

Catlett Islands Kayak Tours

MACHICOMOCO STATE PARK

Requirements & Expectations

All participants must pre-register with the park via phone or in-person and have their fees paid in full at the time of registration. Registration will close 24 hours prior to the program.

Participants must be at least 6 years of age to participate in the tour. Participants ages 6-12 must be in a tandem kayak with a legal parent or guardian.

Participants ages 13-17 may paddle in a solo kayak. They may also paddle without a legal parent or guardian present if they meet the following requirements:

- Follow instructions and effectively communicate independently.
- Get in / out of a paddle craft independently or with a reasonable amount of assistance.
- Ability to swim and independently turn from facedown to face-up and remain floating face up while wearing a properly fitted personal floatation device.

All participants must sign a safety waiver which will be provided by the park either at the time of registration or during the check-in period. All minors must have a legal parent or guardian sign a safety waiver on their behalf.

Participants must use the kayaks, PFDs, and paddles provided by the park. They cannot bring their own as a participant of the tour.

Participants must wear closed-toed shoes. Sandles and crocs do not apply. Participants are expected to wear appropriate paddling clothing and should not wear cotton material.

Participants do not need to have any previous kayak paddling experience to participate, however they are expected to follow all safety guidelines and instructions, be comfortable participating in water activities, and ensure they are in good physical health to participate in this activity which can be physically exerting and will be entirely outside during the warmer months of the year with limited shade.

Participants are expected and encouraged to speak with Rangers about any health or medical concerns that could impact their safety or the safety of others during the kayak tour.

Logistics

Fees: \$15 per participant, covers parking fees

Length of paddle: Approximately 2 miles

Time paddling: 1.5 - 2 hours

Program Itinerary (3-4 hours total)

Check-in and gear check-out (~30 minutes)

Introduction and Safety Brief (~30 minutes)

Paddle tour (1.5 - 2 hours)

Transition ashore and gear check-in (~30 minutes)

Equipment & Accessibility

The park will provide the following equipment:

- Kayak
- Personal Flotation Device (PFD)
- Paddle

The park has a limited number of tandem and solo kayaks. If you have a preference, please let park staff know upon registration. Tandem kayaks should not be used for solo participants. Tandems must be used for participants ages 6-12 so that their legal parent or guardian can accompany them.

Guests are encouraged to bring the following equipment:

- Water bottles
- Dry bags
- Snacks
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Bug spray
- Closed-toed shoes *Required
- Any other personal items as necessary for the individual

The kayak launch is ADA accessible for limited mobility. Participants who need ADA accessible kayaking equipment must contact the park at least 3 weeks in advance of the program date. Park staff will attempt to meet these needs and can do so best with advanced notice.

Refund Policy

In the event the program is cancelled by the park, all participants are eligible to receive a full refund OR move their registration to an existing kayak tour date if there is availability. In order to receive a refund or move their registration, guests must call the park office within 2 weeks following the program date.

If a participant needs to cancel their registration, they must call the park office. In order to receive a full refund, guests should contact the park office at least 7 days in advance of the program date. Participants who cancel their registration later than 7 days in advance of the program are not eligible to receive a refund.

*We hope you can join us
for a park paddle!
-Machicomoco State Park Staff*

3601 Timberneck Farm Rd., Hayes, VA 23072
(804) 642-2419 | machicomoco@dcr.virginia.gov