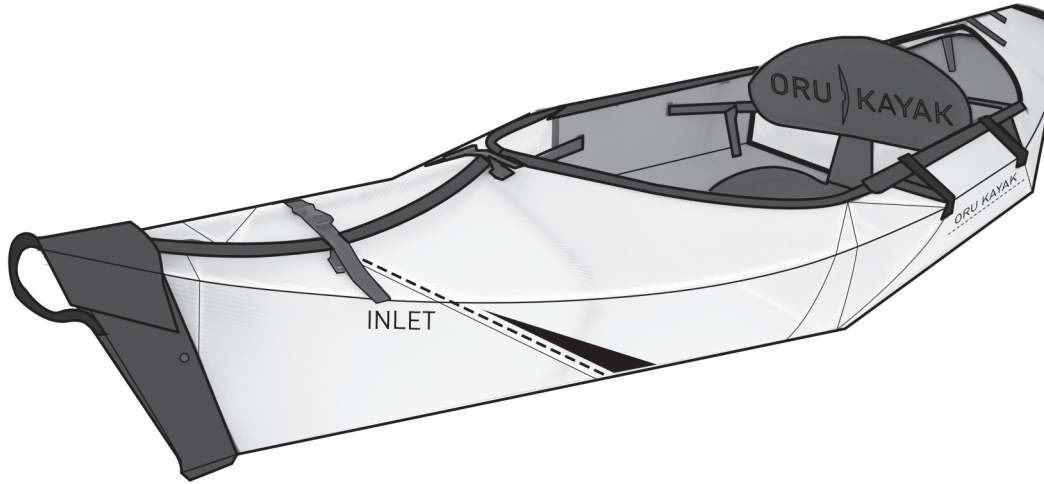


# OWNER'S MANUAL

## INLET KAYAK

ORU KAYAK

US PATENT NO. 8,316,788  
OTHER PATENTS PENDING



## WARNING

All persons using this kayak must read, understand, and follow all instructions. Failure to do so may result in serious injury or death. Keep this manual in a safe place for future reference and provide it to anyone using this kayak.

## Contents

- ① Product specifications
- ② Safety warnings
- ③ Assembly & disassembly
- ④ Proper care & storage
- ⑤ Transporting your Oru Kayak
- ⑥ Recommended usage
- ⑦ Gear list
- ⑧ Kayaking 101
- ⑨ Limited warranty
- ⑩ Warranty registration

## Welcome to the Oru Kayak community!

We're a young company working to change how people experience the outdoors. We designed the Oru Inlet to make getting out on the water simple, fun, and easy.

This manual gives an overview of the Inlet's features and includes a lot of useful tips and kayaking know-how. Read on to learn the basics of planning your trips, handling a paddle, getting into the water, and staying safe. To take your experiences to the next level, we recommend taking a lesson from a local paddlesports shop.

Happy paddling — we look forward to hearing about your adventures!

The Oru Kayak team

**QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?**

Email us at [service@orukayak.com](mailto:service@orukayak.com)

# ① Product Specifications

The Oru Inlet's design is all about ease and simplicity. A single sheet of double-layered polypropylene forms the hull and deck of the assembled kayak, and transforms into the box. The overlapping flaps that form the deck make for ultra fast assembly and the open cockpit gives you plenty

of room. Internal bulkheads and an integrated floorboard adds strength. The adjustable seat and footrest let you paddle in comfort. All of the loose parts fit into the Oru Inlet box.

## 1.1 MATERIALS & CONSTRUCTION

- Double-layered 5 mm polypropylene hull and deck with UV inhibitors
  - Double-layered 10 mm polypropylene bulkheads
- (NOTE: bulkheads are for structural rigidity ONLY and are not watertight)
- ABS structural components
  - Polypropylene and EPDM rubber trim
  - Heavy-duty Nylon and HDPE
  - Nylon, brass and stainless steel fasteners

## 1.2 DIMENSIONS & CAPACITIES

### Assembled

Length 9' 8" (295 Cm)  
Width 31" (78 Cm)

### In case

Length 42" (107 Cm)  
Width 10" (25 Cm)  
Height 18" (46 Cm)

### Weight

20 Lbs (9 Kg)

### Capacity

275 Lbs (125 Kg)

## **WARNING**

DO NOT exceed your boat's capacity under any circumstances.

Doing so will adversely affect the kayak's handling and reduce its stability, which will increase the chance of capsizing or swamping.

Make sure loads are distributed as evenly as possible, with heavier items on the bottom and lighter ones on top.

## ② Safety Warnings



**Kayaking can be physically demanding and dangerous. Use of this product and participation in the sport of kayaking involve inherent risks of serious injury or death.**

Kayaking is fun and challenging but involves inherent risks of serious injury or death. To reduce these risks, users of this product must follow the warnings and instructions provided in this manual and in the warning printed on the Oru Kayak and use common sense.

Users of this product agree by their use of this kayak to accept the inherent risks involved in this paddlesport activity and agree to follow all instructions, cautions, and warnings carefully before and while using this kayak.

To reduce these risks follow these rules:

### **BEFORE YOU PADDLE**

- Consult a physician before you begin kayaking activities or training. Make sure you are healthy enough to meet the physical demands of this sport.
- Obtain training in the safe use of your kayak from a qualified instructor and build your experience in controlled situations.
- Check the weather and water conditions. Oru Kayaks are designed to be used ONLY in sheltered waters, on inland lakes, or in slow moving rivers. They are NOT designed for white water use. NEVER go paddling in strong winds, rain, thunderstorms, choppy water, strong currents, flood waters, or where tides will affect your ability to steer the kayak or return to shore.
- Strictly follow the assembly instructions in the Inlet Assembly Guide. If the kayak is not assembled correctly, it can lose its structural integrity and collapse.
- Inspect the kayak, including the deck straps and buckles, and all associated equipment (e.g., paddle) before each use for signs of excessive wear or damage.
- Familiarize yourself with the body of water on which you will be paddling. Determine whether there are known hazardous conditions, such as low water levels or sharp rocks, and know where you can get help quickly in case of an emergency.
- Consult and abide by all U.S. Coast Guard regulations and state

and local laws, regulations, and ordinances regarding boating, equipment, and boating safety.

- Prepare a float plan and let friends or relatives know where you plan to go and when you plan to return.
- Obtain certified first aid and rescue training.

## **USE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT**

Always use a U.S. Coast Guard–approved life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD, such as the Oru PFD). Read the PFD manufacturer’s instructions and familiarize yourself with how the PFD should be worn.

- Dress appropriately for your weather conditions: cold weather and/or cold water can result in hypothermia. Wear a wetsuit or drysuit if necessary.
- Carry an approved helmet and wear it when necessary.
- Carry first aid equipment and understand how to use it.
- Carry an audible signal device, such as a horn or whistle. If possible, attach the device to your PFD.
- If additional outfitting is attached to this kayak, use compatible accessories only.
- Make sure that all equipment and baggage is stowed securely and does not impede your safe exit from the kayak.

## **WHEN YOU PADDLE**

- NEVER paddle alone. It is best to have someone with you in case of an emergency or accident.
- DO NOT exceed the kayak’s maximum load capacity, which includes the weight of the passenger and any on-board equipment and provisions.
- Avoid hazardous conditions, such as flooding, tidal changes, large waves, fast-moving currents, and high surf.
- Only paddle in flat, protected water. This product is not designed for use in fast-water, rough water, or large surf.
- Never allow minors to use this kayak without adult supervision.
- Never use or consume alcohol, drugs, or any other substance that may affect your coordination, judgment, or ability to operate this kayak safely.
- Never exceed your ability. Honestly assess your physical strength, endurance, and paddling skills.
- Scout unfamiliar waters; remove your kayak from the water and carry it to avoid unsafe conditions.

**Read this entire Owner’s Manual for additional safety information.**

## ③ Assembly & Disassembly

See the Inlet Assembly Guide that comes with your kayak.



Strictly follow the Assembly Guide included with your Oru Kayak. If the Oru Kayak is not assembled correctly, it can lose its structural integrity and collapse.

## ④ Proper Care & Storage

### 4.1 CARE AND MAINTENANCE

With care and maintenance, your Oru Kayak will last for years.

To ensure this, follow these tips:

- Inspect your kayak before each use to make sure it is not damaged, and that all screws are tight.
- Follow instructions to properly put away components of the Inlet.
- Rinse off your kayak with clean, fresh water after each use, especially after paddling in salt water.
- Make sure water does not collect inside the kayak case after use.
- Some water may collect inside the plastic corrugations. To let it escape, flip the unfolded kayak upside down to let it drain out.
- For additional cleaning, use general-purpose cleaning spray with a soft, non-abrasive rag or sponge.
- In case of serious damage or punctures, email us at **service@orukayak.com**. Please include photos of the issue and your HIN number for faster resolution.

### 4.2 STORAGE

Store your Oru Kayak in its box form, indoors, away from direct sunlight and heat sources. Prolonged exposure to sunlight can cause plastics to discolor and become brittle.

## ⑤ Transporting Your Inlet

The Inlet is compact and light. Take advantage of this by lifting rather than dragging it, to avoid scratching the bottom of the kayak.

- Carry the box with the center handle for short trips. For longer trips, use the custom-designed backpack, the Oru Inlet Pack.
- DO NOT carry your Oru Kayak on top of a car or trailer. If transporting in a car, fold it into its box form and stash it inside.
- The kayak can also be carried as an assembled boat by using the handle located in the center of the kayak.
- The best way to fly with your Inlet is to pack it in the Oru Inlet Pack and check it in. Airlines measure luggage as length + width + height , so the Oru Inlet is 71". Most often, airlines do not charge an additional baggage fee for the Oru Kayak, but some airlines may.

## ⑥ Recommended Usage



The Inlet is designed to be used **ONLY** in sheltered flat waters, lakes, and slow-moving rivers. It is **NOT** designed for fast-moving water, rough water, or large surf.

The Oru Kayak is a recreational kayak and does not have waterproof bulkheads. If it capsizes, the entire kayak will fill with water and can sink.

- Whenever possible, enter the Inlet from a dock or a place where the kayak is floating in the water. If beach landings or launches are required, choose a location with smooth sand or mud to minimize abrasion.
- Use water displacement devices such as the Oru Float Bags if you are paddling on open water.
- DO NOT scrape or drag the kayak, especially on sharp surfaces.
- DO NOT use or fold your Oru Kayak in air temperatures below freezing (32°F/0°C). The kayak's plastic hull can become brittle and crack at temperatures below freezing.

## ⑦ Gear List

The following is a list of required or useful items that can be found at [www.orukayak.com](http://www.orukayak.com), your local kayak shop, or through other online retailers.

### 7.1 REQUIRED GEAR

- PFD (personal flotation device) (i.e., a life jacket, such as the Oru PFD). This must be U.S. Coast Guard approved (or approved by the relevant agency in other countries), and must be worn at all times while kayaking.
- Paddle. Kayaks use a double-bladed paddle like the Oru Paddle or Oru Carbon Paddle.
- A horn or whistle. U.S. Coast Guard regulations require an audible signal device to be used in all watercraft. Attach the device to your PFD.

### 7.2 HIGHLY RECOMMENDED GEAR

- First aid kit
- Phone or other communication device. Devices not made for marine use should be kept in a waterproof dry bag.
- Appropriate clothing, depending on weather and conditions. Always be aware of hypothermia risks and bring extra clothing. For short trips and casual paddling, wear thermal clothing made of synthetic fabrics or wool.
- Float Bags
- Bailing sponge
- Bilge pump
- Food and plenty of drinking water
- Maps and compass
- Sun protection (sunscreen, sunglasses, hat, etc.)



## ⑧ Kayaking 101

All users of this kayak should obtain qualified instruction to learn proper paddling technique, water safety, and first aid before using this kayak. This manual is not intended to provide complete training on all aspects of kayaking. The following tips, however, are provided to get you started. For more detailed information, visit [www.orukayak.com/kayaking101](http://www.orukayak.com/kayaking101)

### 8.1 ENTERING & EXITING A KAYAK

For all methods of entry and exit, be aware of water and weather conditions; nothing will knock you off balance like an unexpected wave. Different types of entries are described below. To exit the kayak, perform the entry steps in reverse.

#### From a high dock or boat:

1. Float the kayak alongside the dock.
2. Sit down on the dock.
3. Place your paddle nearby so you can reach it once you are in the kayak.
4. Place both feet in the kayak.
5. With both hands on the dock, lower yourself into the kayak. Hold on to the dock to maintain stability; keep your center of gravity low as you enter the kayak. Slide into a sitting position. DO NOT stand up in the kayak at any point.

#### From a low dock or platform:

1. Float the kayak alongside the dock.
2. Place the paddle across both sides of the kayak, just behind the backrest.
3. Sit down on the dock next to the boat, in front of the paddle.
4. Place one hand on the paddle and the side of the cockpit, gripping them together tightly.
5. Place the palm of your other hand on the paddle, near your buttocks (do not grab the paddle; you will smash your fingers).
6. Swing your legs into the kayak.
7. Holding on to the side of the cockpit and paddle shaft, place weight on your hand (and the paddle) on the dock.
8. Lower yourself into the seat. The end of the paddle braced against the dock will keep the kayak stable and prevent it from drifting as you enter.

#### From a beach:

1. Make sure the kayak is floating in a few inches of water.
2. Straddle the kayak over the cockpit.
3. Lower yourself into the seat.
4. Start paddling.

## ⑧ Kayaking 101 (continued)

### 8.2 SITTING IN A KAYAK

The proper sitting position will keep you comfortable for hours of paddling and help you better control the boat.

- Sit in the kayak upright, with your back against the seat back.
- Adjust the footrest so that your feet rest on them, with your ankles in a neutral position. Your knees should be comfortably bent, and your legs should be splayed apart.

### 8.3 PADDLING A KAYAK

Paddling a kayak is fairly intuitive, but a few tips will make your experience more efficient, fun, and relaxing.

#### 8.3.1 How to choose a paddle

Recommended paddle sizes may vary based on the paddle shape and type, as well as your personal preference. This table offers rules of thumb:

YOUR HEIGHT	RECOMMENDED PADDLE LENGTH
5'0" – 5'5"	215 – 220 cm
5'5" – 6'2"	220 – 230 cm
6'2" +	225 – 240 cm

On some kayak paddles, the blades are in the same plane. On others, the blades are offset, to cut more efficiently through wind and water; these are called feathered paddles. Many paddles, including the Oru Paddle, can be set in either a feathered or unfeathered position.

#### 8.3.2 How to hold a paddle

1. Hold the paddle securely in front of you with your hands on the shaft, about elbow-width apart.
2. Raise the paddle above your head and balance the paddle shaft on your head. Reposition your hands so that your elbows are at right angles.
3. Keep your hands in this position and rotate the paddle to just below shoulder height.
4. This position will allow you to rotate your torso while you paddle. This will let you paddle faster, longer, and more efficiently. It will also protect you from shoulder fatigue or injury.
5. If you're using an unfeathered paddle, your knuckles should be aligned with the paddle blades.
6. If you're using a feathered paddle, the knuckles of your dominant hand should align with the corresponding paddle blade. With each stroke, you'll rotate the paddle so that the blade enters the water at a right angle.

7. Whichever paddle you choose, you will use the same grip and positioning for all strokes.

### 8.3.3 How to paddle

For all strokes, maintain an upright posture, with the footrest and seat back adjusted as described in section 8.2.

#### Forward stroke

- Start with the paddle oriented as described above.
- Rotate to your left at the torso, and then place two-thirds of the paddle blade in the water; imagine you're stabbing the water.
- Rotate your torso toward your right with the paddle in the water. Repeat on the opposite side, alternating strokes on the right and left. You want to use both hands equally—push with one hand while you pull with the other.

#### Reverse stroke

To stop, slow down, or move backward, do the same stroke in reverse. There is no need to flip the paddle backward.



**WARNING**



Practice new strokes in calm, shallow water.

## 8.4 MANEUVERING A KAYAK

#### Rudder turn

- Once you have forward momentum, place your paddle in the water just behind your hip.
- The resistance and torsion will cause your boat to rotate around the side the paddle is on.

#### Sweep-stroke turn

- Place the paddle in the water near the bow (front).
- Then make a large arc-shaped motion toward the stern (back).
- The sweep stroke can be done in a forward or reverse manner.
- To turn the boat in a circle, do a forward sweep stroke on one side and a reverse sweep stroke on the other side.

## 8.5 RECOVERY

- ALWAYS use float bags. These enable the kayak to float above water level, even after a full capsize. You can then fully bail out the kayak, making recovery much easier.
- ALWAYS WEAR A PFD AND NEVER KAYAK ALONE!

## 9 Limited Warranty

### **WARNING**

Kayakers, especially beginners and novices, can be particularly vulnerable to adverse weather and water conditions. Because of their lightweight and limited speed, kayaks can be especially sensitive to wind, waves, and current. Always be aware of your paddling abilities, the water/weather conditions, and the limitations of your kayak, and use common sense and good judgment for your own safety.

Oru Kayak, Inc. warrants this product to be free from defects in material or workmanship for a period of one year from the date of its original purchase. If a problem occurs, you must contact Oru Kayak, Inc. in a timely manner by email at [service@orukayak.com](mailto:service@orukayak.com). Please include photos, your Hull Identification Number ([www.orukayak.com/findHIN](http://www.orukayak.com/findHIN)), your model of boat, and order number for faster resolution. Any product that is covered by this warranty and that is found in the reasonable judgment of Oru Kayak, Inc. to be defective in materials or workmanship will be repaired or replaced at Oru Kayak's option. Once a repair or replacement is approved, you must promptly ship the product, postage prepaid, to Oru Kayak, Inc. to the return address that will be provided. All covered repairs or replacements will be made at no charge during the warranty period and within a reasonable period of time.

### **This warranty does NOT cover**

Products used for commercial or rental purposes; normal wear and tear, including punctures, cuts and abrasions sustained in normal use; damage caused by accident, neglect, or misuse; damage caused by improper storage maintenance, or handling; damage caused by extreme weather or environmental conditions, including white water conditions; products that have been structurally altered or modified; damage caused while the product is in possession of a freight carrier or party other than Oru Kayak; cosmetic wear, abrasion, or damage caused by excessive UV exposure; and products determined to have been used for any activity other than an activity that is intended or customary for the product.

### **Activating your warranty**

The warranty registration form should be completed online (go to [www.orukayak.com/pages/warranty](http://www.orukayak.com/pages/warranty)) within thirty days of original purchase or receipt of product to be activated. It is suggested that you keep your sales receipt should it be required in the future for proof of purchase.

### **NO LIABILITY FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES**

The repair and replacement remedies described in this warranty are the owner's sole and exclusive remedy. In no event shall Oru Kayak be liable for any incidental, special, or consequential damages. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights that vary from state to state.

### **LIMITATION AND DISCLAIMER OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES**

To the extent permitted by applicable laws:

- Oru Kayak does NOT make any implied warranty of merchantability as to any product or part, whether or not the product or part is covered by any express warranty herein;
- Oru Kayak does NOT make any implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose, and there are no warranties that extend beyond the description on the face hereof;
- In those jurisdictions where the implied warranties may not be disclaimed, any implied warranty is limited in duration to the duration of the express warranty described in the warranty statement. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations may not apply to you.

## ⑩ Your Kayak's Information

For activating your warranty, you will need the place of purchase, date of receipt, and the **Hull Identification Number (HIN)**. The HIN is your kayak's unique ID. It is located on the outside of the kayak hull on the back right. If you are having trouble finding it, watch a video at [www.orukayak.com/findHIN](http://www.orukayak.com/findHIN).

For your own records:

PLACE OF PURCHASE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF RECEIPT: \_\_\_\_\_

HULL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (HIN):

OKA

EXPLORE OUTSIDE  
THE BOX



We're eager to hear about your  
Oru Kayak adventures!

Keep up with events and updates, and share your  
own journeys, stories, and photographs:

Facebook  [www.facebook.com/orukayak](http://www.facebook.com/orukayak)

Twitter  @orukayak

Instagram  @orukayak #orukayak

ORU ) KAYAK

Oru Kayak, Inc.  
Emeryville, CA

[www.orukayak.com](http://www.orukayak.com)  
[info@orukayak.com](mailto:info@orukayak.com)