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HOLIDAY BINGO!

10 Things You Must Do When
Going on a New Zealand Road Trip
(a Roadie).



So, you're doing a roadie in New Zealand? That's great. Hopefully you've sorted yourself an epic travel itinerary that you're excited about. But we've got news for you, there's a few other things you need to add to your list of 'must-dos'. It's a HOLIDAY BINGO, and no NZ roadie is complete without ticking these quintessential Kiwi things off your list.



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1. Eat a Mince Pie from a Bakery

We LOVE our mince pies here in New Zealand. A warm filling, wrapped in a buttery pastry, and easy enough to find in all parts of the country. Be careful though, the contents are hot (especially if you have a mince and cheese) – so always blow on the pie.

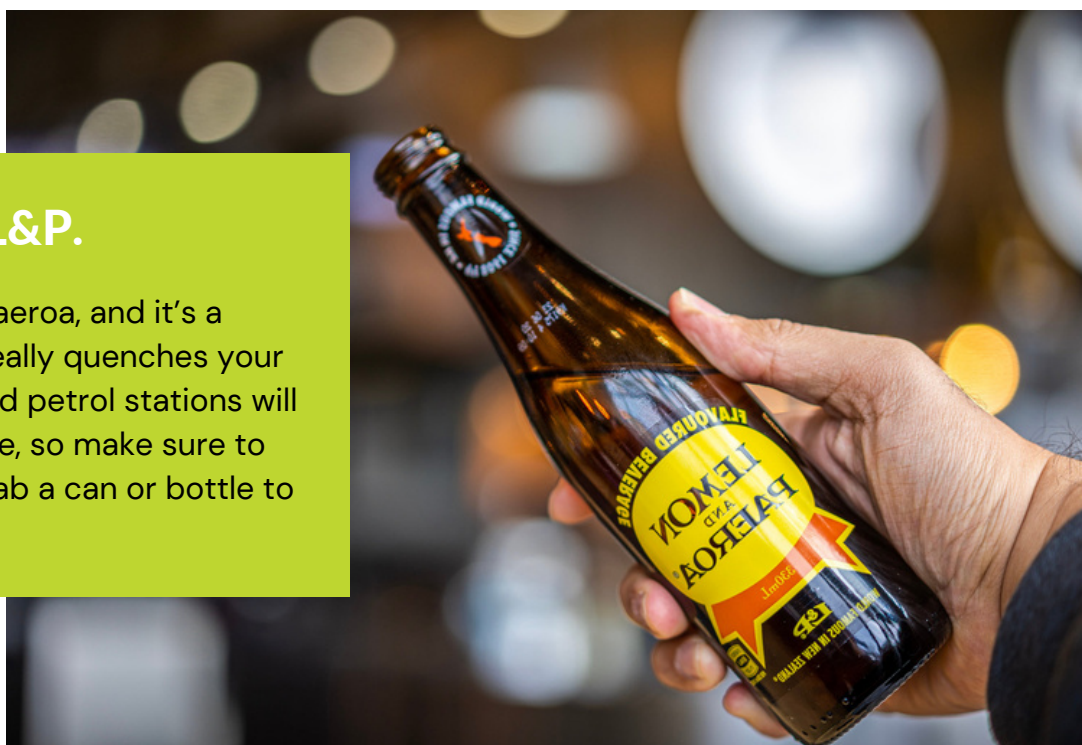


2. Snap a Pic in Front of a Paddock of Sheep

Did you know there are more sheep in New Zealand than there are people? Yup, there's millions of the white woolly mammals here (around 26 million at last count), and it's imperative that you get a photo with the locals. Otherwise you might get baa-d luck.

3. Grab a bottle of L&P.

L&P stands for Lemon and Paeroa, and it's a homegrown soft drink that really quenches your thirst. Most corner dairies and petrol stations will have them in the drinks fridge, so make sure to keep an eye out for it and grab a can or bottle to test out.



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4. Find a Giant Monument

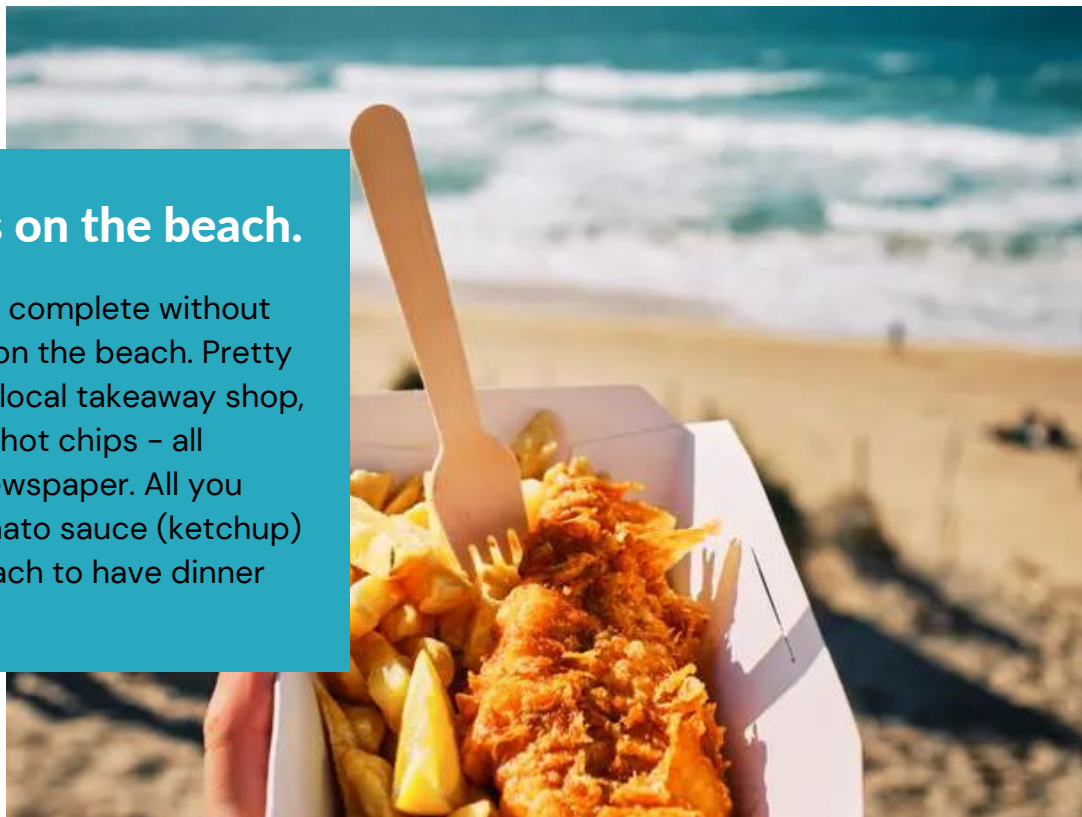
This one leads on quite nicely from the one above. In the town of Paeroa (the P, from L&P), you'll find an inexplicably large concrete replica bottle of the fizzy drink. And it's not the only large landmark/mascot/sculpture you'll find in small town New Zealand.

From a giant carrot in the ski town of Ohakune, to a giant trout in the fly fishing mecca town of Taupo, a giant gumboot in Taihape, giant fruit in Cromwell, a giant donut in Springfield, a giant sheep and sheepdog in Tirau... well you get the picture. Keep your eyes peeled on your travels!



5. Enjoy fish'n'chips on the beach.

No holiday to New Zealand is complete without having a feed of fish'n'chips on the beach. Pretty much every town will have a local takeaway shop, serving up battered fish and hot chips – all wrapped up in last week's newspaper. All you need to do is grab some tomato sauce (ketchup) and head to your closest beach to have dinner Kiwi-style.



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6. Spot native wildlife

From tuis to piwakawaka, kereru, kaka, ruru and of course the infamous (and very hard to spot) Kiwi, New Zealand is home to a bunch of beautiful native birds. Listen for their bird song, and see if you can tick each one off the list on your travels. If you're in the South Island, you may also get to see the incredible Kakapo.



7. Listen to a New Zealand artist playlist

No roadie is complete without the ultimate music playlist, so while you're in New Zealand, make sure you add a few great kiwi artists to the list.

There's Six60, Shapeshifter, Anika Moa, Dave Dobbyn, Lorde, Crowded House, Fat Freddy's Drop, Ladyhawke, Bic Runga, Brooke Fraser, Kimbra, Benez, Gin Wigmore, The Naked and Famous - and that's just to name a few!

8. Stock up on Kiwi lollies

For snacking in between stops, it's absolutely crucial you have a bag of lollies (candy/ sweets) stashed in the glove compartment.

Pascalls Party Mix is a favourite, as there is always something for everyone, and Pineapple Lumps are a must too! You might also like to try Jet Planes and a couple of Whittakers Peanut Slabs are a great munch for in between meals.



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9. Slurp on the Longest Drink in Town

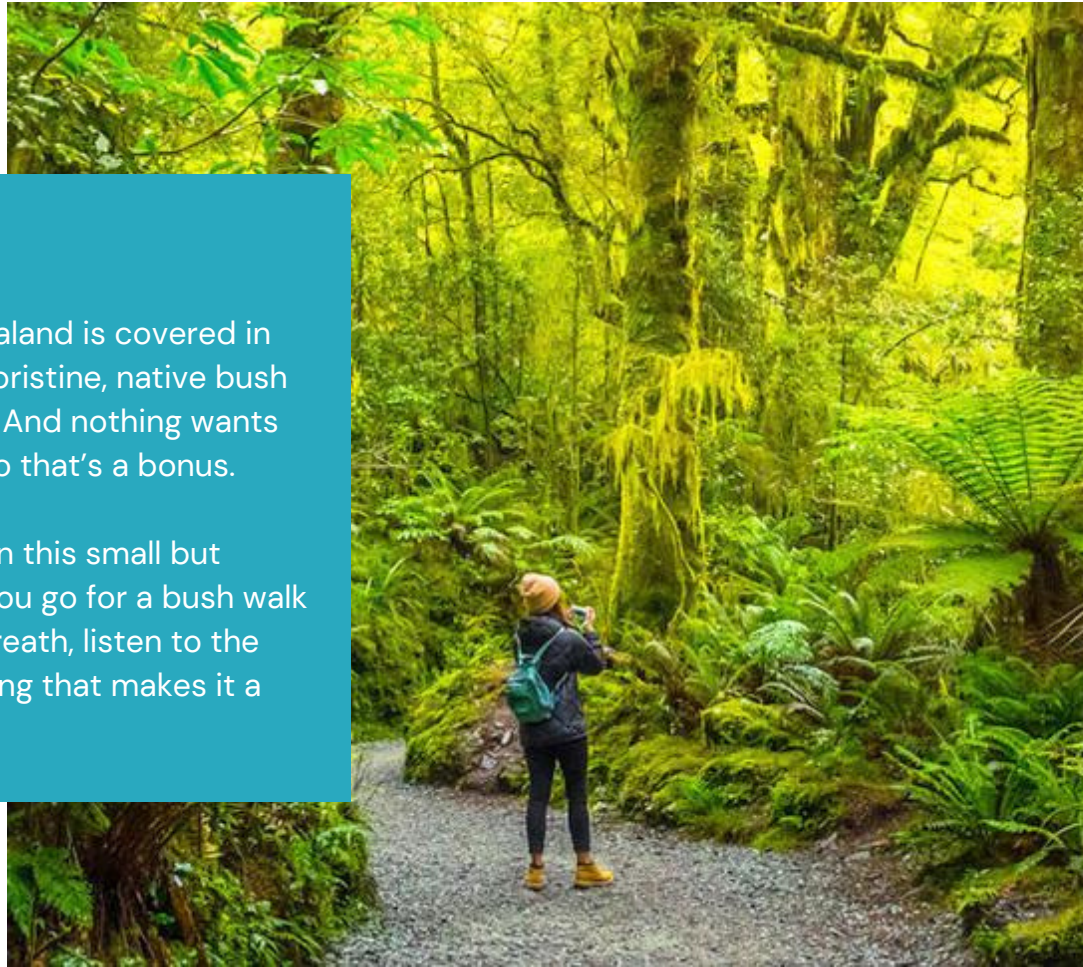
When you order a takeaway milkshake in New Zealand, chances are it will come in a tall, cardboard cup with a drawing of a giraffe on it. Since 1968, here in NZ we've been drinking our milkshakes from The Longest Drink in Town, with its iconic blue and red print. So the only question is – chocolate, strawberry, banana or lime?



10. Go bush

From top to bottom, New Zealand is covered in some of the most beautiful, pristine, native bush that you could ever imagine. And nothing wants to eat you in there either – so that's a bonus.

No matter where you travel in this small but mighty country, make sure you go for a bush walk at least once. Take a deep breath, listen to the bird song and enjoy everything that makes it a truly wonderful place to be.



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