

S13 Day Paddles - Peace River

Deep Creek Park Ramp to Harbour Heights Park Ramp Paddle Information Sheet

Description: This is a wider section of the river, just before it flows into Charlotte Harbor. Charlotte Harbor, which includes the watersheds of the Peace, Myakka and Caloosahatchee rivers, encompasses 4,468 square miles. Fresh water drains into Charlotte Harbor, creating the second largest estuary in Florida. The Charlotte Harbor estuary is 30 miles long by 7 miles wide and boasts 219 miles of shoreline. In addition to a multitude of shorebirds, you may see dolphins and an occasional manatee.

Skill Level: Novice/Intermediate

Distance/Approximate Time: 5.9 Miles/2.5 Hours

Launch Site: Deep Creek Park Ramp

Takeout Site: Harbour Heights Park Ramp

Special Considerations: This paddle requires shuttling. This section of the river has tidal influence. It also starts to widen and less protected than the upper portions of the river. Be aware of powerboaters,

Skill Level Definitions

Beginner: New to paddling and may need tips and or instructions about paddling strokes, safety procedures, and entering/exiting kayaks. Comfortable on short trips of 1 to 3 miles on protected waters, when wind does not exceed 5 mph.

Novice: Paddlers acquainted with basic paddle strokes and can manage kayak handling independently in winds not exceeding 10 mph on protected waters. Comfortable on trips up to 6 miles.

Intermediate: Paddlers with experience in basic strokes and some experience on different venues, including some open water. Comfortable on trip distances of 6 to 10 miles, winds not exceeding 15 mph.

Advanced: Seasoned paddlers who possess skills and experience to paddle all venues and conditions. Experienced in self-rescues. Should be comfortable paddling more than 10 miles in a day.

NOTE: Great care has been taken to ensure this guides accuracy, but weather, tides, and water conditions can change rapidly and create hazardous conditions. These maps are for visual reference only, please consult NOAA Charts for navigation. Paddlers should have all proper safety equipment and check conditions before departure. All paddlers should always wear PFDs while on the water, and leave a float plan. There are inherent dangers in any paddle sport. There are special hazards along the Florida coast due to shifting tides, changing wind and weather, shallow waters, and treacherous bottoms with soft mud, rocks, and oyster bars. It is up to each paddler to be aware of these dangers, to accept and be prepared for the risks involved, and to be certain they have the skills to safely paddle in these conditions.