

## S25 Day Paddles - ICW

### Pumpkin Hill Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** This paddle is through the Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park. It is actually a tributary of the Nassau River and runs all the way to Sisters Creek (ICW). The peaceful and pristine marsh waters are a haven for shore birds, otters, redfish and trout.. The southern tip of Black Hammock Island to your east once held the Mission of Santa Cruz y San Buenaventura de Guadalquini back in the late 1600s. Once you reach Sisters Creek hang a left to Horseshoe Creek and the Cedar Point Paddle Launch.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 7.5 Hours/4 Hours

**Launch Site:** Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve SP Paddle Launch

**Takeout Site:** Timucuan Eco and Historic Preserve- Cedar Point Paddle Launch

**Special Considerations:** This paddle can be done in either direction. Take advantage of the wind direction and tide for a more leisurely 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