

## VISITOR INFORMATION BROCHURE

There will be thousands of overseas visitors coming to watch the Lions tour. Your job is to tell them all they need to know about our country.

1. Find out all the information you need.
2. Make a brochure from an A4-sized piece of paper. (Hint: Plan out your brochure before writing on it: what goes where?)

Here is some good information about our country you may want to use.

- New Zealand consists of two large islands, North Island and South Island, plus several smaller ones. Stewart Island is the largest of these and is often referred to as 'our third island'. North and South Islands are separated by the 32km-wide Cook Strait. To the north and east lies the Pacific Ocean and between us and Australia lies the Tasman Sea. The total land area is 270,535 square kilometres, about the size of Italy or the United Kingdom.
- The North Island is volcanically active with a central plateau. The South Island has the high snow-covered mountain peaks and glaciers of the Southern Alps, a range running almost 500km along the island.
- Our longest river is the Waikato in the North Island (425 km), the largest inland stretch of water is Lake Taupo also in the North Island (607 sq. km) and the highest point is Mount Cook in the South Island (3754 m). Over 75% of New Zealand is above 200m.
- Land use is broken down to approximately: 30% forested, 50% meadows and pastures and 15% agricultural and under permanent cultivation. Sheep and cattle graze on the rich farmland around Hamilton and New Plymouth in North Island and around Dunedin and Invercargill in the South Island.
- Although agriculture is important to the New Zealand economy, most New Zealanders live in our cities. Of our 4 million population almost three quarters live in urban areas. Auckland is the largest city while Wellington is the country's capital city. Greater Auckland contains almost one quarter of the country's population.
- The largest cities are: Auckland 360,000; Manukau 260,000; North Shore 175,000; Wellington 165,000; Christchurch 320,000; Dunedin 120,000, and Hamilton 110,000.
- New Zealand is in the Southern Hemisphere, which means midsummer is at Christmas time while mid-winter is June/July. The climate is oceanic temperate. Given the small land mass relative to the expanse of ocean around New Zealand, the seasonal variations in New Zealand weather are smaller than continental North America or mainland Europe.
- The North Island has a warm mild climate, almost subtropical in the far north. Auckland's average summer temperature (January) is about 21°C and winter is 11°C. Annual rainfall in the North Island is around 125- 150cm, the west receiving slightly more rain than the east.
- The South Island is colder. Dunedin has average temperatures of about 15°C in summer and 6°C in winter. The contrast in rainfall across South Island is much greater due to the Southern Alps and varies from 300cm on the west coast to 65cm on the Canterbury Plains and in Christchurch.

