



# Pellicer Creek Paddling Trail



Matanzas State Forest

Fort Matanzas National Monument

Fort Matanzas

Faver-Dykes State Park

A1A

**Access Point 1: Faver Dykes State Park**  
N: 29.6674 W: -81.2574

Marineland

Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve

ST JOHNS  
FLAGLER

204

1

FAVER DYKES RD

Pellicer Creek Conservation Area



Princess Place Preserve

PRINCESS PLACE RD

95

**Access Point 2: Princess Place Preserve**  
N: 29.6564 W: -81.2356

OLD KINGS RD

MATANZAS WOODS PKWY

0 0.5 1

2 Miles

- Pellicer Creek Paddling Trail
- Canoe/Kayak Launch
- Restrooms
- Camping
- Potable Water
- Florida Conservation Lands
- State Parks
- Wetlands



# Pellicer Creek Paddling Trail Guide

## The Waterway

Pellicer Creek is one of the most pristine estuarine tidal marshes on the east coast of Florida with abundant salt and fresh water fish, and excellent wildlife viewing. The creek flows between two sites on the Great Florida Birding Trail, [Faver-Dykes State Park](#) and the [Princess Place Preserve](#). More than 100 bird species, including colorful warblers, can be spotted during the spring and fall migrations. Eagles and falcons return to nest each year, and resident herons, egrets and wood storks can be seen year-round. Pellicer Creek, once called Woodcutters Creek, was at one time home to a large timber mill. The remnants of an old bridge associated with the timber era are still visible between I-95 and US-1. Pellicer Creek was used to haul timber and turpentine out to the Mantanzas River and onward to St. Augustine. The creek is named for Francisco Pellicer, an early Spanish resident of the area and owner of a large and prosperous plantation.

## The Paddling Experience

Beginning paddlers will be comfortable on this calm stream making an out and back trip of any length desired. Both [Faver-Dykes State Park](#) and [Princess Place Preserve](#) offer scenic access points and the state park offers canoe/kayak rentals. Paddle east from either facility to the Pellicer flats and Matanzas River or west until the waterway dwindles into a jungle-like setting and return to your starting spot. Paddling west from Faver Dykes to the creek's end is about a 6.5-mile roundtrip.

## Access Points

**Choose to begin your trip and return to same launch at either Faver-Dykes State Park or Princess Place Preserve.**

## Outfitters and Shuttle Service

Canoes and kayaks can be rented at Faver-Dykes State Park.



*Faver Dykes State Park Launch*



*Pellicer Creek, photos FWC*



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## Base Camp

[Faver-Dykes State Park](#) makes a great base for exploring the natural beauty of the area. This park is also a site on the 1,515-mile coastal [Florida Circumnavigational Saltwater Paddling Trail](#). Fishing, picnicking, and nature walks are popular activities. A full-facility campground is available for overnight stays. Located 15 miles south of St. Augustine near the intersection of I-95 and U.S. Highway 1. *From I- 95 take exit #92 (US 1) Go north on US 1 for 300 yards and turn right on Faver-Dykes Road. Go 1.5 miles to the state park.*

On the opposite side of Pellicer Creek is the fascinating [Princess Place Preserve](#). This beautiful 1,500-acre estate was purchased by Henry Cutting in 1886 and passed on to his widow Angela Mills Cutting Worden, who eventually married Boris Scherbatoff, an exiled Russian prince. Angela assumed the title of princess and it was then that the once named "Cherokee Grove" came to be known as "Princess Place." Built in 1887, this lodge is Flagler County's oldest intact structure and the only period example of Adirondack Camp Style architecture in Florida. It also boasts Florida's very first in-ground swimming pool. Today the lodge welcomes visitors to relax on rocking chairs overlooking the sparkling Matanzas River. Camping and cottage rentals are available. *From I-95, take Exit #298 to US 1, drive about 1.5 miles south to Old Kings Road. Turn left and proceed to Princess Place Road.*



Photos FWC