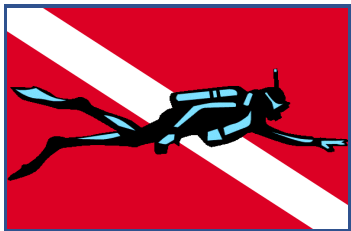


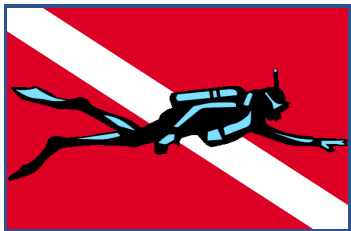
# **Diving Florida for New, Returning, and Experienced Divers**



- 
- **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 30-40 dives after Cert or 20-25 after Refresh.**
- **Dive at your personal “Comfort Level”.**

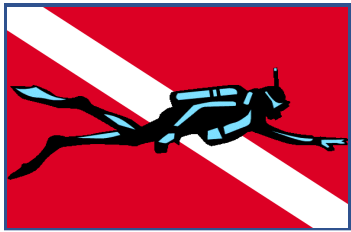


# Factors in Reviewing Florida Dive Opportunities

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- **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.**

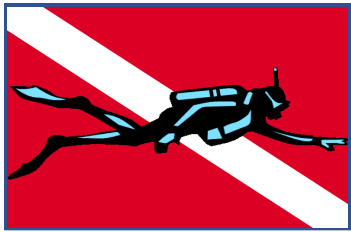


# Florida Diving



Springs  
Caverns  
Caves  
Beaches

West Coast  
East Coast  
Drift  
Wreck



# Spring Dives

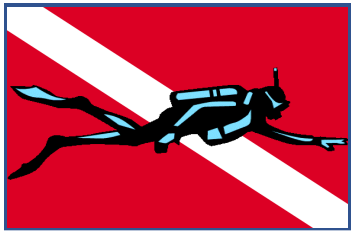


## Costs:

- Blue Grotto- \$54 Mil
- Devil's Den- \$38 Mil/LEO
- Paradise Spg \$30
- Alexander Spg \$12
- K-P Hole \$20 Diver
  - Boat Fee \$10

## Considerations:

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



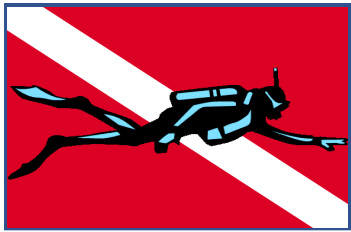
# Cavern Dives



## Costs:

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

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



# Cave Dives

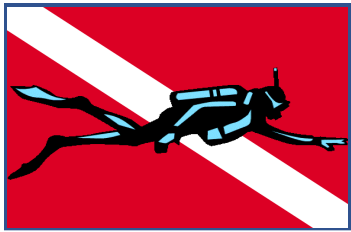


## Costs:

- **Ginnie Spgs**
  - Cave Dvr \$24
  - Other Dvr \$32
- **Orange Sink** \$4/Veh
- **Manatee Spgs** \$6/Veh
- **Peacock Spgs** \$5-10/Veh

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



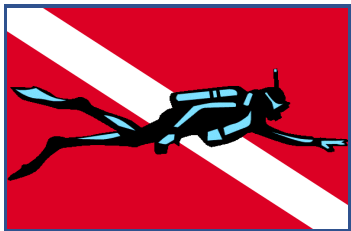


# Beach Diving



## 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 Megalodon Tooth diving
- Ensure that you are physically strong enough to get thru the surf!!!

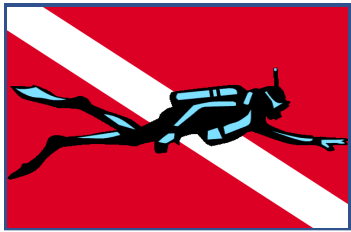


# Boat Diving Considerations

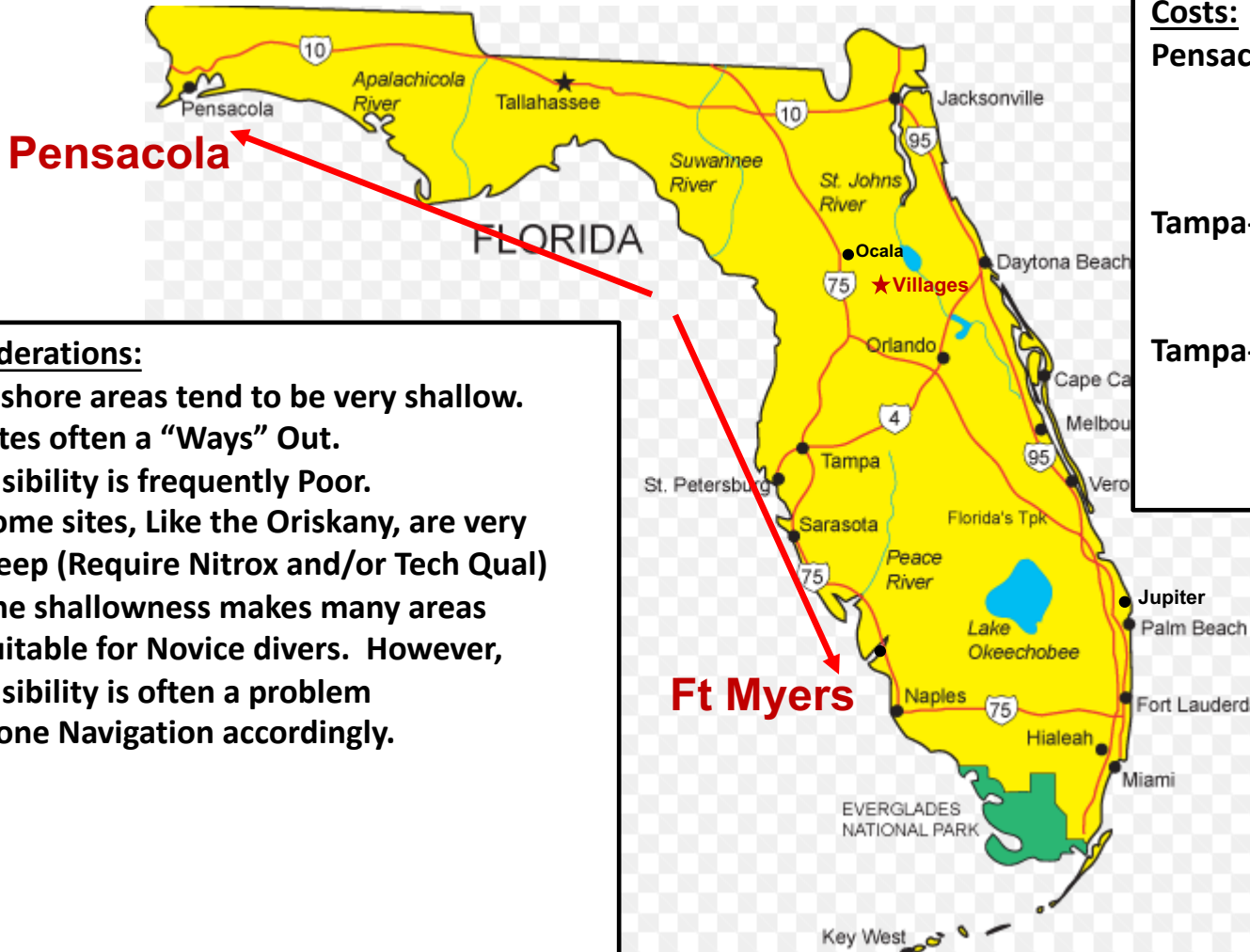
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- **Equipment Organization (Wet Bag / Dry Bag)**
- **Safety Equipment**
- **Entry**
- **Descent / Ascent Procedures**
- **Safety Stop Assistance Measures (Anchor Line -Bars –Tanks?)**
- **Navigation**
- **Signaling**
- **Current / Wave Action**
- **Re-Boarding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



# Reef Diving – Gulf Coast



### Costs:

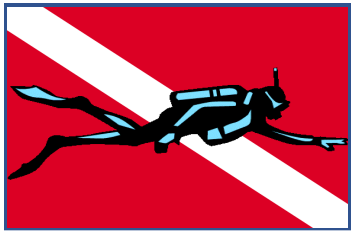
<b>Pensacola: Inshore</b>	\$125-140
<b>MidShore</b>	\$150-175
<b>Offshore</b>	\$175-200
<b>Oriskany</b>	\$200-230
<b>Tampa- Calypso (Sharktooth)</b>	
2-Tank	\$159
3-Tank	\$200
<b>Tampa- Aristakat</b>	
Tank/Reefs	\$140
Meglodon Tth	\$110
Shipwreck Tr	\$175

### Considerations:

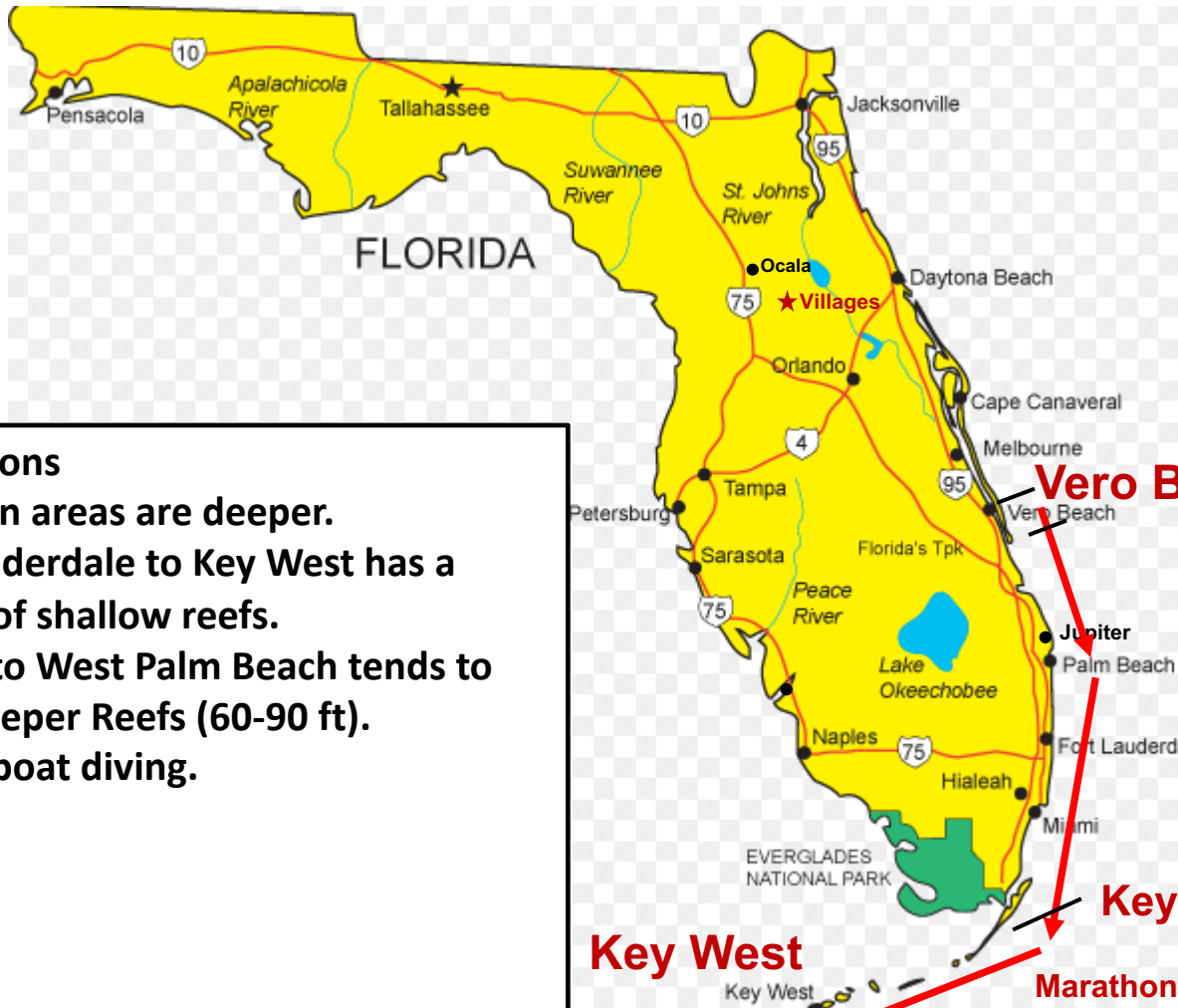
- Inshore areas tend to be very shallow.
- Sites often a “Ways” Out.
- Visibility is frequently Poor.
- Some sites, Like the Oriskany, are very Deep (Require Nitrox and/or Tech Qual)
- The shallowness makes many areas suitable for Novice divers. However, Visibility is often a problem
- Hone Navigation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

### Pensacola Lowest

<b>H2O Below</b>	
<b>Inshore</b>	\$100
<b>Midshore</b>	\$130
<b>Offshore</b>	\$150

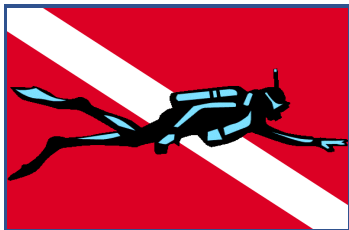


# Reef Diving – East Coast



## 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

- Jupiter Dive Ctr                    \$110    10% Disc
- Kyalami Charters                    \$110    10% Disc

### Riviera Beach /West Palm Beach

- Pura Vida (Riviera Bch)    \$115
- Kyal- The Scuba Club            \$110    10% Disc
- Calypso                                \$115

### Key Largo

- Amoray Dive Resort            \$95
- Rainbow Reef                        \$90
- Reef Divers                            \$95

## Daily 2-Tanks

### Marathon

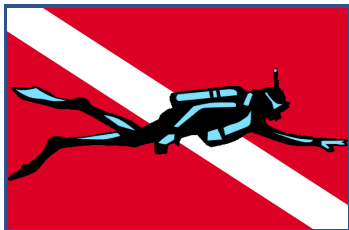
- Capt Hook's                                \$99

### Looe Key

- Looe Key Diving                        \$94.99

### Key West

- Key West Divers                        \$95
- Capt Hook's                                \$99
- Vandenburg                                \$109
- Southpoint Divers                        \$104
- Captain Corners                        \$99



# East Coast ROM Diving Costs



## Sample Packages

### Key Largo:

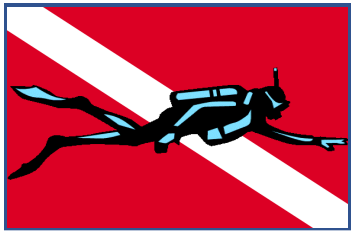
- Rainbow Reef Pkg 1- 3 Dive Trips (6 Dives)  
\$240.00
- Rainbow Reef Pkg 2- 5 Dive Trips (10 Dives)  
\$400.00
- Amoray Dive Resort. Offers Stay and Dive Packages - Call

### Riviera Beach:

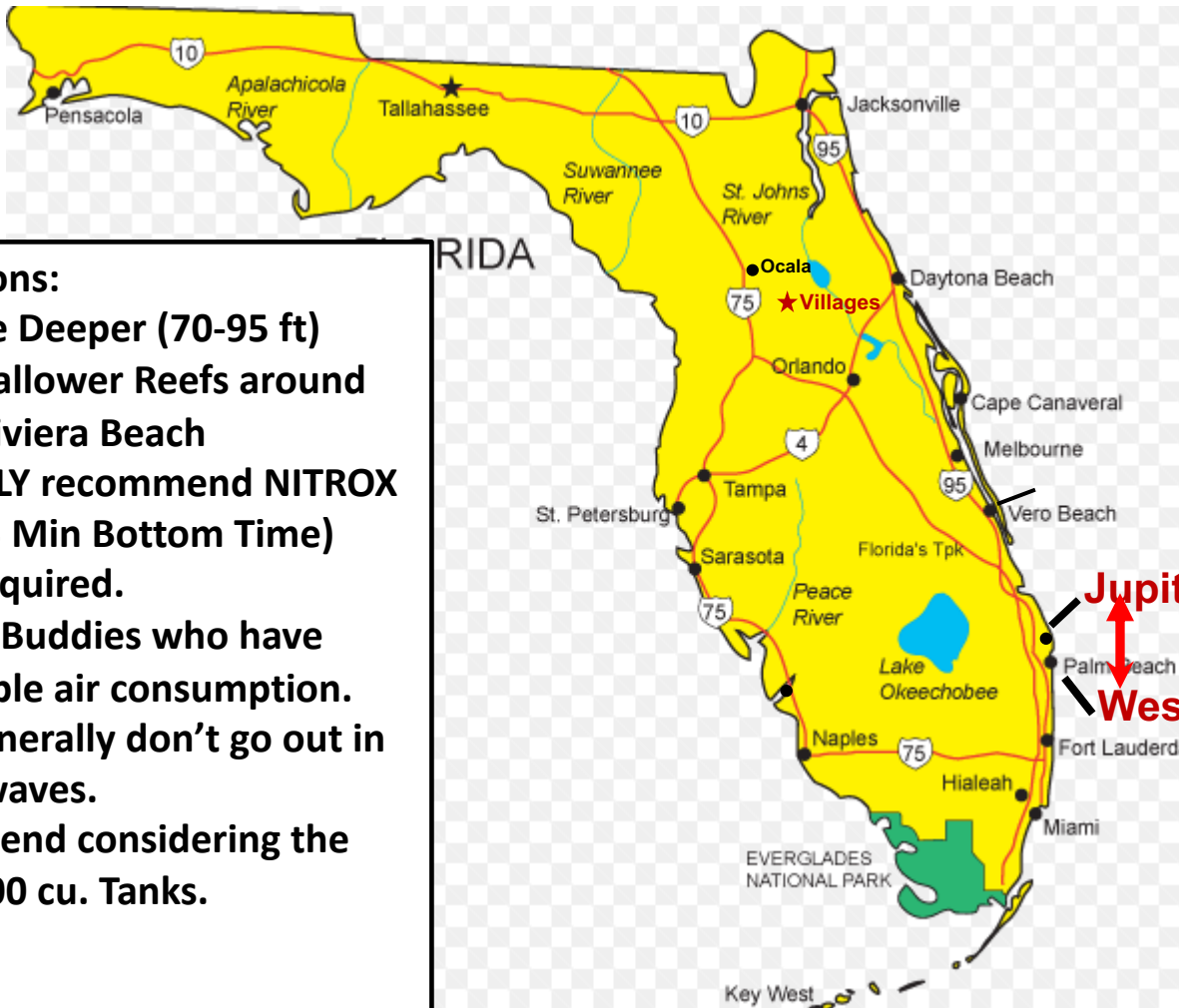
- Pura Vida- No specific packages, webpage lists multiple hotels in their area.

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:

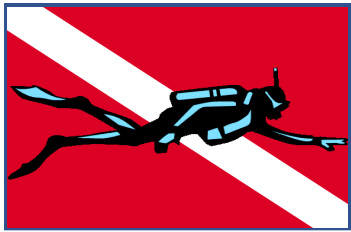
- Reefs are Deeper (70-95 ft)
- More shallower Reefs around WPB / Riviera Beach
- **STRONGLY** recommend NITROX (25 vs 45 Min Bottom Time)
- SMB's required.
- Look for Buddies who have compatible air consumption.
- Boats generally don't go out in over 5' waves.
- Recommend considering the use of 100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

**Jupiter (I-A)**

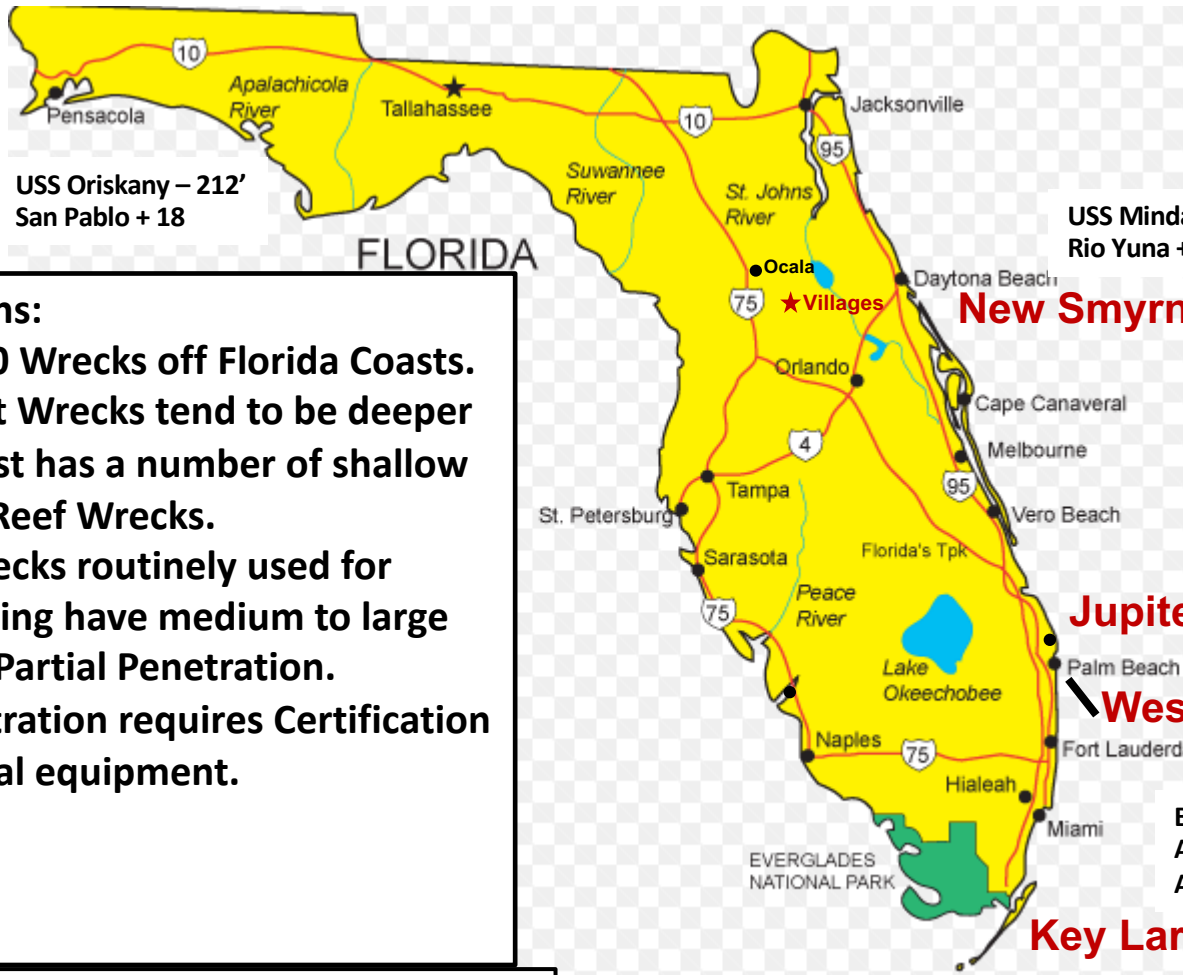
Reef Tops ~60' (N+)

**West Palm Beach (I-A)**

Some <60' (N+)



# Wreck Dives



USS Oriskany – 212'  
San Pablo + 18

USS Mindanao  
Rio Yuna +8

**New Smyrna Beach**

Gulfland (40')  
MG111 (70')  
Wreck Trek (60-92')

**Jupiter**

**West Palm Beach**  
The Corridor (5 Wrecks)

Belchor (15 < 60')  
Arida (17 60-100')  
Almirante (20 > 100 / 7 < 125')

**Key Largo**

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

**Key West**

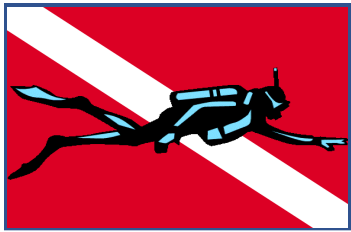
Joe's Tug  
Vandenburg (55-165')

## Considerations:

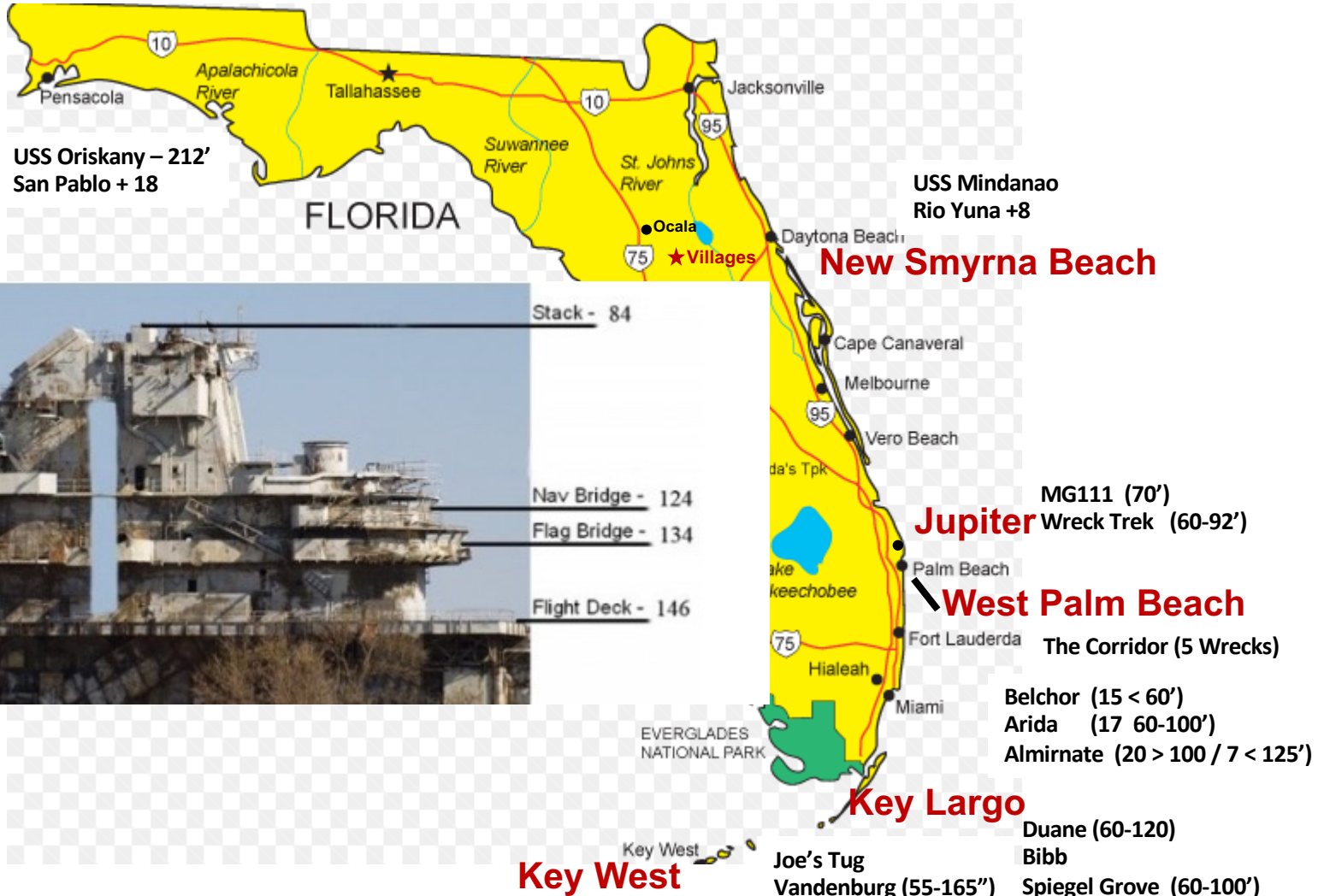
- Over 1000 Wrecks off Florida Coasts.
- East Coast Wrecks tend to be deeper
- West Coast has a number of shallow Artificial Reef Wrecks.
- Many Wrecks routinely used for Scuba Diving have medium to large holes for Partial Penetration.
- Full Penetration requires Certification and special equipment.

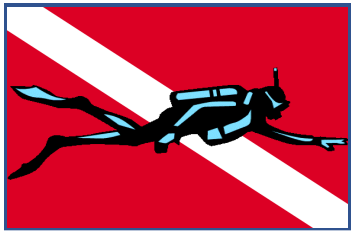
Classes Needed for Advanced Wreck Diving





# Wreck Dives





# Discussion



