



OFFICIAL
ACCOMMODATION
& TRAVEL PROVIDER
FOR:



Campervan Driving Information



Driving Tips

The campervans are easy to drive, however they are often longer, higher and wider than vehicles you may be used to so here are a few things to remember while on the road.

Note: If you will be arriving on long-haul flights, we recommend you plan to spend your first night in New Zealand in your arrival city to ensure that you are rested after your flight.

All campervan customers will be required to complete [this safe driving check list](#) prior to leaving the branch on day of pick up and driving the campervan.

Look out for low-hanging branches, shop fronts etc and be cautious of the height when using undercover car parks or going through drive-thru's. There is a sticker located in the top right-hand corner of the windscreen that tells you the height of your vehicle. When reversing it may be helpful to have someone stand at the rear to guide you. Remember to give yourself lots of space when turning corners. Familiarise yourself where the lights, wipers and other controls are before you set off. Secure all cupboards and belongings before setting off.

Safety tips for Driving in New Zealand

- Keep LEFT! We drive on the left-hand side of the road
- Always wear your seat belt. Everyone in your vehicle must wear a seatbelt, and children must be secured in an approved child seat. Your rental vehicle company can rent child seats to you if you didn't bring your own
- Keep to the speed limit and always stop at STOP signs
- Always slow down to observe recommended speeds around bends
- Overtake other vehicles only when it's safe to do so. Use passing lanes whenever possible, and never cross a solid yellow line on your side of the centre line
- Stay well-rested. Plan to only drive 1 - 2 hours at a time, and take regular breaks during your journey to stretch your legs
- Drive to the conditions. You'll need to reduce your speed if it's raining, icy or snowing, windy, or if you're in a roadworks area. Ask your accommodation provider if in doubt
- Use a Driving Time and Distance Calculator or GPS to estimate driving times while planning your journey. Driving in New Zealand can often take longer than expected due to our winding roads
- Do not drink and drive. Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is a crime in New Zealand and strictly enforced by police, with severe penalties for offenders
- It's illegal to use a mobile phone while driving in New Zealand. If you need to make a call or send a text, pull over at a rest area or in a safe place

Make sure you have a valid licence to drive in New Zealand.

If you have a foreign licence in a language other than English, please ensure it is current appropriate for a full size motor vehicle (not restricted or learner) and you must also present an accredited English translation.

The translation must be provided by a NZ Transport Agency authorised translation service or a diplomatic representative at a high commission, embassy or consulate, or the authority that issued your overseas licence (an International Driving Permit may be acceptable as a translation if in English).

To find an authorised translation service [click here](#).

Keep yourself safe

New Zealand is a relatively safe travel destination but we are not crime free. It is important you take the same precautions to look after yourself and your possessions as you would at home. The emergency number for fire, ambulance and police is 111. Calls are free.

Remember these key things:

- Don't walk alone late at night and avoid unlit areas.
- Don't carry lots of cash, valuables or expensive jewellery with you.
- Always lock your vehicle and keep windows secure.
- Don't leave valuables, maps, luggage, GPS devices or visitor brochures visible in your parked campervan, especially at scenic spots or trail heads.
- Don't leave bags, backpacks, wallets, mobile phones or cameras unattended in public places, especially at airports, railway stations or ferry terminals.
- Park your campervan overnight in a holiday park, Department of Conservation camping ground or other specially designated area. If in doubt, ask at the nearest i-SITE (official visitor information office).

Keep to the Left

Remember, in New Zealand we drive on the left side of the road.

If you are used to driving on the right remember to:

- Look over your right shoulder for traffic coming from behind; and use all your car mirrors to check that it is safe before you move into traffic, change lanes, or pass other vehicles.
- When approaching roundabouts remember to give away to traffic coming look over your right shoulder.
- When driving in two or more lanes of traffic, keep in the left lane as much as possible. Use the lane(s) closer to the centre line only to pass other vehicles or to turn right.
- Be extra careful when you are driving in rural areas where there is less traffic.

Speed Limits

Keep to the speed limits and drive carefully. In urban speed limit is 50 km/h or 30mph. The rural speed limit is 100 km/h or 60mph.

Please note for 6 Berth Britz Campervans this speed limit is reduced to 90km/h, or 55mph.

Helpful Links for Safety, Rules and Penalties

[The New Zealand Road Code](#) The Official New Zealand Road Code website helping you to understand New Zealand traffic law and become a safe and courteous road user.

[AA \(Automobile Association\) Roadwatch](#) This website is kept up to date with major incidents around New Zealand. You can browse by region and see if there are any road closures.

[New Zealand Police](#) Come here to find out how to stay safe on New Zealand roads.

For further information please contact the team at Orbit Groups & Events – Auckland Division

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