



Paddle # 7

The Hatchery

West Lake Moultrie

www.BerkeleyBlueways.com

Distance: 3+ miles, round-trip

Time: 2–2.5 hours

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate



Convenient Functionality Built into This Guide

Map 1 of 2 - Santee Canal N. Moultrie





This map corresponds with route directions numbered 1 - 5, and 8.

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!



Route - Santee Canal N. Moultrie

| Route Directions | |
|------------------|--|
| 1 | From the boat ramp at Angel's Landing Marina, turn left, heading in a northeast direction. LOOK →  <small>Click on individual route directions to bring up map of exact location!</small> |
| 2 | At 0.1 mile, pass by island of tall grass. It's best to pass on the left side, closest to the mainland. Continue in slight northeast direction. |
| 3 | Pass by tip of island at 0.6 miles. Begin  even more northeastern direction towards another large island 0.3 mile away. |
| 4 | At 0.9 mile, paddle around southern tip of island, head into center of bay, paddling towards upper right corner of bay. This is where the canal opening is located. |
| 5 | Enter Santee Canal at 1.4 miles. This is a narrow, shallow waterway (no more than 20 yards wide and maintains a depth of 4-5 feet). Enjoy the calm waters of the Santee Canal. Keep an eye out for wildlife, including alligators, deer, wild boar and a variety of waterfowl! |
| 6 | Come to railroad crossing over the canal at 2.8 miles. The canal will begin to narrow shortly after the railroad crossing. |
| 7 | At 3.2 miles, come to the obvious end of the canal. Return the same way you came. |
| 8 | Option: Turn a hard left when leaving the canal and head into a field of lilies. This is picturesque and worth the extra 20-30 minutes, particularly when everything is in bloom! |

On Route Direction Pages:

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



The Hatchery – W. Lake Moultrie

7

Date Paddled: _____



This protected waterfowl area is full of surprises! Pictured: Egret.

Summary

The Hatchery, or sometimes called “Pinopolis Pool” by locals, is a 2,200+ acre Department of Natural Resources protected Waterfowl Management Area. It’s somewhat contained by a series of old dikes and many small islands. This paddle offers anything from a couple hours of enjoyment to an all-day adventure - there’s lots to see! Wildlife includes wading birds, song birds and small game. It offers some of the best fishing around.

Difficulty

Easy to moderate

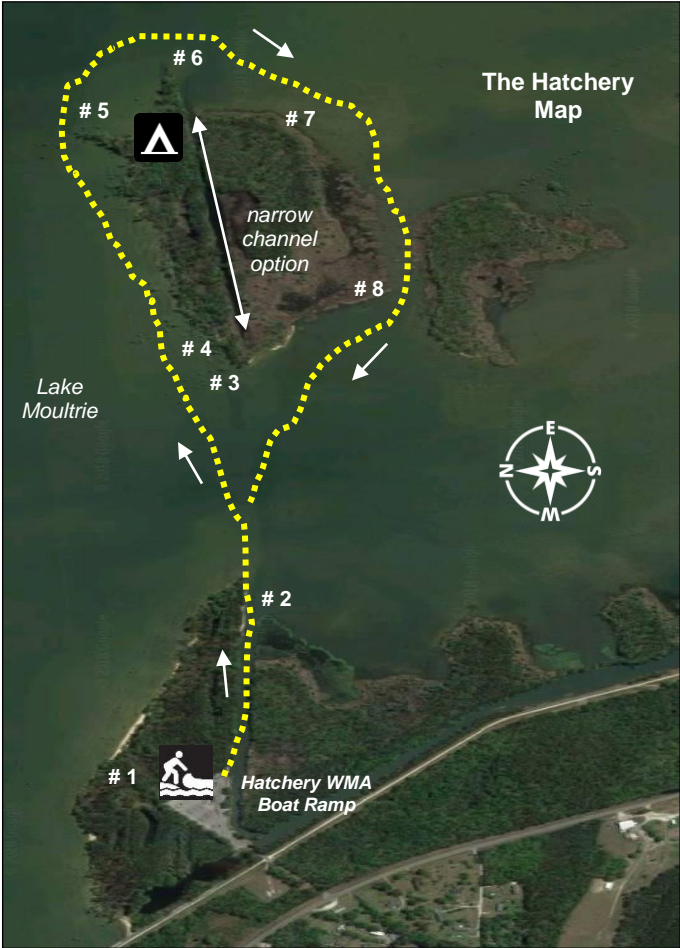
Distance

3 miles, round-trip, and exploration available

Time

2 - 2.5 hours

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Crowds | Moderate. You're almost guaranteed to see boaters/anglers, and you'll probably see other paddlers on the weekends. |
| Boat Type | Kayaks or canoes 10 feet or longer. Paddle boards are not recommended. |
| Put In / Take Out | Hatchery Wildlife Management Area, State Road S-8-802, Pinopolis, SC 29469. GPS: 33.268503, -80.103042 33°16'06.6"N, 80°06'11.0"W <u>Directions:</u> All GPS and mapping applications recognize this address. |
| Fees/Permits | None |
| Current | Negligible, generally south direction |
| Tidal Influence | None |
| Precautions: | <p>You'll have protection from some winds with a few islands and dikes, however, there are plenty of open spaces in The Hatchery where winds can intensify resulting in waves/whitecaps.</p> <p>There are hundreds of tree stumps just inches below the water's surface. These can flip a paddler if a boat gets wedged on top. Tip: these stumps can usually be seen with polarized sunglasses.</p> <p>It's advisable to wear bright orange during hunting season.</p> |



This map corresponds with route directions numbered 1 - 8 on page 6.

| Route Directions – see map on page 5 | |
|---|--|
| 1 | <p>Note: There's lots to see and explore at The Hatchery. It can offer multiple and different adventures each time you visit. For the purposes of this guide, we're recommending a fun, family-oriented big island circumnavigation that will truly be a catalyst for other Hatchery adventures.</p> <p>From the boat ramp at The Hatchery, turn left, heading down the 75-ft. wide channel.</p> |
| 2 | <p>At nearly 0.3 mile, come to open water/main body of The Hatchery. Continue straight, heading towards large island.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Reach western tip of island at 0.7 mile. Paddle on left (north) side of island.</p> |
| 4 | <p>300-ft. past tip of island, among tupelo trees, is a small beach area. This is a great spot for photos!</p> |
| 5 | <p>Continue paddling along the north side of the island, staying close to the shore. Turn right, heading south at 1.2 miles. To your right is a 250-ft. long beach area with designated camping. This is a great spot for lunch!</p> |
| 6 | <p>At 1.4 miles, round the eastern most tip of the island, turn a sharp right and begin heading back in a west direction. Continue paddling close to shore.</p> <p><u>Option:</u> 300-ft. ahead is a narrow channel opening that splits the island; it runs about 1,500-ft. (nearly the length of the island) and is a fantastic place to see wading birds!</p> |
| 7 | <p>Continue paddling close to the southern side of the island and at 1.8 miles, another island will be to your left within 200 feet.</p> |
| 8 | <p>At 1.9 miles, round the southwest tip of the island, paddle in a northwest direction towards where you started to end your paddle.</p> |



Circumnavigating the cypress lined big island at The Hatchery.



Marveling at the beautiful Golden Lotus of The Hatchery.