

“The Arc of Crux”, 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



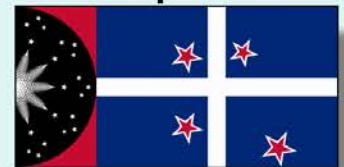
Civil & merchant ships



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

From the Kiwi point-of-view, the Southern Cross constellation arcs clockwise across the night-time sky, pulling the rest of the Milky Way along with it. The 'Arc of Crux' flag design and its variants pay homage to that sweeping arc, using five radial depictions of the Southern Cross, corresponding to the points of five silver fern fronds, which numerically symbolise the five areas of the full Realm of New Zealand, namely New Zealand proper, the Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau, and the Ross Dependency. Here the fern fronds and the stars of the five constellations are all rendered in white against a black field, itself an arc that extends for the full length of the flag against a red field. In order to accommodate the remaining flags and ensigns of the nation, the entire design is rotated clockwise ninety degrees and then resized to fit a quarter-length hoist area, leaving a three-quarters-length fly area for all of the required field colours and symbols, as illustrated above. For contrast on the civil ships ensign, the original red background is replaced with white.