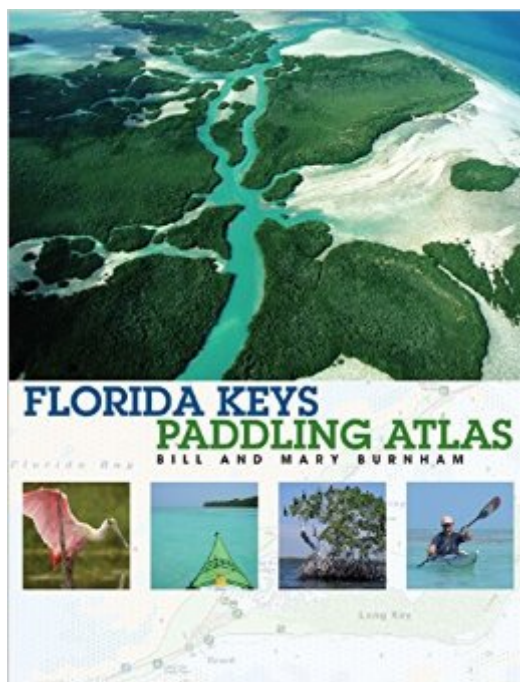


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Florida Keys Paddling Atlas (Paddling Series)



Synopsis

The Florida Keys Paddling Atlas, a first of its kind detailed color atlas of the Florida Keys, from Key Largo to Key West, is specifically designed for paddlers, fly fishers, snorkelers, and other small craft water enthusiasts interested in shallow water exploration. Color charts for this atlas are fully annotated with key put-ins, take-outs, paddle friendly marinas, hidden waterways, bird watching, fishing spots, surf spots, and more. Other narrative information, including descriptive commentary, natural history, flora and fauna, and points of interest will be presented and referenced in order to guide water travelers on their own excursions and adventures.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a guide and avid paddler I found this book incredibly useful and informative. Anyone that will set out to explore the paradise of the Keys will find their way to many areas that would never be found without this book. Bill and Mary obviously did their homework with the ultimate guide book for all paddlers enjoying the beauty of the Keys. Nice job guys.

Even with just glancing at it, I can tell it is so much more thorough than most guide books, and the index and go to points will make it more useful than any of the others. - Wow, I need to go out paddling! The more I look at it, the better it gets! So much more detail than any of the others - in a class by itself - like the title says.

This guidebook has it all! Spot-on nautical charts that lead you through some of the best paddling the Keys have to offer, including mangrove-lined lagoons, sea grass beds teeming with wildlife, and shallow tidal flats that change form with the rise and fall of the ocean waters; brilliant pictures that draw you into this unique and magical natural habitat; and pointers on where to rent, where to launch, and, most important after a long day of paddling, where to eat! Grab a kayak and share the adventures of Bill & Mary Burnham as they navigate this aquatic paradise.

I just received my copy of this high quality guide book. I live in the Keys and have paddled many of these sites but in just glancing through this book I realized how much I have missed. Very complete and a must for visitors and locals alike.

This is one of those heavy-paged colorful books that are a joy just to hold and smell! Fifty-two charts illustrate the stunning water world from Key Largo down to Key West and out to the Dry Tortugas. Using colors and symbols, each chart (at a scale of about two inches per mile) details water depths, habitat, markers, fishing and snorkeling spots, put-in locations, hazards, camping areas -- everything you need to know. It's the perfect guide for not only paddlers, but fishermen and boaters too, and also the less adventuresome who want to explore the Florida Keys as they drive US 1 -- poking around hidden spots, wading in the shallows with their cameras. The book is heavily illustrated with relevant and beautiful photographs. Along with Bill Keogh's Paddling Guide, this book is a must for those who want to truly know and experience the Florida Keys. Marsh Muirhead, author of "Key West Explained - a guide for the traveler."

Great look and organization - would be 5 stars except that the descriptions of routes and put-ins are skimpy, oddly organized and the coordinates for GPS waypoints are not easily accessed. I wanted to (and did) take the book in a chart bag on the deck of my kayak but it is not made in a way that it can be left open to the page in use. It's expensive but if you're kayaking in the Keys you'll use it and you'll want to take it along. I'm tempted to cut it apart so I can more easily take the chart in use.

I initially borrowed this atlas from the public library and found it so informative that I had to order a copy to keep permanently. My husband and I just started kayaking several months ago and have found this atlas to be indispensable. Among the many features that we find useful, the two that we appreciate the most are probably the locations of all the free and paid launch sites and the mile marker numbers (essential when looking for any location in the Keys). The book is incredibly

detailed and accurate. Thanks to the authors for the time and effort they put into compiling this excellent volume.

The title conveys perfectly what this slim, lightweight guide is: a collection of practical navigation charts for the recreational paddler. It more than pays for itself compared to the cost of purchasing separate navigation charts to cover its scope, which extends from Key Largo to Key West and beyond. It has just enough text to add some local tips, but most of the useful information is displayed on the charts themselves. It does not, however, go into any depth as a field guide, for which Bill Keogh's book is superior. Of course, being published in 2007, it is already outdated in some place names and access advice. Also, I found the use of "ego-to points", scattered GPS landmarks whose coordinates appear in an appendix, unnecessary and distracting. Maybe I'm a dinosaur, but I prefer to navigate with visual cues rather than GPS, and there is already more than enough detail in the charts to allow this. What I value more as a visitor is having detailed information on free public put-in sites. It would be nice to have this detailed more clearly on each map. Maybe I'm also a dinosaur who's colour-blind, but I couldn't distinguish the colours of the two types of launch site symbols. Lastly, it would be clearer to have a little overlap between the maps or at least refer to adjacent maps by page number rather than having arrows pointing to landmarks which are off the page. None of these are serious faults, just suggestions for a welcome future edition.

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