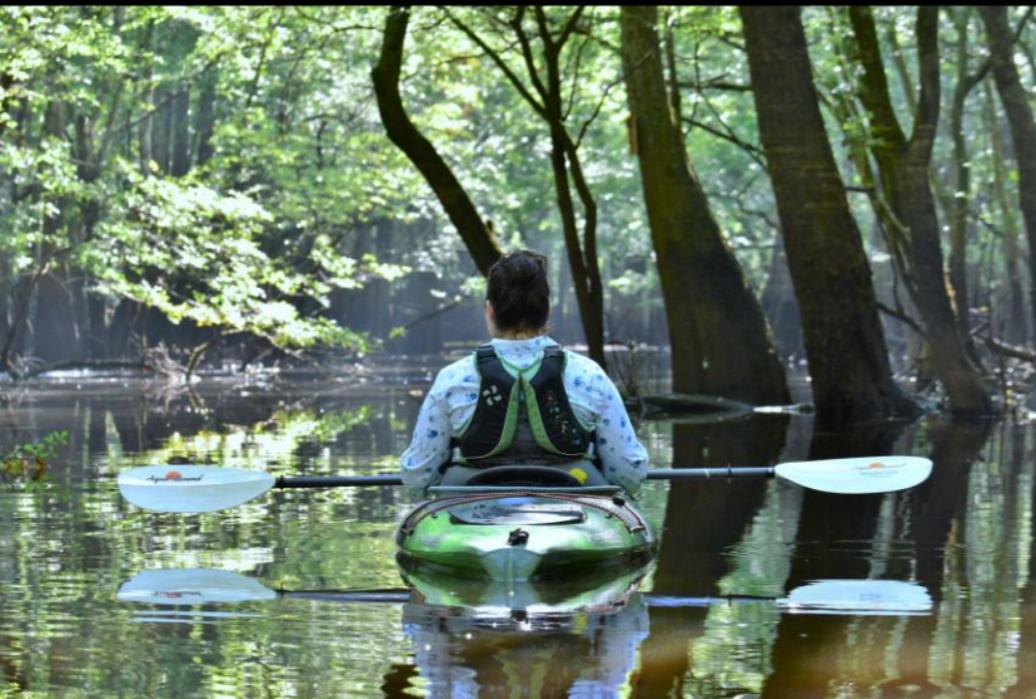




Blueway # 20

# Chicken Creek

[www.BerkeleyOutdoorLife.com](http://www.BerkeleyOutdoorLife.com)





# Convenient Functionality Built into This Guide

Map 1 of 2 - Santee Canal N. Moultrie



This map corresponds with route directions numbered 1 - 5, and 8.

## 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.
	<b>LOOK →</b>  <b>Click on individual route directions to bring up map of exact location!</b>
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. <b>Return the same way you came.</b>
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!



## Chicken Creek

### # 20



*Exploring the deep forest of Chicken Creek.*

#### **Summary**

Get ready for variety with this paddle! You'll spend time on the Santee River, meander two wilderness bottomland creeks that rarely see visitors, paddle through the Francis Marion National Forest, and experience the same forests that Revolutionary soldiers traversed over two centuries ago. Besides all this, you're likely to see herons, egrets, bald eagles and so much more!

#### **Difficulty**

Moderate, only due to distance

#### **Distance**

9.1 miles

#### **Time**

4 - 5 hours

<b>Crowds</b>	Light. You could see motorized boat traffic on the Santee River sections, but the creeks rarely see boats or paddlers.
<b>Boat Type</b>	Kayaks or canoes 12-feet or longer. Paddle boards are not recommended.

**Requires staging 2 vehicles or arranging pickup!**

<b>Put In</b>	McConnell's Landing (note: some mapping/GPS applications call this "Pleasant Hill Landing"), Forest Service Road 204-F, Jamestown, SC 29453.
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GPS: 33.244908, -79.520938  
33°14'41.7"N, 79°31'15.4"W

<b>Take Out</b>	Elmwood Recreation Area, Echaw Road, Jamestown, SC 29453.
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GPS: 33.207819, -79.468563  
33°12'28.2"N, 79°28'06.8"W

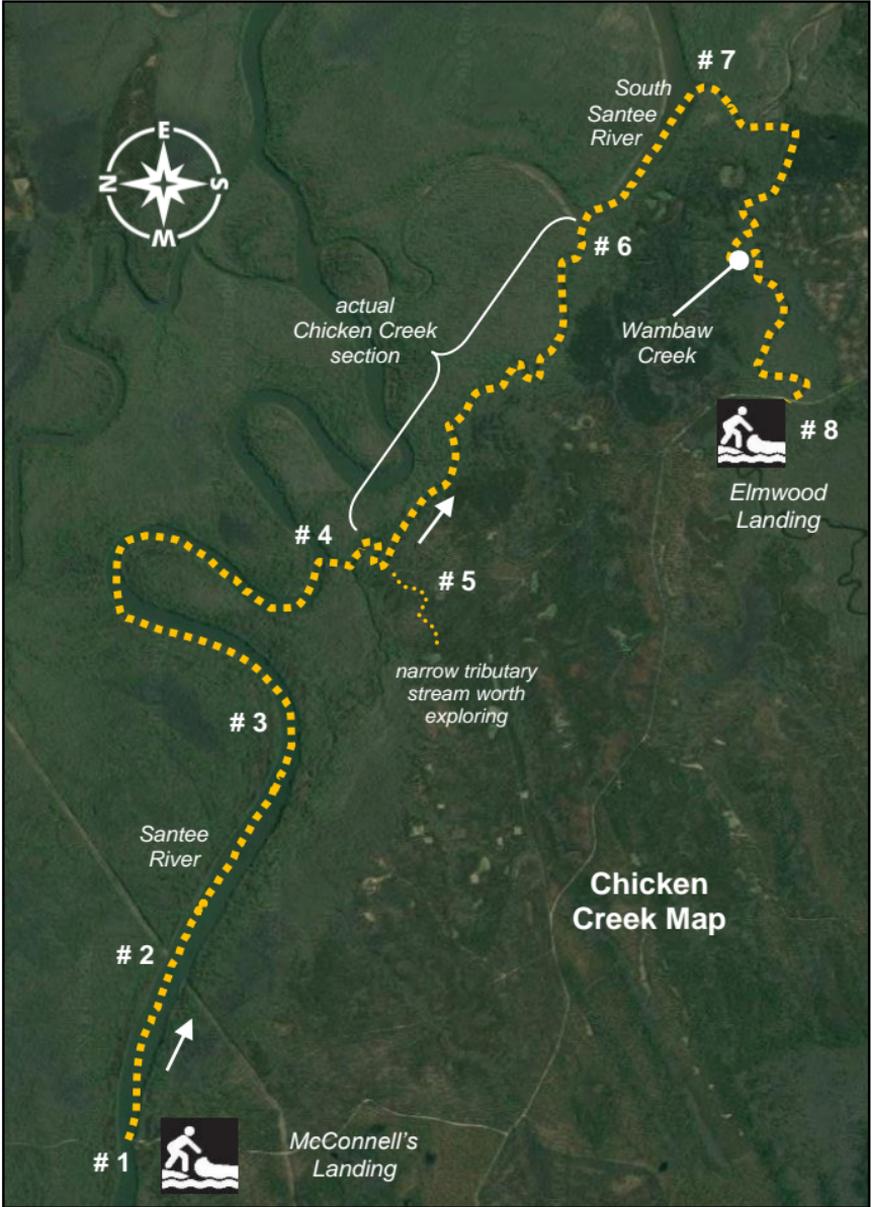
<b>Fees/Permits</b>	None
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<b>Current</b>	Flows downriver in a southeast direction.
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<b>Tidal Influence</b>	Yes, tide is approximately 2 - 2.5 hours behind Charleston Harbor tide table.
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<b>Precautions:</b>	It's advisable to wear bright orange during hunting season in the Francis Marion National Forest.
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**Map – Chicken Creek**



This map corresponds with route directions numbered 1 - 8 on page 6.  
Download this map in color at [www.BerkeleyBlueways.com](http://www.BerkeleyBlueways.com).

Route Directions - see map on page 5	
1	From the McConnell's Landing boat ramp, turn right to begin paddling down river. For most of the river, you can expect a 1 - 3 MPH current, depending on width and water levels.
2	Pass under power lines at 0.7 mile.
3	At 1.8 miles, begin long sweeping "U"-shaped curve that continues for next 2 miles.
4	When coming out of "U"-shaped curve, the river bears left. Soon after this turn at 4.0 miles, there's a creek opening on the right. <b>TURN RIGHT.</b> This is Chicken Creek.
5	500-ft. after entering Chicken Creek, there's a narrow stream to the right. This is an interesting 0.5-mile paddle back into a part of the bottomland forest that few people have ever been. It's worth exploring!  Back on the main Chicken Creek passage, continue paddling the creek for another 2.1 miles.
6	At 6.2 miles, Chicken Creek terminates in the South Santee River. Turn right, paddling down river.
7	Turn right into Wambaw Creek at 7.0 miles. This will be your first creek/opening in the river.  <u>IMPORTANT:</u> After a little more than 1,000-ft., there's a creek leading to the left; this is Hampton Creek. Do not take this. <b>CONTINUE STRAIGHT on Wambaw Creek.</b>
8	After another 1.9 miles, end your paddle at the Elmwood Recreation Area Landing on the right.



*Egret building a home at the confluence of Chicken Creek and the South Santee River.*



*It's all smiles and fun on this adventure!*