

# ACA Coastal Kayak Tidal Currents

## Thoughts

Tidal currents are not always predictable. We want to be ready for the challenge of paddling in current should it occur. This class develops understanding of current, how to paddle in it or cross it – how to deal with tidal rips.



**Prerequisites:** ACA Level 4 Coastal Kayak Open Water Skills course or Level-4 skill certificate.

**Next Steps:** *ACA Level 4 Skill Assessment, Coastal Kayak Rough Water Maneuvering, Towing and Rescues*

## Topics Covered

We will develop understanding of behavior and prediction of tidal currents. We will discuss skills and practice paddling with and against current. We will learn how to use ranges to maintain a course, how to set and hold a ferry angle, how to “peel-out” and “turn-in” using currents, how to enter and surf a tidal race. We will practice rough water rescues as opportunities present.

## Details and Requirements

This 8 hour course, designed for the committed paddler, has ACA Coastal Kayak Open Water Skills as its prerequisite. Participation may be documented with an ACA registration card with advanced request. Course is planned for group participation in a suitable environment such as an ocean inlet or similar water with suitable conditions.

**Basic Equipment** includes a properly outfitted kayak or canoe with paddle and related safety equipment including PFD, helmet, spray skirt, paddle float, pump, and sling. This equipment will be provided as needed, although it is best to use your own equipment, if available. Please advise us on your equipment needs prior to the class.

**Personal Equipment** recommendations include clothing suitable for immersion (synthetics, no cotton) and water shoes (no open-sided sandals). The student should come prepared for frequent immersion while practicing skills. Some students prefer to use nose-clips, earplugs, and/or swim goggles during immersion – all are acceptable, though generally not required. Other items of personal responsibility include: sunglasses, sunscreen, hat with visor, bug repellent, and spare (dry) clothing. In cooler weather or on windy days a windbreaker may also offer comfort.

**NOTE:** We are not responsible for lost or damaged personal items. Plan to leave electronic keys, cell phones, etc. on shore or in a floating, waterproof container. Consider retention aids for prescription glasses, hats, and other items dear to you.

## Special Requirements

Please bring a desire for serious fun and a spirit of adventure. In order to best serve you please advise us of any personal issues when registering. Let us know in confidence of any medical issues prior to the start of class. We can accommodate most concerns.

## Costs and Fees

Class Fee	Boat and Gear Rental	ACA Participation Card
Inquire	Available, Inquire	Available