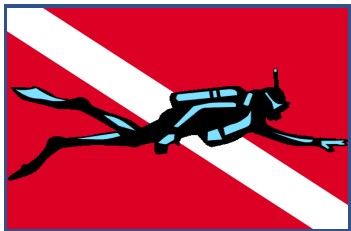


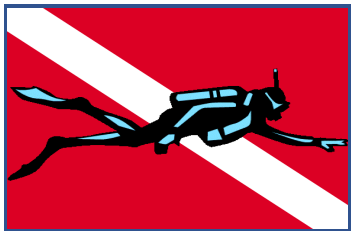
Diving Florida for New, Returning, and Experienced Divers



-
- **So, you just got Scuba Certified, Scuba “Refreshed” or you are a New Diver to Florida-
NOW WHAT??**
 - **Two Goals:**
 - **Discuss Florida Diving Opportunities to work on Skills / Experience progression.**
 - **Provide an orientation to Experienced Divers on Diving Opportunities in Florida.**

New/Returning Diver Considerations

- **Identifying Dive Opportunities that allow you to develop your skills and/or enhance your comfort level:**
 - **Work on Buoyancy.**
 - **Get comfortable with equipment.**
 - **Tweak your equipment.**
 - **Work on Navigation.**
 - **Work on more advanced qualifications/certifications.**
 - **Build up your dive numbers and overall experience.**
 - **Recommendation: Hold off on Photography until you have gotten very “Comfortable” in the water and have good Buoyancy.**
- Potentially 50 dives after Cert or 25 after Refresh.**
- **Dive at your personal “Comfort Level”.**

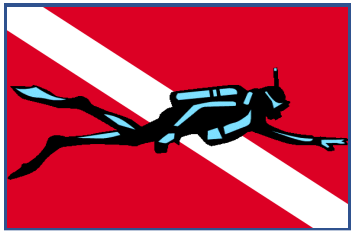


Factors in Reviewing Florida Dive Opportunities



- **Ranking Areas in terms of Difficulty.**
 - **Novice (N)**
 - **Intermediate (I)**
 - **Advanced (A)**

- **Cost. Where available, we'll provide a ROM cost for diving in those areas.**

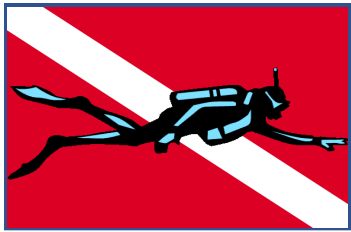


Florida Diving



Springs
Caverns
Caves
Beaches

West Coast
East Coast
Drift
Wreck



Spring Dives

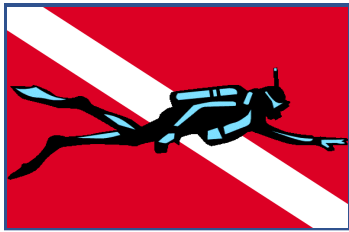


Costs:

- Blue Grotto- \$48
- Devil's Den- \$38 Mil/LEO
- Paradise Spg \$27
- Alexander Spg \$8/\$11
- K-P Hole \$15
 - Boat Fee \$10

Considerations:

- Underlined Springs are very benign areas to work on skills
- Many Springs are Cavern/Cave environment.



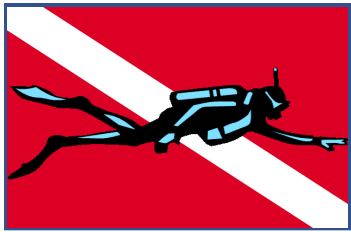
Cavern Dives



Costs:

- Ginie Spgs
 - Cave Dvr \$24
 - Other Dvr \$32
- Orange Sink \$4/Veh
- Manatee Spgs \$6/Veh

**Certification Needed for formal Cavern Diving
Most Cavern Diving is for Intermediate to Advanced
Divers**



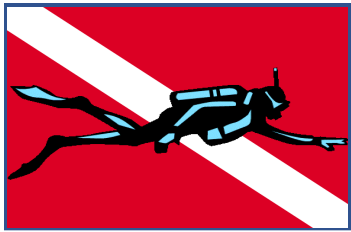
Cave Dives



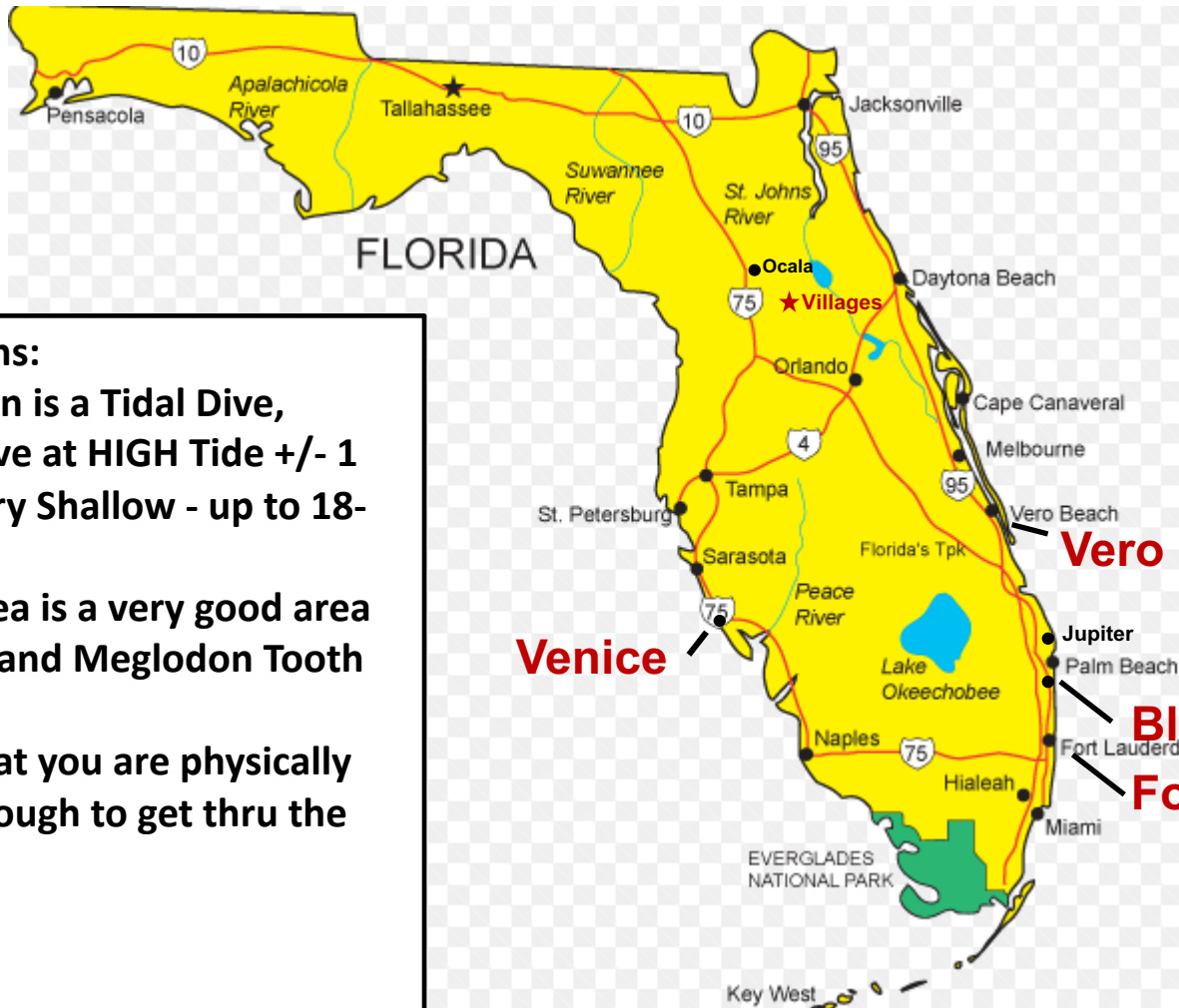
Costs:

- Ginnie Spgs
 - Cave Dvr \$24
 - Other Dvr \$32
- Orange Sink \$4/Veh
- Manatee Spgs \$6/Veh
- Peacock Spgs \$10/Veh

Certification Needed for Cave Diving
All Cave Diving is considered Advanced Diving



Beach Diving



Considerations:

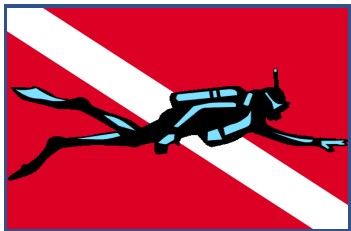
- Blue Heron is a Tidal Dive, Should dive at HIGH Tide +/- 1 hour. Very Shallow - up to 18-20 ft
- Venice area is a very good area for Shark and Meglodon Tooth diving
- Ensure that you are physically strong enough to get thru the surf!!!

Vero Beach

Venice

Blue Heron Bridge (N)

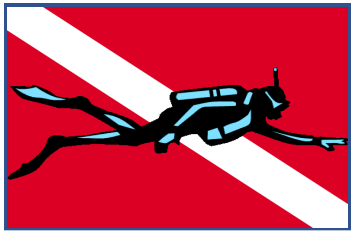
Fort Lauderdale



Boat Diving Considerations

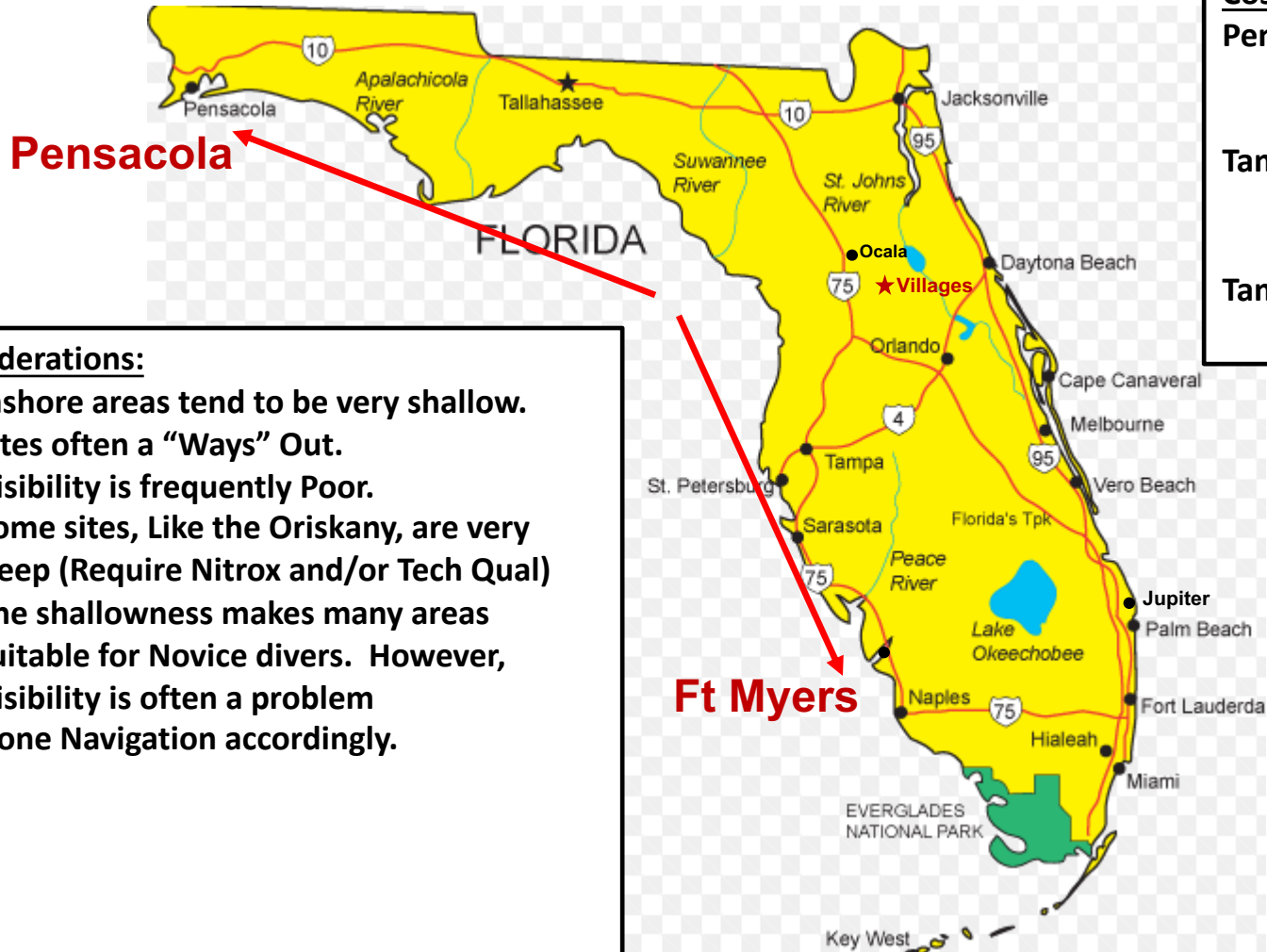


- **Equipment Organization (Wet Bag / Dry Bag)**
- **Safety Equipment**
- **Entry**
- **Descent / Ascent Procedures**
- **Safety Stop Assistance Measures (Anchor Line -Bars –Tanks?)**
- **Navigation**
- **Signaling**
- **Current / Wave Action**
- **Re-Boarding (Fins/No Fins/Other Considerations?)**



Reef Diving – Gulf Coast

TVSC

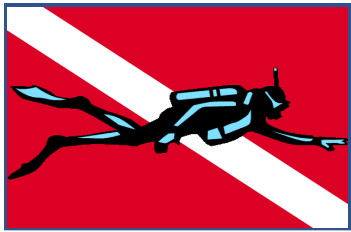


Costs:

Pensacola: Inshore	\$125
MidShore	\$150
Offshore	\$175
Tampa- Calypso (Sharktooth)	
2-Tank	\$159
3-Tank	\$200
Tampa- Aristakat	
2-Tank	\$99

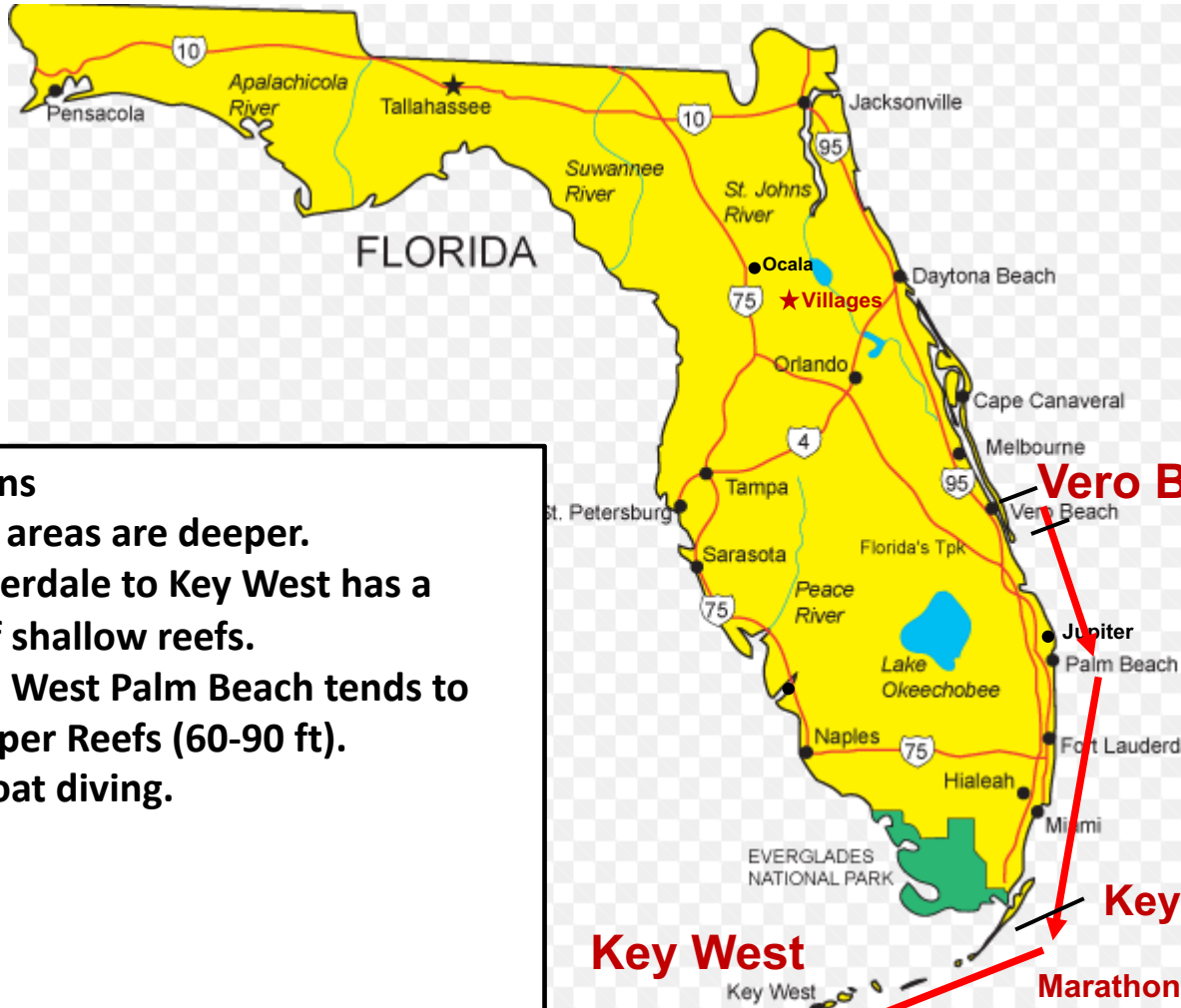
Considerations:

- Inshore areas tend to be very shallow.
- Sites often a “Ways” Out.
- Visibility is frequently Poor.
- Some sites, Like the Oriskany, are very Deep (Require Nitrox and/or Tech Qual)
- The shallowness makes many areas suitable for Novice divers. However, Visibility is often a problem
- Hone Navigation accordingly.



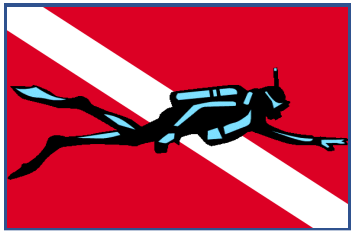
Reef Diving – East Coast

TVSC



Considerations

- Northern areas are deeper.
- Fort Lauderdale to Key West has a variety of shallow reefs.
- Jupiter to West Palm Beach tends to have Deeper Reefs (60-90 ft).
- Mostly boat diving.



East Coast ROM Diving Costs



Daily 2- Tanks

- Jupiter Dive Ctr \$100 10% Disc
- Kyalami Charters (JUP) \$100 10% Disc
- Pura Vida (Riviera Bch) \$100
- Key Largo \$95
- Marathon \$95
- Looe Key \$99.99
- Key West \$95

Sample Packages

Key Largo:

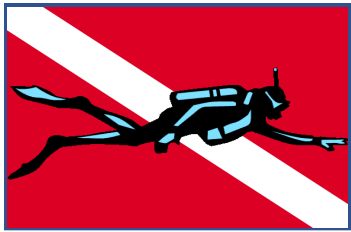
- Rainbow Reef Pkg 1- 3 Nights at Courtyard Inn- 3 2-Tank Dives. \$597.00
- Rainbow Reef Pkg 2- 3 Nights at Holiday Inn, 3 2-Tank dives. \$621.00
- Amore Dive Center. 3 Nights with 3 2-Tank dives. \$695.69

Riviera Beach:

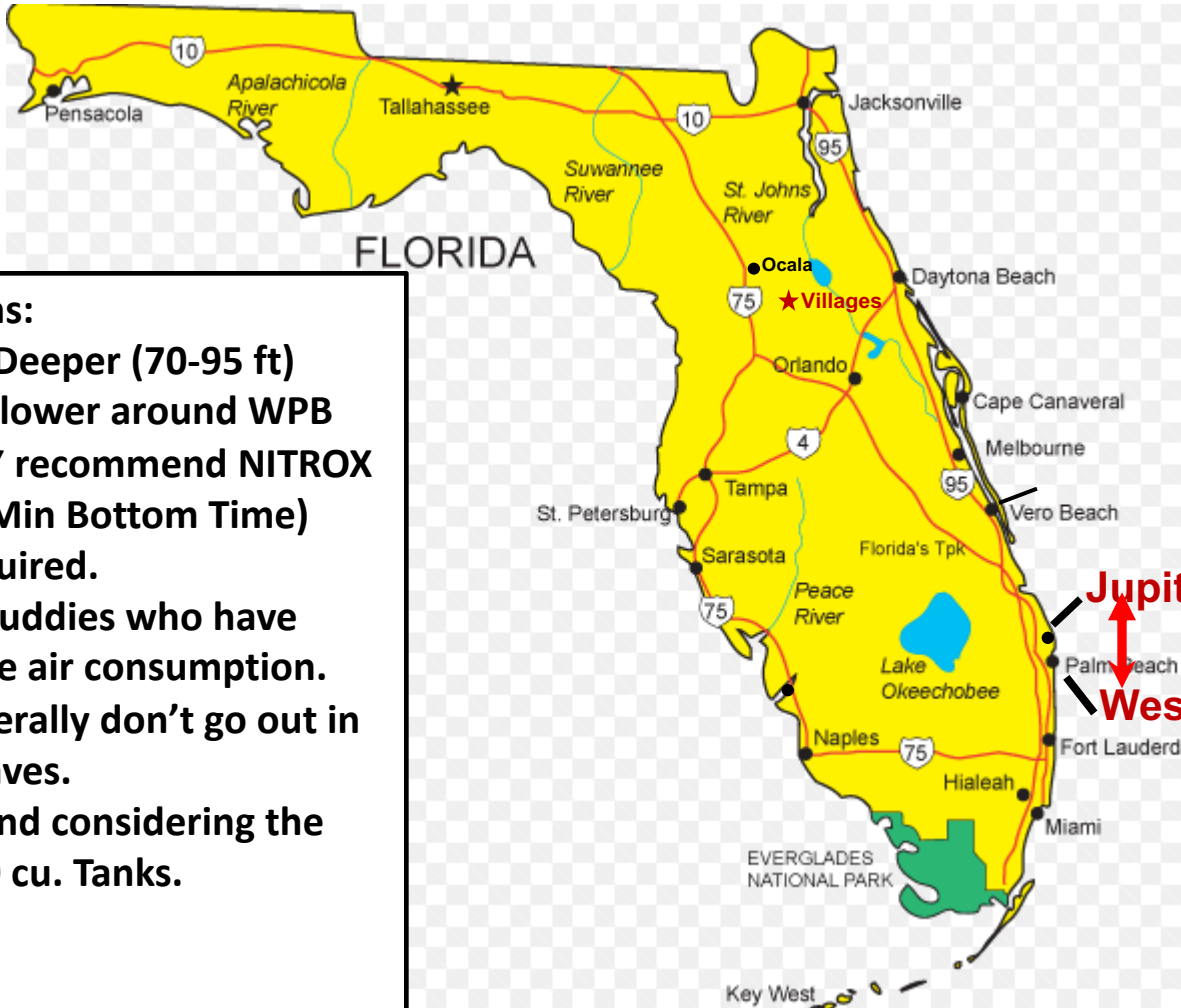
- Pura Vida- No specific packages, webpage list multiple hotels in their area.

Note: Coastal hotel rates vary GREATLY between High and Low seasons- as much as 100%

Some Operators decrease the “per Dive cost” if you schedule more dives.



Drift Diving



Considerations:

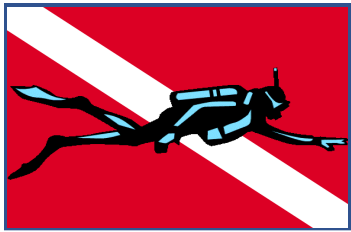
- Reefs are Deeper (70-95 ft)
- Some shallower around WPB
- **STRONGLY** recommend NITROX (25 vs 45 Min Bottom Time)
- SMB's required.
- Look for Buddies who have compatible air consumption.
- Boats generally don't go out in over 5' waves.
- Recommend considering the use of 100 cu. Tanks.

Jupiter (I-A)

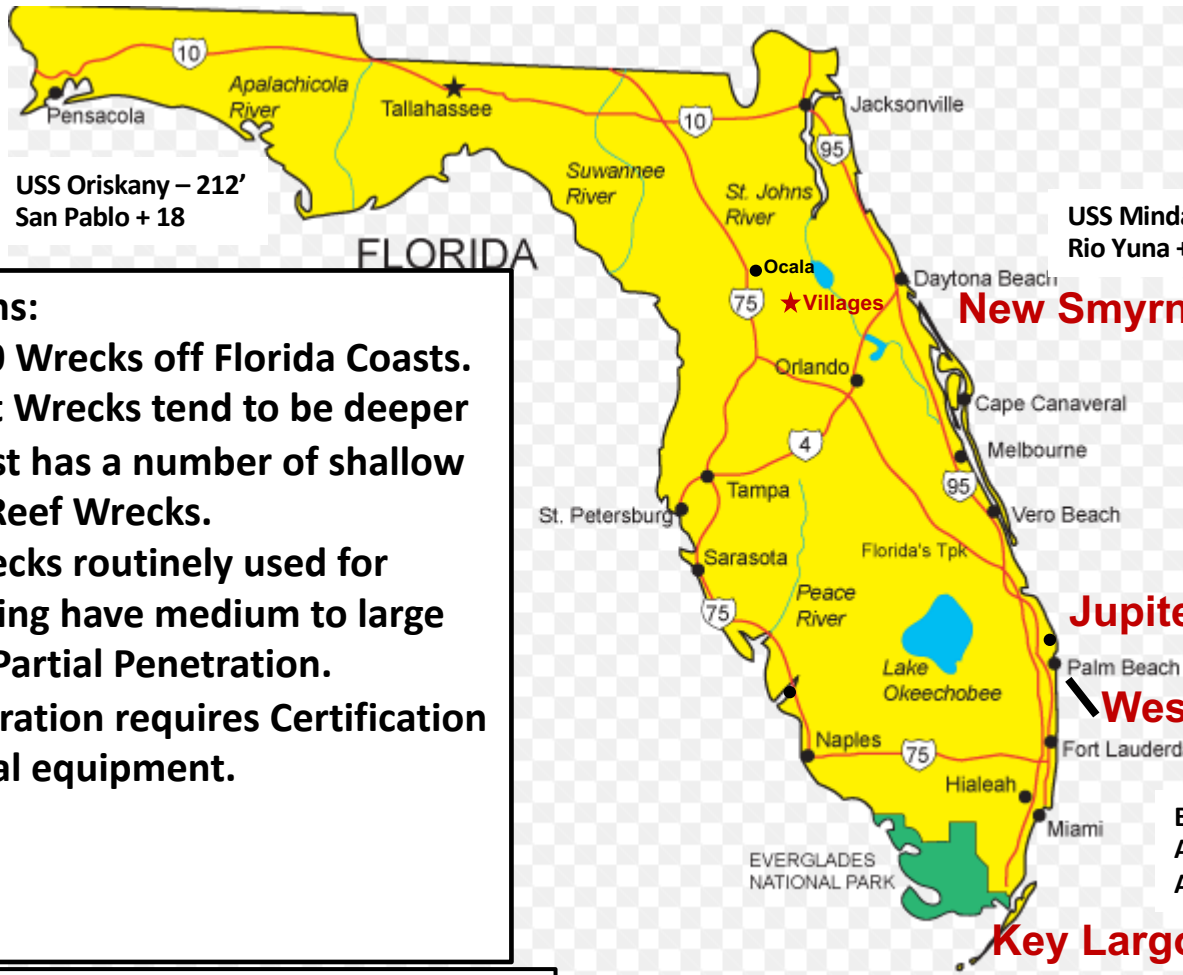
Reef Tops ~60' (N+)

West Palm Beach (I-A)

Some <60' (N+)



Wreck Dives



Considerations:

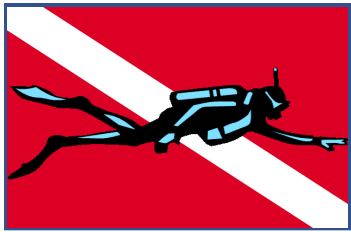
- Over 1000 Wrecks off Florida Coasts.
- East Coast Wrecks tend to be deeper
- West Coast has a number of shallow Artificial Reef Wrecks.
- Many Wrecks routinely used for Scuba Diving have medium to large holes for Partial Penetration.
- Full Penetration requires Certification and special equipment.

Classes Needed for Advanced Wreck Diving

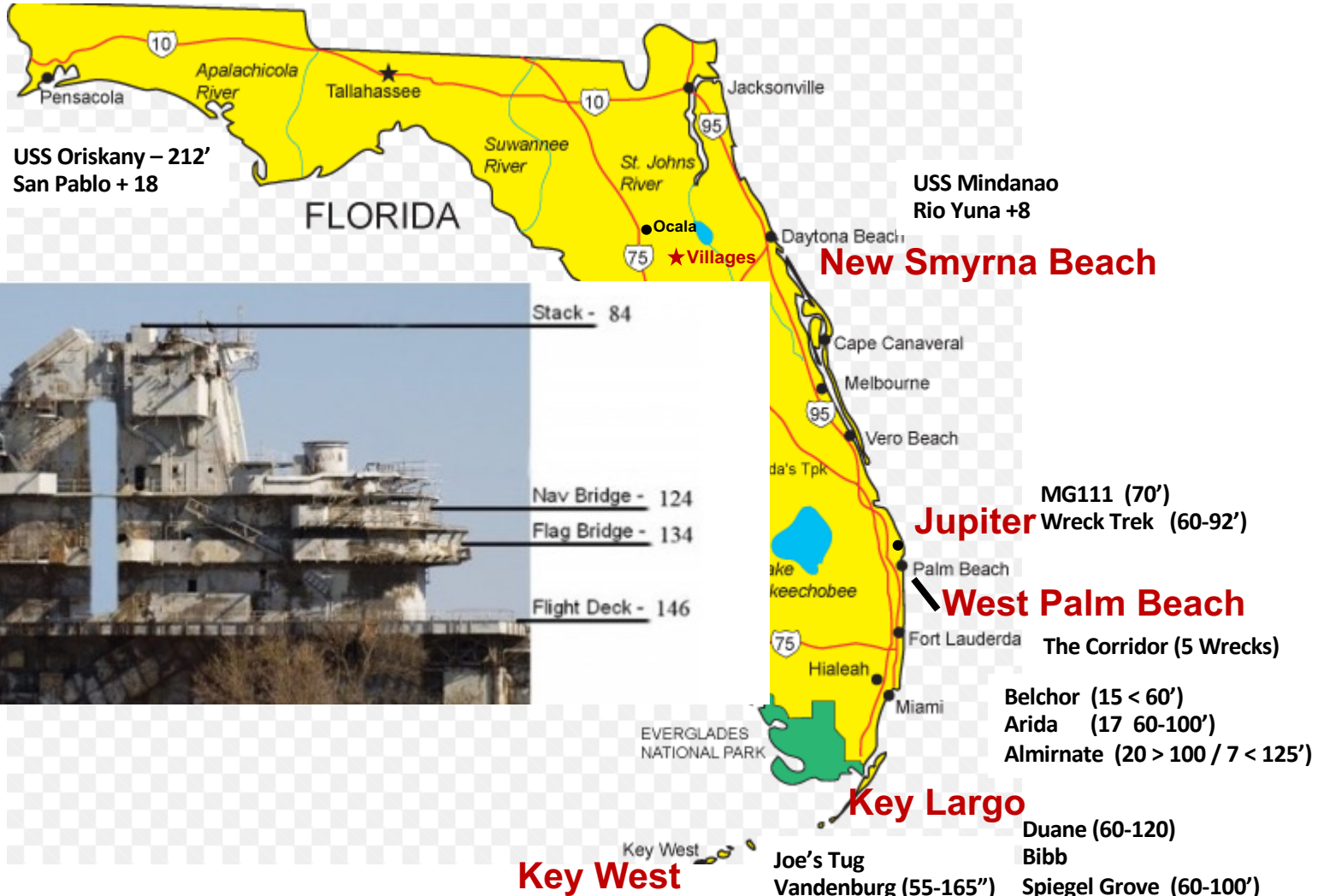
Key West

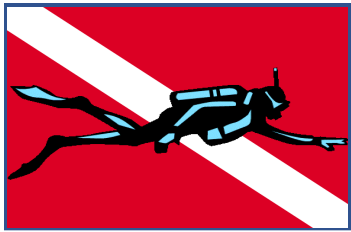
Joe's Tug
Vandenburg (55-165'')

Duane (60-120)
Bibb
Spiegel Grove (60-100')



Wreck Dives





Discussion

