

Lake Rousseau Paddle

Description: Launch at Dessie Smith Park and paddle the western end of scenic Lake Rousseau which was formed in 1909 when Florida Power built a hydroelectric dam on the Withlacoochee River. There are usually plenty of birds on this body of water, so bring your binoculars and camera. Watch out for the tree stumps!

Skill Level: Novice

Minimum Boat Size: Canoe or Kayak 12'

Distance/Time: 7.6 Miles/3 Hours

Indigenous Wildlife: Eagles, ospreys, various shorebirds and waterfowl, raccoons, and otters.

Launch Site: Go south on HWY 19 from Inglis, over the Barge Canal Bridge, continue down to West Riverwood Drive on your left. Turn there and continue straight. Road eventually turns to the right, and the Park and ramp are on your left just after the curve.

NOTE: Great care has been taken to ensure this guide's accuracy, but weather, tides, and water conditions can change rapidly and create hazardous conditions. Routes may change due to weather considerations. Users should consult NOAA Charts for navigation. Paddlers should have all proper safety equipment and check conditions before departure. All participants are required to wear PFDs while on water based events.

