

Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - Steinhatchee Area

Rocky Creek-Sink Creek Paddle Information Sheet

Description: This is an open water paddle. Launch from Rocky Creek and paddle about 5 miles to Sink Creek, one of the most remote and scenic campsites on the Big Bend Saltwater Paddling Trail. This is an enticing, shady picnic destination. A short hike reveals an eerie landscape of skeletal trees, perfect for black & white photography. Visit the freshwater spring boil a short paddle upstream from the campsite by the ramp, then return to Rocky Creek.

Skill Level: Advanced

Distance/Time: 4.9 Miles each way/4 Hours

Launch Site: Take CR 361 south out of Jena, continue about 5.6 miles from Casey's Cove Convenience Store to Rocky Creek Road on your right. Follow that road to the ramp.

Special Considerations: Open water. Spray skirts recommended

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.