

Coastal, Rivers and Blueways Trails

Crooked River Trail - Leg 1

Carrabelle City Ramp to Campsite #44 Information Sheet

Description: Launch from the Carrabelle City Ramp and paddle up stream on the Carrabelle River under the HWY 98 bridge. Just after the second bend take a right at the mouth of the Crooked River. As its name implies, this is a truly crooked river, often times paddling in opposite directions within minutes. This section is mostly through tidal marsh. Continue under the CR 67 bridge and the high campsite is about 3.6 miles on your right.

Skill Level: Advanced, due to distance

Distance/Time: 16.2 Miles/Approximately 6 Hours

Launch Site: Carrabelle City Ramp

Campsite: Campsite #44

Special Considerations: This primitive site is In Tates Hell State Forest and requires a permit. Reservations required for Campsite #44. Go to Reserve America, Tates Hell - Crooked River Campsites or call 877-879-3859. For easier paddling catch the incoming tide.

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.