

## S13TT Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - 10,000 Islands

### Mud Bay Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** Ten Thousand Islands is well-named. When you get far from the Gulf, the passes and little islands all look the same. This is a long paddle, fairly protected paddle. Head NE from the launch across Goodland Bay and then to the pass that takes you into Palm Bay. Parts of Palm Bay and Goodland Bay are shallow at very low tide. Go north-east in Palm Bay and it will funnel you into Royal Palm Hammock Creek and into Mud Bay. Paddle around in Mud bay if you can, but if tide is going out, be careful - the bay empties quickly. Back out the creek into Palm Bay and stay along the eastern shore heading south. Keep Tripod Key on your right, go around the southern tip and head back north to Goodland.

**Skill Level:** Advanced

**Distance/Time:** 14.8 Miles 7 Hours

**Launch Site:** Goodland Boating Park is located at 740 Palm Point Drive, Goodland, on Goodland Bay with direct access to Ten Thousand Islands. The park has a two-lane concrete boat launch ramp, ample trailer parking, and wet slips for rent, a ship store, covered picnic pavilion with grill, fishing pier and fish cleaning station, and a life jacket loan program. There is a launch fee.

**Special Considerations:** GPS, maps and compass are a must. Mud Bay, Palm Bay, Goodland Bay, and one of the unnamed bays have sand bars and low spots. Mud Bay is extremely shallow and impassable on low tide, difficult on medium tides and requires a high tide to get around. Pay attention to the tides and currents. Cuts are hard to see until you're right on them.

#### 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.