



Suwannee River Wilderness Trail

The storied Suwannee River begins in Georgia's Okefenokee Swamp and flows 246 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. It is one of the longest undammed rivers in the United States. The river is known for its high limestone banks, arching live oaks, and the highest concentration of freshwater springs in the country. Overnight opportunities at river camps, state parks, and county and private campgrounds are generally available at 10- to 15-mile intervals. This data book is intended to help with planning for overnight trips.

The Suwannee River Wilderness Trail begins at the Highway 41 Bridge ramp in White Springs Wayside Park (river mile 171). It is not recommended to leave a parked vehicle there overnight, so one may check about leaving a vehicle at [Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park](#) just west of White Springs (river mile 168.3), where you can also launch, or check with [American Canoe Adventures](#) in downtown White Springs. If paddling above White Springs, primitive camping is the primary option and it is highly recommended to portage around Big Shoals, Florida's only class 3 rapids, due to sharp limestone rocks.

River Camps

Five river camps are situated along the river and are currently available for [reservations](#). Platforms and campsites that are not reserved are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations are encouraged. Each river camp features five screened sleeping pavilions, primitive campsites, and restrooms and hot showers. Each pavilion can sleep up to eight people and they have ceiling fans, electricity and hooks for hammocks. They are not accessible to users by vehicle. One can also camp along the river on land managed by the [Suwannee](#)

[River Water Management District](#) with a free special use authorization permit. Call 386-362-1001 or email recreation@srwmd.org. However, one reason the river camps were established was to reduce the impacts of primitive camping along the river.

Water Levels

The [USGS gage at White Springs](#) should read above 52 feet for ideal paddling conditions, but paddling can be dangerous when it is above 62 feet and some river camps and parks can be closed. Check the [Suwannee River Wilderness Trail website](#) for closure information.

For more information about the river and paddling, explore the following websites:

[Suwannee River Wilderness Trail website](#)

[Large trail map showing launches](#)

[Launch sites/public lands map with zoom capability](#)

[Suwannee River Water Management District Paddling Recommendations](#)
and [current river levels](#)

[FL Paddling Trails Association - Upper River](#)

[FL Paddling Trails Association - Lower River](#)

[List of Suwannee River Outfitters](#)

[Florida State Park Reservations for cabins and campsites](#)

[Paddle Florida](#)

Paddling Guide (This detailed guide from 2015 has good info, but some of it is outdated. Double check with data book)

Recommended gear and safety equipment: Information for an overnight or multi-day trip on the river.

Trip tips and safety information: Applicable for day and overnight trips.

Wildlife viewing tips

Note: use the following overnight data in conjunction with the [Suwannee River Wilderness State Trail Story Map](#).

Suwannee River Wilderness Trail Overnight Stops

Directions such as “river right” or “river left” are for paddling downstream.

RC = River Camp

C = Campground

L = Cabins/Lodging

<i>River Mile #</i>	<i>Type of amenity</i>	<i>GPS # (decimal- degrees)</i>	<i>Directions</i>
171	Highway 41 Bridge ramp. Beginning of the Suwannee River Wilderness Trail.	30.3258, -82.7388	In White Springs on northeast side of bridge.
168.3	C, L – Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park (campground, 2 primitive group camps, and 5 cabins)	30.3271, -82.7695	Launch area on river right. Easy access by road as well.
158	RC – Woods Ferry River Camp	30.3539, -82.8554	On river left. Long ramps lead to camp, depending on water levels.
148.5	C, L - Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park	30.406, -82.9491	On river left. Reserve ahead of time and walk to office to register.
140.9	RC – Holton Creek River Camp	30.4294, -83.0361	On river right.
135.4	C - Gibson County Park	30.4376, -83.0934	On river right.
127.7	C, L - Suwannee River State Park (campground, 2 primitive group camps, 5 cabins)	30.3877, -83.1689	On river left. Land on or next to boat ramp.
113.5	C, L – Advent Christian Village . Call 386-658-5200 for camping or lodge reservations.	30.2476, -83.2421	On river left. Also has small store and restaurant.
113	RC – Dowling Park River Camp	30.2463, -83.2461	On river right around sharp bend.

103	C, L - Lafayette Blue Springs State Park (tent only camping, 5 cabins)	30.1271, -83.2254	On river right.
95.8	RC - Peacock Slough River Camp	30.1025, -83.1380	On river left.
91.5	C, L – Suwannee River Rendezvous Resort	30.0884, -83.0954	On river right. GPS is for Convict Spring entrance on property near river.
85.2	RC – Adams Tract River Camp	30.0351, -83.0189	On river right.
76	C – Ivey Memorial Park, Branford. Let Suwannee River County Sheriff's Dept. know you are camping – 352-435-5585	29.9536, -82.9281	Use second boat ramp on river left and camp to right of rest area behind canoe/kayak racks.
65.9	C, L – Ellie Ray's RV Resort	29.8986, -82.8665	1 mile up Santa Fe River on river right. Land at boat ramp.
55	C – Gornto Springs County Park	29.7803, -82.9391	On river right. Land at boat ramp.
43.3	C, L – Hart Springs County Park	29.6759, -82.9520	On river left. Paddle up spring run to canoe/kayak launch on left.
40.4	C, L – Otter Springs Park & Campground	29.6443, -82.9438	On river left. Paddle up spring run to canoe/kayak launch on right. Entrance to spring run is 29.6404, -82.9552.
34.2	C, L – Fanning Springs State Park Camping also available across river at Joe Anderson Ramp.	29.5888, -82.9366	Land at canoe\kayak launch just before boardwalk and spring run on river left.
25	C – Manatee Springs State Park Campground is a half mile walk from canoe/kayak launch.	29.4890, -82.9779	On river left. Paddle up short spring run to canoe/kayak launch on right. If spring run is closed in winter due to manatees, land along river and use boardwalk.
22.6	C – Yellow Jacket Campground	29.4638, -83.0005	River right. Primitive camping (no amenities) is to left of landing. Two tent spots with amenities available next door at Yellow Jacket RV Resort .

16.5	L – Treasure Camp at Fowlers Bluff. Cabins are available, but no camping.	29.3963, -83.026	Office and restaurant next to ramp on river left.
4	C, L – Anderson’s Landing/ Bill’s Fish Camp and Motel	29.330, -83.1433	Use map in Story Map to navigate. Ramp is just past camp on left. Entrance to inlet off of river is 29.3251, -83.1390

Report wildlife violations: Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Hotline: 1-888-404-3922 or dial #FWC or *FWC on cell phone.

FWC North Central Florida Regional Office: 386-758-0525

Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office: 386-792-1001

Columbia County Sheriff’s Office: 386-752-9212

Madison County Sheriff’s Office: 850-973-4151

Suwannee County Sheriff’s Office: 386-362-2222

Lafayette County Sheriff’s Office: 386-294-1222

Dixie County Sheriff’s Office: 352-498-1220

Gilchrist County Sheriff’s Office: 352-463-3410

Levy County Sheriff’s Office: 352-486-5111