

## New Zealand



### About New Zealand

**Capital City:**

- Wellington

**Monetary Unit:**

- New Zealand Dollar (NZD)

**Major Language:**

- English
- Maori

**Main Exports:**

- Dairy Products
- Meat
- Wood & wood products
- Fish
- Machinery

### Our Immigration Services in New Zealand

**Business Travel** – Guidance & assistance with visa applications filed with New Zealand's Consulates abroad

**Temporary Work Visas** – For foreign nationals who wish to work in New Zealand for a particular purpose or event, possess skills in occupations that are in demand, or to gain experience after studying in New Zealand

**Work To Residence** – For foreign nationals who will work in specific occupational areas or for accredited employers

**Skilled Migrant Category & Residency for Business Investors**

– For foreign nationals who will transfer to New Zealand for extended assignments or permanent relocation

### The New Zealand Economy

Home to over 4.2 million people, New Zealand has transformed its agrarian economy to an industrialized, free market economy over the past twenty years. It has a mixed economy with sizeable manufacturing and services sectors. It is highly dependent on international trade, mainly with Australia, the European Union, the U.S., China and Japan. With this rapid growth, New Zealand's per capita income has risen consistently. Prime Minister John Key anticipates the economy to continue to grow over the years with estimated growth rates of 3.8% and 3.3% respectively for the years 2012 and 2013. Exports of goods and services currently account for around one third of real expenditure GDP.

Over the last quarter of a century, the New Zealand economy has changed from being one of the most regulated in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to one of the least regulated. The market-led economy offers many opportunities for foreign exporters and investors. Whereas Australia has been New Zealand's biggest foreign investor, as of March 2009, the United States foreign direct investment amounted to \$2.3 billion. Investment opportunities exist within the aircraft, medical and veterinary instruments, motor vehicles, information technology, telecommunications, tourism, and food processing and packaging industries.

New Zealand has a close trade and legal relationship with Australia. In addition several free trade agreements with countries such as China, Singapore and Thailand. The free trade agreement with Thailand was implemented in 2005. Additionally, free trade agreement

negotiations with Chile, Brunei, and Singapore were completed in 2005, known as the Trans Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership.

Treasury's New Zealand Economic and Financial Overview is a good resource for those wanting an understanding of how New Zealand's economy operates and performs and may be found at the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/3hn3fj9>. For additional information about investing in New Zealand, visit: <http://www.investmentnz.govt.nz/>

For additional detailed information about New Zealand's Economic Outlook, visit New Zealand's Ministry of Economic Development web site at: (<http://www.med.govt.nz/>)

### Business Travel to New Zealand

Foreign nationals who wish to travel to New Zealand for business should ensure their passports are valid for six months past the date of intended departure from New Zealand. Currently, citizens of approximately 55 nations and APEC Business Travel cardholders do not require a visa to enter New Zealand for brief business trips of less than 90 days. The Immigration Department of the Department of Labor in New Zealand maintains a list of countries that are visa exempt at: <http://tinyurl.com/3qz5l5r>

Business travelers may enter New Zealand to perform limited, non-remunerative activities, including attending meetings to discuss and negotiate business arrangements. If the stay will involve more than simple business meetings, a work visa will be required.

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## Living in New Zealand

New Zealand is a country of diverse natural beauty with rugged mountains, steep fiords, beautiful lakes and rivers, scenic beaches and active volcanoes. New Zealand consists of two main islands, North Island and South Island, and many smaller ones.

Besides its natural beauty, New Zealand's capital city, Wellington and its most populated city Auckland offer much of culture and entertainment as any modern city.

## New Zealand Business Culture

New Zealanders can be reserved when first meeting their business counterparts. It is important to create a personal relationship. Most New Zealanders are trusting until proven otherwise. They respect business partners who are honest and direct.

Appointments are usually necessary and punctuality is important. Meetings are generally relaxed but they are always a serious event. <http://tinyurl.com/ybanlcz>

## New Zealand Work Permit Process (Essential Skills)

# 1

Qualifying organizations within New Zealand may sponsor foreign nationals for work visas by submitting the visa application together with underlying proof of temporary employment.

If abroad, send application to the nearest Immigration New Zealand Office, New Zealand Embassy or New Zealand High Commission

– OR –

If in New Zealand, send application to the nearest Immigration New Zealand office.

# 2

The Foreign National may be required to register and must provide evidence that they meet all requirements including health and character checks

# 3

Once a visa issued, the foreign nationals enters New Zealand to perform work on a temporary basis

## How Goel & Anderson can assist your organization in New Zealand

Organizations that wish to employ foreign workers abroad require an immigration service provider with a record of successfully coordinating and delivering global, business immigration services for multinational organizations. Goel & Anderson practices exclusively in the field of immigration to assist your company with the recruitment, hiring, and retention of foreign workers across the globe, including New Zealand. We understand that time and resources are valuable to your business and that staffing an international project can be critical to your business' reputation and success. We are committed to efficiently delivering business immigration solutions that combine broad global coverage with a depth of local expertise.

We carefully select co-counsel who share our service and compliance-oriented approach to meet the needs of organizations doing business in the global marketplace. Our Global Immigration Practice group and local counsel work closely together to ensure comprehensive business coordination and seamless delivery of services. Our immigration services include end-to-end processing, including: Work Permit and Visa Application preparation and

filing; detailed guidance on the visa stamping and post-entry process; and tracking key expiration dates. Personal representation at the New Zealand Embassy or Consulate may be available.

Generally, only locally registered entities in New Zealand who have tested the local labor market may sponsor foreign nationals for work permits in New Zealand. Thus, if your company's New Zealand office anticipates engaging foreign talent, an early analysis of immigration options and strategies, as well as a thorough understanding of the sponsorship obligations, will better position your project for success. We also understand that despite careful planning, emergent issues can arise. We are well positioned to assist your business to address unexpected business requirements. Because global immigration matters do not occur within a vacuum and the law is infrequently static, we seek local experts who may also assist with a range of related legal services, including corporate formation, contracts, employment agreements, licensing, and transactions and who will advise of changes in policy and procedures.

With headquarters outside of Washington, DC in Reston, Virginia and operations in Pune, India, Goel & Anderson is an immigration firm that is international in scope and personal in nature. We are known as a firm that is highly professional and also highly human. We offer clients extensive experience and a comprehensive understanding of all areas of business, employment, and family-based immigration law worldwide.

For more information about our Global Immigration Practice and services, please contact Jill Marie Bussey at [jill.bussey@goellaw.com](mailto:jill.bussey@goellaw.com) or +1 703.796.9881.

\*Goel & Anderson, LLC does not engage in the practice of law within India. All services in India are provided by our affiliate, G&A Immigration Services Private Limited.

The information contained in this document is intended for informational purposes only, is general in nature, and does not constitute legal guidance.



Innovative Approaches to Immigration Law

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