

New Zealand Travellers Information – 2010 - 11

On Arrival

When you arrive at the branch you will be greeted by our reception team.

A Customer Service Representative will look after you from this point. They will give you a full demonstration of your Motorhomes and complete the paper work with you.

This process will take about one hour to complete.



Campground Information

Throughout the length and breadth of New Zealand you will find a vast choice of holiday parks and campgrounds. Maui recommend that you stay with Qualmark* rated holiday parks. Many parks are located in prime coastal, river and lakeside locations which will allow you to wake up in some of the most scenic spots in the world!

The nightly cost of powered sites (sites with power points for suitably wired vehicles like our motorhomes) varies between: NZ\$18 to \$40 per night (subject to change).

*Qualmark® is New Zealand tourism's official mark of quality. All tourism businesses that carry Qualmark®, which means they've been independently assessed as professional and trustworthy, so you can book with confidence.

[Official New Zealand Tourism Site](http://www.newzealand.com/travel/Australia/)

<http://www.newzealand.com/travel/Australia/>

[New Zealand Campsite \(Called Holiday Parks or Motorcamps\) Guide](http://www.newzealand.com/travel/accommodation/accommodation-options/holiday-parks.cfm)

<http://www.newzealand.com/travel/accommodation/accommodation-options/holiday-parks.cfm>

[Department of Conservation campsites](http://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-stay/conservation-campsites-by-region/)

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-stay/conservation-campsites-by-region/>

[Camping Our Way](http://www.camping.org.nz/)

<http://www.camping.org.nz/>

[New Zealand Top 10 Holiday Parks](http://www.top10.co.nz/) TOP 10 is the premier New Zealand holiday parks and campgrounds (motor camps) group.

<http://www.top10.co.nz/>



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www.holidayparks.co.nz Holiday Parks provide New Zealand's best leisure accommodation.
<http://www.holidayparks.co.nz/>

www.nativeparks.co.nz You can book with Native Parks Motorhome Havens online through this link.
<http://www.nativeparks.co.nz/>

Climate - An overview of New Zealand's climate

New Zealand consists of two main islands – North and South – together with some small offshore islands. It is situated in the South Pacific and has an area a little larger than the United Kingdom.

Weather in New Zealand is very changeable throughout the year and all months are moderately wet. Fine sunny spells of weather can occur at any time of year, however, and the country has more sunshine than might be expected in such a variable climate.

Daily sunshine hours average from four to five in winter to six or seven in summer in most parts of New Zealand. The north of the country and the east coasts are rather sunnier than the extreme south and the wetter west coast of South Island.

Both North and South Islands are hilly and mountainous. The west coast of South Island is backed by the high Southern Alps with Mount Cook, the highest peak, rising to over 3,700 m/12,000 ft. There are several volcanic peaks in North Island rising above 2,400 m/8,000 ft. These higher mountains carry snow throughout the year.

In the New Zealand Alps there are extensive snowfields and glaciers, as precipitation on the western side of South Island is heavy; as much as 2,000–2,500 mm/ 80–100 in and over 5,000 mm/200 in in the mountains.

Snow can occur almost anywhere at sea level in New Zealand, but is very rare in the extreme north of North Island. Here the climate is almost subtropical with very mild winters and warm, rather humid, summers.

New Zealand as a whole has a very healthy and pleasant climate with few weather hazards. The combination of weather, altitude, and scenery provide excellent opportunities for a range of sport and outdoor activities.

Conservation and Environment - Love NZ Recycle with Care

Maui is the first campervan company to join the "Love NZ Recycle with Care" programme by installing recycling bins at its main Auckland and Christchurch branches. Help us keep NZ clean by recycling your

globalCARS
Tel: +61 2 9438 3868

PO Box 1700
Fax: +61 2 9437 9069
ABN 41 087 966 489

Crows Nest NSW 1585
FreeCall: 1300 789 992
Lic. No. 2TA4947

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res@globalcars.com.au



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waste as you travel around the country. Look out for this logo



Environmental Code

New Zealand is a beautiful country – let's keep it that way for everyone!

The following are guidelines for our customers to respect when travelling in New Zealand

1. **Respect your environment**

Leave the site clear of all rubbish, waste and damage

2. **Dispose of waste sensibly**

Dumping waste and litter is an offence and can result in instant fines or prosecution.

Use only designated dump stations to empty campervan waste tanks. We have list for you at time of pick up or you can get this information from the local i-Site (Visitor Information Office)

3. **Use a camping ground**

Throughout New Zealand, the Department of Conservation (DOC) has 350 parks offering basic camping facilities. There are also over 400 commercial holiday parks, many of which are Qualmark rated and a network of Native Parks Motorhome Havens.

4. **Freedom camping is for temporary activity only**

some sensitive or built up areas ban freedom camping.

Some designated sites may have a nominal charge for the facilities provided.

Use the local i-site, local council website or other camping guides if unsure of freedom camping sites in the area.

We recommend that you use the wide choice in holiday parks nationwide. However if you are to freedom camp on occasion, consider booking one of our campervans that features shower and toilet facilities. They are all are 'self contained' meaning they have on-board grey (waste) water tanks and toilet waste tanks. This will allow you to 'freedom camp responsibly' in permitted areas.

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5. Respect the access and enjoyment rights of other public space users.

Currency

Preferred Form

New Zealand is a relatively safe place to carry reasonable amounts of cash and currency is easy to exchange. Otherwise most travellers will have no problems using major credit cards as they are commonly accepted for transactions in most places.

Tipping

Tipping is becoming more widespread in New Zealand, principally in the major centres where there's been more foreign influence. However, it's certainly not expected in any restaurant. You should tip 5-10% of the bill in a restaurant (not in a simple café) if you feel you have received exceptional service.

Currency Notes

New Zealand's banknotes all feature eminent people from the country's history and come in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dollars.

Currency Coins

The New Zealand dollar is made up of 100 cents - there are coins in denominations of 10, 20 and 50 cents and 1 and 2 dollars the coins all featuring various emblems, flora and fauna.

Driving in New Zealand & Road Rules

Please visit the official New Zealand Road Code website to help you understand New Zealand traffic law and become a safe and courteous road user.

Keep to the Left

Remember, in New Zealand we drive on the left side of the road.

If you are used to driving on the right, you need to remember to:

look over your right shoulder for traffic coming from behind; and

use all your car mirrors to check that it is safe before you move into traffic, change lanes or pass other vehicles

if you are driving in two or more lanes of traffic, keep in the left lane as much as possible. Use the lane(s) closer to the centre line only to pass other vehicles or to turn right.

Keep reminding yourself to keep left, and be extra careful when you are driving in rural areas where there is less traffic.

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Speed Limits

Keep to the speed limits and drive carefully

Urban speed limit (50 km/h)

The general urban speed limit is 50 km/h. In an urban traffic area, the urban speed limit indicates that drivers can expect to encounter vehicles that are turning, slowing, stopping or parking, pedestrians, cycles and heavy vehicles.

An urban traffic area is land close to or within a town or city. The land will generally appear fully built-up.

Land uses include:

- residential
- commercial
- industrial
- educational
- recreational

An urban traffic area also includes partly built-up areas:

- in small towns
- within a metropolitan area
- on the fringes of a metropolitan area

Rural speed limit (100 km/h)

The general rural speed limit is 100 km/h. Please note that for Spirit 6 Maui Motorhomes this speed limit is reduced to 90km/h. A rural area is land outside towns and cities. The level of roadside development is at a minimum. Land use includes:

- agriculture
- market gardening
- forestry
- reserves
- small settlements

Houses in rural areas will generally be set back some distance from the road. There will be little kerbing and

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no footpaths unless installed for a specific reason (e.g., a school remote from a residential area). Street lighting will generally not be provided but, if present, it will be only at specific community facilities or used as intersection indicator lighting.

In situations where the safe operating speed is below 100 km/h due to the road geometry or other limitations on the roadway, drivers should be made aware of the need to reduce speed. This can be achieved by means of warning signs, delineation and by the physical nature of the road itself. Using derestriction signs should also be considered as an alternative to using 100-km/h signs. It is not appropriate to install a lower speed limit.

Give Way Rules

Give way to all traffic crossing or approaching from your right. If you are:

- at a 'Give Way' sign, be ready to stop and give way to all traffic
- at a 'Stop' sign, stop completely and then give way to all traffic going straight ahead, give way to all vehicles coming straight through from your right turning, give way to all vehicles not turning
- turning left, give way to vehicles coming towards you that are turning right
- turning right, give way to vehicles on your right that are turning right.

Seat Belts and Child Restraints/Seats

Legal requirements:

- Children **under five years** must be properly restrained in an approved child restraint.
- Children **aged five to seven years** must use an appropriate child restraint if there's one available. If there isn't, the child must use a safety belt. If there's no safety belt available, the child must sit in the back seat.
- Children **aged eight to 14 years** must use a safety belt if there's one available. If there's no safety belt, they must sit in the back seat.
- Drivers and passengers **15 years and over** must wear a safety belt if there's one available.

Penalties

- The fine for not wearing a safety belt or allowing a person under the age of 15 to travel unrestrained is \$150 for each belt not worn.
- It is the driver's responsibility to ensure anyone under the age of 15 is wearing a safety belt or approved child restraint.

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People aged 15 and over are responsible for their own fine.

Please read the detailed information on this website about how a Baby / Booster Seat can be fitted in to your _____ or _____.

Drink Driving

New Zealand takes the issue of drink driving very seriously. When you've been drinking, the chances of crashing are high. In fact, when you drive with a blood alcohol level at the legal limit (80 mg per 100ml), you are three times more likely to be involved in a crash than if you hadn't had a drink.

Please ensure that when you are driving a Maui Campervan or Rental Car in New Zealand, you drive responsibly and safely. **If you drink, don't drive.**

If you're **an adult** the legal blood alcohol limit for driving is no more than 80 milligrams of alcohol for every 100mls of blood.

If you are **under 20** you shouldn't drink any alcohol before you drive. Your limit is 30 milligrams for every 100mls.

Penalties Drink-driving is considered a serious offence and carries tough penalties, especially for repeat offenders. Third and subsequent offenders face maximum fines of \$6,000, prison terms of up to two years, and a one year minimum disqualification from driving.

If you cause injury or death while drink-driving, you can be fined up to \$10,000 for driving carelessly while under the influence (no breath or blood test needed); and up to \$20,000 where a breath or blood-alcohol test shows you were over the limit.

The police can use the following tests to see if you have been drinking or taking drugs:

Passive breath test

The officer will place a hand-held device in front of your mouth. This will show if alcohol has recently been taken. If any alcohol is detected, a breath screening test will be required.

Breath screening test

The officer will give you either a tube of crystals with a bag on the end, or a small electronic device, and ask you to blow into it. If your alcohol level is high you will have to take an evidential breath test.

Evidential breath test

This is an electronic device you blow into, which gives a reading that can be used in court as evidence of your breath alcohol concentration.

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Blood test

A medical doctor or other approved person will take a sample of your blood to be tested for alcohol or drugs.

Travel Safety

New Zealand is well-known for its friendly people and relaxed travelling environment. However, like most other destinations some crime does exist and it remains important to be mindful of both personal safety and keeping your possessions safe.

If you would like advice on how to keep safe while travelling through New Zealand, you can find out more from the related links section below. This information will help you enjoy your holiday and be safer as a visitor. It has been produced by the **New Zealand Police**, the tourism industry, the **Ministry of Tourism**, the **Department of Conservation** and the **NZ Mountain Safety Council**.

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