

New Zealand is made of two main islands—North Island and South Island—plus several smaller islands in the Pacific Ocean. It is called Aotearoa by Maori, who were the ancient inhabitants of the country. The nation was also part of the British Empire for a time. The landscape is made of both high mountains and low valleys. It is surrounded by the ocean, and there is nowhere you can go in the country that is more than 80 miles (130 km) from the beach. Many of the people live in rural areas, and the cities are typically less crowded

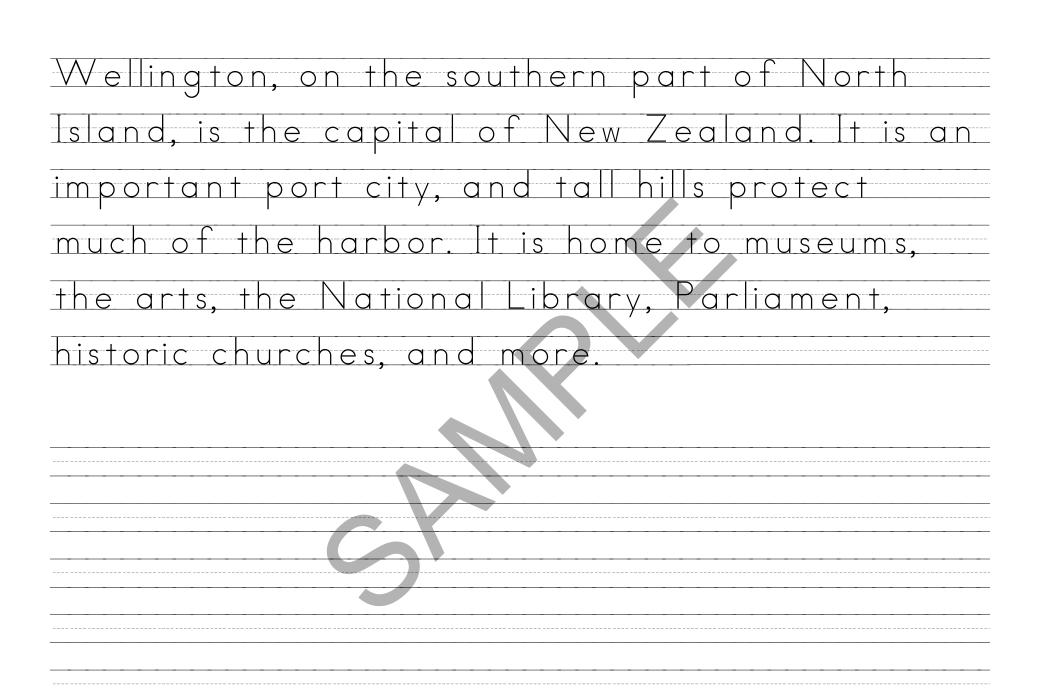
than major cities in other countries. The five largest cities in the country are Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington, Hamilton, and Tauranga.

English, Maori, and New Zealand Sign Language are the three official languages of New Zealand. Large numbers of sheep and cattle are raised in New Zealand, and at one point in the 1960s, there were around 40 million sheep but only 2 million people. Today, more than 1.5 million people live in Auckland alone.



Wellington, on the southern part of North Island, is the capital of New Zealand. It is an important port city, and tall hills protect much of the harbor. It is home to museums, the arts, the National Library, Parliament, historic churches, and more.

Wellington, on the southern part of North Island, is the capital of New Zealand. It is an important port city, and tall hills protect much of the harbor. It is home to museums, the arts, the National Library, Parliament, historic churches, and more.



I hope you've enjoyed visiting four of the many amazing places in New Zealand! Before you leave to go home, could I ask you to do something special for the people here? Many people in New Zealand believe in Jesus, but about half the people still haven't understood yet that Jesus loves them. New Zealand also sends lots of missionaries to tell people about Jesus. We can pray that the people who hear will believe.

Will you remember to pray for the people of New Zealand? Here are a few more things you can pray for. You can add more prayer requests to the list as you think of them!

Pray that people will have Bibles to read in whatever language they speak.

