



Above and right: Ohtel.



## Best Sleeps

• For more information about Wellington and accommodation options: [www.wellingtonnz.com/about\\_wellington](http://www.wellingtonnz.com/about_wellington)

### Ohtel

On Oriental Parade, a few minutes' walk from Te Papa museum and Courtenay Place nightlife, this über-chic, 10-bedroom hotel does everything well, especially breakfast. Chocolate sauce with fruit and pancakes! It worked for us.

While terribly 21st century (podcasts, monsoon showers, modern art and, *hello*, condoms in every room), Ohtel is packed with beautifully sinuous mid-century modern furniture and ceramics. The lobby is the cutest place for coffee in the city, which is saying something.

Studios start from \$255, deluxe rooms from \$299. 66 Oriental Parade, ph (04) 803-0600. [www.ohtel.com](http://www.ohtel.com)

### Lambton Heights

This superb B&B, in a beautiful restored villa, is also in an unbeatable location – very near the second stop on the cable car. Minutes away up the cable-car line is the Botanic Gardens and incredible views of the city – minutes down is Lambton Quay. The rooms are luxurious, with great views over the city and a guest lounge with laptop and biscuit tins full of home baking. There is a spa bath in the garden. The breakfasts are excellent, with a hot breakfast option, freshly squeezed orange juice and home-made bread.

\$180 to \$250 per room per night. 20 Talavera Tce, Kelburn, Wellington, ph (04) 472-4710. [lambtonheights@paradise.net.nz](http://lambtonheights@paradise.net.nz), [www.lambtonheights.co.nz](http://www.lambtonheights.co.nz)

### James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor

This thrusting 1970s towerblock has been a city landmark since 1972. Its spruce-up, plus the good room rates, views and zippy lift right down to Lambton Quay, make it an attractive proposition.

Check the internet: there are often cheap room deals going. We stayed in a director's suite on the 26th floor. The rate here often includes breakfast in a sunny lounge on the same floor with an incredible view, and a computer and bar. Our suite had two TVs, two rooms and a bath – excellent value all up. Club floor on 26th level, two complimentary breakfasts, complimentary snacks, tea, coffee and soft drinks 24 hours, complimentary broadband internet in the lounge. Standard rooms available from \$169 double, includes breakfast for two. 147 The Terrace, ph (04) 499-9500 or 0800 275-337, [www.ghihotels.com](http://www.ghihotels.com)

## Best Eats

(lunch, dinner)

### Logan Brown

Logan Brown is one of Wellington's most famous – and most expensive – restaurants.

If you are in Wellington for a special occasion (and feeling flush), we recommend eating here, on account of the delectable cocktails, service, fine food and outrageously glamorous space with its soaring vaulted ceiling. Dishes, though ambitious, are somehow light and always beautiful. Sample dish: crispy confit duck leg with maple pumpkin mousse & calvados jelly, for \$45. The main restaurant seats 80, though so well arranged you'd never know. Corner of Cuba & Vivian Sts, ph (04) 801-5114. Monday to Friday from 12 noon. Seven nights from 5.30pm, [enquiries@loganbrown.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@loganbrown.co.nz), [www.loganbrown.co.nz](http://www.loganbrown.co.nz) for menus.

(brunch, lunch, dinner)

### Capitol

This svelte Euro-style restaurant at the foot of Mt Victoria does three-star food at one-star prices. The ravioli of pumpkin with ricotta, for \$22.50, was absolutely ravishing, and the bruschetta, \$9.50, is also divine, and very generous. Like many good neighbourhood restaurants, Capitol doesn't take bookings: so arrive before 6.15pm if you don't want to wait at the bar. 10 Kent Tce, ph (04) 384-2855. [www.capitolrestaurant.co.nz](http://www.capitolrestaurant.co.nz) for menus.