

Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - St Lucie River - North Fork

Oxbow Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Launch site is the beautiful full facilities River Park Marina just off East Prima Vista Blvd. This is a free public park. River Park Marina (St Lucie River Park Ramp) is on an island in the North Fork of the Saint Lucie River. Launch from the sandy launch site next to the double boat launch ramps. Head north or south to go around the island and enter the River. Head north and take the right 2nd Oxbow and 4th Oxbow creek entrances past the Bridge. The first right after the bridge dead ends. Return is back to the launch site.

Skill Level: Novice/Intermediate

Distance/Time: 5.3 Miles/Approximately 2.5 hours

Launch Site: Port St Lucie River Park Ramp 500 East Prima Vista Blvd, Port St Lucie, FL

Special Considerations: After heavy rains there will be a South flow current.

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.