

Safe and Affordable

You'll find a friendly welcome here. Meet our people and become a local, as you're welcomed into our safe communities. Living costs are low, and the city is easy to get around with great public transport options and safe cycle lanes. There are many low-cost or free activities available for you to enjoy, from libraries and art galleries to sports teams and outdoor activities. Take up one of the many accommodation options including living with a host family, renting private accommodation or using tertiary student accommodation such as hostels or halls of residence.



Palmerston North City and Manawatu is a centre for learning and knowledge. We are known for our excellent tertiary education providers, as well as our quality primary, intermediate and secondary schools. Our city and region, located in the heart of the lower North Island, New Zealand,

offers a relaxed lifestyle and endless opportunities to explore and travel. We offer a safe learning environment, providing an excellent study and travel experience. Our campuses are truly international, with students from all across the globe venturing here for unforgettable experiences.

The Ultimate Student City

This is a close-knit community where people are very connected. About 40% of people living here are studying or work for an education provider, making Palmerston North a true student friendly city. Palmerston North City and Manawatu is a place where you can have a great New Zealand experience. If you want to learn about Kiwi culture and make new friends, explore the real New Zealand while studying, then Palmerston North City and Manawatu is the best study option for you.



World Class Quality Education Providers

Explore a range of world-class tertiary education providers and secondary schools that host international students, while specialist English language providers can support you. Palmerston North has three major tertiary institutions - Massey University, Universal College of Learning (UCOL) and IPU New Zealand - all actively welcoming international students. There are eight secondary school options for you to consider and a number of intermediate and primary schools that accept international students.



"...the people here are so friendly and welcoming, I enjoy everything about my Kiwi life here."

Charlotte McMillan
USA



"...the compact size and easy living lifestyle...less distraction so I can focus on my study..."

Le Thai Anh Minh (Andy)
Vietnam



You're Welcome Here



If you're looking for quality education, a supportive learning environment, safe affordable living, friendly people, fun and adventure, Palmerston North City and Manawatu is the place for you!

Multi-Cultural Community

With more than 100 cultures living here, Palmerston North City has a dynamic and vibrant community. Those who live in the city and the wider region are

friendly and welcoming to international students. The Manawatu Multicultural Council supports and encourages newcomers from other countries, and the annual Festival of Cultures highlights the contribution international residents make to our community.



Kia Ora,



As Mayor of Palmerston North, I want to extend a warm welcome to you and your family. Palmerston North, in the Manawatu region of New Zealand, has an array of excellent tertiary, secondary and primary education institutions that have high standards and international reputations to match. Our city values international students and their families because of the long-lasting relationships that are developed. We are a friendly and welcoming community, and our city has achieved World Health Organisation-accredited Safe City status.

Home to residents from more than 130 countries, we are provincial New Zealand's most multicultural city. We celebrate diversity and actively encourage those studying here to participate in sports, arts and cultural activities. By being involved with the community, your time here will allow for long-standing friendships to develop and endure.

I am also proud to say that our community and world-leading institutions will provide you and your family with superb pastoral support while you study here. Palmerston North is easy to get around and has a lower cost of living compared to other cities in New Zealand. Our central location in the North Island means it is easy to explore other regions in our beautiful country. Thank you for considering Palmerston North for your educational pursuits. I look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to our city.

Ngā mihi nui,

Grant Smith
Mayor of Palmerston North

Best of New Zealand on Your Doorstep

Surrounded by spectacular scenery and landscapes, Palmerston North City and Manawatu is the ultimate natural playground for students. Everything from easy nature walks to hiking, mountain biking, horse treks and great beaches are easily accessible to you. Our central location means you are only a short bus or car journey away from iconic New Zealand tourism destinations such as Rotorua, Taupo, New Plymouth, Hawke's Bay, Mount Ruapehu and Wellington. Just a 10-minute drive from the city centre, Palmerston North Airport connects you to key destinations throughout the North and South Islands.



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