

## S8 Day Paddles - Tampa Bay

## Coffeepot Bayou/Coquina Key Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** This is a unique urban paddle to investigate St. Pete from the water. You will see some great homes along the water, the St Pete Pier, now under construction, the yacht basin & sailing club, Dali Museum, Albert Whitted Airport, and the buildings of downtown St. Pete - truly a unique perspective. There are great rest stops at both Lasser Park and North Shore Park, although there are no restrooms at Lasser Park.

**Skill Level:** Intermediate

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 5.9 Miles/3.5 Hours

**Launch Site:** Coffeepot Bayou Park Ramp

**Special Considerations:** This area can have heavy power boat traffic, especially on weekends, this trip is best done on weekdays. Open water paddling, so this is not a trip for an inexperienced paddler. There is very limited parking at Coffeepot Bayou Park, so the earlier the launch the better.

### 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.