

New Zealand's Climate & Seasons — Knowledge Organiser

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Key facts

- New Zealand is in the southern hemisphere, so its seasons are opposite to the UK's.
- It has a fairly mild, wet climate, shaped by the surrounding ocean.
- The far south is cooler; the north is warmer.
- Snow falls on the Southern Alps in winter.

Key vocabulary

- Hemisphere — half of the Earth.
- Climate — the usual weather of a place.
- Temperate — mild, not extreme.
- Maritime — influenced by the sea.

Opposite seasons

Because it is south of the equator, New Zealand's summer is in December–February — the reverse of the UK.

A sea-shaped climate

Surrounded by ocean, New Zealand rarely gets very hot or very cold, but it can be wet and changeable.