

# Things to see in Wellington

- Summit of Mt Victoria
- Cable car from Lambton Quay up to the Botanic Gardens
- Space Place at the Carter Observatory, at the top of the Cable Car
- Walk along the waterfront
- The Skyline Walkway overlooking the city (good weather a must!)
- Visit Courtney Place and Cuba St for restaurants and shopping
- Peter Jackson's Weta Workshop Tours (NB must book in advance)
- Take a free tour of Parliament buildings, including visiting their seismic works
- Visit the National Museum, <u>Te Papa</u>, located on the waterfront
- Visit <u>Old St Paul's Cathedral</u>, built from native timbers
- Take a ferry from the waterfront over to Matiu Island or Eastbourne
- Visit <u>Zealandia</u> wildlife sanctuary (take the bus from Wellington Railway station)
- <u>Kapa Haka</u>, a Polynesian Festival, takes place once every two years and will be in Wellington on February 20 – 24 2019. Tickets are now on sale.

More information here: https://www.newzealand.com/int/feature/wellington-attractions/

https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/whatson/events/wellington

## The Wellington Region

- Martinborough, a centre of wine production and famed for its Pinot Noir
- <u>Pūkaha, The National Wildlife Centre</u> (see the only living white kiwi in captivity)
- Kaitoke Regional Park
- Orongorongo Track

More information here: https://www.newzealand.com/int/wairarapa/

#### Further Afield – South Island

There are two companies operating ferries to Picton on the South Island (3.5 hrs)

- <a href="https://www.greatjourneysofnz.co.nz/interisl">https://www.greatjourneysofnz.co.nz/interisl</a> ander/
- http://www.bluebridge.co.nz/

### Classic NZ Train Journeys:

- https://www.greatjourneysofnz.co.nz/coastal-pacific/
- https://www.greatjourneysofnz.co.nz/tranzalpine/



Or from Picton one can travel West by hire car to Nelson, Golden Bay and Abel Tasman National Park, for beaches, crystal clear water, and some of the best multiday hiking in NZ:

https://www.nelsontasman.nz/ https://www.goldenbaynz.co.nz/ https://www.abeltasman.co.nz/

Fly or drive to tourist hot spot Queenstown. One can drive north over several days visiting Central Otago (e.g. Cromwell, Wanaka), the MacKenzie Country (Omarama, Twizel, Lakes Pukaki and Tekapo), to Christchurch, then up the Kaikoura Coast to Picton where one can catch the ferry back to Wellington (3 ½ hours). This will take you through some of the most scenic and least populated areas in New Zealand, through mountain valleys and along the east coast past seal colonies and along the recently reopened coastal road damaged in the recent earthquake:

https://mackenzienz.com/ https://www.kaikoura.co.nz/

### Further Afield – North Island

Fly in to Auckland, New Zealand's biggest city, and hire a car for the 600km trip south to Wellington. Visit North Island destinations on the trip south. Note NZ roads are windy and take longer than expected. Alternatively this could be done in reverse at the end of the conference.

Hire a car and travel north from Wellington to Taupo (5 hours one way) and Rotorua (another hour):

https://www.greatlaketaupo.com/ http://www.rotoruanz.com/

Walk the Tongariro Crossing on an active volcano in the centre of the North Island:

http://www.tongarirocrossing.org.nz/

Book time at a New Zealand farm:

https://truenz.co.nz/farmstays

Visit the Bay of Plenty, home of white sand beaches (Tauranga) and kiwifruit farms (Te Puke). Take a boat from Whakatane out to White Island and walk around an active volcano off shore:

https://www.bayofplentynz.com/https://www.whiteisland.co.nz/