

The Maori people discovered New Zealand over a thousand years ago. They called it „Land of the Long White Clouds“. When the Dutch explorer Abel Tasman reached the islands in 1642, he named them New Zealand.

New Zealand is made up of two main islands in the Pacific Ocean. Both islands lie on an earthquake zone. The North Island has many volcanoes. The South Island has a spectacular mountain range.



Mount Cook, New Zealand

to discover: to see, to find
Dutch: from the Netherlands
explorer: who searches unknown lands
main: of chief importance
both: two together
to lie: to rest in a horizontal position
earthquake: tremor from inside the earth
range: area
soil: ground, earth
all kinds of: many varieties of something
whalers: who catches whales
arguments: disagreement
to lead, led, led: to show the way, to guide

With warm weather and good soil, New Zealanders grow all kinds of fruit, vegetables and flowers. Sheep farming is also important. New Zealand sells lots of its produce abroad, for example lamb and butter. New Zealanders spend lots of time outdoors, sailing, fishing, playing rugby and walking.

Maori people came to New Zealand from the islands of Polynesia. British farmers and whalers arrived in the late 18th century. Arguments over land led to wars, which the Maoris lost.

New Zealand became an independent country in 1907. Since then it has built up strong links with Australia and nearby Asian countries.

Put in the plural:

a volcano	two <i>volcanoes</i>
a tomato	some
a country	all
a kind of fruit	all of fruit
a white cloud	full of

an island	two
one sheep	many
a farmer	lots of
a strong link	many
a child	three

Make sentences:

EXPLORER TASMAN / THE DUTCH / IN 1642 / NEW ZEALAND / REACHED

The Dutch explorer Tasman reached New Zealand in 1642.

ON AN EARTHQUAKE ZONE / LIES / NEW ZEALAND

.....

ABROAD / LOTS OF ITS PRODUCE / SELLS / NEW ZEALAND

.....

ALL KINDS OF FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND FLOWERS / GROW / NEW ZEALANDERS

.....

INDEPENDENT / THE COUNTRY / IN 1907 / OF BRITAIN / BECAME

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