

Kia Ora! Here are our top 10 tips for traveling through New Zealand...

- If you're planning on hiking in New Zealand, then pack for every possible weather condition. If you hike the Tongariro National Crossing for example, you are likely to witness all four seasons throughout the trek, pack accordingly.
- No matter the weather, wear sunscreen! There is a hole in the O-zone layer between Australia and New Zealand and you will burn. Pack your factor 30 at all times.
- Tipping is not common practice in New Zealand. Unless you feel you have had exceptional service and want to leave a little something for your waiter, it is not expected at all.
- Buying alcohol or trying to get into a club? Your passport is the only form of ID that is accepted here, keep it with you but always make sure it's safe.
- Make sure you have enough time to do all of the crazy activities Queenstown has to offer. From bungee jumping to skydiving, canyon swings to trying the famous fergburger!

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- Make sure you stop off at Hot Water Beach when traveling through the Coromandel, hire a spade locally and dig out a hole in the sand. Wait for the sun to go down and hop in, the water is warm and it's like having a bath while the sun sets. Grab some beers and you're set!
- Customs are super strict, you have to fill out a card on arrival of what you are bringing into the country, any food must be declared and you may have to dispose of it otherwise you'll face a \$400 fine.
- A Hop on Hop off bus pass or campervans are a great way to travel both islands, this way you can take your time and really soak in everything the country has to offer. If hiring a campervan book to drop it off on the opposite island that you start, so you don't have to pay the ferry crossing twice.
- Whether you are a big fan of The Hobbit or LOTR you MUST visit Hobbiton! The scenery is incredible, the knowledge the staff have is amazing and if you book onto a banquet tour, you will not be disappointed!
- Visit Waitomo glow worm caves! Whether you book on to one of the boat rides, go black water rafting or abseil in and out of the cave, this natural attraction is one of the north islands biggest.

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