



Tourism is one of the largest contributors to our economy and is made up of international visitors and Kiwis exploring their own country. Thousands of businesses rely on tourism—and many of us love exploring parts of our country. But tourism can have negative effects: it can damage the environment, and international visitors can ‘crowd out’ locals from enjoying our own country. In this activity you will explore and discuss government approaches to tourism.

→ Go to policy.nz/2023/party-vote/policies/economy

→ Find and read the ‘Tourism’ section

→ Explore answers to these questions and share your ideas and reasoning with others

1. The government promotes tourism through an agency called New Zealand Trade & Enterprise (NZTE). Read about NZTE [here](#) to get started.
 - How much has tourism increased in New Zealand since 2009? How much money does tourism usually contribute to our economy? Where do our visitors come from?
2. Our values, like manaakitanga, make us great hosts to visitors. Read [this](#) summary of a recent report by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment. What does the Commissioner say about manaakitanga? What other values affect our views on tourism?
3. Our country is far away from most of the rest of the world. How do you think the global environmental sustainability movement encouraging people to fly less might affect New Zealand’s tourism industry? How might Covid-19 change our tourism industry in the near future and further ahead?

→ Go back to [Policy.nz](https://policy.nz) and browse the policies. Click on policies to read more detail

→ Save the policies you agree with by clicking the heart icon

4. Imagine you are the Minister for Tourism. Would you want to grow tourism? Why or why not? Would you introduce policies to stop tourism damaging the environment? If so, how, and if not, why not? What policies would demonstrate effective kaitiakitanga?
5. Now compare your policies to some of the parties’ tourism policies. How do the policies reflect kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga? What other values do they prioritise? How have the parties’ tourism policies accounted for the effects of Covid-19 on our tourism?
6. Choose one policy, and consider how it affects you. Will it bring tourists to your region? Why would this be a good or a bad thing?