

# South Florida Cavern and Tec Wreck Trek

April 20- May 5, 2024

Deep (\$399) Cavern (\$499) Wreck, (\$399) Intro to Tec (\$399) Enriched Air (Nitrox) Diver (\$150) Advanced Nitrox/Tec 40 (\$449) Decompression Procedures/Tec 45 (\$499)

Extended Range/Tec 50 (\$549) O/W (\$299) AOW (\$499)

(eLearning ADDITIONAL) (Gear Rental ADDITIONAL)

Boat Dive (Ft. Lauderdale & Key Largo) additional boat fee (2-dive) \$125 shallow / \$150 Deep

Equipment rental: BCD, 2 Tanks, Regulator w/Computer & Compass, 3mm wetsuit, weights \$79 per 2 Days

Pony Bottle/Deco Bottle \$25 per day rental

Sat Sun	4/20 4/21	High Springs	OW/AOW OW/AOW	Ginnie Springs
Mon	4/22	High Springs	Cavern/AOW	Jacksonville or
Tue	4/23	Live Oak	Cavern	Peacock Springs I Gainesville Airport
Wed	4/24		Cavern	Ginnie Devil's Eye/Ear
Thu	4/25	High Springs	Cavern/AOW	Ginnie Ballroom
				Night Dive Ballroom
Sat	4/27	Ft. Lauderdale	OW/AOW	Anglin Pier
Sun	4/28		OW/AOW	
Mon	4/29		AOW/Tec	Okinawa (PM) Hollywood FLL
Tue	4/30	Deerfield Beach	AOW/Tec	Lady Luck (PM)- <b>DEEP</b> Airport
Wed	5/1	Ft. Lauderdale	AOW/Tec	RSB-1 (AM) - <b>DEEP</b>
				Night Dive (wreck & reef)
Thu	5/2	Key Largo	OW/AOW/TEC	Molasses Reef Miami or Key West
Fri	5/3	Key Largo	OW/AOW/Tec	Christ of the Abyss Airport
Sat	5/4	Key Largo	AOW/TEC	Spiegel Grove- <b>DEEP</b>
Sun	5/5	Key Largo	TEC	Spiegel Grove- <b>DEEP</b>
1				

Gear Requirements: Logbook, Slate, SMB/DSMB & Reel, Mask, Fins, Snorkel, booties, weight belt. Regulator with Computer & Compass, Weights, Tanks (2), BCD, Wetsuit.

**PREREQUISITE:** Open Water Diver or Junior Open Water Diver for the specialties- you must also own or purchase (we do not rent) Night Dive Light Set (Primary, Backup, & Tank); Measuring Line; DSMB/Safety Sausage with Spool (50'+); and Wreck reel (150'+). Cavern & Deep divers must own or rent pony/bailout bottle.

Tipping your instructors and boat crew is always a scuba-skill appreciated by the staff!

516-997-4864

info@scubadiversUSA.com www.scubadiversUSA.com



## **DIRECTIONS**

# **Cave Country Dives**

# **AIRPORT: Jacksonville or Gainesville**

### Devil's Den

Travel back in time to a cavern zone that has its origins in prehistoric times! The Devil's Den is a scuba diving. This underground spring inside a dry cave has been home to many extinct animal fossils dating back to the Pleistocene Age. The site is an inverted mushroom shape below the surface with a 120 ft. surface diameter and a Maximum depth of 54 ft/16.45 m. The crystal-clear water is 72 degrees F/22.2 degrees C year-round.

#### **Directions:**

Take Interstate Route 75 South from Gainesville onto FL-121 S, travel 7.2 mi and Turn left onto N Main St, another 0.4 mi follow US-27 ALT N to NE 180th Ave/NE 50 St, approximately (2.8 miles right onto US-27 ALT N/W Noble Ave. Continue to follow US-27 ALT N 1.6 miles until you Turn right onto NE 180th Ave, 1.0 mile further Turn left onto NE 180th Ave/NE 50 St. Site is 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile in front of you.

Devil's Den Spring 5390 NE 180th Ave Williston, FL 32696 352-528-3344

# **Ginne Springs**

The Ginnie Spring basin is a large, bowl-shaped depression measuring over 100 feet across and 15 feet deep, with a cavern zone that runs to 60 ffw. A 150-foot-long run connects the basin to the nearby Santa Fe River. The chief attraction here is the Ginnie Cavern, whose wide, open entrance can be found at the bottom of the basin. Ginnie Cavern is among the handful of sites that experts consider sufficiently safe to allow exploration by divers and the locus of most U.S. cavern or cave diver training.

## **Directions:**

Starting at I-75 exit for High Springs, travel west and enter the town of High Springs. Continue straight through the two stop lights in High Springs and go approximately one-half mile further to the turn off for County Road 340/NE 182nd Avenue. (You will see a sign on top of a pole indicating that this is the turn off for Ginnie, Blue and Poe Springs.) Turn right on to County Road 340 and go approximate 6.5 miles, to the sign indicating the turn off to Ginnie Springs (NE 60th Ave.) Turn right at the sign (NE 60th Ave.) and go approximately one mile further to the Ginnie Springs Outdoors entrance.

Ginnie Springs Outdoors, LLC 7300 NE Ginnie Spgs Rd, High Springs, FL 32643 386-454-7188

## **Peacock Springs**

Wes Skiles Peacock Springs State Park is one of North Florida's most popular dive sites for cavern and cave diving. With a total of nine entrances and exits, Peacock is known as a complex karst system. The park allows swimming, snorkeling, and open water diving in the main spring run. The park has undergone limited development, with little more than picnic tables and portable toilets available - <a href="https://www.floridastateparks.org/learn/cave-diving-peacock-springs">https://www.floridastateparks.org/learn/cave-diving-peacock-springs</a>

#### **Directions:**

Wes Skiles Peacock Springs State Park 18532 180th St, Live Oak, FL 32060 The park is located a few miles east of Luraville, on 180th Street at 18532 180th St, in Live Oak, FL

# South Florida/Lauderdale Dives

# AIRPORT: Hollywood FLL - Ft. Lauderdale

Pompano Beach/Lauderdale is in Greater Ft. Lauderdale. Nicknamed by divers as the wreck capital of Florida. Hillsboro Inlet is the gateway to some of the best wreck and reef diving in Florida and Anglin Pier Beach is a legendary scuba diving hotspot. We will be diving the pier from shore for two days and then have three days and one evening of two tank boat dives.

Anglin Pier Beach -Saturday April 27 and Sunday April 28 - Anglin Reef runs parallel to the shoreline north & south. There is a single 10' - 12' ledge protruding shoreward. 0 - 60 fsw – https://www.southfloridadiving.com/dive-sites/reef-dive-site/anglin-pier-reef/

# Anglin's Fishing Pier

Commercial Blvd. at the Ocean Lauderdale by the Sea, FL 33308 Phone:(954) 924-3613 (they don't answer) Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308

#### **Directions:**

Federal Highway (Route 1) to Lauderdale by the Sea, Commercial Boulevard (route 870) East exit. Follow Commercial Blvd. to El Mar Drive south -make a right. Take El Mar Drive to Datura Avenue and make a left into loading zone (1/2 block)- limited parking at the Scuba and Sea Turtle Nesting entrance. Drop gear with instructor in Datura Parking bay, and park 1 block up at municipal lot on North Ocean Drive (A1A). Rinse shower and hoses on site. NO BATHROOMS.

<u>Monday April 29</u> -The *Okinawa* is a 107' x 26' 6" Army Tug - 35-70 fsw – <u>https://www.southfloridadiving.com/dive-sites/wreck-dive-sites/okinawa/</u>

<u>Tuesday April 30</u>- The *Lady Luck* is 324 ft. long, 50 ft wide tanker that rises to nearly to 60 from the surface at her mast – 60-130 fsw –

https://www.southfloridadiving.com/dive-sites/wreck-dive-sites/lady-luck/

<u>Wednesday AM</u>- The *RSB-1* is a 160' long tender. - 80-108 fsw – https://www.southfloridadiving.com/dive-sites/wreck-dive-sites/rsb-1/

Wednesday Night - Wreck & Reef Night Dive 35-70 fsw

## **South Florida Diving Headquarters**

101 N. Riverside Dr.Suite 111 Pompano Beach, FL 33062

Phone: (800) 771-DIVE (3483) (Toll Free in U.S.)

Phone: +1 (954) 783-2299 (Outside U.S.) E-mail: info@southfloridadiving.com

## **Directions:**

From I-95 take Atlantic Blvd. (exit 36) east to Riverside Dr. (Just after bridge). Turn left and then make your first left into the marina. You may park in the spaces on the right of the road, if those are full use city parking on Riverside Dr. You may drop your gear in front of the dive shop and pull through the circle drive. If you are staying in the hotel it is recommended you park in the lot on the north side of the hotel. You can leave your gear in our storage area.

# **Key Largo Dives**

# **AIRPORT: Miami or Key West**

Key Largo is a wreck diver's paradise – it is the first town inside the Keys from the mainland via US 1. With hundreds of reef and wreck sites minutes from shore in Greater Ft. Lauderdale. Nicknamed by divers as the wreck capital of Florida. Hillsboro Inlet is the gateway to some of the best wreck and reef diving in Florida and Anglin Pier Beach is a legendary scuba diving hotspot. We will be diving the pier from shore for two days and then have four days of two tank boat dives.

Thursday May 2 - Christ of the Abyss- The Florida Keys Reef Tract, also known as the Great Florida Reef, is a massive coral reef system that stretches parallel to the Florida Keys in the Atlantic Ocean, and is about 168 miles long (270 km). The Florida Keys Reef Tract is the world's third largest living barrier reef, and the only living barrier reef in the continental United States and is within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

Christ of the Deep depicts Jesus garbed in a long robe, standing tall on a pedestal with arms outstretched, reaching up toward the heavens. The towering statue stands close to 8 feet 6 inches tall. The Christ of the Abyss Statue is made out of bronze and weighs about 4000 pounds. The statue sits at Dry Rocks reef in about 25 feet of water. Snorkelers catch incredible underwater aerial views of the Christ Statue and surrounding coral reef. Scuba divers are able to dive down closer to explore the Statue at depth.

https://keylargoscubadiving.com/christ-of-the-abyss-statue-snorkeling-key-largo/

<u>Friday May 3</u> **Molasses Reef** -Part of the National marine Sanctuary, the reef is approximately 6 miles offshore and home to more than 30 different Key Largo Dive Sites. This trip will visit Shallow Reef Dive Sites. All dive sites on this trip are for Certified Open Water Scuba Divers, Snorkelers, and those just coming for the ride. The depth of these dive sites will be approx 18-35ft. This is the average depth of most reef dives in Key Largo. Molasses Reef is known for the beautiful marine life and coral. This is a spur and groove reef where finger like channels run perpendicular to shore. Turtles, Sting rays, moray eels, sharks, spotted eagle rays, and various types of tropical fish live on the Reef.

https://keylargoscubadiving.com/product/key-largo-dive-trip-molasses-reef/

Saturday May 4 - **Spiegel Grove-** Landing Ship Dock # 32. That was the hull number given to her by the US Navy. She is in a word, "BIG". 510 feet in length and greater than 80 feet across her beam, she will usually require divers to make two dives just to see her outside structure. Although diver safe, one should not enter her hull without proper Wreck Diver certification and training." Her profile starts in 50 feet of water to a depth of 140 feet deep. The fish life the wreck has accumulated is astounding.

https://fla-keys.com/diving/spiegel-grove/

Sunday May 5 - Spiegel Grove - day 2

Horizon Divers 105800 Overseas Hwy Key Largo, Florida 33037 **Horizon Divers Boat Dock** 

45 Garden Cove Dr Key Largo, FL 33037

Phone: 305-453-3535 Email: info@horizondivers.com

#### **Directions to Shop:**

From Miami follow signs for Florida Tpke S/Homestead/Key West and continue toward Ronald Reagan Tpke US-1 S. Continue to follow US-1 S into Key Largo. Once off bridge and in Key Largo pass by Burger King (on the right). Travel 8/10ths of a mile and Horizon Divers will be on the right.

## **Directions to Boat:**

From the Horizon Divers Shop- Head southwest on US-1 S 0.1 mi Make a U-turn, 0.6 mi Slight right onto County Rd 905, 292 ft Turn right onto Garden Cove Drive, the boat slip will be on the right 0.3 miles.