



VESSELS ARRIVING IN NEW ZEALAND GUIDE

KEY POINTS TO KNOW

- › All regular border requirements apply
- › There are new requirements if arriving by sea
- › The requirements apply in respect of both the type of vessel and the immigration status of the people on board
- › New Zealand Vessels are not permitted to arrive unless the Master/Skipper is reasonably satisfied everyone on board is a New Zealand Citizen **or** is a person who meets New Zealand visa requirements
- › Foreign vessels are not permitted to arrive in New Zealand unless everyone on board is a New Zealand Citizen, **or** the vessel is permitted or exempted to arrive **and** everyone on board meets New Zealand visa requirements
- › New Zealand Citizens are not prevented from arriving in New Zealand. However, the vessel you are travelling on also needs to be permitted or exempted to arrive if it is not a New Zealand vessel
- › If permission is needed for a vessel to arrive in New Zealand, application must be made to the Director-General of Health (DG Health) at the New Zealand Ministry of Health (<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-resources-border-sector/covid-19-maritime-sector#exemption>)
- › If you are not a New Zealand Citizen and want to clarify your immigration status or apply for visa entry, application must be made to Immigration New Zealand (INZ) (<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/covid-19/border-closures-and-exceptions>)
- › Offences and penalties apply if you arrive in New Zealand without the required exemptions or approvals.





Table of Requirements

		TYPE OF VESSEL								
Status of people on board		Any NZ flagged vessel (incl. NZ warships)	Any foreign flagged vessel if all NZ citizens on board	Foreign flagged vessels (that meets definition of cargo ship)	Foreign Flagged vessel (that meets definition of fishing ship)	Foreign Flagged vessel (that meets definition of foreign State ship)	Foreign Flagged vessel (compelling need to arrive to reprovision and/or refuel)	Foreign Flagged vessel (compelling need to arrive to deliver the ship to a business)	Foreign Flagged vessel (compelling need to arrive to carry out repairs/refit/refurbishment to the ship that is more than minor)	Foreign Flagged vessel (compelling need to arrive for humanitarian reasons)
All NZ Citizens on board		Can arrive in NZ. Do not need to seek permission		Can arrive in NZ if definition met. Do not need to seek permission		Not applicable (unlikely scenario)	Not applicable. A foreign vessel with all NZ Citizens on board can arrive in NZ.			
All non NZ Citizens on board OR mixed NZ Citizens and non NZ Citizens on board		Do not need permission for vessel to arrive but must have permission from INZ for non-NZ Citizens to arrive	See other categories of foreign flagged vessel.	Vessel can arrive in NZ if one of the definitions is met. Must have permission from INZ for non-NZ Citizens to arrive.		Seek permission from NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs for vessel to arrive. Must have permission from INZ for non-NZ Citizens to arrive.	Seek permission from DG Health for vessel to arrive. Must have permission from INZ for any non-NZ Citizens on board to arrive.			

Green = vessel and people on board can arrive in NZ. Permission is not required.

Gold = vessel and people on board can arrive, provided the relevant definition of the ship is met (and if not, you must look to arrive under one of the other types of foreign flagged vessel).

Blue = Permission is required for vessel and/or people on board.

See guide on next page for relevant definitions, key terms, and links to apply for relevant permissions.





Definitions and Key Terms

Term	Definitions and Requirements
Cargo ship	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A commercial vessel carrying primarily cargo into or out of NZ. If vessel fits this description, no application is needed for the vessel itself to enter NZ.➤ Application will need to be made to Immigration New Zealand for the entry of any non-NZ Citizens on board.
Compelling need to arrive in NZ: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ To reprovision or refuel➤ To deliver the vessel to a business➤ To carry out refit, refurbishment, or repair (that is more than minor in all cases)➤ For humanitarian reasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Permission is needed from the Director General of Health for the vessel to arrive in NZ (see link below)➤ Permission will also be needed from Immigration New Zealand for any non-NZ Citizens to enter NZ
DG Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Director-General of New Zealand's Ministry of Health➤ If permission is needed for a vessel to enter NZ, application must be made to the Director General: https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-resources-border-sector/covid-19-maritime-sector#exemption
Foreign flagged vessel	A vessel that is registered in a State outside NZ or entitled to fly the flag/display the marks of registry of a State outside of NZ



Term	Definitions and Requirements
Fishing ship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A ship used for catching fish for profit. ➤ A fishing ship meets the vessel exemption if it is arriving in NZ to unload catch, or reprovision / refuel or embark/disembark crew. ➤ If the vessel fits this description, no application is needed for the vessel itself to enter NZ. ➤ Application will need to be made to Immigration New Zealand for the entry of any non-NZ Citizens on board.
Foreign State ship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A warship of any State other than NZ. ➤ A ship owned or operated by any State other than NZ, if the ship is being operated for non-commercial purposes. ➤ Ships fitting the above description require diplomatic clearance from NZ's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. ➤ Application will need to be made to Immigration New Zealand for the entry of any non-NZ Citizens on board.
Immigration New Zealand	<p>Permission is needed from Immigration New Zealand for the entry of any non-NZ Citizens on board the vessel: https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/covid-19/border-closures-and-exceptions</p>

Term	Definitions and Requirements
New Zealand Citizen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A person who has NZ citizenship as provided in NZ's Citizenship Act 1977 or the Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982. ➤ A person can acquire citizenship by birth, descent or grant. ➤ Seek advice from Immigration New Zealand if in any doubt as to whether or not a person on board is an NZ Citizen.
New Zealand flagged vessel	<p>A vessel that is registered under NZ's Ship Registration Act 1992, or required or entitled to be registered under that Act. Note that a vessel cannot be a NZ flagged vessel if it is currently registered under the law of a country other than New Zealand.</p>
Permission to arrive (foreign flagged vessels)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A foreign vessel can arrive in NZ if everyone on board is an NZ Citizen OR an exemption applies (cargo ships, fishing ships, foreign State ships) OR permission has been granted by the Director-General of Health for the vessel to arrive (see "Compelling need to arrive in New Zealand"). ➤ Entry permission is also needed for any non-NZ Citizens on board (see "Immigration New Zealand").