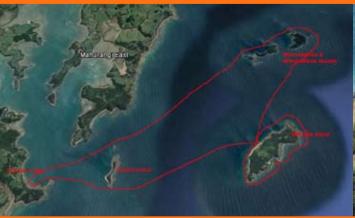


Trip Card # 025
Motuora Island from
Sullivans Bay









## Motuora Island from Sullivans Bay

Route card No. 025 | Skill level: Intermediate | Distance: Varies | Chart: NZ5227 | Tidal Port: Auckland

**Start point:**Sullivans Bay, Mahurangi West
Sullivans Bay, Mahurangi West

Emergency contact: VHF channel 82 & 16

**Comms coverage:** Cellphone coverage and VHF is good.

**Introduction:** Motuora is a beautiful island, replanted and stocked with native species. Working bees for planting, weeding etc. are held regularly. Take walking shoes as there are many tracks and excellent views.

## **Description:**

At the NE corner of the island DOC are encouraging gannets to start a colony. Part of this programme is a speaker system set up on top of the cliff broadcasting gannet calls which can be puzzling if not expected. On the eastern side is Still Bay which is a lovely place for a break. It has golden sand and pohutakawa trees. Nice rock gardening on the eastern side. This is a kiwi breeding area and kiwi are often seen at night, even in the campground.

A side trip to Moturekareka and/or Motuketekete is worthwhile if time permits.

**Pest free Island** – ensure that kayaks and gear are checked for pests – rodents, Argentine ants, rainbow skinks, seeds. http://motuora.org.nz/

**Getting there:** head north on the motorway, 5km past the tunnel there is a sign to Mahurangi West, turn right and travel for a few km. The road then bends to the left and there is a road which branches off to the right. Take the road to the right and follow it to the beach. This is Sullivans Bay aka Otarawao Bay on Google Earth.

## Hazards:

- Ocean swells
- Wearing helmets when rock gardening in any swell is recommended.
- Other vessels this area is quite busy in summer months.



Camping



Bird and wildlife watching



Toilets



Fishing



**Showers** 



Diving and snorkelling



Parking
- Sullivans Bay