

S24 Day Paddles - ICW

Long Creek Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Paddlers on this unique estuary system will see Florida's natural beauty, majestic birds, oyster beds, leaping mullet and much more. Enjoy the serenity of the open salt marsh with the peace of mind of having markers to guide your journey! The six-mile trip from Long Creek Nature Preserve to Bing's Landing closely follows the 19th-century shipping routes to the Hernandez Landing Site, the first point of commerce for the county. The Hernandez Landing Site is on the southeast side of the Long Creek Nature Preserve, and future phases of the nature preserve will highlight this archeological resource. Also, if you have even the slightest interest in BBQ, you can't go to Bings Landing without checking out Captains BBQ next door for arguably some of the best BBQ in Florida.

Skill Level: Novice/Intermediate

Distance/Approximate Time: 5.9 Miles/3.5 Hours

Launch Site: Long Creek Preserve Paddle Launch

Takeout Site: Bings Landing

Special Considerations: Best launching at high tide. This paddle requires shuttling vehicles.

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.