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# WISE UNVEILS NEW WAY FOR KIWIS TO ACCESS RETURNS ACROSS MULTIPLE CURRENCIES - WITHOUT THE NEED TO "JUMP THROUGH HOOPS"

New feature offers variable returns across NZD, USD and EUR, as-two-in-three Kiwis say it's unfair that banks don't pass on any of the interest earned on their everyday account deposits

**13 October 2026 — Auckland, New Zealand**: Wise, the global technology company building the best way to move and manage the world's money, has launched Wise Interest in New Zealand - giving people and businesses access to competitive variable returns on NZD, USD and EUR balances, while still having the freedom to spend, send and convert their money without restrictions.

This comes as new research from Wise finds two in three (66%) New Zealanders feel they have to jump through hoops to earn a reasonable return on their savings, while three-quarters (76%) say it is unfair they get no return on the money held in their everyday bank accounts. A further 78% also agree they would be more likely to move their money into an interest earning account if they could access it whenever they needed to.

Unlike traditional bank accounts, Wise Interest helps customers access returns on their everyday money by holding funds in low-risk government-issued assets, combined with the convenience of a transaction account. The variable returns are designed to stay close to cash rates set by central banks, allowing New Zealanders to make their money work harder.

Alex Lombardo, New Zealand Country Manager at Wise said, "At a time when every dollar matters, people shouldn't have to give up access to their money simply to earn a reasonable return. But this is challenging in New Zealand, given the heavy reliance on

term deposits and bonus rate hurdles that are hard to stick to. We believe that customers should be able to see an investment return from their money, and we're excited to be able to do this with the launch of Wise Interest."

**Flexibility to spend, manage and grow your international money**

Wise research found that half (50%) of New Zealanders have at least $1,500 sitting in bank accounts that earn no returns, highlighting the amount of everyday money that could be working harder.

And although deposits are overwhelmingly held in New Zealand Dollars, consumers and small businesses regularly hold money in other currencies too. In fact more than one in three New Zealanders (36%) have held at least one foreign currency in the past two years, with the most common use cases including travel (42%) and international online shopping (17%).

Wise Interest is the only offering in New Zealand where customers have the ability to earn competitive returns across multiple currencies, whether they are planning to spend at home or overseas.

Key features include:

- **Earn variable returns across three currencies:** Customers can access potential variable returns on NZD, USD and EUR balances from one Wise account. At launch, target returns are 1.93% p.a. for NZD and 3.27% p.a. for USD and 0.70% p.a. for EUR.
- **Invest in low risk government assets:** Money in Wise Interest is invested in funds holding low-risk, government-issued assets, including short-term government fixed-income securities making it a stable investment
- **Returns added every working day:** Returns are calculated daily and added to customers' balances every working day, so any returns are put straight back to work.
- **Instant access to funds:** customers can continue to use their money, with no lock-in period or minimum balance requirements.

Alongside Interest, Wise is also launching Cashback for New Zealand customers who prefer to keep eligible balances as cash rather than invest them. Cashback offers a more modest benefit than the potential returns available through Wise Interest, but gives customers another way to benefit from eligible NZD, AUD, USD, EUR and GBP balances.

For eligible balances held in August 2026, Wise paid annualised Cashback rates ranging from 0.51% on EUR balances to 2.19% on AUD balances. Unlike Interest, Cashback is automatically available on eligible balances and is not an investment return. The cashback rate is variable and is subject to change according to the amount of interest Wise generates on customer balances and the costs of keeping the money safe.

Lombardo said, “Wise is committed to making international finance fairer and more transparent. As interest rates rise, and the money we’re keeping safe generates additional income, we believe it’s only right to share some of the benefit back with them.”

Wise Interest and Cashback are available now through the Wise app and website. For more information, visit wise.com/nz/interest.

**ABOUT THE RESEARCH**

The research is based on a survey of 1,000 New Zealand travellers aged 18 and over from across New Zealand and was conducted by Octopus Research on behalf of Wise in August 2026.

**About Wise**

Wise is a global technology company, building the best way to move and manage the world's money.

With Wise Account and Wise Business, people and businesses can hold 40 currencies, move money between countries and spend money abroad. Large companies and banks use Wise technology too; an entirely new network for the world's money. Launched in 2011, Wise is one of the world’s fastest growing, profitable tech companies.

In fiscal year 2025, Wise supported around 15.6 million people and businesses, processing over $185 billion in cross-border transactions and saving customers around $2.6 billion.

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