This park on the southern tip of Georgia’s coast offers camping, cottages overlooking the river, a boat ramp, saltwater fishing, nature programs, mini-golf and picnicking. A large bird blind is popular with photographers and birders. Anglers 16 and older must have a valid fishing license. Private boats are permitted and there are no horsepower restrictions. Water skiing is not recommended due to the hazards in the river and tidal currents.

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. This soil is strongly acidic, high in organic material and holds water like a sponge. Because of this ability, the forest floor does not support fire except to periodic fires that maintain a habitat dominated by longleaf pine, saw palmetto and wiregrass. The open woods are ideal for watching bluebirds, nuthatch, osprey, woodpeckers, warblers and other birds. Gopher tortoises and endangered indigo snakes depend on this habitat for survival. Look for fruit-bearing plants such as blueberries, muscadine grapes, sparkleberry, wax myrtle and gallberry.

**Sempervirens 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 nurtured by calcium-rich soil, where the current is less, then cross to the launch. Difficult.

**River Trail**
This trail is short and sweet. Only a few hundred yards long it winds along the bluff and down into the marsh. It is a beautiful spot for fishing and bird watching. Wood Storks and herons nest in the dead pines overlooking the river edge. Sheephead, Whiting, Trout, Black Drum, rays and small sharks can be caught from the shore. This quiet spot overlooks the Crooked River and golden marsh grasses which are famous to Georgia’s coast.

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**SAFETY & ETIQUETTE**

- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time. Check back with them when you return.
- Take a map, water, rocky, first aid kit, flashlight and whistle.
- Before boating, know the tidal schedule and understand how it will affect your trip.
- Be prepared for unexpected rain and wind which can lead to hypothermia.
- Do not stay on trail if you become lost, stay in one location and wait for help. This will make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- Do not count on cell phones to work in the wilderness, but if they do, be able to give details about your location.
- Keep pets on a leash at all times and clean up after them.
- Tell someone your itinerary and expected return time. Check back with them when you return.
- Dress in layers and avoid cotton. Choose fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly and conserve heat. Many experienced boaters and hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture, while carrying a fleece pullover and rain jacket.
- Do not wear loose clothing or go without socks. Choose fabrics that wick moisture, dry quickly and conserve heat. Many experienced boaters and hikers wear a lightweight shirt that wicks moisture, while carrying a fleece pullover and rain jacket.
- Watch for wildlife living in this tidal river. Dolphins travel in groups upriver to fish and are spotted frequently on all these trails. Once they corner a school of fish, they will surface often to breathe, so listen for their blow. River otter may also be seen swimming in the river.

**KAYAK TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS**

KAYAKING TRAIL MAP

**KAYAK TRAIL MARKER COORDINATES**

**KAYAKING TRAIL MAP**

**KAYAK TRAIL MARKER COORDINATES**

**KAYAKING TRAIL MAP**

**KAYAK TRAIL MARKER COORDINATES**

**CLIMATE DATA FOR ST. MARYS, GEORGIA**

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<thead>
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<th>Month</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Precip.</th>
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<td>54ºF</td>
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**HARRIETT’S BLUFF TRAIL – 6.3 MILES ROUND-TRIP:**
Recommended paddling times take advantage of semidiurnal tides (two highs and two lows per day).
Be safe. Paddle with a friend; take drinking water, snacks and sun protection; wear a pf, and leave your float plan with the park office. This map and a compass may help you find your way back during fog.

**HARRIETT’S BLUFF TRAIL – 6.3 MILES ROUND-TRIP**
Launch 90 minutes before high tide, get out for a stretch and snack on the sand bar, then ride the incoming tide back to the launch. Moderate difficulty.

**GROVER ISLAND TRAIL – 8.4 MILES ROUND-TRIP**
Launch 90 minutes before high tide, stretch your legs at the public ramp at Harrietts Bluff or along the shoreline of Grover Island, then ride the outgoing tide back to the launch. Moderate difficulty.