

Info by landing site	High tide access	Low tide access	Toilets	Portage and parking	Grass rest/picnic area	Distance ex Greenhithe (kms)
Attwood Reserve	Y	Y	N	Y	N	0.8
Christmas Beach*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	1
Hobsonville Landing	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	2.5
Kell Reserve	Y	N	Y	N	Y	6
Manuka Reserve	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	5
Rahui Reserve*	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	1.2
Rame Reserve (Greenhithe)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	0
Riverhead Tavern	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	7
Riverhead Wharf Road	Y	Y	N	Y	N	7.3
Riverlea Reserve*	Y	N	N	Y	Y	4.2
Sanders Reserve Beach	Y	N	N	N	Y	2.5
Taipari Strand	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	10
Twin Wharf Reserve	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	0.9
Waimarie Beach*	Y	N	N	Y	N	2.3
Westpark Marina	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	7
Wharepapa Reserve*	Y	N	N	Y	Y	2.6
Wharf Reserve	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	4.8

*Full tide launching only

Local quick facts

- Known as Tauhinu by Iwi, Greenhithe comes from the Old English word 'hithe' or 'hythe', meaning wharf. The name was given by Henry James Blyth, who settled here in 1882 from Greenhithe, a village on the River Thames in Kent, England.
- Herald Island, previously known as Pine Island, was renamed in 1950 after the HMS Herald.
- In 1958 the building of a new causeway gave vehicles access to Herald Island from Kauri Rd, Whenuapai.
- The Greenhithe Bridge was built in 1975 as an alternative harbour crossing spanning the upper Waitematā from Hobsonville to Greenhithe on the North Shore.
- Wai-te-matā means 'obsidian waters' – the glassy surface resembled volcanic obsidian rock.

Paddling safety checklist

- Check tides for flow direction and height
- Check marine weather forecast
- Check kayak, drain plug and equipment (don't overload)
- Life jacket – wear at all times
- Food and drinking water
- Correct clothing for conditions
- Two forms of communication (cell phone/radio) in a water-tight bag
- Tell someone your plans and when you are due back
- Check kayak and equipment for plant and animal pests.

Hazards: be aware

- Strong tidal currents
- Changeable weather
- Boating traffic
- Mud flats – deep sticky mud
- Submerged objects
- Remote stretches of water
- Wind gusts in open areas
- Large and fast change in tide heights
- Slippery surfaces – landings, ramps and slipways.

In an Emergency

- Dial 111 and ask for the police.
- Give your nearest reserve name or landmark if possible.
- If using a VHF radio, use channel 16 (maritime distress channel) and call "mayday, mayday, mayday," followed by your position, your problem and the number of people involved.
- Listen for a reply, repeat until you get a response.

Harbour forecasts and tides

Many boating accidents happen in bad weather – if in doubt stay out!

Maritime NZ Marine Forecast

maritimenz.govt.nz/recreational-boating/marine-weather-forecasts

Metservice Marine Forecast

metservice.com/marine/boating/inner-gulf

Coastguard now casting - VHF CHANNEL 19

Upper Harbour Paddling Guide

Exploring the Northern Waitematā Harbour

Phone 09 301 0101 or visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Have a go! (Beginners)

1. Lucas Creek Cruise

Rame Reserve Greenhithe Wharf to Kell Park, Albany and return.

12km
RETURN

A relaxing return paddle up Lucas Creek leaving from Rame Reserve at the Greenhithe Wharf. With several rest stops along the way you can go as far as your fitness or your time allows for. If you are in no hurry, why not journey as far as Albany Village where a mid to high tide landing point can be found at Kell Park at the North Eastern end of the creek.

This is a great trail to give you a taste of the paddling options that the Greenhithe area has to offer.

Helpful Hint:

Leave Greenhithe on an incoming mid-tide and return from Kell Park as the tide returns to the harbour. This route is generally sheltered from most wind directions but check the weather forecast before you go.



2. Get to the Point Tour

Rame Reserve Greenhithe Wharf to Hobsonville Point and return via Twin Wharf Reserve, Herald Island.

5km
RETURN

Head out from Greenhithe Wharf past Herald Island and Twin Wharf Reserve. With the Whenuapai airbase visible in the distance, continue around the point at Marae Reserve and then under the Greenhithe Bridge, where the next stop is Hobsonville Point and the Hobsonville Wharf.

Helpful Hint:

Consider leaving Rame Reserve a couple of hours before low tide while there is less current flow. Return to Greenhithe Wharf assisted by the incoming tide. This route includes paddling in open areas so check the weather forecast before you go.



Level up! (Intermediate)

3. Saint Nicks Fave

Rame Reserve Greenhithe Wharf to Sanders Reserve Beach returning via Christmas Beach, Herald Island.

6km
RETURN

Leaving from the Greenhithe Wharf, paddle north west across Lucas Creek and then west passing Attwood Reserve Wharf. Continue onwards along the Paremoremo coast until you reach Sanders Reserve Beach. If the tide is in, stop for a break on the sandy beach and take a look at the amazing mountain bike park there. Heading home, paddle past Waimarie Beach, Whenuapai and stop at Christmas Beach for a break before completing the last leg back to Rame Reserve at Greenhithe.

Helpful Hint:

Leave the wharf at Greenhithe on an incoming mid-tide to allow a landing to be made at Sanders Reserve. Make the return journey at the top of the tide for an easier paddle.



4. Oruamo Creek Outing

Rame Reserve, Greenhithe to Manuka Reserve, Glenfield and return via Hobsonville Point.

10km
RETURN

Departing from the Greenhithe Wharf journey under the Greenhithe Bridge past Hobsonville, head east up the lesser known Oruamo or Hellyers Creek to Manuka Reserve, Glenfield for a rest stop. Make the return trip to Rame Reserve stopping for a break at either Hobsonville Point or Twin Wharf Reserve, Herald Island.

Helpful Hint:

Leave the wharf at Rame Reserve at half tide incoming to allow an easy landing to be made at Manuka Reserve near the top of the tide. Make the return journey at slack water for an easy paddle home. This route includes strong currents and paddling in open water.



Hard core! (Advanced)

5. The Riverhead Run

Rame Reserve Greenhithe Wharf to Riverhead Tavern, Riverhead and return.

14km
RETURN

Start your paddle from Greenhithe heading north west past Attwood Reserve and Sanders Reserve, head past the entrance to Paremoremo Creek and continue westward up the Riverhead River to the tavern or Wharf Road. There are various points to stretch your legs on your return trip to Greenhithe depending on the tide such as Riverlea Reserve, Waimarie Beach, Sanders Reserve, Attwood Reserve or Christmas Beach.

Helpful Hint:

Know your limits. Consider leaving vehicles at either end and making it a one way trip or give yourself that flexibility if you have less experienced paddlers in your group. Leave Rame Reserve on a low to mid incoming tide to make it a tide assisted journey. Take a break at Riverhead and then come back with the outgoing tide.



6. Tiki-tour to Taipari

Rame Reserve, Greenhithe to Taipari Strand, Te Atatu Peninsula and return.

20km
RETURN

Departing from the Greenhithe Wharf, travel south under the Greenhithe Bridge, around Bomb Point Esplanade, then head west towards Lime Burners Bay and the Westpark Marina. From the Marina, continue up the Henderson Creek to Taipari Strand. There are various points to take a break on your return trip to Greenhithe depending on the tide, such as Westpark Marina, Bomb Point Esplanade, Hobsonville Point and Twin Wharf Reserve.

Helpful Hint: Know your limits. Consider leaving vehicles at either end and making it a one way trip or give yourself that flexibility if you have less experienced paddlers in your group. Leave Rame Reserve at full tide to catch the outgoing tide as far as Limeburners Bay, if making the return trip from Taipari Strand leave near low tide to catch the incoming tide from Westpark Marina. Check weather forecasts before making the trip.

