

Polynesia

The Polynesian world

'Polynesia' is a Greek word meaning 'many islands'. The Polynesian people are scattered across a large part of the Pacific Ocean, the largest body of water on Earth. Until fairly recently it was mistakenly believed that the Polynesian islands had been discovered purely by accident. After all, it is not difficult to travel for hundreds, or even thousands of kilometres of open ocean and not seeing any land.

Think that Australia is big — well the Pacific Ocean could hold 22 Australias in it!

The Pacific Ocean <http://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/pacific-ocean-facts.html>

Polynesian map <http://data.bishopmuseum.org/anthro/voyage/islandma.htm>

How volcanic islands are formed <http://playrific.com/z/6279>

How atolls form http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/kits/corals/media/supp_coral04a.html

the warmth, high rainfall and fertile volcanic soils of many Polynesian islands create lush forests, and great conditions for agriculture

Polynesia in general http://www.h2g2.com/approved_entry/A2054701

Polynesia general <http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Polynesia>

Polynesian society <http://www.everyculture.com/wc/Mauritania-to-Nigeria/Polynesians.html>

Polynesian mythology <http://www.mythencyclopedia.com/Pa-Pr/Polynesian-Mythology.html>

The great migration

Why did they move around? Was it lack of food? Was it warfare or by accident, when storms blew Polynesians off course going from one island to another? Was it simple human curiosity and a desire to explore?

Coral tools <http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2012/11/08/3627615.htm>

Lapita pottery <http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2011/12/02/3381368.htm>

Introduction to way-finding <http://oceantoday.noaa.gov/oceanshowsusway/>

Basics of way-finding <http://www.exploratorium.edu/neverlost/#/navigation/basics> then the game

Using the elements to travel http://www.pbs.org/wayfinders/wayfinder_game.html

Tour of a modern canoe <http://www.exploratorium.edu/neverlost/#/canoe/tour>

Polynesian voyage

<http://www.pukeariki.com/Research/Education/PolynesianExplorersPackingaWakaInteractive.aspx>

Compare early Polynesian travel with Cook and Darwin

<http://tlf.dlr.det.nsw.edu.au/learningobjects/Content/L6836/object/index.html>

Theories:

- Archaeological evidence <http://www.pbs.org/wayfinders/polynesian6.html>
- Lapita pottery http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/lapi/hd_lapi.htm#thumbnails
- Also <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2008/03/people-pacific/map/map-03>
- Trade between Hawaii and Tahiti
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2007/09/photogalleries/Polynesia-pictures/photo4.html> for example, very similar adzes and other tools in HAWAII.
- Linguistic/oral history evidence <http://www.pbs.org/wayfinders/polynesian4.html>
- Kontiki expedition <http://www.pbs.org/wayfinders/polynesian5.html>
- DNA evidence destroys <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science-dna-shows-how-thor-heyerdaahl-got-it-wrong-1137388.html>
- Experimental voyages <http://www.pbs.org/wayfinders/polynesian7.html>

Maori life

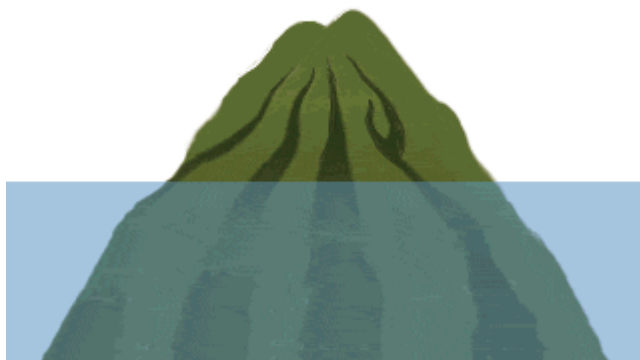
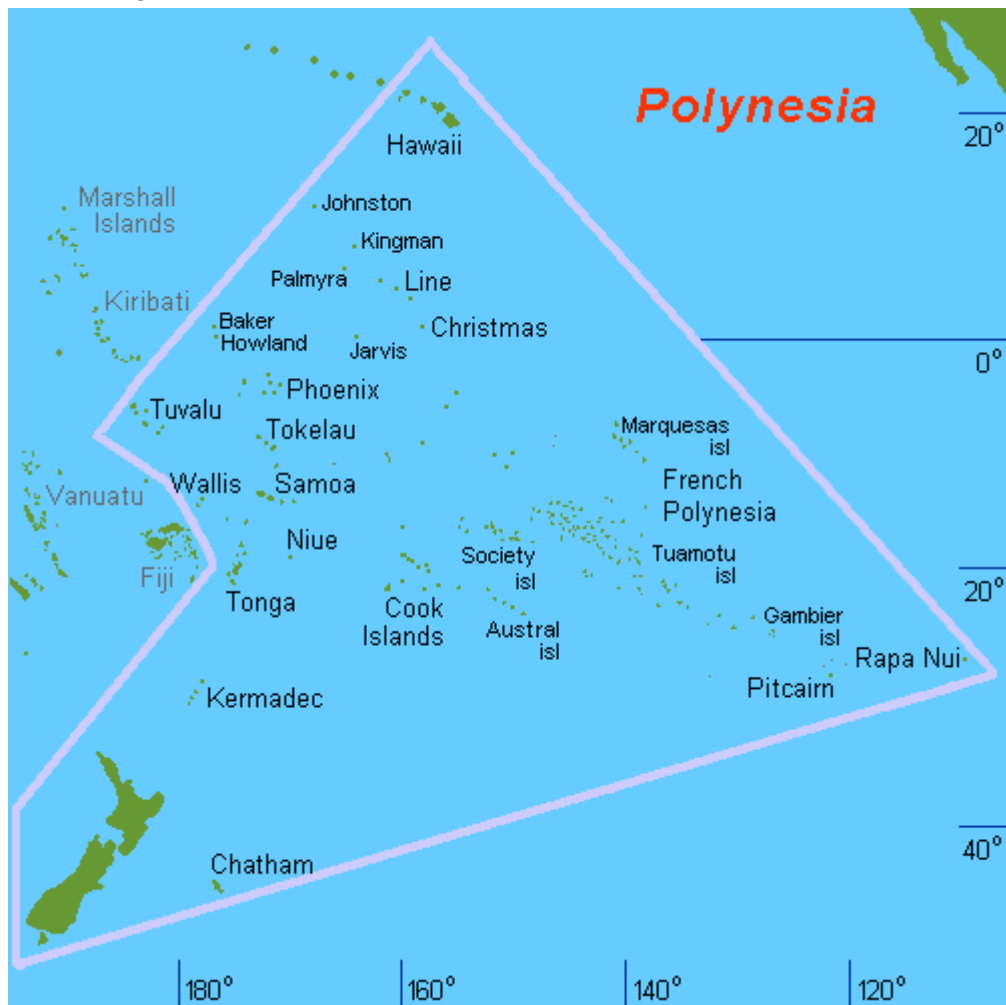
- Iwi map <http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/iwi>
- iwi and hapu <http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/tribal-organisation/page-1>
- Whanau <http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/tribal-organisation/page-4>
- Social rank <http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/tribal-organisation/page-5>
- The legend of Maui <http://weblist.me/maori-myths-and-legends> awa other stories
- Compare with Aboriginal Dreamtime stories
- Moa <http://www.kcc.org.nz/moa/>
- Wairau Bar http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wairau_Bar (and do cloze passage)
- Kohika <http://archaeopedia.com/wiki/index.php?title=Kohika> (ditto)

Maori culture

- Maori Gods <http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/nga-karakia-a-te-maori-traditional-maori-religion/page-1>
- Maori myth <http://www.tourism.net.nz/new-zealand/about-new-zealand/kupe-and-te-wheke.html>
- The legend of Maui <http://weblist.me/maori-myths-and-legends> awa other stories
- Compare with Aboriginal Dreamtime stories
- Wharehenui interactive http://www.wicked.org.nz/r/wick_ed/say/wharehenui.php (choose the English version)
- Hangi interactive http://www.wicked.org.nz/r/wick_ed/hangi/hangi_english.php

- Moko <http://www.polynesianattoodesigns.org/polynesian-tattoos-history-channel-special>
- more moko <http://www.nzonscreen.com/title/ta-moko-2007>
- Haka site http://static.newzealand.com/visit/feature/haka/en/index_content.html

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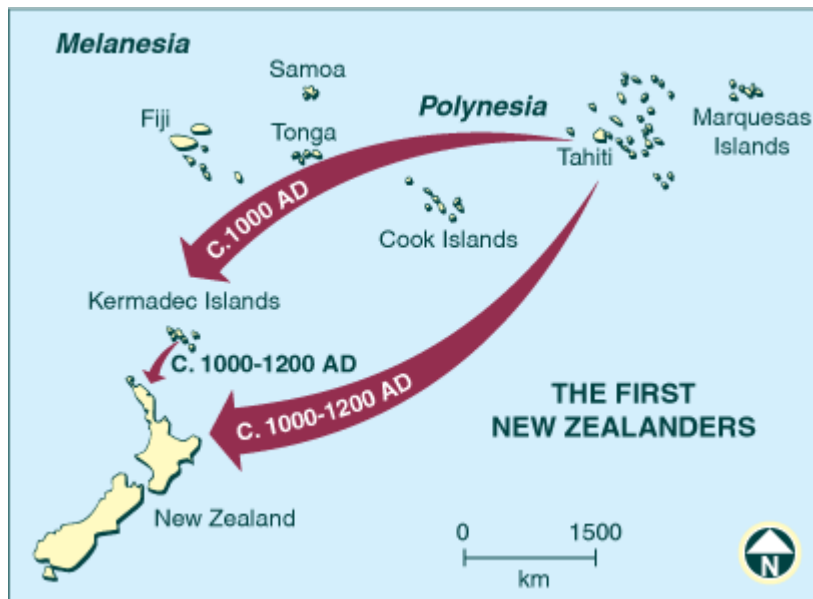


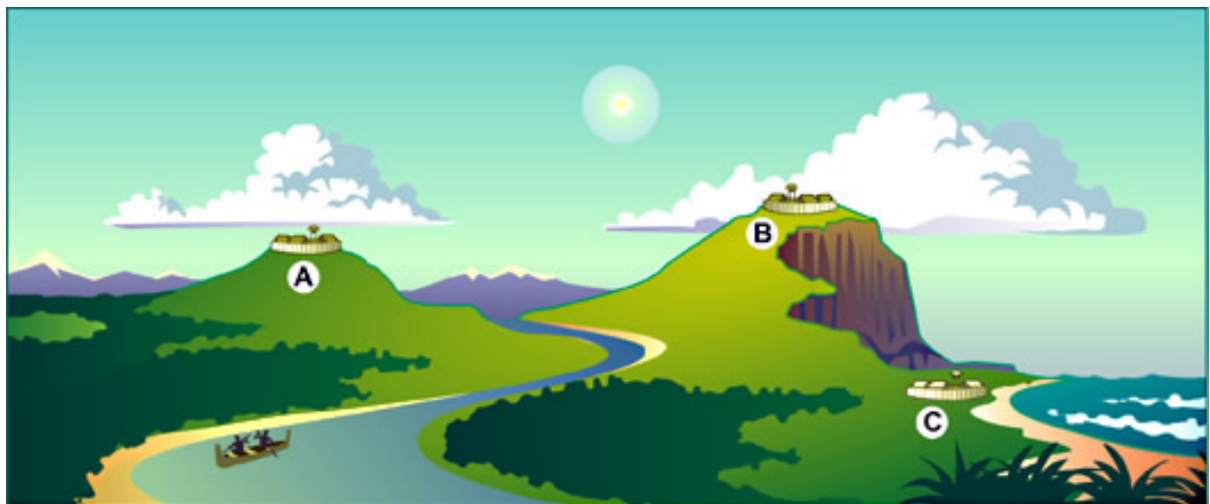
The great migration



Maori life

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Maori culture

