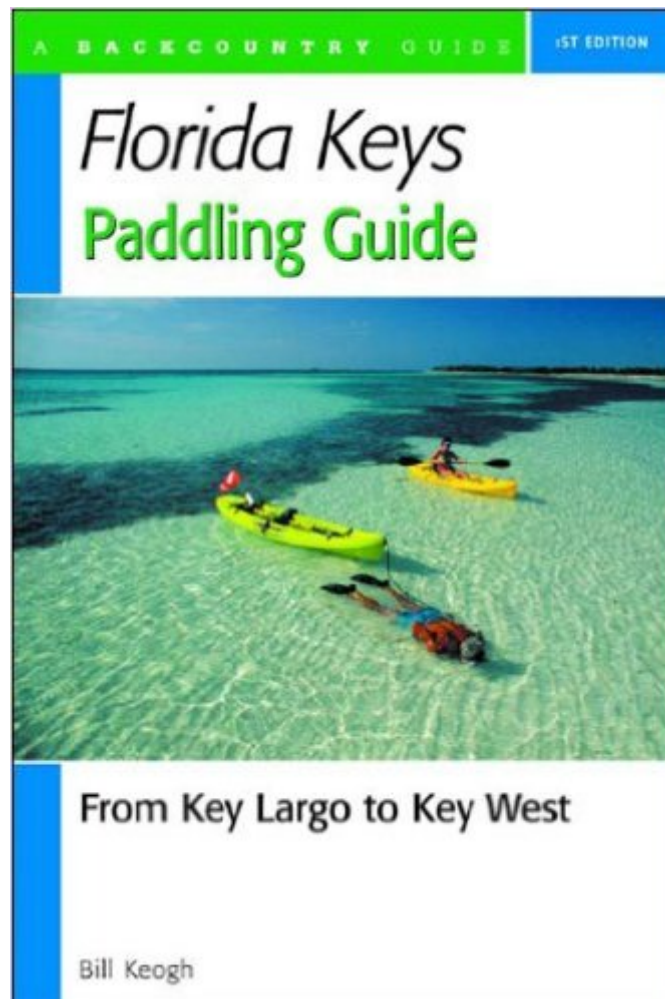


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# Florida Keys Paddling Guide: From Key Largo To Key West



## Synopsis

An all-new guide to sea kayaking trips throughout Florida's celebrated Keys. The region from the southernmost point of the Florida peninsula, stretching south and west to the Dry Tortugas National Park, is one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems in the continental United States, and there's no better way to explore it than by kayak. Here the freshwater temperate latitudes meld with a tropical marine environment to create unique paddling opportunities. In the nearshore waters, secret mangrove tunnels, unending beds of turtle grass, and colorful sponge flats contrast with the vibrant coral-studded waters found offshore. Bill Keogh is your guide to this paddler's paradise. Each trip in this new guide includes a chart, route suggestions, information on distance, tides, and winds, and safety tips. You'll also find information on the wildlife, habitats, and ecosystems that will be encountered, as well as historical and natural features of the area. 30 black & white photographs, index.

## Book Information

Series: Backcountry Guides

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Countryman Press (February 1, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0881505447

ISBN-13: 978-0881505443

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #152,945 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Adventure > Kayaking](#) #14 in [Books > Travel > United States > Florida > Keys](#) #23 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Kayaking](#)

## Customer Reviews

We took this book with us for a paddling trip in the Florida Keys. The book definitely needs to be updated. We couldn't do some of the day trips we wanted to because the put-in sites listed in the guide were no longer available -- blocked by locked gates. When I ordered the book, I didn't realize that the publication date of the "all-new guide to sea kayaking trips" was 2004! Good descriptions of what you might see on each outing -- if you can get out on the water.

The Florida Keys Paddling Guide: From Key Largo To Key West is a compendium of recreational resources for dedicated water sport fans in general, and canoe and kayaking enthusiasts in particular. Featuring 8,500 miles of tidal shoreline, 7,800 lakes, 320 springs, and 35 rivers, The Florida Keys Paddling Guide is the perfect planning guide for exploring and enjoying the southernmost Florida peninsula and one of the most biologically diversified ecosystems in the continental United States. From Floridian coastal marshes to mangrove swamps, from back bay inlets to riverbed islands, The Florida Keys Paddling Guide is comprehensive, user friendly, and "take-along" portable!

Good read, good trips, precise GPS coordinates, and a significant naturalist section to boot! Match the critters you see against drawings in the book to find out what they are, what they eat, and how they live.

There have been at least four books written in the past decade about paddling in the Keys. All are worth a read. What I find remarkable about Bill's book is he found his own niche by heavy coverage of the floral, fauna and marine life that paddlers can see if they pay attention to their surroundings. He is not the first to do so. Bruce Wachob another Florida Keys kayak guide SEA KAYAKING IN THE FLORIDA KEYS (1997) started the tide rolling in that direction.. Kathy Patton, KAYAKING THE KEYS, 2002 , covers it to a lesser extent and does a fine job on the lower keys... Bill Keogh's book covers all of this plus the best put in's and trips in the upper, middle and lower keys. From Mile post 125 to Mile Post 1 and is a must for anyone even half seriously contemplating paddling these waters. **WARNING** You cannot paddle the keys by driving down U.S. 1 and looking for places to put-in. Most of those are way off the beaten automotive track . Winds and tides are a real puzzle for visitors and even native guides. Bill's book will set you on the proper course for a good paddling experience.

I found the book very informative on the Florida Keys and its wonderful waters to be Paddled and explored. The trip routes laid out in the book provide some great trips to explore the Keys. Can hardly wait to get down there.

After reading this book my friends and I went down to the Keys and got some kayaks from Bill. Not only was he a real nice guy but he knows just about every inch of good paddling water in the Keys. Detailed descriptions of islands and things like water depth can also help fishermen, A must buy for

anyone wanting to do kayaking in the Florida Keys.

This detailed and thorough guide is obviously the work of an experienced and passionate guide. Bill Keogh covers all the bases, starting with the practical matters - charts and navigation, weather, safety, and equipment. From the coast of Florida all the way to the tip of Key West he lists 67 launch sites for 47 suggested trips. Supplemental information includes a birders list, tidal charts, and contact information for outfitters and guides. The natural history section is wonderfully detailed and reveals the author's great love for this magical place. The best way to see and experience the Florida Keys is on the water, away from the highway and the people. Whether a novice or an experienced kayaker, Keogh will take you there. Marsh Muirhead, author of *Key West Explained - a guide for the traveler*

I would recommend to any kayaker or canoer in south Florida. You do however want to google map and zoom in for a little better view. Has been a great addition to our fishing trips.

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