



Agreement on the Conservation
of Albatrosses and Petrels

To: ACAP National Contact Points and MoP8 Meeting Participants

MoP8 Meeting Circular 4 - Information about Dunedin and events to be held during the week

Please find below some information prepared by ACAP's New Zealand National Contact Point for delegates attending MoP8 in Dunedin. This includes information about Dunedin, travel from the airport to the hotel, and events to be held during the week.

Dr Christine Bogle
Executive Secretary
ACAP Secretariat

9 May 2025

ANNEX 1. Location information about New Zealand and Dunedin and social events

Currency

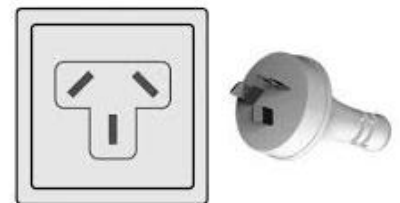
The official currency in New Zealand is the New Zealand Dollar (\$), often abbreviated to NZD. Cash currency can be converted for a fee at most New Zealand international airports. Debit cards can be used to withdraw cash from ATMs. Credit cards such as Visa and Mastercard are accepted in New Zealand.

Voltage

In New Zealand, the standard voltage is 230-240V and the frequency is 50Hz.

Socket and plug types

New Zealand employs Type I plugs, characterised by two flat prongs arranged in an inverted “V” shape, and a third larger grounding pin underneath.



Weather

The average maximum daytime temperature in Dunedin in May is around 13°C (55°F), with average nighttime minimum temperatures of 4°C (39°F). Rainfall during May is moderate, with an average of 69mm (2.7 inches). There are generally around 15 rainy days. It can get quite windy in New Zealand, and so it is recommended to have a good waterproof jacket, rather than an umbrella, for wet days.

Tips

It is not customary to tip at restaurants or for other services in New Zealand. It is possible to tip at restaurants and cafes at your own discretion if it is customary for you.

Meeting venue location and airport transfers

The venue for the meeting will be Dunedin Leisure Lodge (address: 30 Duke Street, Dunedin North, Dunedin 9016) located next door to the Dunedin Botanic Garden. It is approximately 19 miles/30 km from Dunedin Airport.

The journey from [Dunedin Airport](#) takes around 30 minutes by car. You can take a taxi, shuttle or an Uber (app) service if you don't have pre-arranged transfer. Such services include [Kiwi Cabs Dunedin](#), [Dunedin Airport Shuttles](#), [Dunedin Transfers and Tours](#) and [prestonblack.co.nz](#). Taxi services are located on the ground floor outside the check-in area. View the airport map [here](#). The Dunedin Airport is also a short four-minute walk from a regional bus network stop. The ride on the bus is a one-hour journey, with a 15-minute walk at the end. Further details on how to catch a bus in Dunedin can be found [here](#).

Travelling from another New Zealand international airport

New Zealand has four other airports that service international flights (Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Queenstown). There are domestic flight options from these locations to Dunedin Airport. The two main domestic carrier options in New Zealand are [Air New Zealand](#) and [Jetstar](#).

Local information about Dunedin

For information about Dunedin and things to do in Dunedin see the [Ōtepoti | Dunedin New Zealand official website](#).

Local contacts

If you need further information, please contact:

Mandy Leathers – mleathers@doc.govt.nz
+64 27 267 1508

Johannes Fischer – jfischer@doc.govt.nz
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Social events

New Zealand welcome reception

New Zealand will host a welcome reception for all MoP8 participants on Monday 19 May at 6pm onsite at the Dunedin Leisure Lodge. The event is a chance to network with attendees and hear a presentation from the Department of Conservation on New Zealand's seabird conservation work.

Field trip

An optional field trip has been organised for Thursday, 22 May, leaving from the Dunedin Leisure Lodge at 9am. The trip includes a visit to the local Māori marae ([Ōtākou Marae](#)) and the [Royal Albatross Centre](#).

As the fieldtrip is catered and includes a guided view of the albatross colony, delegates are requested to confirm their participation, and any dietary requirements, in advance. The field trip is fully funded for all delegates.

Buses have been booked to depart from the Dunedin Leisure Lodge at 9am and return at approximately 2pm. It is a 40-minute scenic journey from the Dunedin Leisure Lodge to Ōtākou Marae.

The visit to the Royal Albatross Centre will include a guided walk to see the Northern Royal Albatross. This is the only mainland albatross colony in New Zealand. Participants must be fit and able enough to walk unaided and negotiate uneven terrain as required. The fieldtrip to the Royal Albatross Centre is generally not weather dependant, but if weather conditions would make the fieldtrip unsafe it may be cancelled at short notice.

Modest clothing should be worn for the visit to the marae. Clothing should cover legs and shoulders. We also recommend comfortable walking shoes, a rain jacket, and warm layers for the visit to the Royal Albatross Centre.

Please email Hollie McGovern (hmcgovern@doc.govt.nz) to confirm whether you would like to participate in the field trip.

Forest & Bird event

The Royal Forest and Bird Society of New Zealand (Forest & Bird) will host an event, 'Catch Seafood, Not Seabirds', for ACAP delegates at 6.30pm on Wednesday 21 May, McGavin Restaurant, Dunedin Leisure Lodge.

This is a casual dinner event and a chance to hear from guest speakers Nic Toki (Forest & Bird CEO and presenter of Endangered Species Aotearoa) and Oscar Thomas (writer, photographer and guide) about the wonder of Aotearoa New Zealand's seabirds and work to protect them on land and sea.

The event is open to all ACAP delegates. No RSVP is required.

Guidance on Māori protocol

At the Ōtākou marae, delegates will be welcomed via a traditional Māori welcome ceremony (Pōwhiri). New Zealand delegation staff will brief delegates on the ceremony format during the bus journey to the marae. Further information is provided below.

The pōwhiri will begin with the karanga or call. Mana whenua (Māori hosts) will call the ACAP delegates (known as manuhiri, or visitors) forward into the marae, with women leading and men behind. Once inside the wharenuī, the women will fill the seats in the front and then the men will sit in the back. Footwear does not need to be removed unless dirty.

The second part of the pōwhiri comprises welcome speeches. The New Zealand delegation will provide the welcome speech on behalf of the visitors. After this, delegates will stand and sing in support of the speaker.

At the end of the ceremony, visitors will be invited to hongī (press noses) and harirū (shake hands) with the mana whenua. Traditionally, whether male or female, all participants would hongī. Harirū and hongī signifies that the two groups (hosts and visitors) have joined as one.

It is not appropriate for participants to talk or take photos during the pōwhiri.

After the pōwhiri, the hosts will provide kai (food). As is customary in Māori culture, it is inappropriate to sit on tables, or to place clothing or bags on tables. Food should not be passed over people's heads. Visitors should wait until a karakia (prayer) has been recited before eating.

Further details about protocols for visiting the Ōtākou Marae can be found [here](#).

Ōtākou Rūnaka, the local Māori tribe, will also give a traditional welcome before the start of the plenary on Monday 19 May, and will close the meeting with a traditional ceremony on Friday 23 May. Further guidance on the format of these ceremonies will be provided to delegates in advance via email.