

S6 Day Paddles - Suwannee Area

Hog Island Creek Paddle Information Sheet

Description: This is a great paddle with a myriad of sceneries. It starts off on the canals heading out to the river, then a short paddle on the wide part of the Suwannee to East Pass. After leaving East Pass the creek turns into mostly hardwood hammock creeks consisting of Gum and Bay trees with a few Cedars and Cypress. The paddle continues along to where the wood line is on your right and the marsh on your left. Sawgrass, and duck potato, with some dodder are common along this section. The paddle continues to the Gulf and black needlerush takes over. The trail then turns back into the marsh creeks in a northerly direction changing from needlerush to sawgrass with some maidencane in the winding creeks, and back to the Suwannee River. Wildlife seen are Osprey, Eagles, gators, manatees, dolphins and various waterbirds, including migratory waterfowl during the Fall and Winter months.

Skill Level: Advanced

Distance/Approximate Time: 13 Miles/5 Hours

Launch Site: Anderson Landing Ramp

Special Considerations: Recommend paddling on medium to high tide. If you leave around high tide, you can ride it out, then ride the incoming tide back.. A GPS is definitely needed, there are a lot of side creeks and it can be a confusing area to navigate in. There is only one place to get out and stretch your legs at a sandy hammock about halfway on this trail.

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.