

PEACE ARTICLES

Wellington as a Peace Capital

Wellington City and its citizens have been active in promoting peace, tolerance and understanding in the local community and in the world. Wellington became a Nuclear-Weapon Free Zone in on April 14th, 1982 by decision of the Wellington City Council. A sign announcing Wellington as a nuclear-weapon free in zone was erected near the airport. In 2004 this was upgraded to a sign welcoming visitors to Wellington – the capital of Nuclear Free New Zealand

In 1993 Wellington was [declared a Peace Capital](#) by Mayor Fran Wilde. Incoming Mayor Mark Blumsky [re-dedicated Wellington as a Peace Capital](#) in 1995 and a plaque commemorating this was installed in Cuba Mall. Wellington was designated a [World Health Organisation Safe City](#) in 2006 in recognition of the city's efforts to prevent violence and increase people's feelings of personal safety.

Wellington maintains Sister City links with cities in China and Japan in order to develop positive cultural, sporting, economic and political relationships. In 2006 Wellington hosted the [Sister Cities 25th Anniversary Conference](#), at which time a Sister City relationship with Beijing was formalized. Wellington City has also planted a number of trees, and installed a range of sculptures and monuments, commemorating peace and peacemakers. The [Wellington Peace Walk](#) is a trail visiting these sites through the [botanical gardens](#) and [inner city](#) can be viewed through a leisurely walk. [Other](#) monuments can be visited by bike, car or public transport.



*Sign outside Wellington Airport
welcoming visitors to the capital of Nuclear Free New Zealand*

<http://www.peace.net.nz/index.php?pageID=62>