

DOWNUNDER WESTPORT: SUP/KAYAKING TRAILS

THE SAUGATUCK RIVER

The Saugatuck River goes all the way up to Danbury. Our end of it, from the Route 1 Bridge in Westport center to Long Island Sound, is about three miles. Like most rivers in the region it was home to many mills supporting local industry. It's a very healthy river, thanks to the efforts of Harborwatch and the Saugatuck River Watershed Partnership, and homeowners that live on the river that are environmentally conscious and responsible.

1. DOWNUNDER WESTPORT

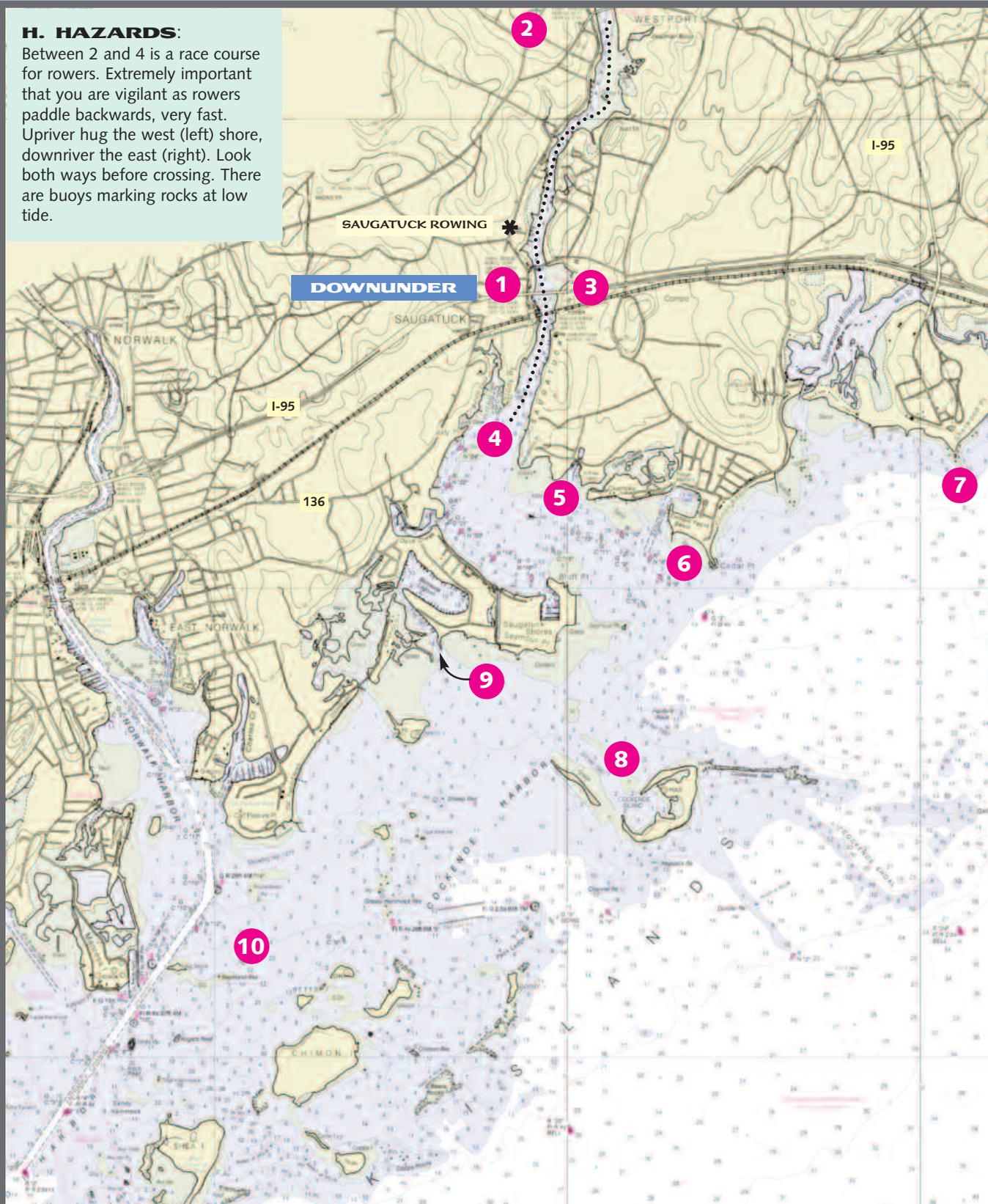
(203) 956-6217
575 Riverside Ave
Westport, CT 06880
www.downunderct.com

2. DOWNTOWN WESTPORT

1.5 miles to bridge, 30-40 mins one way
2 miles to dam, 40-50 minutes one way
Paddle up river, meandering around the coves, and docks, to the bridge at Route 1 in Westport Center. Watch the tide if you're going under the bridge -don't want to get stuck up there! Depending on the tide, you can go under the bridge and enjoy an even quieter more pristine location – not many houses up here, some businesses. If you go far enough you will come to the dam, where there is a fish ladder. Join us for one of our Eco tours to learn more about the fish ladder, dams and Saugatuck River in general. SUP appropriate.

H. HAZARDS:

Between 2 and 4 is a race course for rowers. Extremely important that you are vigilant as rowers paddle backwards, very fast. Upriver hug the west (left) shore, downriver the east (right). Look both ways before crossing. There are buoys marking rocks at low tide.



3. PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH

To get there from Downunder go over the bridge and turn right onto Compo Road south, follow the signs on the right to the boat launch. Very safe and has a porta potty.

4. STONY POINT

3/4 mile, 20-30 minutes each way
Keeping the land on your left as you head downriver, you will come to a point on your right, beyond which the water opens into a large basin area. Cross the river to the right, watching for rowers and boat traffic. Burritts Landing/Stony Point is around the point to your right - a gorgeous inlet that leads back towards I95, and at high tide you can get that far! We love this paddle for beginners, SUPers, birthday parties, classes and yoga.

5. GRAY'S CREEK

Kayak/SUP
1.5-2 miles, 45 mins to 1:15 hour each way
Longer by SUP, especially in windy conditions
Grays Creek is just past Longshore Sailing club and before the Compo Yacht Basin on your left. A secluded paddle at high tide with an opportunity to shout out to your mates enjoying a round of golf at the Compo beach club! Paddle to the end to see the Minuteman statue.

6. COMPO YACHT BASIN

Kayak/SUP 1.5-2 miles 50-60 mins ea way
Longer by SUP, especially in windy conditions
A nice place to rest, the only place you can get off on the river. NOTE: Compo Beach is just around the bend to the left, you may NOT disembark here.

7. SHERWOOD ISLAND

Kayak Tour
3 miles, 1.5 hours each way
Allow 3-4 hours, lots of areas to poke around the shore line, but you can only officially get off at the nearest end of Sherwood Island. Not recommended as an SUP destination. Always be sure to pull your vessel well up above the tide line when you disembark. You can walk around the shore to toilet facilities and a food concession.

10. NORWALK ISLANDS

Sea Kayak Tour
5 hour tour
Only for seasoned paddlers, ideally in sea kayaks, and in appropriate wind conditions. This is a major boating area, and open to Long Island Sound – where you will end up in an offshore wind. If you follow the shore from Saugatuck river you will eventually reach the Five Mile River, home to Downunder Rowayton. A great 'downwinder' for experienced SUPers, with a public boat launch part way up on the right, opposite Tokeneke Creek.

9. BERMUDA LAGOON

Experienced Kayak/SUP Tour
2.5-3 miles, 1.5-2 hours each way
As you exit Saugatuck river, keep to the right to locate Bermuda Lagoon, a protected marsh area of diverse habitats; ideal for bird watching and fishing. Light wind conditions ideal - it's longer than you think and you want a southerly to get you back.

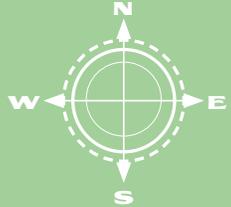
8. COCKENOE

(KAH-KEE-NEE)
Experienced Kayak/SUP Tour
2.5 miles, 1.5-2 hours each way
There are 25 islands in the archipelago of Norwalk islands, many of which are really more like rocks, and many are private (homes visible, don't disembark). Cockenoe is the closest to the shore from the Saugatuck River. It's beautiful - great paddling, swimming, exploring, abundance of wildlife. This is an advanced paddle – recommended as a guided tour. Be very cautious of the boat traffic and stay on this side of the island to avoid offshore wind and current issues.

SAUGATUCK PADDLING LOCATIONS



Downtown Westport



Saugatuck Rowing

BRIDGE

**DOWNUNDER
WESTPORT**

INTERSTATE 95

195

METRO NORTH

BOAT CHANNEL

Boats have the right of way, including rowers - please keep out of the channel.

Stony Point

Compo Beach

BOAT BASIN

Compo Marina

Saugatuck Shores

Boat Channel - boats have the right of way, including rowers - please keep out of the channel.

