



RELOCATIONS INTERNATIONAL

— NEW ZEALAND —

Newsletter 2018

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We hope you have happily settled into Auckland and overcome whatever obstacles may have arisen along the way. As we all know the best planned relocations will have challenges and we learn to embrace these and move on. We are sure your commitment to Auckland will be worth it and hopefully now you can all look forward to some special family times in the city of Sails and 2018.



Networking Morning Tea (first photo) and drinks evening with the partners (second photo)

We run these regularly at Libby Svensen's home and this is a small group we had of recently relocated women. These gatherings are very successful and result in shared stories, support around common challenges and often friendships. The photo on the right is a great night we had at the Tyler Street Rooftop bar with the partners also, so they didn't feel left out!

Snapshot of Aucklanders March 2018

33.4% of NZ's total population live in Auckland

Auckland total population 1.53

New Zealand total population 4,749,598

335 of all New Zealanders are employed by Auckland businesses

42.5 percent of Aucklanders have a post school qualification.

The unemployment rate is 5.1 % of people over 15 years in Auckland

Medium house sale prices in February 2018 in Auckland was \$1053,848

Couples with children make up 46.3 percent of all families in Auckland Region, while couples without children make up 34.8 percent of all families. The household median income in Auckland Region is \$56,000.

This compares with a median of \$44,800 for all of New Zealand. 17.7 percent of households in Auckland Region have access to three or more motor vehicles, compared with 15.9 percent of all households in New Zealand.

- 59.3 percent of people in Auckland Region belong to the European ethnic group, compared with 74 percent for New Zealand as a whole.
- 11.1 percent of people in Auckland Region belong to the Māori ethnic group, compared with 14.6 percent for all of New Zealand.

Ratings of New Zealand

- For four years in a row Mercer has rated Auckland as the third most desirable city to reside in.
- Expat Explorer Survey by HSBC rates New Zealand as the second best country in the world for achieving the balance between a satisfying career and time for friends and family.
- The Economist rated NZ ninth in 2017 for the ranking of the world's most livable cities
- Auckland has the most culturally diverse population with 59.3% of people in the region belonging to the European ethnic group, as compared to 74% for the rest of NZ (Newshub 2016)
- Auckland Average rent prices are \$550 per week , which accounts for 32% of the average household income.
- Residential rents in Auckland have increased 24.4% over the past 5 years (CML)
- New Zealand is rated as the second least corrupt country in the world behind Iceland (2017 Global Peace Index).
- 50% of Migrants settle in Auckland

Political

- Prime Minister John Key shocked the country by announcing he would step down on 12 December 2017 for family reasons. Key, who served for three terms as Prime Minister, is credited with implementing sound macroeconomic policies that have enabled the Kiwi economy to weather a global economic cooldown and outperform most industrialized economies in the past few years. Bill English took over but lost the election Jacinda Ahearn who was voted in with the Labour Party as the new Prime Minister. In March Bill English resigned and Simon Bridges became the opposition leader for the national Party. While the political landscape has shifted dramatically, the economy remains resilient.

Interesting & Fun Facts About Auckland

- Auckland is the largest as well as the most populous urban area of New Zealand.
- In September the National Party lead by John Key was voted in for a third term
- Auckland was originally inhabited by the Maori people.
- 'Rangitoto' is a baby volcano in Auckland and is only about 600-700 years old when compared to the other giant volcanoes.
- There are about 50 volcanoes in Auckland, all of which were active in the last 600 years or so.
- Auckland houses the largest Polynesian population of any city in the world.
- Auckland has two harbours on two separate major bodies of water, namely Manukau Harbor on the Tasman Sea and the Waitemata Harbor on the Pacific Ocean.
- The Harbour Bridge in Auckland has 8 lanes and the central barrier in the bridge is moveable.
- The largest volcano located in Auckland is in the Rangitoto Island.
- According to recent studies, the city's population is expected to grow over 50% in the next 50 years.
- English is the official language spoken in the city. However, since this place is largely Polynesian, a large number of other languages such as Asian and Maori languages are also spoken widely.
- Auckland is located on and around an isthmus, with its narrowest point merely 2 kilometers in width, which is between Mangere Inlet and the Tamaki River.
- With regard to the quality of life, Auckland consistently ranks in the top 10 major cities of the world.
- There are over 800 restaurants in Auckland.

- Auckland has a perfect, 100 km of coastline and is home to some of the most stunning beaches in the world.
- Auckland is commonly referred as the "City of Sails", because the harbor is flanked by hundreds of yachts and has more yachts per capita than any other city in the world.
- The Sky Tower located in Auckland is the tallest free standing structure in the entire Southern Hemisphere.
- Auckland houses approximately 30 percent of the world's total population of yellow-eyed penguin, which is also bred here.
- There are exactly 23 regional parks, situated in Auckland.
- Auckland was the capital of New Zealand from 1842-1865.
- The 'Sky Tower', is the tallest building located south of the Equator, which is located in Auckland.
- The principal tribes that still exist in Auckland today are the 'Ngati Whatua', 'Te Kawerau-a-Maki', 'Ngati Paoa' and the 'Waikato'.
- Auckland is best known as the 'mecca' for water sports and is the cultural epicenter of New Zealand.

Waterfront Plan



The Waterfront Plan sets out the vision and goals for Auckland's city centre waterfront and contains a range of short, medium and long-term initiatives that will continue to transform this part of the city. Some of the projects in the Waterfront Plan include:

- A 10km promenade and cycleway along the edge of the waterfront from Harbour Bridge to TEAL Park.
- A linear park through the Wynyard Quarter that will link Victoria Park to the future headland park on Wynyard Point.
- A new cruise terminal in Shed 10 on Queens Wharf, accommodates 200,000 visitors
- A 4.5 hectare park on Wynyard Point.
- A light rail system linking the Wynyard Quarter to the city.

Things you can do in Auckland



America's Cup Yacht

The 2021 America's Cup is the upcoming edition of the America's Cup yacht race. It will be contested by the winner of the 2017 America's Cup, Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron, represented by their team



Bungy Jumping

Scare yourself senseless bungy jumping off the Auckland Harbour Bridge.



Learn to Fly

Take up flying light aircraft or helicopters at one of Auckland's flying clubs.



Auckland Golf

There are many well designed golf courses in this beautiful part of New Zealand.



Auckland Boats

Boats are very popular in Auckland due to the fact everyone lives close to the sea.



Auckland Sports

Sports and outdoor activities are a real passion for Aucklanders. Find out what's going on.

Water Sports

There are many kinds of outdoor water sports for you to enjoy in and around Auckland.

<http://www.aucklandlifestyle.com/auckland-activities.html>

What's on in Auckland <http://www.eventfinder.co.nz>

With so many events in Auckland there's never a dull moment - from major sports matches and cultural festivals to international stage shows, there's something for everyone.



January - ASB Classic

ASB Stadium

Catch some of the top male and female international tennis players in action at the ASB Auckland Arena for two weeks of world class tennis. While you're there, sample some of Auckland's best restaurants at the pop-up bars, along with a line-up of nonstop entertainment.



January - Auckland Seafood Festival

Halsey Wharf, Wynyard Quarter

Taste the array of delicious seafood New Zealand has to offer at this three-day extravaganza of food and live cooking demonstrations. Fresh shucked oysters, fresh fillets and crispy soft shell crab will lure

you in, along with live music and a cool brew or glass of wine to sip as the sun sets over Waitemata Harbour. What's more, all the festival's profits go to charity.



January - St Jerome's Laneway Festival

Silo Park, Auckland CBD

Feel the beat at St. Jerome's Laneway Festival, Auckland's favourite alternative music festival. Full of fresh, original and groundbreaking music, the festival is set in the urban playground of Silo Park. With an atmosphere that channels community, collaboration and self-expression, it's a music experience like no other.



January – Tamaki Herenga Waka Festival

Queens Wharf, Auckland CBD

Discover Tāmaki Makaurau's unique Māori history, heritage and contemporary culture at the free and family-friendly Tāmaki Herenga Waka Festival on the Auckland waterfront. Head down to The Cloud on Queens Wharf and experience Māori crafts and kai (food), storytelling traditional and contemporary Māori music, kapa haka performances, and waka (outrigger) races.



February – headland Sculpture on the Gulf

Matiatia Headland, Waiheke Island

Take a 35 minute ferry ride from the city and experience the Matiatia headland of Waiheke Island hosts the Headland Sculpture on the Gulf exhibition. Stroll the spectacular 2km coastal walkway and see 31 contemporary outdoor sculptures, along with an art gallery and some of the best food, wine and entertainment Waiheke has to offer.



February - Auckland Lantern Festival

Auckland Domain, Grafton

Celebrate Chinese New Year and witness more than 800 handmade Chinese lanterns illuminating the Auckland Domain. Taste authentic foods and watch live music, dance, martial arts and the spectacular fireworks finale. With free entry, it's great night out for all ages.



February - NRL Auckland Nines

Eden Park, Kingsland

It's New Zealand's biggest summer event. Witness all 16 NRL clubs and more than 288 star players clash at this two-day, nine-a-side knockout tournament live in Auckland. The games are shorter, the gaps on the field are wider and the action will be faster. And with Eden Park's 50,000-capacity stadium, the atmosphere will be buzzing!



February - Auckland Pride Festival

Various locations

Celebrate the richness of our LGBTI at the Auckland Pride Festival. This two-week festival brings together a chock-a-block social calendar and an array of events such as theatre and cabaret, music, visual arts exhibitions and installations, film and literature. While most Auckland Pride Festival activity centres on Ponsonby and Karangahape Roads, the festival's events also spread out to Central, West and South Auckland and into the Hauraki Gulf.



February - Splore Music and Arts Festival

Tapapakanga Park

Held on the shores of Tapapakanga Regional Park, 70km south east of Auckland, Splore is a three-day music and arts festival. Reunite with friends and family and party and relax under the sun to live music, fresh-made market food, visual art, workshops and forums. Splore caters for families too – there's loads of kid-friendly activities during the day, and when the sun sets the party amps up with an eclectic music line-up.



February - Takapuna Beach Cup

Takapuna, Auckland

Hit the water at the Takapuna Beach Cup, New Zealand's premier three-day outrigger and paddle festival. With seven events over three days, the Takapuna Beach Cup is for novices and avid paddlers alike. Race in the clear waters of Takapuna Beach, or around Auckland's iconic volcanic island, Rangitoto. With stunning views across the Hauraki Gulf, it's guaranteed to be a fantastic paddling experience.



March - Pasifika Festival Auckland

Western Springs Park, Auckland

Pack a picnic rug, slide on your jandals and step into the relaxed yet vibrant atmosphere that can only be Pasifika at Western Springs Park. Pasifika Festival is made up of 11 unique villages – each with their own performance stage and market setting – that showcase the cultures of 11 Pacific Island nations. Be sure to check out the buzz of the Cook Island and Samoan stages, the peaceful setting of Niue and Kiribati village, and if you're in the mood shopping, head to the Pan Pacific area.



March - Round the Bays

Quay Street, Auckland CBD

Be part of New Zealand's largest fun run and walk. Celebrating its 45th year running, the flat 8.4km course starts at Quay Street in Auckland CBD and continues along Waitemata harbour to a spectacular

finish in St Heliers Bay. With an emphasis on fun, the course promises entertainment to cheer you on along the way.



March - Auckland Cup Week

Auckland Racing Club, Ellerslie

Don't miss the thrill of Auckland Cup Week. As New Zealand's richest racing carnival, it's the ultimate trifecta of thoroughbred racing, fashion and entertainment. A variety of ticket options means you can relax on the grass, get a great view from the stands or, for something more swish, try the luxurious "Champagne Lawn".



March - Auckland Arts Festival

Various locations

Watch Auckland transform when the globally-recognised Auckland Arts Festival arrives in March. For 19 days, experience the explosion of theatre, music, cabaret, dance, visual arts as the city of Auckland celebrates people, culture and diversity from New Zealand and around the world.



April/May - NZ International Comedy Festival

Various locations

Chuckle away at a showcase of local and international comedians as they take to the stage for three weeks of laughs at the NZ International Comedy Festival. There's everything from big name international headline acts to comedy competition winners, plus a huge variety of stand-up, sketch, improv, comedic-theatre, clowning, children's and musical comedy.



May - Auckland Writers Festival

Aotea Centre, Auckland

Love words? Meet fellow writers, booksellers, publishers and readers at the Auckland Writers Festival. Every year over 22,000 people flock to the Aotea Centre to celebrate the world of books and ideas. With 160 writers and thinkers involved, it's six days of readings, debates, stand-up poetry, literary theatre, children's writers and free public and family events.



July/August - New Zealand International Film Festival

Various locations

Head to a New Zealand film premier, or experience the latest and brightest of international cinema direct from premier festivals in North America, Australia and Europe. With an exciting programme of 150-170 features, this national event is for audiences and filmmakers alike.



August - Restaurant Month

Auckland CBD

Indulge in some of Auckland's best cuisine during Restaurant Month. Try specially created menus at more than 100 central city restaurants and 25+ foodie events on during Auckland Restaurant Month, there's never been a better time to try something new. The line-up of special events is spectacular, from the enormously popular Street Eats and Taste of Federal Street in the first week, to The Big Cheese and Dinner in the Dark wrapping the month up.



August - New Zealand Fashion Week

ANZ Viaduct Events Centre, Auckland CBD

Meet, swap ideas, discuss upcoming fashion trends and see the handiwork of some of New Zealand's best known and up-and-coming fashion designers. As the only international fashion event in New Zealand, it is not only one of the country's most anticipated annual event, but it also promotes our local designers to national and international media, buyers and industry spectators.



September/October - Auckland on Water Boat Show

Viaduct Harbour, Auckland CBD

Get a head start on summer and go to Viaduct Harbour to see the latest boats, engines, electronics and accessories for all things marine. Whatever your on-water interests – sailing, fishing, paddle-boarding, water sports or pleasure cruising – enjoy the opportunity to speak with experts presenting a wide array of marine-oriented products and services.



October - Auckland Diwali Festival

Aotea Square, Auckland CBD

Celebrate the most vibrant Indian festival with food, entertainment, dancing and crafts. Diwali is an important and ancient Indian festival celebrated throughout India and in Indian communities around the world. The two-day Auckland Diwali Festival brings Aucklanders and visitors of all ages and ethnic backgrounds together to celebrate and experience Indian culture in its many exciting forms.



November - ASB Auckland Marathon

Auckland

Slip on some sneakers this spring and be part of New Zealand's premier road race. There's five distances to choose from: the ASB Auckland Marathon, the Barfoot and Thompson Half Marathon, 12k Traverse, Heart Foundation 5k Challenge and a Kids Marathon. If you opt for the Marathon, Half Marathon or the 12km race, you'll be in for some specular views when you cross the Auckland Harbour Bridge too.



November - ITM Auckland SuperSprint

Pukekohe Park Raceway

Experience the adrenalin-pumping action of the ITM Auckland SuperSprint (formerly V8 Supercars) this November. Go trackside and experience the raw sound of V8 engines as their drivers carve up Auckland's Pukekohe Park Raceway. With practice sessions on Friday and two 100km races on both Saturday and Sunday, it's set to be three days of no-holds-barred sprint action for all ages.



November - Taste of Auckland

Western Springs

Try a selection of signature dishes from Auckland's finest restaurants as you stroll through New Zealand's most glamorous food festival. Learn from our culinary superstars in a series of new master classes and live demonstrations. Soak up the festival atmosphere with a drink in your hand and sample delicious treats from New Zealand's top producers and celebrity chefs.



November - Farmers Santa Parade

Queen Street, Auckland CBD

Herald the start of the Christmas season at the Auckland Santa Parade. See Auckland's cultural diversity on display with marching bands, grand floats and giant character balloons. With Santa also making an appearance, this annual parade is a favourite for locals and visitors alike.



December - Coca-Cola Christmas in the Park

Auckland Domain, Parnell

Pack your picnic basket and head to the biggest event on the Kiwi Christmas calendar. Relax on the grass and take in the free and family-friendly extravaganza of live music and dance with some of the country's top singers and musicians.



December/January – The New Zealand Herald Christmas Carnival

Auckland Racing Club, Ellerslie

Experience the buzz of the thoroughbred horse racing during the festive season. Soak up the beautiful summer weather, don your best hat for the fashion competitions and take advantage of the kid-friendly entertainment. A variety of ticket options means you can picnic on the grass, get a great view from the stands or try the luxurious "Champagne Lawn".



Ongoing - The Blues (Rugby)

Catch a Super Rugby competition at Eden Park to experience the thrill and excitement of the Auckland team, The Blues. The Blues are one of the five New Zealand franchises in the southern hemisphere's Super Rugby competition. At 15 years and counting, the competition is widely regarded as the finest provincial rugby competition in the world, embodying the flair of New Zealand, the ferocity of South Africa and the enterprise of Australia.



Ongoing - Vodafone Warriors (NRL)

Experience the live excitement of a Rugby League game at Eden Park featuring the Auckland team, the Vodafone Warriors. The Auckland Warriors has become the first off-shore club to be admitted to the Australian Rugby League's premiership when it expanded from 16 to 20 teams.



[Ongoing - SKYCITY Breakers \(NBL\)](#)

Catch the action and excitement of a live basketball game at Vector Arena or the North Shore Events Centre featuring SKYCITY Breakers. SKYCITY Breakers joined the Australasian National Basketball League in 2003 and won their first NBL championship title in 2011, becoming the first New Zealand team in any sport to win an Australian-based sporting championship.



[Ongoing - The Auckland Aces \(Cricket\)](#)

Experience the action of a live cricket game at featuring the Auckland Aces. See national and international teams battle it out in these fiercely contested matches.

So for any of you considering Auckland there is much to look forward to !