

Travel Journal Entry 6: New Zealand

Day 1:

Hi fellow trekkers!

I arrived in beautiful Auckland and headed to the hostel to drop off my stuff. I am staying at the Auckland International YHA, which is on the north island.

I wanted to go and see the beautiful Tamaki waterfront to watch the sailboats and spend some relaxing time on one of Auckland's beaches! I was still very tired from my flight.

In the evening I boarded a sailboat for a dinner and a night-time view of Auckland. It was really neat!

Overall, my first day in Auckland was very relaxing!

Day 2:

I was in the mood for adventure, so I decided that I would take a one-day surfing tour. Included in my package was a surfboard, body board and a wet suit. We headed for a beach called Muriwai. My board was 6 ft. long and it was really fun trying to stay up on the board! I fell off the surfboard a lot but the instructor, whose name was Liz, was really nice and helped me get the hang of it. At the end of the day, I was so tired all I wanted to do was go to sleep early.

Day 3:

I decided that I would spend the day visiting the Auckland Museum and later visit the Underwater World.

At the Auckland Museum, I learned about the culture of the Maori people. They are the native or indigenous people of New Zealand. Below are a couple of links to help you learn more about the Maori culture.

www.maori.org.nz

www.newzealand.com/travel/about-nz/culture/culture-maori-culture.cfm

In the afternoon, I went to a place called Kelly Tarlton's Antarctic Adventure and Underwater World. Here I saw the Antarctic penguins swimming underwater. I also saw tons of sea creatures like: eels, seahorses, crayfish and sharks!

You should check out some of the neat things I saw:

www.kellytarltons.co.nz

Day 4:

On my last day in Auckland I decided to take a hike to Mount Eden, which is a famous volcano. There is a great view of the city because it is the highest volcano in Auckland. The following link tells you more:

<http://www.arc.govt.nz/environment/volcanoes-of-auckland/mt-eden.cfm>

After my hike I decided to check out the local Guide Shop to pick up some souvenirs.

<http://www.girlguidingnz.org.nz/>

I have had a wonderful time in New Zealand. I hope you have as well!

Talk to you soon!

Your pal, Zoë

