

## How to get there

Mahurangi Regional Park is split into three distinct fingers, each accessed separately.

**Mahurangi West:** 51km (50 minutes) from downtown Auckland. Drive north on SH1 via the northern gateway toll road. Turn right into Mahurangi West Road (approximately 5km north of tunnel) then right into Ngarewa Drive and follow to the end of the road.

**Scott Point:** 75km (70 minutes) from downtown Auckland. Drive north on SH1 to Warkworth and follow the signs to Snells Beach. Approximately, 600 metres past Algies Bay turn right into Ridge Road and follow to the end.

**Mahurangi East:** Access to Mahurangi East is by boat only, there is no road access.

**For public transport information:** phone Auckland Transport 09 366 6400 or visit [at.govt.nz](http://at.govt.nz)

## Please take your rubbish home

Your parks provide open space, fresh air, a home for native plants and animals, clean water, beauty and inspiration. Help keep them this way.

- No bins
- No rubbish
- Better parks
- 

## Dogs

### Cudlip Point walking track:



**On-leash** 2 December to 30 June.



**Prohibited.** Closed for lambing and calving from 1 July to 1 December each year. This includes all areas on the Cudlip Point Loop walking track

### Campground:



**Prohibited at all times.** This includes all areas in the vicinity of Sullivans Bay, Mita Bay and Te Muri campgrounds. Includes dogs inside vehicles.

### All other walking tracks:

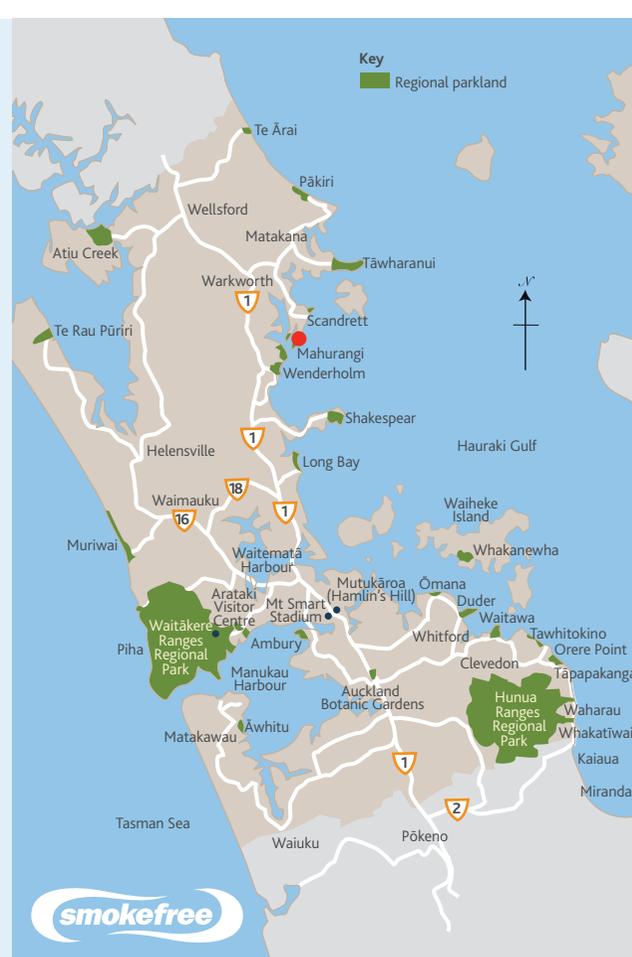


**Prohibited at all times.** This covers Sullivans Bays, Mita Bay and Te Muri walking tracks.

### Park areas:



**Prohibited at all times.** This includes dogs inside vehicles. This covers all parkland and foreshore areas. This excludes Cudlip Point walking track.



## Auckland Council manages 27 regional parks

For more information on any of these parks: phone 09 301 0101 or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

When on the park you can use the phone at the information board in the main car park.

### Protect **kauri** for future generations



**SCRUB** all soil off your footwear and gear every time you enter or leave an area with kauri.



**SPRAY** with disinfectant after you have removed all soil.



**STAY** on track and off kauri roots.

# Mahurangi Regional Park



20-PRO-0811



## Mahurangi Regional Park

The sheltered bays, native bush, open pasture and historic sites of Mahurangi Regional Park straddle the entrance to the beautiful Mahurangi Harbour, which gives the park its name.

The park is divided into three “fingers” – Mahurangi West, Scott Point and Mahurangi East. Mahurangi West provides a backdrop to three pōhutukawa-fringed bays – Sullivan’s (Otarawao) Bay, Mita (Otuawao) Bay and Te Muri Bay. Scott Point includes the historic Scott Homestead, while the remote Mahurangi East is only accessible by sea.

The park is a favourite stop for boaties all year round. It takes on a festive air at Auckland Anniversary Weekend in January, when hundreds of classic vessels revel in the Mahurangi Old Time Regatta.

## Plants, animals and birds

Areas of coastal forest and regenerating bush are dotted throughout Mahurangi Regional Park. Volunteers and rangers have planted more than 120,000 trees over the last two decades to recreate Mahurangi’s great forests of the past. The best preserved patches of mature coastal forest are on Cudlip and Te Muri Points which are dominated by kānuka, taraire, pūriri, karaka and kōwhai. Scarlet flowering pōhutukawa are spectacular at Scott Point and Mahurangi East and on many parts of Mahurangi West in summer.

Listen out for the song of the tui, the grey warbler, and in spring and early summer, the shining cuckoo. For a dazzling summer display look out for gannets hurling themselves headlong into the sea at up to 140km/h in search of food for their young.



## History

Māori lived here in large communities. The park was the ancestral domain of Ngāti Rongo and there are four fortified pā sites at Opahi, Cudlip and Te Muri Points and above Sullivan’s Bay.

A sea captain, John Sullivan, married Merehai Kaipuke and settled at Otawao (Sullivan’s Bay) in the 1870s. Their descendants farmed the land for nearly a century and farming continues on the park today.

More than 100 Māori and European settlers are buried in the Te Muri urupā (cemetery) on the park. The urupā was established in the 1860s alongside two sacred (tapu) pōhutukawa trees.

Scott Homestead, at Scott Point, is a reminder of the Mahurangi Harbour’s busy past as a hub of timber milling, ship building, firewood cutting and trade. Thomas Scott Jr built the Georgian style house in 1877 on the site where his father, a shipbuilder, ran an inn until it was destroyed by fire. Volunteers have lovingly restored the rebuilt house and its surrounds. While the homestead is not open to the public, the front garden will give you a real sense of history. The homestead is available as a venue for special occasions.

## Volunteering

We would love to have your help with work in regional parks. Age and physical ability is no barrier as there are tasks and projects to suit all individuals and groups.

**For more information on volunteering:**  
phone 09 301 0101 or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

## Park facilities

### Prime picnic spots

You can find your own favourite spot and picnic with friends and family any time at Mahurangi Regional Park. Feel free to bring your own gas barbecue.

Drinking water is available at the picnic areas in the park.

Groups of 75 people or more are allowed under special conditions and require a permit.

### Campgrounds

Tents and all camping modes (up to 8 metres in length) are welcome at Sullivan’s Bay. Campgrounds at Mita Bay and Te Muri Beach are for tents only as there is no vehicle access and the Lagoon Bay (Mahurangi East) campground is accessible by boat only. There are restrictions at some campgrounds and conditions apply. Staying overnight in selected public areas.

### SCC campground

Campervans, vehicle units and caravans with a Self-Containment Certificate (SCC) can stay up to three nights in the SCC campground from Nov to May.

### Other accommodation

Book a bach escape in Mahurangi Regional Park. Stay over at either Bailey’s Cottage or Ferguson House at Scott Point or escape by boat to remote Mahurangi East staying at Big Bay Bach or Vine House.

**For information on park facilities, conditions and restrictions and to make a booking:** phone 09 301 0101, visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz), or from the park use the contact phone beside the main notice board and follow the on-site instructions.

**On-leash beach areas:**

 **On-leash at all times.** This includes the area of Te Muri estuary adjoining the Cudlip Point loop track and Mita Bay beach only. Mita Bay is accessible by boat or by foot.

**Sullivans Bay and Te Muri beach areas:**

 **Prohibited at all times.**

**Mita Bay temporary closure:**

 **Prohibited at all times.**

**Scott Point**

**All beaches and park land:**

<b>Summer</b>	<b>Winter</b>
 <b>Off-leash (5pm-10am)</b>	<b>Off-leash at all times.</b>

 **Prohibited 10am-5pm.** Summer rules apply from 1 December to 1 March. Winter rules apply from 2 March to 30 November. Dogs must be under continuous control at all times.

**Community facility areas**

 **Prohibited at all times.** This covers all areas on Ferguson House and Bailey's Cottage grounds, and inside the picket fence of Scott Homestead.

**Mahurangi East**

**Park areas:**

 **Prohibited at all times.**

**Feature tracks and trails**

**Mita Bay Loop Track** - - -

**2 hours return, 2.1km**

From the Tungutu Point carpark, follow the blue markers to the lookout with stunning views of the Hauraki Gulf. Head down the steep fenceline and meander through regenerating native bush to Mita Bay. From Mita Bay follow the sometimes steep 4wd track through more native bush and return via the road to Tungutu Point.

**Cudlip Point Loop Track** - - -

**2 hours return, 3km**

Follow the red markers from the southern end of the main car park. This easy, but often windswept track is great for an evening or winter walk to blow away the cobwebs. The track leads across open pastures to a short return trip to Cudlip Point, and then down to the foreshore where birds roost on the rocks and small shelly beaches, and gather food from the mud flats at low tide. Follow the track around the foreshore and return via the farm track to the car park.

**Te Muri Track** - - -

**3 hours return, 3km**

Access at low tide only across the Te Muri Estuary. From the upper car park, at the park entrance, follow the park track down to Te Muri Estuary. Having crossed the estuary you'll pass the historic cemetery, the beach and the walk will be yours to enjoy away from the crowds.

**Tungutu Loop track** - - -

**30min return, 1.2km**

Follow the yellow markers from the northern end of the main carpark, on the left before the campgrounds. Follow the track through open pasture to a short, sharp climb through regenerating native bush. Catch your breath and enjoy the stunning views of the Hauraki Gulf before returning via the road and heading back through open pasture dotted with majestic pohutukawa and totara.

**Other tracks** - - -



 Dogs and other pets are prohibited from some areas of the park and beaches.

**Ranger recommendations**

**Tips on how to make the most of your visit to Mahurangi Regional Park.**

**If you have two hours...**

Check out the harbour views from the park's best lookout at Tungutu Point and you will have time for a swim at Sullivan's Bay. If you're there at low tide, take the walk across to tiny Pudding Island.

**If you have half a day...**

At Mahurangi West half a day will give you the chance to get away from the crowds and head to either Mita Bay or Te Muri Beach to swim, explore and enjoy the sense of escape.

On the other side of the harbour, Scott Point is a great setting for a picnic or special event and at low tide you can walk across to the Maunganui (Casnell Island) Department of Conservation reserve.

**If you have a full day...**

Exploring the sheltered Mahurangi Harbour by boat or kayak is a fabulous way to while away a day and is the only way to enjoy the remote beaches of Mahurangi East.

**Be safe in regional parks**

**The water safety code**

1. Be prepared.
2. Watch out for yourself and others.
3. Be aware of the dangers.
4. Know your limits.

**The outdoor safety code**

1. Plan your trip.
2. Tell someone.
3. Be aware of the weather.
4. Know your limits.
5. Take sufficient supplies.