

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND COULD BE JUST THE PLACE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

Envied work-life balance

New Zealand, also known as Aotearoa in Maori, the other official language of the land, is known worldwide for its quality of life and relaxed pace.

New Zealanders have a strong work ethic but also believe in having a good work-life balance. Even in our biggest cities, you are never too far from a beach, bike trail or national park. We love the outdoors and like to make time for rest and relaxation with our friends and families.

In the 2020 HSBC Expat Explorer survey New Zealand was voted No.1 for Mindset (cultural values, personal development and personal achievements), No. 2 for Living, and No. 3 Overall.

Weather

New Zealand has a temperate climate, which means we have warm, dry summers — December to February (20-25 degrees celsius) — and mild, wet winters — June to August (5-10 degrees celsius). These are typical daytime temperatures.

New Zealand is a long country so the weather is different depending on where you live — warmer in the north, cooler in the south. For example, Queenstown near the bottom of the South Island gets winter snow, but that is very rare in a North Island place like Wellington. Never in Auckland.

New Zealand is renowned for its scenic beauty — from sweeping surf beaches, densely-wooded native forests and snow-covered volcanoes in the North Island to the mighty Southern Alps, unique braided rivers and deep fjords in the South Island. The breathtaking landscape is why New Zealand often features in movies with dramatic outdoor settings, like The Lord of the Rings.

You'll be amazed at the diversity you can explore in the four (or more) weeks of holiday New Zealanders enjoy annually.

New Zealanders are generally relaxed, friendly and easy to get along with.

Unique culture

New Zealand has a unique culture with strong Māori and Polynesian influences. This distinctive and dynamic 'Pasifika' feel to life here is like nowhere else.

In everyday life, there is a spirit of welcome that Māori call Manaakitanga, which means looking after guests. As a multicultural nation, we welcome everyone. You will notice that the equivalent Maori word -Te Reo are often spoken and published as it is an official language of New Zealand, *Aotearoa*.

Peaceful and democratic

In New Zealand, we are lucky to be far from the political issues troubling many other parts of the world. But we still take an interest in world affairs. We are active voters in our own country and enjoy a long tradition of calm and polite political debate.

Subsidised healthcare

Public healthcare in New Zealand is free or low cost — if you are a citizen, resident or hold a work visa valid for 2 years or more.

The New Zealand Government pays for some of our healthcare fees, which means you only have to pay a part of the fee when you see your local doctor — also known here as general practitioner or GP. This makes healthcare much more affordable than somewhere like the USA.

Accident and emergency treatment at hospitals is free, but you may need private healthcare for elective procedures (included in the Rabbis remuneration package).

Accident-related medical care

If you are injured in an accident, much of your medical and recovery costs are likely to be covered by our Accident Compensation scheme (ACC) — even if you were at fault. It is paid for by levies that get taken from your salary. Because of ACC, we do not sue for injuries in New Zealand.

Great environment for families

Families also feel very safe here. The 2020 Global Peace Index — comparing 160 countries for the risk of personal violence — rated New Zealand the world's second safest country after Iceland.

High-quality education

As the HSBC Expat Explorer puts it, "the quality of education in New Zealand is excellent."

It's well supported. Among OECD countries, New Zealand spends one of the highest proportions of its gross domestic product (GDP) on primary to tertiary educational institutions.

Education here is very focused on preparing young people for tomorrow's world. We ranked third out of 50 leading countries — just behind Finland and Sweden — in The Economist's 2019 Worldwide Educating for the Future Index (WEFFI).

There is a Jewish pre-school and day school, Kadimah School, associated with the community for children aged 3 through to pre-Bar Bat Mitzvah.

Organising the move

Once you make a decision to come to New Zealand, there will be a lot to organise. Top priorities is getting a visa to work in New Zealand if required and organising shipping your household contents to New Zealand. The Auckland

Hebrew Congregation will take care of both those critical aspects. You will just need to sort out money, banking and other household matters, and we can and will assist you with this process.

HISTORY OF THE AHC AND NEW ZEALAND JEWRY

New Zealand is one of the more fortunate countries in the world as a result of its location – its benign strategic environment, its climate, its extraordinary geography and its people.

Among the values, New Zealanders hold dear are fairness, inclusiveness and informality – values which Jewish New Zealanders share.

Jews have been present in New Zealand since the earliest days of European settlement, in the 1830s. Among those early migrants were the founding family of the Auckland Jewish community, a family whose descendants are still important members of the Auckland Hebrew Congregation and represented on its governing bodies.

New Zealand has never had a large Jewish community, but it is one which is well-integrated into the wider society. There have been Jewish Prime Ministers, Mayors, people prominent in business, the arts, education, medicine and philanthropy.

The places of origin for New Zealand Jews include Great Britain, Russia, South Africa and Israel, while others came from Europe before or following the Second World War.

Auckland, as the largest city in New Zealand, has attracted the greatest share of the Jewish community. The Auckland Hebrew Congregation (AHC) is the largest of the congregations and the longest established, having been founded in 1840. The AHC recognises the authority of the Chief Rabbi of the British Commonwealth, while Auckland's Senior Rabbi participates in the network of Rabbis of Orthodox Congregations of Australia and New Zealand.

The Auckland Hebrew Congregation has over 600 members and approximately 175 families.

For more than a hundred years, the Auckland Hebrew Congregation was the sole Jewish congregation in the city. It, therefore, became, and remains, the home for a wide range of observance on the part of congregants. While the

synagogue operates within a Modern Orthodox framework, few congregants are shomer Shabbat. There has always been a Zionist orientation at AHC.

AHC provides congregants services for Shabbat and Festivals; Bnei Akiva; Bar and Bat Mitzvah training; a kosher shop and Deli; liaison with the Chevra Kadisha for burial and benevolence; and a discreet relief fund.

After fifty years in its present location – a prestigious, inner-city complex which also includes Kadimah School – the congregation is looking forward to a move to a beautiful suburban setting, closer to where the bulk of the Jewish community lives.

AUCKLAND, IS WHERE TOURISTS WANT TO BE.....

Auckland, also known by its Maori name Tāmaki Makaurau, is the number one city to visit in 2022 according to publishers *Lonely Planet*. It was singled out by the Best in Travel list for its diversity in landscape and population, saying the 'Kiwi city has what international tourists are currently looking for'.

Lonely Planet's top five things to do in Auckland are:

- 1) A day at Piha and the west coast, black sand beaches
- 2) Ferrying to the Hauraki Gulf islands to spot endangered birdlife
- 3) A stroll around the Auckland Museum and Domain
- 4) Visiting the cutting edge of the city's culture at The Auckland Art Gallery
- 5) A day trip to Rangitoto Island or Maungawhau, to take in a city view from one of the 53 volcanic cones.

Proximity to the water is a defining feature of Auckland life and the city is blessed with huge diversity of hills, landscapes and beautiful beaches.

As our country's biggest city, Auckland is the ideal place to be based in order to explore all of the surrounding region, including the Hauraki Gulf islands and world-class beaches to the west and north.

A good coffee can be found in every suburb, with café culture a big part of the city and kiwi life!