

Sulphur Point / Marina / Strand Loop

Approx: 6.51km

Time: 20 minutes

About this ride: All flat sealed road or path, some busy roads with cycle lanes. Sulphur Point Marina and boats, magnificent harbour views and down town Tauranga. An excellent extension to Waikareao Estuary, Sulphur Point to the Lakes, Sulphur Point / Fergusson Park / Whakapaewaka Bridge, Waikareao Estuary Loop, Sulphur Point Fergusson Park Matua Saltmarsh Waikareao Estuary Loop (short loop)

Area: Tauranga

Bike Type: Road bike

Park and start: Cross Rd by the boat ramp and Nautilus Restaurant and Bar. The directions are from Cross Rd, where there is plenty of parking and toilets.

Ride out of Cross Rd, (the way you drove in), turning left which flows into Keith Allen drive for 1.3km , and down to the **Tauranga Yacht and Power Boat Club** and Marina to enjoy a little boat watching. Refreshments options and toilets are here. Retrace your path, carrying on and over the rail way line, turning right into Mirrielees Rd, at the lights turn left down a path at ground level to the Tauranga bridge. Ride under the Bridge (veering right) take a small path straight ahead that will take you towards the white building which is the Trinity Wharf Hotel and ride on the path at the front of their foundation pillars which will take you out onto the cycle path on **Dive Cres.** Continue left along this path (don't cross over the railway line.) just past Bobby's Fish shop ride onto the footpath and foreshore path and park straight ahead of you, following the shore line.

Proceed ahead, **watching out for two sets of low bollards in the middle of the path**, half way along you will come across the Hairy Maclary bronze sculptures from famed children's book author Lynley Dodd. Proceed ahead, when you get to a small white building turn right and you will see a small fountain near the rail way line, cross the rail way line **carefully** here. This is down town Tauranga. There are plenty of eating places along the Strand and shops to be explored.

Return back the way you have come.

Optional Extension: Got to Section 1 Surf 2 Geysers Loop or Surf 2 Geysers for instructions if you wish to carry on further from The Strand.

This parking area has a ' before your ride or after ' option of interest.

Fort Nautilus Dry Stack waterway to the **Nautilus Restaurant & Espresso Bar Tauranga.**

There is a bike parking area and outdoor space and tables for you to enjoy refreshments here and or walk back to the gate left of the bridge (or through the restaurant) to the most interesting Fort Nautilus Dry Stack, a three boat high storage area. (the only other one of these in New Zealand is in Auckland) All the more interesting if they are taking a boat in or out by a fork lift arrangement into the waterway while you are there ! www.fortnautilus.co.nz

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