Your Quick Guide to Wellington

Wellington is the capital and most populous city of New Zealand. It is situated on the north-west coast of the North Island, and forms the northern part of the greater Wellington region, which includes the capital city, the Hutt Valley, and Porirua City. Wellington is known for its unique combination of marine, rural, and urban landscapes, as well as its vibrant cultural and artistic scene. This city is a great choice for those who love outdoor activities, arts and culture, and exploring New Zealand's landscapes.

See and do

1. **Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa**
   - See why New Zealand’s incredible national museum is on Lonely Planet’s list of the top 500 places to visit. Entry is free.

2. **Wellington Zoo**
   - Get up close to native and exotic animals at the world’s first carbon zero zoo certified by CarbonNZero.

3. **Zealandia Te Māra a Tāne**
   - This world-first, predator-free ecosanctuary is full of New Zealand’s native birds, wildlife, and regenerating bush.

4. **Wētā Cave**
   - Go behind the scenes to see movie-making magic and the exceptional skill of Wētā Workshop.

5. **Stunning views**
   - Walk or drive to the top of Mount Victoria, ride the Wellington Cable Car to its lookout in the Botanic Garden, or head out for a walk along one of Wellington’s many regional trails.

6. **Catch a show**
   - Wellington is the cultural capital of New Zealand, and there are always music, art, and theatre events happening around the city. Visit WellingtonNZ.com to find out what’s on.

7. **Weekend markets**
   - Wellington has a bustling weekend market scene. Look out for fresh produce, locally made arts and crafts, and delicious kiwi from food trucks.

Eat and Drink

- **Café culture**: Locally roasted coffee can be found in most cafés. With around 20 roasters in Wellington, there’s often the scent of freshly roasted beans in the air.

- **Craft beer**: Wellington is home to an ever-growing number of breweries creating delicious beers that will refresh and challenge you in equal parts.

- **Culinary capital**: Explore the waterfront, Courtenay Place, Cuba Street, Hannahs Laneeway, and Lombard Lane for delicious food for every budget.

Shopping

Shopping in Wellington is a delight - not only because of the range of stores, but because the city’s compact nature means that it’s very walkable.

Cuba Street: Quirky boutiques and high-quality vintage stores.

Glazneew Street: Cutting-edge curated clothing and homewares.

Lambton Quay: High street and department store shopping.

Wakefield and Victoria Streets: Fashion by local and New Zealand designers.

CamperVan Parking

Find self-contained campervan parking locations at wcc.govt.nz/camping and check availability using the CamperMate App on your mobile.

COVID-19

- For official COVID-19 information from the New Zealand Government, please visit covid19.govt.nz.

Accessibility

Wellington has a compact city centre, and most attractions and public buildings can be easily accessed. Visit WellingtonNZ.com/accessibility for information including where to borrow a mobility scooter and recommendations on accessible facilities, walkways, and attractions in Wellington.

Getting Around

Central Wellington is very compact, you’ll never be more than a five-minute walk from bars, cafés, theatres, and shopping.

- **Public transport**: Information about buses, trains, the Cable Car and the East by West ferry can be found at metlink.org.nz.

- **Bikes and E-bikes**: Head to Mud Cycles, Switched on Bikes or iRide to get your bike hire sorted.

- **Taxis**: Several services operate in the Wellington region, such as Wellington Combined Taxis, and Hunt & City Taxis. You can call for a ride, or find a taxi at designated Taxi Stands around the city. If you prefer to use a ride-share app, we recommend the Wellington-developed app Zoomy.

- **Car Share**: All the convenience of a rental car, but with added flexibility and freedom. Two services operate in Wellington: Mevo (mevo.co.nz) and Cityhop (cityhop.co.nz).

Walkways

- **City to Sea Walkway**: See the best of Wellington by walking from the heart of the city to Island Bay. 6-7 hours (intermediate: tramping track)

- **Southern Walkway**: Wind your way along the Town Belt from Oriental Bay to Island Bay. 4-5 hours (easy)

- **Northern Walkway**: Discover abandoned railway tunnels and expansive views on this walk through Wellington’s outer green belt. 4-5 hours (easy)

- **Skyline Walkway**: Journey along Wellington’s highest peaks from Mākāra Saddle to the summit of Mount Kaukau, ending in Johnsonville. 5 hours (easy)

- **Eastern Walkway**: Walk through native bush and take in sweeping views over Miramar Peninsula before looping back with an easy stroll along the coastline from Breaker Bay. 1 hour 30 mins (easy)

- **Te Ara Moana | Waterfront Walkway | Writers Walk**: Wander along a wide footpath from the Railway Station to Oriental Bay and discover public sculptures, the words of writers and poets in stone, and places to stop for a coffee or gelato. 40 mins (easy)