

A photograph of the Blue Heron Bridge over water at sunset. The bridge is a long, elevated concrete structure with multiple support pillars. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds in shades of orange, red, and blue. The water below reflects the colors of the sunset. The bridge has a walkway with railings and several light poles along its length.

BLUE HERON BRIDGE

VOTED BEST SHORE DIVE IN THE USA

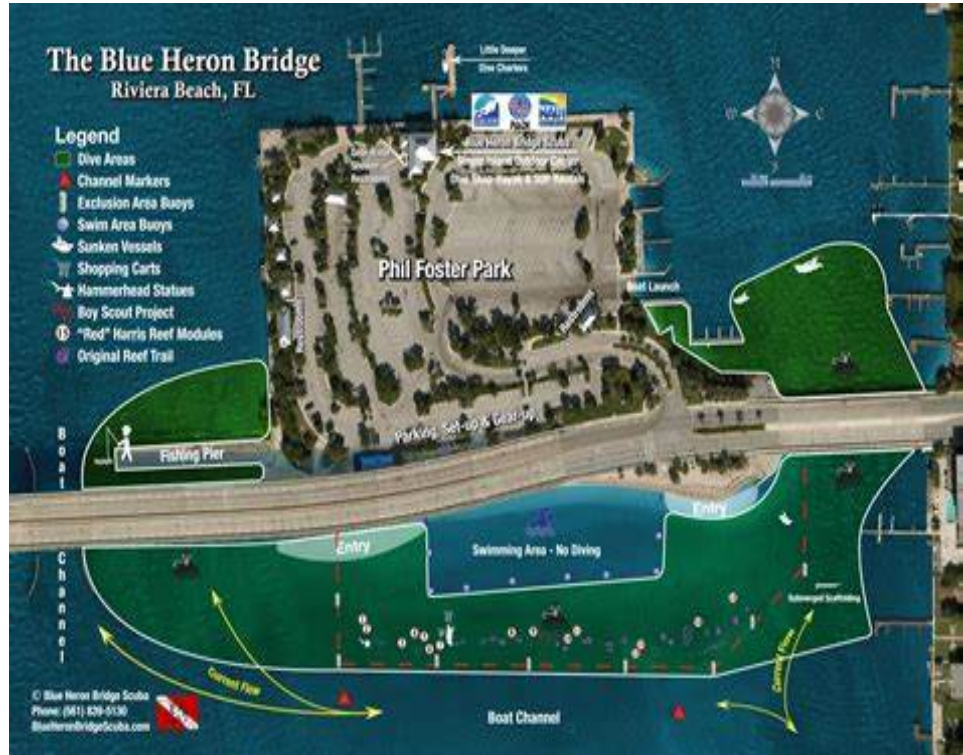
Trip dates: July 24-31 2021

Location

900 Blue Heron Blvd.

Riviera Beach, FL 33404

There is no cost to enter the park, and parking is free.



Details

This is a beach entry, very easy. No waves, no drop offs. You can dive the east bridge or the west bridge. The critters are quite different on both dives. There are also artificial reefs set up like a trail to the south.

The deepest depth is about 24 ft. and at this depth you can do a 1.5 to 2 hour dive. The current will chase you out.

Visibility can be 4 ft to 20 ft depending on the day.

Water temperature should be quite nice, although I always use a wet skin or wet suit for protection.

This is a great place for new divers, checking out gear, fun dives, and photographers. In fact, if you have the book Reef Fish Identification by Humann and Deloach many of the pictures are from this site.

Dangers

Water clarity

Stay within the buoys, going out too far could get you in the boating lane.

For first timers, stay close to bridges and follow reefs on the south side. Even with a compass the tide current can take you. You can always surface to check where you are.

There are a lot of Scorpion Fish, Sting Rays, Sea Urchins & occasional Jellyfish, so be careful where you touch.

Tide Chart for Blue Heron Bridge

Saturday July 24th 8:59 am

Sunday July 25th 9:53 am

Monday July 26th 10:45 am

Tuesday July 27th 11:35 am

Wednesday July 28th 12:25 pm

Thursday July 29th 1:14 pm

Friday July 30th 2:05 pm

You can dive one hour before and after high tide

Plan to arrive an hour early for parking and a bit earlier than that on weekends.

Where to stay?

www.palmbeachrentals.net For houses

VRBO and Air B&B

Hotels and Motels in Riviera Beach

Dive shops in the area

Force E Scuba Center <https://www.force-e.com/dive-shops/riviera-beach>
155 East Blue Heron Blvd, Riviera Beach, FL 33404 Phone 561-845-2333

Pura Vida Divers <http://www.puravidadivers.com/>
2513 Beach Ct., Riviera Beach, FL 33404 Phone 561-840-8750

You will need your dive gear and someone in group has to have dive flag.

Other recommended equipment: DSMB, Light, Compass, Gloves.

Why is this site so different?

The Lake Worth Inlet that leads to the Blue Heron Bridge juts out somewhat into the Gulf Stream. As it flows in and out, it brings with it a host of unusual critters and fish to this natural marine sanctuary.

Rainbow Parrotfish



Debbie Garcia

Blackline Fireworm



Debbie Garcia

Giant Tube-Dwelling Anemone



Debbie Garcia

Intermediate Triggerfish



Debbie Garcia

Roughhead Blenny



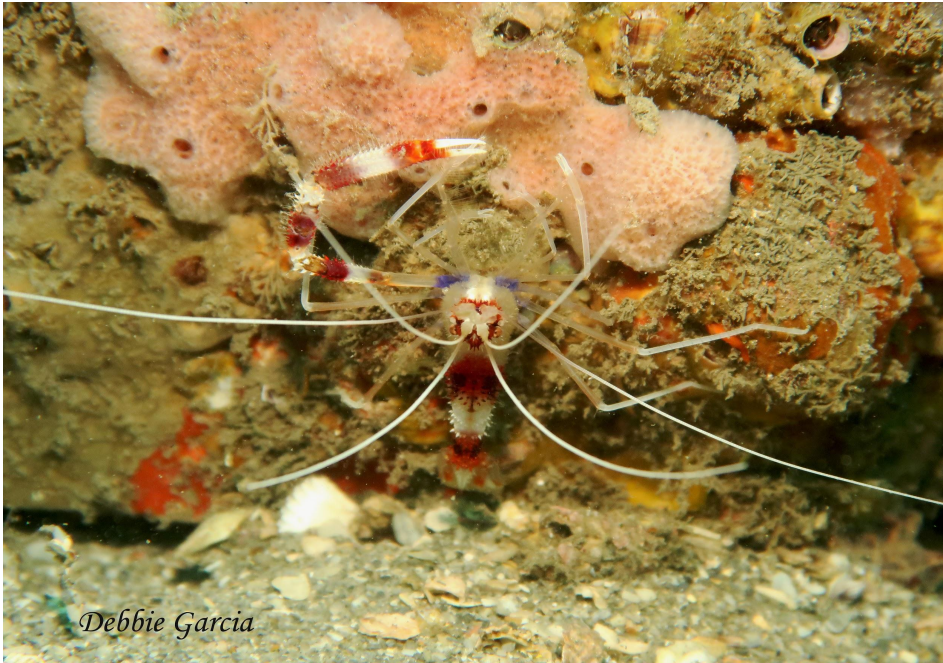
Debbie Garcia

Longspined Sea Biscuit

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Coral Banded Shrimp



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Spadefish



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Striped Burrfish



Algae



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Hermit Crab



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Bluewing Searobin



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Anker's Peppermint Shrimp & Rough Fileclam



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Red Seahorse



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Black Seahorse



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Transparent Tube-Dwelling Anemone



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Poka-dot Batfish



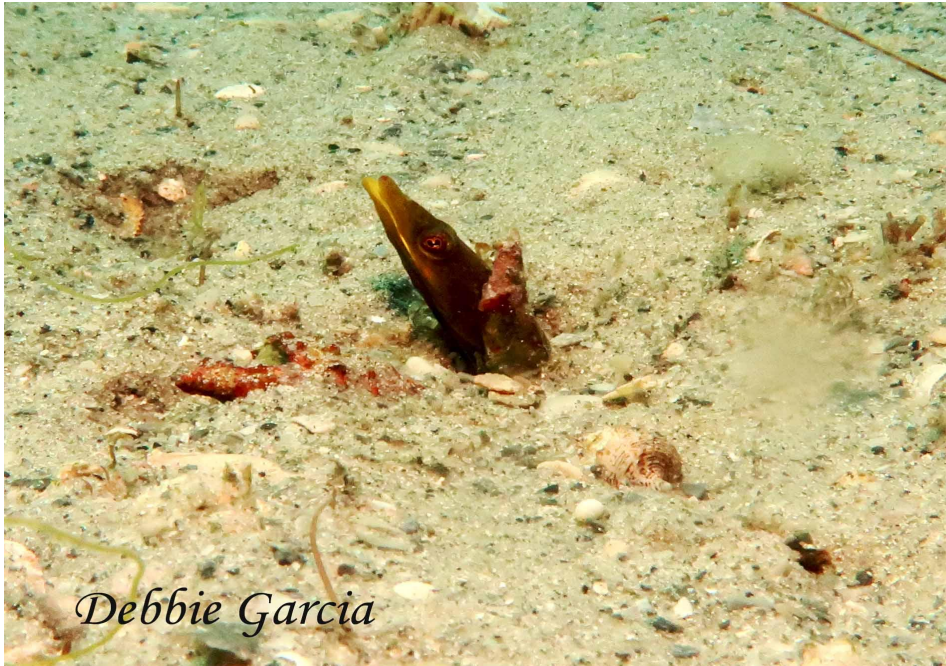
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Northern Stargazer



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Yellowface Pike Blenny



Sign up Sheet is in the back