



Encircled by three sparkling harbours, the vibrant and multicultural city of Auckland provides an ideal stage for world-class business events, conferences and incentive travel experiences. Situated in the north of New Zealand's North Island, the country's largest city and commercial hub is home to 1.5 million people. It offers outstanding accommodation, fine food and wine, beautiful islands and superb shopping, sights and attractions.

## ACCESS

Over 70 per cent of all international arrivals to New Zealand land at Auckland Airport, 20km south of Auckland's central city. Most will then travel into the city by organised transport, taxi or shuttle, or catch the inexpensive and regular Airbus. Australasia's second largest airport, named Best Airport in Australasia Pacific for the seventh year in a row\*, is well connected to all corners of the globe. Auckland Airport is served by more than 20 international airlines flying direct to Auckland from all around the world and is a gateway to many domestic connections around New Zealand.

\* 2015 SKYTRAX World Airport Awards AT A GLANCE

## VENUES

Auckland Conventions Venues and Events manages seven venues around the city. Within their portfolio is the Viaduct Events Centre, one of Auckland's newest purpose built venues, situated on the waterfront with a banquet capacity of 1,200 people.

Other venues include the internationally acclaimed Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, which is suitable for hosting a wide range of events from gala dinners to car launches; Aotea Centre's ASB Theatre, with a capacity of 2,139 people; and Auckland Town Hall, with room for 1,529 people theatre style in its Great Hall.

For views over the Waitemata Harbour, it's hard to beat The Cloud and the neighbouring Shed 10. These two well-presented and strikingly different venues are located in the heart of Auckland's bustling waterfront and can cater for up to 8,000 people for cocktails between them. There are plenty of other centrally located options as well.

Auckland War Memorial Museum's spectacular Event Centre provides 360-degree views over the city and banquet capacity for up to 450 people. Other choices range from the multipurpose Vector Arena, with seating for 10,000 or a capacity of 1,800 for a banquet dinner, to state of the art SKYCITY Auckland Convention Centre, which can host everything from mega launches to intimate gatherings for groups ranging from 20 to 1,500.

### Facts:

- Population: 1.5 million people
- 20 km Airport to City
- Accommodation: 6,000 rooms in the CBD
- Venue capacity: 2,000 theatre style or 10,000 stadium style

### Claim to fame:

- New Zealand's largest city and major international gateway
- Sparkling harbours, islands, beaches and rainforests
- Metropolitan city - hip bars, buzzing cafes, designer stores



The Cloud

## ACCOMMODATION

Auckland offers a vast range of accommodation suitable for business, conference and incentive travel groups of all sizes. There are more than 6,000 hotel rooms available in the central city alone, in styles ranging from five star and luxury boutique hotels to mid-range hotels and serviced apartments. Motels, bed and breakfasts and backpacker hostels are also available.

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## GETTING AROUND

Auckland's modern transport network makes it easy for visitors to explore the city's attractions and access major hotels and conference venues. A city circuit bus services the central city, while Auckland's LINK bus provides access to the suburbs and links with the city's rail and ferry services. Modern ferries allow visitors to access a number of the islands of the Hauraki Gulf, including a 35-minute trip to Waiheke Island, known for its enticing vineyards and beautiful golden beaches and was named as one of the world's top regions in 2015 by Lonely Planet.

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## MEMORABLE INCENTIVE EXPERIENCES

**ENJOY** a short ferry ride to Waiheke Island to sample award winning wine and visit an olive estate for a taste of extra virgin olive oil. While you're there, try clay-bird shooting or archery among the vines with Wild on Waiheke, or go ziplining in stunning native forest with EcoZip Adventures.

**EXPLORE** the Viaduct Harbour area or go sailing on an America's Cup yacht with Explore Events. Other options in and around the harbour include boat cruises, bridge climbing, bungee jumping and jet boating.

**VISIT** the 328-metre-high Sky Tower, New Zealand's tallest man-made structure. Adventurous visitors can 'SkyWalk' around the tower's 192-metre-high walkway or 'SkyJump' from it.

**EXPERIENCE** outstanding shopping in Auckland. Names like Karen Walker, Kate Sylvester, Zambesi and WORLD have gained international acclaim. There's everything from designer labels and Polynesian markets to shopping malls and more.

**CLIMB** one of the 48 dormant volcanic cones around the Auckland region. Walk to the summit of Mt Eden, which erupted 15,000 years ago, or catch a ferry across the harbour to Auckland's youngest volcano, Rangitoto, for spectacular views back to the city.

**IMMERSE** yourself in Auckland's natural playground. Just 40 minutes drive west of the city centre you'll discover pristine native bush, coastal rainforest and rugged black sand beaches.

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## MEMORABLE PRE AND POST TOURING OPTIONS

**CRUISE** or take a flight-seeing tour to Great Barrier Island, in the outer Hauraki Gulf. The island offers a wonderful range of activities and natural attractions. From tramping through native forest, to sea kayaking around coves and inlets, there are endless ways to explore this stunning adventurer's paradise.

**JOURNEY** an hour north of Auckland to Matakana, a place where the good things in life are found in abundance. Matakana is home to a flourishing wine industry, pristine beaches, golf, kayaking, diving and local crafts. It is a great place to relax and rejuvenate.

**FOLLOW** the Twin Coast Discovery Highway north to see Northland's golden beaches, ancient kauri forests and spiritual Cape Reinga, where the Tasman Sea and Pacific Ocean meet at the northern tip of New Zealand.

**TOUR** southeast along the Pacific Coast Highway to experience the beautiful beaches of the Coromandel and Bay of Plenty, the Māori culture and history of East Cape and Gisborne, and the wine and art deco architecture of Hawke's Bay.

**VISIT** some of New Zealand's most picturesque coastal towns and beaches in the nearby Bay of Islands. While you're there, step onto the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, considered the birth place of New Zealand as a bicultural nation.

**EMBARK** on a magical journey through Middle-earth. Day-tours run from Auckland down to Matamata where you can explore the Hobbiton™ Movie Set.



Auckland Harbour Bridge



Sailing on the Waitemata Harbour



SkyJump



Waitemata Harbour



Waiheke Island