

Blueway # 27

The Northern Isles

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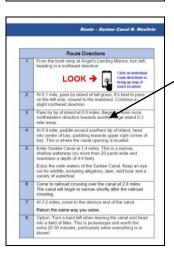


Convenient Functionality Built into This Guide



On Map Pages:

Using your phone (or touch-screen enabled device), tap any of the route numbers to bring up a map of the exact location!





On Route Direction Pages:

Tap anywhere in the individual direction boxes to bring up a map of the exact location!



The Northern Isles - Lake Marion

27



There are acres and acres of cypress and tupelo trees to paddle among!

Summary Located approximately 1 mile above Church

Island on Lake Marion, The Northern Isles consist of two islands (Pine Island and Bass Island) and several other large cypress fields. You'll paddle through acres and acres of cypress and tupelo trees, see the large waterfowl that the Santee Cooper lakes are known for, and have several opportunities to get out and stretch our legs or have lunch on a

small sandy beach.

Difficulty Moderate

Distance 7 - 10 miles, best suited as exploration

Time 3 - 5 hours

Crowds Usually very light boat traffic

Boat Type Kayaks or canoes 12-feet or longer. Even

though paddle boards are not officially

recommended, they are found here often in the

summer.

Put In / Take Out Spiers Landing Boat Ramp, 1505 Spiers

Landing Road, Cross, SC 29436.

GPS: 33.395937, -80.197160

33°23'45.4"N, 80°11'49.8"W

Directions: If you search "Spiers Landing Boat

Ramp," all GPS mapping applications

recognize this location.

Fees/Permits None

Current If you get out into the open water, east of the

islands, there could be a small current in the

south direction.

Tidal Influence None.

Precautions: You'll have protection from some winds with the

islands, however, there are plenty of open spaces in Lake Marion where winds can intensify resulting in waves/whitecaps.



This map corresponds with route directions numbered 1 - 5 on page 6.

Route Directions - see map on page 5	
1	Leave the boat ramp and head in a general northeast direction towards the large island - Church Island.
2	Arrive at Church Island in approximately 1 mile. Continue paddling around the island, staying close to the shoreline, and heading north. Once you get to the northern edge of the island, continue in a northeast direction across open water towards obvious clumps of trees in the distance.
3	At 2 miles, arrive at cypress thickets on both sides of your kayak. This is a pretty area to explore.
4	Continue northeast for another 0.4 mile and arrive at Pine Island. There is lots to explore here. You can weave in and out of more cypress trees and/or circumnavigate the island. There's a beach on the north side of the island (see map).
5	Approximately 0.8 mile (4,000 ft.) to the west of Pine Island is Bass Island. This is another pretty cypress island. There's a beach on west side of the island, facing south (see map).
	Return the same way you paddled out.

The Northern Isles



The eerie and beautiful trees are the highlights of this awesome Blueway.



You'll cross a little open water to reach this Blueway's namesake.