

NATURAL WONDERS IN NEW ZEALAND



ROTORUA

Rotorua is a spa town and is the most popular tourist area in the North Island. It is located on the shores of Lake Rotorua, rich in fish and wildlife parks. The town is well known for its geothermal activity with boiling mud pools, hot water springs and tall geysers. The most spectacular geyser, Pohutu, (the Maori word for 'explosion'), erupts every hour and spurts hot water 20-30 metres into the air.

FIORDLAND

Fiordland is located in the south-western corner of South Island. It is one of the largest National Parks in the world and an area of outstanding beauty. Most of the park is dominated by the Southern Alps and its ocean-flooded western valleys. The most popular fjord is Milford Sound. It is New Zealand's most famous tourist attraction and has been judged the world's top tourist destination in an international survey.



MOUNT COOK

Mount Cook, the highest mountain in New Zealand (3,754m), is a popular tourist destination in the South Island. A national park has been created in the area around the mountain to protect the spectacular landscape and vegetation. It has an area of 700 sq km and glaciers cover about 40%. The original name for Mount Cook was Aoraki. This is a Maori word and it means 'Cloud Piercer'.

Speaking

- 4** Ask and answer questions about New Zealand. Use the prompts in 'Record breakers!' and the superlative forms of the adjectives below.

Example: *What is the highest mountain in New Zealand?*

high large (x2) famous spectacular long

Record breakers!

- mountain
- river
- lake
- minority group
- tourist attraction
- geyser in Rotorua

Writing

- 5** Write a paragraph about one of the natural wonders of your country. Say where it is located and describe it.

Start like this:

(...) is located in (...). It is ...