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STUDY ABROAD in NEW-ZEALAND

“What information do I wish I had known prior to leaving on exchange?”

Name: **Lucas McCartney**

Exchange University: **University of Auckland, New Zealand**

UX : **U4**

Year : **2012**

McGill semester : **Winter (6th)**

Courses

CIVIL 220 - Intro to Engineering Geology

CIVIL 731 - Water Resources Modelling

ENERGY 722 - Energy Technology

ENVENG 701 Urban Stormwater Management

Visa and health insurance

We got our student visas during the fall semester before leaving. We studied in New Zealand in the winter semester 2012. It was quite easy. Make sure to have your passport valid for a long time after your expected return.

Cost of living

It is very expensive to live in Auckland. Rent is quite expensive, and residences are weird and barely liveable. Therefore it is challenging to find a place to live close to the university that is affordable, or at least not overly expensive. We stayed in the Aura building in the city, and many of our international friends lived in the Zest building next to Aura. Two good places to live in Auckland.

Location of Institution

ALL OF NEW ZEALAND should be visited. And it's doable. Small country. Both the south and north islands are worth travelling. The city of Auckland is also quite easy to figure out. It's very small.

Suggestions of items to bring with you

It does get chilly during their winter (not like here but their insulation in their buildings is terrible so a 5C day there is horrible). It never went below 5-7C.

Overall Experience

Definitely recommend it. I would also recommend doing the studying abroad in Australia and then travelling to NZ, as I studied in NZ and travelled to Australia after. Both would be nice. New Zealand is a special place, even if it is an English speaking country, it has its particularities. .





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Photo taken on the Tongariro crossing that passes over the active volcano [Mt Tongariro](#), passing by the eastern base of [Mt Ngauruhoe](#).

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