

Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - Suwannee Area

Suwannee River Primitive Camp Trip Information Sheet

Description: Leave a vehicle at the Yellowjacket ramp and head to Joe Anderson Park to launch Experience camping overnight on the Suwannee River. Bring your binoculars, and a camera. Prepare for bugs if the wind drops. All paddlers must be gear/food/water independent. Please note this is **primitive** camping. There is no water, or bathroom facilities available. Please practice "Leave No Trace" camping. Reservations must be made with Manatee Springs SP. Cars may be left overnight at Joe Anderson Ramp. Options on the way down include brief visits to Fanning Springs SP and/or Manatee Springs SP. In the morning, continue down river 2 miles for a take out at Yellowjacket.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Distance/Time: To Campsite 9.7 Miles/3 Hours To Yellowjacket 2.1 Miles/1 Hour

Launch Site: Joe Anderson Ramp—From the Light at HWY 19 and CR 349: Head south 3.2 miles to SE 989th St. and take a right continue to SE 155th St and take a left. Continue to the ramp at the end of the road.

Special Considerations: This is the wide part of the River, winds can make for a rough passage. Sprayskirts recommended if windy. This Paddle requires shuttling.

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.