



Home Bay - Motuora Island



Motuora Island from Sullivans Bay

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

Start point: Sullivan's Bay, Mahurangi West
Finish Point: Sullivan's 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 Motuke-tekete 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 Sullivan's 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
- Sullivan's Bay

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 2015