





## CHRISTCHURCH PLACES OF INTEREST

**1 Canterbury Museum** This fine museum, on Rolleston Ave. at the entrance to the Botanic Gardens. Particularly interesting are the early colonist exhibits and the Antarctic Discovery section. Christchurch is the headquarters for “Operation Deep Freeze,” the supply link to Antarctica. There is also a gallery called “Ancient People – New Land”, which features displays of the now extinct Moa and the early Polynesians who hunted them. Included in this informative exhibit are three life-size dioramas, a crawl-in sinkhole cave and computer information system.

**2 Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu** – Located on the corner of Worcester Blvd and Montreal Street. The gallery hosts one of New Zealand’s largest art collections including a fantastic selection of works by Canterbury artists.

**3 The Arts Centre of Christchurch**, formerly the University of Canterbury town site, has been transformed into the biggest arts center in New Zealand. It’s worth a look, even if just to see the beautiful old buildings. New Zealand has a lot of good handicraft centers pro-

ducing some fine pottery, jewelry and other crafts, and Christchurch is particularly well represented. The Arts Centre has everything from handmade toys to Maori carvings, a couple of good restaurants and a good bookshop.

**4 Science Alive!** Housed in the old railway station, on Moorhouse Avenue offers an interesting hands-on science exhibit featuring 50 interactive stations.

**5 Christchurch Casino** New Zealand’s premier casino is located right in the heart of town on Victoria and Kilmore Streets. It is open 24 hours. All the traditional methods of chance are provided. Smart and neat dress is required.

**6 Botanic Gardens** Located beside the museum off Rolleston Ave., the Botanic Gardens are open from 7:00 am to 1 hour before sunset.

**7 Mona Vale** An enchanting Elizabethan-style riverside homestead with 13.5 acres (5.5 hectares) of richly landscaped gardens, ponds and fountains.

## Beyond Christchurch

**Air Force Museum** On display are a variety of aircraft used by the New Zealand Air Force over the years, convincingly displayed with figures and background scenery. Antarctic aircraft sit in the snow, aircraft are serviced, a Canberra bomber of the 1950s taxis out at night, a WWII fighter is hidden in the jungle. You can even pretend to pilot a A4 Skyhawk jet in a flight simulator.

**Ferrymead Historic Park** Located at 269 Bridle Path Road, Heathcote. It’s a working museum of transport and technology with incredibly varied exhibits including electric and steam locomotives, household appliances, cars and machinery of all types, plus hundreds of mechanical musical instruments.

**Yaldhurst Transport Museum** Displayed on the grounds of an attractive 1876 homestead is some of New Zealand’s earliest transport, including horse-drawn vehicles, vintage cars, racing cars, motorcycles, steam engines and aircraft.

**International Antarctic Centre** This centre is near the airport, on Orchard Road. It is part of a huge complex built for the administration and warehousing for the New Zealand, U.S. and Italian Antarctic programmes. The centre has hands-on exhibits, video presentations and the ‘Sights and Sounds’ of the vast continent.

**National Marae** The largest marae in New Zealand is at 250 Pages Road. You get the opportunity to see the carvings, weavings and paintings in the whare nui (meeting house) and whare whananga (house of learning).

**Orana Park Wildlife Trust** The Trust has an excellent nocturnal kiwi house and lots of other animals including tigers, rhino, camels, water buffalo and the rare scimitarhorned oryx.

**Willowbank Wildlife Reserve** Exotic and local animals including a variety of domestic animals are at the reserve. There’s also a model of a traditional Maori village and a nocturnal kiwi house.

**Lyttelton Museum** Displays on colonial Lyttelton, a maritime gallery and an Antarctic gallery. It’s in the center of Lyttelton on Gladstone Quay.

**SHORE EXCURSIONS** To make the most of your visit to Christchurch and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, be advised to take with you only necessary items and secure any valuables onboard.

**LOCAL CUSTOMS** Tipping: Tips or gratuities are not normally expected for normal service in New Zealand. However, you may wish to show your appreciation by tipping for extra service or kindness.

**LOCAL CUISINE AND DRINK SPECIALITIES** It is unbelievable how the food choices have improved in this town in recent years. You can find whatever you want, and you can eat out in Christchurch every day and at all hours.

New Zealanders are great drinkers, and both the beer and the pubs are pretty good. Almost all the beer is now brewed by only two companies, New Zealand Breweries and DB Breweries. Steinlager, the vari-

ous types of DB (Bitter, Export etc) and Lion Red are probably the most popular beers. For a Christchurch based beer try a Twisted Hop or Dux De Lux brew.

Many wineries have established international reputations, particularly for their whites. Winery visits and tours are popular and of course there’s the wine tasting. New Zealand wine takes top billing in most local restaurants, because it compliments the Pacific rim style of food so perfectly. An unusual New Zealand specialty is kiwi fruit wine. There are lots of different varieties and even a liqueur. You may not like it, but New Zealand’s the best place to try it.

**SHOPPING FACILITIES** Christchurch shopping is equal to the best in New Zealand and offers quality souvenirs, speciality boutiques, interesting crafts, department stores and shopping malls. Typical souvenirs found throughout New Zealand are greenstone jewelry, paua shell jewelry, sheepskins and hand-knitted pull overs.

The Arts Centre of Christchurch is the focal point for local artists, musicians and craftspeople. Wood-turning, leatherwork and Maori carving are some of the working studios that welcome visitors.

High, New Regent, Cashel and Victoria Streets all offer the visitor quality buying and an abundance of New Zealand made merchandise at very competitive prices.

Northlands, Riccarton, The Palms and Merivale Malls offer up-market, modern shopping facilities, only minutes from the center of the city.

**LOCAL CURRENCY** The currency is the New Zealand Dollar. Foreign exchange rates fluctuate. There is also a slight variation for cash or traveler’s checks.

**POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES** The Post Office in Lyttelton is located 1/4 mile (.4 km) from the ship. Post Offices in Christchurch CBD are located at: Cathedral Square North Post Shop, 736 Colombo Street; and Colombo Street South Post Shop, 680 Colombo Street.

Dial the following access numbers to place a call with your personal calling card:

AT&T: 000.911

MCI: 000.912

**TOURIST INFORMATION** The Old Chief Post Office is now home to the Christchurch i-Site Visitors Centre, the official information centre of Christchurch (#8)

**TRANSPORTATION** An efficient local bus service to Christchurch through the Lyttelton Road tunnel has visitors in the center of the city within 30 minutes. The Christchurch tram (trolley) loops the inner city, passing attractions such as the Arts Centre and Aquarium of Discovery, crosses over the Avon River, passes the museum and art gallery and continues through New Regent Street with its old world charm to Cathedral Square in the center of the city. There are plenty of taxis in Christchurch and you may find them at taxi ranks, or phone for one.

**USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES** The language spoken is English; however, Maori greetings are finding increased popularity. Here are a few phrases: