

# Nelson City Brass, New Zealand

## General Information

Nelson City Brass is one of New Zealand's oldest bands and in recent years has been moving quickly through the ranks to be New Zealand's champion B Grade band. Recent contest successes include National C Grade titles in 2016 and 2017, second placing at the National Championships in 2018 and winning the B Grade title in 2019. Consequently, the band has been promoted into the 'A' Grade. The major sponsor of the band is the Nelson City Council and we are the only organisation within the community able to use the city's crest as their emblem.

The band runs an extremely successful concert series in between contests in Nelson's best performance venues.



Please visit our website for more detailed information: <https://nelsonbrass.org.nz/>

## Musical Director

Nigel E. Weeks originates from Wales. Appointed as Musical Director of the Continental Airlines Auckland Brass (now Dalewood/City of Sails Brass) in 1994 he began a very successful partnership in both the concert and contest arena. The band, under his direction, has won five New Zealand and three Australian titles. Nigel was appointed as 'Chief Adjudicator' for the 2014 Australian Brass Band Championships.

Nigel returned to the United Kingdom in 2005 and completed his Master of the Arts at the University of Salford. During this time, he conducted the University Brass Band and was awarded a "Fellowship" enabling him to work as a part-time lecturer. He was also in demand as a conductor working with many top bands in the UK.

Nigel is an experienced music educator and has worked as Director of Music at Manurewa High School, Kings College and Macleans College Auckland where under Nigel's guidance the music department became one of the most successful in New Zealand. He is currently Head of Music at Nayland College, Nelson.

Nigel was the musical director of the 2014 National Band of New Zealand on its successful concert tour of China and South Korea and in 2017 where they gained second place at the World Championships in the Netherlands.

## New Zealand

New Zealand is a small country, similar in size to Great Britain or Japan. With a population of only four million people it's also gloriously uncrowded. Spectacular glaciers, picturesque fiords, rugged mountains, vast plains, rolling hillsides, subtropical forest, volcanic plateau, miles of coastline with gorgeous sandy beaches – it's all here. No wonder New Zealand is becoming so popular as a location for movies.

Lying in the south-west Pacific, New Zealand consists of two main islands – the [North Island](#) and the [South Island](#). [Stewart Island](#) and many smaller islands lie offshore.

The North Island of New Zealand has a 'spine' of mountain ranges running through the middle, with gentle rolling farmland on both sides. The central North Island is dominated by the Volcanic Plateau, an active volcanic and thermal area. The massive Southern Alps form the backbone of the South Island. To the east of the Southern Alps is the rolling farmland of Otago and Southland, and the vast, flat Canterbury Plains.

Learn about the [history of New Zealand](#), our [weather and climate](#), and read [visitor information](#) to help you when you arrive.

## Nelson

Nelson is the geographical centre of New Zealand. The Nelson region is famous for its year-round sunshine, long golden beaches, national parks, locally grown produce, freshly caught seafood, and a large creative community of working artists. A vibrant music, arts and cultural calendar with a multitude of annual events and festivals.



The City of Nelson is large enough to offer all the services and amenities of a large city yet is small enough to be intimate, welcoming and friendly. It is New Zealand's largest fishing port and the gateway to a major forestry and horticulture industry. Add to this the attraction of fine foods, superb wines, an innovative craft industry, spectacular scenery and traditional Kiwi hospitality and you can understand why Nelson is a place to which holiday makers flock all year round.

The journey from the city of Nelson into the western region of Golden Bay and the Abel Tasman National Park is truly spectacular. Here the beautiful coastline is famous for clear blue waters and pristine golden sand beaches. The Abel Tasman National Park can be explored by guided walks, sea kayak, cruise boat, water taxi or freedom walking – experience penguins, seals, dolphins and native birds all set in lush native forest and beautiful beaches.

Inland Nelson is a wonderland of water adventure, including kayaking, rafting, boating and for those who prefer fishing, the Nelson Lakes area provides some of the best trout fishing in the world.

More information on New Zealand as a tourist destination can be found at [www.newzealand.com](http://www.newzealand.com)

## Entry into New Zealand/ Visa requirements

Information can be found at <http://www.immigration.govt.nz/>

Applicants in the UK may find the NZ High Commission in London a useful contact:  
<http://www.nzembassy.com/home.cfm?c=14>

Working Holiday Visa Information:

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/apply-for-a-visa/about-visa/united-kingdom-working-holiday-visa>

Often by phone is the best way to deal with embassy staff.

## Employment

The following job sites may give you an indication of the work currently available in New Zealand:

[www.seek.co.nz](http://www.seek.co.nz)

<https://www.trademe.co.nz/jobs>

[www.nzherald.co.nz](http://www.nzherald.co.nz)

[www.edgazette.govt.nz](http://www.edgazette.govt.nz)

Secondary teachers are in short supply, particularly in the core subjects of English, Mathematics, Science and Technology. If you have teaching qualifications, we may be able to assist in finding employment. A work visa can be issued for teaching positions.

## What we can offer

Ideally Nelson City Brass is ideally looking for someone wanting to either emigrate to New Zealand or looking for an overseas adventure!

Although the band cannot guarantee employment, we do have many links with the local community and schools. Nelson also has very low unemployment and a huge amount of tourism and seasonal work available.

In return for a one year commitment to the band we can assist with the following:

- Return airfares to New Zealand
- Assistance with visa processes
- Six weeks homestay accommodation with band members
- Advice, guidance and contacts for work opportunities

## Contact Details

Contact Wayne Jennens:

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