

Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - Lower Aucilla River

Nutall Rise to Mandalay Ramp Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Launch at Nutall Rise, just below where the Aucilla re-emerges from underground, and head down stream and under the HWY 98 bridge. On your right you'll pass the confluence of the Wacissa River and shortly thereafter a few homes on your left. Continue downstream to the Mandalay takeout on your left.

Skill Level: Novice

Distance/Time: 2.8 Miles/Approximately 1.5 hours

Launch Site: Nutall Rise Ramp on Aucilla Landing Road off HWY 98

Takeout Site: Mandalay Ramp at the end of Mandalay Road off HWY 98

Special Considerations: This paddle requires shuttling and is influenced by tidal action.

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.