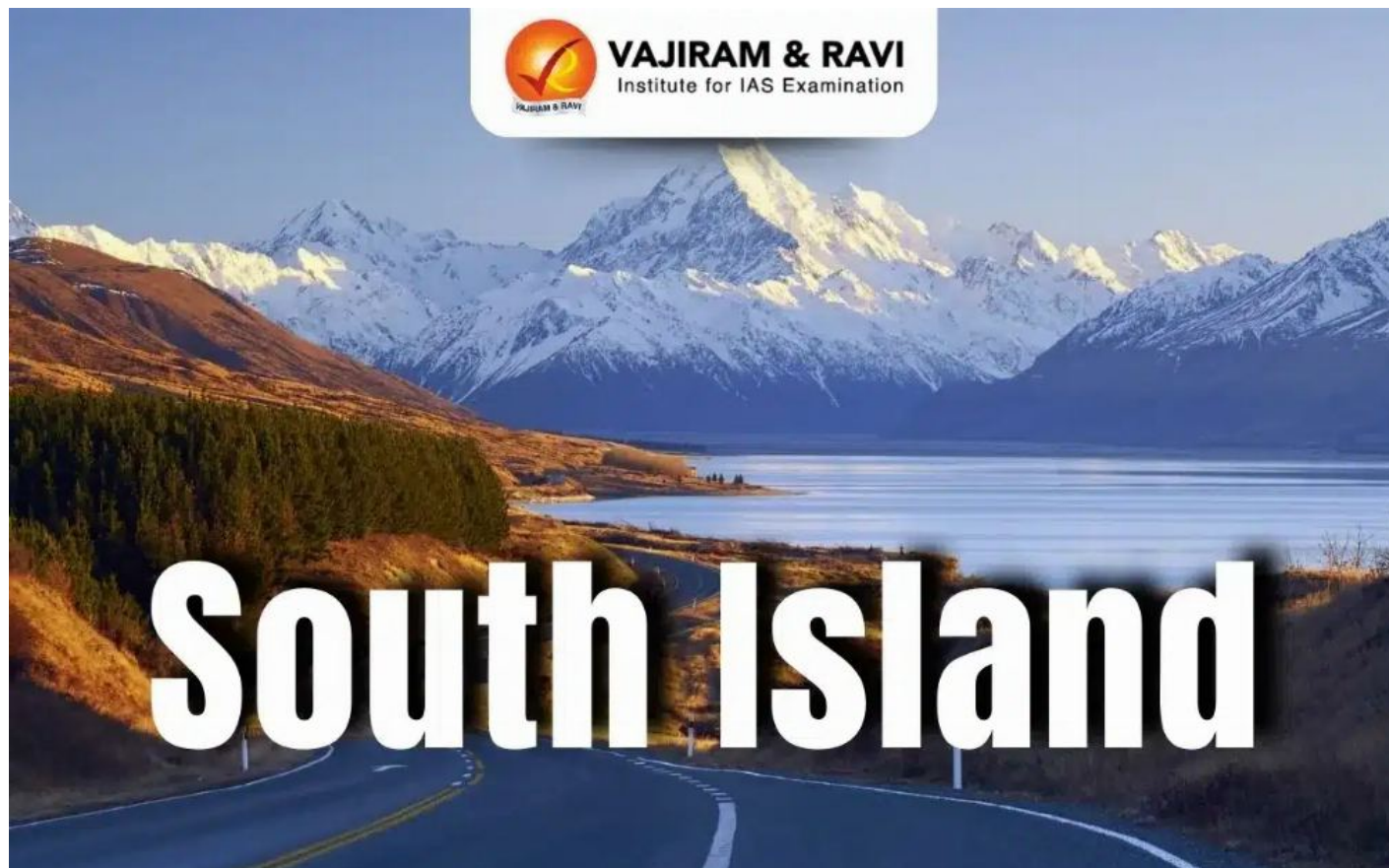


South Island

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South Island Latest News

A strong 6.7 magnitude earthquake struck off New Zealand's South Island recently.

About South Island

- It is the **larger and southernmost of the two principal islands of New Zealand**, in the southwestern **Pacific Ocean**.
- It is **separated from North Island** to the north **by Cook Strait** and **from Stewart Island** to the south **by Foveaux Strait**.
- **Mountainous terrain** occupies almost three-quarters of South Island, with a **central mountain chain**, the **Southern Alps**, trending southwest to northeast and culminating at **Mount Cook (3,754 metres)**.
- The **Southern Alps separate** the narrow coastal strip of the **Westland Plain (west)** from the broad **Canterbury Plains (east)**.
- **Fiordland National Park** in the southwest is a distinctive area with its numerous **coastal fjords (inlets)** and high lakes.

- The **park is part of the Te Wāhipounamu (South West New Zealand)** area of protected wilderness along the west side of the island that was designated a **UNESCO World Heritage site** in 1990.
- **Lakes:** Includes **Lake Tekapo, Lake Wakatipu,** and **Lake Pukaki.**
- It has several large **urban areas**—including **Christchurch, Dunedin, and Invercargill.**

South Island FAQs

Q1. Where is South Island located?

Ans. It is the larger and southernmost of the two principal islands of New Zealand, in the southwestern Pacific Ocean.

Q2. What are the main cities in South Island?

Ans. Christchurch, Dunedin, and Invercargill

Q3. Which strait separates South Island from North Island?

Ans. Cook Strait

Source: NIE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/south-island/>

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