

S25 Day Paddles - St Johns River Eastern Watershed

Pottsburg Creek Paddle Information Sheet

Description: Except for the first mile or so on the St Johns River, this is a fairly protected paddle through a mostly residential area in the center of the greater Jacksonville area. Pottsburg Creek is actually a tributary of the Arlington River. Although mostly developed, the last third of this paddle is in more of a wild state, especially the east bank. If you want to add more to your paddle, the creek continues another half mile or so beyond the turnaround point.

Skill Level: Intermediate

Distance/Approximate Time: 8 Miles/4 Hours

Launch Site: Arlington Rd Ramp

Takeout Site: Beach Blvd Ramp

Special Considerations: Strong currents in the St Johns. Paddling on an incoming tide is recommended. This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. Not many powerboats launch at the Beach Blvd ramp due to the low headroom at the nearby bridge.

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.