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isite is New Zealand's official visitor information network with over 60 locations nationwide.

### isite knows all the best things to do, places to stay and ways to get there. Plus they'll take care of the bookings.

Every person who works at isite is a travel expert for their own home town, so they can help you to find the sorts of activities, attractions, accommodation and transport that only a local would know.

You can be sure that once you have experienced the latest and greatest of what one place has to offer, isite will help connect you with their equally friendly isite colleagues at the next stop on your journey.

So whether you've come around the world or down the road you can rely on isite for expert local knowledge and bookings throughout New Zealand.

- itinerary planning and information
- bookings nationwide accommodation, transport, activities, attractions
- free maps, weather & mountain safety information
- local information events, attractions, restaurants & more!
- many isites offer free Wi-Fi look for the logo on the map

Most isites are open every day (except Christmas Day). Some isites operate reduced hours.

Find an isite near you or get help over live-chat at **www.isite.nz** or call **0800 474 830.** 



The Department of Conservation (DOC) operates to protect and care for Aotearoa New Zealand's natural environment and historic and cultural heritage. DOC are the largest provider of visitor activities in Aotearoa, manage the largest heritage portfolio in the country and manage a third of Aotearoa New Zealand's land area as public conservation land and waters. From forest parks to scenic reserves, alpine areas to protected coasts, there are hundreds of special conservation places to visit.

Conservation campsites are places to relax, enjoy and explore the outdoors. Choose from more than 200 campsites in forest settings, lakeshores and sandy beaches. DOC manages a network of over 950 huts of all shapes and sizes. They provide unique places to stay, refuge from bad weather, or rest and recover when you're out exploring the outdoors.

For more information about DOC visit www.doc.govt.nz

#### DOC Visitor Centres

DOC visitor centres are located nationwide and are staffed by DOC rangers who have first-hand, in-depth local knowledge about conservation places and outdoor recreation activities and adventures. Our friendly rangers can assist you to plan and prepare to enjoy the outdoors safely.

Visit our DOC visitor centres for:

help with your DOC accommodation plans and bookings

- up to date weather forecasts
- outdoor visitor safety information
- advice about how to protect our wildlife and care for Aotearoa
- latest track information and alerts about conservation places

Find out where DOC visitor centres are located, opening times, and contact details to email or speak to a ranger at: www.doc.govt.nz/visitorcentres



Ngā Haerenga Great Rides of New Zealand's are an unforgettable way to soak up breathtaking scenery while visiting must-see attractions and discovering hidden gems.

See the best of Aotearoa New Zealand by bike on adventures varying from a leisurely few hours to an epic eight days. Mostly off-road and predominantly easy to intermediate, they traverse a remarkable range of landscapes, from sparkling coastlines to deep forest and rocky mountain passes.

There really is something for everyone, with excellent cycling services making things easy. Most Great Rides are close to towns and cities where everything from bike hire to shuttles, luggage transfers and fully guided trips are on offer. Welcoming and atmospheric accommodation, cafés and restaurants along the way are part of the experience. Every day is a special journey on the Great Rides. So what are you waiting for? Plan your next ride at **nzcycletrail.com** 



Te Araroa is New Zealand's Trail – taking in spectacular New Zealand landscapes from beaches to volcanoes to forests to cities. The 3000km route stretching from Cape Reinga in the North of New Zealand to Bluff in the South.

Te Araroa is the greatest New Zealand adventure there is – walk it all or walk a short section ranging from a few hours to a few days. Visit **www.teararoa.org.nz** 



Qualmark represents the highest standard of sustainable and quality travel experiences. Owned by Tourism New Zealand and backed by leading industry organisations, Qualmark is New Zealand tourism's official quality assurance organisation. Visitor activities, service and transport providers are issued with an official quality rating award, and accommodation providers also receive a star grading.

#### A Trusted Guide to Our Place

You can book any Qualmark business with confidence, knowing the experience is quality assured to the highest standards. Whether you're looking for places to stay, things to do or ways to get around, a Qualmark business represents the highest quality tourism experience New Zealand has to offer.

All Qualmark businesses have been assessed by our team of business advisors, using a stringent framework, to recognise sustainable New Zealand tourism businesses that deliver exceptional world-class experiences as an integral part of everything they do.

#### COVID Clean Approved

Qualmark members also displaying the COVID Clean Approved assessment logo, can provide a level of assurance to all travellers that cleaning protocols and operational procedures around COVID-19 have been met.

Look out for Qualmark businesses across New Zealand displaying our official mark of quality assurance giving you confidence you'll find a warm welcome from a business that operates in a professional way and protect what makes New Zealand unique.

COV/D

For more information visit www.qualmark.co.nz



Tiaki means to care for people and place. The Tiaki Promise is a commitment to care for New Zealand, for now and for future generations. New Zealand is precious, and everyone who lives and travels here has a responsibility to look after it.

By following the Tiaki Promise, you are making a commitment to New Zealand. To act as a guardian, protecting and preserving our home.

#### Tiaki Promise

tiaki

While travelling in New Zealand I will:

- Care for the land, sea and nature, treading lightly and leaving no trace
- Travel safely, showing care and consideration for all
- Respect culture, travelling with an open heart and mind

www.tiakinewzealand.com #TIAKIPROMISE





isite NZ has partnered with Trees That Count. Get on board and show your love for Aotearoa by planting a forest of the future. You can gift a tree through your nearest isite visitor information centre. For more information walk into a centre or visit www.treesthatcount.co.nz



We want you to stay safe while enjoying the great natural attractions New Zealand has to offer. Here are some websites that provide information to keep you safe.

### ()/POLIČE

#### New Zealand Police

New Zealand is relatively safe but it's not crime free. It is important to keep safe and look after yourself as you would at home. Visit **www.police.govt.nz/visitor-guide** 

Call 111 for emergencies. Use 105 for Police non-emergencies.

#### ADVENTURESmart

#### AdventureSmart

Be AdventureSmart and Know Before You Go. AdventureSmart provides tips, links and advice for you to plan and prepare any outdoor, boating, water, snow or air activity safely, for any level of ability. Visit **www.adventuresmart.org.nz** 



#### Camping Responsibly

Where can I camp? Find out how to camp responsibly in New Zealand. Visit **www.camping.org.nz** or **www.campermate.co.nz** 



#### DriveSafe

What's different about driving in New Zealand? Driving is a great way to experience all New Zealand has to offer, but driving here can be different to driving in other countries. Visit **www.drivesafe.org.nz** for information about New Zealand road rules and etiquette, and other useful tips for drivers who are unfamiliar with our roads.

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ew Zealand to Bluff in the South. s the greatest New Zealand adventure there is – walk



# www.isite.nz

# Your Gateway to Aotearoa

If you seek expert local advice, you'll find it here. Live chat, free phone or visit in person at over 60 locations.

## **Themed Highways**

These routes are marked with distinctive brown road signs. For more information visit: newzealand.com/int/themed-highways

### North Island

Twin Coast Discovery Highway: This route begins in Auckland and travels north, tracing both coasts to Cape Reinga and back. Driving is easy and interesting. Highlights include a procession of beautiful beaches, opportunities for fishing, surfing, diving and dolphin encounters; cultural experiences at Waitangi; forest hikes and craft shopping.

Pacific Coast Highway: Linking the Coromandel, Bay of Plenty and Eastland with Auckland in the north and Hawke's Bay in the south, the Pacific Coast Highway takes you to spectacular coastal scenery and beaches, forest wilderness and grape growing districts. This route should go down the Pohutukawa Coast, through Clevedon and around the Firth of Thames. The cities of Tauranga, Gisborne, Napier and Hastings will satisfy your urge to wine, dine and shop.

Thermal Explorer Highway: This route runs between Auckland and Hawke's Bay, travelling through the volcanic centre of the island. You'll have the chance to discover the caves around Waitomo in the Hamilton & Waikato region, geothermal areas in Rotorua and Lake Taupō, the amazing Tongariro National Park and Hawke's Bay Wine Country. Expect equal quantities of relaxation and adventure. When combined, the Pacific Coast Highway and Thermal Explorer are known as The Great New Zealand Touring Route.

Forgotten World Highway: The 150km Forgotten World Highway (State Highway 43) is a memorable driving journey through stunningly scenic untouched landscapes Following ancient Māori trade routes and 19th century bridle paths, the highway connects Taumarunui to Stratford. The route wriggles its way over four mountain saddles, through an eerie one-way tunnel and along a sinuous river gorge, passing through the unique Republic of Whangamomona

Volcanic Loop: From the trout town of Tūrangi, you can circle the volcanoes of Tongariro National Park by following state highways 47, 4, 49 and 1. On a clear day, you'll enjoy spectacular views of the mountains and the volcanic terrain that surrounds them. The stretch known as the 'Desert Road', which cuts across the desolate Rangipo Desert, is particularly memorable.

Adventure Highway: With the legendary landscapes of Tongariro National Park to the east and Whanganui National Park to the west, the Adventure Highway is where the journey truly becomes the destination. From the mountains to the rivers and the hidden gems in between, this lesser-known touring route winds through the heart of Ruapehu and offers a mix of year-round activities to enjoy. Winding down from the top of the Eight Mile Junction north of Taumarunui on State Highway 4 to Waiouru along State Highway 49, discover world-heritage sites, culture, community, and unique experiences that will take you to cosy alpine villages and beautiful mountain towns.

Surf Highway 45: The 105km highway that traces the Taranaki coast is known as Surf Highway 45 for the countless surf breaks that can be found at the end of almost every road that leads to the coast. The top spots have fascinating names - the Kumara Patch, Graveyards, Secret Spot, and Green Meadows to mention a few, and v punctuated by cosy cafés feeding iev are h



and adventurers alike.

oute: A scenic alternative to State Highway One, this route takes you on journeys between the highways through rural landscapes. Discover hidden places and tucked away treasures ranging from country cafés and pubs; heritage sites, galleries and gardens, to scenic reserves, day walks, swimming holes, glow-worm caves, picnic areas, and camping spots. Meet the locals and enjoy world-class scenery from the roadside.

Classic New Zealand Wine Trail: Weaving through three major wine regions, the Classic New Zealand Wine Trail serves up unforgettable wine and food experiences along the 380km route, spanning the North and South Islands. This self-guided drive takes visitors through Hawke's Bay, Wairarapa, and Marlborough, home to some 230 wineries. At the heart of the trail lies Wellington, New Zealand's capital, the perfect place for a culinary and cultural stopover.

### South Island

Classic New Zealand Wine Trail: See details above.

Alpine Pacific Touring Route: The Alpine Pacific Touring Route takes you to the wine and food experiences of Waipara, the spa delights of Hanmer Springs and the marine mammal encounters of Kaikoura. Between destinations, you'll enjoy beautiful country scenery.

The Inland Scenic 72 Route: The perfect road journey for travellers who like to get off the main highways and find real rural life. The route starts at Amberley, in the north of the Canterbury region, and runs to Winchester, where it links to State Highway 1. There are fabulous views of the Southern Alps on one side of the road, complemented by the green serenity of the Canterbury Plains on the other.

The Great Alpine Highway: This coast-to-coast route traverses the Southern Alps. From Christchurch, the 255-kilometre route follows State Highway 73 west across river plains before rising to traverse through Porters Pass and Arthur's Pass National Park. Highlights include the impressive Waimakariri and Otira River gorges, driving along the Otira Viaduct and exploring natural wonders like the Castle Hill Rocks and Cave Stream Reserve.

Great Coast Road: The Great Coast Road stretches from Westport down to Kumara. It meanders alongside the ancient limestone cliffs of Paparoa National Park, where the world's smallest penguin resides, through Charleston and down to Punakaiki, home to the famous Pancake Rocks and Blow-holes. Driving it in one go only takes about 90 minutes, but it's best to slow down, enjoy the ride and explore some of New Zealand's small towns.

**Glacier Highway:** The Glacier Highway hugs the coastline from Kumara, through Hokitika and all the way down to Glacier Country. This 300-kilometre journey is surrounded with dense coastal scrub and West Coast rainforest, making it one of New Zealand's most scenic routes. It passes through a national park, seal colonies, beaches, lakes, and as its namesake states, mighty glaciers.

Central Otago Touring Route: This 341-kilometre journey follows scenic highways from Ōtepoti/Dunedin and the Pacific Ocean to the foot of the Southern Alps at Queenstown. It winds through the heart of Central Otago taking in characterful settlements such as Middlemarch, Ranfurly, Oturehua and Clyde, as well as the larger towns of Alexandra, Cromwell, Arrowtown and Queenstown. Take the road less travelled and enjoy the memorable local hospitality of Otago.

Southern Scenic Route: Starting in the historic city of Dunedin, this route follows the wild southern coast to Invercargill, then continues west and north to Te Anau before ending at Queenstown. Highlights include wildlife encounters along The Catlins coast, the classic motors of Invercargill, cruising Fiordland, walking the Milford Track and the southern local delicacies found throughout.



# **Exploring Aotearoa**

Whether you're planning a New Zealand holiday or simply looking for things to do – newzealand.com has you covered every step of the way. There, you'll find comprehensive information on everything from mustdo activities, suggested itineraries, accommodation, transport and tours all in one go!

Get travel inspiration and tips and stay up-to-date by joining our social media communities. Find us by searching 'purenewzealand' on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

### Ask a local

isite local experts know all the best things to do, places to stay and ways to get there. Plus they can take care of bookings. Get friendly assistance over live chat, over the phone or in-person at over 60 locations.

live chat at www.isite.nz

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