

# Central Florida Camping

Fourth Edition



Produced and Published by

Tipisa Lodge 326, Order of the Arrow

Central Florida Council, Boy Scouts of America



# TIPISA LODGE 326

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We, the Arrowmen of Tipisa Lodge, are proud to present to you the Fourth Edition of Central Florida Camping. This reference is a great guide to many places in Central Florida where an outdoorsman will feel at home.

The importance of the camping experience in Scouting cannot be overemphasized. It is through outdoor activities that a Scout learns those things we feel are so important, especially leadership.

When a Scout is camping, away from the conveniences and problems of everyday life, he is able to look for the higher purposes in life. Through the Order of the Arrow's support of Scouting's outings, we strive to make strong the one element that has made it so successful.

The Arrowmen of Tipisa Lodge have devoted many hours of cheerful service for the creation of this camping reference. We believe this book will be useful not only for the young Scout on his first trek into the wilderness, but also for the experienced Scout seeking greater challenge and adventure.

Yours in Service to Scouting,

Michael Summerlot  
Tipisa Lodge Chief

Mark Janofsky  
Tipisa Lodge Adviser

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## INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Outdoor adventure abounds in Central Florida. Hundreds of campsites and miles of scenic canoeing and hiking trails make Central Florida an oasis for the outdoorsman. This book was compiled to help Scout units and Scouting families plan their outdoor recreation activities in this area.

Tipisa Lodge 326 of the Order of the Arrow, is dedicated to promoting Scout camping in the Central Florida Council. **Central Florida Camping** is one method by which that goal is reached. In order to be a truly effective tool, this camping guide should be made available to troop and patrol leaders at Patrol Leaders' Council meetings when monthly and annual programs are planned.

Although this book should be very helpful in planning outdoor activities, it is only intended to be a guide, and caution must be used! Some information, especially fees, change rapidly. Before reserving your campsite, verify the information in this book with the management of the camping area.

We have tried to cover a lot of ground in this book by compiling the best of the information we gathered from hundreds of sources, and condensing them into one volume. In the process, your favorite campsite may have been left out of the book, or erroneous information may have been included. If that is the case, please drop us a note and set us straight. With your help, further updates of Central Florida Camping will be even more accurate and complete. We would also appreciate your criticism and comments, good or bad, to help us improve further publications. Address all correspondence to :

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As with any large project, Central Florida Camping was a combined effort involving many people donating hundreds of hours. Several Arrowmen contributed, some in small ways, others in very big ways. Without all of these dedicated individuals, this "Where to Go Camping" guide would have never become a reality. We could not possibly catalog the contributions of each person, but we certainly want to acknowledge their help. Thanks to each one for a job well done!

Ryan Korzep  
Henry Knowles  
Mark Janofsky

Stephen Winters  
Julie Winters  
Don Lajoie

## Boy Scouts of America Florida Councils

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Miami Lakes, FL 33016  
(305)364-0020  
(305)821-8222 Fax  
<http://www.sfcbsa.org>

Gulf Coast Council  
9440 University Parkway  
Pensacola, FL 32514-5434  
(850)476-6336  
(850)476-6337 Fax

Southwest Florida Council  
1801 Boy Scout Drive  
Fort Myers, FL 33907-2114  
(941)936-8072  
(941)936-7864 Fax

Gulf Ridge Council  
4410 Boy Scout Boulevard  
Tampa, FL 33607-5704  
(813)872-2691  
(813)875-5890  
<http://www.boyscouting.com>

Suwannee River Area Council  
2729 West Pensacola Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32304-2907  
(850)576-4146  
(850)575-6991 Fax  
<http://www.freenet.tlh.fl.us/~sracbsa>

Gulf Stream Council  
8335 N. Military Trail  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410-6329  
(561)694-8585  
(561)694-9050 Fax  
<http://www.gulfstreamcouncil.org>

West Central Florida Council  
11046 Johnson Boulevard  
Seminole, FL 33772  
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(727)391-6756 Fax  
<http://www.wfcbsa.org>

North Florida Council  
521 South Edgewood Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL 32205-5359  
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(904)387-4148 Fax  
<http://www.nfcbsa.org>

## **Florida Military Bases**

A large number of Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, and Coast Guard installations are located throughout Florida. The military services are interested in Scout tour groups visiting their installations. Tours can usually be provided with advance reservations, sometimes including ships, aircraft, missiles, radar, combat vehicles, and weapons. Visitors are sometimes allowed to attend demonstrations and exercises. Some installations make available facilities such as swimming pools, theaters, bowling alleys, and gyms. Many installations also provide overnight accommodations in barracks or camps.

Since overnight facilities cannot be offered in direct competition with commercial campsites, the group is expected to take an orientation tour of the base. Meals can usually be provided at very reasonable costs. Arrangements must be made ahead of time. All groups should keep in mind that military installations may be in practice or on alert at the time the group is scheduled to arrive, so last-minute cancellation or modification is a possibility, and backup plans should be considered ahead of time. For information or reservations, write to the Scouting Liaison Officer at the installation.

Eglin Air Force Base, FL 32542

Homestead Air Force Base, FL 33039

MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33608

Naval Air Station, Cecil Field, FL 32215

Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, FL 32212

Naval Air Station, Pensacola, FL 32508

Naval Coastal Systems Center, Panama City, FL 32407

Naval Station, Mayport, FL 32228

Patrick Air Force Base, FL 32925

Tyndall Air Force Base, FL 32403