

S24 Day Paddles - ICW

Douglas Crane Park to Lighthouse Park Paddle Information Sheet

Description: This is a fairly short paddle along the ICW. You'll pass under two bridges, the US A1A bridge and the Bridge of Lions that goes into St Augustine. Rounding the corner and heading into Salt Run, which is a great estuarine tidal marsh, you may see dolphins, manatees and turtles. If you want to get a little more paddling in, continue down to the southern end of Salt Run to Anastasia State Park and a less developed stretch of the Run.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Distance/Approximate Time: 5.4 Miles/ 2.5 Hours

Launch Site: Douglas C Crane Park

Takeout Site: Lighthouse Park

Special Considerations: Best launching at high tide. This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. Heavy boat traffic on the ICW, especially on weekends. Not recommended on windy days.

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.