

Black River Reach I: Irasburg to Coventry

This half-day paddle offers an engaging class I-II run through farmland and forest. It features two covered bridges, and two waterfalls that must be carried. Herons, muskrats, and mink are among the wildlife you might spot. This reach is best run in moderate to high water (April-May). Look for at least 200 cfs on the USGS gauge in Coventry. To avoid an arduous portage around Little Falls, take out just above Big Falls

Route 14 Bridge Access

Little Falls Access

Big Falls Access

Ladybird Johnson Park Access

Coventry Station Road

SAMPLE

- 1 (RM 0) Put in just above the **Lord's Creek Covered Bridge** in Irasburg at a turnoff and informal river access. Do not park in the adjacent field.
- 2 (RM 1.8-2.3) Navigate a half mile of **Class II boulder gardens** before passing under a wooden footbridge.
- 3 (RM 2.3-2.6) Take the **Orne Covered Bridge**, which has an informal take out just past the bridge on river left.
- 4 (RM 4.6) Reach **Little Falls** and take out river right just over the bridge. There is an informal trail past a USGS station and down to a pool below the falls where you can add a short waterfall.
- 5 (RM 5.4) At **Little Falls**, take out river left above the bend in the river and follow a steep and narrow portage trail up to Route 14. Walk to the next turnoff and follow a steep informal trail back down to the river (0.35 miles). At low water, it is possible to carry around the falls by scrambling over the rocks on river left
- 6 (RM 5.5) Take out at **Ladybird Johnson Park** in Coventry. Turn right (back upstream) as you pass an island and follow the rock stairs to the park.

Rapids
Portage
Hand Carry

Town
Primary Road
Secondary Road
Conserved Lands (Public and Private)

1:26,000

0 0.25 0.5 mile



Cartography by Benjamin Dohan
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Lord's Creek Covered Bridge Access

