

S19 Day Paddles - Loxahatchee River Area

Loxahatchee Blueway Trail Information Sheet

Description: This leisurely paddle on the Loxahatchee Blueway is a marked trail in the Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area. This is an easy paddle with almost no current, through several environments including a cypress dome. A short portage(sometimes muddy) is required on Anhinga Creek. You can take a rest on Anhinga Island before turn around. Plenty of wetland birds can be seen along the trail, including herons, egrets, limpkins and snail kites.

Skill Level: Novice

Distance/Approximate Time: 4.5 Miles 2.5 Hours

Launch Site: Loxahatchee Slough Natural Area Paddle Launch

Special Considerations: There is an area on Anhinga Creek that usually requires a short (sometimes muddy) portage, except during periods of high water. The area is next to an island hammock about halfway between the PGA Blvd bridge and Ibis Island. On your return, be careful not to take the left fork that is northwest of Ibis Island. Limited parking.

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.