

## **Lake Bruin Paddling Trail**

### **2-3 miles round trip**

Good paddling on beautiful clear water lake. You can canoe or kayak as far as you feel like going, but 2 to 3 miles suggested to get full flavor. Lake Bruin is an oxbow lake of the Mississippi River with 3,000 acres of open water. The lake dives to over 50 feet deep in places. The recommended trail begins and ends at the State Park and makes a short loop around its southeastern extreme.

Route: Leaving the State Park Boat Ramp follow the cypress studded shoreline south to lake end. Dip in and out of the cypress trees as water level allows, but watch for snakes and gators. Lots of turtles, birds, fish, crayfish and insects. Watch for bald eagles and the magnificent osprey. Take a different route back if the weather is good and the wind is calm. Wear your pfd and carry of camera and binoculars for spectacular views of wildlife!

**Please use custom-made google map by going to:**

<http://goo.gl/maps/6TfDY>

OR

<https://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msid=217859314001592865582.0004ee85f0dccd7b832ff&msa=0&ll=31.961834,-91.201045&spn=0.005498,0.005144>

## **Boat Ramp - Lake Bruin State Park**

### **31.961613, 91.201868**

Good concrete boat ramp with adjoining pier. Easy access for all paddlers. Park fee required for parking and use. Lake Bruin State Park, 201 State Park Rd, St Joseph, LA 71366, (318) 766-3530. Open daily 6am to 7pm. Beautiful lakeside camping available for nominal fee. Bathrooms and Showers. Swimming beach. Pavilion. Fishing Piers.

## **Dredge Field**

### **31.950233, 91.202213**

The US Army Corps left piles of dredge material along the southeastern shore of Lake Bruin from work done on the Mississippi River in the 1950s and 60s. The soft sandy soils have kept any development from occurring and as result this area has remained the wildest side of the entire lake -- much to the delight of paddlers and nature lovers! Gators, turtles and other amphibians and invertebrates are often seen in the waters, while migratory birds and waders of all sorts are often discovered in the trees and shoreline.

## **End of Lake/Entrance to Canals**

**31.946048, 91.206203**

Two private canals are found at the end of the lake leading into a small neighborhood, and the Lake Bruin Lodge/Fish Tail Grill.

**Fish Tale Grill/Lake Bruin Lodge & Country Store**

2214 Hwy 604, Lake Bruin, Louisiana 71366. (318) 766-0075. Located near south side of Lake Bruin. Eclectic variety of southern Louisiana dishes. Lodging, groceries, refreshments and sundries. <http://www.lakebruinlouisiana.com/restaurant>.

**Old Creek Trail**

**1/2 mile round trip**

Half mile round trip paddle into an old creek bed/back channel to Mississippi River. Often full of fish, birds and amphibians.