Congratulations on considering New Zealand as your South Pacific Destination

This e-book guide is designed to provide easy access to all official information necessary to ensure you have a comprehensive understanding of our formalities such as Customs and Immigration. The introduction to each subject is supported with direct clickable web links to the detailed relevant information.
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Tourism and business

New Zealand Tourism & Business

Discover all New Zealand has to offer as a great sailing destination plus New Zealand maps, accommodation and internal travel.

Overview of 100% pure New Zealand: www.newzealand.com

Tourism Auckland: www.aucklandnz.com

Northland & Bay of Islands: www.northlandnz.com

Nelson, Tasman and Marlborough: www.i-site.org.nz/nelson-tasman-marlborough

South Westland & Fiordland: www.fiordland.org.nz

Business with New Zealand

Discover more of New Zealand through its innovative products and services.

New Zealand Companies: http://business.newzealand.com/Find

Invest in New Zealand: www.investmentnz.govt.nz

New Zealand’s Economy: http://business.newzealand.com/Economy

Events: http://business.newzealand.com/Events

New Zealand’s export industries: http://business.newzealand.com/Industries
New Zealand Immigration Service
Visa Requirements

For information on visa requirements for non charter or charter yachts, please see the 'What if I am arriving by yacht?' section of the Immigration New Zealand website at www.immigration.govt.nz/visit

If you are visiting by yacht, the following links to information on our website may be of interest to you:

Visitors arriving by yacht fact sheet:
www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/general/formsandfees/formsandguides/visit.htm

Information for crew and owners of super yachts:
www.immigration.govt.nz/opsmanual/i8433.htm
www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/stream/visit/visitors/specialvisitors.htm

Operational visitor policy (for those that may wish to stay on):
www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/stream/visit/visitors/

A list of the Visa free countries:
www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/stream/visit/visitors/quickcheck.htm

Information for Yachts that wish to stay for maintenance and repairs:
www.immigration.govt.nz/opsmanual/i8432.htm

Contact:
Visas and Permits
New Zealand Immigration Service
Tel +64 9 914 4100
Fax +64 9 914 4119
Web www.immigration.govt.nz
The New Zealand Marina Operators Association (NZMOA) represents the country’s marina industry and comprises almost all the coastal and waterway marinas of New Zealand, as well as a number of boatyards and suppliers of products and services to marinas. NZMOA member marinas range from boutique owner-operated facilities to large full-service marina enterprises.

NZMOA member marinas are professionally operated and provide hundreds of visiting yachts each year with the wide variety of goods and services - including sheltered berthing, fuel, oil and chandlery sales, boat repairs and refits, yacht club facilities and food and lodging - that allow New Zealand to continue to grow in popularity as a destination for visiting yachts of all sizes.

The New Zealand Marina Operators Association is proud to contribute to this informative website for all visiting yachts. The information provided on the web address below has been prepared from material supplied directly by the participating marinas. More detailed information may be obtained by contacting your destination marina.

www.nzmarinas.com
**General overview**

Maritime NZ and the harbourmasters in Northland, Auckland, Marlborough and Fiordland have had ongoing discussions regarding pilotage for superyachts. The four councils have now developed a common pilotage exemption training scheme for superyacht masters, covering the pilotage areas of Bay of Islands, Auckland, and parts of the Marlborough Sounds and Fiordland.

The exemption training scheme, approved by Maritime New Zealand under Maritime Rule 90, will apply to superyachts up to 1000GT and 90m. A suitably qualified master may obtain a master's pilotage exemption for a period up to 6 months, with specific conditions attached. This is subject to certain pre-requisites, an examination of local knowledge and successful assessment by a pilot on inward and outward transits. An assessment and examination is undertaken in each location.

The issue of a master’s pilotage exemption is the responsibility of Maritime New Zealand. The examination and assessment of an applicant is undertaken by the harbourmaster and a pilot within each region.

**Pilotage charges and availability**

These are set by the port companies at commercial rates and can vary in each region. In the Bay of Islands 'North Port' supplies pilots to Northland Regional Council and the council on-charges the vessel. Lack of Pilots for Fiordland has been addressed and there are more available in Dunedin and Bluff to carry out the duty.

In brief, superyacht captains may choose to carry a pilot, or if their vessel is under 1000GT and less than 90m, they may undertake the training and examination for a master's pilotage exemption. This means superyachts are now able to more freely roam the NZ coastline.

CONTINUED>>
Training scheme for Bay of Islands, Auckland, Marlborough Sounds, Fiordland and Stewart Island

The training scheme manual sets out the required standards and is used to record the training, examination(s) and assessments(s) successfully completed by the applicant. It may be used to demonstrate completion of certain requirements for more than one of the pilotage areas.

The superyacht master’s pilot exemption may be used within certain parts of the pilotage areas of Bay of Islands, Auckland, Marlborough Sounds, Fiordland and Stewart Island. (The internal waters of Stewart Island became a compulsory pilotage area following the review of MR Pt90 in 2010)

Once issued the master’s pilotage exemption will allow that master to operate the named superyacht in defined areas within the pilotage area(s) shown on the exemption. The operation of the vessel by the master will be subject to the privileges and conditions shown in this manual and those shown on the exemption. The master will be required to comply with relevant bylaws, harbourmaster directions, maritime rules and any navigation safety operating requirements issued by the harbourmaster.

A copy of the superyacht master’s exemption training scheme may be obtained by contacting any of the regional harbourmasters.

Maritime New Zealand
Tel +64 4 494 1228
Fax +64 4 473 6699
Web www.maritimenz.govt.nz

Northland Regional Council
Harbourmaster
Tel +64 9 438 4639
Fax +64 9 438 0012
Email mailroom@nrc.govt.nz
Web www.nrc.govt.nz

Auckland Regional Council
Harbourmaster’s Office
Tel +64 9 362 0397
Fax +64 9 362 0399
Email harbourmaster@arc.govt.nz
Web www.arc.govt.nz

Marlborough District Council
Harbourmaster
Tel +64 3 520 7400
Fax +64 3 520 3203
Email harbours@marlborough.govt.nz
Web www.marlborough.govt.nz

Environment Southland
Harbourmaster’s Office
Tel +64 3 2115 115
Fax +64 3 2115 252
Email kevin.osullivan@es.govt.nz
Web www.es.govt.nz
All yachts and small craft arriving in New Zealand must comply with all border entry requirements that are in place to protect New Zealand.

**Arrival Notification**

Prior to arrival, the Master of every vessel is required to give at least 48 hours notice of the expected port of entry and time of arrival to the New Zealand Customs Service and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (full instructions are at [www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/Pages/default.aspx) and [www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/ships/yachts](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/ships/yachts)). When nearing New Zealand, contact can be made by calling Taupo Maritime Radio ZLM on SSB 4125, 6215, 8291, 12290 or 16420 KHz. You should also endeavour to confirm your arrival four hours out as you approach your port of entry. This may be done by VHF radio through Maritime Radio which maintains a Ch 16 VHF watch along the coast. The international code flag “Q” should be flown as soon as you enter New Zealand’s territorial waters (from 12 nautical miles out). Your actual arrival may be confirmed to the port of arrival through the VHF Channel 16 as above.

On arrival in port all yachts and small craft will receive the New Zealand Border Agencies information pack ‘Arrival of Yachts and Small Craft’ This includes various fact sheets from the New Zealand Customs Service, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the New Zealand Immigration Service and Maritime New Zealand. Also included are a number of forms that must be completed. These packs are also available from other ports and marinas within the Pacific region.

**Further information:**

Links direct to information containing Customs requirements for visiting and departing crafts:
[www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/Pages/default.aspx)
[www.customs.govt.nz/outprivate/departbyprivatecraft/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/outprivate/departbyprivatecraft/Pages/default.aspx)

Small craft arrivals:
[www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/yachtsandsmallcraft/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/yachtsandsmallcraft/Pages/default.aspx)

Small craft departures:

CONTINUED>>
All relevant information including Customs documents contained in the Yacht Information Packs can be obtained on-line from the Customs website.

Customs formalities/requirements, import/export restrictions and prohibitions, and allowances:

**Arriving in NZ**
[www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/Pages/default.aspx)

**Departing from NZ**
[www.customs.govt.nz/outprivate/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.customs.govt.nz/outprivate/Pages/default.aspx)

For further information, see the New Zealand Customs Service website
[www.customs.govt.nz](http://www.customs.govt.nz)
or contact the New Zealand Customs Service at the following address:

New Zealand Customs Service  
Marine Section, Box 29, Auckland, New Zealand  
Tel  +64 9 307 6516  
Fax  +64 9 9 307 6720  
Email yachts@customs.govt.nz
**Customs - TIE (Temporary Import Entry) extension process**

**Temporary Entry of Vessels**

Vessels owned and operated by bona fide visitors will not be subject to Customs charges (Duty) on arrival. Your vessel will be entered on a Temporary Import Entry (TIE) in which Customs charges are deferred for 12 months. The Master will be required to sign a declaration agreeing to the re-export of the vessel within 12 months from the date of arrival. Any extension of the 12-month period must be discussed with New Zealand Customs prior to the expiration of the period - failure to do so may result in Customs charges being levied.

**Extension Requests:**

In order to obtain any extension to the current temporary import entry for your vessel you will need to make application in writing at least one month prior to the current expiry date for consideration. You will need to advise NZ Customs of the reason for your application, including supporting documentation ie any medical certificates in instances where a medical condition prevents departure and letters/contracts of support from local industry if you are having a refit undertaken, this should include a time-frame for the repairs to be undertaken. In the case where you are completing the refit yourself you will need to supply a copy of a work plan setting out in detail work to be undertaken ie structural, cosmetic, essential repairs etc and a time-frame for completion. You will also need to advise if your passport visa is current and if you have made application to extend your visa and the result of that application. NZ Customs needs to ensure that you, as the owner of the vessel, have the necessary permits to remain legally in New Zealand whilst your vessel is undergoing repairs. You will also need to enclose a copy of the ‘yellow’ form issued to your vessel on arrival. NZ Customs will consider each application on a case by case basis therefore the more information you supply will ensure that your application is processed with little delay.

All applications to be posted to:

NZ Customs Service or NZ Customs Service or Your port of entry
Chief Customs Officer P.O. Box 82
Client Services Kawakawa
P.O. Box 29 NORTHLAND
AUCKLAND New Zealand
New Zealand

ATTN: Deborah Bradley
Email: deborah.bradley@customs.govt.nz

Web: www.customs.govt.nz
Biosecurity - Quarantine clearance

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)

All vessels travelling to New Zealand (including pleasure craft and superyachts) need to meet certain border requirements to help protect New Zealand’s environment, economy and people from imported pests and diseases.

On arrival, vessel masters and passengers will need to complete documentation around any biosecurity risk goods on board, and once this is checked and the vessel cleared for entry to New Zealand it is free to travel New Zealand waters.

New Zealand Passenger Arrival Card
Every person onboard the vessel must complete this personal passenger arrival card that includes (along with Customs and Immigration information) notification of any personal quarantine/biosecurity risk items.

Master’s Declaration
New Zealand law requires the master of all arriving vessels complete this declaration:

www.biosecurity.govt.nz/forms/masters-declaration-full-clearance

covering all biosecurity risk goods on board. This includes meat and animal products, plant (fruit and vegetable) products, some stored goods, wood items (such as artefacts and souvenirs), any live animals, camping or outdoor equipment and any garbage. No food may be landed without permission of a biosecurity inspector.

Full information on biosecurity and the arrival process is at:

www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/yachtsandsmallcraft/Pages/default.aspx
Biosecurity - Prohibited foodstuffs & goods

Full information on arriving into New Zealand and biosecurity clearance is at:
www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/ships/yachts

The following goods are prohibited entry to New Zealand due to the risk of them carrying pests or disease that could harm New Zealand’s environment or agricultural and horticultural industries. You must declare that you are carrying these goods on your arrival documentation. Failure to declare biosecurity risk goods will result in an instant fine or possibly prosecution.

Foodstuffs:
Meat products (including poultry), dairy products, fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs, honey, seeds and nuts. Restrictions may apply to some processed foods.

Plant items:
Live plants or roots/cuttings/seeds etc

Endangered, threatened or exploited species:
E.g. ivory, tortoise shell, whalebone carvings, cat skins, crocodile skin products, horns, tusks. Wooden artefacts including wooden carvings, shields, spears, basketware, cane and bamboo, dried flowers. These items will be inspected and may require treatment at the owner’s expense.

Pets:
In general, pets cannot be landed in New Zealand or kept on board a vessel in New Zealand territorial waters. Some exemptions may be granted (for cats and dogs – birds are not permitted at all) where prior application has been made to MAF and the person in charge of the animal has agreed to meet conditions set. These are either onshore quarantining of the animal/s or bonding in secure containment on board the vessel with regular inspections at the owner’s cost. Full information is at: www.biosecurity.govt.nz/enter/ships/yachts/animals

It is advisable to make any application to MAF well in advance of the voyage to New Zealand. For planning the biosecurity management of your cat or dog make early contact via email: animalimports@maf.govt.nz

Hull biofouling:
Marine life that could harm New Zealand’s unique marine environment can be introduced as biofouling growing on the hulls of visiting vessels. Please ensure you arrive in New Zealand with a clean and well-antifouled hull. At the very least, make sure you have cleaned or scrubbed down your hull before leaving your last port for New Zealand. Biosecurity inspectors may examine your boat’s hull for fouling growth.

Contact details for biosecurity staff at New Zealand’s ports of arrival are at: www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/ships/ports-first-arrival
Diseases requiring quarantine of individuals in New Zealand

No human health quarantine or maritime declaration of health is required when entering New Zealand. However visiting yachts must report any serious illness and suspected quarantinable disease to the Ministry of Health on voyage to New Zealand, or to the biosecurity inspector clearing the vessel on arrival.

Contact:
Ministry of Health
Tel  +64 4 496 2000
Fax  +64 4 496 2340
Email  moh@moh.govt.nz
A visiting yacht entered on a ‘Temporary Import Entry’ may purchase goods ‘zero rated’ of GST if the goods are to form part or equipment for the yacht for safe navigation and exported with the yacht.

Pleasure yachts may enter New Zealand under temporary import approvals, attracting GST at zero rate and no duty (see New Zealand Customs above).

For the latest information on taxation regulations please contact the Inland Revenue or visit their website.

Contact:

Inland Revenue Dept
Tel (NZ) 0800 377 774
Fax +64 9 377 1159
Web www.ird.govt.nz
NZ Police - including firearms & drugs

Drugs and medication

Don’t bring illegal drugs into New Zealand – you’ll be arrested if you’re caught doing so. If you need to bring medication with you that contains narcotics, carry a doctor’s certificate saying the medication is necessary and is being used under doctor's instructions. This will avoid possible problems with New Zealand Customs. Doctor’s prescriptions are also needed to obtain certain drugs in New Zealand.

Firearms

New Zealand is an unarmed society and has strong penalties for breaches of its Arms Act. New Zealand Police are an unarmed Police force. Government enforcement agencies do not routinely carry firearms.

It is illegal to be in possession of any firearm or unlawful weapon without lawful, proper and sufficient purpose.

Vessels entering New Zealand waters are required to declare all firearms and weapons onboard to Customs. It is illegal to bring firearms and unlawful weapons into New Zealand waters with the intention to land those firearms and/or unlawful weapons, or to actually land those firearms or unlawful weapons. These offences are punishable by imprisonment.

Vessels entering New Zealand waters will be expected to surrender their firearms and unlawful weapons to the Police. Police will secure those items surrendered and return them when the vessel departs New Zealand waters.

Hand guns are prohibited in New Zealand. Other firearms may be locked into a secure enclosure and sealed onboard or removed by the New Zealand Police.

Contact:

New Zealand Police
Office of the Commissioner, PO Box 3017, Wellington
Tel +64 4 474 9499
Fax +64 4 498 7400

General Enquiries
Tel +64 9 302 6558
Fax +64 9 302 6780
Email: information@police.govt.nz
Web: www.police.govt.nz
Taxation

Inland Revenue Department

Taxation of income of crews for non charter yachts

The working crew of visiting yachts who are not ordinarily resident in New Zealand are considered to be non-resident employees and will be exempt from paying taxation for 183 days or less in any one year period if the country of usual residence has a Double Taxation Agreement (DTA) with New Zealand where tax is normally paid in the overseas jurisdiction and the yacht is considered a non fixed base and belongs to a foreign owner or company. If this is not the case, then taxation can be levied by the Inland Revenue Department.

Taxation of income of crews for charter yachts

If the country of residence of the employer does not have a DTA with New Zealand then the employment income will be exempt from tax if they stay in New Zealand for 92 days or less, the New Zealand employment income is taxable in their own country of residence, and the services performed are on behalf of a person who is not a resident of New Zealand.

Goods and Services Tax

A visiting yacht entered on a ‘Temporary Import Entry’ may purchase goods ‘zero rated’ of GST if the goods are to form part or equipment for the yacht for safe navigation and exported with the yacht.

Pleasure yachts may enter New Zealand under temporary import licenses, attracting GST at zero rate and no duty (see New Zealand Customs above).

For the latest information on taxation regulations please contact the Inland Revenue or visit their website.

Contact:

Inland Revenue Dept
Tel  (NZ) 0800 377 774
Fax  +64 9 377 1159
Web  www.ird.govt.nz
Or  www.ird.govt.nz/yoursituation-ind/travelling/nonresident-visitingshortterm.html#craft
Charter and non-charter standards (1/2)

Maritime New Zealand: Standards for non-charter yachts

All vessels, whether motor vessels or yachts which are being operated as pleasure craft, used exclusively by the owner(s), or owner(s) guests are not required to meet Maritime New Zealand (MSA) requirements. Maritime New Zealand does not therefore deem such vessels to be operating commercially if they are pleasure vessels and there are no requirements for the manning or equipment of these vessels.

Standards for vessels operating commercially in New Zealand

All foreign flagged motor and sailing passenger yachts which do not have SOLAS Convention Certificates issued on behalf of their Flag State will be required to undergo a survey upon arrival by a MSA approved Safe Ship Management company before being able to operate commercially in New Zealand waters. If vessels have SOLAS Convention Certificates as a passenger vessel they will have to carry valid certification under the International Safety Management (ISM) Code.

Crew qualifications for charter yachts

Crew members do not require any New Zealand qualifications if the vessel is used for pleasure purposes only.

Crew qualifications for commercial vessels

Crew would be required to hold appropriate New Zealand certificates of competency for the required area of operation, or equivalent or better commercial qualifications issued by other administrations which New Zealand could recognise.

Customs

New Zealand Customs requirements for this process are also necessary and any chartering proposal must be advised to the Customs Service. This includes GST and Duty implications which are currently under discussion with the NZ Marine Industry.

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Charter and non-charter standards (2/2)

Maritime New Zealand: 46.28 Foreign non-SOLAS ships operating on the New Zealand Coast

(1) Subject to rules 46.28(3) and 46.28(4), the owner and the master of a foreign non-SOLAS ship that does not have certificates that can be recognised by the Director in accordance with section 41 of the Act must ensure that the ship undergoes a survey to the satisfaction of the surveyor before the ship commences operations on the New Zealand coast and thereafter as required by the Director. The Director shall determine the extent of the first survey and the nature and periodicity of subsequent surveys taking into account the circumstances of the operation and the survey requirements applicable to comparable New Zealand ships.

(2) On completion of a satisfactory first survey, as referred to in rule 46.28(1), the Director must issue a certificate in accordance with section 41 of the Act in respect of the ship in a form determined by the Director.

(3) The owner and the master of a foreign non-SOLAS ship that does not have certificates that can be recognised by the Director in accordance with section 41 of the Act must ensure that the ship enters and remains in a safe ship management system established under Part 21 of the maritime rules within 2 years of the date of the first survey required by rule 46.28(1).

(4) The requirements of rule 46.28(1) do not apply where a foreign ship that does not have certificates that can be recognised by the Director in accordance with section 41 of the Act enters and remains in a safe ship management system established under Part 21.

(5) The owner and the master of a foreign non-SOLAS ship that has certificates that can be recognised by the Director in accordance with section 41 of the Act must ensure that the ship:

(a) does not operate on the New Zealand coast unless the certificates for the ship have been recognised by the Director in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and

(b) enters and remains in a safe ship management system established under Part 21, if the ship has operated on the New Zealand coast for a period of 2 years in any 3 year period.

Contact:

Maritime New Zealand
Tel   +64 4 494 1228
Fax   +64 4 473 6699
Web   www.maritimenz.govt.nz
Charter regulations - taxation of crew income

If the country of residence of the employer does not have a DTA with New Zealand then the employment income will be exempt from tax if they stay in New Zealand for 92 days or less, the New Zealand employment income is taxable in their own country of residence, and the services performed are on behalf of a person who is not a resident of New Zealand.

For the latest information on taxation regulations please contact the Inland Revenue or visit their website.

Contact:
Inland Revenue Dept
Tel   (NZ) 0800 377 774
Fax   +64 9 377 1159
Web   www.ird.govt.nz
Or    www.ird.govt.nz/yoursituation-ind/travelling/nonresident-visitingshortterm.html#craft
Cruising - marine reserves

Access to Poor Knights and Three Kings Marine reserves

The objective of Maritime NZ rule Part 190 is to give effect to “areas to be avoided” by certain ships in the vicinity of the Poor Knights Islands and the Three Kings Islands. Both areas are so designated in order to protect the marine environment. The rules instruct the owners, the charterers and the masters of the ships to which the rules apply to avoid the defined areas.

190.3 Poor Knights Islands

(1) This rule applies to every yacht of more than 45 metres length overall.

(2) The owner, charterer and master of a ship to which this rule applies must not cause or allow the ship to enter the Poor Knights area in transit.

“Poor Knights area” means the area bounded by a line connecting the following geographical positions:

35° 51’. 30 S 174° 35’. 50 E
35° 34’. 55 S 174° 49’. 20 E
35° 29’. 60 S 174° 50’. 80 E
35° 24’. 70 S 174° 50’. 20 E
35° 10’. 20 S 174° 20’. 10 E;

190.4 Three Kings Islands

Subject to section 32 and 100 of the Act, the owner, charterer and master of a yacht of 500 gross tons or more must not cause or allow the ship to enter the Three Kings area.

“Three Kings area” means the area bounded by a line connecting the following geographical positions:

34° 06’. 00 S 172° 00’. 00 E
34° 06’. 00 S 172° 12’. 50 E
34° 13’. 50 S 172° 12’. 50 E
34° 13’. 50 S 172° 00’. 00 E.

For further information:

Questions and general enquiries about the maritime and marine protection rules should be directed to: rules@maritimenz.govt.nz
Refit and Maintenance

Providing solutions and refit strategies meeting Owner and Captain expectations

“We chose New Zealand after considering a combination of value and quality of work, equal to the world’s best.”
*Quote from 49m superyacht Captain.*

New Zealand is strategically positioned as the South Pacific Hub offering a total package including Refit, Repairs, Service and Maintenance.

With New Zealand rated as one of the Worlds leading tourism destinations enjoy the added value of fantastic cruising from the Northern Bay of Islands, Auckland’s Hauraki Gulf, to the spectacular Southern Sounds and Fiordland.

The New Zealand Refit Group comprises a range of members from the NZ Marine Industry Association with regional clusters covering Northern, Auckland, Central and Southern locations. Attention to detail backed by hands-on management, a skilled work force, and an industry approved code of practise equates to providing world-class refits.

Dedicated craftsmen incorporating the same passion for excellence with results rivalling New Zealand’s award winning new builds.

For further information:
www.nzmarine.com/refit
Search our marine industry database to find everything you need before or during your visit.

The database of over 500 NZ Marine Industry member companies details New Zealand’s leading designers, builders, and marine sales and service companies. Browse the Marine Directory categories or alternatively please use the ‘Find a Marine Business’ field in the left hand column to enter a company name or keyword.

www.nzmarine.com

NZ Marine Industry ‘Excellence Directory’

This directory profiles a wide range of NZ Marine companies and the quality products and services provided.

Check it out at:

www.nzmarineevents.com/page/4951
Arrival of Yachts and Small Craft in New Zealand:

The following information will assist as an overview for your arrival, stay and departure from New Zealand.

Introduction

The arrival of any yacht into New Zealand is usually one of the most agreeable experiences with officials that the master of the vessel has ever experienced.

New Zealand officials have long enjoyed a reputation for courtesy and efficiency, but this is blended with a rare empathy and warmth for the voyager. As a premiere sailing nation, all of New Zealand’s citizens are well aware of the complexities of any voyage and are usually keen to make the New Zealand experience memorable. The officials who greet the arriving yacht are thoroughly familiar with the needs of the vessel and crew, and they will take pleasure in completing the formalities with as little fuss and as much humour as possible. The officials are also thoroughly trained professionals who take their own work seriously. The arriving yacht master should not mistake the warmth of his greeting for any lack of diligence. Officials will treat the crew with honesty and openness, and expect to be accorded the same respect.

In particular, New Zealand’s agricultural rules should be meticulously followed upon arrival. Agricultural produce is the backbone of the country’s export earnings and protection of the country from the inadvertent introduction of foreign pests is absolutely vital to the future prosperity of the nation. If at times the agricultural rules seem tedious, the fact is that their value has been proven time and time again. Therefore the master and crew of the arriving yacht should be cooperative and patient while officials make their quarantine checks. They will find that their own goodwill at this time will be more than matched by the officials with whom they are dealing.

Masters and owners are referred to the booklet Yachts and Pleasure Craft, New Zealand Arrival and Departure produced by the Maritime Safety Authority which will assist them with the details of their arrival and stay in New Zealand.

Additional information for vessels wishing to charter is contained in the booklet Maritime Transport Act 1994, Requirements for Commercial Vessels.
Quick overview - arrival to departure

Before Arrival

All vessels must provide an Advance Notice of Arrival to Customs and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (quarantine) at least 48 hours prior to your intended time of arrival in New Zealand territorial waters (12 nautical miles from the coastline). This form must be completed and returned by fax or email. See www.customs.govt.nz/inprivate/arrivalbyprivatecraft/yachtsandsmallcraft/Pages/default.aspx

A courtesy telephone report may also be made to:

New Zealand Customs in Auckland
Tel +64 9 359 6655
Tel +64 25 961 375 (after hours)
Fax +64 9 359 6735

or

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF):

Auckland Office
Tel +64 9 909 3019
Tel +64 29 909 3046 (after hours)
Fax +64 9 303 3037
Email akwvessels@maf.govt.nz

Whangarei Office (includes Opua and Marsden Cove)
Tel +64 9 430 7848 (24 hours)
Fax +64 9 430 7849
Email mqswhre@maf.govt.nz

Taupo Maritime Radio/ZLM keeps continuous radio watch on the following calling frequencies:
2182 KHz
4125 KHz
6215 KHz
8291 KHz
12290 KHz
16420 KHz

In addition, on the frequencies 2207, 4146, 6224, 8297, 12356 and 16531 kHz, Taupo Maritime Radio provides maritime safety information (MSI) including navigational, meteorological and ionospheric prediction warnings; scheduled broadcasts of marine weather information; telephone patch and message relay facilities for SAR purposes (VHF and HF). The Maritime Operations Centre also accepts and processes (HF and VHF) Trips...
Quick overview - arrival to departure  (3/6)

Reports (TRs), Meteorological Obs, AMVER, Naval messages, incoming MAF and Customs clearances. Full details of the Taupo Maritime Radio schedule is available from:

Maritime Operations Centre
Tel       +64 4 914 8333
Fax       +64 4 914 8334
Email     maritime@kordia.co.nz

The arriving vessel should also endeavor to confirm its arrival as it approaches the port. This may be done by VHF radio through Taupo Maritime Radio which maintains repeater VHF stations along the coast. Alternatively, local port authority radio stations can also forward an arrival confirmation.

Code flag ‘Q’ should be flown as soon as the vessel enters New Zealand’s Territorial waters (12 nautical miles). The arrival itself may be confirmed to the Port on VHF 16.

Ports of Entry
Vessels arriving from overseas should enter at a designated Port of Entry, and secure at the appropriate Customs or Quarantine berth. The Ports of Entry and their contact details (International code is +64 and drop the first 0) are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>North Island</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opua</td>
<td>09 402 7505</td>
<td>09 402 7763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whangarei</td>
<td>09 438 1279</td>
<td>09 438 7067</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auckland</td>
<td>09 366 0055</td>
<td>09 366 0219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tauranga</td>
<td>07 575 1899</td>
<td>07 575 1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Napier</td>
<td>06 834 4400</td>
<td>06 834 4408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gisborne</td>
<td>06 868 5129</td>
<td>06 867 8084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Plymouth</td>
<td>06 751 0200</td>
<td>06 751 0886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>04 495 3800</td>
<td>04 495 3820</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>South Island</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td>03 548 2099</td>
<td>03 546 9015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picton</td>
<td>03 573 8000</td>
<td>03 573 7695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyttleton</td>
<td>03 328 8198</td>
<td>03 328 7828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greymouth</td>
<td>03 768 1700</td>
<td>03 768 1710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westport</td>
<td>03 789 7249</td>
<td>03 789 6269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timaru</td>
<td>03 684 4199</td>
<td>03 684 5615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunedin</td>
<td>03 472 7890</td>
<td>03 472 7891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluff</td>
<td>03 212 8159</td>
<td>03 212 8685</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Pilotage
There are no national pilotage requirements in New Zealand, but many New Zealand ports require a pilot for large vessels. In Auckland, for example, the use of a pilot is discretionary on vessels of less than 500 tons and mandatory on all vessels above 500 tons. Many ports in New Zealand have demanding approaches through narrow waters with strong tides which make the use of a pilot desirable. Precise information about pilotage at each port can be determined by contacting the port directly. The use of a pilot will ensure the vessel’s safe arrival, and port officials will be delighted to provide a pilot even when this is not required by law.

On Arrival
All persons and goods must remain onboard until the craft has been cleared. The following officials will greet the arriving craft/superyacht:
- Customs Officers, who will also act for the Department of Immigration
- MAF officers from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
- Port officials to assist with requirements of the port itself

Customs Requirements
Customs will require that you provide or complete the following:
- Ship Registration Documents
- Clearance from the previous port
- Inward Report (Yacht)
- Temporary Import Entry
- Ships Stores Declaration
- New Zealand Passenger Arrival Card (Customs and MAF) for each crew member

Firearms should be declared and will normally be taken ashore for storage by the New Zealand Police. If there is an onboard safe for firearms, the Master should show it to the Police who can determine whether or not it satisfies New Zealand law. The Customs Officer will advise concerning duty free allowances and any duties to be paid. For each person who is 17 years of age or over, 200 cigarettes, 4.5 litres of wine and 3 x 1.125 litres of spirits will normally be allowed in duty free.

The importation of drugs is a very serious offence, rendering the vessel liable to seizure.
Quick overview - arrival to departure (5/6)

The Temporary Import Entry form is a permit for the vessel to remain in New Zealand without paying any import duty. It is normally made out for 12 months, but may be extended on application to the Customs Department. The form requires the vessel’s value to be declared.

Immigration Documentation
Immigration (handled by Customs) requires that you provide or complete the following:
• Passports for each person on board
• New Zealand Arrival Card for each person on board
3 month visas will be granted to the citizens of most countries, while British subjects will receive a 6 month visa. Visas are normally renewable through Immigration New Zealand. Anyone leaving the vessel in New Zealand may be required to show an onward ticket.

MAF (biosecurity/quarantine) requirements
MAF biosecurity inspectors require that all passengers and crew on board complete the New Zealand Arrival Card. As well, the master needs to complete the Master’s Declaration – a declaration of all biosecurity risk material on board.

The biosecurity inspector at your port of entry will inquire about food, plants and agricultural/horticultural produce on board and may remove certain items for destruction. Failure to make a full declaration of any such items is a very serious offence and can result in a fine or prosecution. Any artefacts covered by the Convention on Endangered Species (CITES), such as ivory, turtle shells, whale teeth, coral etc should also be declared. MAF information for yachts and pleasure craft is included in the arrival pack.

Any pets must either be placed into quarantine ashore or confined on board where they will be inspected regularly by MAF at the owner’s cost. A bond agreement will be required to ensure compliance. This is an absolute requirement which must be strictly adhered to even though it may cause inconvenience to the vessel and crew.

MAF removes rubbish for disposal in their approved system.

Anchoring
Port Officials may direct the vessel to secure in designated anchorages or berths. Some ports may levy a small Port Charge, though this commercially based charge is sometimes waived for smaller vessels.

CONTINUED>>
Quick overview - arrival to departure (6/6)

Once the entry formalities have been completed, the crew and vessel are free to travel throughout the country. There is no need to inform any government department about the movement of the vessel or crew until departure.

**Application for GST Exemption for Visiting Yachts**

Whilst in New Zealand, any work carried out on the vessel is not subject to New Zealand’s Goods and Services Tax of 15%. (12.5% prior to 1st October 2010). Further, any equipment or supplies imported for the vessel itself will also be free of Customs duty and GST. The Department of Inland Revenue requires that for these exemptions to be made the supplies must be seen to be fitted to or used on the vessel. It is of course an offence for such items then to be removed from the vessel, and they must be exported with the vessel when it leaves. Production of the Temporary Import Entry for the vessel is the usual means by which the vessel obtains such duty and tax free services and supplies.

Whilst in New Zealand the paid crew of a visiting craft/superyacht are generally treated like the members of the crew of any other vessel visiting New Zealand. They are considered to be non-resident employees and are exempt from tax in New Zealand for a stay of up to 183 days, so long as their country of origin has a double-tax agreement with New Zealand and the yacht is considered as a ‘non-fixed base’.

**Departure from New Zealand**

Customs Fact Sheet No 33 – Departure of Yachts and Small Craft from New Zealand:


Before departing New Zealand, all New Zealand-registered pleasure craft are required to obtain a Safety Certificate. This means satisfying an Inspector of Yachting New Zealand that the vessel and crew meet certain minimum safety standards, that the vessel is in good structural condition and that the crew are adequate. These standards are not onerous and are very unlikely to present any problems to a Superyacht. There are Inspectors in most New Zealand ports, and they can be found by contacting local marine interests or clubs, any office of the Maritime New Zealand or directly through Yachting New Zealand at Tel +64 9 488 9325.

The master of a departing craft/superyacht is required to contact a Customs Officer and complete an Outward Yacht Report before leaving. The Customs Service will also attend to the other formalities such as emigration. In this respect, although the formalities are similar to those encountered in other countries, they are more easily dealt with because only one government agency is involved.

Once the formalities are completed, the master will be issued a Certificate of Clearance. The craft/superyacht will be expected to leave the country immediately. If it is delayed for any reason, the New Zealand Customs Service must be advised immediately to explain the situation.