



Auckland City.

THE LOCAL'S GUIDE TO AUCKLAND

If you fly in or out of Auckland for any of our trips or are on our Sweet North tour or Great Walk Adventure - North Island tour, you might find yourself with some free time to spare in the city. We want to save you time researching by letting you know some of our favourite places in Auckland! We've compiled a guide of all our favourite bars, cafes, trails and things to do in the area. As Kiwis, these are the places we can be found indulging, tramping (the Kiwi word for hiking) and sipping on our favourite coffees! With the help of this handy guide, we hope that you will have the most incredible day(s) exploring the city.

Breakfast, Brunch and Lunch



Odettes

Shed 5, City Works Depot, 90 Wellesley Street

Simple, stylish and serving up delicious food, Odettes is a solid option for breakfast, brunch or lunch. With its laid back atmosphere, it's a welcome space to meet friends, get some work done or to simply grab a coffee and a baked delight to go. It draws influence and inspiration from the Mediterranean and works with local artisan food producers to bring you food with a twist that you'll never have experienced before. You'll see things like granola with cashew, macadamia, poached pear, and coconut yoghurt to delights like chilli scramble with prosciutto, pecorino and grilled sourdough on your breakfast menu. Visit their website [here](#).



Ortolana

33 Tyler St, Britomart

Ortolana is a chic café in the heart of Britomart. The name is Italian for 'market garden' which perfectly describes this establishment. They are all about bringing the garden to the city by using local produce from local growers. You'll easily while away a sun-soaked morning here in the conservatory. Warm and relaxed, it's all about the good energy at Ortolana. Visit their website [here](#).



Williams Eatery

Wynyard Central G03/85 Daldy Street

Williams Eatery is another super sophisticated place to brunch or lunch in. They are all about the simple things in life done well. Their breakfast menu features gourmet dishes like charred broccoli, butternut, feta pesto, egg yolk and sourdough, and Lebanese lentil bowls with kumara, silverbeet, carrot, coriander, and poached egg. For lunch, indulge on a wild mushroom, hazelnut, pecorino gnocchi or pork belly carnitas with polenta tortilla, chocolate mole and charred radicchio. Visit their website [here](#).

Dinner



The Grove

Saint Patricks Square, Wyndham Street

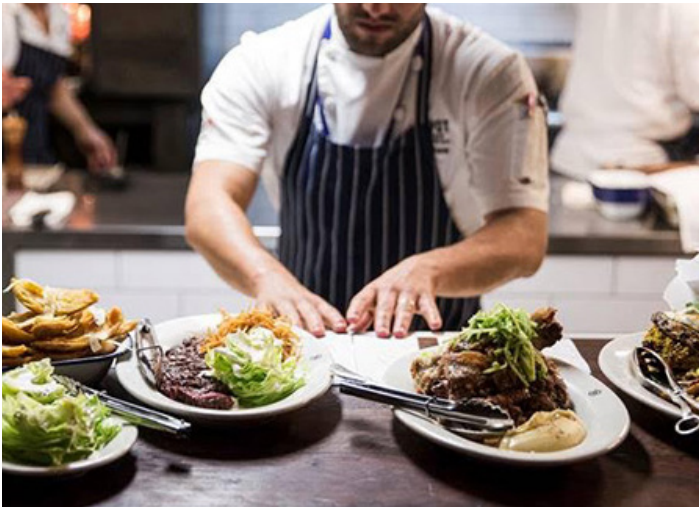
If you want to treat yourself, the Grove is seriously suave and one of Auckland's top restaurants. It's degustation dining of modern New Zealand food. Their focus is on extracting deep flavour from their cooking and they have the perfect wine list to complement each dish. Visit their website [here](#).



Soul Bar & Restaurant

Viaduct Harbour, Corner of Lower Hobson Street and Customs Street West

Soul is all about the dining experience. Combining fresh and vibrant seafood with hand-crafted cocktails, you're in for an unforgettable night out on the town. Watch the sun set over the harbour while live music serenades you and you dig into a dish like salt and pepper squid with lemon, almond skordalia and chilli oil. It doesn't get much better than that! Visit their website [here](#).



Depot Eatery & Oyster Bar

86 Federal Street

Our favourite place to gorge on oysters in the city is the Depot Eatery and Oyster Bar, which serves up creamy Mahurangi and plump Orongo Bay oysters. The place has no ego, just in season, beautifully cooked food to share with friends. Cooking is done over charcoal or hardwood to add even more flavour. Visit their website [here](#).

Trails & Activities



Waiheke Island and Wine Tasting

Waiheke Island is Aucklanders' piece of paradise to escape to at the weekends. Catch a ferry over with [Fullers](#) for the day and enjoy some of the region's incredible wine. The easiest way to do this is to book a wine tasting tour where passionate experts will show you around the local vineyards and have you try over 15 delicious wines. [Waivino](#) is one of our favourite tour companies.



Hobbiton Day Tour

If you're a Lord of the Rings fan, a trip to Hobbiton is a must. It is a great day trip from Auckland. The Shire is just as enchanting off screen as on! Highlights include the 44 Hobbit holes, the Party Tree, Bilbo's house 'Bag End' and the Mill. Learn more about Hobbiton [here](#).

We can book a Hobbiton Movie Set Tour from Auckland for you if you like. The tour price is NZD 275. [Click here](#) for more information about the tour. If you would like us to book a Hobbiton tour for you, please send us an email to yourfriends@newzealandtrails.com and let us know the date you would like us to book for you and the name of your hotel in Auckland so we select the closest pick-up location.



Tiritiri Matangi Island Day Trip

Another great day trip from Auckland is Tiritiri Matangi Island. Spend the day enjoying this island sanctuary that is home to a range of native wildlife. Enjoy one of the many walks in the area, swim at Hobbs Beach, take pictures by the lighthouse or explore the visitor's centre. Learn more about Tiritiri Matangi Island [here](#). Check out the Explore Group page [here](#) for more information on how to get there and to book your trip.



Rangitoto Island Day Trip

Take a trip to [Rangitoto Island](#), one of Auckland's most iconic islands. Catch a short scenic ferry ride across the harbour from downtown Auckland with [Fullers](#). Rangitoto Island is deeply enriched with history and is a favourite destination for hikers and day-trippers. Explore pōhutukawa forests and lava fields or climb to summit of this volcanic island and enjoy panoramic views of Auckland and the Hauraki Gulf.



Auckland Art Gallery

Auckland Art Gallery holds the most extensive collection of national and international art in New Zealand. With multiple exhibition spaces across four levels of their award-winning building, they offer inspiring visual arts experiences and collections of New Zealand historic, modern and contemporary art. Their collections and loan collections currently number more than 17,000 artworks. For more information, visit their website [here](#).



Auckland Museum

Auckland Museum is renowned for its collection of Māori and Pacific treasures. The Museum tells the story of New Zealand, its place in the Pacific, and its people. Whether you have an hour spare or a whole day, you will gain a deep understanding of New Zealand culture and heritage by visiting the iconic Auckland Museum. Learn more about the Auckland Museum on their website [here](#).