



CANOE OUTPOST-PEACE RIVER/OAK HILL

Oak Hill is 150 acres of the true, Florida complete with cypress swamp, piney ridge, oak and hickory hammocks, and unsurpassed views of the river. It's located about halfway between Brownville and Arcadia and is a favorite stopping point for Canoe Outpost picnickers and campers. Developed for the exclusive use of Canoe Outpost customers, Oak Hill offers a secluded lagoon, grassy fields, shaded picnic areas, picnic tables, scattered portable toilets, and hiking trails. Picnic areas/campsites are marked with blue signs with the Canoe Outpost logo for the paddler's convenience. The camping areas can also be reserved for those spending the night on the river and for a fee depending on group size, you can even have your camping gear delivered to a spot on the river.

Camp and picnic areas are scattered along the riverfront. First Chance and Hickory Hammock are the first spots on the right. Nestled under a grove of hickory trees with a mixture of oaks and cypress, these shady sites with a shared beach are very popular. Footpaths from the beach area provide access.

Just to the south along the river on the right watch for Cypress Knee and the Stump up on Ridge Road. They are high bank sites with a spectacular view of the river. Best to have your gear delivered to these spots.

Just around the bend past Cypress Knee watch for "High Point" just before the Lagoon. Beach your canoes on the sandy beach and follow the path through the willows. This is a popular site because of the low bank. Across the mouth of the Lagoon from High Point is Peace Point Uno and Dos. Beach your canoes on the shared limestone beach and head up the sandbank to the shady camping areas either side of the sinkhole. This is a favorite stopping point for day trippers to take a swim and grab a bite. These high, shady bank camps have a good view of the river.

Turn right into the Lagoon and head west and you'll see on the immediate left a rustic site down by the water with room for 1-2 canoes called Osprey. Continue west into the lagoon you'll see paths heading up the steep bank on the left. These lead to Eagle and Turkey. These are good sized grassy campsites nestled under the oaks. Best if you have your camping gear delivered to Eagle and Turkey because of the steep bank.

When you run out of water, you'll be at The Lagoon or Jo-Jo's Camp, the most popular campsite for groups. This site offers seclusion and plenty of room. The Lagoon is a large grass meadow stretching to the west and bordered on one side by Gator Pond. Large oaks on the west end offer shade. Up the hill is grassy Oak Bluff and a few more high water campsites. Paddle back out to Peace Point beach for a swim and a wave to the passing canoes.

Turn around and head back out of the Lagoon and around the bend from the Peace Points is Cypress Point. This site is perfect for groups with its rolling hills and open areas. The site is situated under huge oaks with a sandy beach and a wonderful view of the river through the willows.

Continuing south are other, less developed sites such as Rock Island, Catfish Way, Armadillo Way, and Palmetto Point, just a few steps through the willows. All have camping for 2-3 tents right on the water or go up over the little hill and cross the trail and camp on the grassy knolls, plenty of room there.

Between Palmetto Point and South Oak is Hilltop or the Honeymoon Suite. Hilltop has a small beach but is a grassy little hill surrounded by palmettos. South Oak Camp, just to the south is marked by a huge overhanging oak at the water's edge. Follow the paths up the bank to a large opening in the palmettos to set up camp. Lone Palm is next, with camping farther back into the trees on a large grassy knoll. The southernmost point of Oak Hill is the Last Chance site. Miss this one and you need to turn around.

All campsites are connected by hiking trails with maps available. Campsites can be reserved. Reservations are a must for the Lagoon, Cypress Point, and South Oak and large groups have top priority for these sites. Almost all the campsites are close to the portable toilets with just a short hike. The portable toilets are shared by other campers. You can, rent your own! Call for details, 800-268-0083.

The Oak Hill Advantage: Only 12 or 8 miles of paddling, we can take-in and take-out your camping gear, no limit to size of group, camping areas can be reserved, scattered portable toilets, all sites have at least one picnic table, and concierge services. 11/1/10