

# Haere mai Welcome!



NEWCOMERS GUIDE TO THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT



Talitali fiefia    ຢືນດີຕ້ອນຮັບ    स्वागत

Kidavaki    வரவழைக்கிறேன்    Afio mai

歡迎    Willkommen    Vítejte

مرحباً    Welcome    いらっしゃいませ

Velkomst    Haere Mai    환영    স্বাগত

Benvenuto    සාදරයෙන් පිළිගනිමු

Welkom    Bienvenue    Bem-vindo

                  Bienvenido    Selamat datang

欢迎                      Chào mừng    Ulufale mai






स्वागत छ                      Maligayang pagdating

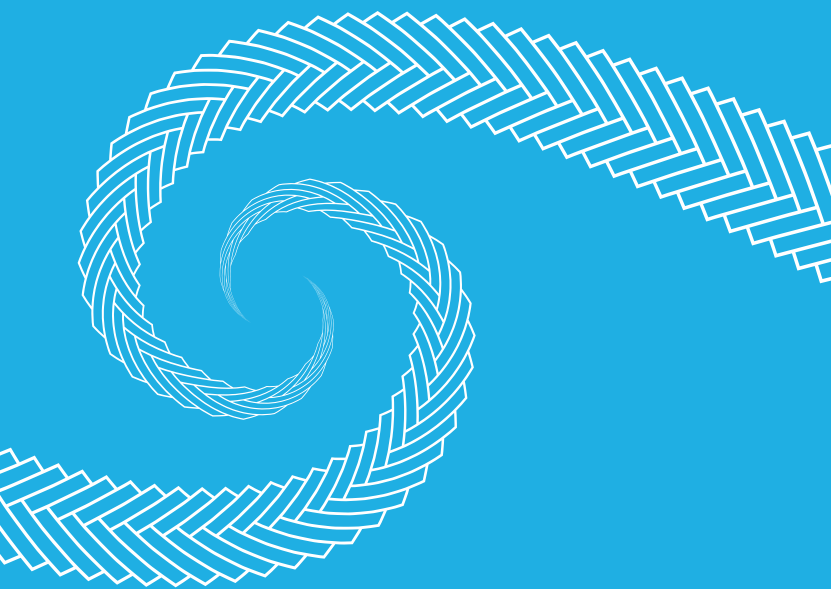
# Contents

<b>WELCOME AND DISTRICT MAP</b>	<b>06</b>	Settling into the workplace	38
<b>MĀORI CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANGUAGE</b>	<b>10</b>	Connecting with the local business community	39
<b>COMMUNITY LIFE</b>	<b>14</b>	Setting up your own business	40
Community support	16	Planning your career	41
Translation and interpreting services	16	<b>HOUSING</b>	<b>42</b>
Connect with your community	17	Backpackers and hostels	44
Recreation and sports	18	Staff accommodation	44
Creativity, culture and heritage	18	Renting a room or a flat	44
Community news	18	Finding a place to rent	45
Families and children	19	<b>TRANSPORT AND DRIVING</b>	<b>46</b>
Youth programmes and support	19	Buses and ferries, and regional bus service	47
Older people	20	Walking and biking	48
Local government	20	Carpooling	48
Rubbish and recycling	21	Buying a vehicle	49
Together towards zero waste	23	Child restraints (car seats)	49
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b>24</b>	Learning to drive	50
Early childhood education	26	Driving in New Zealand	50
Primary and secondary education	26	Responsible camping	51
Tertiary education	26	Driving in winter conditions	52
Learn English	27	<b>MANAGING COSTS</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>HEALTH AND WELLBEING</b>	<b>28</b>	Food	55
Access to public healthcare	29	Housing assistance	56
Find a doctor	30	Energy saving	56
Find a dentist	30	Buy second-hand	56
Healthcare	30	Managing money	56
Child health	30	<b>EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND SAFETY</b>	<b>58</b>
Urgent care centres	30	Emergency preparedness	60
Hospitals	32	Water safety	60
Mental health and wellbeing	34	Mountain and outdoor safety	60
<b>WORK AND CAREER</b>	<b>36</b>	Important 24/7 phone numbers	61
Getting ready to look for a job	37	<b>OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS</b>	<b>62</b>
Finding a job	38		



# Legend

-  Physical location
-  Phone number
-  Email address
-  Website address
-  Language support available (interpreting services or written resources in multiple languages)





# A warm welcome to our district



## Welcome to your new home!

Whether you're here for a short stay or long term, we want to help you settle in and feel part of our special community.

Moving to a new place is exciting but can also have its challenges. This guide will help connect you with useful information on working, living and getting involved in your community.

### A BIT ABOUT US...

The Queenstown Lakes District covers nearly 8,500 square kilometres and is world-renowned for its spectacular four-season lake and alpine scenery, diverse experiences and friendly locals.

While our resident population is around 52,800<sup>1</sup>, we're a popular visitor destination and warmly welcome thousands of people a year. We have a strong community spirit and a vibrant mix of diverse cultures. Newcomers are a key part of our community life and include all people moving to our district to live, study, work and play. Our district is well known for welcoming many migrant workers every year who contribute to our economy and represent an important workforce. Many have moved here from around the world and other parts of Aotearoa New Zealand after falling in love with the place, people and lifestyle.

Our largest township, Queenstown, sits on the shores of Lake Wakatipu with Glenorchy at the top of the lake, Kingston at the southern end, and the old gold mining town of Arrowtown close by. Over the Crown Range, Wānaka sits beside Lake Wānaka and is surrounded by Cardrona, Hāwea, Luggate and Makarora.

Wherever you choose to live in our district, we hope you love it as much as we do. You'll find friendly neighbours, colleagues and services ready to help you every step of the way in your new adventure.

<sup>1</sup> New Zealand Census 2023

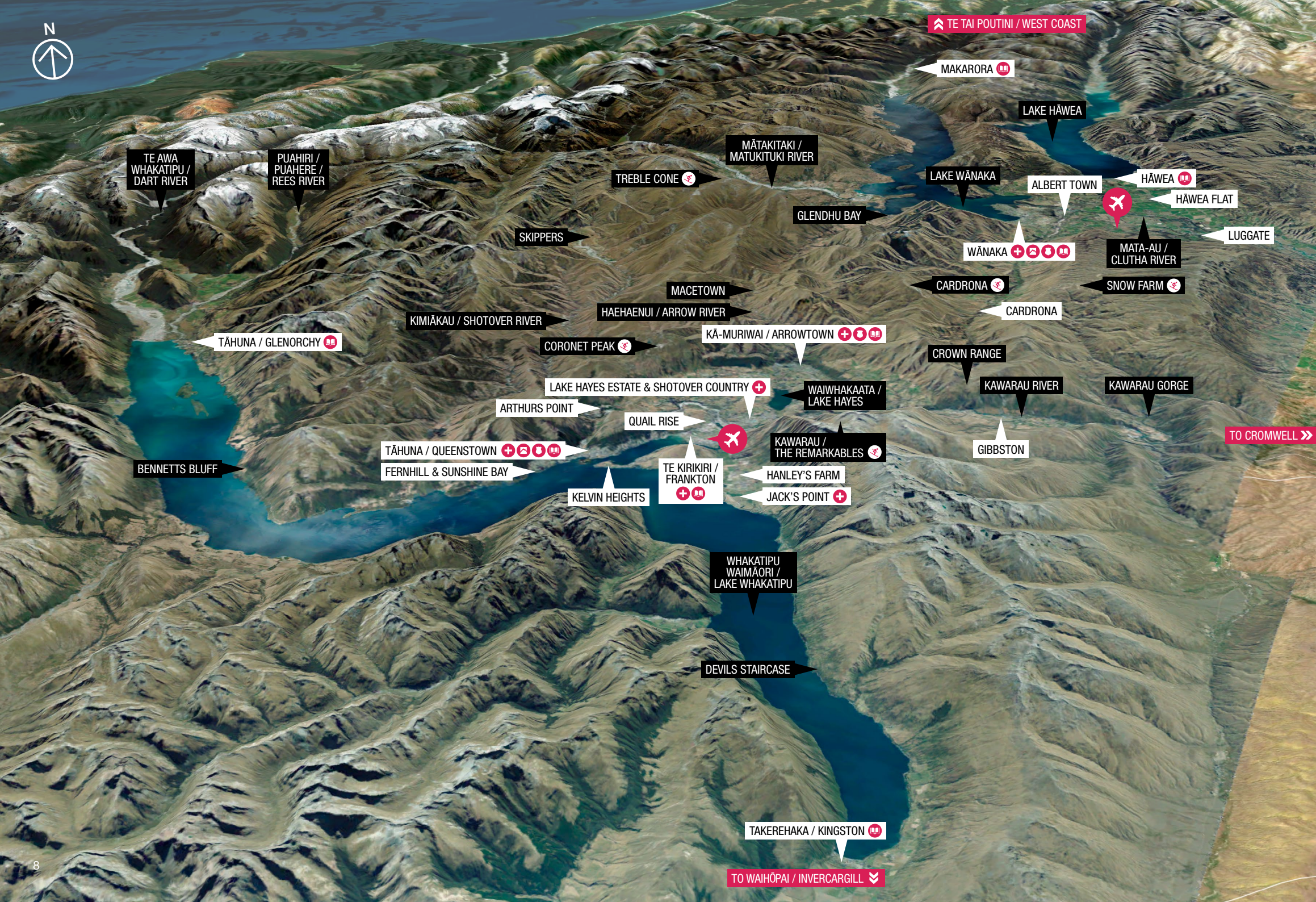


### DID YOU KNOW?

Queenstown Lakes is one of the fastest growing districts in Aotearoa New Zealand with the population forecast to reach 100,558 by 2053.

Queenstown and Wānaka are the main towns in the district. Although Cromwell is close by, it is part of Central Otago District.





# Queenstown Lakes District

-  Queenstown and Wānaka airports
-  Ski fields
-  Hospitals or medical centres (see pages 28 to 32)
-  Police (see page 61)
-  Libraries (see page 17)
-  Council offices (see page 20)





# Māori culture, heritage and language



## Queenstown Lakes District is a part of the Ngāi Tahu / Kāi Tahu<sup>2</sup> Takiwā. Kāi Tahu are the local iwi.

Their Takiwā (district/region) stretches for the majority of Te Waipounamu (South Island). Kāi Tahu, as an iwi, is governed by 18 'tribal councils' known as Papatipu Rūnaka. For the Queenstown Lakes District there are 7 rūnaka that have cultural authority. They are:

- Moeraki (North Otago)
- Puketeraki (Karitane)
- Ōtākou (Dunedin)
- Hokonui (Gore)
- Ōraka Aparima (Riverton)
- Waihōpai (Invercargill)
- Awarua (Bluff)

Kāi Tahu and their iwi and hapū predecessors (Ngāti/Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha) have a rich history within the Queenstown Lakes District accessing the abundance of Tūna (eels) as a food source and Pounamu (greenstone) as a high value treasure used for tools, jewellery and trade.

Māoritanga (Māori customs, cultural practices, and beliefs) is a big part of our national identity. While English is the most common spoken language in Aotearoa New Zealand, Māori and New Zealand Sign Language have special status under the law as official languages. Te Reo Māori is widely used and taught in schools so it helps to know some common Māori customs (tikanga), words and phrases.

<sup>2</sup> Te Reo Māori translation in this book: We use the local Kāi Tahu dialect which replaces 'ng' with a 'k' e.g., tākata (people) instead of tāngata. Māori have been the tangata whenua (the indigenous people of Aotearoa New Zealand) for over 1,000 years.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Tāhuna is the name of Queenstown in Te Reo Māori, it means 'shallow bay'.

Wānaka comes from the South Island Māori word wānanga, which means 'sacred knowledge' or 'a place of learning'.



TE REO MĀORI ENGLISH

Aotearoa	New Zealand
Haere mai	Welcome
Haere rā	Goodbye
Hāngī	The traditional way to cook food
Iwi	Tribe, a group of people descending from ancestors
Ka kite (anō)	See you (again)
Kai	Food
Karakia	An incantation or a prayer that sometimes has a religious context
Kia ora (koutou)	A greeting meaning ‘be well’, often used in place of hello
Koha	Donation or gift
Matariki	Pleiades star cluster, which signifies the Māori New Year
Mōrena/Ate mārie	Good morning
Motu	Country
Ngā mihi	Regards/thanks (often seen in emails or letters)
Rangatahi	Teenagers/youth
Tamariki	Children
Te Ao Māori	Māori world view
Te Reo Māori	Māori language
Te Tiriti o Waitangi	Treaty of Waitangi
Waiata	Song
Whānau	Family/extended family
Whenua	Land




Learn more about Te Reo language.



DID YOU KNOW?

Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi is Aotearoa New Zealand’s founding document. It takes its name from the place it was first signed in the Bay of Islands, on 6 February 1840. This day is a public holiday in New Zealand. The Treaty is an agreement, in Māori and English, that was made between the British Crown and around 540 Māori rangatira (chiefs).

 [www.immigration.govt.nz/live/setting-up-your-life-in-new-zealand/maori-culture-and-the-treaty-of-waitangi](https://www.immigration.govt.nz/live/setting-up-your-life-in-new-zealand/maori-culture-and-the-treaty-of-waitangi)


  [treatypeople.org/languages](https://treatypeople.org/languages)



# Community life



**If you are moving to Aotearoa New Zealand, we recommend looking at the official government guide to living and working in New Zealand to help you settle.**

 [www.immigration.govt.nz/live/setting-up-your-life-in-new-zealand](https://www.immigration.govt.nz/live/setting-up-your-life-in-new-zealand)

In this online guide, you will find general information on the following topics:

- Tips for settling in
- Logistics for getting started
- Money and tax (IRD<sup>3</sup>)
- Housing
- Work
- Study
- Healthcare
- Education and schooling
- Safety
- Recreation
- Māori culture
- History and government
- English language and help with interpreting and translations
- Social customs and manners

<sup>3</sup> Inland Revenue Department



## DID YOU KNOW?

It is important to open up a bank account and get an IRD (tax) number before you apply for a job. It is also recommended to get these sorted before you enter the country.

 **Get an IRD number**



 **Open a bank account**







## Community support

Get help on a range of free settlement services, programmes and initiatives delivered either by government or local agencies.


### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

Offers free immigration advice and help with visa application forms. Provides information on tenancy and employment rights. Assists with applying for an IRD number, banking, Kiwisaver, budgeting, document translation, neighbourhood disputes, consumer rights and Justice of the Peace. Provides referrals to family and social services support. Legal advice and advocacy/support for employees.

  44 Stanley Street, Queenstown


 [www.cab.org.nz](http://www.cab.org.nz)

 [queenstown@cab.org.nz](mailto:queenstown@cab.org.nz)

#### Happiness House

A community support centre offering a place to connect with a variety of services, including advocacy and agency referrals, affordable pre-loved clothing homeware, community activities and local produce days.


 4 Park Street, Queenstown

 [www.happinesshouse.org.nz](http://www.happinesshouse.org.nz)


 [info@happinesshouse.org.nz](mailto:info@happinesshouse.org.nz)

#### The Salvation Army

Assists individuals and families with financial mentoring, advocacy, food assistance, welfare services, and referrals from partner agencies. Provides counselling, pastoral care, and positive life skills programmes for individuals and couples.

 8 Pin Oak Avenue, Frankton, Queenstown  
(Please note that some community services operate out of 71 Gorge Road, Queenstown)



 [www.salvationarmy.org.nz](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz)

 [queenstown.corps@salvationarmy.org.nz](mailto:queenstown.corps@salvationarmy.org.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Community Link Upper Clutha

A one-stop community support and connection centre for Wānaka-Upper Clutha. Free information and advice on immigration, financial advisers, learning English, legal matters, family and financial assistance, and services for older people.


  34 McDougall Street, Wānaka



 [www.communitylink.nz](http://www.communitylink.nz)

 [info@communitylink.nz](mailto:info@communitylink.nz)

## Translation and interpreting services

Most large organisations, including government departments, councils and helplines, have translated resources in different languages and offer interpreting services to help you communicate with them. They can connect you with an interpreter by phone, video or in-person. Find out how to request an interpreter.

  [www.mbie.govt.nz/cross-government-functions/language-assistance-services/toolkits-and-resources](http://www.mbie.govt.nz/cross-government-functions/language-assistance-services/toolkits-and-resources)

  [www.ethniccommunities.govt.nz/resources/language-services-support-and-information](http://www.ethniccommunities.govt.nz/resources/language-services-support-and-information)

## Connect with your community

Find out about what's happening in Queenstown Lakes, meet new people and get involved in the community.

### DISTRICT WIDE

#### QLDC Libraries


Our district's eight libraries provide a welcoming space for all, offering books, e-books, a world language collection of books, newspapers and magazines, a range of events and programmes tailored for people of all ages. Library membership is free.

There's also free access to WIFI and computers. Printing and photocopying services are available along with technology support.

 [www.qldclibraries.govt.nz/library-locations](http://www.qldclibraries.govt.nz/library-locations)


#### Lakes Multicultural Collective

Offers settlement and advocacy services for newcomers and migrants. Hosts interactive events and provides knowledge and support for integration.


 [www.lakesmulticultural.org](http://www.lakesmulticultural.org)

#### Cultural and migrant community groups

Connect with your home community and migrants from different parts of the world.

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/pacific-and-migrant-community-groups](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/pacific-and-migrant-community-groups)

#### Places of worship


 [www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-connect](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-connect)

#### Community events and programmes

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/community](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community)


#### Te Wāhi Toi

An online platform for all things arts, culture and creativity in and around Queenstown and Wānaka. Find events, explore the creative community and discover venues and places to create and showcase.

 [www.tewahitoi.nz](http://www.tewahitoi.nz)

#### Community Connect


An online directory of local associations, sports and recreational clubs, faith-based organisations and churches, and community groups to help you connect with people and activities that match your interests.


 [www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-connect](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-connect)

#### Volunteering

Get involved in your community, meet like-minded people, learn, share skills by volunteering and make a difference.

 [www.volunteersouth.org.nz](http://www.volunteersouth.org.nz)

 [www.loveqt.co.nz/get-involved/volunteer](http://www.loveqt.co.nz/get-involved/volunteer)

 [www.lovewanaka.co.nz/how-to-help/events](http://www.lovewanaka.co.nz/how-to-help/events)

#### Community Associations (or residents' associations)

There are 15 community associations across our district who actively represent and advocate for the needs and interests of their local community. Find out about them and connect.

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-associations-and-groups](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/community-associations-and-groups)

## Recreation and sports

Join a sports club, recreational activity or community group to get active, connect with people and develop a sense of belonging.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Queenstown Events Centre

A multi-purpose sports complex and stadium including a pool, gym, group fitness classes, programmes, indoor and outdoor courts, and sports fields.

📍 Joe O'Connell Drive, Frankton, Queenstown

🌐 [www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Wānaka Recreation Centre

A three-pool complex and a range of sports clubs, courts and equipment for hire.

📍 41 Sir Tim Wallis Drive, Wānaka

🌐 [www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/wanaka-recreation-centre](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/wanaka-recreation-centre)

#### Paetara Aspiring Central

Two multi-use indoor courts, a multi-purpose studio for dance, yoga and fitness classes.

📍 35 Plantation Road, Wānaka

🌐 [www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/paetara-aspiring-central](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/paetara-aspiring-central)

## Creativity, culture and heritage

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Te Atamira

Queenstown's non-profit arts and cultural centre offering exhibitions, workshops, classes, performances, events and talks.

📍 Dart House, 12 Hawthorne Drive, Frankton, Queenstown

🌐 [www.teatamira.nz](http://www.teatamira.nz)

#### Lakes District Museum and Gallery

Find out about our fascinating history, including Māori way of life and pūrākau (myths and legends), European settlers, the goldrush and tourism pioneering.

📍 49 Buckingham Street, Arrowtown

🌐 [www.museumqueenstown.com](http://www.museumqueenstown.com)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Wānaka Arts Society

A non-profit organisation serving to promote and support local arts and artists.

🌐 [www.wanakartsociety.co.nz](http://www.wanakartsociety.co.nz)

## Community news

**Local newspapers and online media outlets:** Mountain Scene or Lakes Weekly Bulletin in Queenstown; the Wānaka Sun and the Upper Clutha Messenger in Wānaka.

**Local Facebook pages:** Queenstown Trading or Upper Clutha Trading Post plus a range of location-specific pages like Jack's Point, Albert Town etc.

**Local news and events apps:** Queenstown app and Wānaka app.

**Local radio stations:** 92.0 MoreFM, 90.4 The Hits, 92.2 Radio Wānaka, 89.2 Glenorchy FM.

## Families and children

Our district is family friendly with local playcentres, preschools, parent-child support groups, and after-school or school holiday programmes for children of all ages.

🌐 [www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/kids-recreation](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/recreation/kids-recreation)

🌐 [www.kidzgo.co.nz](http://www.kidzgo.co.nz)

#### Plunket

For 0- to 5-year-old children and their parents, Plunket offers free services regardless of residency status. This includes free health and development checks by a specialist nurse, a 24/7 parenting helpline, playgroups, pregnancy and parent education programmes and child car seat services.

Children in New Zealand are seen by a family doctor or a Plunket nurse for developmental follow ups and immunisations, not by a paediatrician. Paediatricians are a specialist doctor and require referral from a doctor.

🌐 [www.plunket.org.nz/plunket-near-me](http://www.plunket.org.nz/plunket-near-me)

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Plunket

☎ PlunketLine freephone 0800 933 922

📍 8 Henry Street, Queenstown

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Plunket

☎ PlunketLine freephone 0800 933 922

📍 51 Ardmore Street, Wānaka

## Youth programmes and support

For young people aged 10-24. Group programmes to help youth develop skills, self-worth, resilience. Free wraparound multidisciplinary social services. Youth mentoring, LGBTQ+ support group, after-school clubs, school holiday programmes.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Whakatipu Youth Trust

📍 3/13 & 4a/15 Red Oaks Drive, Frankton, Queenstown

🌐 [www.whakatipuyouthtrust.org.nz](http://www.whakatipuyouthtrust.org.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Kahu Youth Trust

📍 35 Plantation Road, Wānaka (located inside Paetara Aspiring Central)

🌐 [www.kahuyouth.org](http://www.kahuyouth.org)



## Older people

For senior residents 60-plus, there are prevention and support services as well as regular activities, outings and social gatherings.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Age Concern

📍 Aurum House, Terrace Junction, 1092 Frankton Road, Frankton, Queenstown

☎ 03 441 3490 or freephone 0800 652 105

@ acqt@acinv.org.nz

#### Wakatipu Senior Citizens Association

📍 Malaghan House, Level One, 10 Memorial Street, Queenstown

☎ 03 442 9214

@ info@wsca.org.nz

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Community Link Upper Clutha

📍 34 McDougall Street, Wānaka

🌐 www.communitylink.nz

@ info@communitylink.nz



## Local government

Council services include local roads and footpaths, water, sewerage, rubbish and recycling, community development, citizenship ceremonies, recreation centres, parks, sports fields, libraries, noise control, animal control, funding and grants, events, permits and alcohol licensing, and many more. After hours service is available 24/7.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC)

📍 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown

☎ 03 441 0499

@ services@qldc.govt.nz

🌐 www.qldc.govt.nz

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC)

📍 47 Ardmore Street, Wānaka

☎ 03 443 0024

@ services@qldc.govt.nz

🌐 www.qldc.govt.nz

#### Get to know your elected members

If you are keen to learn more about what's happening in your community and discuss issues you may have, big or small, you can connect with elected representatives.

🌐 www.qldc.govt.nz/elected-members

## Rubbish and recycling

Play your part in reducing waste in our district and recycle with care - put only the right things in the recycling bins so recycling can meet quality standards. For everything you need to know about how to use your kerbside rubbish and recycling services and other waste services in our district.

🌐 www.qldc.govt.nz/services/rubbish-recycling

Sign up for free weekly reminders via text or email to know which bins go out and on which day.

🌐 reminders.saveourstuff.co.nz/s/#reminder

### WHAT GOES IN MY RUBBISH AND RECYCLING BINS?



The red bin is for general rubbish (soft plastics, coffee cups, plastic or foil lined paper/cardboard, lids and drink cartons).



The blue bin is for glass recycling (clean glass bottles and jars only).



The yellow bin is for mixed recycling (clean plastic bottles, trays and containers marked ♻️, ♻️ and ♻️ cans, paper and cardboard).

**BATTERIES AND VAPES CAN CAUSE FIRES. DON'T PUT THEM IN YOUR BIN! DROP OFF FOR FREE AT THE WĀNAKA OR FRANKTON TRANSFER STATIONS.**





Photo by Zero Waste Glenorchy



#### DID YOU KNOW?

Our district is on a journey to minimise waste. Discover ways you can play your part and find out about regular events including waste free fairs, movie nights, workshops, speakers and events.

#### Cut your waste



#### Green and Food Waste




## Together towards zero waste

Waste is everyone's responsibility and each of us can have an impact on the amount of waste we generate and where it ends up. There are many local champions making a real difference by reclaiming resources, reducing waste, and driving a circular economy through local initiatives. Learn more about reducing waste and how you can get involved with the organisations below.

### Kiwi Harvest


An organisation rescuing good quality surplus food and delivering it to social service agencies for people struggling to feed themselves and their families.

-  Lot 2, Grant Road, Franktown, Queenstown
-  [www.kiwiharvest.org.nz](http://www.kiwiharvest.org.nz)

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Sustainable Queenstown



An organisation promoting circular economy, local reduction and reuse activities and initiatives.

-  [www.sustainablequeenstown.org.nz](http://www.sustainablequeenstown.org.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Wastebusters

A community enterprise leading the way to zero waste offering a reuse shop (second-hand shop), recycling and repair services, and community engagement and education programmes.

-  Cnr of Ballantyne Road and Riverbank Road, Wānaka
-  [www.wastebusters.co.nz](http://www.wastebusters.co.nz)





# Education



## There are three levels of education in the New Zealand system.

**Early childhood education** is from birth to school entry age. It is not compulsory.

**Primary and secondary education** is from 5–19 years of age. Schooling is compulsory from age 6–16.

**Tertiary education** is about higher and vocational education.

Find out more about the education system.

➦ [www.immigration.govt.nz/live/setting-up-your-life-in-new-zealand/childcare-schools-and-higher-education](https://www.immigration.govt.nz/live/setting-up-your-life-in-new-zealand/childcare-schools-and-higher-education)

➦ [www.education.govt.nz/our-work/our-role-and-our-people/education-in-nz](https://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/our-role-and-our-people/education-in-nz)



## Early childhood education

There are several pre-school education providers with different services, facilities, hours, and costs. As some providers have waiting lists, it's a good idea to plan ahead by checking what's available in your area and considering what kind of provider would suit your child.

📍 [www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-an-els)

📍 [www.whakatipukohanga.com](http://www.whakatipukohanga.com)



## Primary and secondary education

There are several primary schools and secondary schools catering for a range of ages, abilities, and backgrounds in the district. Find information about the schools and how to enrol your child.

📍 [www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-school](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/find-school)

📍 [www.educationcounts.govt.nz/directories/Choose-a-School](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/directories/Choose-a-School)

Contact the school to confirm school zone (boundaries), enquire about visa requirements and school costs. Schools can offer financial assistance to cover uniforms, stationery and camp fees. Find out more on school enrolment process.

📍 [www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/schools-year-0-13/starting-school/school-zones-and-enrolment-schemes#what-enrolment-schemes-and-school-zones](http://www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/schools-year-0-13/starting-school/school-zones-and-enrolment-schemes#what-enrolment-schemes-and-school-zones)

## Tertiary education

There are polytechnics, institutes of technology and private training establishments teaching professional and vocational education and training programmes, as well as wānanga and universities.

📍 [www.education.govt.nz/our-work/about-us/education-new-zealand/our-education-system/tertiary-education](http://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/about-us/education-new-zealand/our-education-system/tertiary-education)

📍 [www.educationcounts.govt.nz/directories/list-of-tertiary-providers](http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/directories/list-of-tertiary-providers)

### Study in Queenstown & Wānaka

The district offers a range of educational offerings, an amazing environment to live in and many opportunities for students. Explore the range of courses on offer in Queenstown and Wānaka.

📍 [www.studyqueenstown.com](http://www.studyqueenstown.com)

## Learn English

A number of organisations offer English language classes for those wanting to learn and practise English. There are also private tutors and community groups offering English conversation sessions, such as libraries and church groups. These are usually advertised through social media and at support services agencies. Enquire on fees and eligibility criteria as each organisation, community group, or programme may have different options.

### DISTRICT WIDE

#### QLDC Libraries

Offers social English classes and reading material adapted for English language learners at all levels, including IELTS resources in books and online to practice your test.

📍 [www.qldclibraries.govt.nz/library-locations](http://www.qldclibraries.govt.nz/library-locations)

#### English Language Partners (ELP)

Offers online language lessons for newcomers and English for Employees programmes to equip workers with the skills to communicate confidently at work. It also runs an in-person English language group in Queenstown during school terms.

📍 St Margaret's Church, Ross Street, Frankton, Queenstown

📍 [www.englishlanguage.org.nz](http://www.englishlanguage.org.nz)

@ [dunedin@englishlanguage.org.nz](mailto:dunedin@englishlanguage.org.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Central Otago Reap

Offers in-person English language classes during school terms.

📍 [www.coreap.org.nz](http://www.coreap.org.nz)

@ [admin@coreap.org.nz](mailto:admin@coreap.org.nz)

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### ABC College of English

Offers English language study for students over the age of 18 to improve their level of confidence, accuracy and fluency in Communicative English. ABC College of English is the only downtown school in Queenstown and specialises in small classes, with quality tuition from professional teachers.

📍 7 Coronation Drive, Queenstown

📍 [www.abc.ac.nz](http://www.abc.ac.nz)

#### LSNZ

Offers English courses for all levels from beginner to advanced, plus specialised programmes to help you reach your personal, academic, or professional goals.

📍 11 Hawthorne Drive, Frankton, Queenstown

📍 [www.lsnz.co.nz](http://www.lsnz.co.nz)

#### Southern Institute of Technology (SIT)

Offers a range of intensive English courses designed to support students at every stage of their language-learning journey, providing expert guidance throughout their academic life.

📍 Level 2, Dart House, Hawthorne Drive, Remarkables Park Town Centre, Frankton, Queenstown

📍 [www.sit.ac.nz/courses/english-language](http://www.sit.ac.nz/courses/english-language)

@ [applications@sit.ac.nz](mailto:applications@sit.ac.nz)




# Health and wellbeing





## Access to public healthcare



Check your eligibility for publicly funded health services as there are many options that could match your situation.

 [info.health.nz/hospitals-services/eligibility-subsidies/publicly-funded-healthcare](https://info.health.nz/hospitals-services/eligibility-subsidies/publicly-funded-healthcare)

### New Zealand health system

 [info.health.nz/services-support/find-the-right-healthcare-for-you-and-your-whanau](https://info.health.nz/services-support/find-the-right-healthcare-for-you-and-your-whanau)

 [www.yourlocaldoctor.co.nz/useful/the-nz-health-system](https://www.yourlocaldoctor.co.nz/useful/the-nz-health-system)

  [info.health.nz/languages-alternate-formats/languages](https://info.health.nz/languages-alternate-formats/languages)



### DID YOU KNOW?

If you receive medical treatment during your visit, you may be liable for the full costs of that treatment.

The government strongly recommends that people in New Zealand who are not eligible for publicly funded health services hold comprehensive travel insurance, including health insurance.





### Find a doctor

It is recommended to enrol with a local doctor, also known as a General Practitioner (or GP), to benefit from reduced fees. You will need to bring proof of identification.

Healthpoint provides up-to-date information about healthcare providers, referral expectations, services offered and common treatments. You will find a list of doctors, pharmacies, maternity services, midwives, dentists, specialised healthcare providers, mental health services, and others.

[www.healthpoint.co.nz/central-lakes](http://www.healthpoint.co.nz/central-lakes)

### Find a dentist

Basic dental services for children under 18 years old are free. To find the nearest urgent dentist, search for 'urgent dental' then click on 'Dental Emergency'.

[www.healthpoint.co.nz](http://www.healthpoint.co.nz)

### Healthcare

#### Healthline 24/7

Phone service staffed by an experienced team that includes registered nurses, paramedics and health advisors who can provide you with health information and advice about your situation, next steps, and medicine. Call them if you don't have a GP or cannot get to one, or if you are worried or unsure about your health or someone else's health.

[Freephone 0800 611 116](tel:0800611116)

[info.health.nz/services-support/healthline](mailto:info.health.nz/services-support/healthline)

### Child health

For information about the health and wellbeing of children and young people including the free B4 school check for 4 to 5 year olds go to:

[www.kidshealth.org.nz](http://www.kidshealth.org.nz)

### Urgent care centres

#### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

##### Queenstown Medical Centre

No appointment needed, walk-in service 7 days a week.

[03 441 0500](tel:034410500)

[9 Isle Street, Queenstown](#)

[www.qmc.co.nz](http://www.qmc.co.nz)

#### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

##### Wānaka Lakes Health Centre

A one stop centre which includes Wānaka Medical and Aspiring Medical. Both clinics share 24 hours on call service including weekends and public holidays. Medical care including accident and emergency services.

[03 443 0710 Wānaka Medical](tel:034430710)

[03 443 0725 Aspiring Medical](tel:034430725)

[23 Cardrona Valley Road, Wānaka](#)

[www.wanakamedical.co.nz](http://www.wanakamedical.co.nz)

[www.aspiringmedical.co.nz](http://www.aspiringmedical.co.nz)



Photo by St John



#### DID YOU KNOW?

When you call the ambulance, there could be charges.

If you're transported in an ambulance because of a medical emergency (a heart attack or a stroke, for example) you may have to pay a part charge.

If you have an accident-related injury that meets ACC criteria, ambulance transport within 24 hours of the injury is covered by ACC.

You can get an annual Ambulance Membership (costs less than one call out fee) which covers all part-charges for medical emergencies for a year.



Scan here for more information.



# Hospitals

There are two hospitals in our district, one public and one private.

## QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

### Lakes District Hospital

Public hospital open 24/7 for accident and emergency services. There is also a maternity unit. Patients may be transferred to the larger Dunedin or Invercargill hospitals for specialist treatment.

- ☎ 03 441 0015
- 📍 20 Douglas Street, Frankton, Queenstown
- 🔗 [www.southernhealth.nz/services/lakes-district-hospital-queenstown-hospital-services](http://www.southernhealth.nz/services/lakes-district-hospital-queenstown-hospital-services)

### Southern Cross Central Lakes Hospital

Private hospital for a range of specialist elective surgery. Provide planned surgery for patients who are eligible through ACC. Do not provide accident and emergency services.

- ☎ 03 746 7460
- 📍 7 Twelfth Avenue, Lake Hayes, Queenstown
- 🔗 [www.southerncrosscentrallakeshospital.co.nz](http://www.southerncrosscentrallakeshospital.co.nz)

### Pregnancy and maternity services

Find services and registered midwives to help with birth at the hospital, in a birthing unit or at home.

- 🔗 [www.findyourmidwife.co.nz](http://www.findyourmidwife.co.nz)
- 🔗 [www.healthpoint.co.nz/maternity/central-lakes/queenstown](http://www.healthpoint.co.nz/maternity/central-lakes/queenstown)
- 🔗 [info.health.nz/pregnancy-maternity](mailto:info.health.nz/pregnancy-maternity)

## WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

There is no hospital in Wānaka. However, there is a 24/7 after hours service for medical care including accident and emergency services.

The nearest hospitals are Lakes District Hospital in Queenstown and Dunstan Hospital in Clyde.

- ☎ 03 443 0710
- 🔗 [www.cohsl.co.nz](http://www.cohsl.co.nz)

### Rākai Kahukura - Wānaka Maternity Unit

For pregnant residents in the Central Otago region, offering birthing options and post-natal stays. Onsite antenatal clinic.

- ☎ 03 443 8100
- 📍 4 Monteith Road, Albert Town, Wānaka
- ✉ [wanaka\\_maternity\\_unit@southerndhb.govt.nz](mailto:wanaka_maternity_unit@southerndhb.govt.nz)



### DID YOU KNOW?

If you hurt yourself at home, at work or anywhere else in New Zealand, **Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC)** is an accident (no-fault) insurance to help with treatment and rehabilitation costs for citizens, residents, temporary visa holders and visitors. Find out what ACC covers.

- 🔗 [www.acc.co.nz/im-injured/what-we-cover](http://www.acc.co.nz/im-injured/what-we-cover)

You may need to cover other medical costs. ACC is not a replacement for health insurance and doesn't cover illness or emergency travel to get you back home.





## Mental health and wellbeing

Help and services are available for mental health, counselling, addiction and sexual assault. Health coaches and health improvement practitioners (HIPs) are available at no cost for health and wellbeing needs if you are enrolled with a GP.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Central Lakes Family Services

Immediate support for domestic and family violence, sexual harm, and mental health. Support for children, youth and whānau, parenting and antenatal programmes, and bespoke professional and community education. If you are not in immediate danger but want to discuss support for yourself or your family.

- ☎ Freephone 0508 440 255
- 📍 16B McBride St, Frankton, Queenstown
- 🌐 [www.clfs.co.nz](http://www.clfs.co.nz)
- ✉ [info@clfs.co.nz](mailto:info@clfs.co.nz)

#### Uruuruwhenua Health

Holistic approach to wellbeing and wrap-around support for whānau (families) in the Central Lakes region, which includes Wānaka/Upper Clutha.

- ☎ Freephone 0800 485 111
- 📍 Unit 1, 70 Glenda Drive, Frankton, Queenstown
- 🌐 [www.ururuwhenuahealth.co.nz](http://www.ururuwhenuahealth.co.nz)
- ✉ [admin@ururuwhenuahealth.co.nz](mailto:admin@ururuwhenuahealth.co.nz)

#### Mana Tāhuna

Pastoral care, kaupapa Māori migrant support, rehabilitative services and food programmes for whānau (families) in the district.

- ☎ 021 860 393
- 📍 5 Sutherland Lane, Frankton, Queenstown
- 🌐 [www.manatahuna.co.nz/community/health-social](http://www.manatahuna.co.nz/community/health-social)
- ✉ [info@manatahuna.co.nz](mailto:info@manatahuna.co.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Community Link Upper Clutha

Work alongside individuals and families to support their wellbeing needs.

- ☎ 🌐 03 443 7799
- 📍 34 McDougall Street, Wānaka
- 🌐 [www.communitylink.nz](http://www.communitylink.nz)
- ✉ [info@communitylink.nz](mailto:info@communitylink.nz)

### DISTRICT WIDE

#### Text 1737

Talk to a trained counsellor or a peer support worker anytime.

- ☎ 🌐 Freephone or text to 1737

#### Youthline

Provides mental health support to youth aged between 12-24 years. Helpline service is free, confidential and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- ☎ Freephone 0800 376 633 or text to 234
- 🌐 [www.youthline.co.nz/web-chat-counselling](http://www.youthline.co.nz/web-chat-counselling)
- ✉ [talk@youthline.co.nz](mailto:talk@youthline.co.nz)

#### Alcohol & Drug Helpline 24/7

Assists anyone with a question or concern about their own or someone else's drinking or other drug use. Speak with a trained counsellor.

- ☎ Freephone 0800 787 797
- 🌐 [www.alcoholdrughelp.org.nz](http://www.alcoholdrughelp.org.nz)

#### Lifeline Helpline

Provides safe, effective and confidential support.

- ☎ Freephone 0800 543 354 or text to 4357
- 🌐 [www.lifeline.org.nz](http://www.lifeline.org.nz)

#### OutLine Aotearoa

Free and confidential support for the rainbow community. Support line is answered by trained LGBTQIA+ volunteers.

- ☎ Freephone 0800 688 5463
- 🌐 [www.outline.org.nz](http://www.outline.org.nz)

#### Victim Support Central Otago

24/7 free and confidential support for people directly affected by crime, suicide, and traumatic events that involve violence or accidental death or injury, including road trauma, fatal/serious injury accidents, fire, and missing persons.

- ☎ 🌐 Freephone 0800 842 846
- ✉ [contactservice@victimsupport.org.nz](mailto:contactservice@victimsupport.org.nz)

#### Women's Refuge

Provides a safe space for individuals and families fleeing domestic or sexual violence in the district.

- ☎ Freephone 0508 440 255
- ✉ [info@clfs.co.nz](mailto:info@clfs.co.nz)

# Work and career



Tourism and construction are the primary drivers of our local economy, but other key sectors include a rapidly growing technology industry and remote workers who are drawn to the natural beauty and lifestyle of our district.

## Getting ready to look for a job

Government websites offer a range of different resources to help with finding a new job or choosing a new career. Find tools to help you explore the job market, career pathways, upskill, and plan for the future.

- [www.immigration.govt.nz/work/finding-work-in-new-zealand](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/work/finding-work-in-new-zealand)
- [tahatu.govt.nz/work/looking-for-a-job](http://tahatu.govt.nz/work/looking-for-a-job)
- [www.connected.govt.nz/your-region/otago](http://www.connected.govt.nz/your-region/otago)

### Help with CV and job search skills

Get practical tips to help you find work, including key skills employers seek, networking strategies, CV and cover letter writing, and job interview types with preparation guidance.

- [www.connected.govt.nz/support-for-you/careers-advice](http://www.connected.govt.nz/support-for-you/careers-advice)
- [tahatu.govt.nz/work/applying-for-a-job/how-to-write-a-cv](http://tahatu.govt.nz/work/applying-for-a-job/how-to-write-a-cv)



### DID YOU KNOW?

All workers in New Zealand, including migrant workers, are entitled to at least the following minimum employment rights:

- Holidays
- Leave
- Work breaks
- Wages and taxes
- Written employment agreements

➤  [www.employment.govt.nz/starting-employment](http://www.employment.govt.nz/starting-employment)



## Finding a job

Most people look for a job using online employment sites, local community news and publications, Facebook pages or recruitment agencies. For filters, use Queenstown or Wānaka depending on where you're searching for work.

### Websites

- 📌 [www.seek.co.nz/jobs](http://www.seek.co.nz/jobs)
- 📌 [www.trademe.co.nz/jobs](http://www.trademe.co.nz/jobs)
- 📌 [nz.indeed.com](http://nz.indeed.com)
- 📌 [www.jobfix.co.nz](http://www.jobfix.co.nz)
- 📌 [nz.jora.com](http://nz.jora.com)
- 📌 [www.sjs.co.nz](http://www.sjs.co.nz) (for students)
- 📌 [www.backpackerboard.co.nz/work\\_jobs/job\\_listings.php](http://www.backpackerboard.co.nz/work_jobs/job_listings.php)

### Facebook Pages

For both Queenstown and Wānaka there are a range of Facebook pages you can use for your job search. Here are a few to get you started: Queenstown Trading, Queenstown & Cromwell & Wānaka Jobs, Central Otago Jobs, Wānaka Jobs, Queenstown Jobs.

### Publications

The Lakes Weekly Bulletin (Queenstown) and Upper Clutha Messenger (Wānaka) are free local publications that are updated weekly and provide local information and job ads. You can usually find one at supermarkets, dairies or outside selected retail stores.

### Storefront windows

Take a walk through the towns and see what places are hiring. Many workplaces still place an ad in their storefront windows. These jobs can range from retail to hospitality and tourism.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Recruitment agencies work for the employers. They will charge the employer a fee to find them the right person.  
**Do not pay to get a job, this is against the law.**

## Settling into the workplace

Find information and some key tips to help you settle into your new workplace.

- 📌 [www.immigration.govt.nz/work/finding-work-in-new-zealand/what-working-in-new-zealand-is-like](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/work/finding-work-in-new-zealand/what-working-in-new-zealand-is-like)

### Legal Information

You can use this tool to check if an employer is currently accredited or not.

- 📌 [www.immigration.govt.nz/work/requirements-for-work-visas/approved-employers/accredited-employer-list](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/work/requirements-for-work-visas/approved-employers/accredited-employer-list)

If you, or someone you know, is being exploited in the workplace, you can report it.

- ☎️ Freephone 0800 200 088
- 📌 🌐 [gethelp.employment.govt.nz](http://gethelp.employment.govt.nz)
- 📌 [www.employment.govt.nz/resolving-problems/migrant-exploitation](http://www.employment.govt.nz/resolving-problems/migrant-exploitation)

Early resolution is a free, impartial phone-based service that helps employers and employees resolve a workplace issue quickly and informally.

- ☎️ Free phone 0800 20 90 20
- 📌 [www.employment.govt.nz/resolving-problems/how-to-resolve-problems/early-resolution](http://www.employment.govt.nz/resolving-problems/how-to-resolve-problems/early-resolution)

## Connecting with the local business community

You may also want to join the local business community and professional networks.

### Business Chambers of Commerce

Advocacy, support, networking, education, and promotion opportunities for business community members.

#### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

##### Queenstown Business Chamber of Commerce

- 📌 [www.queenstownchamber.org.nz](http://www.queenstownchamber.org.nz)

##### Arrowtown Promotion and Business Association

- 📌 [www.arrowtown.com](http://www.arrowtown.com)

#### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

##### Wānaka Business Chamber

- 📌 [www.wanakachamber.co.nz](http://www.wanakachamber.co.nz)

### Technology Queenstown

A not-for-profit agency focused on growing the region's economy by supporting the long-term development of its technology sector.

- 📌 [www.technologyqueenstown.com](http://www.technologyqueenstown.com)

### Regional Tourism Organisations

Responsible for destination marketing and management. Information on places to go, things to do, where to eat and drink, festivals and events. Also, a platform to learn more about moving, living, and working in the district.

#### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

##### Destination Queenstown

- 📌 [www.queenstownnz.co.nz](http://www.queenstownnz.co.nz)

#### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

##### Lake Wānaka Tourism

- 📌 [www.lakewanaka.co.nz](http://www.lakewanaka.co.nz)



# Setting up your own business

Setting up your own business needs careful planning and understanding of rules and regulations. There are tools and templates to help you get started as well as a local organisation offering a range of programmes if you have a business idea.

- [www.business.govt.nz](http://www.business.govt.nz)
- [www.startupqueenstownlakes.com](http://www.startupqueenstownlakes.com)



## DID YOU KNOW?

Our district developed a Destination Management Plan ‘Travel To A Thriving Future’ which focuses on regenerative tourism and a carbon zero visitor economy by 2030.

- [www.regenerativetourism.co.nz](http://www.regenerativetourism.co.nz)

Diversifying our economy is also a priority.

- [www.qldc.govt.nz/  
community/  
economic-development/  
diversifying-our-economy](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/economic-development/diversifying-our-economy)



# Planning your career

Discover career possibilities and how to reach your goals. Understand the different qualifications and what to expect when studying.

- [www2.nzqa.govt.nz/tertiary/  
tertiary-education-in-new-zealand](http://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/tertiary/tertiary-education-in-new-zealand)

## Tahatū Career Navigator

Find out how to choose the right study or training.

- [tahatu.govt.nz/plan-your-future/  
making-a-career-decision](http://tahatu.govt.nz/plan-your-future/making-a-career-decision)
- [www.studywithnewzealand.govt.nz/en](http://www.studywithnewzealand.govt.nz/en)

## Getting overseas qualifications recognised

Find out how and when to apply for an overseas qualification evaluated by New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA).

- [www2.nzqa.govt.nz/international/  
recognise-overseas-qual](http://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/international/recognise-overseas-qual)



# Housing



**Our district is a popular destination so accommodation can be more limited and expensive compared to other parts of New Zealand.**

We recommend you get references from previous landlords and start looking for somewhere to live well in advance of moving here.

When renting a property or room, a bond or deposit may be required. Rent is usually paid weekly, and if house sharing, flatmates usually share internet and energy bills.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Manaaki is an information hub that helps to support people find suitable housing in our district.

Manaaki is a te ao Māori concept that encompasses hospitality, kindness and respect of others. It involves caring for and support those around you to create a sense of community.

Find information and resources to support housing challenges and tips for those who wish to help.

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/  
community/manaaki](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/manaaki)



# Backpackers and hostels

Queenstown and Wānaka are popular choices for backpackers and there are plenty of centrally located hostels where you can stay and socialise with like-minded travellers.

## QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

📍 [www.queenstownnz.co.nz/accommodation/backpackers](http://www.queenstownnz.co.nz/accommodation/backpackers)

## WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

📍 [www.wanaka.co.nz/accommodation/backpackers](http://www.wanaka.co.nz/accommodation/backpackers)

# Staff accommodation

Ask about staff accommodation when you apply for a job. You usually share staff housing, and most do not allow children. Rent is usually taken off your pay.

Staff housing is covered under the Tenancy Act and has the same legal rights as other tenants including minimum standards for accommodation.

# Renting a room or a flat

Whether you're here for the short or long term, house sharing can be a great way to meet new people and keep costs down. However sometimes things can go wrong with your flatmates, your landlord, or your accommodation. It helps to know your rights and obligations to help prevent problems from arising, and help you know what to do when things go wrong.

## Issues with your landlord

If you think your landlord isn't following the rules, contact the Tenancy Services Compliance and Investigations team:

☎ 0800 836 262

🌐 [www.tenancy.govt.nz/starting-a-tenancy/new-to-tenancy/key-rights-and-responsibilities](http://www.tenancy.govt.nz/starting-a-tenancy/new-to-tenancy/key-rights-and-responsibilities)

## Issues with your flatmates

Flatmates are not covered by the Residential Tenancies Act, and it can be difficult to resolve disagreements. We recommend signing a flat/house sharing agreement to make sure everyone understands their rights and responsibilities.

For advice and help on matters with your landlord, tenant or flatmates, you can also contact the below organisations.

## QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

### Citizens Advice Bureau

📍 44 Stanley Street, Queenstown

🌐 [www.cab.org.nz](http://www.cab.org.nz)

@ [queenstown@cab.org.nz](mailto:queenstown@cab.org.nz)

## WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

### Community Link Upper Clutha

📍 34 McDougall Street, Wānaka

🌐 [www.communitylink.nz](http://www.communitylink.nz)

@ [info@communitylink.nz](mailto:info@communitylink.nz)

# Finding a place to rent

Flats range from one-bedroom apartment to four- or five-bedroom homes. Things you may want to pay attention to when you are looking for a room:

- Unfurnished, partially furnished or fully furnished
- Type of heating: gas, electric or fireplace and firewood
- Internet access
- Energy/power

You can find listings on local Facebook pages, newspapers, online media outlets, real estate and property management agents. Community noticeboards at supermarkets often list flats or can be used to display interest in renting a room/flat/house. Owners often use these noticeboards to see who is looking for rooms.

## Where to look to find listings:

📍 [www.trademe.co.nz](http://www.trademe.co.nz)

📍 [www.realestate.co.nz](http://www.realestate.co.nz)

📍 [www.harcourts.net/nz](http://www.harcourts.net/nz)

📍 [www.rwarrowtown.co.nz](http://www.rwarrowtown.co.nz)

📍 [www.myrent.co.nz](http://www.myrent.co.nz)

📍 [www.bayleyspmco.co.nz](http://www.bayleyspmco.co.nz)

📍 [www.propertybrokers.co.nz](http://www.propertybrokers.co.nz)

📍 [www.homeandco.co.nz](http://www.homeandco.co.nz)

## QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

### Queenstown Trading

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/queenstowntradinglimited](https://www.facebook.com/groups/queenstowntradinglimited)

### For Rent In Queenstown

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/for.rent.in.queenstown](https://www.facebook.com/groups/for.rent.in.queenstown)

### Queenstown - New Zealand - Houses to Rent

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/1559085804339464](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1559085804339464)

### Flatmate/Rent/Board Queenstown

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/690717587803097](https://www.facebook.com/groups/690717587803097)

### Queenstown Lakes Rentals and Flatmates NZ

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/326824734404848](https://www.facebook.com/groups/326824734404848)

## WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

### Wānaka Rental Property's

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/1459768041649542](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1459768041649542)

### Wānaka Seasonal Accommodation & Work Forum

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/275738122513996](https://www.facebook.com/groups/275738122513996)

### Accommodation Wānaka Area

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/647819711946344](https://www.facebook.com/groups/647819711946344)

### Wānaka Houses to Rent

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/897531996934566](https://www.facebook.com/groups/897531996934566)



# Transport and driving



## Buses and ferries, and regional bus service

Use the Bee Card for bus and ferry transport. It is a prepay travel smartcard for Otago and other regions of New Zealand. You can buy it in-person or online.

➔ [beecard.co.nz/pages/getacard](https://beecard.co.nz/pages/getacard)

➔ [www.qldc.govt.nz/services/transport-and-parking/public-transport](https://www.qldc.govt.nz/services/transport-and-parking/public-transport)



### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

**The public bus service (or Orbus)** is an easy and affordable way to get around Queenstown's suburbs. It is operated by Otago Regional Council (ORC).

➔ [www.orc.govt.nz/orbus](https://www.orc.govt.nz/orbus)

**Queenstown Ferries** is a scheduled ferry service operating daily.

➔ [www.queenstownferries.co.nz](https://www.queenstownferries.co.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

**Note there is no public transport in Wānaka-Upper Clutha.**

Regular scheduled shuttle transport between Wānaka, Queenstown, Queenstown Airport and Cromwell.

➔ [www.ritchies.co.nz/wanaka](https://www.ritchies.co.nz/wanaka)



Photo by Still Vision Photography



## DID YOU KNOW?

There are many ways you can help reduce your carbon footprint. Support a safe, efficient and sustainable travel network. Learn more from:

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

➔ [www.lightfoot.org.nz](https://www.lightfoot.org.nz)

Delivers programmes and events, supporting the community to experience shared and active travel.

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

➔ [www.lakewanaka.co.nz/about-wanaka/mindful-travel](https://www.lakewanaka.co.nz/about-wanaka/mindful-travel)

About mindful travel.

## Walking and biking

Our community loves to stay active and there's an excellent trail network throughout the district, making it easy to walk and bike to many places. By law, you must wear a helmet when riding a bike either on-road or off-road and remember to always stay on the left and give way to walkers.

📍 [www.nzta.govt.nz/roadcode/code-for-cycling](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/roadcode/code-for-cycling)

**Keen to get a bike?** Apply to receive one through OneBike.

📍 [www.onebike.org.nz](http://www.onebike.org.nz)

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

📍 [www.queenstownnz.co.nz/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/walking-and-hiking](http://www.queenstownnz.co.nz/things-to-do/outdoor-activities/walking-and-hiking)

📍 [www.queenstowntrails.org.nz](http://www.queenstowntrails.org.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

📍 [www.lakewanaka.co.nz/walking-and-hiking](http://www.lakewanaka.co.nz/walking-and-hiking)



## Carpooling

Carpooling (or ride-sharing) is cheaper and more environmentally friendly, helping to reduce traffic congestion and emissions. Community Facebook groups are a great way to connect with people driving in the same direction as you. You can post or ask whether you can 'hitch' a ride to a nearby location, or a different city. It is common to indicate whether you are willing to share the cost of fuel/bring snacks.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Queenstown Carpool

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/queenstowncarpool](https://www.facebook.com/groups/queenstowncarpool)

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/qtowncarpool](https://www.facebook.com/groups/qtowncarpool)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Wānaka Carpool

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/1538214729763496](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1538214729763496)

### DISTRICT WIDE

#### New Zealand Ride Share

📍 [www.facebook.com/groups/1656920817912441](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1656920817912441)

## Buying a vehicle

Buying a vehicle is a popular choice for many people who move to New Zealand. You can find vehicles for sale on websites like 'TradeMe', local social media pages or by visiting vehicle dealers. There is no consumer protection for buying a car privately so it's important to have a vehicle inspection done before you buy one.

While vehicle insurance isn't compulsory in New Zealand, having third-party<sup>4</sup> coverage as a minimum is highly recommended. There are many different insurance providers so look around to find what policy and price is best for you.

New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) is the government agency. By law, every vehicle must have an up-to-date WOF (Warrant of Fitness) and Registration (also known as a vehicle licence).

Learn more about buying or selling a vehicle, safety ratings and money owing on a vehicle.

📍 [www.nzta.govt.nz/vehicles/buying-and-selling-a-vehicle/buying-a-vehicle](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/vehicles/buying-and-selling-a-vehicle/buying-a-vehicle)

📍 [www.vtnz.co.nz/buying-selling](http://www.vtnz.co.nz/buying-selling)

📍 [www.rightcar.govt.nz](http://www.rightcar.govt.nz)

📍 [www.carjam.co.nz](http://www.carjam.co.nz)

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### VTNZ (Vehicle Testing New Zealand)

For vehicle inspection, WOF (Warrant of Fitness), car licensing (registration), driver licence.

📍 55 Glenda Drive, Queenstown

📍 [www.vtnz.co.nz](http://www.vtnz.co.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### AA Auto Centre - Three Parks Wānaka

For vehicle inspection and WOF (Warrant of Fitness).

📍 4 McCormick Street, Wānaka

<sup>4</sup> Third-party insurance covers the costs associated with damages or injuries you cause to others (third parties) in an accident, but it doesn't cover your own vehicle or property if you're at fault.

## Child restraints (car seats)

By law, the driver is responsible for making sure all children seven years and under use an appropriate child restraint, which is installed and used according to manufacturer's instructions.

Note that car seats are not mandatory for public transportation.

📍 [www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/child-restraints](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/child-restraints)

📍 [www.plunket.org.nz/being-a-parent/preparing-for-your-baby/car-seats/about-child-restraints](http://www.plunket.org.nz/being-a-parent/preparing-for-your-baby/car-seats/about-child-restraints)

Search for child restraint installation and injury prevention service in your area.

📍 [www.plunket.org.nz/plunket-near-me](http://www.plunket.org.nz/plunket-near-me)

@ [injurypreventionsouthern@plunket.org.nz](mailto:injurypreventionsouthern@plunket.org.nz)





## Learning to drive

Find out how to get your New Zealand driver licence.

- 📍 [www.nzta.govt.nz/driver-licences](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/driver-licences)
- 📍 [www.drive.govt.nz](http://www.drive.govt.nz)

It is recommended to have professional driving lessons. Find out about driving programmes, driving schools and instructors.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Citizens Advice Bureau

- 📍 [www.cab.org.nz](http://www.cab.org.nz)
- ✉ [queenstown@cab.org.nz](mailto:queenstown@cab.org.nz)

#### Southern Reap

Community programmes for adults and children, including driving programme.

- 📍 [www.reap.co.nz](http://www.reap.co.nz)
- ✉ [info@reap.co.nz](mailto:info@reap.co.nz)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Community Link Upper Clutha

- 📍 [www.communitylink.nz](http://www.communitylink.nz)
- ✉ [info@communitylink.nz](mailto:info@communitylink.nz)

#### Central Otago REAP

- 📍 [www.coreap.org.nz](http://www.coreap.org.nz)
- ✉ [admin@coreap.org.nz](mailto:admin@coreap.org.nz)

## Driving in New Zealand

Driving in New Zealand may be different to other countries:

- We drive on the left side of the road
- It can take longer than you think to get to places
- Our roads are sometimes narrow, winding and steep

You must always have your current and valid driver licence or driver permit with you while driving. If your overseas licence or permit isn't in English, you must also carry an accurate English translation. After 18 months of living in New Zealand, you must get a New Zealand driver licence.

- 📍 [www.nzta.govt.nz/new-residents-and-visitors](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/new-residents-and-visitors)
- 📍 [www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/driving-in-nz](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/driving-in-nz)

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### AA Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agent

For help with translation of your driver licence, get your driver licence or overseas licence conversion.

- 📍 Level 2 4/27 Glenda Drive, Frankton, Queenstown
- 📍 [www.nzta.govt.nz/driver-licences/new-residents-and-visitors/approved-translators](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/driver-licences/new-residents-and-visitors/approved-translators)
- 📍 [www.aa.co.nz/drivers/driver-licences](http://www.aa.co.nz/drivers/driver-licences)
- To book:** 📍 [aadriverlicensingagent.simplybook.net](http://aadriverlicensingagent.simplybook.net)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### AA Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agent

For help to get your driver licence. Overseas licence conversion services are only offered in Queenstown.

- 📍 58 Ballantyne Road, Wānaka
- 📍 [www.aa.co.nz/drivers/driver-licences](http://www.aa.co.nz/drivers/driver-licences)
- To book:** 📍 [aamobileunitbooking.simplybook.net](http://aamobileunitbooking.simplybook.net)

## Responsible camping

Buying a campervan or travelling with a tent can be a great way to explore the country. There are many places you can camp in the Queenstown Lakes District, ranging from fully serviced holiday parks to Department of Conservation campsites. Be a responsible camper and protect our special place by upholding the Tiaki promise and leaving no trace of your stay.

Freedom camping is permitted only if your vehicle is certified self-contained, with a toilet and enough fresh water and wastewater storage for three days. The Freedom Camping Bylaw permits self-contained vehicles in 15 designated carpark sites across the district (which contain a total of 141 spaces). Camping in these areas is only allowed if specific conditions for each site are followed. For more information please visit:

- 📍 [www.qldc.govt.nz/responsible-camping](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/responsible-camping)
- 📱 Campermate app



### DID YOU KNOW?

Tiaki means to care for people, place and culture. The Tiaki Promise is a commitment to care for New Zealand, for now and for future generations. You are making a commitment to act as a guardian, protecting and preserving our home.

📍 [www.tiakinewzealand.com](http://www.tiakinewzealand.com)





## Driving in winter conditions

Our district is known to be very cold over the winter months, often with snow and ice. While this is very exciting, it can also be dangerous when on the roads. You can find winter road tips and short videos to help you be better prepared when heading out on the roads this winter, including how to fit snow chains.

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/  
services/transport-and-parking/  
winter-road-reports/#winter-driving-tips](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/services/transport-and-parking/winter-road-reports/#winter-driving-tips)




### DID YOU KNOW?

You can sign up to receive:

#### WINTER ROAD REPORTS

on local road conditions emailed every morning (July-September)

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/services/  
transport-and-parking/  
winter-road-reports](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/services/transport-and-parking/winter-road-reports)

#### COMMUNITY TEXT ALERTS

for messages on road closures, ice and snow on local roads, reserve closures and other emergencies

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/do-it-online/  
community-text-alert-sign-up](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/do-it-online/community-text-alert-sign-up)



# Managing costs



Queenstown Lakes can be an expensive place to live, so it's important to plan your budget to manage costs.

## Food

There are organisations that provide affordable food. Please be aware that an assessment for food support may be required.

Accessing food and community support services will not affect your status in New Zealand or ability to sponsor others for immigration.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### Salvation Army

Supports people with food in times of hardship to meet their unique needs. The foodbank enables people to choose their own food items.

➔ [www.salvationarmy.org.nz/get-help/food-clothing-and-furniture](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz/get-help/food-clothing-and-furniture)

#### Happiness House

Offers a Friday Produce programme, designed to support when needed, reducing the financial pressure of accessing healthy nutritious food.

➔ [www.happineshouse.org.nz/services/produce](http://www.happineshouse.org.nz/services/produce)

#### Baskets of Blessing

Prepares and delivers nutritious meals to those in our community in financial, emotional or circumstantial need.

➔ [www.basketsofblessing.co.nz/meals](http://www.basketsofblessing.co.nz/meals)

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### Community Link Upper Clutha

Community pantries and food parcels are available for anyone struggling to make ends meet.

➔ [www.communitylink.nz/food-and-financial-support](http://www.communitylink.nz/food-and-financial-support)

#### Food for Love

Prepare and deliver home-cooked meals to anyone who is living in the Upper Clutha community and is going through an unexpected challenging time.

➔ [www.foodforlovewanaka.com](http://www.foodforlovewanaka.com)



# Housing assistance

Ministry of Social Development offers a range of housing support for eligible people.

- 🔗 [www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/accommodation-supplement.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/accommodation-supplement.html)
- 🔗 [www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/housing)

Local housing programmes designed by the Queenstown Lakes Community Housing Trust for eligible households to access housing assistance. Note there are eligibility criteria.

- 🔗 [www.qlcht.org.nz](http://www.qlcht.org.nz)

# Energy saving

Advice on how to keep your household energy bill down by improving the energy efficiency in your home. Keep warm, save money, and live in a healthier home.

- 🔗 [www.qldc.govt.nz/community/energy-saving-tips](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/energy-saving-tips)

# Buy second-hand

Second-hand shops (or op shops) offer quality household goods, furniture and clothes at affordable prices. You can also find local second-hand items via Facebook pages and websites.

## QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

- 🔗 [www.queenstownnz.co.nz/stories/post/the-sustainable-bargain-hunters-guide-to-op-shops-in-queenstown](http://www.queenstownnz.co.nz/stories/post/the-sustainable-bargain-hunters-guide-to-op-shops-in-queenstown)

## WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

- 🔗 [www.lakewanaka.co.nz/wanaka-stories/a-guide-to-op-shopping-in-wanaka](http://www.lakewanaka.co.nz/wanaka-stories/a-guide-to-op-shopping-in-wanaka)

# Managing money

Financial assistance may include one-off household and living costs such as power and medical. Financial literacy and help with managing a budget are also offered.

## QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

### Citizens Advice Bureau

- ☎️ 03 442 6799
- 📍 44 Stanley Street, Queenstown
- 🔗 [www.cab.org.nz](http://www.cab.org.nz)
- ✉️ [queenstown@cab.org.nz](mailto:queenstown@cab.org.nz)

### Happiness House

- ☎️ 03 442 6531
- 📍 4 Park Street, Queenstown
- 🔗 [www.happinesshouse.org.nz](http://www.happinesshouse.org.nz)
- ✉️ [info@happinesshouse.org.nz](mailto:info@happinesshouse.org.nz)

### The Salvation Army

- ☎️ 03 442 9661
- 📍 8 Pin Oak Avenue, Frankton, Queenstown (Please note that some community services operate out of 71 Gorge Road, Queenstown)
- 🔗 [www.salvationarmy.org.nz](http://www.salvationarmy.org.nz)
- ✉️ [queenstown.corps@salvationarmy.org.nz](mailto:queenstown.corps@salvationarmy.org.nz)

## WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

### Community Link Upper Clutha

- ☎️ 03 443 7799
- 📍 34 McDougall Street, Wānaka
- 🔗 [www.communitylink.nz](http://www.communitylink.nz)
- ✉️ [info@communitylink.nz](mailto:info@communitylink.nz)



## DID YOU KNOW?

ASB Bank offers free financial wellbeing workshops to help you feel confident in making good financial decisions.

## QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

### ASB Queenstown Advice Centre Branch

- 📍 Shop 47, 20 Grant Road, Frankton, Queenstown
- ☎️ Freephone 0800 803 804
- ✉️ [ASBCommunityBankers@asb.co.nz](mailto:ASBCommunityBankers@asb.co.nz)



# Emergency preparedness and safety




**Like most of New Zealand, our district is at risk of earthquakes, storms, flooding, landslides, and wildfires.**

These can happen anywhere, anytime, often without warning, so it's important that you know how to keep yourself and your family safe in an emergency event.



## DID YOU KNOW?

During an emergency event, follow official information and instructions from Otago Civil Defence Emergency Management and Queenstown Lakes District Council (QLDC). Check on your neighbours, particularly those most vulnerable, and help each other out.

 [www.qldc.govt.nz/  
community/emergency-  
management](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/emergency-management)

 [www.otagocdem.govt.nz](http://www.otagocdem.govt.nz)

## Emergency preparedness

Sign up to receive text messages about things like reserve closures due to wildfire risk, road closures, extended water-shutdowns, ice and snow on local roads or any other emergencies affecting your community.

[www.qldc.govt.nz/do-it-online/community-text-alert-sign-up](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/do-it-online/community-text-alert-sign-up)

### In case of an emergency, be prepared at home with the following basic items:

- Water and food for seven days or more
- Long-lasting food that doesn't need cooking
- Toilet paper and large plastic buckets for an emergency toilet
- Work gloves
- Medications
- First aid kit
- Mask or face covering
- Flashlight
- Radio and batteries

[www.otagocdem.govt.nz/get-your-home-ready](http://www.otagocdem.govt.nz/get-your-home-ready)

[www.getready.govt.nz](http://www.getready.govt.nz)

## Water safety

Our crystal-clear waters can be deceptively deep, cold, and often swift. When swimming or boating, check for safety signs or flags, be prepared and know your limits.

[www.watersafety.org.nz](http://www.watersafety.org.nz)

## Mountain & outdoor safety

As we live in a more isolated alpine environment we can experience more extreme conditions, such as cold temperatures, snow and ice in winter. It's important to plan for changing weather and be prepared when adventuring outdoors, as it is the most dangerous element of our backcountry. Find tips on how to plan for mountain/outdoor safety.

[www.mountainsafety.org.nz](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz)

[www.planmywalk.nz/tracks](http://www.planmywalk.nz/tracks)

[www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/know-before-you-go/alerts](http://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/know-before-you-go/alerts)

## Important 24/7 phone numbers

Call **111** when you need an emergency response from police, fire or ambulance. Note that you might need to pay ambulance charges.

Call **105** to report things that don't need urgent police assistance.

Call **\*555** to report road incidents that are urgent but not life-threatening.

### QUEENSTOWN/WHAKATIPU

#### NZ Police

[03 441 1600](tel:034411600)

11 Camp Street, Queenstown

### WĀNAKA/UPPER CLUTHA

#### NZ Police

[03 443 7272](tel:034437272)

5 Ballantyne Road, Wānaka

### Crisis Mental Health Emergency Services

[Call 0800 467 846](tel:0800467846) (press 0 for Otago)

### Suicide Crisis Helpline

[Call free 0508 828 865](tel:0508828865) (0508 TAUTOKO)



# Other useful contacts



## Immigration New Zealand

For help understanding or making changes to your current visa.

☎ 0508 558 855 (toll-free from NZ landlines only)

🔗 [www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/already-have-a-visa](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/already-have-a-visa)

## Otago Regional Council (ORC)

ORC is responsible for the management of natural resources of land, air and water on the community's behalf.

🔗 [www.orc.govt.nz](http://www.orc.govt.nz)

## Department of Conservation (DOC) Visitor Centres

DOC protects native wildlife and manages about one-third of NZ's total land area. In the DOC Visitor Centres, you will learn more about local walking tracks or NZ's Great Walks, get local weather conditions, buy maps, or book hut tickets.

🔗 [www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)

## Whakatipu-wai-Māori/Queenstown Visitor Centre

☎ 03 442 7935

📍 50 Stanley Street, Queenstown

@ [queenstownvc@doc.govt.nz](mailto:queenstownvc@doc.govt.nz)

## Wānaka Tititea/Mount Aspiring National Park Visitor Centre

📍 1 Ballantyne Road, Wānaka

☎ 03 443 7660

@ [wanakavc@doc.govt.nz](mailto:wanakavc@doc.govt.nz)

## The Family Services Directory

A helpful resource for individuals and families to connect them with community providers who can help with common issues and problems.

🔗 [www.familyservices.govt.nz/directory](http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/directory)

## Ministry for Ethnic Communities

Information, advice and services for ethnic communities in New Zealand, including funding to support community development and social cohesion.

🔗 [www.ethniccommunities.govt.nz](http://www.ethniccommunities.govt.nz)

## New Zealand public holidays and anniversary days

🔗 [www.govt.nz/browse/work/public-holidays-and-work/public-holidays-and-anniversary-dates](http://www.govt.nz/browse/work/public-holidays-and-work/public-holidays-and-anniversary-dates)

## Ngāi Tahu (local iwi)

🔗 [www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu](http://www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu)

🔗 [www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/te-runanga-o-ngai-tahu/our-work-pou/culture/cultural-mapping](http://www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/te-runanga-o-ngai-tahu/our-work-pou/culture/cultural-mapping)

🔗 [www.qldc.govt.nz/community/maori-community](http://www.qldc.govt.nz/community/maori-community)

## Inland Revenue Department (IRD)

IRD provides tax information and services whether you need to register for a tax number, file taxes, or have questions about your tax obligations.

☎ Freephone 0800 775 247

🔗 [www.ird.govt.nz](http://www.ird.govt.nz)





Scan to view this  
guide online and  
provide feedback.



Photo by Still Vision Photography

