

The focal point of this bold flag design is the silver fern frond that has been centred in its hoist. The frond is rendered realistically rather than stylistically, so that it will not look like a logo. Its tilt ensures that it can be prominently displayed on a purposefully draped flag. Providing a backdrop for the white-haloed, high-contrast white stars of the Southern Cross, the five red-and-blue stripes of the fly symbolise the full Realm of New Zealand: NZ proper, the Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, and the Ross Dependency. Along with the distinctive fern frond, these unique stripes will make the flag recognisable at any distance and in any wind.