Along the Way

A. Granby Lock & Dam was in use by 1905 to allow boats to pass over rocky shoals. Paddlers should go through the lock on river right to avoid the dam.

B. Congaree Creek Heritage Preserve protects stands of rare Atlantic white cedar. The historic Cherokee Trail runs through the 630-acre preserve.

C. Cedar Creek Trail features 15 miles of pristine black water stream running through cypress and tupelo forest. For details visit www.nps.gov/cong.

D. Backcountry camping in the Congaree National Park allows for multiple-day, wilderness paddling adventures.

E. Congaree Bluffs Heritage Preserve offers stunning treetop views of Congaree National Park from atop bluffs rising 150 feet above the river.
now houses the State Museum. The adjacent to the river in the building that was once a flour mill was in operation by the 1890’s. Electricity was introduced, and the area began to be more accessible. By 1830, a canal and lock system was constructed to improve navigation and commerce. In the 1800s, large tracts of land adjacent to the river were logged, and by 1915 most of the old-growth cypress trees were gone.

In the 1540s and by the mid-1700s, Spanish and English explorers traveled the river. Hernando DeSoto explored the area in the 1540s and by the mid-1700s, both the Spanish and English had made numerous expeditions into the area.

Water power was used to generate electricity. The first electrified textile mill was in operation by the 1890’s. Water power was used to generate electricity. The first electrified textile mill was in operation by the 1890’s. By 1830, a canal and lock system was constructed to improve navigation and commerce.

With human settlements dating back almost 12,000 years, the Congaree has a long history. There are records of Native Americans living in the area in the 1540s and by the mid-1700s, Spanish and English explorers traveled the river. Hernando DeSoto explored the area in the 1540s and by the mid-1700s, both the Spanish and English had made numerous expeditions into the area.

The Congaree River Blue Trail begins its 50-mile course near Columbia, South Carolina. It connects the fall line and enters the Coastal Plain known for its countless sandbars, high banks, and rapids. The trail provides opportunities to learn about the natural environment and the history of the area. The river is a vibrant corridor for water bodies, providing excellent opportunities for boating, fishing, bird watching, and nature study.

Welcome to the Congaree River Blue Trail! This trail is part of the Blue Trail Initiative. Blue trails, the aquatic equivalent to hiking trails, are designed to protect rivers and their ecosystems. The Congaree River Blue Trail is a rare, but welcome sight near the Congaree National Park. The river is home to several endangered species, including the shortnose sturgeon, a species that migrates from coastal waters to freshwater. It is home to several endangered species, including the shortnose sturgeon, a species that migrates from coastal waters to freshwater.

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The Congaree River Blue Trail is home to 15,000 acres of wilderness and the largest tract of old growth bottomland hardwood forest in the U.S. Paddlers can enjoy 20-miles of hardwood forest in the U.S. Paddlers can enjoy 20-miles of trails within the park as well as canoeing. Wild water and hikers can enjoy 20-miles of trails within the park as well as canoeing.

The Congaree National Park, established in 2003, is home to 15,000 acres of wilderness and the largest tract of old growth bottomland hardwood forest in the U.S. Paddlers can enjoy 20-miles of trails within the park as well as canoeing. Wild water and hikers can enjoy 20-miles of trails within the park as well as canoeing.

Birds often visit the river, especially near the Congaree National Park. The river is home to several endangered species, including the shortnose sturgeon, a species that migrates from coastal waters to freshwater. It is home to several endangered species, including the shortnose sturgeon, a species that migrates from coastal waters to freshwater.

The Congaree River Blue Trail is a vibrant corridor for water bodies, providing excellent opportunities for boating, fishing, bird watching, and nature study. The river is a vibrant corridor for water bodies, providing excellent opportunities for boating, fishing, bird watching, and nature study.

The Congaree Wateree Santee Basin is a rare, but welcome sight near the Congaree National Park. The river is home to several endangered species, including the shortnose sturgeon, a species that migrates from coastal waters to freshwater. It is home to several endangered species, including the shortnose sturgeon, a species that migrates from coastal waters to freshwater.

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