



- SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**
- Each paddling occasion is unique, with varying distances, conditions and levels of difficulty. Please plan your route accordingly and take all proper safety precautions before embarking.**
- Always wear a US Coast Guard approved, properly fitted life jacket.
 - Paddle with a group or a buddy.
 - Do not wear cotton. Dress for the weather and water temperature.
 - Be visible, wear bright colors. Kayaks and canoes sit low in the water and are extremely difficult to see from a distance, especially in marginal conditions.
 - If paddling at night, be sure to have a USCG approved 360-degree white light.
 - Motorized boat and jet ski traffic can be heavy, especially on the weekends.
 - Use caution when crossing channels; do so quickly and together as a group.
 - To ensure your safety, let someone know your trip itinerary by filing a Float Plan.

PADDLING OPPORTUNITIES

Experienced outfitters, guides and paddle clubs can ensure a safe and enjoyable day on the blueway trail, help improve skills and organize trips.

Outfitters

- Empire Kayaks empirekayaks.com
- Freeport Kayak Rentals freportkayakrentals.com
- Sea Kayaking Skills & Adventure, Ltd. skaa-ltd.com
- Skudin Surf skudinsurf.com
- The Dinghy Shop dinghyshop.com

Paddlesport Clubs

- Kayak Fishing Association of New York kfa-ny.org
- LI Kayaking Enthusiasts meetup.com/LIKEMEETUP
- Long Island Paddlers lispaddlers.org
- North Atlantic Canoe & Kayak get-the-nack.org

TIDES & CURRENTS

The changing tides alter the currents in the bays. Plan to travel with the tidal current, then when the current turns paddle with it in the return direction. There are many tidal flats, passageways between marsh islands, and creeks that become completely mud during lower tides. When traversing bridge crossings and inlets, water conditions can be rough. Use caution and only advanced trail users should navigate across bridge abutments and inlets where currents can be extremely swift at ebb and flood tide. Check local tide charts, available at most park offices and online at ishore.org.

PADDLE THE SOUTH SHORE

Long before Europeans arrived on Long Island, Native Americans navigated its waters fishing and travelling by kayak and canoe for thousands of years. Today, visitors can explore East, Middle and West Hempstead Bays and South Oyster Bay, each with its own unique characteristics and habitat. There is abundant wildlife—blue herons, snowy egrets and nesting osprey. Sweep through salt marsh islands on quiet creeks and channels where migrating birds nest, harbor seals haul out and the tiny Bayhouses of shellfishers stand on stilts above the wetlands. Land on a secluded beach or combine your paddle with hiking a nature trail or biking the Jones Beach Greenway. Paddle and dine on locally caught steamers at a waterside seafood shack or “catch your own” kayak fishing for over 40 species.

The best way to explore the western bays of Long Island’s south shore is by kayak, canoe or stand up paddleboard. By using the appropriate gear, following safety precautions and being aware of tides and weather conditions, even beginners and families can experience the beautiful scenery and wildlife of the South Shore Blueway. For advanced and expert paddlers, there are plenty of challenging full day adventures, multi-bay routes across inlets and ocean kayak surfing. From health benefits to stress relief and more, paddling is an activity with endless benefits for people of all ages and abilities.

Discover more of the South Shore Blueway Trail at southshoreblueway.com.

Have fun and enjoy the South Shore Blueway!

SOUTH SHORE BLUEWAY

PADDLE THE SOUTH SHORE BLUEWAY

WATER ACCESS

For launch information, contact the site owner.

- Nassau County Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Museums (516) 572-0200 nassaucountyny.gov
- Town of Hempstead Parks Department (516) 292-9000 toh.li
- Town of Hempstead Conservation & Waterways Dept. (516) 239-0945 toh.li/conservation-and-waterways
- Town of Oyster Bay Parks Department (516) 797-4128 oysterbaytown.com
- Village of Freeport (516) 377 2300 freeportny.gov
- City of Long Beach (516) 431-3890 longbeachny.gov
- New York State OPRHP (516) 785-1600 nysparks.com/parks/10

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The US Coast Guard and all marine patrol vessels monitor VHF marine radio channel 16, 24 hours a day. In the event of a marine emergency, call 911 first.




- Jones Beach Coast Guard Station (516) 785-2899
- Nassau County Police Marine Bureau (516) 573-4450
- Town of Hempstead Bay Constables (516) 897-4100
- Town of Oyster Bay Bay Constables (516) 797-7986

The South Shore Blueway is made possible by the Village of Freeport, a Local Waterfront Revitalization Grant from the New York State Dept. of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund and the Nassau County Environmental Bond Act.

Going Coastal, Inc. Design by Bea Santiago.
Map by Graphics and Data, Inc. Photos courtesy of Empire Kayaks.

© 2014 South Shore Blueway. All rights reserved.


South Shore Blueway Trail Map Key


-  Blueway Trail
-  Launches
-  Landing Only


- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ① Woodmere Dock
Town of Hempstead | ⑪ Cow Meadow
Nassau County | ⑰ Tobay Beach
Town of Oyster Bay |
| ② Hewlett Pt. Park
Town of Hempstead | ⑫ Albany Ave. Ramp
Village of Freeport | ⑱ Zachs Bay
New York State |
| ③ Bay Park Beach
Nassau County | ⑬ Levy Park & Preserve
Town of Hempstead | ⑲ Green Island
New York State |
| ④ Bay Park Ramp
Nassau County | ⑭ Wantagh Park Ramp
Nassau County | ⑳ Jones Beach Field 10
New York State |
| ⑤ Talfor Boat Basin
Village of East Rockaway | ⑮ Alhambra Road
Town of Oyster Bay | ㉑ Jones Beach Boat Basin
New York State |
| ⑥ Long Beach Ramp
City of Long Beach | ⑯ Burns Park
Town of Oyster Bay | ㉒ West Marina Ramp
Town of Hempstead |
| ⑦ Marine Nature Area
Town of Hempstead | | |
| ⑧ Millburn Boat Basin
Nassau County | | |
| ⑨ Waterfront Park
Village of Freeport | | |
| ⑩ Sea Breeze Park
Village of Freeport | | |




SOUTH SHORE BLUEWAY


INTERACTIVE PRINT


Download the free
Layar App


Scan this page


Discover
interactive content

