"The Antipodes variant 8", 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

The word 'antipode' means 'opposite', and nothing is more opposite than black and white, the official national colours of New Zealand. As with the original '<u>The Antipodes</u>' design and <u>its variants</u>, this variant also plays on the concept of opposites, in this case using vertical arrangements of black-and-white triangles, eight at the hoist and eight at the fly, to numerically symbolise the sixteen official regions of New Zealand proper. Fans of the abstract may see capitalised 'Ns' at the hoist and capitalised 'Zs' at the fly, whether the flag is viewed from its obverse or its reverse. Together the triangle arrangements occupy only one-quarter of the total length and area of the flag, leaving a centre area with three-quarters of both. For the national flag, the centre area has a blue field and the traditional red-and-white New Zealand-style Southern Cross, whilst for the rest of the nation's flags and ensigns, it accommodates other field colours and symbols as shown above, in some cases with the colours of the black-and-white triangles reversed, for better contrast. If the tribar Canadian flag's design of quarter-length bars at both of its edges is the 'Canadian Pale', perhaps this flag's design is the 'EnZed Pale'.