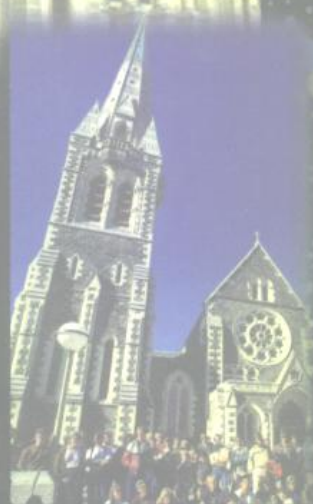


Roam Around the World Roam Around the World  
世 界 漫 游 小 丛 书

# 漫游新西兰

Roam Around New Zealand

索成秀



大象出版社

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世界漫游



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## 前 言

在改革开放的今天,中国青年的目光已不再是仅仅盯着我国的长城内外、大江南北。他们渴望了解世界,尤其是发达国家。他们想了解那些国家的历史、现状、政治制度、生活习俗、文学艺术、自然风貌。看到中国的长江,他们就会想起美国的密西西比河;看到中国的黄果树,他们就会想起加拿大的尼亚加拉瀑布;看到中国的洞庭湖,他们就会想起新西兰的陶波湖;看到中国的苏州,他们就会想起意大利的威尼斯;看到上海的东方明珠,他们就会想起法国的埃菲尔铁塔。特里尔的马克思故居,伦敦的威斯敏斯特教堂,纽约港的自由女神像,巴黎的凡尔赛宫,罗马的斗兽场,悉尼的歌剧院,温哥华的唐人街,蓝山的三姊妹峰……这些闻名遐迩的世界名胜无不吸引着他们年轻的心灵。他们的兴趣广泛得很,想象力丰富得很。他们迫切需要营养丰富的精神食粮,来满足他们如饥似渴的求知欲。

“我们何不编一套英汉对照世界漫游丛书呢?”大象出版社编辑贺凡、董涛二位女士建议道。“一则可以扩大青年人的视野,二则可以帮助他们学习英语。两全其美,何乐而不为呢?”

此言不谬。于是,经领导批准,她们便委托我组织编写。这可是个苦差使,因为她们的要求十分苛刻:丛书内容要广泛,语言要浅显,既有趣味性,又有资料性,情趣盎然,图文并茂,每个分册 10 万字左右,三个月交稿。

领了将令,我不敢怠慢,立即组织一批编写人员。其中有教授,副教授,讲师,还有在校硕士研究生。在统一了格式之后,两人一分册,分头编写。具体分工如下:

美国分册:刘云波,虎松菊

英国分册:刘榜离,吴 真

法国分册:靳 锐,王大智

德国分册:王 东,陈异慧

加拿大分册:王云英,葛丙辰

意大利分册:黄 燕,陈保蓉

新西兰分册:索成秀

澳大利亚分册:叶定国,康建明

经过几个月紧锣密鼓的工作,第一批八个分册终于完成。其间编写人员查资料,找图片,编写及翻译的辛苦自不待言。尽管如此,由于时间仓促,资料匮乏,加之编写者文风各异,书中难免有诸多不尽人意之处。令人宽慰的是,精美的印刷与装帧将给这套丛书增色不少。究竟内容如何?还是请我们的青年朋友读读看吧。

刘云波

1997 年 12 月 1 日于郑州大学

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# A SURVEY OF NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand is a small, picturesque island nation which is situated in the South Pacific Ocean and looks like a high-heeled boot hung upside down. Being an isolated island nation, New Zealand is totally separated from any other land areas of the world, over 1,500 kilometres east of Australia——its closest neighbour, across the Tasman Sea. To the east of New Zealand, there is the vast Pacific Ocean, to its south is Antarctica. Being the last major land mass to be reached and explored by man, New Zealand is also called “the most remote nation of the world”.

As an island nation, New Zealand comprises two main islands——the North and South Islands, separated by Cook Strait. In addition, there are Stewart Island, Chatham Islands and a number of much smaller islands. The total area of New Zealand is

270,542 square kilometres, about twice the size of England and almost the same size of Jilin Province of China. Among countries located in Oceania, New Zealand is the third largest one in area, just smaller than Australia and Papua New Guinea.

In 1996, New Zealand had a population of about 3,587,275. And 90% of the total are of British origin. The indigenous Maori, a Polynesia group, makes up about 8% of the whole population. Other nationalities well presented in New Zealand's population are Chinese and Dutch, over 10,000. The bulk of the population lives on the North Island, with over 30% of the total concentrated around Central Auckland and the Bay of Plenty. The average life expectancy is 76 years.

As to the first inhabitants of New Zealand, the Maoris, little is known about the time and the manner of their arrival, but they are thought to have arrived in a series of migrations from some Pacific Islands around A. D. 800. They mainly settled on the warmer, more luxuriant forest-clad North Island and only later made their way to the South Island. Today, Rotorua, a remote tourist resort remains as the centre of Maori culture. The strong, vigorous Maoris are not only brave and warlike, but also are excellent singers and dancers. They are good at carving, especially at wooden carving. Their wooden carving techniques are so good that they are unrivalled on the Mother earth. The bases of the early Maori economy was horticulture, fishing and hunting. It was when they mainly settled on the North Island that their culture reached its highest point, particularly in the fields of war, canoe construction, weaving and agriculture.

The official language of New Zealand is English, but the indigenous Maoris have their own language. With regard to religion, there is no state religion in this country. But almost 81% of the New Zealanders are Christians.

The capital of New Zealand, Wellington, is a city situated at the southern tip of North Island and close to Cook Strait. Wellington was a white settlement established by British colonists in 1840, and it was also the first one. Ever since the seat of the Dominion Government was removed from Auckland to Wellington in 1865, Wellington has remained the capital of the country. Today Wellington is not only the national junction, it is the political, commercial, financial and cultural centre of New Zealand as well. The noted University of Victoria and the Parliament Buildings both are located within Wellington.

The National flag of New Zealand is : The British Blue Ensign with 4 stars of the Southern Cross in red, edged in white. As to its national anthems, New Zealand has two: "God Save the Queen" and "God Defend New Zealand". The main festivals of New Zealand are: Waitangi Day which is on Feb. 6; April 5 is Anzac Day; Queen's birthday and the Labour Day are another two ones.

The North and South Islands of New Zealand are long and narrow, which extend about 1,750 kilometres. They are separated by Cook Strait, which is narrow but with turbulent waves. New Zealand is a mountainous country. Along the west coast of the South Island, there is the lofty South Alps Mountain which runs straightly from north to south and climbs to 6,060 kilometres at Mount Cook, New

Zealand's highest point. The peaks of the South Alps Mountain are always snow-capped, and there are many glaciers and lakes. River Tasman, which runs 30 kilometres long, 9 kilometres wide, is the largest glacier of the country. The east coast of the South Island consists of many fertile plains, such as the broad Canterbury Plain. Canterbury Plain is New Zealand's largest plain and it is noted for the famous Canterbury lamb.

The North Island is not as mountainous as the South Island and the mountains here are mainly distributed along the east coast. There are volcanoes and hot springs. The geyser area extending northeast from the centre of North Island to the White Island of Bay of Plenty, over 200 kilometres long and 40 kilometres wide, is one of the three largest thermal areas of the world.

The 600-square-kilometre-Lake Taupo, situated in the centre of North Island, is a volcanic lake formed by volcanic eruption several thousands years ago. Less than 10 kilometres from Lake Taupo, in Wairakei, there is the Wairakei Geothermal Power Station, which was built in 1963. This geothermal power station is the second one supplied by geothermal heat in the world. Geothermal steam is widely used in hospitals in New Zealand for heating.

In addition to the North and South Islands, Stewart Island, Chatham Islands and a number of much smaller islands, the territory of New Zealand includes several other islands called "the Southern Hemisphere Islands". "The Southern Hemisphere Islands" that make up the country include the Cook Islands, Niue and the three atolls of the Tokelaus. They lie in the southwest of Pacific Ocean between lat-

itudes 33° and 53° south and longitudes 166° east and 173° west. So, New Zealand's geographical position is almost corresponding with that of China. But owing to the influences of oceans and its latitudes, the climate of this country is generally temperate, ranging from subtropical in the extreme north to temperate marine south. The differences between seasons, between the north and south are quite small. New Zealand enjoys a mild winter, a warmer, pleasant summer and abundant rainfall. Another feature of New Zealand's climate is periodic subtropical cyclones.

The forestry of New Zealand is very rich. About 72% of the total area had been covered with forest and scrub under primitive conditions before the European colonists first settled in this subtropical region in the 19th century. Later, nearly half of this land was devoted to agricultural use. Among the distinctive, native forests of New Zealand, the world famous Kauri tree is the largest species of the country and is one of the most useful softwoods in the world. Its resin called Kauri gum, is of high value. Kauri tree is honoured as "the King of Trees". There is another kind of tree, the Pohutukawa tree, which blossoms during Christmas, is often called "Christmas tree". Being set off by green leaves, blue sky and white clouds, the bunches and bunches of dazzling, dark red blossoms of the Pohutukawa trees are so pleasant and joyful. Adding more festival atmosphere for the Christmas season, the Pohutukawa tree is given the name of "Christmas tree". In short, New Zealand has a wide distribution of forests ranging from the northern region to the extreme southern region. The western part of the South Alps Mountain is the most densely grown



area, as a result of adequate rain.

The fauna of New Zealand is singularly deficient in species, but rather distinctive. The prehistoric tuatara, called "a living fossil", is a reptile with a rough skin, four legs, a long tail and looks exactly like lizard. Tuatara has been extinct for one million years, and its life expectancy is very long, over 100 years. Such kind of rare animal is carefully protected by the government. Additionally, there are a great many varieties of birds in New Zealand, about 250 species. The most famous one is the flightless Kiwi with extremely short wings. Kiwi is often regarded as the emblem animal of the nation, and New Zealanders often affectionally call themselves "Kiwis".

In regards to its mineral resources, New Zealand is rich in deposit of minerals, metallic and nonmetallic, but few are found in commercial quantities. Among these minerals, gold is an exception, which was a major export in the early years of organized settlement. The abundant reserves of coal is still mined to a considerable extent. Iron sands are exploited both for export and for supplying the needs for a local steel mill. And most recently, natural gases reserves (1.42 billion cubic metres) in the south Taranaki and offshore Maui fields near New Plymouth, shows promise of being ultimately the most significant of all.

More than 80% of all electricity of New Zealand comes from hydroelectric installations on the Waikato, Clutha and other rivers, and the remainder comes from thermal plants fired by indigenous coal, imported petroleum, natural gas and some geothermal steam.

National Economy: On the whole, the living standards of New