Crooked River State Park

Legend:
- Park Office
- Nature Center
- Group Shelter
- Picnic Shelter
- Picnic Area
- Restrooms
- Playground
- Tent & RV Camping
- Dump Station
- Recycling Area
- Cottage
- Pioneer Camping
- Boat Ramp
- Miniature Golf
- Staff Residence
- Palmetto Trail
- Sempervirens Trail
- Bay Boardwalk Trail
- Nature Center Trail
- River Trail
- Park Road
- Unpaved Road

Nature Trail - .5 miles
Sempervirens Trail - .75 miles
Palmetto Trail - 1.5 miles
Bay Boardwalk Trail - 1.25 miles
Nature Center Trail -

Campground
Gopher Tortoise Nesting Site
Bird Blind
Birding Platform
Wildlife Blind
Observation Tower

6222 Charlie Smith, Sr, Highway • St. Marys, GA 31558 • 912-882-2526 • Emergency: 911 • www.GeorgiaStateParks.org
Hiking & Nature Trail Descriptions

**Palmetto Trail**
This 1.5-mile trail highlights south Georgia's pine flatwoods, one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world. Its plants and animals are well adapted to periodic fires that maintain a habitat dominated by longleaf pine, saw palmetto and wiregrass. The open woods are ideal for watching bluebirds, vireos and warblers.

**Seminole Trail**
These old-growth hardwoods give the trail its name, which is Latin for “ever living.” Large oaks, chestnuts and hickories make up the canopy along the nature loop portion of the trail. These are nurseries of calcimine-rich soil, which was created by decomposed oyster shells left by Native Americans. This trail boasts five Georgia Champion Trees: the staggerbush lyonia, Florida soapberry, myrtle oak, champion oak, and Carolina holly. You may also see Southern magnolia, red cedar, American hawthorn and yaupon holly.

**Bay Boardwalk Trail**
A boardwalk leads to a hardwood and evergreen wetland dominated by two tree species: lobolly bay and swamp bay. Even during winter, the forest appears to be a wall of dark green, dense foliage. Typical south Georgia tree species: loblolly bay and swamp bay. Even during winter, this forest appears to be a wall of dark green, dense foliage. Typical south Georgia tree species: loblolly bay and swamp bay.

**Cherry Point Trail**
As you leave the dense hardwoods and enter the pine-oak forest, look for Southern magnolia, red cedar, American basswood and yaupon holly. This trail boasts five Georgia Champion Trees: the staggerbush lyonia, Florida soapberry, myrtle oak, champion oak, and Carolina holly. You may also see Southern magnolia, red cedar, American hawthorn and yaupon holly.

Watch for wildlife living in this tidal river. Dolphins travel in groups upriver to fish and are spotted frequently on all three trails. Once they corner a school of fish, they will surface often to breathe, so listen for their blows. River otter may also be seen swimming in the river.

A good place to look for birds is near the private dock opposite Marker 809. Please respect private property. More than a hundred gods, gourmets and egrets often perch on old oyster天花 and on the outrigger canoe. Overhead you may see flocks of small birds flying in formation, turning all at once to flash light bellies and dark backs, providing a dramatic visual effect.

**Cherry Point Trail – 4.3 miles round-trip**
Launch 90 minutes before low tide, get out for a stretch and snack where the current is less, then cross to the launch. Difficult.

**Harriett’s Bluff Trail – 6.3 miles round-trip**
Launch 90 minutes before high tide, stretch your legs at the public ramp at Harriett's Bluff or along the shoreline of Grover Island, then ride out the tugging tide back to the launch. Moderate difficulty.

**Grover Island Trail – 8.4 miles round-trip**
Launch 2.5 hours before high tide, then ride out the tugging tide back to Crooked River. Continue against the tide along the north side of the river where the current is low, then cross to the launch. Difficult.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>River Trail</th>
<th>Trail Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This trail is short and sweet. Only a few hundred yards long it winds along the bluffs and down into the marsh. It is a beautiful spot for fishing and bird watching. Wood Storks and herons hunt in the dead pines overlooking the river edge. Sheephead, Whiting, Trout, Black Drum, rays and small sharks can be caught from the shore. This quest spot overlooks the Crooked River and golden marsh grasses which are famous to Georgia's coast.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Safety Tips & Etiquette**
- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time. Check back with them when you return.
- Take a map, water, rucks, first aid kit, flashlight and whistle.
- Before boating, know the tide schedule and understand how it will affect your trip.
- Prevent erosion by staying on marked trails.
- Be prepared for unexpected rain and wind which can lead to hypothermia, even during summer. Always carry rain gear and turn back in bad weather. If you become wet or cold, it is important to get dry and warm as quickly as possible.
- Do not stay in the rain. If you become lost, stay in one location and wait for help. This will make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- Do not depend on cell phones to work in the wilderness, but if they do, be ready to give details about your location.
- Keep pets on a leash at all times and clean up after them.
- Do not pick flowers, disturb wildlife or take anything off the park.
- Pack out all trash.

**Climate Data for St. Marys, Georgia**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Avg. High</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Mean Precip.</th>
<th>Record High</th>
<th>Record Low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>89°F</td>
<td>64°F</td>
<td>74°F</td>
<td>97°F (1972)</td>
<td>64°F (1959)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>91°F</td>
<td>70°F</td>
<td>80°F</td>
<td>97°F (1967)</td>
<td>68°F (1959)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>96°F</td>
<td>73°F</td>
<td>82°F</td>
<td>97°F (1967)</td>
<td>68°F (1959)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>85°F</td>
<td>64°F</td>
<td>73°F</td>
<td>97°F (1967)</td>
<td>63°F (1967)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>77°F</td>
<td>60°F</td>
<td>67°F</td>
<td>97°F (1967)</td>
<td>68°F (1959)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Kayak Trail Descriptions**

**KAYAK TRAIL MARKER COORDINATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marker</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cherry Point Trail (4.3-miles)</td>
<td>31°56'50&quot;N 81°32'50&quot;W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harriett's Bluff Trail (6.3-miles)</td>
<td>31°56'50&quot;N 81°32'50&quot;W</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>