



"Port Waikato wharf" by Gadfium

## Tuakau to Port Waikato

Route card No. 017 | Skill level: Intermediate | Distance: 25 Km | Map no: BC31/ 32 | Tidal Port: Port Taranaki

**Start point:** Tuakau Bridge  
**Finish point:** Dairy just before Port Waikato township  
**Tidal times/ notes:** It is worth getting to the lower end about half tide so you get the benefit of the outgoing tide.  
**Coastguard contact:** Auckland 09 303 1303 Raglan VHF Channel 81 Nowcasting Channel 22  
**Comms coverage:** VHF coverage is fair and cell phones only work in some areas.

**Introduction:** This paddle takes you to a part of the country few people see. The Waikato River is a haven for duck hunters and white baiters alike. Their mai mais are a sight to behold.

**Description:** A vehicle shuttle is required between Tuakau and the dairy just before Port Waikato township. It is only a 20 minute drive.

Leaving Tuakau Bridge an hour before high tide allows you to make the most of the outgoing tide when on the lower reaches of the river.

Paddle down following the river left shore line. There is lots of wildlife to see and really fun mai mais to spot. Some you could live in.

As you approach Port Waikato, look out for the small beach before the promantry. This is the get out point.

**Hazards:**

This is a paddle that will be made more difficult by the predominant westerly winds.  
 River flow at river mouth  
 Duck hunters during season  
 Recreational Boat users

**Accommodation:**

Port Waikato Holiday Park  
 115B Maunsell Road  
 Port Waikato  
 RD5  
 Tuakau  
 New Zealand

Phone: 09 232 9857  
 Fax: 09 232 9802  
 Freephone: 0800 276 259  
[www.portwaikatoholidaypark.co.nz](http://www.portwaikatoholidaypark.co.nz)

-  Cabins
-  Car & Boat Parking
-  Camping
-  Toilets
-  Sites with power
-  Showers
-  Laundry
-  Internet Kiosk & wireless
-  Bird and wildlife watching
-  Fishing

**Please note;**

Every care has been taken to ensure the information contained in this Trip Card is correct at the time of publication, but things change and you will need to confirm the information provided. You will also need to get further information to ensure a safe trip, this will include an up to date, relevant weather forecast and the ability to understand its implications for the area and talking to locals in the area to garner new information on any hazards in the area. It is also expected that an appropriate level of knowledge, skills and equipment are required to safely complete the trip. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are unsure of any information or you find the Trip Card needs updating. Cheers Peter Townend, Yakity Yak Kayak Club. Updated: August 2014