

## Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - Ozello Area

## Hangover Island Primitive Camp Trip Information Sheet

**Description:** Launch from the Ozello Ramp and hug the left shore through the narrow pass and head out to the Gulf. Follow the outside shore and cut in behind the islands that make up Mangrove Point. Continue along the coast and cut in through Grey Mare Pass into Fish Creek Bay. Turn south at the mouth of Fish Creek and head over to and up St. Martins River where the Hangover campsite will be on your left. The campsite is a high cedar/Australian Pine shaded shell island that used to be the site of a hunt/fishing lodge in the early 1900s. The return trip is up St. Martins River to Black Creek which will take you northward through the tidal marsh and back to the ramp.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Distance/Time:** Day 1: 10.8 Miles/ 4-5 Hours, Day 2: 5.2 Miles/2.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Ramp at end of Ozello Road (CR 494)

**Special Considerations:** Open water paddling. Try to time Gulf portion at mid to high tide. Navigation may be difficult on Black Creek.

### 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.