

## S28 Day Paddles - Lakes

## Hampton Lake Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** This short paddle is around the shoreline of the 822 acre Hampton Lake, located just west of Hwy 301, south of Starke, FL. It is a cool spring fed deep lake, and it's water levels are fairly consistent compared to the usual rain dependent lakes. Maximum depth is 60 feet. About 2/3 of the lake is developed, but most homes are set back from the lake. The south and southwest shorelines are not developed, and like most of the lake, lined with Cypress. It is a popular local fishing lake.

**Skill Level:** Novice

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 4.4 Miles/2.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Hampton Lake County Ramp

**Special Considerations:** Limited parking at the ramp.

### 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.