

## Troop 368 Senior Trip to Florida/Bahamas (Seabase)

Seabase is a National base in both the Florida Keys and the Bahamas. Seabase in Florida offers a variety of programs: Out Island Adventure, SCUBA, Sailing. The Bahamas is strictly for sailing. According to our Captain for the 07' trip – the Bahamas is a better experience.

Trip: 2 days in Florida and then flew to Seabase Bahamas. 2 Days in Florida we went to Universal Studios, Airboat Ride, Kennedy Space Center and night time Alligator search on airboats.

Seabase Website: [www.bsaseabase.org](http://www.bsaseabase.org)

Scouts Eligible: Scouts who will be at least 14 and Star by the trip.

Reservations:

November/early December (a year and half out) – send out trip information fliers out to Scouts.

December (a year and half out) Get anyone who is interested and eligible for the trip together in December to decide which trip they want to do (Florida/Bahamas – Sailing, SCUBA.....). Have them pick their top 3 choices and compile them to a crew top 3 choices. Enter this information into the [www.bsaseabase.org](http://www.bsaseabase.org) site for a February lottery. When entering different slots, choose as many dates as possible.

[ we went in August and got our 1<sup>st</sup> Choice – Bahamas Sailing]

February (a year and half out) – Seabase will have a lottery and let you know which trip you have been selected for. Deposits and payments will need to be made along the way.

Money:

Used a trip payment plan (\$300.00) every 5 months or so to be put in the troop checking account. The Troop Treasurer should make a line/account for Seabase to keep track. You should keep track of all expenditures in a spreadsheet. The cost of the trip including Florida is around \$1,500 per Scout – including airfare, food during the trip.

Crew Tshirts:

Have the crew make crew Tshirts (light color). With a pocket design front and a large design on the back. The Tshirts were 50/50 and did good. 07' trip color was gray. Work was done at the Teebag for \$6.00 per shirt. Get 2 Tshirts per person.

Airfare:

Secure your airfare November before the trip to ensure that you get a spot... especially if you going to the Bahamas (15 person prop plane). Airfare for 2007 was about \$567.00. We flew from Newark to Orlando, Orlando to Miami, Miami to Marsh Harbour, Bahamas, Marsh Harbour Bahamas to Ft. Lauderdale and Ft. Lauderdale to Newark. Off hours is the best time to fly (7-8am or night).

If going to the Bahamas try to get a 11 -12pm flight out of the Abaco Islands – there is nothing to do there on your last day.

Passports (for Bahamas):

Make sure everyone has a passport by April of the Trip.. do visual inspections on passports then.

### Before the trip:

Make sure all payments are in. Everyone is balanced.

Van rental (Avis was the cheapest) – good experience. 12 Passenger Van

Reservations (hotel, airboat ride, night alligator ride)

Parent contact – 1 parent to be the parent liaison for updates

Need 3 Parents to drop off at Newark and 3 to pickup at Newark.

Night before – everyone uses luggage tags for outside and inside of bags to include hotel address – then switch to Bahamas address and then switch to Home address.

Each person should bring a small duffel bag for Seabase stuff and a backpack for Florida stuff

We checked 2 bags to put in large liquids (sun screen, tooth paste...etc.)

Make photo copies of passports and Medical forms – give to other adult leader to hold on.

### Special stuff to bring:

A GPS for Florida Expedition

Each person should bring 2 bottles of sunscreen!

Scouts leave electronic equipment at home

Bring a digital camera – take action pictures!

Each Scout should bring about \$50 – 60 for souvenirs, etc.

### Food:

Counted \$7pp for lunches and \$15 for dinners. Hotel should have free continental breakfast. Ate fast food for lunches and Buffet places for dinner. Used the Universal Food Pass for 1 nights dinner and lunch.

### Schedule for 2007:

July 31 8:00pm – met at one Scouts house to sleepover to do gear shakedown (good to have everyone together the night before). Check airline for flight status.

August 1 5:00am – left for Newark airport with 3 parents driving us.

Orlando:

Old Time Airboat Rides: <http://www.airboatrides.com/>

Rides on airboat and looking for alligators

No Scout Discount in 07 but did extend the trip 30mins.

Good time

Kennedy Space Center: <http://www.kennedyspacecenter.com/>

Took tour to observation area

Cool space shuttle ride

Saw a 3D Max movie

Good time and good experience

Hotel: Hawthorne Suites in Orlando (Canada Ave.): <http://www.hawthorn.com>

2 Suites (sleeps 6 in each suite)

Good experience – close to everything.

August 2

Orlando:

Universal Studios: <http://www.universalorlando.com/>

Purchased the Speedpass (defiantly worth it)

Purchased the Food/Drink pass

Purchased admission ticket 2 Park/1 Day

Spent 10am to 5:30pm there – ate dinner there

Great experience

Boggy Creek: <http://www.bcairboats.com/>  
8pm for a night time alligator search Night Ride  
Great experience

Wash clothes used in Florida at hotel.

August 3 – 9

Seabase Bahamas Sailing

\$100 tip to the sailing Captain

When arrived back in US – contacted the parent liaison to confirm pickup at Newark

July 20, 2007 Call Boggy for night tour reservations

#### **Tuesday July 31**

8:00pm Meet at the DiRuggieros for sleepover/Gear checks

#### **Wednesday Aug 1**

6:00am Leave for Newark Airport - need parent drivers

7:25am Flight Leaves from Newark to Orlando

10:14am Arrive at Orlando, FL

11:00am Pickup Rental Van

11:30am Leave Airport for Kennedy Space Center

12:00pm Stop for Lunch

1:00pm Arrive at Kennedy Space Center

1:00 - 3:30pm Kennedy Space Center/Max Movie

3:30pm Leave for Airboat rides in Christmas, FL

#### **4:30 - 6:30pm Air Boat Ride**

5:30pm Stop for Dinner on the way to hotel in Kissimmee, FL

7:00pm Arrive at Hotel/checkin

#### **8:30pm Be at Boggy Creek**

8:45pm - 9:45pm Night Alligator Expedition

10:15pm Back to Hotel

#### **Thursday August 2**

8:00am Universal Studios all day

10:00am Need to return Van to Orlando Airport (1 adult?)

#### **Friday August 3**

9:30am Cab to Orlando Airport

10:00am Arrive Orlando Airport

11:20am Flight Leaves from Orlando to Miami

12:35pm Arrive Miami Airport

12:35 - 1:30pm Get to gate for Airplane to Bahamas

1:30pm Flight leaves from Miami to Bahamas

2:35pm Arrive Marsh Harbour, Bahamas

2:45pm Taxi Cab ride to SeaBase

**August 3 - August 9**    Sailing Trip

**Thursday August 9**

5:05pm Flight Leaves Marsh Harbour, Bahamas for Ft. Lauderdale  
6:15pm Arrive Ft. Lauderdale  
7:30pm Leave Ft. Lauderdale Airport for Newark Airport  
10:34pm Arrive Newark - need parents to pickup

<b>Scout</b>	<b>Adult</b>
<b>\$645.00 Seabase Fee</b>	<b>\$645.00 Seabase Fee</b>
<b>\$567.00 Air Fare</b>	<b>\$567.00 Air Fare</b>
<b>\$43.00 Rooms x 2 nights in Orlando</b>	<b>\$43.00 Rooms x 2 nights in Orlando</b>
<b>\$79.00 Universal Studios Ticket 1 day Pass</b>	<b>\$79.00 Universal Studios Ticket 1 day Pass</b>
<b>\$40.00 Van Rental 3 day + gas</b>	<b>Van Rental 3 day</b>
<b>\$15.00 Bahamas Departure Tax</b>	<b>\$15.00 Bahamas Departure Tax</b>
<b>\$40.00 Airboat Ride</b>	<b>\$40.00 Airboat Ride</b>
<b>\$29.92 Night Airboat Ride (30% off Group rate)</b>	<b>\$29.92 Night Airboat Ride (30% off Group rate)</b>
<b>\$85.00 Food</b>	<b>\$85.00 Food</b>
<b>\$40.00 Kennedy Space Center Entrance</b>	<b>\$40.00 Kennedy Space Center Entrance</b>
<b>\$44.00 Universal Studios Ticket 1 day Speed Pass</b>	<b>\$44.00 Universal Studios Ticket 1 day Speed Pass</b>
<b>\$17.50 Tshirts</b>	<b>Tshirts</b>
<b>\$11.00 Tip to the Captain</b>	
<b>\$1,656.42</b>	<b>\$1,587.92</b>
<b>-\$8.30 Troop Subsidy</b>	<b>-\$8.30 Troop Subsidy</b>
<b>-\$30.00 Popcorn</b>	<b>-\$30.00 Popcorn</b>
<b>-\$37.50 Rubber Duck Profits</b>	<b>-\$37.50 Rubber Duck Profits</b>
<b>\$1,580.62</b>	<b>\$1,512.12</b>

\$300.00 12 Passenger Van  
\$60.00 Fuel  
\$360.00

## ORLANDO BUFFET RESTAURANTS

---

### Family Budget Buffets

#### Angel's Lobster & Seafood Buffet

Lobster and Prime Rib Buffet. Also features sushi, shrimp, crab, scallops, and more.  
Located inside Holiday Inn Nikki Bird hotel 2 miles west of Disney.

**Location: 7300 W. Irlo Bronson Highway,  
Kissimmee, FL 34747  
407 397 1960  
\$30**

#### Bill Wong's

Wong's Restaurant Average User Rating: K Ask anybody in Orlando about Bill Wong's and you'll probably get the same reaction. "Wow-that's a lot of food." If you're looking for a huge spread of Chinese food, you've found the right place. There's nothing too fancy here, just a good selection of Chinese buffet standards. Try the vegetable dishes as they are a step above the rest of the buffet. The soups are particularly tasty. Depending on the night, you'll find a selection of seafood items as well. Bill Wong's is by far the cleanest buffet on International Dr. It's a bit pricier, however. Bill Wong's is located near Universal Studios and Belz Factory Outlet World.

**Location: 5660 International Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32819  
407-352-5373  
\$16**

#### Boston Lobster Feast

Surveyors are nearly unanimous: this stadium-sized, "all-you-can-eat" seafood house is "good for the money -- if you're very hungry"; while the buffet will suffice for a big "pig out", those who question the "quality of the food" say it's "cheap" but "you get what you pay for";

**Locations:  
6071 W. Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee 407 396 2606  
South Orange Blossom Trail at Sand Lake Road 407 438 0607  
In Front of Florida Mall  
8731 International Drive, Orlando 4407-248-8606  
\$33**

#### Captain Nemo's Seafood(Lobster) Feast

Family owned and operated Since 1987. Dive into All You Can Eat feast loaded with all your favorites. Seafood-Steaks-Chicken & BBQ.

**5469 W(192) Irlo Bronson Meml Hwy 407 396 6911  
\$29**

#### Cici's Pizza

Cici's all-you-can-eat 16 kinds of Pizza, Pasta, Salad and Dessert for **\$4.79**

**Locations:  
7437 International Dr. Orlando, FL 32819  
13605 S Apopka Vineland Rd Ste 101 Orlando, FL 32821  
8586 Palm Parkway. Orlando, FL 32836  
5032 W Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee**

#### Golden Corral

Golden Corral-Golden Corral® family-style restaurants specialize in the biggest and best buffet available anywhere. This Golden Choice Buffet® provides an omelette station during breakfast buffet with all the fixing. The dinner buffet included an all you can eat steak buffet. The Brass Bell Bakery®, features piping hot yeast rolls, muffins, yummy cookies and brownies are baked fresh every fifteen minutes!

[More Info](#)

#### Ponderosa Steakhouse

Ponderosa Steakhouse - family-friendly restaurant specializing in tasty flame-grilled steaks accompanied by a vast buffet of flavorful foods. Their menus also include Grilled Prime Rib, chicken and seafood entrees.

**Locations:  
5771 W. Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee 407 397 2100  
7598 W. Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee 407 396 7721  
8510 International Drive, Orlando 407 354 1477  
8731 International Drive, Orlando 407 352 9343  
8200 World Center Drive, Orlando 407 238 2526  
\$9**

#### Sizzler

Sizzler - Come enjoy the comfortable and casual atmosphere, generous portions, kids menu and great service in a

very timely manner for large groups but best of all at reasonable prices.

**Locations:**

**7602 W. Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee 407 397 0997**

**6308 International Drive, Orlando 407 248 9711**

**9142 International Drive, Orlando 407 351 5369**

**12195 S. Apoka Vineland Road, Orlando 407 238 1551**

**\$9**

## **Sweet Tomatoes**

Sweet Tomatoes-A Few Facts About the Restaurant: Sweet Tomatoes is a chain restaurant located throughout the United States, although they are known as "Souplantation" in California. Each restaurant is set up in a similar buffet style: with a huge, two-sided salad bar located immediately inside the door, a bread bar, a pasta bar, a fruit bar, and a dessert bar.

**Location:**

**6877 S Kirkman Rd, Orlando 407 363 1616**

**\$9**