



Most Scenic Marathons in New Zealand and Australia

CREATED BY SPORTS TRAVEL DOWNUNDER

Queenstown NZ Marathon



When

The marathon takes place in November each year.



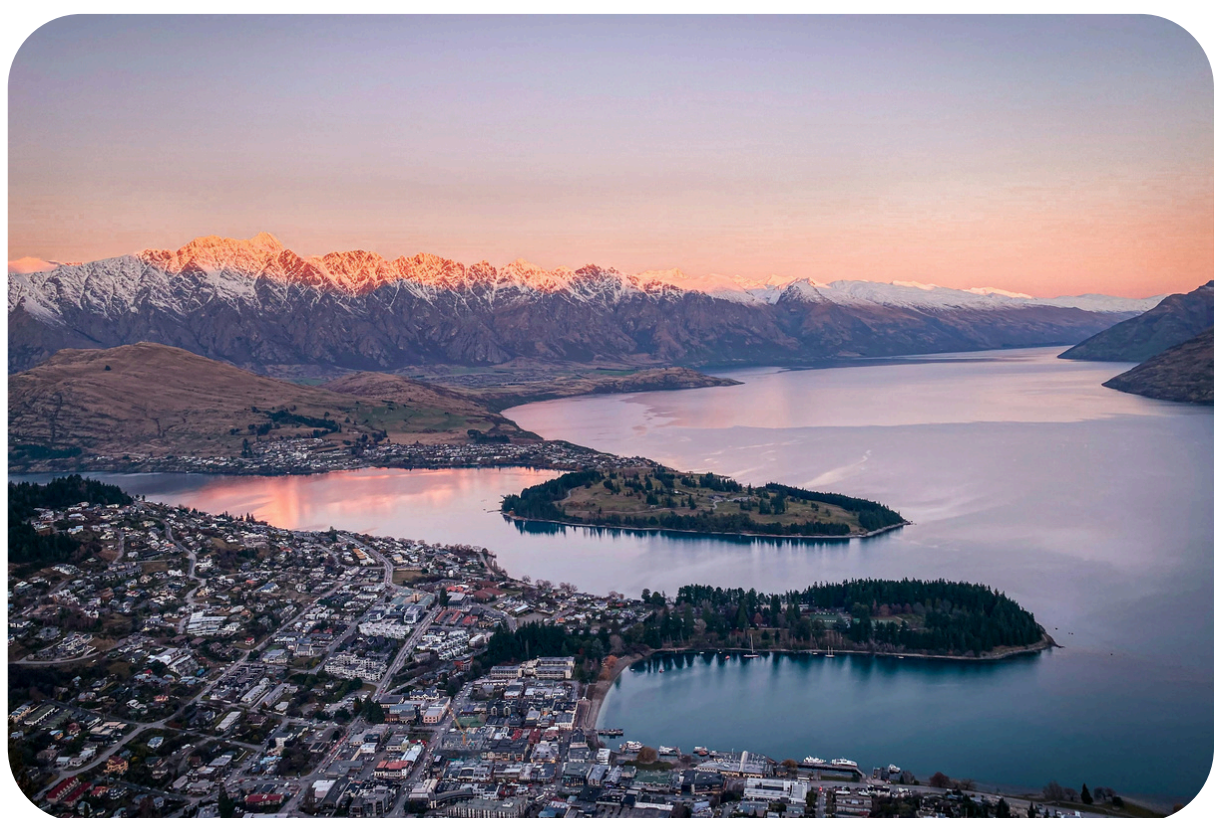
Weather

Expect crisp mornings and mild afternoons 12–22 °C (mid-50s to low-70s °F)



Best for

- Runners planning a “once-in-a-lifetime race” trip
- Includes trail paths
- Light hills and rolling terrain
- Lakeside tracks and bridges



Travel notes

- Fly into Queenstown Airport (often via Auckland)
- Queenstown has an international airport with regular flights from Australia and domestic flights from cities across New Zealand.



Gold Coast Australia Marathon



When

The marathon takes place in July each year.



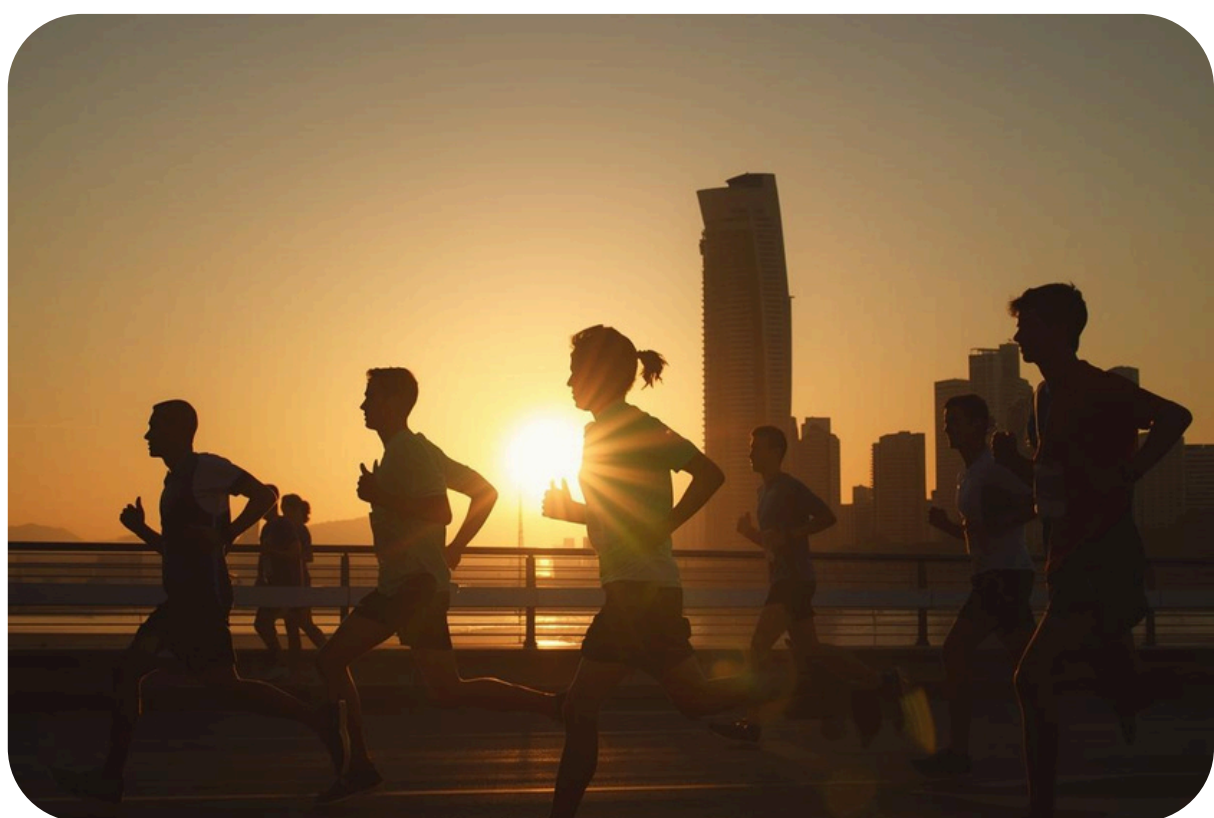
Weather

Cool to mild temperatures and low rainfall. 8–22 °C (mid-40 to low-70s °F)



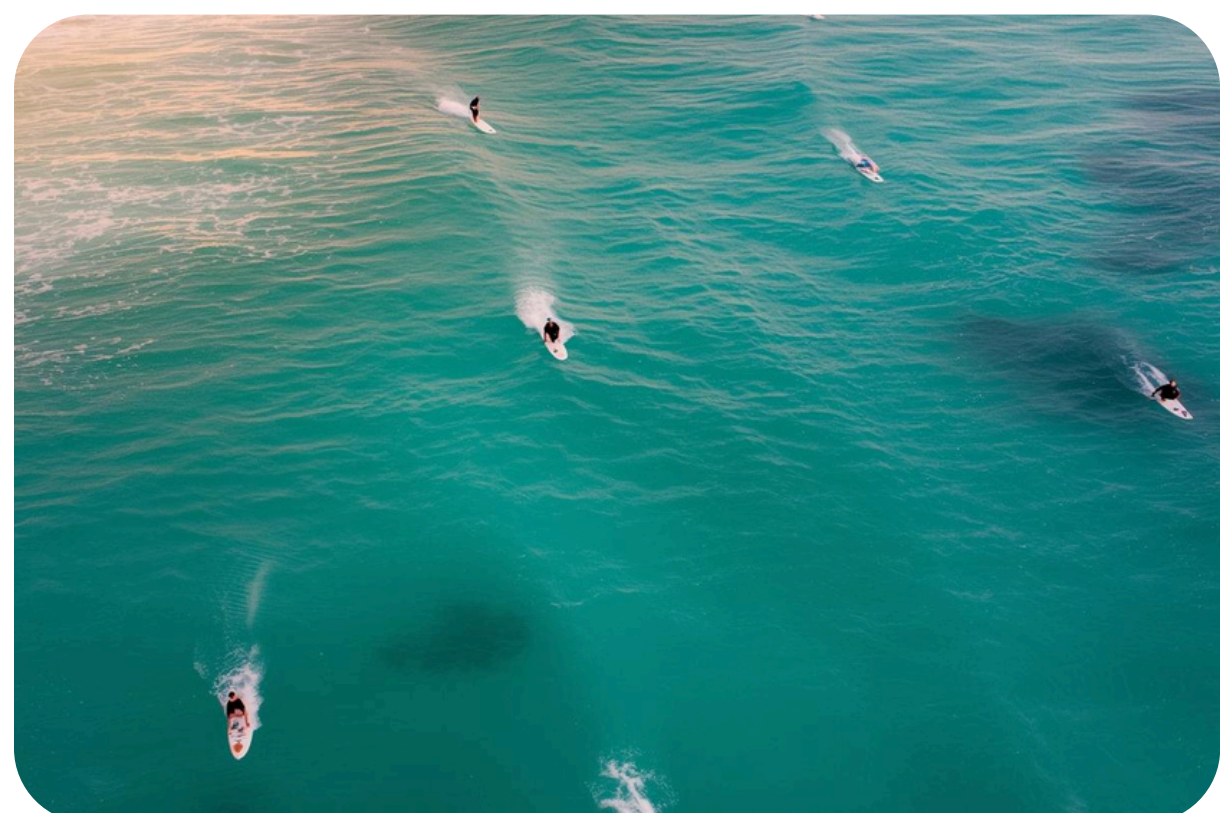
Best for

- Runners who want easy travel + predictable race execution
- PB-focused runners who don't want surprises

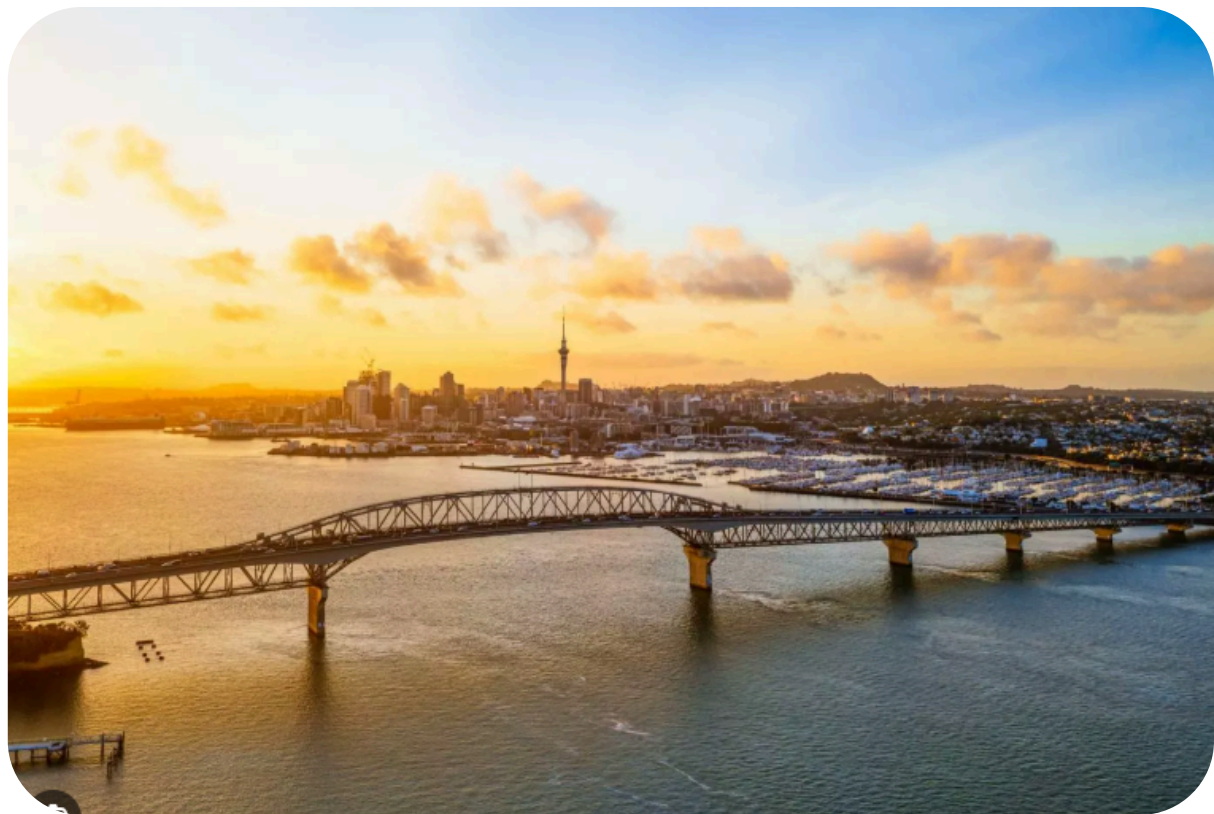


Travel notes

- Fly directly into Gold Coast Airport (OOL)
- Easy connections via Brisbane Airport if required



Auckland NZ Marathon



 **When**

The marathon takes place in November each year.

 **Weather**

Mild, cool to warm conditions, often around 12–22 °C (mid-50s to low-70s °F)



 **Best for**

- Runners wanting city + scenery + a sense of achievement
- First-time destination marathoner



 **Travel notes**

- Fly directly into Auckland International Airport
- Excellent connections from Australia, USA, Asia



Noosa Australia Marathon



 **When**

The marathon takes place in May each year.

 **Weather**

Mild, pleasant conditions — cool crisp mornings (~12 °C) warming to mild daytime temps (22 °C).
(50s to low-70s °F)



 **Best for**

- Runners wanting holiday vibes + low-pressure travel
- Couples or social runners extending their stay



 **Travel notes**

- Fly into Sunshine Coast Airport (closest) or Brisbane Airport
- Brisbane option requires ~1.5–2 hr drive or transfer



Sydney Australia Marathon



Weather

Early Autumn, cool but comfortable running temps typically ~12–23°C. (50s to low -70s °F. Crisp early starts that warm pleasantly as the race unfolds — great conditions for performance.



Travel notes

- Major international hub with direct flights from USA, UK, Canada, Asia
- Easy arrival for first-time Australia visitors



When

The marathon takes place in Aug each year.



Best for

- Runners who enjoy big-city marathons: Inspiring course through urban landmarks, lots of spectators.
- Travel + tourism runners: Easy to combine a marathon with a city holiday.



Hawke's Bay NZ Marathon



Weather

Early autumn , cool to mild temperatures: often around ~8–18 °C on race day. (46F - 64F)



Travel notes

- Napier Airport (NPE) has frequent domestic flights from major NZ centres (Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch), making arrival convenient if you're coming from elsewhere in NZ and international visitors



When

The marathon takes place in May each year.



Best for

- The course is generally flat and easy-running, mixing sealed roads and compact limestone cycle trails — great for PB attempts.
- Most of the running is on smooth surfaces with few steep climbs, making it accessible for a broad range of runners.



Great Ocean Rd Australia Marathon



When

The marathon takes place in May each year.



Weather

Early autumn, cool to mild temperatures: often around ~6–15 °C on race day. (42F – 60F)



Travel notes

- Most runners stay in or near Lorne or Apollo Bay.
- International runners will fly into Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine, MEL)
- Accommodation fills quickly; plan early if traveling from interstate/internationally.



Best for

- Scenic-run lovers: Those who prefer beautiful landscapes over big crowds.
- Adventurous or hill-ready runners
- Runners after something different: A destination event where the journey and setting are central to the experience.

