

NEW ZEALAND TRAVEL MAGIC #1

ANTICIPATING AUCKLAND

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NORTH ISLAND ZEALAND

NEW



Yippee - I'm soooo excited!

After months of preparation and training - my tour bike, camping gear and cycling legs are ready for a six-month adventure across New Zealand and Australia.

Brimming with anticipation, I got up before the sun on a bitterly cold December morning, did my morning yoga routine, and was very thankful that the snowstorm passed; allowing my parents and I to drive safely to the Kansas City Airport for my 6am flight to San Francisco.



Traveling directly from a rural farm in Kansas to a major metropolitan city was overwhelming to all of my senses.

The bright colors, exotic smells and curious sounds were very distracting to my mind and I kept getting disoriented.





I stopped in the shade of an oak tree and admitted: “I’m a stranger in a strange land.” This immediately calmed my anxiety; allowing me to clearly observe my surroundings without judgment and just follow my curiosity wherever it leads - being happily lost.



Yeah! I finally found Chinatown and its iconic Pagoda Gates - guarded by fierce lions.



Next on my to-do list is to ride an iconic San Francisco Trolley down to the bay. These historic cable cars are a nostalgic experience that entices you back in time to a golden era.



I made my way down to the waterfront and found a quiet place to take in the salty ocean air and enjoy this view of the Oakland Bay Bridge leading to Treasure Island.



At the Fisherman's Wharf, I walked around the Aquarium and marveled at its impressive murals, but my growling stomach and narrow timeframe prevented me from entering.



I have a personal rule that I don't eat seafood unless I'm looking at the ocean; so today was a special treat, as I devoured several of these freshly-boiled Dungeness Crabs - Delicious!

Photo Credit: fishermanswharf.org



“Hmm...which yacht should I take out for a cruise today?” asked the devil on my shoulder.



IMAGINATION

After indulging my 'Inner Pirate Fantasy' and stuffing myself on a variety of seafood; I recognized that it was time to backtrack to the airport for my flight to New Zealand.

At the airport waiting for my flight, I met a fellow globetrotter who had just sailed up from Panama.

Jonas and I became quick friends over a few beers as we swapped dirty jokes and salty sailing yarns.

Once again, it seems I'm at the right place, at the right time, to meet a fascinating person - Serendipity!





Flying westbound seems in slow-motion, as 32-hours of transit will consume two full days. Luckily, the 23-hour flight across the Pacific had three meals, unlimited wine and free movies.

Thank you for joining me on this 15-page free preview to visit San Francisco, to continue the adventure with me to Auckland, purchase the full 50-page eBook at Amazon.com.

www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00YUT4HV0

Won't you join me for my next adventure to cycle around the Coromandel Peninsula?

www.amazon.com/gp/product/B00UXX3S0S

The author, Scott David Plumlee, with a monkey on his head is an avid world traveler, photographer and writer. He has traveled to over 50 countries, taken millions of photos, and is always willing to share his jokes, stories and philosophies. Plumlee is also the author of the Vietnam Travel Magic eBook series, and currently loving his life in Thailand.



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