

## S25SJR Day Paddles - St Johns River

## St Johns River-Bayard Conservation Area-Davis Landing Primitive Camp Trip Information Sheet

**Description:** The St. Johns is a tidal river and up to two miles wide at this point which can affect paddling conditions. Davis Landing campsite has a picnic table and fire ring. This conservation area is part of the 10,000 acre St Johns River Water Management District.. It has almost 7 miles of St Johns River shoreline.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate/Advanced

**Distance/Time:** 6.6 Miles/Approximately 3.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Governors Creek Boat Ramp

**Special Considerations:** The St. Johns is a tidal river and up to two miles wide at this point which can seriously affect paddling conditions. Try to take advantage of the tides when paddling to and from the camping area. Not recommended on windy days due to the width and depth of the river. Since this area also serves as a FWC Wildlife Management Area and is open during hunting season, please contact them for restrictions if planning a trip during hunting season. Contact Clay County Parks and Rec if you need to leave a vehicle at Governors Creek ramp parking area overnight. Please practice "Leave No Trace" principles.

### 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.