

S1 Day Paddles - Perdido River

Heron Bayou Paddle Information Sheet

Description: This is a short paddle heading southwest along the east bank of the Perdido River. Most of the river shoreline is sparsely developed, however, once you turn into Heron Bayou the rest of the bayou has good buffer from residences most of the way, especially once you get past the US98 bridge. The creek continues beyond the turnaround point if you feel like doing a little more exploring.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Distance/Approximate Time: 6.2 Miles/3 Hours

Launch Site: Millview Paddle Launch

Special Considerations: The Perdido river is wide at this point and can get quite rough at times, especially with winds out of the north or west. Be careful 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.