AVSS 2018

Auckland University of

Technology, Auckland,

27-30 November 2018





Travel Handbook

1. New Zealand Currency:

By the end of October, 1 NZD is equivalent to 0.65 USD. Other exchange rates are below:



2018-10-23 02:40 UTC

All figures are live mid-market rates, which are not available to consumers and are for informational purposes only. To see the rates we quote for money transfer, please use our money transfer service.

Click on a rate to see a chart.

Currency Facts

NZD Stats

Name: New Zealand Dollar

Symbol: \$ Cent: c

Minor Unit: 1/100 = Cent

Central Bank Rate: 1.75

Top NZD Conversion:

USD/NZD

NZD Profile

Inflation: 1.90%

Coins:

Freq Used: \$1, \$2, 10c, 20c, 50c

Banknotes:

Freq Used: \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100

Central Bank:

Reserve Bank of New Zealand Website: http://www.rbnz.govt.nz/

2. Transportation from the Airport to and around the city

Note that New Zealand has very strict biosecurity; you must declare Food items to bring in on the Passenger Arrival Card.

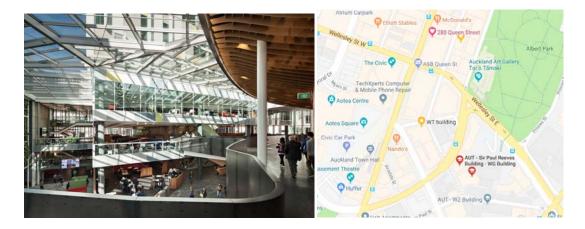


From the Auckland International Airport, you can get to the city centre by either by:

- a. Bus, which costs 18 NZD one way, visit https://www.skybus.co.nz/auckland-city-express/buy-tickets).
- b. Shuttled bus/taxi, which cost around 20-30 NZD per person (https://www.supershuttle.co.nz).
- c. Uber or taxi, which costs 50-70 NZD to the CBD (09 300 3000 or 0800 300 3000 is Auckland Co-op Taxi number).

3. Conference Venue and Conference Dinner Locations

The conference venue is at WA & WG building of AUT city campus, located at 74 Gov Fitzroy Pl, Auckland Central; it is about 10 minutes walking from the city centre.



All workshops and Welcome Reception will be held at WA224A & 224B, the main conference is at WA224 Conference Centre, and the Poster Display Presentations will be at WG201. During the conference days, you will be served Morning Tea, Lunch, and Afternoon Tea. On top of that, conference dinner will be at 6:30 pm on Thursday 29 November 2018; and Survivors party will be at 4:30 pm on Friday 30 November 2018.

The conference dinner is held at the beautiful Winter garden Pavilion (20 Kiosk Rd, Parnell), it is about 20 minutes walk (recommended) from the conference venue. The walk is relaxing, through the beautiful Auckland Domain, with a variety of landscapes from open fields, to formal gardens and statues, to native bush walkways and duck pond. On the day, we will gather at the conference venue at 5:15 pm and start walking there together.



4. Where to eat during your stay?

You are likely to stay at Auckland Central, here, you can find many restaurants and food courts within walking distance. Stables on Elliott street is a good food court to try out (https://www.elliottstables.co.nz), or for fine dining, you may visit Orbit 360 - the NZ only rotating restaurant offering 360-degree views of Auckland City Centre, it is an unforgettable experience to have (\url{https://www.skycityauckland.co.nz/restaurants/orbit/}).



Besides, you could find many unique restaurants on Lorne street and near the water front. In general, you may expect to pay somewhere between 8 and 15 NZD for breakfast and between 20 and 40 NZD for dinner per person. The cost of lunch sits somewhere between. Tips are optional in New Zealand; all listed prices are tax included.

5. Where to go/visit?

In New Zealand, we drive on the left side of the road. Auckland is a relatively small city, you could quickly get to public conservation areas, beaches, rivers and mountains within 10 to 20 minutes drive. To get around, Uber and Taxi are convenient. Public transportation is getting better than it used to be, and you could buy an AT Hop card to use on the bus, train, and ferry (https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/at-hop-card).

On a beautiful afternoon, you could walk down to the waterfront, take a 15-minute ferry to Devonport (Auckland's seaside village) and enjoy the breathtaking sea and city views; have dinner there and go back by bus.



Some other points of interest within a walking distance from the venue are:

the Sky tower, Auckland Art Gallery, Albert Park, Auckland Domain and Museum, the Viaduct, Silo Park, and Parnell village.

Visit https://www.aucklandnz.com/visit/discover/attractions for a full list of Auckland attractions. Outside of Auckland, you could think of visiting some of the following great points of interest:

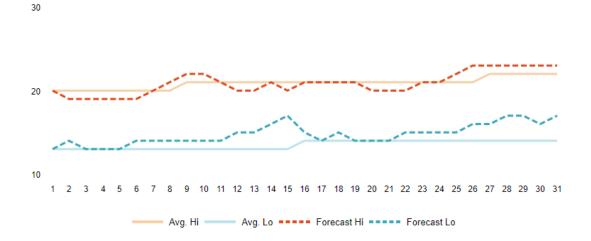
- **North Island:** Waitomo Cave, Hobbiton Movie Set, Bay of Islands, Lake Taupo and Tongariro National Park, Rotorua, Coromandel Peninsula.
- South Island: Queenstown, Fiordland National Park and Milford Sound, Fox and Franz Josef Glaciers, Abel Tasman National Park and the Abel Tasman Coast Track, Aoraki / Mount Cook National Park.



Tour booking is available at www.thriftytours.co.nz

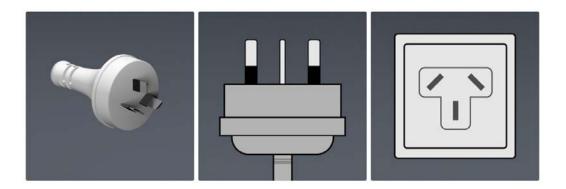
6. Auckland weather in November and December:

In general, the weather is fine during this time, but it could be quite chilly sometimes. However, it is expected to be slightly hotter this year, so you are looking at about 25 degrees Celsius at noon and 15 degrees Celsius at night. You are recommended to bring a long some light jackets.



7. New Zealand Power Plugs and Sockets:

In New Zealand, we use type I power plugs and sockets. Electricity is supplied throughout New Zealand at 230/240 volts (50 hertz), although most hotels and motels provide 110 volt AC sockets



8. Drinking Water:

Except in exceptional circumstances, NZ tap water is universally safe to drink. Standards exist to ensure that major contaminating organisms such as Protozoa and Cryptosporidium are removed or reduced to safe levels.



9. Urgent numbers:

Last but not least, if you find your self in trouble. Please contact the following numbers:

- In any emergency, call **111** (for fire, police or ambulance).
- Other matters at AUT campus, you can call our Security on +64 9 921 9997.
- Or you can also call me: Minh Nguyen +64 21 175 4956.

Hope that you enjoy your stay here in New Zealand.