"Alsophila Empire variant 27", an alternative New Zealand national flag design (with suggested adaptations of the design to the other major flags and ensigns of the nation)



See this flag waving. See it in all wind conditions. See many more alternative New Zealand flag designs at newzealand.flagoptions.com

Relatively few of the world's flags feature a diamond or 'lozenge' spanning their full length, and none of their lozenges have borders as unique as the basic yet visually striking tukutuku 'stair-step' pattern used here. One of the virtues of a wide lozenge is that it can readily accommodate the colours and patterns of related flags, such as shown above for New Zealand's various sub-national flags. Another is that it can make the flag easily identifiable from a distance. Here the realistically-rendered silver fern fronds surrounding the lozenge would make the flag even more recognisable. A particular virtue of the tukutuku border, aside from the positive symbolism that can be associated with 'stairs', is that in this case each 'flight' has sixteen steps, numerically symbolising all of NZ's official regions. And whether you reckon New Zealand's official national colours to be black-and-white, red-white-and-black, or red-white-and-blue, this design has you covered. Last but not least, the design features a kiwi and the well-loved New Zealand-style Southern Cross.