



# Travel Newsletter

Institute  
for Study  
Abroad  
BUTLER UNIVERSITY

## NEW ZEALAND

Semester 1 2012

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## Important Reminders

### Documents

Before you get on the airplane, make sure you have:

- Your **passport**
- Your **New Zealand student visa** (affixed inside your passport)

If you don't have these with you, New Zealand Immigration may refuse you entrance into the country or you may not be allowed to board the plane at all.

### Payments

Make sure you have paid your **program fee** and/or taken care of your financial aid. We can't place you in housing if your program fee isn't paid.

### Travel notification form

Send us your **travel notification form** if you haven't already done so. We need to know when to expect you in case you don't arrive on time.

## Check In and Boarding Passes

### Allow plenty of time

Whether you take the group flight or travel independently, you should plan to arrive at the airport three hours before your international flight. This will allow you enough time to check in, get a boarding pass, clear security and make it to your gate.

### Check in!

You must check in for your flight. Otherwise, the airline can assign your seat to someone else.

### Checking your baggage

At your domestic airport, find out if your domestic airline has an agreement with your international carrier to check baggage. If so, your domestic airline may be able to check your bags all the way through to Auckland, and you will also receive your international flight boarding pass at your domestic airport.

If your bags can't be checked through to your final destination, you'll have to do the following once you arrive at your international departure airport: Claim your luggage, check in and re-check your luggage with your international airline, and go through security again to re-enter the gate area.

Get to the gate in plenty of time so you don't miss your flight!



## Travel Problems?

If you are delayed and might miss a flight, you'll need to make arrangements to get on the next available flight:

### Students on the group flight

Contact Advantage Travel at **800-788-1980** and let them know about your flight delay or missed connection. Advantage can help get you on a new flight if necessary. Leave a message if no one picks up; Advantage checks messages regularly and will return your call.

### Students traveling independently

Contact your airline (not travel agent!) to make alternate flight plans.

### All students

Call IFSA-Butler at **800-858-0229** to let us know about your new travel plans. We will then inform our New Zealand office of any delays on your behalf. We monitor messages on flight days, including evenings and weekends, so leave a detailed message if you do not speak with someone directly.

Leave your name, airline, new flight numbers, departure and arrival times, and the name, phone number and room number of your hotel if necessary.

**Be sure to call IFSA-Butler on our general line at 800-858-0229 to ensure that the correct person gets the message.** Please do not leave a message about travel problems on your program advisor's voicemail.

## Baggage Allowances

Check with your domestic and international airlines for baggage allowances. If you try to check luggage that exceeds their limits, you may have to repack or pay an excess baggage fee. Do not overpack!

We do not recommend bringing items such as skis and bikes. If you feel you must bring your own, call both your international and domestic carrier for information about packing and excess baggage fees.

Do not lock your luggage. The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has asked travelers to keep suitcases unlocked so they can be easily searched.

### New Zealand Domestic Flights

Students on the Advantage Travel group flight are issued a single international airline ticket which includes their international (Los Angeles/Auckland) and domestic (Auckland/host university city) flights.

The Air New Zealand international and domestic baggage allowance is one 50 lb. bag (or lighter), plus one 15 lb. carry-on bag. All baggage **must** weigh 50 lbs. or less.

**Anything in excess of the weight allowances will be subject to additional baggage fees. Check with Air New Zealand for baggage limitations and restrictions.**

## Security Check

You will have to undergo numerous security checks. Do not joke about having weapons or explosives. Be patient and cooperative with all airport personnel.

You may be required to turn on electronic equipment or remove batteries from electronics. Be sure your electronics are fully charged, and include the power cord or battery in your carry-on.

## Your Carry-On Bag

Be sure to pack:

- Passport (and at least one copy of it)\*
- New Zealand student visa\*
- Plane tickets or e-ticket confirmations\*
- Cash, ATM card, credit cards\*
- This newsletter
- Insurance coverage details\*
- List of contact names, phone and fax numbers, and email for:
  - Parents and relatives
  - Study abroad advisor at your home college
- Camera
- Medications and prescriptions\*
- Spare glasses/contacts
- Updated transcript (unofficial is fine)
- Toiletries (liquids, gels and/or aerosols must be 3.3 ounces or less and fit comfortably in one clear, re-sealable quart-sized plastic bag)
- Something to read/listen to
- Water (purchased after clearing security)
- Change of clothes in case your luggage is lost

*\* Keep these items and other valuables secure and with you at all times.*



## Travel Tips

Below are some tips for staying comfortable during your long flight and once you land:

- Wear loose, layered, comfortable clothes.
- Try to sleep as much as possible on the plane.
- Drink as much water as possible on the plane.
- Avoid drinking alcohol, which will dehydrate you.
- Don't nap when you arrive in Auckland! Your body needs to get used to the different time zone. Go out in the sunshine and get as much fresh air as possible.

## Customs Forms

On the airplane, your flight attendants will hand out the New Zealand Passenger Arrival Card and Notes. This form details New Zealand Customs, Agriculture and Immigration requirements. You must complete all sections. Mark the "education" box as your reason for being in New Zealand. **Important: If you are unsure about whether or not you should declare something, declare it. People failing to declare quarantine risk goods can receive an instant fine of \$400, be fined up to \$100,000 and/or face up to five years in prison.**

You may bring only a limited amount of duty-free items into New Zealand: goods valued up to NZ\$700 (don't count personal clothing, toiletries and jewelry), 4.5 liters of wine and/or beer, and 200 cigarettes. Smokers should note that smoking is prohibited in most public places.

Do not bring explosives, flammable fluids or any form of mace or pepper spray into New Zealand. If you have new personal items (not duty-free), remove price tags and wrappings before packing them. **You must declare all food, camping, riding and fishing equipment, and hiking boots.** Clean all outdoor footwear and equipment prior to your departure; otherwise quarantine officers will do this on arrival and delay you while clearing customs.

**Free luggage carts** are available near the baggage carousel in the arrivals area. You can bring these carts right through to the arrivals hall area in order to meet the group.

## Clearing Immigration

At the first checkpoint in the Auckland Airport (where you show your **passport**, including your **student visa**, and **arrival card**), immigration officials will confirm the purpose of your visit.

If the official asks for your New Zealand address and you do not yet have one, give the address of our New Zealand office :

Room 519, Harbour City Tower  
29 Brandon Street  
Wellington  
Telephone: (04) 471-0145

## Lost Luggage

If your luggage doesn't come out of the carousel, see the airport officials to file a lost luggage claim **before leaving the customs area**. You can give them the following contact address:

(Your Name)  
c/o YMCA Shakespear Lodge  
Shakespear Regional Park  
Whangaparaoa  
Telephone (09) 424-7111

If you lose your luggage, bring the customs lost luggage form with you and let our New Zealand staff know. Remember to pack a change of clothes in your carry-on bag. Your bag(s) should be delivered to you before you leave orientation.

## Arrival Information

Orientation begins with the arrival of the group flight. Independent travelers arriving on the same day as the group flight should arrive no later than the group flight. **If you are already in New Zealand on the day the group flight arrives, you must be in the arrivals hall of Auckland Airport's international terminal no later than one hour after the group flight lands (see flight information on the next page).**

IFSA-Butler staff will be standing to the right of the arrivals area (McDonald's side), with IFSA-Butler signage. Be sure to check in with them. If you cannot find the



group, speak with an airport information staff member (dressed in blue uniforms) for assistance.

**Arrives 8 a.m. February 9 on Air New Zealand #5**  
University of Auckland, Massey University, University of Canterbury

**Arrives 8 a.m. February 15 on Air New Zealand #5**  
University of Otago

**Arrives 8 a.m. February 19 on Air New Zealand #5**  
Victoria University Wellington

**Independent travelers for all programs must be at the International Terminal no later than 9 a.m.**

From the airport, the group will take a bus to the orientation site. **Please do not miss the bus!** A private shuttle bus to the orientation site, Shakespear Lodge, costs NZ\$100 for one person, NZ\$120 for two people or NZ\$130 for three people (cash only). Students who miss the group flight meeting time and the bus will have to pay for their own transportation to the orientation site.

If you miss the group and the bus, please call our New Zealand staff at 0280-288537. If you are unable to reach our staff, call Ray Fussell with Taffy's Tours at 0274-949457 to schedule a shuttle.

## If You Arrive Early

**IFSA-Butler cannot accommodate early arrivals.** If you plan to stay in Auckland before orientation, you may want to consider a youth hostel or hotel. Our New Zealand office recommends the following:

**Base, Auckland Central Backpackers**  
Level 3 229 Queen Street, Auckland  
Phone: 64-9-358-4877

**Auckland City YHA**  
18 Liverpool Street, Auckland City  
Phone: 64-9-309-2802

**Auckland International YHA**  
5 Turner Street, Auckland City  
Phone: 64-9-302-8200

## Currency

You may want to acquire some New Zealand currency before leaving the United States, but you may have to order it in advance. Check with any large bank. Or, you can exchange currency at the airport banks. If you arrive late at night or on a weekend, you should exchange some currency at the airport. Banks elsewhere are not always open on weekends or holidays.

## Updated Calendar

We've included an updated New Zealand program calendar in this mailing. Please check to see if any dates have changed. Remember all exam dates are provisional; you should verify exam dates after arriving at your host university before confirming your plane ticket home.



**Questions? Call us at 800-858-0229 or visit us online at [www.ifsa-butler.org](http://www.ifsa-butler.org).**



# Program Calendar

## New Zealand Semester 1 2012



IFSA-Butler arranges optional transatlantic group flights for most programs. Group flights depend on the availability of commercial flights and the number of students attending each university program.

	<b>Massey University Auckland</b>	<b>Massey University Palmerston North</b>	<b>Massey University Wellington</b>	<b>University of Auckland</b>
Group Flight Departs	February 7	February 7	February 7	February 7
Arrive in Auckland*	February 9	February 9	February 9	February 9
Program Starts	February 9	February 9	February 9	February 9
IFSA-Butler Orientation	February 9-12	February 9-12	February 9-12	February 9-12
Arrive at University	TBA	TBA	February 12	February 12
University Orientation	February 20	February 19	February 20	February 20-24
University Enrollment	February 22	February 22	February 22	TBA
Classes Begin	February 27	February 27	February 27	February 27
Mid-Semester Break	April 6-20	April 6-20	April 6-20	April 6-22
Classes End	June 1	June 1	June 1	June 1
Exam Period	June 4-23	June 4-23	June 4-23	June 4-25
Program Ends	June 24	June 24	June 24	June 26

	<b>University of Canterbury</b>	<b>University of Otago</b>	<b>Victoria University of Wellington</b>
Group Flight Departs	February 7	February 13	February 17
Arrive in Auckland*	February 9	February 15	February 19
Program Starts	February 9	February 15	February 19
IFSA-Butler Orientation	February 9-12	February 15-18	February 19-22
Arrive at University	February 12	February 18	February 22
University Orientation	February 13	February 22-24	February 28
University Enrollment	February 13	February 20-21	February 29
Classes Begin	February 20	February 27	March 5
Mid-Semester Break	April 6-29	April 6-15	April 6-22
Classes End	June 1	June 1	June 8
Exam Period	June 11-23	June 4-20	June 11-July 4
Program Ends	June 24	June 21	July 5

\* All students must arrive in Auckland by the day marked "Arrive in Auckland."

**These dates are correct as of December 8, 2011, but must be regarded as provisional given the mutability of New Zealand university calendars.**

Once you arrive at your New Zealand university, check the academic schedule for changes before confirming your return travel plans. Ending dates vary from department to department, and you must complete all your academic obligations before returning home. Don't make plans to travel on the final day of exams, as there may be exams **on** that day. Examination schedules for New Zealand universities are not usually available until after the mid-semester break.

Exams must be taken where and when scheduled. Under no circumstances may students request that an exam time be changed. In New Zealand exams are taken under formal examination conditions, and changes cannot be made for individuals.

All program support services end on the "Program Ends" date.