Choosing a Campus:

Albany
Where exactly is it?

• Albany is located on the northern shore of Auckland on the upper peninsula of the North Island.

• Approximate distance to other Massey campuses:
  • Wellington = 510 miles, 8.5 hour drive
  • Palmerston North = 333 miles, 7 hour drive
How big is it?

While the population of Albany is estimated around 3,000, the Massey campus caters around 6,000 students.

Albany is a smaller suburb of Auckland. However, Auckland itself is a large region centered around a city of over 1.3 million inhabitants.
Where is the campus located?

- Albany is next to the Northeast coast of upper New Zealand (North Island.) The campus is centrally located and surrounded by residential area as well as a commercial hub with various shops and businesses.
What is the weather like?

- Temperatures in Auckland are typically warmer than the other two campuses. Average daytime summer temps are in the 70s while average daytime winter temps are in the 50s-60s. Nightly temps can get down to the 40s during the winter.

- Because New Zealand is located in the southern hemisphere, seasons will be opposite from those in Wisconsin. If you leave for your program in the winter, you can expect to be greeted by summer temperatures in New Zealand.

- Since Auckland has a coastal climate, you can expect a good amount of rainy days – **be sure to pack a rain jacket!**
What is campus like?

- **Massey’s Albany campus** is split into three separate but close areas.
  - **The East Precinct** contains the rec center, library, student housing, cafes, and various classrooms.
  - **Oteha Rohe** contains mostly classroom buildings, labs, and a cafeteria.
  - **Albany Village** is primarily made up of classroom buildings.
What is campus like?

- **This campus has on-site:**
  - Rec Center
  - Cafes
  - Bookstore
  - Library
  - Student Lounge
  - Performing Arts Theater
  - North Harbour Sports Stadium
  - Pharmacy/Minimart
  - Cafeteria
  - Printery
What is the surrounding city like?

- Albany itself has a very large and modern shopping center. The area includes:
  - Grocery stores
  - Restaurants
  - Pharmacies
  - Banking location
  - Cinema
  - Nearby beaches
  - Farmers’ market
  - Various other shops
What is the surrounding city like?

- Although Albany is part of Auckland, the Auckland city center is about a 20 minute drive south of campus. It is **New Zealand’s largest city** and main commercial hub. To name just a few things you can see in Auckland city:
  - Auckland Zoo
  - Sky Tower
  - Auckland Museum
  - Countless restaurants, bars, & cafes
  - Auckland Harbour
  - Mt. Eden scenic lookout
  - Shopping centers
  - Aotea Center (performing arts & event center)

⭐ Because Auckland City runs like many other big cities, business hours are on average much later than those in Albany.
What is the surrounding city like?

View of Auckland City from Kelly Tarlton's SEA LIFE Aquarium

Chinese Lantern Festival

Pasifika Festival

Sky Tower

Beach at Long Bay
What kinds of classes are available?

- Massey’s Albany campus is known as the innovative campus. Many of the classes (called “papers”) cater to **STEM and business majors**, but there are classes available in all of the following subjects:
  - Nutrition
  - Sciences
  - Engineering
  - Education
  - Business
  - Humanities
  - Social Sciences
  - History
  - Geography
  - Media Studies
  - Politics

⭐ Check out Massey’s website to learn more about which papers will be offered for your duration!
What housing options are available?

• Students have the option of living in Massey – Albany’s brand new Te Ohanga Village or in a homestay with a local family.
Te Ohanga Village

- Opened in 2015, Te Ohanga Village is located in the East Precinct on campus. Students can choose to live in either residence halls or apartments.

Each student has a private furnished room as well as access to a kitchenette, patio, living room, and bathrooms at a ratio of 1bath:3beds.

There are three residence halls available to live in that house 70 students each. These halls are catered, meaning meal plans are available.
Te Ohanga Village

- **4-5 bedroom apartments** are also available, but you must be **over the age of 21** to be eligible for an apartment. The apartments promote a more independent residential experience, so this option is self-catered (you buy and cook your own food.)

![Image of a furnished kitchen](image)

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🌟 Check out Massey – Albany’s [accommodation handbook](#) to see more of what each unit in Te Ohanga offers!

Each student is allocated a private furnished room, and each apartment has a full and furnished kitchen, balcony, and living room. Each unit has 2 bathrooms.
Homestay

• A homestay option is also available for international students on this campus. Especially if a family environment appeals to you, Massey’s approved homestays can be a great way to really observe what it’s like to live in Auckland on a full-time basis and make local connections.

• Some homestays may be located further from campus than others. However, transportation to and from campus is always accessible via buses, bike paths, and/or your host family.

For more information on homestays in Auckland, you can check out this webpage.
Flats

- Students can also choose to flat for their accommodation. However, the residential halls and homestay options tend to be more preferable and convenient.

- If you decide to pursue a flat, be sure to start researching early! As with apartments in Madison, seeking this kind of accommodation abroad can be a very independent venture.
What local transportation is available?

- This campus has a **free shuttle** that runs between the three areas on campus.

- Buses to and from other areas, like Auckland city, are not free. However, there are stops on campus that run to Auckland city, and students can get up to **40% off by purchasing a HOP card** for bus services. (Prices can vary, so be sure to check out Massey’s website for a specific estimate.)

- Taxi services are also available in Auckland city. However, a fare from Auckland Airport to Albany can cost around NZ$100, so other transportation methods are generally cheaper.

(As of Jan. 2017, NZ$1 = US$0.70)
What do I do about a phone?

There are multiple cell phone carriers to choose from including:

- Spark
- 2Degrees
- Skinny
- Vodaphone

- If you have a smartphone that is “unlocked,” you can simply buy a new SIM card once abroad so that you can continue to use your own phone.
  → If you don’t know, you can contact your US phone provider to check!

- If you cannot use a new SIM card abroad, you may be able to use an old phone or buy a cheap flip phone once abroad.

Make sure to consider what kind of plan you want to have before choosing a carrier – you may want more international minutes while you are abroad!
What’s the Wi-Fi situation?

• Free Wi-Fi is much more available in the US than in New Zealand. However, Auckland City does have “Tomizone” free Wi-Fi available at various locations throughout the city for 30 minutes per day.

• **Students living in Te Ohanga can use Vistagate Wi-Fi.** This internet provider offers individual plans starting at NZ$10 for daily use up through **NZ$32 for unlimited** monthly access.

(As of Jan. 2017, NZ$1 = US$0.70)
What’s the Wi-Fi situation?

- A good rule of thumb in New Zealand is to never assume your Wi-Fi will be free.

- With New Zealand’s low population density in certain areas, both data coverage and Wi-Fi are sparsely available. This is especially important to remember if you choose to travel the islands.
  - Offline/paper maps are always a good idea!
Planning for tech carriers

- It’s always good to consider which carriers you’ll want to use abroad, but it’s not necessary to purchase anything until you actually arrive in New Zealand.

- Westfield Shopping Center in Albany has stores for cell carriers 2degrees, Spark, and Vodaphone. Auckland City also has multiple cell carrier outlets.

A simple Google Search for comparing plans can be very helpful!

- Wi-Fi is a good thing to prepare your budget for since you will be required to pay for your usage!
Student Testimonial

Katie Dudenas
Spring 2015

“I loved the Massey Albany campus. It's quite small compared to Madison and relatively isolated -- all of the campus buildings are in their own little area that's maybe a 10-minute walk end-to-end. That said, it's a quick walk to a nice shopping center with a movie theater, a grocery store, a big beautiful park, and the little shops and cafes in Albany Village. It's also really easy to hop on a bus "into town" to Auckland or to the beach at Browns Bay.”