



Paddle # 21

# Bushy Park / Foster Creek

[www.BerkeleyBlueways.com](http://www.BerkeleyBlueways.com)

Distance: 5-6 miles, round-trip

Time: 3-4 hours

Difficulty: 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. <b>LOOK →</b>  <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 to 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. <b>Return the same way you came.</b>
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!



## Bushy Park / Foster Creek

# 21

Date Paddled: \_\_\_\_\_



*Foster Creek is known by the locals as one of the best fishing spots around!*  
**Note:** Wearing a PFD (life jacket) is always recommended.

### Summary

Foster Creek is a pretty tidal creek at the southern end of the Back River section of the Cooper River. It meanders through the Naval Weapons Station in Goose Creek. The banks are restricted access and you are not allowed to go ashore. This is a great trip for taking photos of numerous wading birds. Foster Creek is also a popular fishing area; it produces some nice largemouth bass and bluegills.

### Difficulty

Moderate, only due to distance

### Distance

10 -12 miles, round-trip

### Time

5 - 6 hours

**Crowds** Light. You're almost guaranteed a quiet, solitary paddle back in Foster Creek.

**Boat Type** Kayaks or canoes 10 feet or longer.

**Put In / Take Out** Bushy Park Boat Landing, Bushy Park Road, Goose Creek, SC 29445.

GPS: 32.967805, -79.937209  
32°58'04.1"N, 79°56'14.0"W

There are boats ramps on both sides of the road. You'll launch from the northwest side.

**Fees/Permits** None

**Current** Negligible, generally south direction

**Tidal Influence** Yes, tide is approximately 1.5 hours behind Charleston Harbor tide table

**Precautions:** Motorized boats go up and down the Back River. Most boaters will slow down and yield to paddlers, but keep a watchful eye.

**IMPORTANT:** Foster Creek goes through the Naval Weapons Station. You can paddle in the creek; however, the banks are **RESTRICTED ACCESS!**



You **CANNOT NOT GO ASHORE.** There are many signs pointing this out.

**Map – Bushy Park / Foster Creek**



This map corresponds with route directions numbered 1 - 3 on page 6.

**Route Directions - see map on page 5**

<b>1</b>	From the northwest side of the Bushy Park boat ramp, paddle north up the Back River. The river is nearly 750 ft. wide here. Paddle over close to the left shoreline. The river will consist of tall grasses and marshland.
<b>2</b>	At 0.6 mile, come to a 250-ft. wide opening on the left. This is Foster Creek. Bear left into the creek.  The banks continue to be tall grasses with blooming flowers in the warmer months, and you're likely to see many wading birds.
<b>3</b>	Paddle as far up Foster Creek as you'd like. The creek goes back another 6+ miles. The further you get up Foster Creek, there's more variety of vegetation and trees on the banks.  IMPORTANT: Keep in mind the tidal influence and time to return to the boat ramp.  <b>Return the same way you came.</b>



*Ducks on upper Foster Creek.*



*Paddling the narrow waters of upper Foster Creek.*