

**Key Largo May 18-20, 2018
Trip Information Sheet**

Dive operation:

Rainbow Reef Diver Center
100800 Overseas Highway
Mile Marker 100.8
Key Largo, Florida 33037
(305) 451-7171/(800) 457-4354
www.Rainbowreef.us
Contact: Jessica Manning

Trip Sponsors:

Patrick McCrary
Diveteacher, LLC
PADI MSDT #347778
275 14th Street NW, Suite 200
Atlanta, Georgia 30318-9100
(404) 245-3333
patrick@diveteacher.com

Accommodations:*

Courtyard by Marriott
99751 Overseas Highway
Mile Marker 100
Key Largo, Florida 33037
(305) 351-3939

Boat/Dock:

100 Ocean Drive
Mile Marker 100
Key Largo, Florida 33037
(behind Marriott Courtyard)

Martin Ade

Pyrasea, LLC
PADI Instructor #362702
285 Walnut Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30314
(404) 272-3616
martin.ade@gatech.edu

NOTE: Accommodations are subject to availability. Depending on how many people sign up and when, different area hotels may be used.

Tentative Itinerary:

Monday, May 14, 2018 6:00 pm: Trip Orientation [TENTATIVE]	Georgia Tech CRC Room 147	To fill out paperwork, check C-cards and insurance, brief you on the trip, and check out equipment for student divers.
Friday May 18, 2018 12:00 noon <u>Tentative sites:</u> Pickle's Reef & Permit Ledges	2-tank afternoon dive For open water students, this will be Open Water Dives 1 & 2. There will be a pre-dive briefing at 12:30, after paperwork is completed. The boat leaves at 12:45 pm sharp.	Please arrive at the DOCK not later than noon on Friday May 18, with gear, ready to dive. We will do paperwork, and then a briefing. <u>If you need to rent equipment, to go the DIVE CENTER first.</u>
Saturday May 19, 2018 7:30 am <u>Tentative sites:</u> Hole In The Wall and Fire Coral Cave	2-tank morning dive For open water students, this will be Open Water Dives 3 & 4. There will be a pre-dive briefing at 7:30. The boat leaves at 8:15 am sharp.	Arrive at the dock, ready to dive, by 7:30 am.
Saturday May 19, 2018 4:30 pm [TENTATIVE START TIME] <u>Tentative sites:</u> Benwood Wreck	2-tank twilight & night dive. Pre-dive briefing at 4:30 pm, boat leaves at 5:00 pm sharp. This schedule may change prior to departure.	Gear will need to be off-loaded after the afternoon dive. Return to the boat ready to dive by 4:30 pm.
Sunday May 20, 7:30 am. <u>Tentative sites:</u> Spiegel Grove/ French Reef	2-tank morning DEEP dive followed by shallow. Anyone not wanting to dive deep will be placed on a shallow reef-dive boat.	Arrive at the dock with all equipment, read to dive by 7:30 am.
Wednesday May 23, 2018 6:00 pm Equipment return [TENTATIVE]	Georgia Tech CRC Room 147	All equipment borrowed from Georgia Tech must be returned at this time.

All dive site selection is subject weather, seas, and the captain's discretion. You must be on time for all dives. The boat will not wait and no refunds are available for missed dives. You must be on the dock, ready to dive, on time.

All divers are responsible for their own transportation to and from Key Largo, and from/to your hotel. All trip participants are required to keep the trip sponsors notified at all times concerning their own accommodations, travel plans, and contact information. Please see page 2 for further trip details and pricing.

Trip Details:

Key Largo: For those of you who have never been diving in the Florida Keys, the water off of Key Largo is spectacular, and some of the nicest diving you will find anywhere in the world. Key Largo offers beautiful and thriving coral reefs, spectacular shallow and deep wrecks, drift diving, night diving and more. You will likely see an abundance of hard and soft corals, myriad marine fish species, moray eels, stingrays, spotted eagle rays, nurse sharks, Goliath grouper, black tip and Caribbean reef sharks, lobsters, crabs and more. You could not ask for better diving, whether you are student diver or have hundreds of dives under your belt.

Key Largo itself is the Florida that time forgot. It is "old" Florida. Comfortable accommodations. Great restaurants, both seafood shacks and fancier fare. The island is only an hour or so south of Miami, but remote enough to be cozy and relaxing. Still, it has everything you need: Grocery stores, beverage stores, pizza parlors, ATMs, many dives shops and, yes, there is a Starbucks.

Diving: This will be an open water dive excursion designed primarily to accommodate open water dive students getting their final open water certifications. But, certified divers of all skill levels are welcome to join us as well. If you are not one of our existing students, we will need to see a certification card from an accredited diving agency. If you have not been diving in 12 months or more (or 6 months or more for student divers), you will need to participate in an accredited Scuba Review, Scuba Refresher or Re-Activate program before diving with us. Please contact us for details and options in those regards.

Travel: You can easily drive or fly to Key Largo from Atlanta. The drive is about 11-12 hours. If you drive, try to leave Thursday, so that you will be rested for your dives. If you fly, you can fly relatively cheaply into Miami (1 hour away) or Ft. Lauderdale (1.5 hours away). Remember when flying that returning, you need to stay out of the water at least 18 hours (preferably 24) before flying. This means spending Sunday night in a hotel in Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, or somewhere in between. Don't forget when flying, to account for the weight and bulk of your diving equipment as luggage.

What to Bring: Tanks and weights are provided as part of the trip package. GT Scuba students awaiting certification will be able to check out equipment from Georgia Tech CRC, but you will be responsible for that equipment and for getting it to and from Key Largo. Everyone else will need to bring their own equipment or rent it from Rainbow Reef Dive Center. Otherwise, when packing, the rule of thumb is: Less is more. Key Largo is laid back and rustic. You won't need more than a couple pairs of shorts, a couple of T-shirts, a bathing suit, a good hat, sunglasses, and lots of sunscreen. Bring a long sleeve shirt for sun protection. Do not over-pack. Bring (and use) any sea sickness medication and other medicines you need.

Pricing: Prices for this trip will be determined by whether you are an open water student or a certified diver, and whether you will be staying in accommodations offered as part of our package:

Full Package – Student Diver:	\$750	includes 7-8 dives (depending on conditions), tanks and weights, hotel accommodations and PADI certification. Gratuities not included. Includes basic trip price of \$625 plus \$125 instruction and certification fee.
Full Package – Certified Diver:	\$625	includes 7-8 dives (depending on conditions), tanks and weights, and hotel accommodations, but <u>no PADI certification</u>. Gratuities not included.

*Hotel accommodations are based on double occupancy. Generally, spouses with spouses, guys with guys, and girls with girls per standard GT excursion policy.

Gratuities: Gratuities for the Rainbow Reef Dive Center crews are not included. A gratuity is not required, but is recommended: \$10 to \$20, cash, per person per boat trip is customary. Those folks do a lot of work and should be compensated fairly.

Deposits, Cancellations and Refunds: A \$500 deposit is required to save your spot on the trip at www.diveteacher.com, on a first-come-first-served basis, by April 15, 2018. The full balance of the price is due on or before May 1, 2018. Payments made are NOT REFUNDABLE.

Insurance: All divers will be required to have DAN (Divers Alert Network) insurance. Please visit www.diversalertnetwork.org. DAN provides emergency evacuation in the event of a diving accident. You will not be allowed to dive with us without proof of DAN insurance. We also strongly recommend that you get travel insurance, in the case of foul weather, illness, or other cause that prevents you from diving. This type of insurance is available through a variety of companies, including DAN, Dive Assure (www.diveassure.com), and perhaps even your airline or credit card company.

Things may change: Please realize that, as with any excursion, schedules and itineraries may change, e.g. due to weather, equipment issues, the comfort level of our divers, etc. If any plans change, we will give you as much warning as we can, and find suitable alternatives to still make your trip a fantastic adventure.