

S25SJR Day Paddles - St Johns River

St Johns River - Leg 12 Paddle Information Sheet

Description: As you paddle North, the East shore is mostly residential. The West Shore includes large spoil islands and Blount Island a large shipping container port. Mill Cove provides paddlers with the opportunity to leave the main navigation channel of the St. Johns and enter an area ideally suited to paddle craft. The cove is uniformly shallow and fairly well protected from wind and wave action, and paddlers in this area should be able to see plenty of birds and wildlife while enjoying an easy paddle without regard to powerboat traffic.

Skill Level: Intermediate/Advanced

Distance/Time: 7.9 Miles/Approximately 3.5 hours

Launch Site: Reddie Point Preserve Paddle Launch. Bathroom facilities on site.

Takeout Site: Fulton Rd Paddle Launch

Special Considerations: Shuttle required. Increased boat traffic especially on the weekend. Conditions can get rough if windy due to the width of the river. Strong tides. Sections of the paddle are near the shipping channel.

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.