

## New settler finds haven 'without the downsides'

Polish-born Margarete Kraemer emigrated from Germany to Tauranga in October and has nothing but praise for her new home.

Ms Kraemer (**pictured**), 58, said she had lived in Auckland between 1994 to 1998, and after returning to Germany had always planned to come back to New Zealand to settle.

"The original plan was to live in Auckland and take early semi-retirement."

But Ms Kraemer, who had dual Polish-German citizenship, said when she started looking around in Auckland she found high prices, especially housing, were out of her range.

"When I started looking at alternatives Tauranga was my first choice," she said.



"I fell in love with the place because it has everything Auckland has got without all the downsides. It's sunny, it's close to the beach which was

a must-have for me, not so crowded, and Tauranga doesn't have all the traffic jams Auckland's got."

Ms Kraemer said after buying a section in The Lakes subdivision, she found a contractor during a visit here in December-January, and then returned to Germany.

During her absence the contractor built her a two-bedroom brick-and-tile house and she took occupancy in October.

She has permanent New Zealand residency and is looking for part-time work.

"I found it a very easy decision to move here. Tauranga people have been very welcoming.

"I have no plans to go back to Germany anytime soon."

— **Sandra Conchie**