

Chicken Creek Canoe Trail



This 9.3-mile canoe trail takes the paddler down the historic Santee river, through the fast-moving confines of Chicken Creek, back onto the Santee and up Wambaw Creek to the bridge at Echaw Road. Well-drained, oak-hickory hills along Chicken Creek provide opportunities for exploration on foot.

Put in at McConnell's Boat Landing. Paddle down the Santee River for approximately four miles; enter Chicken Creek at the end of the first big "S" curve in the river. Follow Chicken Creek until it rejoins the Santee. Once back on the Santee, continue downriver 0.5 miles and turn right into Wambaw Creek.

Paddle upstream to the bridge at Echaw Road. The landing is on the right. Time your trip to catch the incoming tide up Wambaw Creek. Tide is two to three hours later than posted for Charleston harbor.

Surrounding Area:

- Hampton Plantation State Park/SC Dept. of Parks, Rec. and Tourism (843) 546-9361
- Santee Coastal Reserve/SC Dept. of Natural Resources (843) 546-8665
- Wambaw Creek Canoe Trail

Length: 8.2 miles

Travel Time: Four to five hours

Difficulty Level: Easy

Safety: Expect biting insects and high temperatures during warmer months. Watch for venomous snakes, trees overhanging the river and water releases from the Santee Cooper. Call the Lake Line (800) 925-2537 for daily updates on water discharges and general lake conditions.

Francis Marion National Forest



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
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Directions: From Charleston take US Highway 17 North to McClellanville. Turn left at blinking yellow light onto Highway 45 (French Santee Road). Drive 4.0 miles and turn right onto Mill Branch Road (FS Road 211). Go 5.5 miles and turn left on Echaw Road. Go 4.0 miles and turn right on McConnell's Landing Road (FS 204F).

Camping is available at Elmwood Campground near the intersection of Mill Branch and Echaw Road. Leave campsites in natural condition; Pack it in/Pack it out; and use only dead and down wood for campfires.

For More Information

Francis Marion Ranger District

2967 Steed Creek Road

Huger, SC 29450

Phone: (843) 336-3248

Fax: (843) 336-2250

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Sewee Visitor and Environmental Education Center

5821 US Highway 17 North, Awendaw, SC 29429

Phone: (843) 928-3368

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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