

# TOURISM NEW ZEALAND'S MARKET APPROACH

# **Our Purpose**

Enrich Aotearoa New Zealand and all who visit.

- Tourism must enrich New Zealand and the wellbeing of New Zealanders – contributing more than what it takes.
- Tourism must create jobs, restore nature, enhance our heritage, build our national reputation and make us proud.

# **Our Role**

To promote New Zealand as a visitor destination to key markets around the world. Tourism New Zealand's strategy is focused on driving year-round arrivals to support economic growth.

# **Market Approach**

Tourism New Zealand (TNZ) focuses on shaping the visitor mix through activity across a diverse portfolio of markets.

Our markets are determined by factors including there being an existing or potential group of people actively considering New Zealand as a destination.

# **Active Considerers**

These people are aged 18-74, find New Zealand highly appealing, have New Zealand as a preferred holiday destination within the next three years and a realistic budget for their trip.

# **About our Visitor Insights and Data**

TNZ leverage a range of insight sources to support our marketing activity, including TNZ's Active Considerer Monitor, Statistics New Zealand's International Visitor Arrivals and MBIE's International Visitor Survey.

## **Mix of Markets**

The mix of markets covered in our Market Snapshots include:

- Australia
- China
- United States
- Germany
- Japan
- United Kingdom
- India
- Singapore







Source: Statistics NZ international Visitor Arrivals – Year ending May 2025

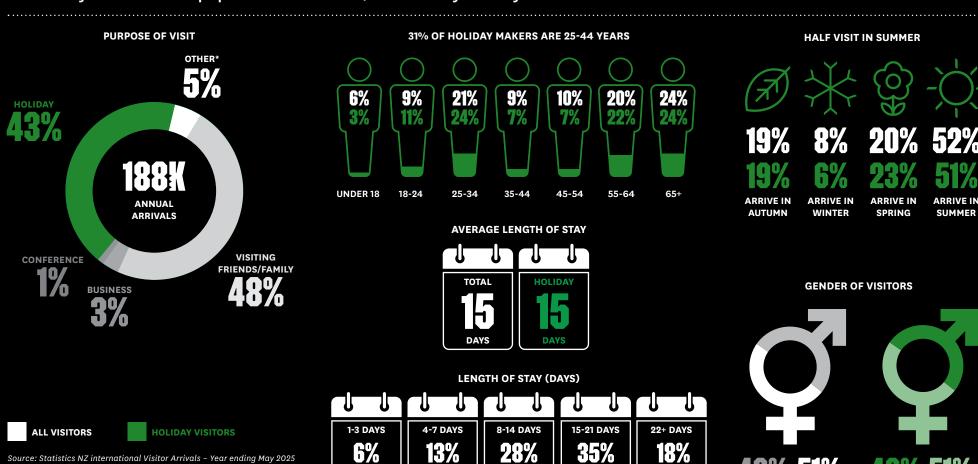
Due to rounding, the sum of individual group percentages may not

\*Seasons: Winter 24, Spring 24, Summer 24/25, Autumn 25

total exactly 100%



Last year, 188,000 UK visitors came to New Zealand, with 43% arriving for holidays. Summer was the peak season, and holidaymakers stayed an average of 15 days. Most were aged 55+, with 35% staying 15-21 days. Visiting friends and family was the most popular travel reason, followed by holiday travel.

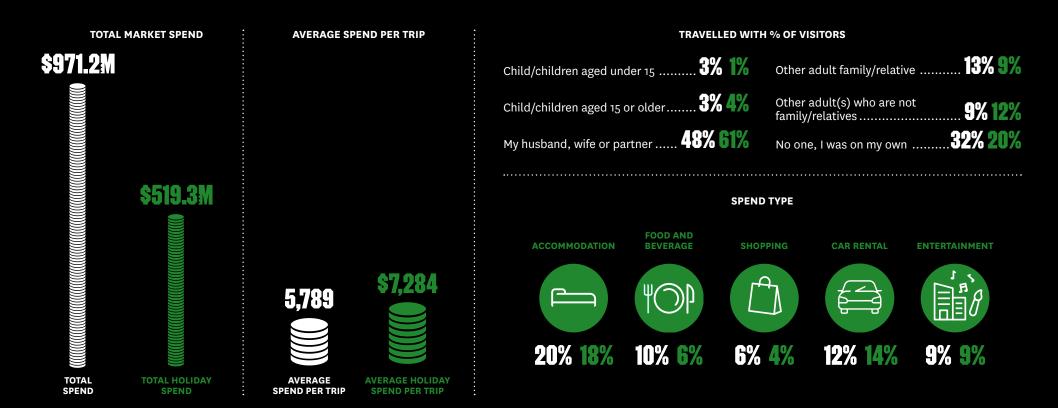


35%





UK visitors spent \$971.2 million in NZ, with \$519.3 million by holidaymakers. The average spend per trip was \$5,789, rising to \$7,284 for holidays. Less then a fifth was spend on accommodation, and visitors were more likely to travel with their significant other.



ALL VISITORS

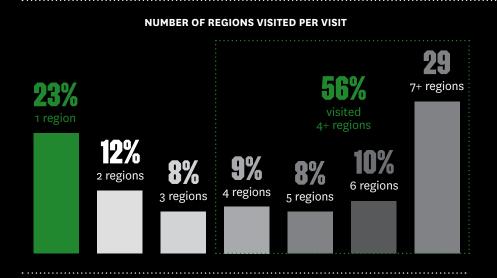
HOLIDAY VISITORS

Source: MBIE, International Visitor Survey. Year ending March 2025





UK visitors often travel extensively throughout New Zealand, with 56% visiting four or more regions. Both main islands are popular—82% visited the North Island and 72% the South Island, with 55% experiencing both. Auckland, Queenstown-Lakes District, and Christchurch were among the most visited regions.





NZ Stats - Holiday Arrivals (Port of Arrival)

**ARRIVAL AIRPORT** 







The most common activities or attractions visited by UK visitors were walks, hikes, or tramps followed by natural attractions like mountains, lakes, or forests and beaches. Cultural and geothermal experiences were also popular, with over half visiting geothermal parks, hot pools, glaciers, or places significant to Māori.

#### TOP ACTIVITIES ENJOYED BY UK VISITORS IN NEW ZEALAND

Went for a walk, hike, trek or tramp	88%
Other natural attraction (e.g. mountain, lake, river, forest, etc.)	86%
A national park	78%
A beach	70%
A public museum or art gallery	64%
A geothermal park (hot mud and possibly geysers)	57%
A place that is significant to Māori	49%
A glacier e.g. Fox, Franz Josef, Hooker Valley	47%
Hot pools	44%
A film location, tour or experience	42%









Museum or art gallery





A geothermal park (hot mud and possibly geysers)





Most visitors from the UK opted for hotels or online-booked private accommodations, followed by motels/serviced apartments and camping grounds. Taxis/shuttles and rental cars were popular transport options among holidaymakers. About 1 in 3 used the ferry to travel between the North and South Island.

#### **POPULAR ACCOMMODATION TYPES**



58% Hotel



House/apartment booked online (AirBnb etc)



**27%** Family or friends



Motel, motor inn or serviced apartment



Luxury accommodation



Paid camping ground/ holiday park



12%
Bed and Breakfast



16% Backpackers



10%
Free camping

#### **MODES OF TRANSPORT**



42%
Taxi/shuttle



36% Rental car



27%
Ferries



Local bus service



**22%**Tour bus



22% Uber or other app based



Plane (within New Zealand)



14% Scenic trains



Other boat or ship

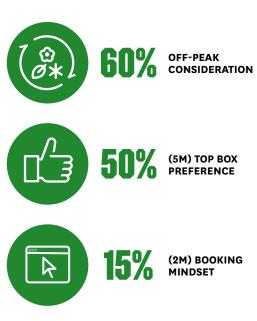






New Zealand appeals to 56% of the UK's online population aged 18-74 — that's 25 million people. Of these, 16 million would seriously consider visiting, 13 million rank it in their top five destinations, and 10 million are willing to spend a realistic budget — representing a sizeable pool of Active Considerers.

FIND NEW ZEALAND HIGHLY APPEALING AS A **HOLIDAY DESTINATION (56%)** WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER VISITING IN THE NEXT **THREE YEARS (64%) NEW ZEALAND IS A PREFERRED (TOP 5) DESTINATION (82%) ACTIVE CONSIDERERS** 



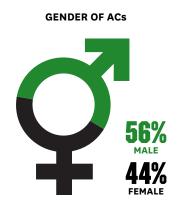
Active Considerers (ACs) are aged 18-74, have New Zealand as a preferred holiday destination in the next three years and the UK ACs indicate they are willing to spend at least £1500 pp on a holiday to New Zealand.



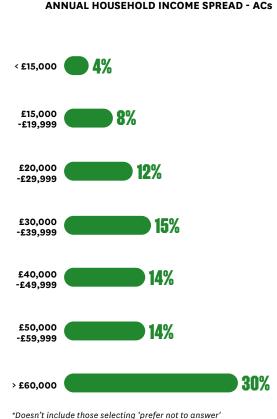


Active Considerers skew 25-39, with nearly 1 in 5 residing in London and about one-third have a household income of £60,000 or more.

# AGE SEGMENT OF ACTIVE CONSIDERERS 10% 27% 17% 18-24 25-39 40-54 55-74







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New Zealand is strongly associated with safety, excitement, and a wide range of outdoor and tourist activities. Visitors also value its natural beauty, clean environment, welcoming locals, and unique indigenous culture.

#### **BRAND ASSOCIATIONS**



I WOULD FEEL SAFE TRAVELLING AROUND THIS DESTINATION

**76**%



THINKING ABOUT VISITING
MAKES ME FEEL REALLY EXCITED

**75**%



OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF OUTDOOR & ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

**75**%



SPECTACULAR NATURAL LANDSCAPES AND SCENERY

**72%** 



OFFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF TOURIST EXPERIENCES

**72%** 



THE ENVIRONMENT THERE IS CLEAN AND UNPOLLUTED

72%



A DESTINATION WHERE THE PEOPLE HAVE A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND

**71%** 



THE LOCALS ARE FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING

71%



HAS A UNIQUE INDIGENOUS CULTURE





Top reasons Active Considerers want to visit New Zealand are to experience its beautiful landscapes, learn and explore new things, have fun and relax, and get in touch with nature.

#### **REASONS TO VISIT NEW ZEALAND**



TO EXPERIENCE BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES/SCENERY

**58%** 



TO LEARN & EXPLORE NEW THINGS

**45%** 



TO FEEL RELAXED AND REFRESHED

44%



TO HAVE FUN & ENJOY MYSELF

**42%** 



TO GET IN TOUCH WITH NATURE

41%



TO FEEL A SENSE OF ADVENTURE

41%



TO INTERACT WITH PEOPLE OF A DIFFERENT CULTURE OR LIFESTYLE

40%



TO TAKE A BREAK FROM THE ROUTINE, STRESSES AND PRESSURES OF EVERYDAY LIFE

36%



TO CREATE LASTING MEMORIES THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY





Active Considerers show high interest in a wide range of experiences in New Zealand, with top activities including beaches and coasts, national parks and forests, and trying local cuisine. Cultural, nature, and city experiences also rank highly, such as exploring local towns, shopping for local products, and visiting historical sites.

#### **ACTIVITIES SPARKING INTEREST AMONG THOSE INTENDING TO VISIT**



TRYING LOCAL CUISINE

**87**%



**BEACHES & COASTS** 

**87**%



VISITING NATIONAL PARKS, NATURE RESERVES OR NATIVE FORESTS

87%



EXPERIENCING LOCAL TOWNS

**B6**%



HISTORICAL SITES AND HERITAGE SITES

**85**%



SHOPPING FOR NEW ZEALAND MADE PRODUCTS, ARTS AND CRAFTS

**85**%



**EXPLORING MAIN CITIES** 

**85**%



LAKES, RIVERS AND WATERFALLS

**85**%



WILDLIFE EXPERIENCES





Key concerns for travellers considering New Zealand include the long flight time, ease of getting around, and the timing of activities. Safety in adventure activities and food and beverage variety have seen notable increases in concern compared to the previous year.

#### KNOWLEDGE GAPS FOR CHOOSING NEW ZEALAND AS A HOLIDAY



THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO FLY TO NEW ZEALAND

43%



HOW EASY IT IS TO TRAVEL AROUND

38%



THE BEST TIME OF YEAR FOR THE ACTIVITIES I WANT TO DO

35%



HOW WELCOMING THE LOCALS ARE

34%



WHAT THE WEATHER IS LIKE

33%



HOW LONG IT TAKES TO TRAVEL BETWEEN THE MAIN ATTRACTIONS

33%



THE QUALITY AND VARIETY OF FOOD AND BEVERAGE OPTIONS

31%



HOW SAFE IT IS TO PARTICIPATE IN ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

31%



**HOW SAFE IT IS FROM CRIME** 

