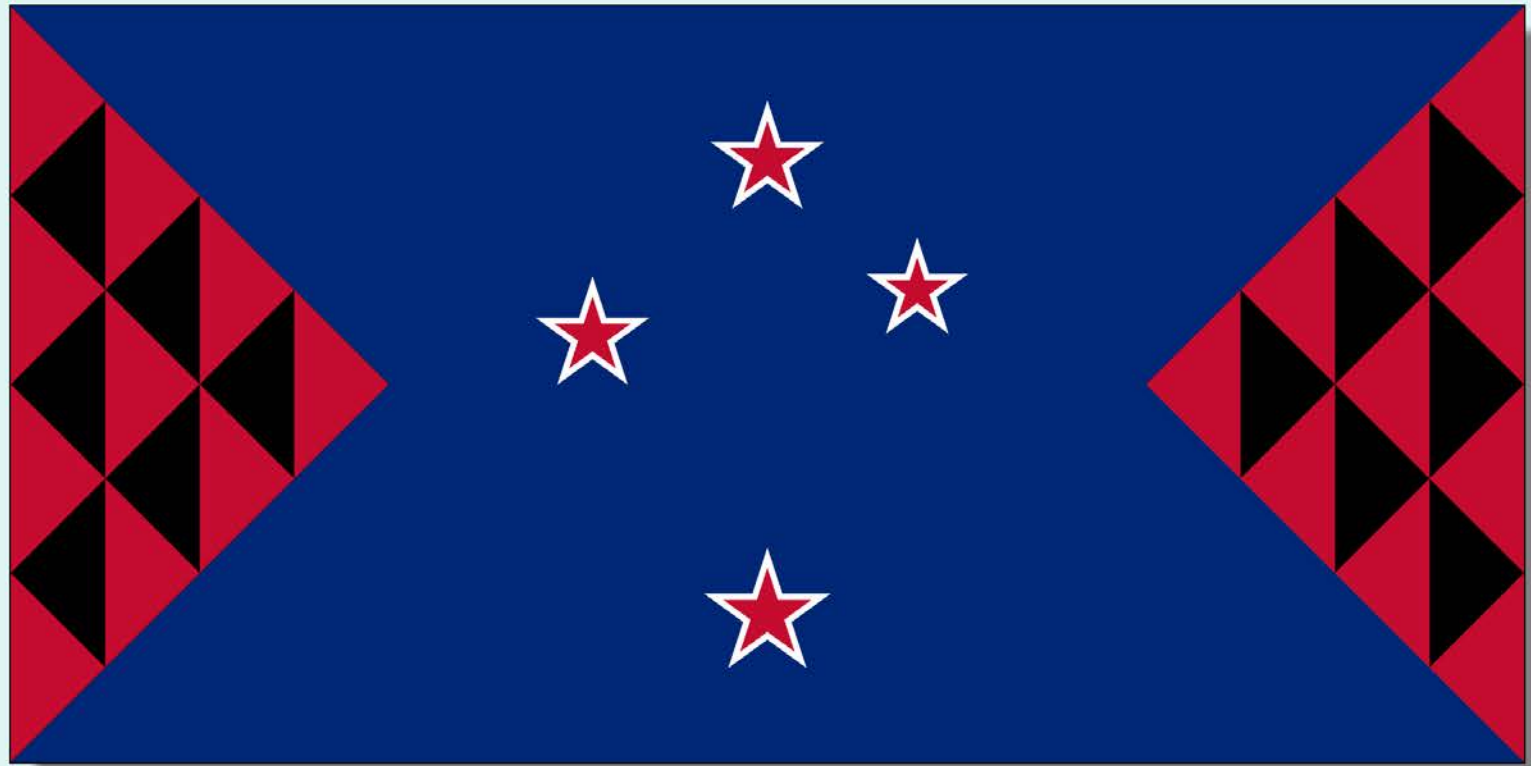


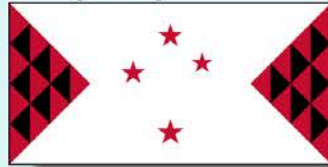
“The Antipodes”, an alternative New Zealand national flag design
(with suggested adaptations of the design to the other major flags and ensigns of the nation)



Army



Navy ships



Air Force



RSA



Government ships



Civil & merchant ships



Civil aviation



Yacht Squadron



Police Service



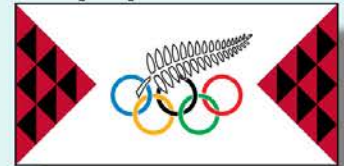
Fire & Emergency



Customs Service



NZ Olympic Committee



Tokelau



Niue



Cook Islands



Ross Dependency



Auckland



Wellington



Christchurch



United Nations



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

New Zealand is part of the so-called Antipodes, although it is [as much the antipode of Italy as of England](#), and it is perhaps the other 'boot' as well. The word 'antipode' means 'opposite'. Playing on that linguistic concept, this flag design and its variants display various visual opposites. In this case there are opposing large isosceles triangles at the hoist and at the fly, and these triangles themselves each contain sixteen oppositely-coloured, smaller isosceles triangles, sixteen being the number of official regions in New Zealand proper. The apexes of the large triangles each extend inwards to one-quarter of the total length of the flag, but together they only occupy one-quarter of the flag's area. The result is a centre area that has three-quarters of the total area of the flag, giving its field and its symbols increased visual dominance, whether they are the blue field and the red-and-white Southern Cross of the national flag, or the other fields and symbols needed by the remaining flags and ensigns of the nation, as shown above. Long live opposites (vive la différence).