

LIVING IN NEW ZEALAND:
RECENT DOWNSIDES

New Zealand is a country with one of the highest living standards in the world and is in the top 5 countries to live in. Moreover, NZ won “The Top Country”, it is one of the least corrupt countries and the world’s third largest exporter of meat and dairy products. There is diverse fauna and flora that is a magnet for about 3,5 mil tourists.

Such a beautiful picture, isn’t it? Developed economy and tourism, an abundance of unusual places, original natural beauty, high standard of living and much more. Hundreds of citizens of less thriving world’s regions dream of moving here. However, while foreigners dream of this “Paradise”, New Zealanders are leaving their country. And why they are leaving this «thriving» country? This question we are going to discuss.

As already mentioned, New Zealand has a beautiful nature and untouched forests, but unfortunately, they can’t boast of a stable culture. Its cultural heritage is not very diverse because of being pressed by British Government, wars and The Great Depression and its isolation from other countries. That’s why New Zealanders consider their country as unimpressive.

It’s not the end – the average wage in New Zealand, which is 760 euro a month. It may sounds nice, but 17 % from a salary is for paying taxes (about 125 euro), then people have to pay for rent and real estate. Nevertheless, we should understand that these prices depend on New Zealanders’ incomes. If it is higher, taxes are also higher.

Nevertheless, in a country with the population of 4,8 million, there is a general problem of housing shortage. About 40 thousand New Zealanders (one person in a hundred) are considered homeless; they live in cars, garages and tents. **Rented accommodations were built decades ago, have poor heat insulation, poor ventilation, dampness and mold.**

Unfortunately, the current situation is not the easiest. It should be noted that the New Zealand Government has proposed an option to decrease the growing number of homeless people. Politicians have suggested using public housing: seasonal workers’ accommodation, car camps and so on. Also it’s better to review or even change tax system, because it doesn’t correspond to the average wage and it’s difficult to live for this measly salary and simultaneously pay high taxes; also reinforce housing, renovate buildings and establish central heating. It’s time to look back and commemorate the history and traditions of indigenous tribes whose centuries-old history will resonate globally.