



Expeditions

Fall 2018

BSAC High Adventure Committee

Florida Sea Base



The Florida National High Adventure Sea Base is a unique Scouting program that offers aquatics programs found nowhere else. Whether your interests lie in sailing, scuba diving, rustic camping on an undeveloped barrier island, fishing or a combination of all, this is the place for your unit.

Sea Base now operates 15 different adventures out of four locations: two in the Florida Keys, one in the US Virgin Islands, and one in Marsh Harbour, Bahamas. Coral Reef Sailing, Sea Exploring Adventure, STEM Eco-Adventure, Scuba Adventure, Scuba Certification, and Live Aboard Scuba Adventure operate in the Florida Keys at Mile Marker 73.8 at Sea Base on Lower Matecumbe Key located 75 miles south of Miami. Out Island Adventure, Keys Adventure and Florida Fishing programs operate in the Florida Keys on Summerland Key at Mile Marker 23.8 at the Brinton Environmental Center located 125 miles south of Miami. (Key West, the southernmost point in the Keys, Florida and the continental United States, is located at Mile Marker zero.) Bahamas Adventures and Bahamas Tall Ship Adventures operate out of the Bahamas Sea Base in Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas, located about 100 miles east of Fort Lauderdale. Sea Base St. Thomas Adventures operate out of St. John, USVI.

For more information, search <http://www.bsaseabase.org>.



Red River Gorge

The Red River Gorge, located in the Daniel Boone National Forest of eastern Kentucky, is a unique, scenic natural area that attracts thousands of visitors each year. Designated as a national geological area by the U.S. Forest Service, it has spectacular rock features, including sandstone arches and towering cliffs. Outdoor enthusiasts come to the gorge year-round to enjoy hiking, camping, canoeing, rock climbing, wildlife viewing and other recreation opportunities.

Rock climbers come from around the world to climb the sandstone cliffs. Before climbing, however, make sure the group is properly equipped with the right gear and know-how. Climbing rules are enforced and can be viewed by visiting the Supervisor's Orders page on the Red River Gorge Geological Area – USDA Forest Service website.

For more information, search

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/dbnf/specialplaces/?cid=stelprdb5345319>



Pokagon Toboggan Run

Pokagon State Park's refrigerated Toboggan Run near Angola, Indiana, has about 90,000 riders every season. With the 30-foot tower and dips and valleys, the total vertical drop is 90 feet over the course of a quarter mile. The top recorded speed is 42 mph. It's a 20 to 30 second thrill ride.

The Run opens for the season, with or without snow, in late November 24 and operates through February. Hours are Friday: 5:30-9 p.m., Saturday: 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Toboggan has extended hours during winter break and is open on New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day.

At the Run, there is also a Cross Country Ski Rental that includes skis, boots and poles. Hours are Saturday-Sunday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., weather permitting.

More information can be found at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/4699.htm>.



Set sail aboard Michigan Crossroads Council's sail training vessel **Retriever**! The **Retriever**, a 52' ketch, is an offshore sail training program where youth will learn the fundamentals of sailboat handling, steering, waterway navigation, marine safety, and various cruising techniques used by seasoned sailors!

Based in its home port of Mackinaw City, Michigan, the **Retriever** will utilize harbors throughout the northern Great Lakes as classrooms to teach youth how to sail. Program options include two-night weekend cruises, and six (6) day – five (5) night programs. There are extended holiday weekend programs on Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends too! The **Retriever** is designed to accommodate a maximum of 10 youth and two (2) adults. Co-ed crews are welcome, but the advisor must contact the council in advance to discuss options. All participants must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America.

For more information go to the Michigan Crossroads Council website (www.michiganscouting.org.) and click on the Camping tab.

Zaleski Backpack Trail

The Zaleski Backpack Trail is one of the state's most—if not the most—popular overnight hiking destinations. This scenic trail passes by many points of biological, geological and historical interest which are marked in the field by lettered signs, making this the only self-guided interpretive backpack trail in the state.

Most of the main trail's 29.1 miles are laid out in a long contorted loop, with a cutoff side trail at the southern end and a one-mile section of two-way trail connecting a smaller northern loop. In 2016, a new backpacking trailhead was created at the historic Hope Schoolhouse just south of Lake Hope resulting in a 1.9-mile section of two-way trail connecting the new trailhead to the south loop.



Most hikers refer to the sections of the Zaleski Trail in terms of its *south loop*, *middle loop* and *north loop*. The configuration of the trail offers many trip options for both day hikers and backpackers alike. Any of the loops can be easily completed as a single night backpack trip, but plan on a double-overnighter to hike all three loops in one trip or to complete the 22.3 miles of a combined south and middle loop trip.