

MEDIA RELEASE
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International Travel Deals Entice Waikato Travellers Over Rugby

New Zealand's largest travel retailer, Flight Centre, has noticed a spike in international holiday enquiries in the Waikato region as rugby fever hits New Zealand.

Siobhan McGovern, Flight Centre's Waikato area leader, said almost all stores in the region had reported a significant increase in people specifically wanting to escape the rugby and head overseas.

"There are some amazing travel deals over September and October as airlines look to fill seats and we are seeing Waikato people really taking advantage of these specials.

"The noticeable increase is our Hamilton store, which has seen a 20 per cent increase in enquiry with people wanting to head out of New Zealand during the rugby. Flight Centre Te Awamutu, Te Rapa and Cambridge have also reported an increase in clients coming in specifically asking for holiday packages to escape the rugby," Ms McGovern said.

The Pacific Islands and Australia are the hot destinations for the region at the moment, with Rarotonga being the favourite.

"Many stores in the Waikato have reported bookings to Rarotonga continue to increase and have over-taken Fiji, which is always a hugely popular destination.

"There are a number of reasons Rarotonga is incredibly attractive – it uses the New Zealand dollar, there is plenty of accommodation options and it's not too far to travel.

"Australia is also proving popular over September and October also, largely attributed to the fantastic trans-Tasman deals over this time," Ms McGovern said.

- ENDS -

For all holiday options, visit www.flightcentre.co.nz or call 0800 427 555.

For more information or to speak to Siobhan McGovern, contact:

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About Flight Centre

Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd is New Zealand's largest travel agency, with approximately 900 staff in more than 200 retail stores and businesses nationwide.

Flight Centre consultants are the travel experts and are selected for their vast product knowledge and their passion for travel. Flight Centre's global network allows consultants access to the widest travel product offering in New Zealand, at the best value.

Brands in the New Zealand market operated by Flight Centre (NZ) Ltd include;

Flight Centre
Round the World
Premium Travel
FCm Travel Solutions
Corporate Traveller
Student Flights
Infinity Holidays
Escape Holidays
CiEvents
Cruiseabout

The company has won the JRA Best Workplaces, large workplace category award for eight consecutive years. In addition and in recognition of Flight Centre's continued achievements in the JRA Best Workplaces Survey over the past eight years, Flight Centre is also a Five-Year League Award recipient.

Flight Centre Limited globally has more than 2,000 shops and businesses in 11 countries including Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Hong Kong, India, China, Singapore and Dubai.