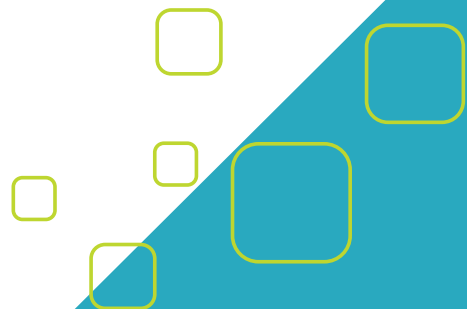




# The Top **FREE** Things to do in **Auckland** and **Christchurch** this Summer







Who said nothing in life is free? If you're looking for some budget-friendly activities these school holidays, here's the best places in Auckland and Christchurch where there are no admission fees. Simply slap on some sunscreen, pack a picnic and load the kids in the car and your morning (or day) is sorted!





# Five fabulous things to do in **Auckland**, for **FREE!**




## 1. Climb a volcano

There's 53 volcanoes dotted across Auckland's diverse landscape, and a lot of them are easily accessible to the public. Get the kids to pick a couple of them to climb, and see what you can spot from the top!



## 2. Check out a Gannet Colony

The 40 minute drive from Auckland City out to Muriwai is well worth it! On arrival you'll discover the raw beauty of a west coast beach, with its black sand and wild ocean waves. You can watch the keen surfers at Maori Bay, and walk the short track to the Muriwai Gannet Colony where around 1,200 pairs of gannets nest from August to March each year.





### 3. Visit a waterfall

There's a number of gorgeous waterfalls scattered throughout Auckland, all with equally pleasant bush walks to visit them up close. You can choose from Karekare Falls, Hunua Falls and Kitekite Falls out west, or the lovely gardens and Mauku Waterfall at Wrights Watergardens in Patumahoe.



### 4. Spend the afternoon at the beach

With around 1,800km of coastline, you're spoilt for choice when it comes to finding a beach to spend an afternoon with the kids. On a hot summer's day you'll find the popular ones like Mission Bay and Takapuna Beach are bustling, but there are plenty of others either side of these beaches where you'll find a place to park your towel.



### 5. Explore Auckland's waterfront

Auckland's Viaduct Harbour, Wynyard Quarter and Queens Wharf are all located in the heart of the city, and from incredible architecture, to public spaces, recreational facilities and events, there is always something to see, do and eat here. You might catch a movie at the outdoor cinema in Silo Park, or check out a special art or cultural event.



*If you're needing a rental car to explore everything Auckland has to offer, we have a large selection of quality rental cars.*

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# Five fabulous things to do in Christchurch, for FREE!

## 1. Wander the Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Located in the heart of Christchurch you'll find the Botanic Gardens, featuring one of the finest collections of exotic and local plants in New Zealand. It is one of the city's most popular attractions and certainly a beautiful place to spend a summer's day. Take a picnic and choose a shady spot under a tree while the kids enjoy the freedom to run around and play. Tag, you're it!



## 2. Explore the Canterbury Museum

First opened in 1870, the Canterbury Museum is housed in a beautiful stone building and world-renowned for its natural and human history collections. With an ever-changing programme of exhibitions and events, you never know what you might find on the day you visit. It's a great choice for a rainy day activity.





### 3. Spend the afternoon at New Brighton Beach

New Brighton Beach is one of Christchurch's most popular beaches, and it's not hard to see why. You can relax on the beach, play in the waves, walk out on the pier, visit the playground complete with paddling pools, take a dip in the heated salt water pool and finish the day off with a meal at one of the bars or cafes adjacent to the beach.



### 4. Check out the Port Hills walking tracks

Get your walking shoes on and head inland to take in some incredible views from the Port Hills. From bush-clad gullies to rocky outcrops, there's seven locations to choose from, each with their own unique landscape and outlook.



### 5. Visit Tūranga - Christchurch Central Library

An architectural landmark, as well as a hub for fun and learning, Tūranga is more than just a library. New Zealand's largest digital touch-screen the Discovery Wall lets you swipe through a virtual world of photos, videos and information and the kids will love the Imagination Station's Lego pits. There is also an audio video studio, virtual reality, 3D printing, robotics, exhibition spaces, café, TSB Space community arena and a children's play area – with a slide.



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