



STUDY TARANAKI

New Zealand

STUDY
TARANAKI

TARANAKI
like no other

**NAU MAI,
HAERE MAI**

Welcome to Taranaki

Where the best of Aotearoa New Zealand is right on your doorstep.

Taranaki, located on the west coast of New Zealand's North Island, is the region of choice for students who want to study and live in a vibrant, contemporary, and unique place with copious things to do, see, eat, and experience alongside welcoming, connected, and caring communities.

Taranaki is a region forging its own path forward towards a future that reflects a shared vision: a high value, low-emissions economy built on inclusivity and sustainability. The region is working towards aspirational goals including zero waste to landfill by 2040 and a co-created roadmap transition plan that will take us to a low carbon emissions future and net zero by 2050.

Taranaki is also award-winning, with its main centre New Plymouth awarded the world's most livable city for its size in 2021 by the UN-backed International Awards for Liveable Communities. This accolade is due to the region's many jewels including the coastal walkway, parks and green spaces, nationally acclaimed airport, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery and Len Lye Centre with its iconic façade, and world-class events such as WOMAD and TSB Festival of Lights.

In 2021 and 2022 Taranaki recorded the most sunshine hours in New Zealand, making the region the sunniest in the country. We invite students to come and thrive in our quality schools and tertiary institutes, which promote innovative thinking, talent development and individualised learning programmes.

If you want to develop an academic, sporting or cultural talent, this is the place to do it. Study in Taranaki and come away with qualifications that lead to fantastic career opportunities in sectors such as energy, engineering, food and fibre and the visitor sector to name a few.



Taranaki Overview

POPULATION

Taranaki population: 127,300
New Plymouth district: 87,700
Stratford district: 10,105
South Taranaki district: 29,600



FLIGHT TIMES

40 minutes, New Plymouth – Auckland
40 minutes, New Plymouth – Wellington
1h 30 minutes, New Plymouth – Christchurch

SAFETY

Taranaki is rated 9.8 for safety and is one of the top three safest regions in New Zealand

Source: OECD Regional Wellbeing Indicator

COASTLINE

Taranaki has 105 kms of coastline

MAUNGA

Taranaki Maunga (Mount Taranaki) is 2,518m high



About Taranaki



Our culture and heritage

The history of the region's people is diverse and colourful.

Māori are tangata whenua (people of the land), the indigenous people of Aotearoa. In Te Ao Māori (the Māori world view) the most important thing is He Tangata (our people) and Taiao (our Environment).

The health and wellbeing of the people, the land, waterways, and moana (ocean) is a key focus to ensure culturally connected, strong and resilient people who will sustain our environment for generations to come.

In the Taranaki region, those who descend from their tupuna maunga (ancestral mountain) Taranaki, belong to one of eight iwi; Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Maru, Te Atiawa, Taranaki, Ngāruahine, Ngāti Ruanui, and Ngā Rauru. Each iwi is a collective of hapū (kinship group), which are collectives of whānau (family) with their own views, cultural practices,

and history. The first Europeans arrived in the 1820s, adding to a rich tapestry that continues to be woven today.

Many schools will include visiting a marae (traditional meeting house) and learning about Māori culture as part of the student experience.

While you are here, there are museums and art galleries to visit throughout the region that celebrate our culture and heritage.

The three official languages of Aotearoa New Zealand are English, Te Reo Māori, and New Zealand sign language.

Climate

With the most sunshine hours recorded for two years running, Taranaki is a popular holiday destination and sought-after place to live and work. Situated on the western side of the North Island and with Taranaki Maunga (Mount Taranaki) sitting in the heart of the region stretching to the Tasman Sea, Taranaki experiences moderate weather.

The temperate climate is ideal for outdoor activities, including an endless coastline to explore and Taranaki Maunga paved with thousands of kilometres of walking tracks. February is the warmest and driest month with an average temperature of 22 °C, the coldest month is July with an average maximum daytime temperature of 13°C.

Activities

Taranaki boasts vibrant festivals and events, epic surf breaks, natural attractions, lots of free (or affordable) activities, and award-winning galleries and museums to visit. Students are also spoilt for choice with the region's excellent facilities and clubs that cater to a wide range of hobbies, there's something for everyone no matter what your interests are. Students can enjoy the cinema, take a surf lesson, hike the region's many tracks and trails, play sport, shop, swim, skate, create, sing, and play music.

Taste of Taranaki

Eat your way around Taranaki in the many bustling cafes, restaurants, specialist eateries, and food markets. From American style milkshakes, gourmet burgers, European and Asian fusion cuisines, Taranaki has it all and more. Some eateries use only 100% local, seasonal produce sourced from local growers and producers. Eating out has never tasted so good in Taranaki.

Getting around

The region's compact size makes travel easy and you're never too far away from where you need to go. There is a comprehensive school bus network throughout Taranaki. Students can buy a bus card which allows them to travel on all city and regional buses, along with great cycle and walking networks. WITT Te Pūkenga students have free travel as part of their study package, and national intercity bus services also operate daily.

Why choose to study in Taranaki



Quality institutions

Students in Taranaki secondary schools consistently achieve pass rates above the national average and vocational tertiary students find employment in exciting roles. Students can choose their course of study and focus on subjects they are good at and enjoy. They'll also have the opportunity to take part in extracurricular activities and develop their individual talents.

Improve your English

Improve your English in classes with small numbers of international students and get the chance to participate in everything a school has to offer. From the excitement of

swimming sports to the privileged insight into Kapa Haka (Māori performing arts), Taranaki schools offer a real kiwi experience.

Friendly people, safe and caring communities

Homestays are carefully chosen, and homestay families ensure that their students get out into the community and mix with locals as well as attending regular get-togethers with other international students. Education providers also help students settle by providing pastoral care for new students, and personally checking, and police vetting all homestay options.

Value for money – make your dollar go further

Taranaki is more affordable and offers the same quality of education and courses as the main centres.

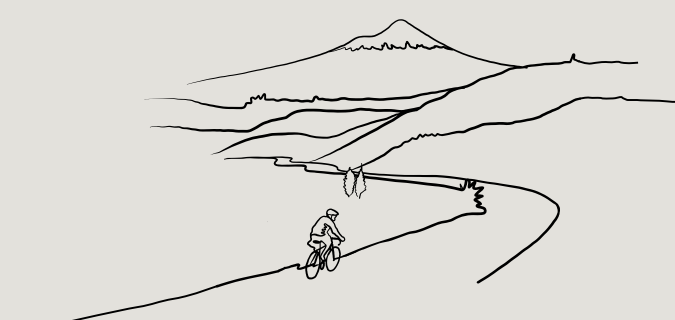
Compare estimated general living costs for a single person (including rent) per annum:

Auckland: \$55,764
Wellington: \$50,232
Taranaki: \$36,588

Compare median house rental prices per week:

Auckland: \$595
Wellington: \$587
Taranaki: \$478

You can expect a high standard of accommodation, with hostels and homestays costing around NZ \$300 – \$340 per week, including meals and utilities. You will pay around \$150 – \$250 per week plus utilities and food per room in private rental accommodation.





Qiufen from Harbin, China

Qiufen was initially attracted to New Zealand when she was at university and in 2019 came to travel from the South to the North of New Zealand.

She decided to settle in Taranaki because of the beautiful mountain to coast lifestyle, high living standard, hospitable people, and countless outdoor adventures to be had. She studied Business Information Systems at WITT Te Pūkenga and completed a Graduate Diploma in 2021. She feels lucky to have stepped into her desired field in workplace as an analyst before graduating and continues to enjoy living and working in New Plymouth, Taranaki.

Pathways to employment

Qualifications gained in Taranaki can lead to career opportunities in the region’s key sectors such as energy, engineering, food and fibre, health care, and the visitor sector, amongst many others.

Taranaki business, and education communities are closely connected through the Young Enterprise Scheme. Secondary school students can start businesses while at school, and work with business mentors from the community. Most of our tertiary programmes offer internships or opportunities to meet with business leaders.



Reza from Indonesia

Reza likes his life in Taranaki, he’s made friends and notes that he tends to spend time with people on his course rather than with international students.

After graduating from Spotswood College, he’s doing his diploma in engineering at WITT Te Pūkenga and had a summer job where he was able to use his new skills. When he graduates, he’s keen to snap up a role with a Taranaki engineering firm.



World class education system

Aotearoa New Zealand's education system is ranked as one of the best in the world.

Explore your pathway



PRIMARY SCHOOL

Age 5 – 12 (Year 0 – 8)

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Age 10 – 12 (Year 7 – 8)

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Age 13 – 18 (Year 9 – 13)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

TERTIARY EDUCATION

- University
- Te Pūkenga
- Institutes of Technology
- Polytechnics
- Wānanga tertiary institutions
- Private Training Establishments (PTEs)



Green School New Zealand

Type: Primary & Secondary School

Website: www.greenschool.nz

Email: enrol@greenschool.nz

Phone: +64 6 222 0260

Accommodation: With families

Green School New Zealand's future-focused curriculum offers qualifications that are accepted in New Zealand and recognised around the world.

Through purposeful learning experiences that advocate for sustainability, our aim is to ignite students' imaginations, so they are stimulated to discover meaningful passions of their own and develop a true desire for learning.

Green School students are encouraged to become socially conscious entrepreneurs and changemakers. They are challenged to engage, participate and contribute in a way that empowers them to become innovative, passion and purpose-driven, life-long learners seeking to make a positive impact on the world.

Thrive with purpose, at Green School New Zealand.

Highlands Intermediate

Type: Co-educational Intermediate School

Website: www.highlands.school.nz

Email: office@highlands.school.nz

Phone: +64 6 758 4162

Accommodation: Homestay

Highlands Intermediate is a large intermediate school close to the centre of New Plymouth city. It is set in large grounds with established trees, gardens and large playing fields.

We welcome international students to join our friendly learning environment and have been hosting students and welcoming their families for many years now. The local students are from a diverse range of cultures, which makes it easy for international students to make new friends.

International students are provided with extra learning assistance in curriculum areas to improve their English and gain a better understanding of New Zealand culture.



Sacred Heart Girls' College

Type: Catholic Girls' High School
Website: www.shgcnp.school.nz
Email: international@shgcnp.school.nz
Phone: +64 6 758 5023
Accommodation: Homestay

At Sacred Heart Girls' College, we care for our students personally.

Staff are highly qualified and our Vertical Form and House systems ensure that students have the opportunity to relate to all groups, and their academic, physical and spiritual growth is developed and nurtured.

We are proud of our academic achievements, the wide variety of sporting activities in which our girls participate and the family atmosphere throughout the college community. The college buildings are well maintained on an attractive, spacious site.

Since the college was established, its motto "Age Quod Agis" (whatever you do, do to the best of your ability), has been one that we are proud to live by.



Spotswood College

Type: Co-educational High School
Website: www.spotswoodcollege.school.nz
Email: nhe@spotswoodcollege.school.nz
Phone: +64 6 27 5444 220
Accommodation: Homestay

Spotswood College is the only co-educational secondary school in New Plymouth, located 4km from the city centre on a bus route.

A dedicated international team is always available to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students.

Academic subjects and timetables are tailored to suit student's individual needs. Art is a strength of the school – we achieve outstanding results. International students participate in activities outside of the classroom.

These include individual and team sports, a range of performance bands, Te Reo Māori – kapa haka performance, drama, surfing and hiking. The school facilities include a swimming pool, beach volleyball courts, sports fields, and a music suite.



Taranaki Diocesan School for Girls

Type: High School

Website: www.taranakidio.school.nz

Email: office@taranakidio.school.nz

Phone: +64 6 765 5333

Accommodation: Boutique boarding. Single room with separate bathroom, all meals included, and quality homestays for weekends and holidays.

Established in 1914, Taranaki Diocesan is a boutique school for girls, offering small classes and a modern boarding environment with a single room. The school is safe and friendly, with a family atmosphere.

We are only 30 minutes from New Plymouth, at the edge of Mount Egmont National Park.

Taranaki Diocesan academic strengths are performing, visual arts and science.

Extra-curricular opportunities include cultural performances, sports teams, camps, outdoor education, volunteering opportunities and an International Committee.

New international students are welcomed by a student buddy. Students are supported by our extensive pastoral system, small class sizes and individualised care.

LINGUA

Type: Language School

Website: www.lingua.co.nz

Email: info@lingua.co.nz

Phone: +64 27 242 4609

Accommodation: Not applicable

LINGUA provides the best that language education has to offer. Designed for different ages and skill levels, our lessons are available onsite and online, so we have the right solution for you.

LINGUA is all about making language learning fun and enjoyable for everyone. With well-travelled staff members from around the globe, our instructors are passionate about introducing you to their language and culture.

We support the learning of English, French, German, Italian, Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish. By sharing our love for languages, it is LINGUA'S mission to break down the invisible barriers that divide us and give you a glimpse into the rich diversity of cultures and ways of life.



Pacific International Hotel Management School (PIHMS)

Type: Private Training Institute

Website: www.pihms.ac.nz

Email: marketing@pihms.ac.nz

Phone: +64 6 968 1421

Accommodation: Qualmark 4-star hotel accommodation, twin share.

Homestay accommodation is available for English Language students.

PIHMS offers NZQA qualifications from Degree through to Masters in Hotel and Tourism Management. The learning environment includes lecture-style delivery and operational training, whereby students will be involved in running all departments of the hotel school, from Food and Beverage, Rooms Division and Managerial roles.

The programmes at PIHMS also include paid internships (minimum six months) in leading hotels throughout New Zealand. Internship success leads to 97% of PIHMS graduates securing career positions on, or soon after, graduation.

Students form strong networks with other international schools and industry. Together we are developing quality benchmarking systems, sharing information and resources, as well as providing career and education pathway options for our students.

Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki (WITT) / Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology

Type: University

Website: www.witt.ac.nz

Email: info@witt.ac.nz

Phone: +64 6 757 3100

Accommodation: Homestay and student hostel on campus

WITT / Te Pūkenga is the only state tertiary institution in Taranaki and offers courses from certificate to degree level across a wide range of subjects. It also specialises in English language tuition and foundation programmes for overseas students.

The campus contains a cafeteria, art blocks, computer labs, engineering workshops, hospitality facilities (including a training restaurant and cafe) and two student accommodation blocks offering modern and affordable living.

Our well-qualified staff are dedicated to helping our students achieve positive learning outcomes.

WITT / Te Pūkenga's strong relationships with industry ensure that the technical skills and knowledge students learn in the classroom meet the needs of employers.

To find out more
about the region visit
taranaki.co.nz

venture
TARANAKI
Te Puna Umanga

CONTACT US

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