

WorldDenver Presents:

STAYCATIONS

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NAVIGATING NEW ZEALAND

Women's History Month isn't over yet! This week, WorldDenver is heading to New Zealand, the first country to give women the vote in 1893. This was due, in no small part, to Kate Sheppard, an iconic figure in the women's suffrage movement. Kate Sheppard and her fellow suffragists gathered the signatures of nearly 32,000 women to demonstrate support for their cause. A 270-meter long petition – then the largest ever presented to Parliament – was unrolled across the chamber of the House with dramatic effect. For context, this would be 885 feet or 2.5 football fields! The Electoral Act of 1893 was passed by both houses of Parliament and became law on 19 September, taking New Zealand by storm and inspiring suffrage movements all over the world. Today, New Zealand's new parliament is its most inclusive ever, with people of color, LGBTQ+ members, and a high number of female members of parliament. New Zealand is also one of only 29 countries with a woman serving as head of state or government. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern traveled the United States in 2012 as a Member of Parliament through the [International Visitor Leadership Program](#).

CULTURE

Kia Ora! Welcome to Aotearoa, the land of the long white cloud, and ancestral home of the Māori people! While most New Zealanders speak English, the traditional language of the Māori people is known as Te Reo, one of New Zealand's official languages since 1987. New Zealand was also the first country to adopt signing as one of their official languages! The Māori people did not use a written language when European colonists arrived and instead relayed history and stories orally for many years. In some instances, stories would be shared through carving scenes into wood and stone, or captured through Ta Moko, cultural tattoos that reflect the individual's whakapapa (ancestry) and personal history. Today, the Māori are still highly prevalent in New Zealand society, and make up over 14% of the population. From the tip of Cape Reinga in Northland to the wild southern coast of Fiordland, New Zealand manages to pack in a vast array of attractions. Take a tour of these diverse sites [here](#)!

CUISINE

New Zealand's geography includes glaciers, fiords, mountains, plains, subtropical forest, volcanic plateau, miles of coastline, and sheep. It is generally agreed upon that there are 9 sheep to every 1 person living in New Zealand, putting the total number at around 40 million sheep. Lamb was once considered a staple of the Kiwi diet, but has been quietly and quickly disappearing from dinner plates due to rising costs. New Zealanders are now consuming less lamb per capita than countries like Tanzania, Malaysia, and Bangladesh. The Māori use a unique culinary technique known as hāngī, cooking food such as fish and kumara (sweet potato) in a pit dug in the ground lined with hot rocks, aluminum foil, or wire baskets. Today, such recipes also include pork, lamb, potato, pumpkin, and cabbage. While hāngī may sound like an easy method of cooking, it is actually a long and strenuous process. For the Māori, the purpose is not just the delicious food produced from hāngī, but also the opportunity for people in a community to converge for long periods of time. Spend some time with family and try an adaptation of Māori roasted lamb.

BEVERAGE

James Crinson of LaLaLand Lounge Bar in Wanaka, New Zealand took his Te Anaka cocktail recipe to the Bacardi Legacy Global Cocktail Competition in 2016 after winning the New Zealand National Finals. The cocktail was Crinson's love letter to the small town - the name "Wanaka" comes from a mispronunciation of "Oanaka," meaning "place of Anaka," an old Māori chief. Of his cocktail, Crinson said, "Te Anaka is my way of sharing this beautiful place, my home, with the world and showing people everywhere that they too can create paradise and enjoy Wanaka."

Try the recipe for yourself!

