

Covid 19 Delta outbreak: Two Aucklanders arrested after fleeing to Taupō

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(Neilson, 2021e)

There were 20 new cases of COVID-19 in the community on September 18th. Video / NZ Herald

NZ Herald

Two people have been arrested after escaping Auckland's lockdown allegedly using false documents before travelling to Taupō.

It comes as police are warning Tāmaki Makaurau residents against breaching lockdown restrictions as the city basks in sunshine.

A police spokesperson confirmed two people were staying in the lakeside city after making it through Auckland's southern border checkpoints allegedly using false documents.

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The registration of the pair's vehicle was shared with Taupō police, before it was soon spotted by a constable finishing her shift yesterday afternoon.

The pair were arrested and would appear in court. They have since returned to Auckland.

It comes after 3 Auckland essential workers were arrested in Ōhakune after travelling to Turoa Ski Field.

The three men were arrested after ski field staff became suspicious of the documentation they used to obtain a ski pass.

The men travelled to Ōhakune on Wednesday after they used genuine essential worker passes allowing them to travel through the southern checkpoint.

Inspector Nigel Allan, the police area commander for Whanganui Ruapehu, said two 23-year-olds and an 18-year-old have been charged with failing to comply with a directions/restriction/prohibition (Covid-19) and taking/obtaining/using a document for pecuniary advantage.

The trio will appear in the Auckland District Court on September 23.

Today's stunning weather has seen many Aucklanders venture outside, particularly in the Tāmaki Dr/ Mission Bay area, according to police.

Current Locations of Interest ☆

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Four Ōtāhuhu residents were given Covid infringements today after being seen fishing together at Mission Bay.

In Tāmaki Makaurau, 78 people had been charged with a total of 82 offences related to lockdown breaches as at 5pm yesterday.

Of these, 65 were for Failing to Comply with Order (Covid-19), 14 for Failure to Comply with Direction/Prohibition/Restriction, one for Failing to Stop (Covid 19-related), and two for Assaults/Threatens/Hinders/Obstructs Enforcement Officer.

In the same time period, 182 people were formally warned for a range of offences.