



# LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held from 27 July to 12 August and 29 August to 9 September respectively. If you are planning to travel to London during the Games, we want you to have an enjoyable visit, so please read the following advice which we hope will help make your visit safe and enjoyable.

## Registration

We encourage all New Zealanders travelling to the Games to register on-line with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This allows us to contact you if there is an unforeseen crisis in the United Kingdom, or if you have a family emergency at home, while you are overseas. Remember, if you haven't registered with us, we don't know where you are. You can register online at <http://www.safetravel.govt.nz/register.shtml>

## UK Entry and Exit Requirements

New Zealand has a visa waiver agreement with the United Kingdom allowing New Zealand passport holders up to six months visa free entry into the United Kingdom if they are visiting for tourism purposes. It is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with entry requirements for the United Kingdom. Failure to meet these requirements could result in your being refused entry upon arrival.

The UK Border Agency has issued specific advice for visitors coming to the United Kingdom for the Games at <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/our-work/olympic-paralympic/games>

## Ticketing

If you are purchasing tickets for the Games the only secure way to purchase a ticket is from the London 2012 ticketing website. Do not purchase a ticket from an unauthorised website or a tout as you risk getting scammed. Your credit card details may also be stolen for use in other crimes. If you are unsure whether a website is authorised to sell you a ticket, use the London 2012 website checker (<http://www.london2012.com/about-this-website/ticketing-website-checker.php>)



## Safety and Security

The United Kingdom is politically stable with a modern infrastructure, but as with any destination there are risks, and the United Kingdom shares the threat of global terrorism and remains a priority target for terrorist activity. You should pay close attention to personal security, exercise normal safety precautions, and monitor the media for information about possible new safety or security threats.

Refer to <http://www.safetravel.govt.nz/destinations/uk.shtml> for travel advice for the United Kingdom.

## Accommodation

Accommodation is expected to be in high demand during the Games and travellers should make accommodation arrangements as early as possible. The safest way to protect yourself from booking bogus accommodation is to book directly with an established hotel or through a reputable travel company. Be aware that fraudulent adverts do exist. If you have any doubts do not book it!

If you become a victim of accommodation fraud, report it to <http://www.actionfraud.org.uk>

## Local Travel

Public transport in London will be significantly busier than normal during the Games, particularly in London. Road closures and restrictions will be in force in London and at other Olympic venues. Allow plenty of time to get to your event. For information on how the Games will affect transport around the venues, visit the Get Ahead of the Games website at <http://www.getaheadofthegames.com>

The Transport for London website also provides helpful advice on transport during the Games at <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/gettingaround/london2012/21677.aspx>

## Important travel tips

- Take out comprehensive travel insurance before travelling that includes cover for medical costs.
- Be aware of pickpockets and thieves in crowded places. Leave your passport and valuables in a hotel safe.
- Use only licensed Black Cabs. Unlicensed taxis or private cars may offer low fares but are often uninsured and may have unlicensed drivers.
- Remember to take any medication you require with you.
- Avoid using ATMs if there is anything stuck to the structure or it looks unusual in any way.
- Make sure your passport is valid for the duration of your stay.
- Walking alone at night can be dangerous, especially in an unfamiliar city. Try to travel with a friend or group. Avoid isolated areas after dark, including public parks.
- It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to buy alcohol, cigarettes or tobacco.



- Strong penalties apply for drug offences.
- Look after yourself and your property.

## Other Useful Websites

To obtain more information on the London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics, including trip planning, tickets, accommodation, access to Olympic venues, safety and security, banned and restricted items (including liquids and foodstuffs) and limits on bag size, visit the official London 2012 website <http://www.london2012.com/>

For information on Olympic and Paralympic Games security planning visit the Home Office website at [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/counter-terrorism/securing-2012](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/counter-terrorism/securing-2012)

For healthcare advice visit the NHS Choices website at <http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/AboutNHSServices/Pages/NHSServices.aspx>

## Consular Assistance in London

During the Olympic and Paralympic Games New Zealanders requiring consular assistance should contact the New Zealand High Commission as follows:

New Zealand High Commission  
New Zealand House  
80 Haymarket  
London SW1Y 4TQ  
Telephone: +44 (0) 207 930 8422  
Website: [www.nzembassy.com/united-kingdom](http://www.nzembassy.com/united-kingdom)

Should you require assistance with **passports**, the New Zealand Passports Office counter in London is open to the public Monday to Friday between 10am and 2pm.

Hours of operation: 10am – 2pm (open to the public) but switchboard open until 4pm  
After hours phone (until 10pm): +44 (0) 790 0218 765

New Zealand Passport Office  
Department of Internal Affairs  
New Zealand House  
80 Haymarket  
London SW1Y 4TQ  
Telephone: +44 (0) 207 968 2730  
Facsimile: +44 (0) 207 968 2739  
Email: [London@dia.govt.nz](mailto:London@dia.govt.nz)

## Emergency Services

The emergency services (police, fire, ambulance) number in the United Kingdom is 999 or 112.