

Fiche

1. Basic facts

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| Capital city | Wellington |
| Currency | New Zealand dollar |
| Population | 4,405,200 |
| Area | 268,000 km ² |

2. Significant characteristics

New Zealand consists of 2 major islands: North Island and South Island, 1,600 km in total length. Is part of the Commonwealth.

3. Key dates

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| pre 1200 | Maoris migrated from Polynesia and settled in New Zealand. |
| late 18th century | Europeans began to settle in New Zealand. |
| 19th century | The British imposed their presence in spite of fierce resistance on the part of the Maoris. |
| 1840 | The Treaty of Waitangi: gave the Maoris the same rights as British citizens and guaranteed their possession of certain areas of land. |
| 1841 | The British government annexed New Zealand. |
| 1907 | New Zealand became a British dominion. |