

Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - Steinhatchee Area

Upper Dallus Creek Paddle/Hike Information Sheet

Description: This short trip is perfect for beginners and those seeking a laid-back, easy going trip along a sinuous, blackwater creek that winds through salt marsh and is home to abundant wildlife. After a short paddle upstream, take a mile-long hike through a marked long-leaf pine restoration area that borders the creek's edge, and experience the rich biodiversity of the Tide Swamp Big Bend Wildlife Management Area. Bring a camera.

Skill Level: Novice

Distance/Time: **Paddle:** 1.5 Miles Total/ 1 Hour

Hike: 1.1 Miles/ 45 Minutes

Launch Site: Dallas Creek Landing - Take CR 400 (Beach Road) north out of Steinhatchee, go about 5.6 Miles after turning north from the river to the Dallus Creek Landing sign on your left. Turn left on Dallus Creek Rd. Continue on Dallus Creek Rd 3.1 miles to the boat ramp.

Special Considerations: Best paddled on mid to high 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.