
VISA ESSENTIALS
A GUIDE TO
VISITING
NEW ZEALAND

FEBRUARY 2025



ParryField
Lawyers

To the heart of what matters.

Client Testimonial

“All work has been of the
highest standard and all my
communications answered
extremely promptly ... I just
wanted to take the time
to thank you all for
excellent service.”

To the heart of what matters. 

About us



We provide practical legal assistance that gets
“to the heart of what matters.”
No jargon, we get straight to it.

We have experience in all aspects of immigration law and offer professional, reliable and comprehensive legal advice and assistance with your immigration needs.

We understand the confusion arising when faced with so many different immigration categories and policies. Our goal is to serve you in a professional and efficient way by assessing your immigration status, giving you realistic options and preparing your applications (in consultation with you).

WHY CHOOSE US :

Cost-effective: We are dedicated to providing competitive pricing for our services. Your interests are our priority.

Size: We are not the biggest or the smallest! Our team of more than 80 staff are well-resourced to ensure high-quality work, yet can still be fast-moving and nimble. We are not constrained by resources nor rigid processes.

Location: We understand the importance and dynamics of local knowledge and operations.

Innovative: Sometimes things call for a different approach. We enjoy being a law firm who challenge the way law firms traditionally work with their clients.

Client-focussed: We prioritise forming strong relationships with clients and gaining a better understanding of their needs. Our advice is not one-size-fits-all, rather bespoke solutions to each client's unique situation.

A GUIDE TO APPLYING FOR *A VISITOR VISA*

New Zealand (NZ) is renowned for its stunning landscapes, diverse wildlife, and vibrant culture, making it a popular destination for tourists and those visiting family.

We are here to guide you through the process and offer tips to make your application smoother.



WHO NEEDS A VISITOR VISA

You will need a visitor visa if you are neither of the following:

- Not a NZ citizen or resident visa holder.
- A non-visa waiver visitor or do not hold an NZeTA.

You can apply for the following types of visitor visas based on your purpose of travel:

1. **General Visitor Visa** – If you want to:

- Have a holiday in NZ for up to six or nine months.
- Visit family and friends in NZ for up to six or nine months.
- Study for up to 3 months.

2. **Business Visitor Visa, Sport Event Visitor Visa, and Medical Treatment Visitor Visa** –

If you want to:

- Discuss or negotiate business arrangements for up to three months.
- Attend a sports event or tour up to three months.
- Receive medical treatment or consultation in NZ for up to six months.

If you want to:

- Accompany your child who is an international student.
- Reunite with your partner, children, or grandchildren temporarily or permanently.

PLEASE REFER TO OUR "**A GUIDE TO STUDYING IN NEW ZEALAND**"
AND "**A GUIDE TO REUNITING WITH YOUR FAMILY**" FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.



WHEN YOU NEED TO APPLY

A general visitor visa is usually processed within weeks. However, during peak travel periods like summer, processing times may be longer. We recommend applying as soon as your travel plans are finalised.



WHAT YOU NEED TO PREPARE

For a **General Visitor Visa**, you will need:

- **Valid Passport:** Ensure your passport is valid for at least 3 months after your planned departure date from NZ.
- **Chest X-Ray/Medical Examination:** May be required depending on the duration of your stay.
- **Police Certificate:** May be required depending on the length of your stay.
- **Evidence of Genuine Intentions:** Provide proof of the purpose of your visit, such as detailed travel plans.
- **Family Relationships:** If traveling with a partner or dependent children, provide evidence of their identity, good character, and good health.
- **Funds or Sponsorship:** You must show proof of sufficient funds to support yourself during your stay. You will need:
 - Evidence of sufficient funds which might include bank statements and pre-booked hotel receipts; or
 - An acceptable sponsor.
- **Onward Travel:** Proof of a return ticket or funds to purchase one.
- **Agreement to Cover Healthcare Costs:** Acknowledgment that you will pay for any healthcare costs incurred during your visit.
- **Certified English Translations:** All documents that are not in English must be accompanied by certified full English translations.

For a **Business Visitor Visa**, in addition to the requirement for a general visitor visa, you will need evidence of:

- Your employment.
- The business reasons for your visit, such as:
 - Participation in an official trade mission recognised by the NZ government.
 - Selling or buying goods and services in NZ.
 - Negotiating or discussing the setup, expansion, or winding up of a business.
 - Conducting business with authorised representatives of overseas entities.

For a **Sport Event Visitor Visa**, in addition to the requirement for a General Visitor Visa, you will need evidence of:

- Your role in the event if you are a sports participant or support staff, demonstrating that you're essential to the success of the event, tour, or tournament.
- Your accreditation if you are media or broadcasting personnel, either from the international governing body of the event or the NZ organising committee.

For a **Medical Treatment Visitor Visa**, in addition to the General Visitor Visa requirements, you will need:

- A completed 'Details of Intended Medical Treatment' form.
- Written evidence of your acceptance for treatment, such as a letter from medical authorities.
- Details of the expected treatment costs.
- Proof that you can pay for your medical expenses, unless the treatment is covered by special arrangements for South Pacific citizens.
- If necessary, evidence that you require an escort due to your condition.



HOW TO APPLY

- Online: The quickest and easiest way to apply is online via the Immigration New Zealand website. We highly recommend to apply online.
- Paper Application: You can also submit a paper application at a NZ Visa Application Centre. The details of receiving centre will depend on the country you live.

Please ensure you upload or attach all necessary documents when submitting your application.



TIPS

- Check Processing Times: Be aware of processing times and allow extra time for any potential delays.
- Accurate Information: Ensure all information provided is accurate and up to date. Small errors can lead to delays, especially when boarding your flight.
- Keep Copies: Make sure to keep copies of all documents and forms submitted.
- Prepare Early: Gather all required documents well in advance to avoid any last-minute issues.

- **Demonstrate Genuine Intentions:** You can strengthen your application by including documents like proof of employment, property ownership, return flight tickets, or a letter explaining your intentions. If you apply for offshore and do not provide sufficient evidence to satisfy INZ you are a genuine visitor, INZ do not have to give you an opportunity to respond to their concerns and can decline your visa application.
- **Ensure You Apply For The Right Visitor Visa Type:** If you apply for the wrong type of visitor visa, you may be denied boarding to travel / entry to NZ.



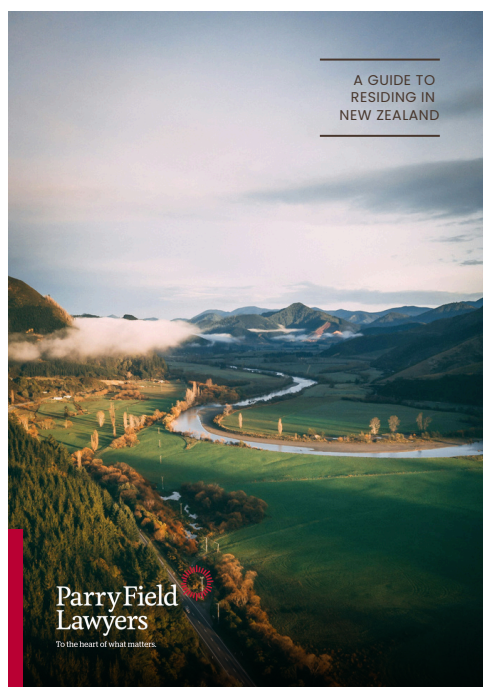
Other free guides at parryfield.com include:



[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD](#)



[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD](#)



[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD](#)



[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD](#)



WRITTEN BY PARRY FIELD LAWYERS
PARRYFIELD.COM

These materials remain the property of Parry Field Lawyers Limited.
If you wish to use them, please acknowledge the source (Parry Field Lawyers).

Notice of Disclaimer: Please note that this guide is not a substitute for legal advice and you should contact your lawyer about your specific situation. Please feel free to contact us by email immigration@parryfield.com or by phone +64 3348 8480