

WAITANGI DAY

Waitangi day is celebrated annually on February 6, and is considered the national day of New Zealand. On this day in 1840, the Treaty of Waitangi was signed between the British and Maori on the banks of the Waitangi river.



HISTORY



- By the end of the 19th century, dishonest trade and illegal land purchases were flourishing in New Zealand.
- The British Empire promised to return the land to the Maori. In exchange, the Maori have to submit to great Britain.
- The Treaty was signed on 6 February 1840 between the first Governor of new Zealand and the Maori leader
- The text of the agreement was written in English and translated into Maori. The inaccuracy of the translation and the absence of a large number of terms in the Maori language have created differences in the filing of the rights established by the Treaty. Not all Maori leader agreed to sign the Treaty, and there was no unanimous decision.



CELEBRATION



- The festival is full of concerts, presentations of Maori cultural heritage, exhibitions and outdoor games.
- A new Zealand flag-raising ceremony is held on the banks of the Waitangi river at dawn on February 6. Act out the scene of signing the contract. Maori canoes and ships of the new Zealand Navy gather in the Bay of Islands, representatives of the two sides land on the shore and gather in a clearing at the house of j. Busby.
- After the opening speeches, the celebrations begin. You can visit the Museum to see traditional dances, listen to music, watch and even participate in a traditional ritual ceremonies of the Maori.

