

Population

350,000

Currency

New Zealand Dollar, \$NZD 1 =
100 cents

Opening Hours

Most shops are open from 9am
- 5pm, malls stay open until
9pm on Fridays. All stores close
on Christmas Day, Good Friday,
Easter Sunday, and until 1pm on
Anzac Day (25th April).

Internet

www.christchurchnz.net
www.bethere.co.nz
www.christchurch.org.nz

Publications

The Press (daily regional)
New Zealand Herald (national)

Emergency Number

111 (Ambulance, Fire, Police)

Tourist Office

Christchurch i-SITE Visitor Centre
Address: Cathedral Square,
PO Box 2600
Christchurch, NZ
Tel: +64 3 379 9629
[info@christchurchinformation.
co.nz](mailto:info@christchurchinformation.co.nz)
Open seven days a week from
8.30am (closed Christmas Day
only).
www.christchurchinformation.co.nz

CHRISTCHURCH



Christchurch Cathedra

WELCOME TO CHRISTCHURCH

New Zealand's garden city and capital of the South Island acts as the perfect gateway to discovering some of the country's most spectacular scenery and National Parks; and there is plenty to explore in the city itself, with acres of parks and gardens, stunning Gothic architecture and a wide choice of restaurants and bars.

THE CITY

Christchurch, located in the province of Canterbury, is the largest city in the South Island, yet remains a friendly and welcoming city, compact enough to easily explore on foot or bicycle.

The city was originally founded by English settlers in the 19th century, and retains a British feel due to its Victorian architecture, tree lined avenues and open parklands. Today historic buildings such as the cathedral and the Canterbury Museum, sit side by side with innovative, modern architecture such as the Christchurch Art Gallery.

Much of the city landscape is devoted to parks and open spaces, resulting in the Christchurch's reputation as the 'Garden City of New Zealand'. Two of the most impressive gardens - Hagley Park and the Botanic Gardens, are within easy reach of the city centre.

To the west of Christchurch are the Southern Alps - home to Australasia's highest mountain - Mount Cook; and to the east is the Pacific Coast, where visitors can swim with dolphins or join whale watching excursions.

DO & SEE

Christchurch Art Gallery - Te Puna o Waiwhetu

The South Island's largest and newest art gallery is home to over 5000 works of art, including a permanent collection of contemporary and historic works as well as touring exhibitions from across the world. As well as three levels indoors, the gallery also features an outdoor sculpture garden.

Price: Free, Address: Montreal Street
Tel: +64 (0)33 365 0915



The Curator's House

Cathedral Square

The hub of Christchurch's compact city centre is Cathedral Square; home to the Gothic Victorian Christchurch Cathedral, the striking modern art of 'the chalice', and a market selling everything from bone carvings to possum fashions. Also look out for The Wizard, a colourful Christchurch resident who makes an entertaining appearance most days.

Price: Free
Market open Wed - Sat, 10am-4pm
Tel +64 (0)33 365 2632

Southern Encounter Aquarium and Kiwi House

Head to the aquarium for a chance to watch the daily eel and shark feeds, and take a tour through the Kiwi House, where an artificial night means you'll be able to see the nocturnal Kiwi's foraging for food throughout the day.

Price: \$NZD 14
Address: Cathedral Square
Tel: +64 (0)33 377 3474
www.southernencounter.co.nz

International Antarctic Centre

Get a taste of Antarctic life by taking a trip through the centre's

'polar room', with real snow, ice and Antarctic storms! The centre also features exhibitions, adventure rides and the brand new Penguin Encounter viewing area.

Adult \$NZD 30
Address: Orchard Road (next to Christchurch Airport)
Tel: +64 3 358 9896, www.iceberg.co.nz

Historic Arts Centre

The Gothic revival buildings of the arts centre are home to dozens of studios and galleries where you can watch artists produce their work, and often join in art workshops yourself. The centre is also a venue for cinemas, shops, cafés, restaurants and cultural events.

Price: Free, Address: 2 Worcester Boulevard
Tel: +64 (0)33 363 2836, www.artscentre.org.nz

Christchurch Gondola

For the best views of Christchurch and Lyttleton Harbour take a ride in one of the four-person gondolas and rise 500m above sea level up to the crater of an extinct volcano.

Hours: 10am-9pm
Price: Adult \$NZD 22
Address: Bridle Path Road, Heathcote
Tel: +64 (0)33 384 0700
www.gondola.co.nz

Punting on the Avon River

Sit back and relax on plump velvet cushions as your Edwardian punter propels you along the Avon River. The journey offers a unique way to see the city's historic buildings and Botanic Gardens.

Price: \$NZD 18
Address: Antigua Boat Sheds, 2 Cambridge Street
Tel: +64 (0)33 366 0337
www.punting.co.nz

Christchurch Wildlife Cruise

Take a two-hour cruise in nearby Lyttleton Harbour to discover the rich history of the township and the opportunity to see dolphins, penguins and other marine wildlife



Punting on Avon River by town hall fountain

in their natural habitat.

Price: \$NZD 52
Address: Norwich Quay, Lyttleton (free shuttle bus from Cathedral Square)
Tel: +64 (0)33 328 9078
www.blackcat.co.nz

Christchurch Tramway

Christchurch's historic trams are an ideal way to explore the city centre; the route takes in sights such as Cathedral Square, the Botanic Garden, Canterbury Museum and the main shopping areas.

Price: \$NZD 12.50
Address: Tramway Lane
Tel: +64 (0)33 366 7830
www.tram.co.nz

Ko Tāne

Enjoy an authentic Maori experience, where you'll be greeted with a traditional powhiri (greeting), treated to a cultural performance and where you'll be able to explore the living village and wildlife reserve.

Price: \$NZD 45
Address: Willowbank Wildlife Reserve, 60 Hussey Road
Tel: +64 (0)33 359 6226
www.kotane.co.nz

EATING

Once known mainly for its superb lamb, Canterbury and Christchurch are now gaining a reputation for a wide range of food and wine. Local meat produce includes venison, emu and ostrich. And there is fresh seafood readily available including scallops, crayfish and Mount Cook Salmon which are recommended. Canterbury is also a large wine producing region, specialising in chardonnay and sauvignon blanc.

EXCLUSIVE

Minx Dining Room and Bar

A contemporary, design-led restaurant and cocktail bar offering fresh, locally sourced food and a menu that changes daily.

Address: 96 Lichfield Street, Tel: +64 (0)33 374 9944
www.minxbar.co.nz

Tramway Restaurant

Combine an evening tour around the city with a three-course meal onboard the unique and historic setting of a Christchurch tram.

Address: 7 Tramway Lane, Tel: +64 (0)33 366 7511
www.tram.co.nz

Pescatore Restaurant

Part of the luxury hotel, The George, Pescatore serves equally luxurious seafood and Pacific-rim cuisine in modern, chic surroundings.

Address: The George Hotel, 50 Park Terrace, Christchurch, Tel: +64 (0)33 371 0257
www.thegeorge.com

MID-RANGE

The Curator's House Restaurant

This converted historic house in the Botanic Gardens serves fresh New Zealand food and boasts the most picturesque outdoor dining area in the city.

Address: 7 Rolleston Avenue, Tel: +64 (0)33 379 2257
www.curatorshouse.com, Restaurant Piko Piko

An elegant restaurant serving classic New Zealand cuisine such as venison, quail, lamb and salmon.

Address: Millennium Hotel, Cathedral Square
Tel: +64 (0)33 365 1111

Fuji Japanese Restaurant

Good value restaurant serving classic Japanese dishes, with separate sushi and Teppanyaki rooms.

Address: 114 Gloucester St
Tel: +64 (0)33 377 8830

BUDGET

Vic and Whale

A lively restaurant and bar, popular with backpackers thanks to its choice of all day bar snacks and daily drink specials. Also offers an al a carte menu.

Address: 772 Colombo Street
Tel: +64 (0)33 366 6355
www.thevicandwhale.co.nz

Six Chairs Missing

International cuisine made with fresh New Zealand produce. This restaurant is known locally for its gourmet ice cream and sorbets made on the premises.

Address: 36 New Regent St
Tel: +64 (0)33 366 4197

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION
DESTINATION: CHRISTCHURCH



New Zealand Cup racing

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Airport

Christchurch International Airport (www.christchurch-airport.co.nz) is located 12km from the city centre. The Airport Flyer bus service takes passengers directly to Cathedral Square for \$NZD 7. The service runs half-hourly all day on weekdays, hourly on weekends. Alternatively a Shuttle Bus operates a door to door service to all locations within Christchurch for \$NZD 12-18 per person. Taxis from the airport to the city centre take around 15mins and cost approximately \$NZD 25. (When leaving New Zealand there is a departure fee of between \$NZD 20 and \$NZD 25.)

Local Transport

The Central City Electric Shuttle is a free service linking many of the main attractions and shopping areas on

a circular route. Buses run every 10 minutes from 7.30am-10.30pm Mon-Sat, 10am-8pm Sun. The Metrostar and Oribiter services link all of the main suburban shopping malls with the city centre and run every 15 minutes. Bus services to attractions outside the city centre leave from Cathedral Square. Single cash fares cost \$NZD 2.50. For cheaper fares load a free MetroCard (www.metroinfo.org.nz) with \$NZD 10, these can be used on all bus services and fares are automatically deducted when leaving the bus. Most hotels in the city also offer free hire of bicycles for guests.

Taxi

Blue Star Taxis
Tel: +64 (0)33 379 9799
www.bluestartaxis.org.nz

Post Office

Address: 736 Colombo Street.
Tel: +64 (0)33 377 5411
Open 8am to 6pm Mon - Fri, 10am-4pm Sat

Pharmacy

Urgent Pharmacy
Address: 931 Colombo St
Tel: +64 (0)33 366 4439.

Dentist

For emergency dental care phone the NZ Dental Association for the roster of after hours dentists.
Tel: +64 (0)33 366 6644.

Telephone

Country code: +64
Area code: 03

Electricity
220-240 volts, 50 Hz