

S10 Day Paddles - ICW

Tomoka River Paddle Information Sheet

Description: After launching, head upstream and under the I-95 Bridge. The next bridge is the SR 40 Bridge and a good turnaround point. Although the upper part of the paddle is through a fairly developed area, most of it is buffered by natural vegetation. If the current is too strong going upstream, you can turn around at any pint and head downstream. The lower part of this paddle is through the more pristine Tomoka Marsh Aquatic Preserve which is nestled among a group of stunning State Parks, including Tomoka, Bu-low, Gamble Rogers, and Addison Blockhouse.

Skill Level: Advanced due to distance

Distance/Approximate Time: 12 Miles/6 Hours

Launch Site: Ormond Beach River Bend Nature Park Paddle Launch

Takeout Site: Tomoka River State Park Paddle Launch

Special Considerations: The first third of this paddle is upstream against the current, which is dependent mostly on rainfall. and can be difficult at times. This paddle requires shuttling vehicles. State Park entry fee.

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 stokes 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.