

The Official FloridaSprintCarFans.com 2012 Guide to SpeedWeeks



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What's In This Thing Anyway?

Page 1 – That was the picture of Ryan Partin's car doing a show car appearance.

Page 2 – You're looking at it.

Page 3 – A high level overview of what you're getting into.

Page 4 – Master schedule of the sprint car races going down during SpeedWeeks.

Page 5 – All of the tracks and their contact information.

Page 6 – Week #1 and our recommendations.

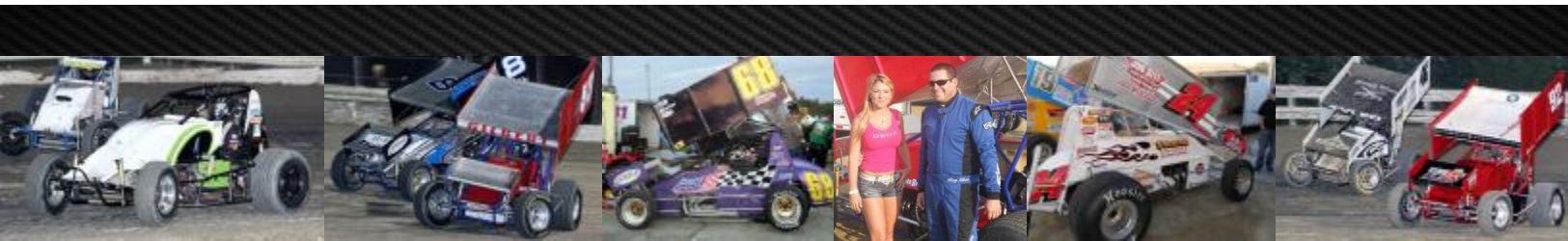
Page 7 – Week #2 and our recommendations.

Page 8 – Week #3 and our recommendations.

Page 9 – Traveler's Guide to the Ocala area.

Page 10 – Traveler's Guide to the Daytona Beach area.

Page 11 – Traveler's Guide to the Tampa Bay area.



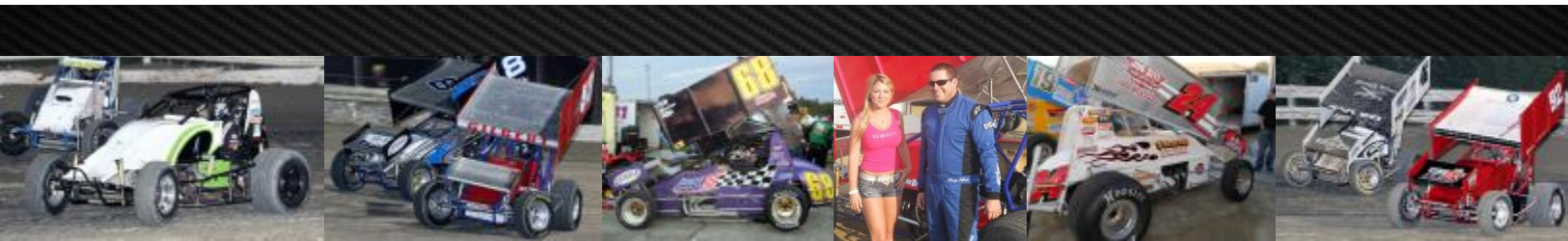
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2012 Guide to SpeedWeeks



2012 SpeedWeeks Quick Notes

- This may be Florida, but it does get cold in the winter. Bring jackets, hats, gloves, etc. 40 degrees outside is still 40 degrees, no matter where you are sitting.
- Expect to pay premium pricing, after all you are seeing premium racing. Bring cash.
- On the dirt side of things, this is generally your one big chance to see drivers from all over the country in one spot on multiple nights as they test and tune for the upcoming season.
- USAC returns to Bubba Raceway Park. This was our race of the year last year – do not miss out on this.
- The mini and micro sprints are going to be racing a ton. It behooves you to catch them, wing and non-wing, at one of several locations.
- Take advantage of trying to meet your favorite drivers in the pits. They are generally relaxed since most of them look at this as a “working vacation.” Be wise and wait until the night’s action is over however.
- If you are a fan of pavement sprint car racing, and big speeds, the TBARA returns to their traditional SpeedWeeks slot at New Smyrna Speedway. This is always a highlight for our out-of-state friends.
- This guide contains the whole schedule, track information, our recommendations, some helpful tips to get you through the next few weeks and also some pretty pictures.
- The picture on the cover is of our Factory Driver Flyin’ Ryan Partin. Now you know why we sponsor him.



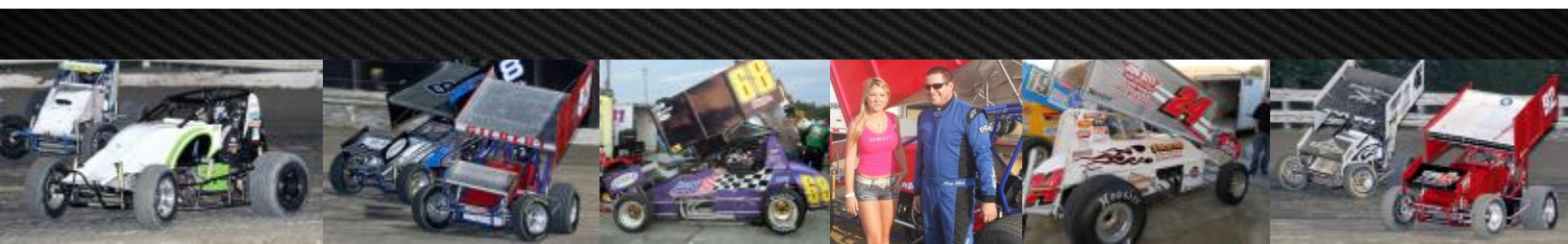
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2012 Guide to SpeedWeeks



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01.28.12	FMSA	North Florida Speedway	
02.04.12	FMARA	Punta Gorda Speedway	
02.08.12 - Practice	USAC Sprint Cars, FMSA	Bubba Raceway Park	
02.09.12	USAC Sprint Cars, FMSA	Bubba Raceway Park	
02.10.12	USAC Sprint Cars, FMSA	Bubba Raceway Park	
02.11.12	USAC Sprint Cars, FMSA	Bubba Raceway Park	
02.14.12 - Practice	All Stars - 410 Sprint Cars	Volusia Speedway Park	
02.15.12	All Stars - 410 Sprint Cars	Volusia Speedway Park	
02.16.12	All Stars - 410 Sprint Cars	Volusia Speedway Park	
02.16.12	WoO Late Models, FMSA	Bubba Raceway Park	
02.17.12	WoO - 410 Sprint Cars	Volusia Speedway Park	
02.17.12	WoO Late Models, FMSA	Bubba Raceway Park	
02.17.12 - Day & Night Races	SSLS	Marion County Speedway	
02.18.12	WoO - 410 Sprint Cars	Volusia Speedway Park	
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02.25.12	360 Sprints - TGSS/FSCA	Hendry County Motorsports Park	

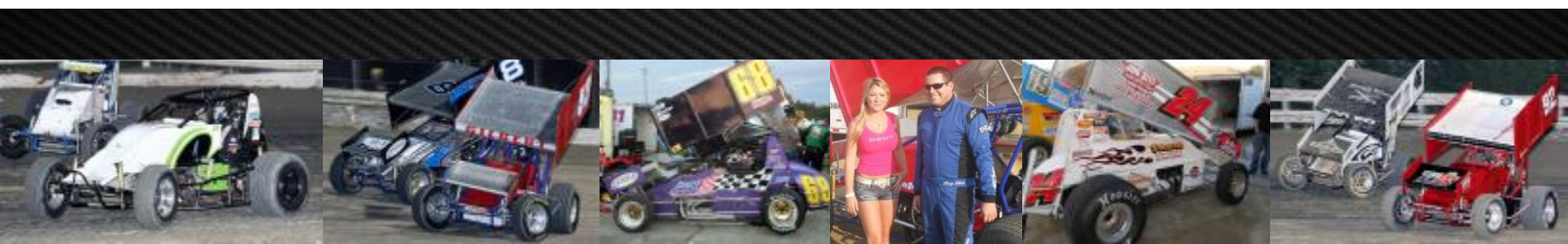
Legend	Explanation
All Stars	410 Winged Dirt Sprints
FMARA	TQs
FMSA	Winged Mini Sprints
SSLS	Non Wing and Wing Micros
TBARA	Winged Pavement 360 Sprints
USAC Sprint Cars	USAC Wingless Dirt Sprints
WoO Sprints	410 Winged Dirt Sprints
360 Sprints - ASCS	360 Winged Dirt Sprints - ASCS rules
360 Sprints - TGSS/FSCA	360 Winged Dirt Sprints - TGSS/FSCA rules



2012 SpeedWeeks Tracks



Track	Notes
Bubba Raceway Park	The only USAC stop in the state, you don't want to miss it.
9050 Northwest Gainesville Road	The All Star 410s always put on a real good show here.
Ocala, FL	Best chili cheese dog in the state - buy it.
352-622-9400	Pretty easy track to get to, no matter where you are coming from.
Track	Notes
Desoto Speedway	TBARA always puts on a good show.
21000 E State Road 64 # A	There is a Publix on the other side of the Interstate - get a sub.
Bradenton, FL 34212-8600	Ask them how much they want for the place - they might sell!
941-748-3171	You shouldn't have a problem finding a seat...
Track	Notes
East Bay Raceway Park	The last night is the King of the 360s. \$10,000 to win.
6311 Burts Road	The mini sprints on the undercard are super entertaining.
Tampa, FL	Easy to get to, yet off the beaten path...you'll see.
813-677-7223	Buy some sweets from the nice lady over in the midway area.
Track	Notes
Hendry County Motorsports Park	Southernmost racetrack - enough said.
1001 N US Highway 27	Racetrack food award winner - get the BBQ.
Clewiston, FL	Florida sprint car motor rules and open tire rule.
863-983-3478	Get comfortable, you'll be driving a while. Try our podcast!
Track	Notes
Marion County Speedway	Track is literally down the street from Bubba Raceway Park.
7197 N.W. Gainesville Road	Home of the SSLS, that's wingless mini and micro sprints.
Ocala, FL	Running day and night shows during SpeedWeeks this year.
352.812.3122	Running wing and non-wing shows during SpeedWeeks this year.
Track	Notes
New Smyrna Speedway	Park yourself by turns three and four to watch the TBARA.
3939 State Road 44 West	They have Yuengling and PBR! That's all you need to know.
New Smyrna Beach, FL	The TBARA are stupid fast here if you are a speed junky.
386-427-4129	Given the proximity to the big track down the road...drivers galore!
Track	Notes
North Florida Speedway	Nice track, albeit somewhat dark for the drivers.
287 SE Race Track Ln	The mini sprints always put on a good show here.
Lake City, FL	Kind of in the middle of nowhere, plan accordingly before you go.
386.754.8800	Our Editor at Speed has been known to run well here.
Track	Notes
Volusia Speedway Park	Check the midway - best one in the state all year.
1500 State Road 40	Look for the dude selling cheesesteaks from Pennsylvania.
De Leon Springs, FL	Get there early, it gets crowded quick.
386-985-4402	Bring something to protect your eyes if you are sitting in the turns.





2012 SpeedWeeks – Week #1

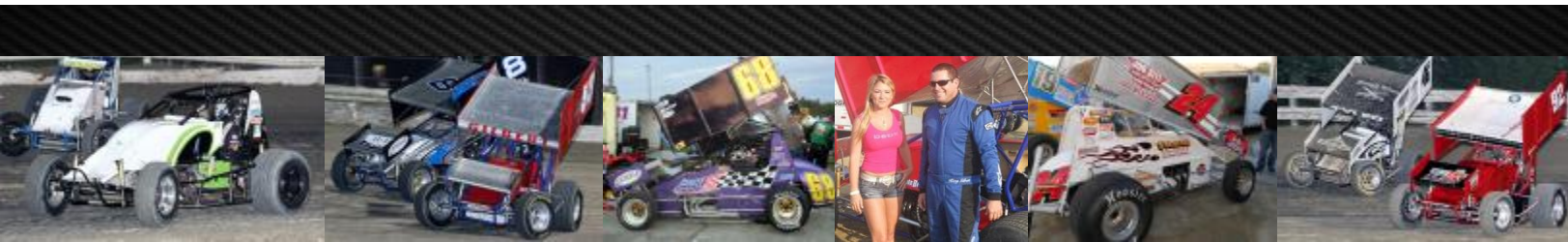
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Todd's Take

- The first two are too far away from me, but if you're down south, this is your only chance to catch the TQs during SpeedWeeks, so why not? Punta Gorda Speedway is one of the few pavement tracks in the state that plays to packed houses.
- Opening night for the USAC activities last year produced one of the greatest sprint car races I've ever seen wherein "The Demon" Damion Gardner made a bold, bold last lap, last corner pass for the win.
- Our staff will be at Bubba Raceway Park in full force for the final USAC night.
- I look forward to the USAC races more so than any other races all year. Giddy up.
- Will our Editor at Speed "The Hotfoot" Brian Penrose be in competition with the FMSA? Time will tell...
- Speaking of the FMSA, look for an influx of out-of-state mini sprint invaders tuning up for the big money show down at East Bay.

Brian's Briefing

- On the dirt side I'm anxiously awaiting the three days of USAC non wing races at Bubba Raceway Park.
- Last year these were some of the best races of the year. So, if you can only make one race for SpeedWeeks these would be my choice!
- Bubba made improvements to the track last season and the racing should be even better.
- Depending on the car count the All-Star show at Bubba could be entertaining as well.





2012 SpeedWeeks – Week #2

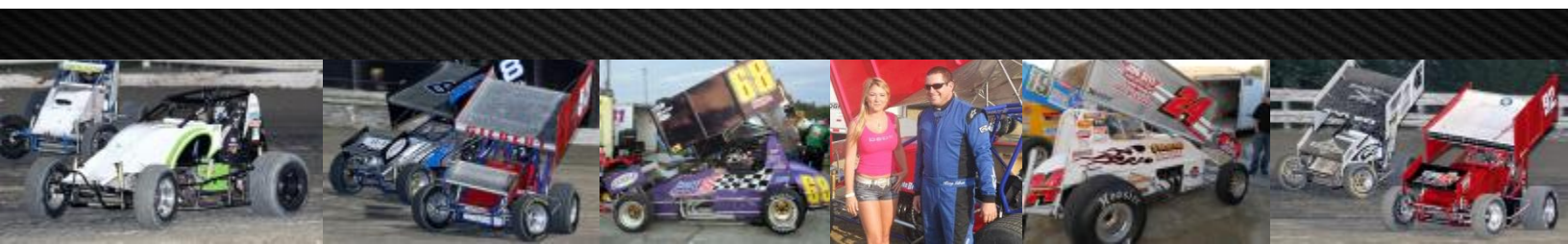
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Todd's Take

- The World of Outlaws at Volusia Speedway Park is a given, it's just a matter of how many nights I make it over.
- VSP is bad fast, just about every heavy hitter in a winged sprint shows up, the food is as good as it gets with all of the out-of-town vendors and there are plenty of driver t-shirts to be had. What more could you want out of life?
- If you go to VSP, trust me, get there early. There is also an intersection just down the street from the track that has been very dangerous in the past. There is a light there now, but regardless, be careful leaving the track after the races.
- I'm hoping that Joey Saldana gets off to a rocket start and keeps his momentum up from late last year.
- I think dirt late models are the ugliest race cars I've ever seen, so sorry FMSA, you won't see me at BRP.
- But hey, if you're in the Ocala area, why don't you stroll on down to Marion County Speedway. After all it is literally down the street from Bubba Raceway Park.

Brian's Briefing

- Next we slide over to Volusia Speedway Park for five nights of sprint car racing with the best dirt racers.
- All I can say is I hope my boss understands if my work suffers for a week. I mean what more can you ask for with some kind of meat on a stick in the midway and the World of Outlaws?
- I'll be interested to see if Donny Schatz picks up from his strong runs at Charlotte to end the season.
- And can now two time defending series champ Jason Meyers get off to a good start?
- I think we just might see a new 1/2 mile track record set in qualifying this year. The track has set for some six months and may be ready for some super fast times.
- My wallet is already feeling the pain. But its a good pain!



2012 SpeedWeeks – Week #3



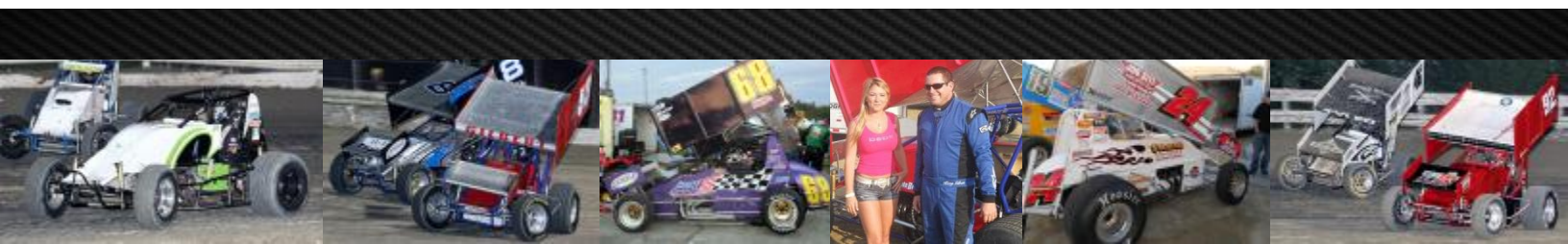
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Todd's Take

- I've seen some snoozers and some great ones with the 410s at Ocala (now BRP), but it should be interesting because the track is somewhat different from last year.
- Actually my favorite 410 memory at Ocala was hanging out with one of my favorite PA Posse drivers, Bad Chad Layton.
- With East Bay Raceway Park going head to head with Bubba Raceway Park, I might do one of each, but I'll be keeping an eye on who is running 360s. If names like Terry McCarl, Lance DeWease and Chad Layton go to East Bay, then I just might too and skip the 410s.
- The King of the 360s used to be a given for me, but the competition has fallen off lately and the tickets are steep.
- The TBARA returns to New Smyrna Speedway and if you're a speed junky, this is a must see event. No pun intended.
- I get lots of e-mails from out-of-state fans asking about the TBARA at New Smyrna and for good reason. Park yourself down by the turns and get an eyeful of the drivers at work.

Brian's Briefing

- The dirt will conclude with the King of the 360's Winter Nationals at East Bay. Here it will be interesting to see if Florida can rebound from its poor performance in the A Main in 2011.
- Will we see Jason Sides or Terry McCarl here or over at Bubba for the All-Star show?
- Will Danny Martin, Jr. or Sport Allen make the A Main?
- Not to mention can the Florida boys continue their success in the mini sprint division against the northern invaders?
- Look out for Jesse Teed as he will be sporting a new chassis and engine combination.



SpeedWeeks Travel Guide – Ocala



What else is there to do?

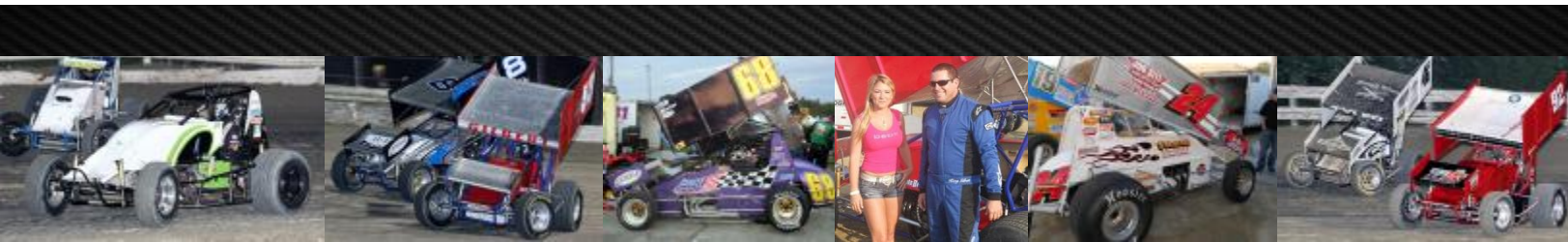
- If you don't mind a little bit of a drive, college town Gainesville (University of Florida) is a relatively short spell up the Interstate if you like to stare at college football stadiums and such. Lots of good food and drink in Gainesville as well.
- If you want to race some real go karts in Ocala, call Ocala Gran Prix at 352.291.0600.
- If you like nature, make a visit to Crystal River State Park.
- If you simply cannot do things that are not sprint car related, check Marion County Speedway for the day time SSLS shows.
- And if you are a wrestling fan, Ocala is the home of living legend Dory Funk Jr. Dory's "The Funking Conservatory" and !BANG! TV are located in Ocala, Florida at 3598 SW 74th Avenue Suite A. Call ahead at 352-895-4658.

Where should I eat and drink?

- If you like Mexican food, El Toreo, El Azteca and Taco N Madre can get the job done for you.
- Also of note is the February 8 USAC pre-race party at Ker's WingHouse Bar & Grill, located at 2145 E. Silver Springs Blvd. USAC Members will receive a 20% discount on all food and beverage purchases!
- Our staff can vouch for Ker's if you've not been to one and to be frank, we prefer it over Hooters. Get the Buffalo Chicken Sandwich that's the size of your head.
- If hot dogs are your speed, there is Dee Dee's Dog House at 531 NE 1st Ave.
- If you must eat a chain restaurant, there is a Zaxby's and Five Guys Hamburgers that get the job done.

Ryan's Recommendations

- As being a loyal patron of both Speed Weeks and Gentleman's clubs, I thought this was finally something I could write about for the website with some intellect. I have to earn my keep as the Factory Driver after all...
- For Ocala I hate to say that your options for adult entertainment are...well ...nothing.
- Now there is the legendary "We Bare All" place that you will see signs for along I75. Now if you haven't been and do enjoy dirty(dirty is the condition of this establishment, not just the content...) adult bookstores, then you my friend have found your place.
- Don't tell them Ryan Partin sent you though, I have a reputation to uphold.



SpeedWeeks Travel Guide – Daytona Beach



What else is there to do?

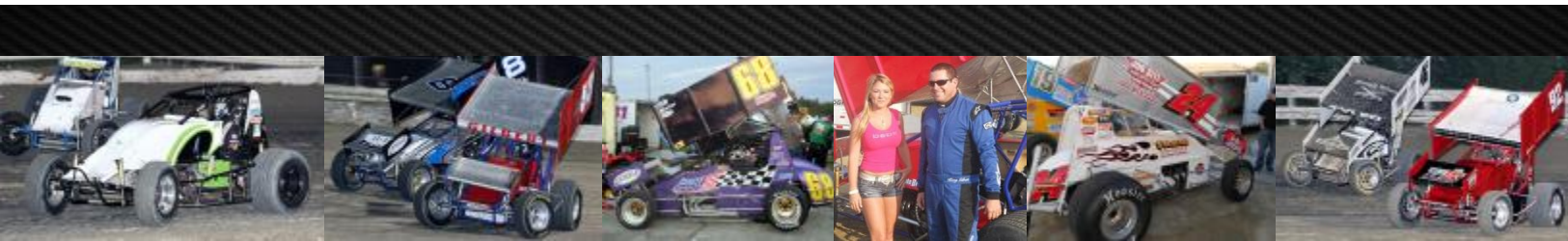
- If you're out at VSP in Barberville, there is really nothing out there, so head due east to the beaches.
- If you're into that sort of thing, head over to Daytona International Speedway and take a gander at Daytona USA.
- There are also go kart establishments in Daytona Beach that are pretty decent.
- If you've got time to kill, you can also head north to St. Augustine and learn some history of Florida while you are there.
- Also, if you've got an eagle eye, you might spot some sprint car teams working on their equipment out in the parking lots of hotels in the greater Daytona/Deland area.
- Deland also has a nice downtown area to wander around. There are some very good restaurants and watering holes.

Where should I eat and drink?

- You're by the ocean, so eat seafood. We highly recommend Hull's Seafood at 111 W Granada Blvd. in Ormond Beach.
- Aunt Catfish's On The River in Port Orange (by the big bridge) and Boondock's at 3948 S Peninsula Dr. in Port Orange are also real good seafood joints.
- If you're over by the Speedway, head up Clyde Morris for some frozen custard at Ritter's. Trust us.
- Every chain restaurant you could ever ask for is in Daytona, but why bother, eat like a local, you can eat at chain restaurants at home.

Ryan's Recommendations

- As for the Daytona area, I have only one place that stands at the top of the topless list and that place is Lollypops.
- For the visitors who have gone in the past, don't be surprised to see the girls now wearing a little more than they use to. The ever-caring City of Daytona Beach have tried to be helpful to connoisseurs like myself and now the gentleman's clubs have a dress code.
- That hasn't ruined the fun that Lollypops offers though. It's pricing has stayed in the middle of the other clubs, but it is the best bang for the buck!
- If you're on that racing budget deal, then I would say hit up the Shark Lounge. The girls are a little less friendly, but the drinks are cheaper.
- If you want to be a big baller and get a steak while you are watching some ladies dancing, then it's Molly Browns hands down.
- I will say that if you're the adventurous type and have seen it all...check out Club Tropic.
- A few years ago I saw a dancer with two prosthetic arms and a short leg at Club Tropic. I hear she still works there.
- True story my friends.



SpeedWeeks Travel Guide – Tampa



What else is there to do?

- Your first stop should be to Steele Performance Parts and check out all of the equipment and trophies laying around. Not only is it owned and operated by pavement sprint car god Dave Steele, but 2011 TBARA champion Johnny Gilbertson works there. It's also by a gentleman's club (see below.)
- Beaches galore, but a day trip to Clearwater or St. Pete are certainly in order.
- Go karts are always an option as well. If you're down with serious indoor karting, you want Tampa Bay Grand Prix, located at 12350 Automobile Blvd in...Clearwater...
- If you want family fun with go karts and all other kinds of stuff, hit up Grand Prix Tampa at 14320 North Nebraska Ave. in Tampa.
- There is also Clearwater Aquarium located at 249 Windward Passage in Clearwater if you need some family entertainment.

Where should I eat and drink?

- If money is no object and you want the best steak money can buy, you want Bern's Steakhouse at 1208 S Howard Ave. in Tampa.
- If you're hankering for seafood, Mitchell's Seafood Market at 204 WestShore Plz in Tampa is worth your time.
- Doughnuts – go to Nicola's . The most important piece of information you need about Nicola's is to ignore the hours posted on the door. Open until noon? Unlikely. The fine folk at Nicola's close the doors when they run out of donuts, which they do just about every day of the week, often by 10 a.m. or earlier.
- Want wings and beer? Of course you do, so while it's technically a chain, you can hit up Quaker Steak and Lube at 10400 49th St. N in Clearwater.

Ryan's Recommendations

- Now for Tampa, and the only real reason I race there is its endless selection of full liquor and full nude adult establishments, the clubs here range from sleazy to mackdezie.
- I'll start with my favorite - Gold Rush.
- It doesn't stand out for any one reason that I can say on here, but I've never had a bad time there.
- I also would highly recommend 2001 Odyssey.
- Now if you're needing sprint car parts, but want to catch some dancing as well, then you're in luck! The Pink Pony is on the corner of the same block as Steele Performance Parts. Wow, that Dave Steele is a smart guy.
- Now I'm not a cruise director or a travel agent, so these are based on my personal experiences and some places got high marks as I have, or am currently dating, the staff dancing on the tables from above mentioned establishments.
- Have fun and be safe...oh and don't forget to mention Brian Penrose's name at the door for a free drink!!!

