

## NEW ZEALAND IMMIGRATION SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY TO NEW ZEALAND – PASSENGERS AND CREW OF CRUISE VESSELS

### Valid Passport

Passengers and crew must hold a passport that is valid for three months beyond their intended date of departure from New Zealand.

### Visa and Permit Requirements

#### *Exemptions*

Passengers and crew of cruise vessels in New Zealand are exempt from the requirement to hold a permit or visa as provided for in section 11(1)(c) of the Immigration Act:

*A member of the crew of, or a passenger on, any seagoing craft carrying passengers or cargo or both in the ordinary course of the business of the craft and plying between any foreign place and New Zealand, [is exempt from the requirement to hold a permit] from the time when the craft arrives at a Customs place in New Zealand until -*

- (i) *The time when it is given clearance to leave its last Customs place in New Zealand on the same voyage; or*
- (ii) *The expiry of the period of 28 days commencing with the day on which it arrives at its first Customs place in New Zealand on that voyage, -*

*whichever arrives first.*

The exemption applies only to passengers and crew who arrive on the ship. Any people flying into New Zealand to join the ship must apply for visas (if required) and permits in the normal way. (Please see following information on lodging visa applications and visa waiver nationalities).

#### *Cessation of exemption*

If the crew vessel is in New Zealand for *more than 28 days*, crew and passengers must apply for a permit in the prescribed manner under section 13(2) of the Immigration Act in anticipation of the expiry of the 28 day exemption. If permits are granted, they will come into force on the day on which the applicants for the permits cease to be exempt under the Immigration Act from the requirement to hold a permit.

- Crew would require work permits. (see brochure enclosed in this pack 'Guide for Working in New Zealand'.)
- Passengers would require visitor permits. (Note: A permit is not required to be held by New Zealand citizens or residence permit holders; or citizens of the Commonwealth of Australia.)

If a passenger or crew member leaves the vessel and stays on in New Zealand after the vessel has departed, they are no longer exempt from the requirement to hold a permit. If the vessel leaves less than 28 days after arrival, the exemption ceases on the vessel's departure. Such people must apply for a permit in anticipation of the exemption ceasing. This application is made by completing a passenger arrival card which is then presented to a NZ Customs Service officer.

Any person who does not hold a current permit who remains in New Zealand once their exemption has expired shall be deemed for the purposes of the Immigration Act to be in New Zealand unlawfully and may face removal.

#### *Some people may not be eligible for an exemption*

It is important to note that section 7 of the Immigration Act provides that certain persons are not eligible for exemptions or permits. Amongst others, those not eligible include people who have been sentenced to 12 months or more in prison in the last 10 years, or 5 years or more in prison at any time, or have been deported or removed from any country.

### Evidence of exemption

People exempt from having to hold a permit must keep in their possession or under their control evidence that they are entitled to an exemption, unless they have been required to give up that evidence. Evidence of entitlement to an exemption under section 11 includes (but is not limited to):

- evidence of identity, and
- any other evidence the immigration officer considers necessary.

## Lodging Visa Applications (if required)

Information is available from, and applications can be lodged at, New Zealand Immigration Service Branches worldwide and New Zealand diplomatic consular offices.

Further information is available on [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz). Application forms and information leaflets can be downloaded from this site.

## Visa Waiver Nationalities (List is subject to change)

- British citizens and other British passport holders, who produce evidence of the right to reside permanently in the United Kingdom, do not need a visitor's visa and may be granted a visitor's permit valid for 6 months on arrival.
- Citizens of the following countries (travelling on a passport of that nationality) which have visa waiver agreements with New Zealand, do not need a visitor's visa if they plan to visit New Zealand for 3 months or less, and the purpose of the visit is not for medical consultation or treatment.

Andorra, The principality of	Hungary	Oman
Argentina	Iceland	Poland
Austria	Ireland	Portugal***
Bahrain	Israel	Qatar
Belgium	Italy	San Marino
Brazil	Japan	Saudi Arabia
Brunei	Korea (South)	Singapore
Canada	Kuwait	Slovak Republic
Chile	Latvia*	Slovenia
Cyprus	Liechtenstein	South Africa, Republic of
Czech Republic	Lithuania*	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	Sweden
Estonia*	Malaysia	Switzerland
Finland	Malta	United Arab Emirates (UAE)
France	Mexico	Uruguay
Germany	Monaco	USA****
Greece	Netherlands	Vatican City, State of the
Hong Kong**	Norway	

\* Visa waiver does not apply to people travelling on alien's (non-citizen's) passports issued by these countries.

\*\* Residents of Hong Kong travelling on Hong Kong Special Administrative Region or British National (Overseas) passports.

\*\*\* Portugese passport holders must have the right to live permanently in Portugal.

\*\*\*\* Including Nationals of USA.

- People travelling on a United Nations (UN) laissez-passer.

*Visa waiver visitors must:*

- hold a valid ticket to a country to which they have the right of entry, and
- have sufficient money to support themselves during their stay, and
- hold a passport valid for 3 months beyond the date of departure from New Zealand.

