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Paddler's Guide To The Sunshine State



Synopsis

"A thorough, comprehensive guide to canoeing and kayaking in Florida. . . . It is a necessary as well as an entertaining guidebook for every paddler's library."--Brad Manley, Paddle Florida

"Do you yearn for a glimpse of Florida as it was a century ago? This book shows you how to move silently down the Sunshine State's many rivers and creeks and coastal flats, all the while enjoying scenery and wildlife of all kinds. The best paddles from Pensacola to Key West are described in detail, along with specialized instructions."--Richard W. Bowles, Florida Sportsman

Paddler's Guide to the Sunshine State is the most comprehensive and up-to-date source of information on paddling in Florida--bound so that it lies open at each page for easy reference or photocopying--and is fully indexed. Whether you're a first-time paddler or a whitewater veteran, whether you're looking for an easy going two-hour tour with your family or a week-long solo adventure, this book lists the most delightful destinations to explore in a state famous for its scenic waterways. From the vast flats of the Florida Keys to the rivers and springs of the Florida Panhandle, Paddler's Guide to the Sunshine State gives directions to 91 Florida waterways, separated into 271 individual canoeing and kayaking excursions. For each of the 91 destinations, veteran paddler and outdoor writer Sandy Huff tells her readers where to rent or buy canoes and kayaks, evaluates the difficulty of each trail, supplies emergency phone numbers and a customized map showing launch and take-out sites, average length, and paddling time for each leg, and presents a candid discussion of the waterway. In introductory chapters, she offers safety tips on camping basics, dressing for comfort, coping with insects, sunburn, and power boats, and reading the weather and water currents. She describes Florida flora and fauna that paddlers might encounter--birds, alligators, manatees, snakes, plants, and trees--and lists paddling clubs around the state as well as Internet web addresses for additional paddling information. Sandy Huff's down-home, anecdotal writing style has appeared in more than 800 magazines and newspapers, including Canoe and Kayak Magazine and The Saturday Evening Post. A Florida native and resident of Safety Harbor, she has traveled the length and breadth of the state, paddling every major waterway and numerous side streams, and has 25 years of experience as a canoe instructor. This book is a compilation of Huff's all-time favorite trips, and it includes contributions by six guest writers, all expert paddlers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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This guide is extremely useful when paddling in Florida. Find all those little hidden spots. Don't miss a great spot to paddle because you didn't "see it" there. Find the good spots that aren't on tourist

maps.

There is a lot of good information in this book, but most of it can be found toward the beginning. The tips on predicting the weather alone could be worth the price of the book. However, the maps of the various waterways were absolutely terrible. I would recommend this book for a general overview and lots of tips and tricks for paddlers, and the two "Canoeing and Kayaking the Streams of Florida" guides for detailed information on specific waterways.

This book is very thorough. The best one I have come across. It includes a section on Paddling Tips, Florida animals and plants, and then details on 91 different trips.

Interesting book and a great help if you like Kayaking etc. Used with other similar books in planing camping trips.

A great paddling guide. Lacks colored pictures but the detailed trail guides and descriptions and excellent. Use it all the time.

I bought this book hoping to find a good guide to kayaking in Florida. This book was not what I sought, as the personal anecdotes about kayaking seemed to far outnumber the actual information about the trails.

Better than nothing. It lacks concise useful information for finding paddling put ins, take outs and obstacles. She is a little long winded on her anecdotes.

It would have been nice if locations and status of put-ins and take-outs were included. Also, there is a real lack of information about paddling opportunities on the east coast from south of Sebastian and north of Jupiter. Uh Hello??? The book just basically ignores the Indian River Lagoon, the North and South Forks of the St Lucie River, Ten Mile Creek and Blue Cypress Lake. There little to no mention of Indian River County and St. Lucie County, no information about paddling and camping spoils islands in the IRL, nothing about the numerous state parks, preserves, Pelican National Wildlife refuge. Nothing about paddling the Savannahs.

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