

New Zealand Tour



Our Town Sarasota

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We just completed the OurTown New Zealand Tour. We traveled over 20,000 miles roundtrip and visited the north island and south island.

Call us to sign up for one of our trips.
941-587-4350.

Tidbits: Very few animals live in NZ, as they weren't introduced onto the continent until 200 years ago. There are no snakes in the country. One third of the country is national parks. 90% of their wine uses metal screw caps. In 1995 there were 156 vineyards, now there are over 750. There are roughly 4 sheep for every human in NZ. There are 4.2 million people in NZ, most on the north island. The south island grows apples, oranges, peaches, plums, pears, hops, grapes and many other crops. The 45th parallel runs through NZ. There are over 1,000 earthquakes a year in NZ. Blue cod is one of their local highly prized eating fishes along with green lipped mussels. Takaka mountain has like 240 switchbacks going up and 170 coming down.



We take you across the International date line while on our way to New Zealand Saturday morning NZ time. As you can see the sunrise was incredible. What was quite amazing was that this is the first time we had ever crossed the International date line and jumped a day. The flight from LA was almost complete, in about two hours we landed in Auckland. Continue to follow our trip through New Zealand on the OTSarasota Tour.



Flying into Auckland a city of over 2 million people.



The Air New Zealand crews are exceptional. Smiling and endlessly helpful. The food was better than many restaurants and the wine, complimentary, was very good. Sarasota Airport rep, Lionel from our FB page provided us with great luggage tags to present to the Air New Zealand crew, they loved them. Shown are Vicki and Shelly just before we landed.



Nelson: Christchurch tower, Trafalgar Street.



Geology

New Zealand has almost a complete set of landscape features: beaches and mountains, rivers and plains, glaciers and boiling mud-pools. Half of New Zealand is farmland, a quarter is forest and, in a nation the size of Colorado an area the size of Vermont is national park. In the Southern Alps, which stretch almost the entire length of the South Island, there are 16 peaks over 10,000 feet, including Mt Cook, still New Zealand's highest mountain after 30 of its 12,349 feet slid off in 1991. New Zealand was formed relatively recently and volcanoes in the centre of the North Island show the signs of this geological adolescence, they are usually sleeping, often smoking and likely to erupt unpredictably,

- Anklebiter** - toddler, small child
- Aotearoa** - Maori name for New Zealand meaning land of the long white cloud
- Arvo** - afternoon
- Bach** - holiday home
- Banger** - sausage, as in bangers and mash
- Barbie** - barbecue
- Big smoke** - large town or city
- Bit of dag** - hard case, comedian, person with character
- Bitser** - mongrel dog
- Bloke** - man
- Brickie** - bricklayer
- Brown eye** - to flash your naked butt at someone
- Boy-racer** - name given to a young man who drives a fast car with a loud stereo
- Bring a plate** - means bring a dish of food to share
- Bugger** - damn!
- Bungy** - kiwi slang for elastic strap, as in Bungy Jumping
- Caravan** - mobile home that you tow behind your car
- Cardi** - cardigan
- Cast** - immobilised, unable to get to your feet
- Cheers** - thanks
- Cheerio** - goodbye
- Cheerio** - name for a cocktail sausage
- Chocka** - full, overflowing
- Chook** - chicken
- Chick** - slang word for woman/female
- Chips** - deep fried slices of potato but much thicker than a french fry
- Chippy** - builder, carpenter
- Chrissy pressies** - Christmas presents
- Chuddy** - chewing gum
- Chunder** - vomit, throw up
- Cockie** - farmer
- Cotton buds** - Q-tips
- Crib** - bach,
- Cuppa** - cup of tea, as in cuppa tea



Grapes growing at the home we stayed at in Mapua. NZ has rich and fertile land with a great growing season.



A look to the north captures rolling hills and mountains from the Mapua home we stayed at.



Tassman Bay viewed from hiking trail through Abel Tassman Natl. Park. The OTS New Zealand Tour.



The end of summer in Mapua, NZ with the boys taking kayak lessons.



Kaka Point, north of Motueka, holds a breath taking view of golden sand beaches and mountains in the background.



Hopps groves outside Mapua, NZ.



An old high school in Motueka, NZ. It is used now for a cafe and museum.

Cuz - cousin, family
De facto - name used for a couple who are not married but are living together
Ding - small dent in a vehicle
Dole - unemployment benefit
Dodgy - bad, unreliable, not good
Down the gurgler - failed plan
Drongo - stupid fool, idiot
Drop your gear - take your clothes off, get undressed
Dunny - toilet, bathroom, lavatory
Duvet - quilt, doona
Ear bashing - someone talking incessantly
Fizz Boat - small power boat
Fizzy drink - soda pop
Flannel - wash cloth, face cloth
Flat - apartment, name for rental accommodation that is shared
Flog - steal, rob
Footie - rugby union or league, as in "going to watch the footie"
Full tit - going very fast, using all your power, as in "he was running full tit"
G'day - universal kiwi greeting, also spelled gidday
Get the willies - overcome with trepidation
Going bush - take a break, become reclusive
Good on ya, mate! - congratulations, well done, proud of someone
Good as gold - feeling good, not a problem, yes
Greasies - fish and chips
Gumboots or gummies - rubber boots, wellingtons
Handle - pint of beer
Happy as larry - very happy
Hard case - amusing, funny person
Hard yakka - hard work
Hollywood - to fake or exaggerate an injury on the sportsfield
Home and hosed - safe, successfully finished, completed,
Hoon - Young adult driving fast
Hosing down - heavy rain, raining heavily
Hottie - hot water bottle
How's it going mate? - kiwi greeting
Iceblock - popsicle, Ice Stick
Jandal - thongs, sandals, flip-flops,
Judder bar - speed bump
Jumper - sweater, jersey
Kiwi - New Zealander
Kiwifruit - Brown furry skinned fruit, Zespri,
Chinese Gooseberry
Kick the bucket - die
Knackered - exhausted, tired, lethargic
Knuckle sandwich - a fist in the teeth, punch in the mouth
Laughing gear - mouth, as in wrap your laughing gear around this,
L&P - Fizzy soda water
Lift - elevator
Lolly - candy
Loo - bathroom, toilet
Long drop - outdoor toilet, hole in ground
Lurgy - flu
Mad as a meat axe - very angry or crazy
Main - primary dish of a meal
Maori - indigenous people of New Zealand
Mate - buddy



Tasman Bay with the town of Nelson, NZ in the background. The OTS New Zealand Tour.



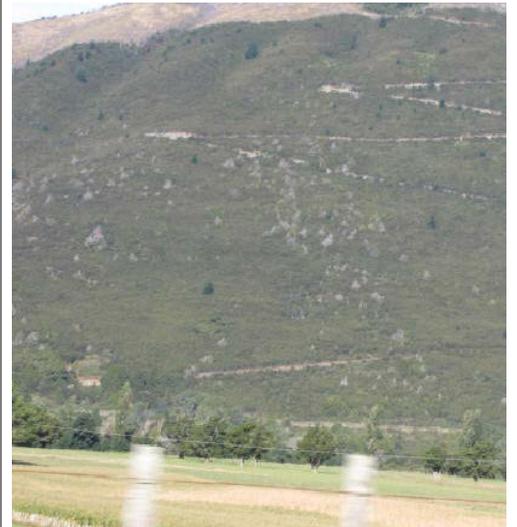
The river water at the Resurgence doesn't get any prettier or clearer than this. Our friend took a dive into this mountain water run off at about 50 degrees...brrrr.



A fabulous New Zealand lamb dinner at the Millbrook Resort outside Queenstown, NZ. Paul your host does a knock out job of running the restaurant and making you feel like a Queen or King.



Tasty lamb in New Zealand. There are 4 sheep for every New Zealander.



Switchback roads over the Takaka Mountains lead you to Abel Tassman Natl Park. There are over 400 switchbacks to cross the mountain. We traversed these mountains on the way to Abel Tassman Natl Park.



Patrick one of many Americans that has moved to New Zealand. Shown here on his wine vineyard. He grows on about 20 acres with many bottles selling for \$35 NZ or about \$27 U.S. He told us that when he migrated to NZ there were 156 wine vineyards, now there are 710 making it difficult for small growers to distribute/sell all of their product.

Motorway - freeway
 Naff off - go away, get lost, leave me alone
 Nana - grandmother, grandma
 Nappy - diaper
 North Cape to the Bluff - from one end of New Zealand to the other
 OE - Overseas Experience, many students go on their OE after finishing university, see the world
 Offsider - an assistant, someones friend, as in "we saw him and his offsider going down the road"
 Old bomb - old car
 Oldies - parents
 On the never never - paying for something using layby, not paying straight away
 Open slather - a free-for-all
 Pack a sad - bad mood, morose, ill-humoured, broken , as in "she packed a sad"
 Pakeha - non-Maori person
 Panel beater - auto repair shop, panel shop
 Pav - pavlova, dessert usually topped with kiwifruit and cream
 Perve - to stare
 Petrol - gasoline, gas
 Piece-of-piss - easy, not hard to do, as in "didn't take me long to do, it was a piece of piss"
 Pikelet - small pancake usually had with jam and whipped cream
 Piker - someone who gives up easy, slacker
 Pinky - little finger
 Piss around - waste time, muck around
 Pisshead - someone who drinks a lot of alcohol, heavy drinker
 Piss up - party, social gathering, excuse for drinking alcohol
 Pissed off - annoyed, angry, upset
 Plonk - cheap liquor, cheap wine
 Pong - bad smell, stink
 Postal code - zip code
 Pram - baby stroller, baby pushchair
 Pressie - present
 Pub - bar or hotel that serves liquor
 Pudding - dessert
 Pushing up daisies - dead and buried
 Quack - Medical doctor
 Randy - horny, wanting sex
 Rark up - telling somebody off
 Rattle your dags - hurry up, get moving
 Rellies - relatives, family
 Root - have sex, get sex
 Ropeable - very angry
 Ring - to telephone somebody, as in "I'll give you a ring"
 Rubbish - garbage, trash
 Rust bucket - decrepit motor car
 Scarce as hens teeth - very scarce, rare
 Scarfie - university student
 Scull - consume, drink quickly
 Scroggin - trampers high energy food



Queenstown as seen from Skipper Canyon rim.



Jet boating is a big sport and provides an excellent means to take in some fantastic scenery. This is along the Dart River outside of Queenstown. Way funn:)



The Fijords at Milford sound on the South Island..

Population

There are 4 million people in New Zealand. Most live in cities and only 15% live in rural areas, where they do, however, have 44 million sheep for company. Three quarters of the population lives in the North Island, and almost a third lives in Auckland, a Seattle-sized and sailing-obsessed city of a million people. Wellington, the capital (pop. 350,000), a small cousin of San Francisco. It has steep hills, wooden Victorian houses, a cable car and occasional earthquakes, is 400 miles south of Auckland at



Waikoropupu Springs on the north end of the North Island.



The Queenstown area on the South Island is known for all kinds of dare devil sports; hundreds line up to jump off a bridge, go figure:)



Scenery as seen from the Devil River, we think they are the Remarkable Mountains?

Climate

New Zealand is a maritime nation with a temperate climate . it has a great variety of weather but a much smaller range of temperatures. Wind, rain and bright sunshine can fast-forward through a morning, and re-

including dried fruits, chocolate
Serviette - paper napkin
Shandy - drink made with lemonade and beer
Shark and taties - fish and chips
Sheila - slang for woman/female
Shit a brick - exclamation of surprise or annoyance
Shoot through - to leave suddenly
Shout - to treat, to buy something for someone, as in "lunch is my shout"
Sickie - to take a day off work or school because you are sick
Skite - to boast, boasting, bragging
Snarler - sausage
Sook - cry baby, wimp
Sparkie - electrician
Sparrow fart - very early in the morning, sunrise
Sprog - child
Spud - potato
Squiz - take a quick look
Steinie - bottle of Steinlager, brand lager
Strapped for cash - low on cash, no money
Stubby - small glass bottle of beer
Sunday driver - someone who drives very slow
Sunnies - sunglasses
Ta - thanks
Take-aways - food to be taken away and eaten, fast food outlet
Tea - evening meal, dinner
Tights - pantyhose
Tiki tour - scenic tour, take the long route
Togs - swimsuit, bathing costume
Torch - flashlight
Tramping - hiking
Twink - white-out
Up the duff - pregnant
Ute - small pickup truck
Vegetes - vegetables
Wally - clown, silly person
Whinge - complain, moan
Wobbly - to have a tantrum
Wop-wops - situated off the beaten track, out of the way location
Yack - to have a conversation with a friend, to talk

the foot of the North Island. The main South Island cities are Christchurch (pop. 300,000), which is famously English, and Dunedin (pop. 100,000), still proudly Scottish. Most New Zealanders are of European descent and all speak English. The Maori, the country's original inhabitants, comprise 13% of the population. Much that is unique to New Zealand is derived from Maori culture. Pacific Islanders form a sizable part of the population, and there is a growing number of people of Asian origin.

wind through an afternoon. A daily forecast can provide a synopsis for a year's weather. The seasons in New Zealand, a country in the Southern Hemisphere, are opposite to those in North America. January is the warmest month of the New Zealand summer, July the coolest month of the winter. While the north is warmer than the south, the climate throughout the country is mild, summer temperatures rarely top 85 degrees and winter temperatures in the northern regions often reach 60 degrees. Rain can fall on most places at any time, but snow falls where it should, on the mountains. Sunhats and umbrellas are more useful than long-johns and air conditioners.