

Technical Recruitment Solutions™



A quick guide to the Waikato region



Waikato

Waikato is a local government region of the upper North Island of New Zealand. The name Waikato is a Maori word and translates to 'flowing water'. Waikato is named after the 425km long river that cuts through the land flowing from Lake Taupo to the Tasman Sea. Its rimmed by ranges and bordered on its wild west coast by the Tasman Sea. It has a much-altered landscape, ranging from exotic forests and spacious farmland.

The Waikato has a large land area spreading over 25,000 square km and home to around 470,000 people. The Waikato region encompasses the Waikato, Matamata-Piaka, Waipa, South Waikato districts and Hamilton City. This is smaller than the Waikato regional council area, which extends to the King Country, Taupo, Hauraki and the Coromandel Peninsula, and parts of the Rotorua district.

Waikato is known for its rich agriculture and pastoral areas, leaving a relaxed peaceful lifestyle. At its heart is the city of Hamilton, with a population of over 141,000 and New Zealand's fourth largest city, just about an hour and a half's drive south of Auckland. Hamilton is a naturally beautiful city built on the banks of the mighty Waikato River.



Head west from Hamilton toward the coast and you'll discover the beachside settlement of Raglan. Internationally renowned with surfers for its left-hand point breaks, Raglan has grown over the years to appeal to a much wider audience than surfer alone. With its laid-back atmosphere, stunning surroundings and bustling art scene, Raglan presents a great living option if the lifestyle suits.

The Waikato region enjoys a mild climate with temperate and moderate rainfall, although summers are long, hot and humid. Temperatures can reach up to 28°C in summer and as low as -3 during winter mornings.

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Hamilton

We place most of our candidates in Hamilton, the largest city within the Waikato region. With its geographically flat landscape – as is much of the Waikato – Hamilton offers easy, comfortable living, with short commuting times across the city.

<https://www.visithamilton.co.nz/>

<https://www.hamilton.govt.nz/Pages/default.aspx>

Taupo

Taupo is home to New Zealand's largest lake, not far drive Napier and Rotorua. Its distinguished by its lakefront setting and outdoor sports such as fishing and jetboating. Huka falls is also a must see!

<https://www.taupodc.govt.nz/>

<https://www.lovetaupo.com/>

Rotorua

Situated 80km North of Taupo, Rotorua is known for its geothermal activity, mud pools and breathtaking geysers.

<https://www.rotoruanz.com/visit/home.aspx>

<https://www.rotoruanz.com/>

<https://www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/Pages/default.aspx>

Thames-Coromandel

You are guaranteed an easy going and relaxing lifestyle if you choose to reside in Thames-Coromandel. Cities such as Auckland, Tauranga, Rotorua are only a short drive away. The region has a small town that includes all your necessary infrastructures.

<https://www.tcdc.govt.nz/>

<https://www.thecoromandel.com/towns/thames/activities/all/>



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Matamata

Matamata is a rural town nestled at the base of the scenic Kaimai ranges. It is well known for its thoroughbred industry, dairy farming heritage, historic Firth Tower Museum and magnificent Wairere Falls.

Read more on Matamata: <https://www.newzealand.com/int/matamata/>

Waitomo

Waitomo is a town known for its extensive underground cave systems, most containing an incredible natural light source: glow worms. You won't be able to experience this in many other places in the world.

Read more on Waitomo: <https://www.waitomo.com/>



Things to do and see

Holiday locations are endless wherever you decide to reside. Some things that stand out include the beautiful black sand beaches of Ragland. Explore the famous town of Hobbiton where scenes from The Lord of the Rings took place. If you are feeling adventurous there are plenty of free walking and hiking trails that take you into the deep New Zealand bush with stunning waterfalls. Here are two in depth websites containing many more incredible activities to experience in the mighty Waikato.

<https://www.waikatoz.com/experiences/>

<https://theculturetrip.com/pacific/new-zealand/articles/20-must-visit-attractions-in-waikato-new-zealand/>

Education (Primary & Secondary)

Education options in the Waikato region are plentiful. Depending on what location you decide to reside in you can search what schools are in the area, with this easy to use Find A School website. In New Zealand, primary education starts at year 1 and goes to year 8 (around 5-12 years). Secondary education goes from year 9 and finishes at year 13 (around 13-17 years).

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Healthcare

In regard to healthcare in New Zealand you will need to enrol with a primary health care provider. You will be able to find a general practitioner through the Waikato District Health Board. For more serious situations the emergency department will be the best place to go. You can also find where to go on the District Health Board website. Health care in New Zealand is very accessible, and GP visits for children under 13 are generally free.



Banks

Here is a list of New Zealand's main banks that will protect and support your financial needs. They will help set up your new life in New Zealand. Branches are scattered throughout the Waikato region, click on the logos to view their easy-to-navigate websites.



Education (Tertiary)

If you are planning to commence or continue study after your move the Waikato, both the University of Waikato and Waikato Institute of Technology are well-regarded tertiary providers.



Sport

If you play sport and want to continue your lifestyle while living in the Waikato here is a list of various clubs available.

This webpage is good for general sport news and events for all ages.

To learn more about the Waikato region, try these pages:

<https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/>

<https://www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/regions-nz/waikato>

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