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www.mfe.govt.nz/eco-wise

NEW ZEALAND ECO-WISE TRAVEL GUIDE

New Zealand is a beautiful country. Help keep our towns, cities, parks, beaches and native bush free from pollution and waste. Please also respect our unique flora and fauna. Be active and get involved in caring for the environment. It is everyone's responsibility.

Here are some tips on how to be eco-wise and leave gentle footprints when travelling in New Zealand.



WASTE-WISE

Litter-free places are healthy places. Waste is hazardous if disposed of incorrectly and can attract pests and disease. Reduce the amount of waste you make and dispose of it responsibly.

Don't litter

- Always put all your rubbish in the bin provided or take it away with you when you leave.

Reuse and recycle

- Reuse plastic bags or try not to use them at all.
- Seek out recycling centres for paper, glass, plastic and cans.
- Ask your local i-SITE for the nearest recycling station.
- Reuse your water bottles.

Dispose of waste sensibly

- Use only a designated dump station.
- Get a list of dump stations from the i-SITE.



ENERGY-WISE

Using less energy helps reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in our air. This is because fewer fossil fuels are being burnt to produce electricity. You can help by:

- switching off your electrical equipment when not in use
- turning off the lights when you leave the room
- asking tourism operators about their environmentally friendly practices.



TRAVEL-WISE

Around 20 percent of New Zealand's greenhouse gas emissions come from transport. You can help reduce this and save fuel by:

- walking and cycling instead of driving
- using public transport
- reducing your speed on the open road
- switching off your engine when stopped
- choosing to buy or hire a fuel-efficient vehicle
- offsetting your emissions by buying individual carbon credits.

Travel safely

- New Zealand's weather changes rapidly so be prepared.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Be firewise – observe fire bans and always check before lighting fires.
- Ask your local Department of Conservation visitor centre or i-SITE for safety information and advice.



WATER-WISE

Lakes, rivers, beaches and harbours are our treasures and the habitat of many plants, fish and bird species. When enjoying our waterways, please be sure to keep them free of rubbish, spills and introduced species, so that they can be enjoyed by generations to come. You can help by:

- washing and drying your gear between waterways to prevent the spread of unwanted pests like didymo (freshwater algae).

Water is a precious resource and many New Zealand towns and cities experience water shortages during the summer months. You can help by:

- using water sparingly
- taking shorter showers.

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