



# WILLAMETTE WATER TRAIL FAQs

## What is the Willamette Water Trail?

The WWT is a collection of public river access points and paddle-in-only campsites located along the Willamette River.

## How do I learn more about the Willamette Water Trail?

The best source of information for the WWT is the website [www.WillametteWaterTrail.org](http://www.WillametteWaterTrail.org) where you can learn how to plan your adventure including [itinerary suggestions](#), [safety information](#), [what to pack](#) and more.

## How do I learn more about how to be safe on the river?

<https://willamettewatertrail.org/plan-your-trip/safety-information/>

## Where can I rent a paddle craft and/or find shuttle service options?

There are a number of [canoe, kayak and SUP outfitters throughout the Willamette Valley](#) who offer rentals. There are limited shuttle options currently, but with some planning you could end your trip somewhere you could use Lyft or Uber or take public transportation. We will be updating shuttle information on our website as it becomes available.

## How long is the Water Trail?

The Willamette Water Trail runs the entire length of the mainstem Willamette River, or 187 miles, from approximately Eugene to Portland. In addition, you can also find some mileage mapped out along tributaries near their confluence with the mainstem Willamette including the Middle Fork Willamette, Coast Fork Willamette, McKenzie, and Santiam Rivers.

## How do I access or follow the trail?

The easiest way to follow the trail is to have the maps! You may purchase PDF files of the Upper and Lower Water Trail maps at [www.WillametteWaterTrail.org](http://www.WillametteWaterTrail.org) in the [e-store](#). There is also some Water Trail signage posted along the river. Our maps are being updated and consolidated to one map. It will be available in 2023..

## Do I need a reservation to camp at a Water Trail campsite?

All Water Trail camping is first come, first serve. While some sites are large enough to accommodate more than one group, we recommend being flexible and having more than one campsite option in mind when planning your adventure.

## How many miles can I paddle in a day?

How many miles you cover in a day depends on your ability, the type of paddle craft you are using, the speed of the current, and sometimes the weather (like an afternoon headwind). Generally speaking, touring style kayaks, canoes and SUPs that are 15 ft or longer can hold approximately 2.5 to 3 knots (miles) an hour on flat water. Add current, and you can travel faster, about 3.5 to 4 knots, sometimes more. On the river, use the water trail maps to estimate how quickly you are paddling. If you are uncertain how far you can paddle on a multi-day trip, consider more than one campsite option (for a shorter distance and a longer distance).