

S23 Day Paddles - St Johns River

Salt Springs to Silver Glen Springs Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Launch from the Marina. There is a small beach area next to the ramp for launching paddleboats. The run down Salt Springs is fairly wide and loaded with flora along the shoreline. Usually you can spot a few gators, both in the run and out in the lake, especially as you approach the entrance to Silver Glen. As you approach the lake, there is a small island on your right where you can get out and stretch your legs and grab a snack.

Skill Level: Advanced

Distance/Approximate Time: 11.2 Miles 4.5 Hours

Launch Site: Salt Springs Marina Ramp

Takeout Site: Ocala National Forest - Silver Glen Springs Rec Area Paddle Launch

Special Considerations: This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. Park entry/launch fees. Long portage from beach to parking lot at takeout. Often the Silver Glen area is congested with powerboats anchored below the beach area. Lake George is a large lake and it can get quite rough on windy days.

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.