



Tawhitokino Beach



## Tawhitokino

Route card No. 013 | Skill level: Beginners | Distance: 4 Km | Chart no: NZ532 | Tidal Port: Auckland

**Start point:** Kawakawa Bay boat ramp

**Finish Point:** Tawhitokino

**HW/ LW:**

**Tidal times/ notes:** Not an issue for this paddle although tide versus wind should be considered. A kayak trolley is useful for low water portage.

**Coastguard contact:** Auckland (09) 303 4303 Mobile: \*555 VHF Channel 80/ 82

**Comms coverage:** Good cellphone coverage from the campsite.

**Introduction:** A beautiful area to paddle. Heading towards the Firth of Thames along a piece of coast that is protected from south and south west winds. Views of Ponui Island and Coromandel.

**Description:** After launching follow the coastline to the ARC campsite at Tawhitokino. This camp has a nice isolated sand beach that can be only reached by foot via the beaches at low tide or by boat. Keep an eye out for jumping fish and there has been the odd seal sighting as well. The camp site has very basic facilities which include a food prep area and a long drop toilet. There is some water for washing dishes (very limited supply over summer). It is recommended you bring in your own drinking water. There are more than a few options for exploratory paddles such as heading over to Ponui Island or cruising down the coast to Orere Point. There are a few reefs and rocky outcrops for rock gardening adventures but these can also be considered a hazard when the tide's low. There's plenty of

good fishing to be had too. A great getaway in an isolated location.

### Hazards:

- Caution is required around the Kawakawa Bay boat ramp, as it can be fairly busy.
- Once around the point following the coast is fairly safe but a lookout needs to be kept for set nets and surf caster lines.
- The beach at the boat ramp is stoney.
- If conditions are not great at Kawakawa Bay, follow the road to the end where there is parking and a very sheltered bay. This cuts the trip to Tawhitokino to about 2 km.
- Good cellphone coverage from the campsite but remember that there is no road access.

### Additional information:

<http://regionalparks.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/tawhitokino>



**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, Yaky Yak Kayak Club. Updated: March 2013