

# Geography and Climate

## LAKES AND RIVERS:

<b>Lake Taupo</b>	<b>Waikato River</b>
Largest lake in New Zealand	Length: 425km
Crater lake of a volcano	Longest river in New Zealand
	Flows through the northern island



## ISLANDS:

New Zealand consists of two main islands, the Northern and South Island, and more than 700 smaller island.

<u>North Island</u>	<u>South Island</u>
Has got an area of 113.700 km <sup>2</sup>	Has got an area of 150.437 km <sup>2</sup>

There are separated by the 35 km wide Cook Strait

## HILLS AND MOUNTAINS:

### Mount Cook

- Highest mountain in New Zealand
- Located on the South Island
- 3,734 metres high



### TaumatawhakatangiHangakoauauotamateaturipukakapikimaungahoronukupokaiwhenua-kitanatahu

- It is the Maori name of a 305-meter high hill
- With 85 letters the place has he second longest name in the world



## VOLCANISM AND EARTHQUAKES:

### Volcanism

- When one tectonic plate sinks below another:
- >Its temperature rises.
- >The minerals in the rocks begin to release water.
- >The water escape from the subduction plate.
- >Rise directly above it into the plate.

### Earthquakes

- New Zealand lies on the edges of two tectonic plates: the Australian and the Pacific Plates.
  - ❖ The plates move slowly and press against each other.
  - ❖ Responsible for thousands of earthquakes every year ( for example: 14,000 – 15,000 earthquakes in New Zealand)
- In New Zealand, the strongest earthquake in 2011 was in Christchurch



## LANDSCAPE: DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH ISLAND:

- North Island:**
- About three quarters of New Zealanders live here
  - In the centre of the North Island, there are active volcanoes
  - The biggest cities on the North Island are Auckland and the capital city Wellington

- South Island:**
- Alps impress with majestic glaciers
  - Highest mountain of New Zealand
  - The South Island is bigger than the North Island
  - The biggest cities on the South Island are Christchurch and Dunedin



## CLIMATE: NORTH AND SOUTH ISLAND:

- North Island is located in the subtropics, very mild winters and relatively warm summers
- South Island is the temperate climate zone
- The warmest months are January and February ( with temperatures up to 30°C)
- July is the coldest month ( with temperatures down to -10°C)

### Sources

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