

S8 Day Paddles and Overnight Camping Trips - ICW

Dunedin Causeway South Paddle Trip Information Sheet

Description: The spoil islands in the south (these islands were made from the dredgings of the Intracoastal Canal) are excellent for resting or camping. The mangrove trail starts at the Caladesi marina and runs almost the full length of Caladesi Island. Because storms have closed a channel, Caladesi Island is now part of Clearwater Beach - so if you want to circumnavigate Caladesi Island you need to do a portage of about 50 yards.

Skill Level: Intermediate /Advanced

Distance/Approximate Time: 9 Miles/4 Hours

Launch Site: Dunedin Causeway Sail and Paddle Launch

Special Considerations: You can park on the beach 10 feet from the water and leave your car there, so access is fantastic. One major caution is that there is a major boat channel running parallel to the causeway - not a problem, except on weekends. This area is very tide sensitive. Open water paddling.

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.