

Evans Heads Kayak Camp – 29 February – 4 March 2024

Attendees 2 paddlers– Barry and Charmaine Renaud



Day 1 paddling Jerusalem Creek Adventure

Tide 11.20am 1.6m H – 10 am on water - 9km

Travelled an hour by car to Black Rock campground which was peaceful and pretty until we reached the badly corrugated 16 km dirt road. It was lined with trees of Banksia, grass trees, ferns, and gums, ending at Black Rock day use car park which looked new including a toilet block.



The boat launch was a short walk requiring our wheels to trolley the kayaks to the water entrance. The water was brackish due to the tannins from the trees with lovely reflections from overhanging paperbark and tea tree trees.

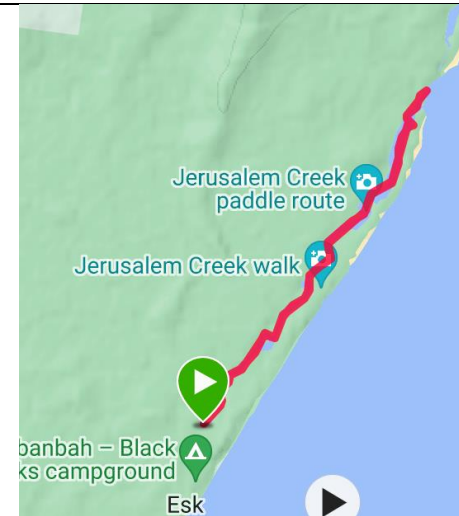
The 4.5 km paddle exposed changing coastal scenery, winding its way to the beach entrance. We were not at high tide therefore could not quite paddle to the end.

Fresh clear water was coming in with loads of fish visible as we had our morning tea break at the water shoulder under some shade.

The kayak return journey was pleasant and easy as the tide pushed us through.

On the drive back to Evan's Head a tree had come down blocking the gravel road fortunately someone had called the parks and wildlife crew to remove it just before we arrived.

A pleasant day with one paddle of my bucket list.





Day 2 paddling Evans River Cruising Paddle

Tide 5.57am .5m L – 9am on water - 17km

Another beautiful clear day with a 9 am ADST start on the water. We trolleyed the kayaks to the beach line which was an easy start from the caravan park. The tide flowing in from the sea swept us around the corner under Elm Street bridge which connects Evans Head township and hillside community.

As we paddled beside Bundjalung National Park on our left through the narrowing of the Iron Gates a natural ironstone barrier/bridge the bird life of eagles soaring, to seagulls in their groups was fascinating to watch.

The 17 km paddle was delightful with the shoreline exposing varied vegetation from sand banks, mangroves and trees as we moved northwest. The brackish water was full of jumping bream and stingrays and turtles.



While having our morning tea break and swim we watched a couple in their tinny pull up 5 good size crabs from their different crab pots.

On our return paddle we ducked into Waterfall Creek which is meant to have waterfalls however there wasn't any on this day.

The last 4 km was a slightly tougher paddle back to the caravan as the wind was in our face.

A nice paddle day exploring.

Barry and Charmaine Renaud

