



Essential Kiwiana



Here at Milestone Tours, we're keen as Watties baked beans for you to enjoy your New Zealand holiday to the fullest. So we've compiled some local knowledge and useful facts for you to brush up on, and and we've kept it lightweight, so you can take it with you.

Kiwiana Dictionary



- A into G:**To get going (a*** into gear)
- Bach:** Small holiday home (South Island: crib)
- Big bickies:**Lots of money
- Biscuit:** (Pronounced: bus-cut) sweet cookie
- Bomb:**Ancient car in utter disrepair
- Box of birds/fluffies:**Cheerful, happy, very good
- Carked it:**Died, kicked the bucket – usually applied to a bomb (see above)
- Chilly bin:** Portable cool-box, ice-box
- Dag:** (1) An amusing person or situation (colloq.)
(2) The perianal section of a sheep's fleece (vulgar)
- Dairy:** Convenience store
- Dunny:** Toilet
- Flash:** Lavish, luxurious, premium. "That's flash!"
- Full on:** Intense
- Go bush:**To leave society behind or become reclusive
- Gumboots:** Multipurpose rubber boots (abbrev. gummies)
- Handle the jandal:** To deal with the situation at hand (see jandal)
- Hokey pokey:** Vanilla ice-cream with lumps of solid toffee
- Hoon:** Young adults with fast cars, loud stereos, and impressive mullets
- Iceblock:** Popsicle
- Jandals:** Rubber thongs, flip-flops
- Judder bar:** Speed bump, not a kind of Scandinavian pub
- Kiwi:** (1) New Zealander
(2) An endangered flightless bird native to New Zealand
(3) Furry green fruit, packed with vitamin C
- Kia ora:** Maori for hello
- Lollies:** Candy, sweets
- Mate:** Buddy, pal (often extended as if it had a 'y' in the middle)
- Metal:** Gravel used on country roads (e.g. a metal road)
- Off yer face:** Fall-down drunk, totally inebriated
- Pakeha:** Non-Maori person
- Pavlova:** Meringue-based dessert topped with kiwifruit (abbrev. pav)
- Pike:** To give up when the going gets tough
- Prang:** Minor car accident
- Quite nice:** Very good, exceptional (pronounced "quooite noice")
- Ratbag:** Scallywag, somewhat annoying person
- Rough as guts:** Unpolished, unkempt, uncouth
- Scul:** Drink rapidly, often to avoid a penalty 'down-trou'
- Singlet:** Undershirt, tank top, regularly paired with gumboots
- Sweet as:** Multi-purpose phrase of hearty agreement
- Tea:** Generic name for evening meal
- Tiki tour:** Roundabout way to get somewhere; scenic tour
- Togs:** Swimsuit
- Whanau:** Maori for family (more inclusive than 'nuclear family')
- Wobbly:** Throw a tantrum, become angry
- Yonks:** Forever, a long time ago



Kiwi Icons Hall of Fame



Pavlova

A classic Kiwi dessert of cream and meringue, topped with kiwifruit. It is named after the Russian ballerina, Anna Pavlova, who visited New Zealand in 1926. A Wellington chef invented a dish inspired by her tutu, which was adorned with green silk cabbage roses. Try it, and leave the diet till after your holiday!

Buzzy Bee

Created in the 1940s by Auckland brothers, Hec and John Ramsey, this colourful critter is New Zealand's most famous children's toy. Most Kiwi kids (past and current) would be well familiar with its buzzing sound, springy antennae and spinning wings.



All Blacks

Our national team are undeniably legends of Rugby: from the near win of their first tour in 1905, to the 'Invincibles' of the 1920s, through to today's professional line-up. The famous All Black Haka performed before each game has struck terror into the hearts of countless burly national rugby teams.



L&P

From humble beginnings in a cow paddock in Paeroa, the fizzy drink was born when locals found a mineral water spring, and added lemon for flavour - hence Lemon & Paeroa. These days the spring is no longer used, but the drink remains as popular as ever. L&P's advertising slogan 'World famous in New Zealand' has been widely adopted by self-deprecating Kiwis.



Swandri

In 1913, Taranaki tailor William Broome developed a hardworking work shirt with secret waterproofing. Made from 100% pure New Zealand wool, the garment was famed for its durability and practicality, and so the 'swannie' quickly became the choice of outdoorsy Kiwis.



Gumboots

The name supposedly originated from 19th century kauri gum diggers. An essential part of the rural Kiwi wardrobe, they can be worn on any occasion, often with rugby shorts and a singlet. They were immortalised in the song Gumboots by satirist Fred Dagg, which climbed to the lofty heights of number 6 on the local charts.



Driving Info

(if this seems like too much, relax and take a Milestone Tour)

- You can drive in NZ for up to 12 months on your national drivers licence or an International Driving Permit (IDP).
- In NZ all drivers, including overseas visitors must carry their drivers licence or IDP at all times when driving. Licences must be translated to English.
- Speed limits are generally 100km/h on open roads and 50km/h in urban areas.
- In NZ we drive on the left and give way (or yield) to all traffic crossing or approaching from the right.
- Don't drink and drive - the laws against this are strictly enforced in New Zealand and penalties are severe.
- Check out www.landtransport.govt.nz for up to date information.



Money Matters

(yes it does)

- New Zealand's unit of currency is the NZ Dollar. Our notes are valued at \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10 and \$5 and our coins are \$2, \$1, and 10, 20 and 50 cents.
- Foreign currency can be easily and widely exchanged.
- All major credits and debit cards are accepted, including those using 'chip & pin' technology.
- Banks are open from 09.30 to 16.30 Monday to Friday and 24-hour automated teller machines (ATMs) are very widely available.

Stay in touch with home

(dialling codes from NZ, dial 00 first)

- Australia +61
- Canada +1
- China +86
- France +33
- Germany +49
- Ireland +353
- Japan +81
- Singapore +65
- South Africa +27
- South Korea +82
- United Kingdom +44
- United States +1



Essential Numbers

- Police, fire or ambulance 111
- Poison Control 0800 764766
- NZ Immigration Service 09 914 4100
- NZ Customs Service 09 300 5399

Useful Websites

Weather www.metservice.co.nz

News www.nzherald.co.nz
www.tvnz.co.nz

Travel www.airnewzealand.com
www.newzealand.com
www.aucklandnz.com

Got a conundrum or curly question about travelling in New Zealand?

Feel free to get in touch with us here at Milestone Tours.

Our local knowledge can help put you on the right track.

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