



Paddle # 23

Spiers Landing Church Island

www.BerkeleyBlueways.com

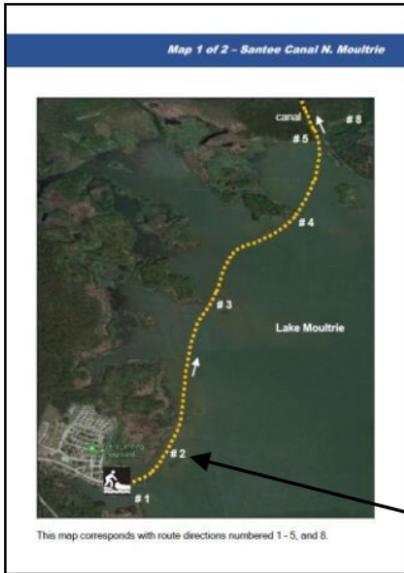
Distance: 3-5+ miles

Time: 2-3 hours

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate



Convenient Functionality Built into This Guide



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 →  Click on individual route directions to bring up map of exact location!
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. 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!



Spiers Landing / Church Island

23

Date Paddled: _____



There's always lots to see at Spiers Landing and Church Island!

Summary

Spiers Landing is on Lake Marion and part of a Berkeley County Park by the same name. There are numerous islands as well as several miles of interesting shoreline to explore. For the purposes of this guide, we will focus on Church Island. The island has a 160+ year old cemetery with many Confederate soldiers buried there.

Difficulty

Easy to Moderate

Distance

3 - 5+ miles, best suited as exploration

Time

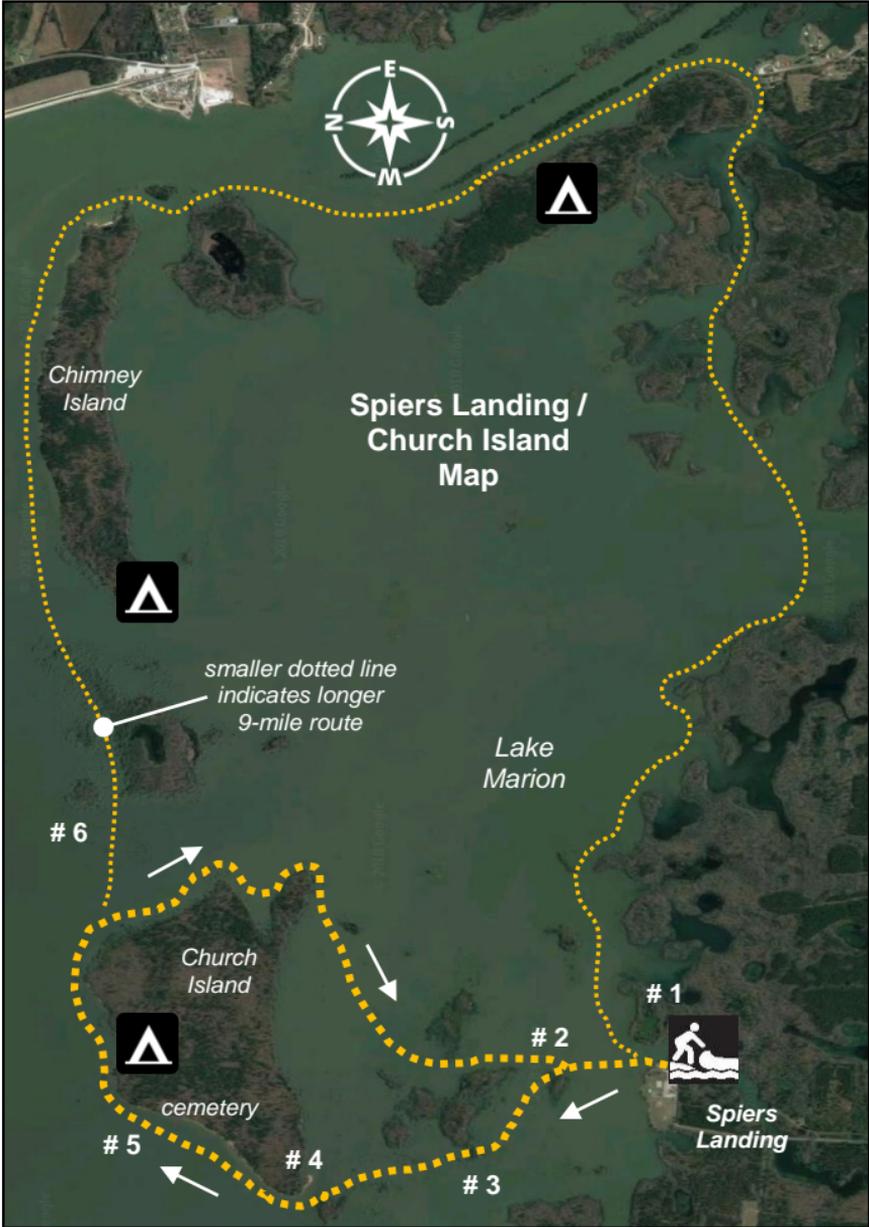
2 - 3 hours

Crowds

Can vary from light to heavy depending on motor boat traffic

Boat Type	Kayaks or canoes 12-feet or longer. Even though paddle boards are not officially recommended, they are found here often in the summer.
Put In / Take Out	Spiers Landing Boat Ramp, 1505 Spiers Landing Road, Cross, SC 29436. GPS: 33.395937, -80.197160 33°23'45.4"N, 80°11'49.8"W Directions: If you search "Spiers Landing Boat Ramp," all GPS mapping applications recognize this location.
Fees/Permits	None
Current	If you get out into the open water, east of the islands, there could be a small current in the south direction.
Tidal Influence	None.
Precautions:	You'll have protection from some winds with the islands, however, there are plenty of open spaces in Lake Marion where winds can intensify resulting in waves/whitecaps.

Map – Spiers Landing / Church Island



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

Route Directions - see map on page 5	
1	Leave the boat ramp and head in a general north direction towards the islands.
2	At 0.2 mile, pass by the first small island.
3	At 0.5 mile, round the western tip of the next (larger) island. This tip is composed of tall grass/vegetation. Continue north heading towards Church Island.
4	At nearly 1 mile, arrive at the tip of Church Island. Continue paddling around the island in a clockwise direction, staying close to the shore.
5	At 1.4 miles, you'll see signs for the old Church of the Epiphany remains and cemetery. Here you can find a spot to beach or tie your kayak off and visit this area. During warmer months, the grass could be overgrown with ticks and other buzzing friends. Insect repellent is recommended.
6	<p>Continue circumnavigating Church Island, staying close to the shore, and head south back towards Spiers Landing.</p> <p><u>Option:</u> Continue paddling the larger Spiers Landing/ Lake Marion area by following the smaller dotted line on the map. This is easy to navigate. This will take you by several more islands and interesting coves. This route is approximately 9 miles, and plan for an additional 3-4 hours of paddling.</p> <p>There are many established camping areas on these islands.</p>

Spiers Landing / Church Island



There's centuries' old history on Church Island.



There are acres of cypress trees near the banks of Church Island.