Sea Base Helpful Hints

Troop 766 has been to Sea Base twice, once in 2009 and once in 2011. The crew names were SAS061709CD and SAW072711BC.

On the Sea Base Website, <u>www.bsaseabase.org</u>, there is a very good list of what to bring under the Scuba Adventure, which is what we did each time. The first time we had 9 dives, and the second time we had 11 dives, as they eliminated the trip to Key West.

Once you arrive at Sea Base, your tour permit does not allow you to leave base. However, if you can get your dive master(s) to go with you, you can leave, either in your own vehicles, or in one of the Sea Base vans. Good ideas of what to do off base are to take your dive master to dinner at a nice restaurant, head up to Key Largo and the neat dive shop there, or stop in at Dairy Queen for ice cream.

Below are some packing and travelling suggestions.

Please travel in Class A's. You'll be amazed at the good reaction you get from people, and how many friends you'll make along the way. People who would never talk to strangers will talk to a group of scouts in uniform.

First, crew tee shirts. I recommend you have at least two along. Three would be even better. They can be worn at Flag each day, morning and evening. They did not require us to wear our Class A's at all. Bring an extra shirt for your dive master, size XL works well. Each crew will have its own dive master. We went with 12 participants, in 2 crews, so had two dive masters. The high-performance wicking tee's work better than cotton, and get light colors, as it is HOT in Florida.

For everyday use, you only need a couple pairs of shorts, a couple swim suits, and a "rash guard" type shirt. Most of the rest of the time you wear the crew shirts.

Bedding: bring a fitted bottom sheet, twin size, long. Also bring a zip-up fleece or blanket for the top.

Bring lots of sunscreen, Aloe sunburn lotion, and Bonine for seasickness.

Proof of age: either a driver's license or passport. This is for the plane ride.

Widemouth nalgene. They provide ice and water, and you'll drink a lot.

Waterproof bag for the boat. It can hold glasses, camera, and towel.

Dive camera.