



New Zealand's political and cultural capital is a sophisticated and convenient destination to hold a memorable business event or conference. Labelled the 'Coolest Little Capital in the World' by Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2011, it combines big city style with small village charm. The city's picturesque harbour and vibrant dining scene have been seducing travellers for decades.

ACCESS

Multi award-winning Wellington International Airport is well served by five international airlines with Air New Zealand, Qantas, Jetstar and Virgin Australia providing 60 direct flights from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Coolangatta between them, and Fiji Airways operating direct from Wellington to Nadi, Fiji. For those flying in from other major overseas destinations, Wellington is easily accessed through New Zealand's international gateway cities of Auckland and Christchurch. Located in the centre of New Zealand, Wellington International Airport is also the major domestic hub with over 700 return flights per week. Air New Zealand and Jetstar flights travel to and from locations all over the country regularly. Wellington International Airport is just 10km from the city centre. The short and picturesque 15 minute drive into the city can be taken on the Airport Flyer bus or by taxi, coach or rental car.

VENUES

Wellington has a multitude of flexible meeting and event venues, from elegant historic buildings to stylish restaurants and warehouses alongside its stunning harbour. Positively Wellington Venues has the largest range of meeting and conference spaces in Wellington. This includes the elegant Michael Fowler Centre, with seating for more than 2,000 people in its auditorium, and the stylish new Shed 6 venue, located on Wellington's waterfront providing theatre seating for almost 1,000. Positively Wellington Venues also manages the capital's largest indoor space, TSB Bank Arena. Located right next door to Shed 6 on the waterfront, the TSB Bank Arena has seating for 4,000 people.

Other venue options include the majestic St James Theatre and the Opera House, both of which are fantastic venues for showcasing the creative arts. Australasia's most visited museum, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, is an iconic venue with conference rooms capable of accommodating up to 1,000 people. Te Papa means 'our place' in Māori and the museum is an amazing interactive showcase of New Zealand history.

The nearby Te Raukura/Te Wharewaka o Poneke merges traditional Māori design with a contemporary context. This versatile waterfront venue houses two ceremonial waka (Māori canoes) and can host up to 550 people. All these venues are within five minutes' walk of each other, allowing organisers to build a varied and easily managed programme.

Facts:

- Population: 449,000 people
- 10 km Airport to City
- Accommodation: 2,960 hotel rooms
- Venue capacity: 5,665 theatre style

Claim to fame:

- Culinary capital – cocktails, coffees and cafes
- Thriving film industry
- Home to Australasia's most visited Museum, Te Papa Tongarewa



Te Papa

GETTING AROUND

The capital is renowned for its compact nature and is easy to explore on foot. It takes just 20 minutes to walk from one end of the business district to the other. Local bus services are a good alternative for travellers who want to get around quickly and taxis are easy to find for those who want door-to-door transport to their business event or conference venue.

ACCOMMODATION

Wellington offers a wide range of quality accommodation ideal for business events and conventions, with city and harbour views a common theme. Choose from unique boutique hotels, self-serviced apartments and fully serviced global hotel brands providing both accommodation and conference facilities on-site. There are more than 2,800 hotel rooms available every night within walking distance of the central city. Having your delegates so close at hand saves travel expenses and logistics, making the most of your time for your event in New Zealand's capital.

MEMORABLE INCENTIVE OPTIONS

EXPLORE some of the sites made famous by the Lord of the Rings movies on a tour with Wellington Rover Tours, Wellington Movie Tours and Flat Earth New Zealand Experiences. Tours will also visit the Weta Cave, where you will hear about the amazing array of films produced in Wellington by local legend Sir Peter Jackson, from Avatar and Tintin to The Hobbit.

SPOIL YOURSELF at the luxurious and exclusive Boomrock Lodge, just 25 minutes' drive north of Wellington. Try rally car racing and all terrain 4WD or show off your skills on the lodge's purpose-built car testing circuit. Other activities include extreme golf, clay bird shooting, archery, knife throwing and helicopter flying.

SAVOUR fine wine in the famous wine regions surrounding Wellington. For a unique experience, arrange an exclusive 'Meet the Winemaker' event during a vineyard tour in the Wairarapa, just over one hour north of Wellington city.

SOAR high above Wellington on a scenic flight tour for spectacular views over the city, Cook Strait and the rugged south coast.

INDULGE in a personalised cooking class with New Zealand celebrity chef Ruth Pretty at her stunning home in Springfield on the Kapiti Coast.

EXPERIENCE the capital's chic café culture first-hand at one of Wellington's many eateries. Zest Food Tours run personalised 'Walking Gourmet' tours of the central city.

MEMORABLE PRE AND POST TOURING OPTIONS

RIDE Wellington's iconic red Cable Car. Take in stunning views across the city and harbour at the lookout before seeing Māori mythology meet big bang science at Space Place housed at Carter Observatory. Return to the city through the picturesque Wellington Botanic Garden.

JOURNEY north from Wellington up State Highway 1 to the beautiful Kapiti Coast, the spectacular Desert Road and vast Lake Taupo. Relax in Taupo township or get out on the water to enjoy world class fishing.

ENCOUNTER New Zealand's unique bird, the flightless Kiwi at Zealandia: The Karori Sanctuary Experience, less than 10 minutes drive from downtown. Alternatively, explore the rugged south coast by safari and see New Zealand fur seals.

HOP ABOARD the Interislander for a ferry ride across to Marlborough. Explore the Marlborough Sounds on a nature cruise, devour Greenshell Mussels, sample world famous sauvignon blanc or walk or mountain bike along the Queen Charlotte Track.

TRAVEL along the Classic New Zealand Wine Trail. Wellington sits in the heart of the trail which stretches between Hawke's Bay in the North Island and Marlborough in the South Island. The trail takes in three of the country's finest wine regions, responsible for producing 70% of New Zealand's wine.

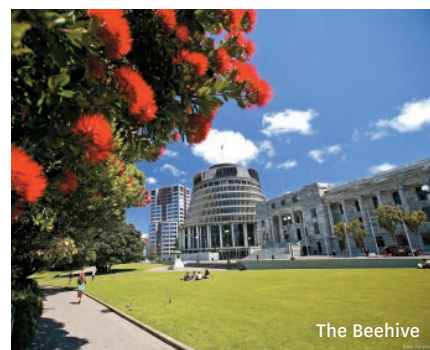
VISIT the nearby region of Wairarapa, only an hour's drive or train ride from Wellington.



Michael Fowler Centre



Wellington Cable Car



The Beehive



Frank Kitts Lagoon



Weta Workshop