

Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips—Chassahowitzka Area

Blue Spring and The Crack Information Sheet

Description: Launch at the Chassahowitzka River Campground and paddle down river to Baird Creek on your left. About 3/4 of the way up the creek you'll pass Blue Spring which has a beautiful color but unfortunately is not clear. Continue on up to the end where you will have to walk a short distance to the Crack. This is a clear flowing spring and a great place to take a swim and have lunch if it's not too busy. Then retrace your path and head back to the campgrounds.

Skill Level: Novice

Distance/Time: 2.6 Miles Total/ 2 Hours

Launch Site: Chassahowitzka River Campground at the end of Miss Maggie Drive

Special Considerations: Parking/Launching Fee

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.