard Quarter at the Viaduct - nice restaurants and a tram to take you round
- Newmarket is a real fashion shopping district, which also has great restaurants with a central city vibe happening - Nuffield Street at Newmarket (recommendation: Mexicali Fresh is a great spot - delicious healthy Mexican food)
- Smith & Caugheys department store is probably the only store like you find in the UK in NZ, similar to a House of Fraser / John Lewis.
- Titirangi Village is a little bit out of Auckland City to the west and is a nice place to explore, there are some good guided tours there

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