

S25 Day Paddles - ICW

Deep Creek/Shad Creek Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Take this trip clockwise by heading under the CR 105 bridge and up Sisters Creek. Just past Shell Island on your right, you can enter the marsh creeks at St Johns Bar Cut and head north. The loop then circles around eastward and then southerly to Shad Creek before heading southwest to Deep Creek and back to Sisters Creek, which is the ICW. Another launch option is the nearby Jim King Park Ramp just across from CR 105.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Distance/Approximate Time: 5.9 Miles/3 Hours

Launch Site: Sisters Creek - Joe Carlucci Park Ramp

Special Considerations: This paddle is best paddled about an hour and a half before high tide, so that you can ride the tide up Sisters Creek and ride it back through the creeks. Strong currents and heavy boat traffic from the ramp to the CR 105 bridge.

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.