



## NEW ZEALAND

***Section 1 of this document gives a brief overview of the country, whilst section 2 contains the customs requirements.***

### **Section 1 – NEW ZEALAND OVERVIEW**

New Zealand is the choice for many expats moving overseas, and as recent studies show, most of them decide to apply for citizenship soon after arriving, proof of the country's attractiveness as a place of residence. New Zealand is a diverse, multicultural and open society well known for its amazing scenery, lush forests, stunning wildlife, and the variety of lifestyles it can accommodate.

New Zealand is an island nation situated in the Pacific Ocean about 1200 miles south-east of Australia. It is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democracy, and is a developed country that ranks highly in international comparisons, including quality of life, life expectancy, public education and human development. New Zealand is also ranked as the most peaceful country in the world according to the Global Peace Index Survey.

New Zealand has a versatile and dynamic culture, with European, Asian, Maori and Pacific influences (almost a quarter of all citizens were born overseas). Unemployment levels are low, and there are a variety of employment opportunities for expats from all around the world. And whatever your preferences for recreational activities or lifestyle, you can definitely find almost everything in New Zealand. The stunning scenery, variety of outdoor activities and cultural and social versatility make New Zealand a very appealing destination.

#### **Tips About Moving To And Living In New Zealand**

There are a number of temporary and permanent migration options if you are planning to live and work in New Zealand. You will generally need a visa to be able to work in the country.

New Zealand has two official languages, English and Maori. So if you are moving to New Zealand from the UK, you won't have any linguistic difficulties.

If you are moving to New Zealand with your children, you will need to find out more about the education system. Public primary and secondary education is free, is of a high standard, and children generally enjoy school more than schoolchildren of other OECD countries.

For details on whether your TV and other electrical appliances will work in NZ click <http://goo.gl/i7qL5> or, for more general information please visit <http://www.nz.com/>

### **Section 2 - REQUIREMENTS FOR DUTY FREE ENTRY OF HOUSEHOLD AND RELATED EFFECTS IMPORTED BY THE OWNER**

#### **IMPORTING PERSONAL EFFECTS**

Household and related effects and motor vehicles can be imported free of duty and GST provided they are imported by a person who:

- has arrived in New Zealand; and
- holds a document authorising residence in New Zealand at the time of importation of the goods; and
- has resided outside New Zealand for more than 21 months; and
- has owned and personally used the goods prior to importation into New Zealand

Goods may be cleared ahead of the arrival of the owner. The nominee (friend, relative, employer) appointed by the owner, will be required to complete an Unaccompanied Personal Baggage Declaration, NZCS 218. If you plan to use a proxy please refer to Simpsons destination agent prior to shipment for further advice

and information (information about Simpsons destination agents can be sourced from our website or by contacting us on the number/email below). Where such goods arrive ahead of the owner, full Customs duties may be required to be paid in respect of unused goods, and those that fall outside of the terms of the baggage concessions.

NOTE: The goods must not be for any other person, or for gift, sale or exchange.

### **DOCUMENTATION**

A document authorising residence in New Zealand means any of the following:-

- a New Zealand passport
- an Australian passport
- a current New Zealand residence visa (including a resident return visa) issued by the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia
- a current New Zealand work visa or work permit that was issued for a minimum of 12 months
- a current New Zealand work visa or work permit, issued under the Work to residency (Skilled Migrant Category) policy or the Long Term Business Visa/Permit category
- a current New Zealand visitor's visa or permit that was issued for a minimum of 3 years.

Simpsons and our agents will assist you with completion of customs formalities.

### **MOTOR VEHICLES**

Motor vehicles must have been owned and used for 12 months prior to shipping or the owner's departure for New Zealand, whichever is the earlier. The importer will be required to complete a Deed of Undertaking upon arrival in New Zealand to state the vehicle cannot be sold with 24 months of arrival, if the vehicle is sold within the time period then GST tax will be applied. Customs and MAF inspection costs will be payable on any motor vehicle imported into New Zealand.

Documentation required for motor vehicle exportation to New Zealand is as follows:-

- certified copy of passport bio page (if on passport other than NZ/AU then Visa/Visa Permit must also be copied and certified)
- proof of ownership, purchasing papers/receipt and valid registration paperwork
- proof of Certificate of Permanent Export (V5 Registration Document)
- a certificate of vehicle compliance (required for motor vehicle registration. See NZ Customs Service website for further details)

### **BIOSECURITY – GOODS SUBJECT TO IMPORT CONTROL**

There are strict controls on the importation of all plant and animal products into New Zealand. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) Biosecurity New Zealand determines the conditions under which entry will be allowed and prospective importers are advised to contact the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Biosecurity New Zealand, Import Management Office, PO Box 2526, Wellington or at [www.maf.govt.nz](http://www.maf.govt.nz)

### **PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS**

The following are examples of goods that are prohibited. They should not be imported:-

- objectionable (indecent) articles- Pornographic books, recorded media and magazines
- motor vehicles with an odometer reading that does not accurately record the distance the vehicle has driven
- certain types of weapons such as flick knives, butterfly knives, swordsticks, bayonet's, knuckledusters, and any weapon designed or disguised to give the appearance of another article
- cannabis utensils such as bongs, hash and head pipes, hubble-bubbles, hookahs, and roach clips with a pincer or tweezer action
- ivory in any form, including jewellery, and carvings (except with CITES certificate\*).
- tortoise or sea turtle shell jewellery, and ornaments (except with CITES certificate\*)
- skins, furs, hunting trophies and animal derived products (except with CITES certificate\*)
- prescription medicines (unless a copy of prescription is available)
- fruit, meat, fish or dairy products and/or derivatives including homemade foodstuffs

- all honey products
- pine cones
- egg and products made with egg

\*CITES-Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

The following goods are restricted and will be subject to inspection by MAF:-

- most herbs and spices
- dried flowers or seeds
- vacuum cleaners (used vacuum bags)
- wicker, cane and straw products
- outside equipment- tents, lawnmowers and gardening tools
- equestrian equipment- saddles etc
- artefacts (antiques) masks, wooden carvings etc

### **WOODEN PACKAGING**

All wooden packaging including crates, pallets, over cases and chocks must be stamped with ISPM15 for Agriculture purposes. If items do not comply as above, they may be destroyed, re-exported, fumigated at the owners expense. If in doubt please ask one of our consultant's for advice.

### **FIREARM IMPORTATION**

The importation of firearms is also strictly controlled and a Police permit to import is required to import (see Useful Contacts for further information).

### **QUARANTINE INSPECTION/MAF FEES (2011)**

The following approximate charges will apply if an inspection is ordered. Groupage/Baggage Min NZ\$150.00-NZ\$300.00, Sole use container 20' & 40" NZ\$350.00-NZ\$450.00, Cars: NZ\$165.00 Motorbikes: NZ\$155.00 Additional fees will be incurred if items do not meet the requirements of MAF, items may be subjected to steam cleaning or fumigation at the importers expense. Items such as equestrian equipment, garden furniture, wood products or camping equipment are high risk items.

**Note:** The above charges include our destination agents compliance, attendance and administration costs.

### **IMPORT TRANSACTION FEE**

Applicable at NZ\$46.00 on all shipments entering New Zealand.

### **TRANSIT TIMES**

Groupage or shared containers usually take a minimum of 8 – 12 weeks door to door. However, this can vary depending on volumes being shipped, customs or immigration delays and prevailing weather conditions. Sole use container loads take on average 7-9 weeks door to door.

### **USEFUL CONTACTS**

Simpsons Removals & Storage Ltd  
+44 (0) 1322 386969  
[enquiries@simpsons-uk.com](mailto:enquiries@simpsons-uk.com)  
[www.simpsons-uk.com](http://www.simpsons-uk.com)

New Zealand Customs Service  
+64 (9) 300-5399  
[feedback@customs.govt.nz](mailto:feedback@customs.govt.nz)  
[www.customs.govt.nz](http://www.customs.govt.nz)

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF)  
+64 (4) 894-0100  
[www.maf.govt.nz](http://www.maf.govt.nz)

New Zealand Police- Weapon Import Permits  
+64 (4) 474-9539  
[www.police.govt.nz/service/firearms/importing.html](http://www.police.govt.nz/service/firearms/importing.html)

Vehicle Testing New Zealand (VTNZ)  
+64 (4) 495-2500  
[www.vtnz.co.nz](http://www.vtnz.co.nz)

Note: VTNZ will provide assistance in obtaining vehicle Compliance Certificates.