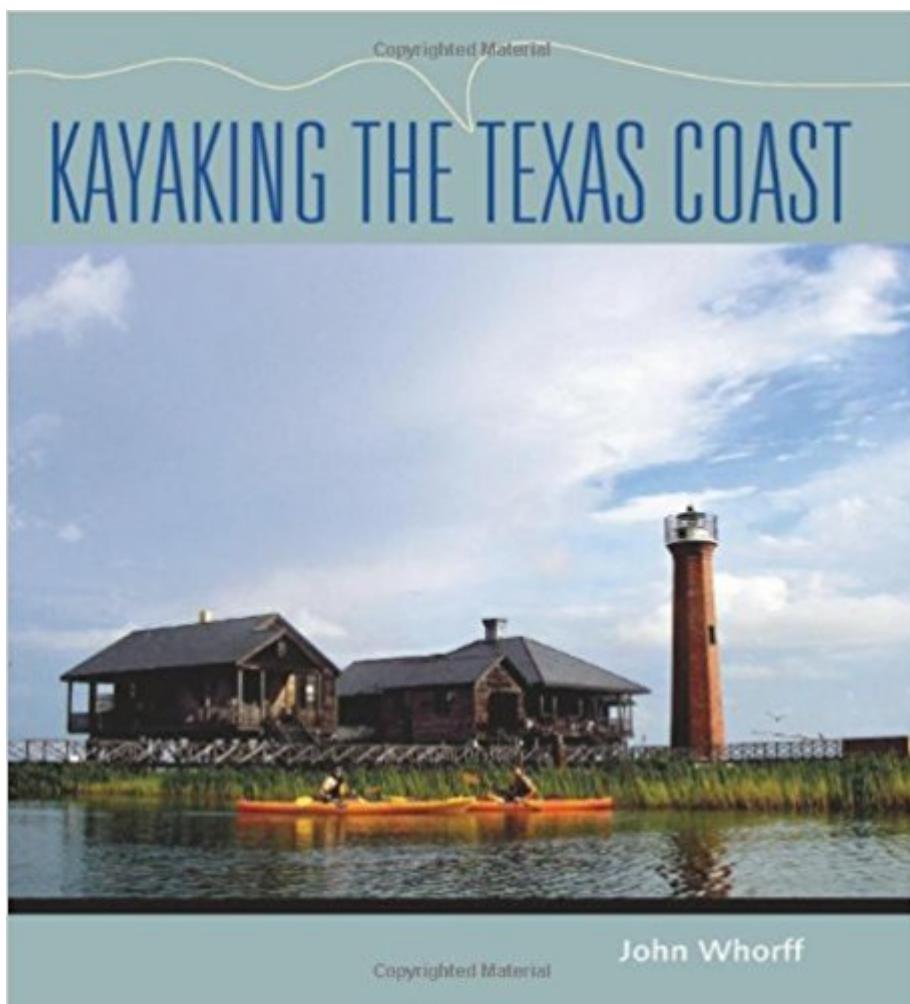


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# Kayaking The Texas Coast (Gulf Coast Books, Sponsored By Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi)



## Synopsis

“Few experiences compare with navigating a sea kayak through a large sandy bay lined with oyster-shell beaches, past golden sand dunes into rough ocean waters, then surfing back onto a wind-swept beach at sunset.”<sup>1</sup> From the Introduction. Half of the nearly 400-mile Texas coastline is flanked by barrier islands. Behind them, large and small bays shelter estuarine marshes, oyster-reef communities, and sea grass meadows that teem with wildlife, creating a bird watcher’s and angler’s paradise. For an intimate encounter with these natural treasures, no other water craft can compare to a kayak. Veteran kayaker John Whorff’s Kayaking the Texas Coast is an essential guide for beginning and experienced kayakers to the many miles of shoreline that surround the shallow bays, lagoons, and islands of the Texas coast. Novices will appreciate this book’s detailed information about where to paddle and camp, what to see, and where to obtain additional information about safety and route planning. Accomplished kayakers will enjoy Whorff’s enticing route descriptions and other pertinent details on paddling the Texas coastline. Opening with an extended introductory text that covers kayaks and equipment, safety considerations and emergencies, camping dos and don’ts, and helpful resources, Kayaking the Texas Coast also lists useful websites and guidebooks. In the main portion of the text, the coast is organized into ten destinations, from the Galveston Bay complex in the north to Boca Chica State Park in the south. For each of these destinations, Whorff provides information on navigational aids, planning considerations, accommodations, and directions to launch sites before describing various paddling routes within each destination—around seventy routes in all. Each route is ranked for difficulty as “beginner,” “intermediate,” or “advanced.” Detailed maps and vivid photographs by the author complete the package. “Kayaking the Texas Coast is your must-have guidebook to the coastline and bays of the Lone Star State. Many miles of sea kayaking adventure are described, along with maps and discussion of the natural world encountered along the way. My copy will be riding in car and kayak with me. I look forward to seeing with my own eyes what the author has described and mapped.”<sup>2</sup> Natalie Wiest, founder and director, Galveston Bay Information

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Kayaking the Texas Coast is your must-have guidebook to the coastline and bays of the Lone Star State. Many miles of sea kayaking adventure are described, along with maps and discussion of the natural world encountered along the way. My copy will be riding in car and kayak with me. I look forward to seeing with my own eyes what the author has described and mapped."--Natalie Wiest, director, Galveston Bay Information Center and Library Director (Natalie Wiest) "John Whorff's book, Kayaking the Texas Coast, is a must have for anyone interested in exploring Texas' coastline by kayak. Logistical details, points of interest, historical accounts, and ecological services are featured in this easy to read and use resource. Not only does the book heighten awareness of the coast's phenomenal ecological diversity, but also helps paddlers plan trips for maximum fun and safety!" • Gina Donovan, author of Naches River User Guide (Gina Donovan, author of Naches River User Guide) . . . 'Kayaking the Texas Coast' is a must-have for any Texas kayaker ready to spread his or her wings and explore more of the Texas Coast. . . from Galveston Bay to Padre Island. . . spot-on in his descriptions, maps and advice. . . simple to use and easy to read. . . adding. . . expertise and insight on the diverse wildlife we are so lucky to have on the Texas coast. Excellent color wildlife photos are enough in themselves to make this a great coffee table book for anyone who loves wildlife. It's just about impossible to read this book and not start planning a kayak trip." - David Bean, Galveston Daily News (David Bean Galveston Daily News 2011-05-29)

JOHN WHORFF has been paddling kayaks since 1971 and kayaking the Texas coast since 1988. A specialist in optometric glaucoma with an ophthalmology group based in Tyler, he has written for Sea Kayaker magazine and lives in Winnsboro, Texas. Â Â Â

I was quite happy with this book. The most useful part, for me, is the detailed information on places to go - maps, detail explanation of how to get there, access points, landmarks as well as detail info regarding routes, difficulties, etc. while on the water. I am already familiar with some of the areas he writes about, and reading this book gives very good information on these areas as well as a lot of new places to try. I have already marked several pages to try out this spring, and will continue to use this book as a reference for years to come .Can't recommend this book enough to anyone who is into kayaking the Texas Coast, especially if you want to find new places to go.

I bought this book almost a year ago and have read it very carefully. It is by far the best book I've read on the subject. It is thoroughly researched and very accurate. It lists names, phone number, and web addresses of park services, emergency services, camping facilities, kayak-friendly motels, etc. The maps are carefully prepared and accurate. The description of waters and hazardous conditions are thorough - including types of vehicles required to get to launch sites. The paddle areas are carefully described to give the reader a sense of the paddling experience he will find. The book is written with both the advanced paddler as well as novice: he tells which waters and which trips are suitable for which kinds of paddlers. He has a PhD in biology and his exact descriptions of plants and animals reflect that. There is general background information describing each coastal area as well as first aide and safety information. This is a carefully written, well thought out book that I can highly recommend to anyone interested in exploring the Texas Gulf Coast in a kayak. I almost forgot to mention that the book has wonderful photographs on almost every page making it a wonderful book to browse even if you never get into a kayak.

I found this to be a vey useful description of the various water routes along the Texas gulf coast. The descriptions are detailed enough to paint a clear picture of the location without going into tedious detail. The writing style is very "readable" unlike some adventure books. The maps present useful information and are thankfully not some type of "cartoon" that is only vaguely resembles the actual terrain. Overall a good book for the area.

This book is a encyclopedia of information that is useful in planning kayak trips along the Texas coast. I've paddled in many of the places described in to book and find the descriptions of the paddles to be accurate and informative. The beautiful pictures remind me of paddles I've done and paddles I need to plan to do. I have it on my Kindle fire so I can dream about and plan future paddles.

outstanding - for lovers of the gulf coast and watersports, this is a unique guide !

Great way to look at different kayaking spots. Though not geared toward the angler, it opens up an entirely different area to potentially fish.

Dream building!!

If you are a Texas kayaker, this book is a must! Very informative!

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