



What's New in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

March 2025

Introducing Auckland

Discover Auckland, New Zealand's largest and most diverse city, where sparkling waters, lush landscapes and city sophistication converge. World-class dining, shopping and luxurious accommodation are all within reach of water adventures on the Hauraki Gulf.

Explore what's new across our region and start planning your next adventure!



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Upcoming Events – 2025

Accommodation

Auckland's diverse accommodation ranges from international hotel brands and self-contained apartments to boutique lodges to suit any budget.



TRIBE Auckland Fort Street - Accor

Opening 2025



60



[TRIBE Auckland Fort Street](#)



Fort Street, Auckland city centre

- TRIBE, the design-led midscale brand by Accor is set to open its doors this summer. TRIBE Auckland Fort Street will become the brand's first address in the country, serving as a stylish destination where guests and locals can work, play, and relax with a like-minded community of entrepreneurs and adventurous travellers.
- The hotel will bring a bold design edit to Auckland's hotel scene with 60 compact, yet ultra-comfy guestrooms featuring the latest technology, a lobby bar, terrace, and social hub.



Hotel Indigo Auckland

Opened December 2024

 225

 [Hotel Indigo Auckland](#)

 Albert Street, Auckland city centre

- Auckland welcomes New Zealand's first Hotel Indigo by IHG group to the city centre.
- Tāmaki Makaurau sets the backdrop for this boutique hotel, drawing inspiration from local artists for its design, service, amenities, food, and beverages.
- The 225-room hotel is part of a mixed-use development in a sought-after Auckland Central location. This new build is among Auckland's tallest buildings, preserving the façade of the original historic structure, with a world-class hotel elegantly integrated around it.
- The in-house all-day dining and bar will open its door in April 2025.



Grand Chancellor Hotel Auckland

Opened September 2024



191



[Grand Chancellor Hotel Auckland](#)



76/80 Wellesley Street West, Auckland city centre

- Ideally located in Auckland CBD, this 4-plus-star hotel is directly opposite the New Zealand International Convention Centre (NZICC), and close to the Sky Tower and the bustling central city dining and entertainment hub.
- Spread across 11 floors with 191 rooms, a mix of kings and twins, plus one suite located on the top floor, the hotel offers scenic city and harbour views.
- The hotel restaurant located on the first-floor seats up to 80 people, offering a buffet breakfast and A La Carte dinner.



Attractions & activities

With lively urban precincts and a stunning natural playground so close together, it's easy to hop from one adventure to the next. From sailing and dolphin spotting out on the water to the city's galleries, museums and exciting attractions, Auckland has all the ingredients for a perfect tailor-made holiday.



A Century of Modern Art – Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

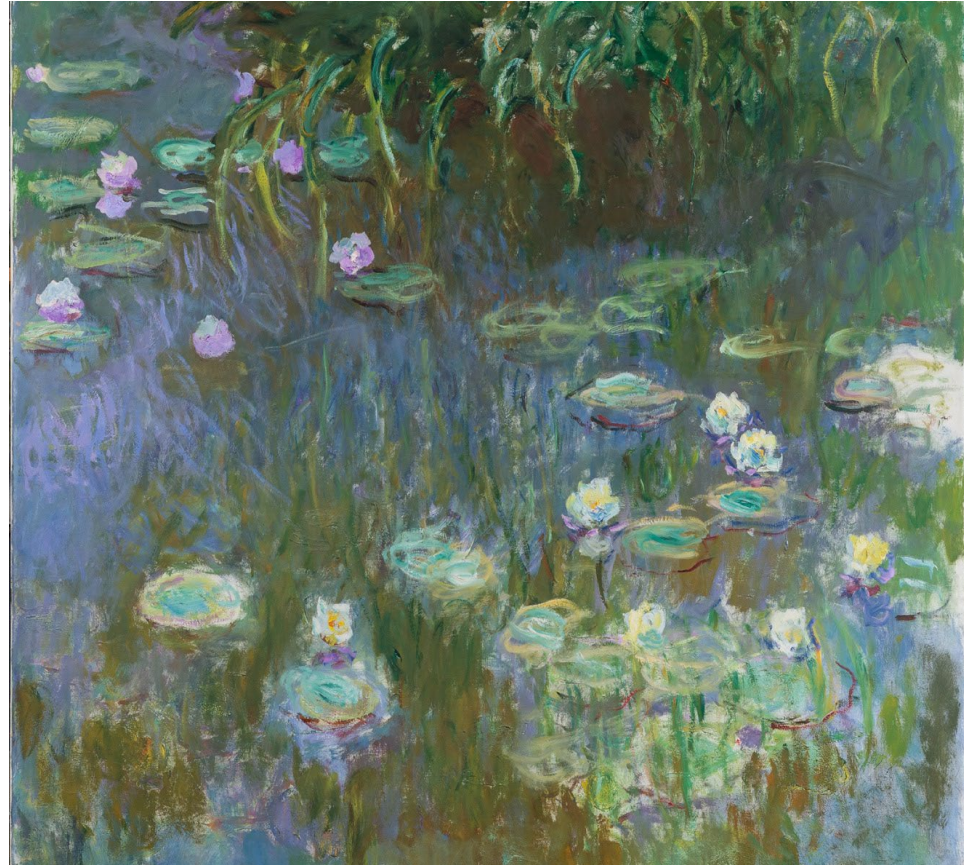


7 June 2025 – 28 September 2025

 TBC

 Auckland Art Gallery, Wellesley Street East, Auckland Central

- Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki is pleased to announce A Century of Modern Art as its special winter exhibition this year.
- Be dazzled by the much-loved highlights of Ohio’s Toledo Museum of Art’s internationally-renowned collection, including 57 iconic works by 53 artists, such as Claude Monet, Edgar Degas and Vincent van Gogh, and premier examples by pioneering artists of the American and European avant-garde.
- Ticket prices and booking details will be announced shortly.



ExperienceKart

Matakana Art & Kiwi Classic Experience



Available now

 [ExperienceKart – Matakana Art & Kiwi Classic Experience](#)

 Pick up in Auckland City or Matakana

- Spend a day marvelling at unspoilt countryside on a round trip from Auckland, exploring riverside towns, and experiencing the enchanting world of Sculptureum, a mesmerising blend of art and nature.
- This is a sensory delight and tranquil escape for art enthusiasts and nature lovers. A chance to explore Matakana Village’s art galleries, gift stores, fashion boutiques, and eateries. Indulge in a farm-to-table goodness at Matakana for a simple pleasure of relaxed dining. Savour fresh local produce and homely dining in a charming setting right by the Matakana River. Finally escape in the evening on a hands-on touring and some authentic Kiwi bird watching experience you’ll never forget.



ExperienceKart

Auckland Coastal Discovery Experience



Available now



[ExperienceKart – Auckland Coast Discovery Experience](#)



Pick up in Auckland City

- Join ExperienceKart on a full day private luxury tour of Auckland Coastal Discover Experience. See life in Auckland unfold and explore various landmarks, appreciate the views over Auckland Harbour. Explore the west Auckland region with its spectacular black sand beaches, followed by a wine tasting and lunch at some of Auckland's finest vineyards.



GoGuided – Auckland City Tours



Opened November 2025

 [GoGuided](#)

 Auckland city centre

- GoGuided offers a 75-90 minute private tour experience in Auckland, where you are picked up from your chosen location and immersed in a journey designed to help you fall in love with the city.
- The tour combines the warmth of an English-speaking host-driver with audio commentary available in multiple languages, providing a rich blend of personal interaction and curated storytelling of Auckland City.
- Partnered with Auckland Coop, the city’s most important taxi operator, GoGuided offers a range of environmentally friendly fleets, including Tesla and hybrid Toyota Camry.



Fullers360 – Electric Hydrofoil Experience

Available now



 [Fullers360 Electric Hydrofoil Experience](#)

 Viaduct Harbour Marina, Auckland

- Take your Auckland adventure to the next level with the Electric Hydrofoil Experience. A first-in-the-world tourism offering, Kermadec is the fully electric, emissions-free, hydrofoiling ferry offering premium sustainable travel on the Hauraki Gulf.
- Glide effortlessly above the waves on your tour of Auckland’s Waitematā Harbour while taking in panoramic views of the city skyline, Harbour Bridge and pristine waters of the Gulf. Hear the expert commentary from your crew, highlighting cutting-edge hydrofoiling technology and Auckland’s vibrant marine environment.



Auckland Sea Kayaks - City Scenes Kayak Tour

Available now



 [Auckland Sea Kayaks – City Scenes Kayak Tour](#)

 Z Pier, Westhaven Marina

- Auckland Sea Kayaks' 2.5 hour City Scenes Day Kayak Tour offers a scenic paddle in the heart of downtown Auckland, perfect for a date, those short on time, or the cruise market.
- Paddle past the Auckland Harbour Bridge and enjoy stunning views of the Sky Tower reflecting on the water. Led by experienced guides, this short yet immersive tour showcases the city's vibrant skyline, culture, and wildlife, offering a unique waterfront experience. Ideal for all skill levels.



The Lookout at Sky Tower – newest Observation Deck



Available now

[The Lookout at Sky Tower](#)

-  Level 53, Sky Tower, Victoria Street West, Auckland city centre
- From 192 metres above, experience Auckland from the panoramic 360° views overlooking the city's key volcanic landmarks and the surrounding Hauraki Gulf. Indulge in the delicious New Zealand made ice cream from Lewis Road Creamery and their famous chocolate milk.
- Take front row seats as SkyWalkers and SkyJumpers gear up for their adrenaline-pumping adventures. Finish your visit with exclusive behind the scenes access to the Sky Towers core stairwell.



Man O' War Forest Flight

Available now

 [Man O' War Forest Flight](#)

 725 Man O War Bay Road, Waiheke Island, Auckland

- Tucked away on the pristine north-eastern end of Waiheke Island, Man O' War is a haven steeped in 300 years of heritage.
- Man O' War's eco-friendly 'foot-free' Forest Flight ziplining journey comprises three separate tandem ziplines spanning over 900m connected by 660m of boardwalk protecting the forest floor. Explore the untouched Kauri forest with minimal environmental impact, preserving it's natural beauty for the generations to come.



City Lights Night Kayak Tour

Auckland Sea Kayaks



Available now

 [Auckland Sea Kayaks – City Lights Night Kayak Tour](#)

 Z Pier, Westhaven Marina, Auckland

- Experience the enchanting beauty of Auckland after dark with the City Lights Night Kayak Tour. Paddle alongside Westhaven Marina as the iconic Sky Tower glows against the twilight sky. Glide beneath the Auckland Harbour Bridge, witnessing spectacular Vector Light displays during event weeks and learning about the bridge's rich history from knowledgeable guides
- **Duration:** Approximately 2 hours



Fullers360 – Auckland Harbour Cruise



Available now



[Fullers360 – Auckland Harbour Cruise](#)



Downtown Auckland's ferry Terminal, Auckland city centre

- Experience the Auckland Harbour Cruise from Fullers360, offering a scenic 1.5-hour journey through Auckland's Waitematā Harbour and Hauraki Gulf, featuring stunning views of the city's skyline and iconic landmarks, all departing from the Downtown Ferry Terminal.
- **Duration:** Approximately 1.5 hours



Restaurant & bar openings



Ground Wine Bar

Opened February 2025

Opening time Monday & Wednesday – Sunday: 3pm – 12am
Tuesday: closed

 [Ground Wine Bar](#)

 10 O'Connell Street, Auckland Central

Private dining No

- Located beneath O'Connell Street in Auckland's CBD, Ground Wine Bar is a cozy, subterranean haven for wine enthusiasts. This intimate spot offers over 50 wines by the glass from around the world, including selections from renowned regions like Italy and Spain, as well as lesser-known gems from Lebanon and Peru.
- The bar features a warm atmosphere with soft blues and soul music, complemented by a simple yet delicious menu of charcuterie, cheeses, and other local specialties.



Jacuzzi Ponsonby (formerly known as SPQR)

Opened February 2025

Opening time Wednesday – Sunday: 12pm – 2am
 Monday – Tuesday: 12pm – 11pm

 [Jacuzzi Ponsonby](#)

 10 O'Connell Street, Auckland Central

Private dining No

- A new institution replaced the once iconic SPQR on Ponsonby Road. Jacuzzi channels the energy of Auckland's most vibrant, seductive suburb. From the familiar ivy-clad terrace spilling onto Ponsonby road, to the newly discovered sun-kissed rear atrium, Jacuzzi truly gives a nod to the past, while bringing exciting discovery of the new.
- Owned by the creators behind the successful Elmo's and Hoppers bar in Ponsonby, Jacuzzi showcases playful cocktails and a signature martini menu, local and international wine and beer, and an exceptional selection of champagne and dishes.



Rothko at Sculptureum

Re-opened February 2025

Opening time Lunch: Thursday — Sunday, 11am — 2pm
 Dinner: Thursday — Sunday, 6pm — 8pm

 [Rothko at Sculptureum](#)

 40 Omaha Flats Road, Matakana

Private dining Yes

- Under the creative direction of award-winning chef Neil Sapitula, Rothko at Sculptureum has reopened its doors, introducing a new kitchen designed around open-fire cooking and an intimate new chef’s table experience of ‘Fire and Ferment’ — a culinary philosophy that speaks to Sapitula’s Filipino roots, reverence for technique, and playful approach to bold flavours.
- Rothko is nestled within the striking grounds of Sculptureum, where more than 700 diverse sculptures and other artworks are displayed across the 10-acre site within quirky galleries and throughout stunning garden spaces.



Portside

Opened December 2024

Opening time Thursday – Saturday: 4pm - late

 [Portside](#)

 46 Tyler Street, Britomart, Auckland

Private dining No

- Perched atop Tyler St Sport, Britomart precinct, Portside Cocktail Bar is Auckland's newest rooftop destination - a laid-back cocktail bar and rooftop terrace with views of Auckland's sparkling harbour.
- Portside specialises in seasonal & elevated cocktails with an impressive 19 crafted creations on offer.



Cāntīng by Nic Watt

Opened November 2024

Opening time Monday – Friday: 12pm – 3pm, 5pm – 10pm
Saturday - Sunday: 11am – 3pm, 5pm – 10pm

 [Cāntīng by Nic Watt](#)

 Level One Shop No/1190N Commercial Bay, CBD, Auckland

Private dining Yes

- Located at Commercial Bay, CānTīng is a smart casual, upmarket modern Chinese, Asian restaurant and bar. Presented by Nic Watt, CānTīng will seamlessly blend the richness of an Asian dining experience, with a harmonious fusion of tradition and innovation.
- The focal point of the kitchen is the Duck Oven, where CānTīng bbq duck will soon become a must order for every table. Sunday will feature the CānTīng signature Yum Cha offering from 11am- 3pm.



The Wine Room by David Nash

Opened November 2024

Opening time Monday – Tuesday: 11am – 7pm
 Wednesday - Sunday: 11am – 11pm

 [The Wine Room by David Nash](#)

 43 College Hill, Freemans Bay, Auckland

Private dining Yes

- Situated in Auckland's Freemans Bay neighborhood, The College Hill Wine Room is created by David Nash, one of New Zealand's most esteemed wine professionals, in partnership with acclaimed Executive Chef Ryan Moore.
- The Wine Room features a luxury wine bar, upmarket retail space, 20-person private dining room and chef's kitchen, alongside New Zealand's premier underground wine storage vaults.
- The venue's adaptable space with its bespoke handcrafted fitout will be a drawcard for private dining, celebrations and events.



Upcoming events



Auckland's Upcoming Events – 2025

For more event information, visit [Discover Auckland website](#).

Events	Event dates
SIX The Musical	27 February – 20 March 2025
Moana Auckland	24 February – 24 March 2025
Auckland Arts Festival	6 – 23 March 2025
Chris Stapleton	7 March – 8 March 2025
Waiheke Walking Festival	21 March – 6 April 2025
Nelly – Where The Party At Tour	21 March 2025
Synthony in the Domain	29 March 2025
Pasifika Festival	March 2025
Dupa Lipa ‘Radical Optimism Tour’	2 & 4 April 2025
World Dance Crew Championship	12 – 19 April 2025
Aotearoa Art Fair	1 – 4 May 2025
Auckland Writers Festival	13 – 18 May 2025
Train Concert	28 May 2025
Black Ferns vs. USA	24 May 2025
A Century of Modern Art – Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki	7 June 2025 – 28 September 2025
Central Cee Concert	20 June 2025
Nikki Glaser	17 July 2025
Tyler, The Creator	18 August 2025
All Blacks vs. South Africa	6 September 2025
All Blacks vs. Australia	27 September 2025
Ryan Adams	18 October 2025
James Blunt	21 October 2025

Fun Facts



In New Zealand's indigenous Māori language, Auckland is called Tāmaki Makaurau which means a 'place desired by many.'



Auckland's landscape is dotted with **53 volcanic cones**. The largest, youngest and most iconic is Rangitoto Island, which emerged from the water approximately 650 years ago.



Auckland is home to about **1.7 million people** – more than a third of New Zealand's population.



One of the few cities in the world bordered by **three harbours on two separate bodies of water** – The Pacific Ocean on the east coast and the Tasman Sea on the west coast.



Westhaven Marina, on the city's doorstep, is the **largest marina in the Southern Hemisphere**.



The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park encompasses an incredible area of **1.2 million hectares and more than 50 islands**. Many of them easily accessible by ferry from downtown Auckland, including Waiheke Island, Rangitoto Island and Tiritiri Matangi Island



Auckland is fortunate to enjoy one of the most diverse and unique music scenes in the world – so much so, that it's officially a **'UNESCO City Of Music'**.

Ngā mihi

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