

# **IMMIGRATION NEW ZEALAND VISA INFORMATION GUIDE**

## **62nd meeting of the Asia Pacific Advanced Network (APAN62)**

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## PLANNING TRAVEL TO NEW ZEALAND

This visa information guide includes some basic preparation and visa information to ensure that you can fulfil the entry requirements and processes for New Zealand and will contribute to your experience in New Zealand being positive and memorable.

Please note that the following content is provided for information only, all travellers must still meet their own individual entry and visa requirements relevant to their specific situation.

*Note that if you are travelling on a passport from Australia or New Zealand (including New Zealand passports issued to nationals of the Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau), you will not require a New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) or visa prior to travelling.*

We encourage people to continue to monitor the Immigration New Zealand (INZ) website [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz) for any changes to the visa requirements for entering New Zealand, and updated information on any travel requirements for New Zealand.

## IMMIGRATION AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

When planning your trip and before you leave, check to make sure you have all the travel documents you will need and that they are all up to date.

If you do not have the correct visa or travel authority when you check-in for your flight to New Zealand, you may not be able to board, or you may be refused entry on arrival in New Zealand. It is each traveller's responsibility to make sure you hold the correct visa or travel authority.

To travel to New Zealand, you will require prior permission from Immigration New Zealand. The visa you are eligible for depends on the passport you are travelling on and your main purpose for travel.

## NEW ZEALAND ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORITY (NZeTA)

If you are travelling to New Zealand as a visitor and you hold a passport from a "visa waiver country" listed in [Appendix A](#) and on the INZ website: [Visa waiver countries and territories | Immigration New Zealand](#) and intending to stay for less than three months, you will be able to travel to New Zealand on an NZeTA and may be granted a visitor visa on arrival, subject to meeting standard entry requirements (which includes sufficient funds, onward travel arrangements, and being of acceptable health and character).

You can request an NZeTA online at least 72 hours before you travel: New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) :: Immigration New Zealand

***Note that you cannot undertake work activities while on an NZeTA. If you are travelling to New Zealand for work purposes such as, undertaking testing, maintenance, or providing technical support, you will need to apply for a [Specific Purpose Work Visa](#) before travelling.***

## VISA CATEGORIES

If you need to apply for a visa before you travel, the type of visa you apply for will depend on the type of event/visit you are attending, your participation, as well as your intended length of stay as noted in the table below.

To explore the general documents required for each visa category, see [Appendix B](#) for a checklist for attendees. To also explore other visa options available visit the INZ website: [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz)

Participation in the event	Visa type required	
	Visa waiver country staying for less than three months	Non visa waiver country and/or visa waiver country staying for more than three months
General event attendees and participants	Request an NZeTA online <a href="#">New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority (NZeTA) :: Immigration New Zealand</a>	Apply for a Visitor Visa General online here: <a href="#">Visitor Visa: Visa details   Immigration New Zealand</a>  If you are travelling in, and visiting New Zealand for the same purpose, and have a group leader organising the trip, apply for a Group Visitor Visa here: <a href="#">Group Visitor Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a> [refer to <a href="#">APPLY FOR A GROUP VISA</a> for more information]  <b>Note:</b> Attendees should not apply for a Business Visitor visa unless they are coming in for <a href="#">business reasons</a> relevant to that category.
Workers, non-accredited media/broadcasting personnel, tour guides (if any)	Apply for a work visa under Specific Purpose category here: <a href="#">Specific Purpose Work Visa: Visa details   Immigration New Zealand</a>  If you are travelling with a group for the same purpose, with the same travel arrangements and have a group leader organising the trip. You can submit a group of applications together online here: <a href="#">Submitting group applications   Immigration New Zealand</a>	Apply for a work visa under specific purpose category here: <a href="#">Specific Purpose Work Visa: Visa details   Immigration New Zealand</a>  If you are travelling in, and visiting New Zealand for the same purpose, and have a group leader organising the trip, you can submit a group of applications together online here: <a href="#">Submitting group applications   Immigration New Zealand</a>
Travelling as a tour escort to support a tour group	Request an NZeTA online - <a href="#">NZeTA application - request an NZeTA   Immigration New Zealand</a> (Also carry a letter from your	Apply for a Tour Escort Visitor Visa online here: <a href="http://immigration.govt.nz/tour-escort-visitor-visa">immigration.govt.nz/tour-escort-visitor-visa</a>

<p><i>Note: A tour escort is different to a tour guide who is employed by a New Zealand employer. Tour escorts must be employed by an employer outside of New Zealand.</i></p>	<p>offshore employer)</p>	<p>If you are travelling in, and visiting New Zealand for the same purpose, and have a group leader organising the trip, apply for a Group Visitor Visa here: <a href="#">Group Visitor Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a> [refer to <a href="#">APPLY FOR A GROUP VISA</a> for more information]</p>
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## APPLY FOR A GROUP VISA

If you are part of a group travelling in, and visiting New Zealand for the same purpose, and have a group leader organising the trip, contact your event organiser/host to consider applying for a Group Visitor Visa here: [Group Visitor Visa | Immigration New Zealand](#) to ensure your applications can be processed together.

- If you are applying for a Group Visitor Visa online, please ensure you choose the following visa type marked in red:

Is this an application for a group of visitors, \*  Yes  No  
travelling together for the same purpose?

What type of visitors are they? \*

An Approved Destination Status (ADS) group of visitors

A group of visitors attending an approved meeting, incentive, conference or exhibition (MICE)

A group of visiting Government representatives or Foreign Affairs Officials (FAO)

Another group of visitors not described above

## FEES

People travelling under the visa waiver provisions who request an NZeTA will need to pay the NZeTA application fee. This fee includes the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy. Information on fees for an NZeTA can be found here: [NZeTA](#)

Anyone who will be applying for a visa (visitor or work) will need to pay the visa application fee. Any facilitation fees charged by the Visa Application Centres will also require payment. You can find out how much it will cost to apply, where to send your application or passport, and how long a decision will take here: [Fees, decision times and where to apply | Immigration New Zealand](#)

## APPLY IN GOOD TIME

Please ensure that visa applications are submitted well before your intended travel date. It is recommended you apply at least four weeks in advance. Please also ensure that you check whether your proposed travel route will require any transit visas and allow sufficient time to obtain these.



Visit the INZ website to find out how long it takes us to process an NZeTA, visitor, student, work and other visas: [How long it takes to process an application :: Immigration New Zealand](#)

## **ONCE YOUR APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED**

Once your application has been submitted online you do not need to send us a physical copy of your passport. If we need to see your physical passport to confirm your identity, we will either email you after you submit your application or tell you on the acknowledgement page when you complete your online application. Do not send your physical passport to INZ unless you have been advised to by an INZ processing officer.

If your application is approved, you will be granted an electronic visa (eVisa) which will be uploaded on your Immigration ONLINE account. You must print this and carry it with you when you travel.

You can check the status of your visa application online: [Checking your visa application status :: Immigration New Zealand](#)

## **ESCALATION FOR URGENT VISA APPLICATIONS**

INZ usually allocate applications for visas by the date we receive them, from the oldest first, which is why it is important to submit your application in at least four weeks in advance of your intended travel. When we allocate an application, it means we assign it to an immigration officer to start assessing it.

In some cases, you can make a request for urgent allocation. Your request must have a compelling or very important reason for your application to be allocated urgently. This includes:

- compelling personal and business circumstances
- humanitarian factors, and
- matters of national interest.

To make a request visit the INZ website here: [Escalation for urgent applications : Immigration New Zealand](#)

## **PASSPORT**

To board your flight to New Zealand you need a valid passport or travel document. You may not be allowed to check in if your passport is not valid for travel to New Zealand. Check that your passport will not expire until:

- three months after the date you plan to leave New Zealand, or
- one month after the date you plan to leave New Zealand – if your passport was issued by a country that has a New Zealand embassy or consulate that issues passports of that country.



## **NEW ZEALAND TRAVELLER DECLARATION**

Anyone travelling to New Zealand must complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration (NZTD). The NZTD can be submitted up to 24 hours in advance of travel. This form is available on [www.travellerdeclaration.govt.nz](http://www.travellerdeclaration.govt.nz). Passengers may choose between a web form and a mobile app. There are also paper declarations available for passengers on arrival for those unable to complete the digital declaration. This form is only required if you intend entering New Zealand. It is not required for transit passengers.

## APPENDIX A

# VISA WAIVER COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Citizens of the following countries do not require a visa to travel to New Zealand but must hold an NZeTA (New Zealand Electronic Travel Authority), if they are visiting for three months or less, and as long as the purpose of the visit is for a lawful purpose as specified in immigration instructions.

For more details on visa exemptions, what a lawful purpose is and to request an NZeTA visit the INZ website: [Visa waiver countries and territories :: Immigration New Zealand](#)

### The following are visa waiver countries and territories

Andorra	Macau (only if you have a Macau Special Administrative Region passport)
Argentina	Malaysia
Austria	Malta
Bahrain	Mauritius
Belgium	Mexico
Brazil	Monaco
Brunei	Netherlands
Bulgaria	Norway
Canada	Oman
Chile	Poland
Croatia	Portugal (if you have the right to live permanently in Portugal)
Cyprus	Qatar
Czech Republic	Romania
Denmark	San Marino
Estonia (citizens only)	Saudi Arabia
Finland	Seychelles
France	Singapore
Germany	Slovak Republic
Greece	Slovenia
Hong Kong (residents with HKSAR or British National-Overseas passports only)	Spain
Hungary	Sweden
Iceland	Switzerland
Ireland	Taiwan (if you are a permanent resident)
Israel	United Arab Emirates
Italy	United Kingdom (UK) (if you are travelling on a UK or British passport that shows you have the right to reside permanently in the UK)
Japan	United States of America (USA) (including USA nationals)
Korea, South	Uruguay
Kuwait	Vatican City
Latvia (citizens only)	
Liechtenstein	
Lithuania (citizens only)	
Luxembourg	

## APPENDIX B

# CHECKLIST FOR EVENT ATTENDEES

If you have been invited to attend an event hosted in New Zealand, check if you are eligible to travel in on an NZeTA: <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/nzeta>

The visa you apply for will depend on the type of event you are attending and your participation within the event. Make sure you apply for the most appropriate visa at least four weeks before your intended travel. Immigration New Zealand may request further information.

Visitor Visa General <i>For those travelling to attend an event as visitors</i>	Tour Escort Visitor Visa <i>If you are coming as a tour escort</i>	Specific Purpose Work Visa <i>If you are travelling to undertake work</i>
Apply online: <a href="#">Visitor Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a>	Apply online: <a href="#">Tour Escort Visitor Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a>	Apply online: <a href="#">Specific Purpose Work Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a>
Copy of passport with at least three months validity or a Certificate of Identity	Copy of passport with at least three months validity or a Certificate of Identity	Copy of passport with at least three months validity or a Certificate of Identity
1x acceptable photo less than six months old	1x acceptable photo less than six months old	1x acceptable photo less than six months old
Application fee	Application fee	Application fee
Personal cover letter outlining intended travel dates and plans in New Zealand	Personal cover letter outlining intended travel dates and plans in New Zealand	Personal cover letter outlining intended travel dates and plans in New Zealand
Invitation letter issued by event organiser/ host confirming event details and your participation in the event	Invitation letter issued by event organiser/ host confirming event details and your participation in the event	Invitation letter issued by event organiser/ host confirming event details and your participation in the event
Evidence of funds or sponsorship	Evidence of funds or sponsorship	Evidence of funds or sponsorship

Evidence of onward travel (if not sponsored)	Evidence of onward travel (if not sponsored)	Evidence of onward travel (if not sponsored)
Evidence of personal circumstances in home country to support you are a genuine visitor intending a temporary stay	Letter from your employer less than 12months old that confirms your work as a <a href="#">tour escort</a> .	Evidence that the nature of your work or the circumstances surrounding your work are such that it is not possible or appropriate for a New Zealand citizen or resident to take up the work
Evidence of relationship with any family members included in your application	Your employer must be located outside New Zealand	If you will be employed in New Zealand, evidence of a job offer and a completed Employer Supplementary Form (INZ 1113)
Any other documents that show that you meet the criteria for the visa you are applying for – more details here: <a href="#">Visitor Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a>	You must also live outside New Zealand and are arriving and departing New Zealand with a tour group	We may require evidence of your qualifications and/or experiences if necessary to carrying out the event, i.e evidence of accreditation if you are working as a media personnel
	Any other documents that show that you meet the criteria for the visa you are applying for – more details here: <a href="#">Tour Escort Visitor Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a>	Any other documents that show that you meet the criteria for the visa you are applying for – more details here: <a href="#">Specific Purpose Work Visa   Immigration New Zealand</a>