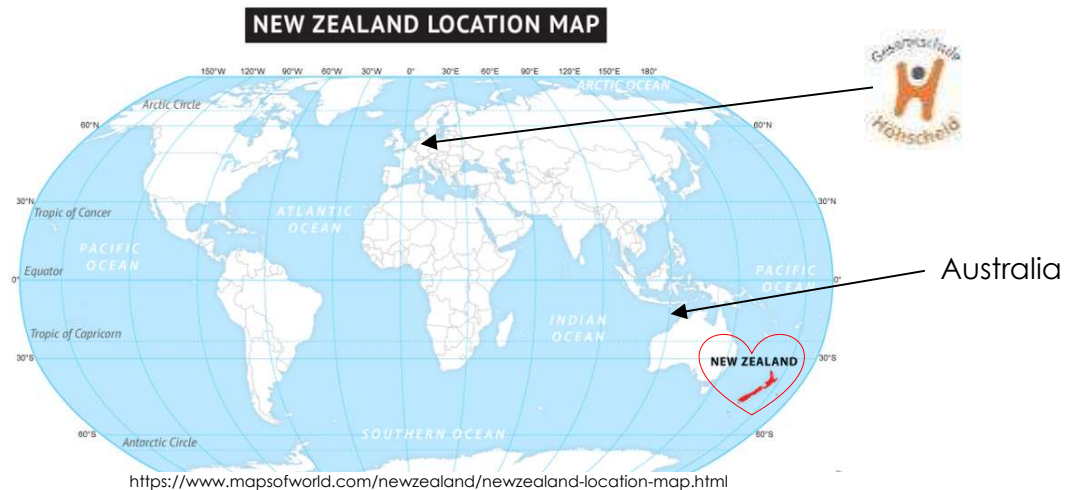


WS 1

New Zealand – General information



New Zealand (or *Aotearoa – land of the long white cloud*), truly is one of the most picturesque¹ and photogenic places on earth. A small island nation of just over 4.5 million people, New Zealand is made up of two major² land masses (North Island and South Island) and a number of smaller islands including Stewart Island located in the southwestern Pacific Ocean. The two main islands are divided by a 22km stretch³ of water called the Cook Strait.

New Zealand is located approximately 1,500km east of Australia and about 1,000km from the Pacific Islands. Due to its relative remoteness⁴ and being water locked, New Zealand was one of the last countries to be found and settled.

The country is made up of some of the world's most spectacular landscapes, from vast⁵ mountain ranges⁶, steaming⁷ volcanoes to sweeping⁸ coastlines. It is a natural playground for thrill seekers and adventurers and those who simply want to visit for the culture and landscapes.

Population

While the land masses of the North Island and South Island are similar, approximately two thirds of the population lives in the North Island and the remainder⁹ in the South Island. The majority of New Zealand's population is of European descent¹⁰ while Auckland, the largest city in New Zealand, is the most ethnically diverse in the country and has the largest Polynesian population of any city in the world. Auckland has about one third of the population (over 1.3 million), followed by the capital city of Wellington and the South Island city of Christchurch (each has approximately 400,000). [...]

Ranking	Urban Area	Location	Area (km ²)
1	Auckland	North Island	1,086
2	Wellington	North Island	444
3	Christchurch	South Island	608

New Zealanders are affectionately¹¹ known as "Kiwis". The name derives from the kiwi, a flightless bird native to New Zealand. It is also the national symbol. [...]

<https://www.tourism.net.nz/new-zealand>

¹ **picturesque** (adj.) – pittoresk (malerisch)

² **major** – Haupt- (span.: mayor)

³ **a stretch** – an extended area of e.g. land

⁴ **remoteness** - Abgelegenheit

⁵ **vast** (adj.) = wide, enormous

⁶ **a mountain range** - ein Gebirgszug

⁷ steam – Dampf -> Adj.: **steaming**

⁸ **sweeping** (adj.) = impressive

⁹ **remainder** = the rest

¹⁰ **descent** - Herkunft

¹¹ **affectionately** (adv.) - liebevoll