

# 2019 FLORIDA NATIONAL HIGH ADVENTURE SEA BASE





Since its inception, Scouting has been all about exploring and appreciating the wilderness. The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base offers a year-round opportunity to explore a completely different type of wilderness—the underwater wilderness. The Florida Sea Base provides many vehicles to gain access to this underwater wilderness—large sailing vessels, power boats, kayaks, and scuba equipment.

Imagine thousands of square miles of underwater coral formations, peaks, valleys, and literally hundreds of different types of colorful fish. Your mask will become a kaleidoscope of colors as you glide effortlessly among pillars of coral and multihued fish. The warm, clear waters of the Florida Keys, the Bahamas, or St. Thomas give you the sensation of weightlessness in this underwater wilderness.



Sea Base is NCAP accredited: five-year authorization (2014–2018).

## REGISTERING FOR THE SEA BASE LOTTERY

- The registration period for the Sea Base lottery begins January 23 at 9 a.m. EST.
- The registration period for the Sea Base lottery ends February 13 at 5 p.m. EST.
- Access to the Sea Base lottery is obtained through the Sea Base website, [www.bsaseabase.org](http://www.bsaseabase.org).
- A Scouting unit must create an account to register for the lottery. Each unit is allowed one account. To create an account, the unit must have its BSA Unit ID number. This is the number your unit uses for charter renewal; it is not your troop/team/crew/post number. Please contact your local council service center to obtain this number if you do not already have it.
- A unit can request up to 10 different adventures and as many dates per adventure as they would like.
- Multiple crews can be requested for each date. For example, if your unit would like to bring two, three, four, five, or six crews for an adventure on August 10, you can request up to the maximum number of crews available for that date/adventure.
- Each unit will be awarded only one date/adventure type.
- When a date/adventure is awarded to a unit, the unit gets all crews requested for that date/adventure.
- Units will be notified of lottery results in early March.
- Once a reservation is awarded, the unit must send a deposit of \$100 per crew awarded within two weeks to secure the reservation. Units that do not send in the deposit will be canceled. The deposit is nonrefundable.
- Within 30 days, each crew must send in its first payment. The first payment is based upon the maximum number of participants per crew multiplied by \$100. For example, if the unit has booked an adventure with six to eight participants, it must pay \$800. If a unit has been awarded multiple crews, it must make payment for each crew awarded. Units that do not send payment will be canceled. The payment is nonrefundable unless the date/adventure is rebooked.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Participants must be 13 years of age prior to their arrival at Sea Base. Participants who would turn 13 during their adventure are not eligible to participate. **AGE REQUIREMENTS CANNOT BE RELAXED.**
- Every Sea Base participant, youth and adult, must complete the BSA Swim Test in a strong manner prior to arrival.
- Participants must be in good health evidenced by the BSA Annual Health and Medical Record (no other form is acceptable) filled out and signed by their doctor within the past 12 months. A special scuba medical waiver is required for scuba program participants. A history of asthma, diabetes, seizure, narcolepsy, heart disease, or lung disease or injury; use of specific types of medication including some psychotropic drugs (medications for ADD, ADHD, depression, anxiety, panic, etc.); and other health concerns may disqualify a participant from scuba diving. All scuba program participants must be cleared by the Sea Base medical director to participate. Please refer to the Sea Base risk advisory and BSA scuba policy for more information.
- Every participant must meet BSA height and weight guidelines. Exceptions may be made for individuals who are not more than 20 pounds over the weight limit. To receive an exception, the participant must provide a letter from their physician stating that they are in good health and approved for participation. Sea Base may choose to refer the individual's medical record and physician's note to the Sea Base medical director. **Final decision for participation rests solely with the Sea Base medical director.** Due to rescue equipment restrictions and evacuation efforts from remote sites, under no circumstances will any individual exceeding 295 pounds be permitted to participate. Anyone arriving at Sea Base exceeding 295 pounds will be sent home at their own expense. No refund will be given.

## LOCATIONS

The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base operates 19 adventures from six locations: three in the Florida Keys, one in Marsh Harbour, Bahamas, one in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and one in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. The adventures Coral Reef Sailing, Sea Exploring, STEM Eco Sailing, Scuba Adventure, Scuba Certification, and Scuba Live Aboard are administered from mile marker 73.8 at Sea Base on Lower Matecumbe Key, Florida Keys. Out Island Adventure, Keys Adventure, Florida Fishing Adventure, Order of the Arrow Ocean Adventure, Marine STEM Adventure, and NAYLE are administered from mile marker 23.8 at the Brinton Environmental Center. Bahamas Adventure 6–8, 10–12, and Bahamas Tall Ship operate out of Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas. St. Thomas Sea Base operates in the waters surrounding the U.S. Virgin Islands. St. Thomas adventures include Sailing 6-8 and STEM Eco Sailing. Sea Base St. Croix is administered from Camp Wall, Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. St. Croix programs include Scuba Adventure and St. Croix Adventure.

## LEADERSHIP

- Every adult leader must be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America.
- All crews must have two-deep leadership. Troops and teams must have one adult over 21 and another over 18. Venturing crews, posts, and ships must have two adults over 21. Troops, teams, crews, posts, and ships with both male and female participants and/or leaders must have male and female leadership over the age of 21.
- Every adult leader must complete BSA Youth Protection Training, Safe Swim Defense, Safety Afloat, and Weather Hazards.
- Every individual must meet the BSA height and weight requirements. Exceptions may be granted for individuals who do not weigh more than 20 pounds over the maximum weight. To receive an exception, the participant must have a letter from their physician. Sea Base may choose to send the participant's medical record and physician's note to the Sea Base medical director for review. Sea Base reserves the right to disqualify any individual on medical grounds.
- At least one leader per crew must have Wilderness First Aid training.
- Participants may be considered to be youth or adult until their 21st birthday. All persons 18 and over must shower in adult facilities.
- Individuals with special needs over the age of 21 who are registered beyond the age requirement are considered youth regardless of age.







## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Florida Sea Base offers partial need-based scholarships to individuals who wish to attend the Sea Base but cannot do so because of financial constraints. Call the Sea Base or visit our website for further information.

## **YEAR-ROUND SEA BASE ADVENTURES**

Want a break from the cold? Sea Base offers the same great adventures during the winter and spring seasons!

## **ORDER OF THE ARROW OCEAN ADVENTURE**

We get many inquiries about this exciting program that is available to members of the Order of the Arrow who meet high-adventure age and physical requirements. The program is administered through the national Order of the Arrow organization, and information is available through your local OA leadership. If you cannot get information and an application locally, please contact the national OA representative at 972-580-2438.

## **CANCELLATION POLICY**

Please notify the Sea Base IMMEDIATELY if your crew intends to cancel. Early notification will result in the loss of a minimum amount of fees as outlined below and will allow other Scouts the opportunity to attend Sea Base.

The initial crew deposit is nonrefundable. These funds may not be applied to another crew. Your crew may transfer to another arrival date within the same calendar year if this arrangement has been made prior to your half-payment deadline.

Crews canceling after the half payment has been made will forfeit all fees paid. The Sea Base recommends that units purchase travel insurance.





## FLORIDA SEA BASE SHIP STORE

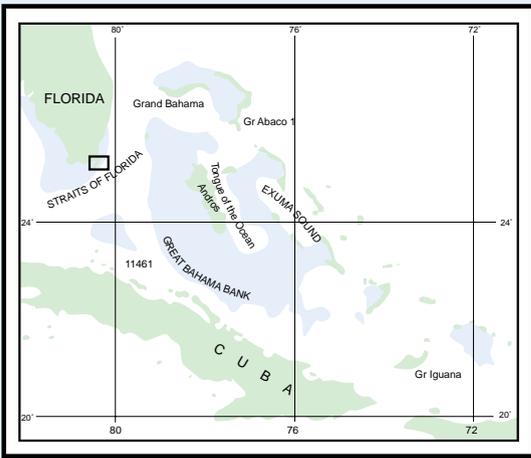
Are you excited about your adventure? The Florida Sea Base proudly offers quality merchandise on-site and online. Prior to arrival, Sea Base recommends that your troop, team, crew, post, or ship order custom shirts, hats, and bags. When you arrive, you will find adventure-specific merchandise, gifts, collectibles, and snacks. The following is a list of items suggested and/or required for your adventure:

- UPF long-sleeved shirt—available for custom crew pre-order
- UPF short-sleeved shirt—available for custom crew pre-order
- Broad-rimmed or UPF-rated hat—available for custom crew pre-order
- Adventure bag—available for custom crew pre-order
- Reef Safe sunscreen—available on-site and online
- Polarized sunglasses—available on-site
- Nalgene with carabiner—available on-site or online
- Nonbreakable coffee mug—available on-site or online
- Dive socks—available on-site or online
- Crew first-aid kit—available on-site or online

The listed items can be found at the Sea Base Ship Store website, [www.fsbshipstore.com](http://www.fsbshipstore.com).

### CUSTOM CREW ORDERS

Customize your crew! Given the nature of our adventures and the intensity of South Florida/Caribbean sun, Sea Base recommends that each participant bring a long- and short-sleeved UPF shirt, wide-brimmed UPF hat, and a bag suitable for your adventure. To meet this recommendation, Sea Base offers the items listed for customization. Add your unit number, city, and state to any of our highly rated designs. To order, visit [www.fsbshipstore.com](http://www.fsbshipstore.com).

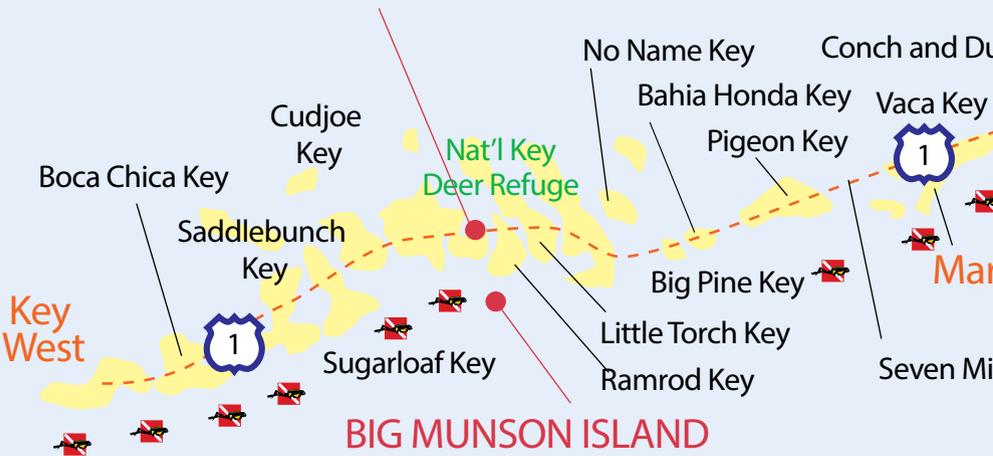


Reef Locations



Gulf of Mexico

**BRINTON CENTER MM. 23.8**



**BIG MUNSON ISLAND**

Cuba 90 Miles  
↓



<b>Distance From Airports</b>			
	<b>Miami airport</b>	<b>Fort Lauderdale airport</b>	<b>Key West airport</b>
Florida Sea Base, MM 74	90 miles	115 miles	74 miles
Brinton Center, MM 24	140 miles	165 miles	24 miles

MM = Mile Marker Key West = Mile Marker 0  
 Average speed in the Florida Keys = 40–45 mph

# SAILING

No prior sailing experience is required to book these three adventures.

## CORAL REEF SAILING ADVENTURE

Your home for a week will be on a large sailing vessel over 40 feet long. During the adventure, you will be sailing the Florida Keys and have the opportunity to snorkel some of the most beautiful reefs in the Keys and part of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

You will also have the opportunity to study astronomy, navigation, fish identification, and coral reef ecology.

So join us for the Coral Reef Sailing Adventure, and sharpen your navigational skills and enjoy snorkeling and fishing all in one package.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## STEM ECO ADVENTURE

If you are looking for an up-close, hands-on STEM adventure, then the STEM Eco Adventure is for you. Your crew's home and base of operation for the week will be two 40- to 45-foot sailboats. From there, you will launch into your undersea world of exploration by means of snorkel, mask, and fins; kayak; or fishing pole and glass-bottom viewer. Here you will explore the wildlife and ecosystems of the four major marine habitats of the Florida Keys, study plants and wildlife, and understand their delicate balance. Scouts will return to civilization with a greater appreciation of the undersea world and their roles as stewards of this amazing environment.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## SEA EXPLORING ADVENTURE

The Florida Sea Base operates four tall ship sailing vessels more than 70 feet long. This adventure is especially geared for larger crews of 18 to 20. During the weeklong odyssey, you will snorkel several reefs as you sail among the fabulous Florida Keys. Along the way, you will troll for mackerel, barracuda, and mahi-mahi, hoping to supplement the ship's stores.

Among the highlights of your adventure are sailing to a small archipelago of islands, fishing, snorkeling, and maybe even catching some lobster (in season).

If you're expecting a "cruise" and someone serving your meals, this is not the adventure for you. It is a rugged extended voyage on a large vessel. Everyone pitches in with the sailing and cooking chores. You'll do on-board navigation, star study, and lots of snorkeling and fishing—but you won't be waited on.

If you are up to the challenge, this is the adventure for you.

**THIS IS A SEVEN-NIGHT, EIGHT-DAY ADVENTURE.**





ADVENTURE	FEE	CREW SIZE	SEASONS
Coral Reef Sailing Adventure	\$7,250 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter
STEM Eco Adventure	\$12,850 per crew	10 minimum 12 maximum	Summer
Sea Exploring Adventure	\$17,750 per crew	18 minimum 20 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter

Crew size includes the two adult leaders per crew attending.

# BRINTON ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER



ADVENTURE	FEE	CREW SIZE	SEASONS
Florida Fishing Adventure	\$8,570 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer
Keys Adventure	\$7,225 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter
Out Island Adventure	\$7,225 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter
Marine STEM Adventure	\$7,225 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer

Crew size includes the two adult leaders per crew attending.

## FLORIDA FISHING ADVENTURE

This is a fishing trip of a lifetime. Weather permitting, you will go far offshore for pelagic fish like tuna and mahi-mahi and to the coral reef for snapper and grouper. You'll fish at night from bridges and stalk fish in the Florida Bay. You'll even have a chance to fish for the ocean's greatest apex predator: sharks! Participants in this adventure learn about marine ecosystems, conservation, and seamanship.



Your fishing adventure itinerary also includes a trip to historic Key West. It is the southernmost town in the continental United States, and is rich in history and unique culture. You'll get to tour the town and enjoy some of the many museums, shops, and restaurants. If you are passionate about fishing and seek the Keys experience of a lifetime, the Florida Fishing Adventure is the program for you.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## **KEYS ADVENTURE**

Want to experience everything the Florida Keys have to offer? You will paddle board, ocean kayak, sail, boat, fish, snorkel coral reefs, learn about marine ecosystems, travel to Big Munson Island for an overnight adventure, and visit historic Key West. Every day is a new adventure!

Lodging will be in an air-conditioned dormitory every night except the overnight. If you are looking for a program with a wide variety of aquatic activities, this is your adventure.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## **OUT ISLAND ADVENTURE**

**MUNSON!** Along with your assigned island mate, your crew will paddle a Polynesian war canoe more than 5 miles to a primitive barrier island located in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary for a primitive camping experience and epic high adventure!

Upon arrival at Big Munson Island, your crew will camp under a canopy of gumbo-limbo trees, mangroves, and lush vegetation. Endangered Key deer will pass through your campsite along with hermit crabs and Key Vaca raccoons. Each day will be action packed: Your crew will kayak from the island, board a large vessel to go snorkeling at the Florida Barrier Reef, shark fish, paddle to Munson Rocks for a night snorkel, and explore the largest wilderness on Earth—the ocean.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## **MARINE STEM ADVENTURE**

This is an adventure with purpose!

First, before arriving at Sea Base, you have the option of completing a series of pre-learning modules with Mote Marine Laboratory scientists related to the things you will experience on-site. Once there, you'll get to snorkel coral reefs while learning to identify coral bleaching and conducting fish counts; ocean kayak to discover Florida Keys ecosystems; fish for and catch sharks to better understand their role in marine ecosystems; fish for and possibly tag mahi-mahi as part of the Dolphin Research Program; build and use underwater robots; and visit the marine laboratory. And each day you'll be on the water exploring the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

Are you looking for an adventure where you can boat, kayak, snorkel, fish, and make a difference? This is it!

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## SCUBA ADVENTURE

The Florida Keys are home to the only coral barrier reef in North America. If you are a certified diver, this program is for you. From our fleet of custom-built Newton Dive Specials, you will explore coral reefs, discover wrecks and underwater rock formations, and scuba dive alongside the more than 6,000 organisms and underwater wildlife found in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

Weather permitting, you will make as many as 11 dives, including a night dive. You'll also get the opportunity to take part in evening Project Aware courses and conduct Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) fish surveys. Accommodations are in air-conditioned dormitories overlooking the Florida Bay with great meals in the Sea Base galley. The diving equipment supplied for this adventure is new and state-of-the-art. Medical restrictions apply. Call the Sea Base for more details.

**THIS IS A SEVEN-NIGHT, EIGHT-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## SCUBA CERTIFICATION ADVENTURE

Want to learn to breathe underwater? This is your opportunity to become certified as a PADI open-water diver at one of the best scuba training facilities in the world. Professional PADI instructors and divemasters will guide you along your adventure.

You will be fitted with state-of-the-art scuba equipment and trained at the largest scuba training center and dive pool in the Florida Keys. For your open water dives, you will board one of the many Newton Dive Specials owned by the Florida Sea Base and commanded by a licensed U.S. Coast Guard captain. Your fee includes all meals, instruction, housing in air-conditioned dormitories, four open water training dives in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, and two to four fun dives (time and weather permitting). Medical restrictions apply. Call the Sea Base for more details.

**THIS IS A SEVEN-NIGHT, EIGHT-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## SCUBA LIVE ABOARD ADVENTURE

The Sea Base has combined scuba with a live aboard experience to create one incredible adventure. You will spend your days discovering the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary above and below the water's surface. With a crew size of 10 to 12 people, your home will be aboard one or two vessels depending on availability and schedule. During this adventure you will dive 11 or more times—including night dives—and when you're not diving, there will be opportunities for fishing and cruising the Florida Keys. You must be a certified diver to participate in this program. Medical restrictions apply. Call the Sea Base for more details.

**THIS IS A SEVEN-NIGHT, EIGHT-DAY ADVENTURE.**





ADVENTURE	FEE	CREW SIZE	SEASONS
Scuba Adventure	\$8,570 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter
Scuba Certification Adventure	\$8,570 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter
Scuba Live Aboard Adventure	\$14,300 per crew	10 minimum 12 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter

Crew size includes the two adult leaders per crew attending.

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# BAHAMAS, ST. THOMAS, AND ST. CROIX

No sailing experience is required.

## BAHAMAS ADVENTURE

The mere name, "the Bahamas," invokes a vision of white sandy beaches and crystal-clear water. This is an excellent description of the area you will see during your Bahamas Adventure. From the moment your plane touches down, you will be aware that you are in a foreign country in this small group of the "Family Islands." A taxi will meet you in Marsh Harbour and take you to your vessel at the Conch Inn and Marina for swim checks and loading gear and equipment. Then you are off for an unforgettable adventure in the Sea of Abaco.

During the voyage, you will visit small Bahamian villages such as Man O' War, where the ancient boat-building art is still practiced. You will have an opportunity to try local foods such as fresh Bahamian bread, baked goods, and conch fritters. Plus you'll visit the small picturesque village of Hope Town, see its harbor and lighthouse, and fish and snorkel on beautiful pristine reefs.

Bahamas adventures are available during the spring, summer, and winter, and there are three boat sizes to choose from: 40- to 45-foot boats for crews of six to eight; 45- to 50-foot boats for crews of 10 to 12; and a 60-foot catamaran that holds 18 to 20.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

ADVENTURE	FEE	CREW SIZE	SEASONS
Bahamas Adventure	\$7,250 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter
Bahamas Adventure	\$10,810 per crew	10 minimum 12 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter
Bahamas Tall Ship Adventure	\$17,750 per crew	18 minimum 20 maximum	Spring/Summer/ Winter

Crew size includes the two adult leaders per crew attending.

## ST. THOMAS SAILING ADVENTURE

Experience the allure of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Here, the trade winds blow, offering some of the best sailing in the world. Upon arrival at Sapphire Beach Resort and Marina, your crew will board a 40-foot-plus vessel with an experienced captain. Most crews attain the 50 Miler Award as they circumnavigate the crystal blue waters surrounding St. John.

In addition to sailing, your crew will snorkel pristine coral reefs, hike through jungles in the U.S. Virgin Islands National Park, swim ashore to incredible beaches, and fish.

St. Thomas sailing adventures are available in the summer for crews of six to eight.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**



## ST. THOMAS STEM ECO SAILING ADVENTURE

Set sail aboard a 40-foot-plus vessel in the crystal blue water of the Caribbean, snorkel amazing reefs, and hike the U.S. Virgin Islands National Park while making a positive impact on the environment. In conjunction with Mote Marine Laboratory and the University of the Virgin Islands, participants collect data to help save endangered coral reefs and endangered sea turtles and learn the importance of protecting marine ecosystems. More than a traditional adventure, this is truly an adventure with purpose.

If your unit is looking for an amazing and fun-filled adventure while making a difference, this is it!

St. Thomas STEM Eco Sailing Adventures are available in the summer for crews of six to eight.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

ADVENTURE	FEE	CREW SIZE	SEASONS
St. Thomas Sailing Adventure	\$7,250 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Summer
St. Thomas STEM Eco Sailing Adventure	\$7,250 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Summer

Crew size includes the two adult leaders per crew attending.

## ST. CROIX ADVENTURE

Discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493, St. Croix boasts amazing vistas, crystal blue waters, vibrant coral reefs, and endless opportunities for adventure. Participants will set sail, snorkel, boat, and kayak; learn about ecosystems and underwater species; work with conservationists and scientists to help save marine life; and visit Buckhead Island National Park, historic Christiansted, and historic Fort Christiansvaern. Every day is a new adventure!

Crews will camp at beautiful Camp Wall overlooking the Caribbean Ocean.

St. Croix adventures are available in the summer for crews of six to eight.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

## ST. CROIX SCUBA ADVENTURE

Are you a certified diver? If so, underwater exploration and discovery await you in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Pristine coral reefs, sea turtles, countless species of fish, and underwater organisms map the sea floor surrounding St. Croix. Depending on the weather, crews will make as many as 10 dives.

In addition to world-class diving, participants will also explore historic Christiansted and historic Fort Christiansvaern, learn about underwater ecosystems and species, take part in citizen science and conservation projects, and learn from local scientists and/or conservationists.

Crews will camp at beautiful Camp Wall overlooking the Caribbean Ocean.

St. Croix adventures are available in the summer for crews of six to eight.

**THIS IS A SIX-NIGHT, SEVEN-DAY ADVENTURE.**

ADVENTURE	FEE	CREW SIZE	SEASONS
St. Croix Adventure	\$7,250 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Summer
St. Croix Scuba Adventure	\$8,570 per crew	6 minimum 8 maximum	Summer

Crew size includes the two adult leaders per crew attending.

**For all Bahamas and U.S. Virgin Island adventures, the following applies:** These are truly the adventures of a lifetime, but don't expect luxury. These are working adventures—handling lines, preparing food, and participating fully in the operation of your vessel or encampment. Crews are responsible for providing air and ground transportation in and out of the Bahamas and U.S. Virgin Islands. Due to Homeland Security laws, all participants must have proper identification to travel abroad. Passports are required to enter and leave the Bahamas. Scouts traveling without a parent or guardian must have permission to travel with their unit to the Bahamas. Passports are not required for travel to and from the U.S. Virgin Islands but are recommended.

