

United States, Florida

July – August 2013

Below you will find the report of my three-week holiday spent in the Orlando region, Florida, USA. This holiday was not focused on aviation, as it was meant to celebrate my parents' 25th anniversary.

On 16 July we started the day in Antwerp and went by Thalys train to Amsterdam-Schiphol. Then it was on to flight Delta 235 (N809NW, A330-300) to Detroit. The detour via Antwerp was done in order to save significant costs on the airline tickets.

16 July 2013 Detroit-Metropolitan KDTW

N136DL	Boeing 767-300	Delta
N181PQ	CRJ 900	Delta Connection
N323NB, N328NB, N362NB	Airbus A319-100	Delta
N525US, N543US	Boeing 757-200	Delta
N587NW	Boeing 757-300	Delta
N604QX	CRJ 701ER	Delta Connection
N674US	Boeing 747-400	Delta
N692DL	Boeing 757-200	Delta
N770NC	DC-9-51	Delta
N809NW	Airbus A330-300	Delta
N836MH, N843MH	Boeing 767-400ER	Delta
N861DA, N867DA	Boeing 777-200ER	Delta
N909DL, N991DL	MD-88	Delta
N924DN	MD-90-30	Delta
N933XJ	CRJ 900LR	Delta Connection

Before our connecting flight to Orlando, Delta 1805 (N525US, B757-200), the planes above were read off. As you can see, Detroit is dominated by Delta. There were also a few other airlines (and lots more Delta planes) seen, but those weren't noted.

16 July 2013 Orlando KMCO

N525US	Boeing 757-200	Delta
N590NW	Boeing 757-300	Delta
N905DE, N945DL	MD-88	Delta

After landing I read a few more Delta planes in Orlando. Then we grabbed our bags (all the bags made it to Orlando!), got our rental car, a Ford Explorer, and drove to our resort in Kissimmee.

17 July 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N10F	Falcon 10	King Schools
N112PS	DC-9-15F	SkyWay/A-Liner
N135AN	EC-135P2	Air Methods
N2852N	Pilatus PC-12/47E	Paradigm Helicopters
N3280X	Cessna 310L	Coastal Defense
N366MQ, N367MQ	Shorts 360-100	SkyWay
N377MQ, N379MQ	Shorts 360-200	SkyWay
N382MQ	Shorts 360-200	SkyWay
N4287A	Cessna 340A	private
N444BG	Cessna 421C	Acme Aviation
N451WA/"112049/WA-049"	SNJ-6	Warbird Adventures
N452WA/"112034/WA-034"	SNJ-6	Warbird Adventures
N504DM/"73"	CM170R Magister	Tom Reilly Vintage Aircraft
N5244B/"136534"	US-2B Tracker	Tom Reilly Vintage Aircraft
N525LD	Cessna 525A	Lewco Air
N610GG	Cessna 501	

N707LC	TS-11 Iskra	IFPA
N720ML	Falcon 900EX	Northwestern Mutual
N744BW	Cessna 414A	Dobson's Leasing
N771ES	Cessna 510	Fastpace Aviation
N776JH, N776JR	Beech 76	Pan Am International Flight Academy
N967TC	Cessna 525A	Avn Air
PP-WRV	Beech 400A	WRV Empreendimentos e Participacoes

In the evening I explored our local airport, just a few minutes away from our resort. We made a tour around the entire airport and overall it was very quiet. The highlights of today were the Brazilian Beechjet, the first two planes in the log which are respectively almost and more than 40 years old and the Shorts, some of which are still airworthy. A great airfield guide can be found in Scramble 395, page 118-119 (and in the future also on their website, hopefully), so here are just a few side notes:

*in general, small stairs (1-2 steps) are enough to photograph over the fence.

*The Fixed-Based Operator (FBO) Atlantic seems to be replaced by Ranger Jet Center (spot 5 and 6).

*The FBO near spot 2 is Kissimmee Jet Center.

*Some of the warbirds, as well as the rescue helicopter can be photographed from spot 7. From mid-afternoon till the evening is the best time here considering the position of the sun.

*At spot 6 the sun is best from 1PM-2PM (the high sun is turning very quickly at midday in the summer) and from 5PM-sunset, depending on where the planes are parked.

18 July 2013 Kissimmee-America's Chopper Pilots Heliport 1FL1

N7133E	Robinson R44	Leading Edge Helicopters
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18 July 2013 Kissimmee-Magic Air Adventure Heliport 36FA

N197JP	Robinson R44	Sunshine Helicopters
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18 July 2013 Kissimmee-Gold Eagle Helicopters Heliport FD54

N206HS	Bell 206A	Orlando Helitours <i>gateguard, mock-up?</i>
N407RV	Bell 206B	Orlando Helitours

Along the road I-192 (Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway) there are three helicopter companies based which offer short sightseeing flights for about 20 dollars per person. The companies are located a few minutes away from each other, at numbers 4623, 5069 and 5519 respectively. The position of the sun is best in the (late) afternoon for the first, midday for the second and in the morning for the third heliport (not too early, because they start operations at 9AM).

19 July 2013 Kennedy Space Center

N418NA	UH-1H	NASA
N969NA	T-38N Talon	NASA

The Talon is preserved at the visitor center of the Kennedy Space Center. The sun's position is best in the late afternoon/evening (the visitors center is open till 7 PM). The Huey was flying overhead. Besides these two, we also saw an UH-60 and an Atlas V rocket flying today.

20 July 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N197JP	Robinson R44	Sunshine Helicopters
N717AJ	Learjet 35A	Jones Aviation
N800FL	BAe 125-800A	Bir Aviation
N924JB	Beech 200	
N980AM	Cessna 340	Scazz

A short visit to the local airport on Saturday afternoon resulted in a few new aircraft.

22 July 2013 Orlando-Air Orlando Heliport 2FD7

N4175P	Robinson R44	Air Florida Helicopters
N788AF	Robinson R44	Air Florida Helicopters

Today I paid a short visit to this heliport along the International Drive in Orlando. Air Florida Helicopters is also offering sightseeing flights for only 20 dollars. I saw a third Robinson in the hangar, but because I did not bring my binoculars, this one remained unidentified.

23 July 2013 Sarasota-Bradenton KSRQ

C-FTJP	Airbus A320-200	Air Canada	<i>div TPA</i>
N17730	Boeing 737-700	United	
N271AC	Cessna 500	D'Ann'Elle Marketing Associates	
N355JB	Embraer 190AR	JetBlue	
N369NW	Airbus A320-200	Delta	
N399MM	MU-300-1A	H2 Enterprises	
N417AW	CRJ 200LR	US Airways Express	
N510DP	Cessna 510	JJR Ventures	
N644MH	Robinson R44	Tampa Helicopter Services	
N710PS	CRJ 701ER	US Airways Express	
N776JS	Learjet 35A	Airspeed Holdings	
N883CR	Socata TBM-700A	Fourth	
N969KT	Epic LT		

Today we visited Florida's west coast: Sarasota and surroundings. While the other family members visited the Ringling museum, I walked about a mile to the airport and found a nice spotting hill on the right side of the terminal, which is located on the south side of the airport. There are some roofed benches here, so you can sit in the shadow. You can photograph over the fence, especially when you're standing on the benches. Light is good from late morning till sunset, depending on how the aircraft are taxiing to/from the gate. You can also photograph the aircraft that are landing and departing runway 32.

At Sarasota Airport there are two runways, 14-32 (the longer one) and 04-22 (the shorter one). Generally speaking, most small GA planes will take the shorter runway and the airliners will take the longer runway, however during my visit a CRJ also landed on the shorter runway.

The above planes were seen in about one hour that I spent at the airport.

23 July 2013 Sarasota-Dove Heliport FA22

N103JA	Hiller UH-12C	Joann Air
N17MQ	Hiller UH-12C	Heck Research
N33616	Hiller UH-12B	private
N5306V	Hiller UH-12B	Beach Boys 530
N57FD	Hiller UH-12C	Blue Heaven Enterprises
N727JR	Hiller UH-12B	United Helicopter
(N9041U)"/"51-16190"	Hiller UH-12B	private
N9734C	Hiller UH-12C	private

In the afternoon we visited this small but interesting heliport. Besides the Bayflight rescue helicopter that visits here now and then (not today), United Helicopter is based here. This company performs maintenance, repair and overhaul on Hiller helicopters. Unfortunately none of the helicopters were outside, but we got a nice little tour inside the hangar. The tour guide (probably the boss) told us that the employees work from early morning till about 3.30 PM, which might explain why there were no helicopters outside when we arrived at 4 PM.

The civil registration of the military colored Hiller was not worn on the outside, but I found it on the internet. Apparently this helicopter crashed earlier this year and is now rebuilt and painted in its original colors.

As is mentioned on their website, the heliport is not always easy to find as some GPS systems (including ours) have a problem locating the address. From Highway 75 take

exit 210, then drive westwards on Fruitville Rd, turn left on Cattlemen Rd, the left again on Palmer Blvd, pass underneath the highway and turn left on Center Road.

24 July 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N324FL	Embraer 505	University of Notre Dame
N88UA	Beech 400	Razorback Foundation

25 July 2013 Titusville-Arthur Dunn Air Park X21

N1546, N21DZ	Beech A200	Skydive Space Center
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This little airport is located just northwest of the town of Titusville. There is a Skydive Center located here, one King Air was flying and one was inside the hangar. N21DZ still wears its former military color scheme. The skydive center is located on the east side of the runway, so the light is good here in the morning and early afternoon, depending on how the plane is taxiing. The pilot might be willing to take you up for a ride as an observer; this would cost you 70 dollars (which isn't very expensive in my opinion if you want to fly in a King Air).

25 July 2013 Titusville-Space Coast Regional KTIK

69-16998	OV-1D Mohawk	US Army
74-1519	F-5E	NASA
N125TA, N206XS, N43165	Bell 206B	Bristow Academy
N5008N, N991BA	Bell 206B	Bristow Academy
N163SH, N7031G, N7109S	Robinson R22	Bristow Academy
N7508W	Robinson R22	Bristow Academy
N449BA, N7188D	Robinson R44	Bristow Academy
N1548P, N1625H, N1658X	Schweizer 269C1	Bristow Academy
N1706P, N17535, N18910	Schweizer 269C1	Bristow Academy
N20449, N2064Q, N2110J	Schweizer 269C1	Bristow Academy
N21133, N21379, N21385	Schweizer 269C1	Bristow Academy

I don't think I've ever seen so many choppers on a single airport! Space Coast Regional Airport is home to the Bristow Academy, which has no less than 58 helicopters based here. A fair amount of them was seen parked on the apron or hovering around. Bristow Academy is located on the east side of the main runway, so photography is best in the morning or early afternoon. The fence is rather high though, so it might be a good idea to ask at the flight school if it's possible to take photos on airside. With clouds and thunderstorms approaching, we decided not to do that.

On the northeast side of the airport the Valiant Air Command Museum is located. We didn't visit the museum but noted two aircraft from the outside.

25 July 2013 Merritt Island KCOI

N13882	Piper PA.23-250	Leadlay Aircraft
N13AV	GA8 Airvan	Growl
N212CK	Piper PA.44-180	Voyager Aviation
N307V	AC 680	private
N411AC	Beech 76	Pan Am International Flight Academy
N54RD	Comp Air CA-12	
N695DG	Piper PA.23-250	Sunset Transportation
N7282A	Robinson R44	Bell Helicopters
N940RD	Comp Air CA-9	

In the afternoon, after visiting the famous Ron Jon Surf Shop during a rain shower, we headed for Merritt Island airport. The intention was to get a ride in a Hiller helicopter (40 dollars per person, minimum is 2 pax, www.floridabiplanes.com), however this did not materialize.

The Comp Air factory seems to be based at this airport, which builds composite kit aircraft.

26 July 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N135CJ	EC-135T2	Air Methods
N191LR	Beech 58	Routman Leone Aircraft
N212FL	Bell OH-58A	Osceola County Sheriff
N24213	TS-11 Iskra	private
N288L	Robinson R44	Kissimmee Helicopters
N301BK	Piper PA.46-350P	Cambusmoon
N326KR	TS-11 Iskra	Iskravet
N383MQ	Shorts 360-200	SkyWay
N3858P	Beech 58P	Gojet
N39UA	L-39	Stallion 51
N455WA/"112227/WA-227"	SNJ-6	Warbird Adventures
N51LW/"474497/SX-H"	P-51D Mustang	Stallion 51
N555FD	Cessna 560	Moga Management
N64AB	Bell 206B	Lead Air
N700VX	Socata TBM-700A	Burcham Rentals
N711EC	Learjet 35A	East Coast Jets
N743JG	Cessna 525A	King Air 90B
N850DT	Socata TBM-850	Reed Aviation
N92TC	MU-2B-20	Mark III Insurance Services
NL351DT/"413806/DS/LL"	P-51D Mustang	Stallion 51
NL851D/"484745/DS/LL"	P-51D Mustang	Stallion 51
PT-MIL	Cessna 525	Viacao Barao de Maua

This afternoon I did another tour around the airport. Some hangars were open, including the Stallion 51 hangar, which resulted in some additional numbers.

I also visited the small aviation museum, which is not much more than a hangar, located on spot 7 of the aforementioned airfield guide.

Today there was an other rescue helicopter present (the spare one), because the regular one had mechanical issues. I was invited to photograph the helicopter from inside the fence, really nice!

28 July 2013 DeLand KDED

(O1747)/20	TBF-1 Avenger	US Navy
161426/AD-103	F-14B Tomcat	US Navy
N1217P	Piper Aerostar 601P	private
(N141RR)/C-GGGL	Beech 90	APA Enterprises
N17PS	Piper PA.31P	private
(N233Y)	T-33A	
N290A	Piper Aerostar 601P	Professional Air
N2YP	Piper PA.30	M&M Aviation
N30156	IAI 1123 Westwind	
N3499P	Piper PA.23-160	private
N37DB	Beech 60	MEL
N414BR	Cessna 414	Fly Day
N47KK	Cessna T303	private
N572TN	AC 680FL	private
N61FH	Piper PA.34-200	private
N731PF	Cessna 421	High Performance Aircraft Maintenance
N803DS	Bell 407	Volusia County Sheriff
N805SN	AC 1121B	RAA Enterprises
N820AB	PAC 750XL	Skydive DeLand
NX28100/'BP"	T-28A Trojan	MEL

On this Sunday morning we drove to DeLand Municipal airport, located north of Orlando. The airport has two runways, 05-23 and 12-30 and most activities take place in the southeast corner, which means the morning is best for photography.

DeLand used to be a Naval Air Station during the Second World War, which explains the presence of the US Navy aircraft (the Avenger is under restoration) as well as the 'DeLand Naval Air Station Museum'.

Quite a few aircraft seem to be stored at this airport as it looks like they haven't flown for a while. The reg's between brackets were not actually read off, but found on the WWW.

The skydive center is a spotting friendly place. Besides the PAC 750 they also have a Skyvan and a Twin Otter, but those did not fly this day. A real shame, because the skydive center offers observation flights for only 33 dollars in their twins...

29 July 2013 Orlando-Executive KORL

C-FPEP	IAI 1124A Westwind	Chartright Air	
N100TW	Beech B100	UP Development of Tennessee	
N1032H	Piper PA.46-500TP	JJ Aviation	
N10TV	Bell 206L-3		
N112CF	CL-604	Suntrust Leasing	
N137CJ	Cessna 560	Star Sky Aviation	
N1TU	Cessna 337D		
N202EX	Falcon 2000EX	Watsco Holdings	
N206HM	Bell OH-58C	Orange County Sheriff	
N21160	Piper PA.34-200T	Storage Management & Leasing	
N212LP	Cessna 560 Ultra	Accessories	
N240RC	Cessna 310R		
N262BK	Cessna 525	Omicron Business Services	
N268SA	Beech 95-B55	Inarayan	
N274FS	SA226TC Metro	Caribe Rico	
N305WM	CL-300	WM Aviation	
N311FL	Embraer 505	Flight Options	
N31T	Beech 58	Flight Express	
N320PC	Cessna 402B	Air Classic Cargo	
N351EF	Learjet 35A	Creatigy Holdings	
N3887G	Cessna 340A	private	
(N42)1VL	Cessna 421B	Carrier enterprises	<i>fuselage only</i>
N425BS	Cessna 425	Golf & Juliet Travel	
N4749G	Cessna 414	Chris Fontaine	
N495	Cessna 414A	One Seven Juliet	
N526CP	Cessna 525	HawgWild Air	
N5CN	Cessna 414A	Cloud Nine Management	
N6161Z	Cessna 414A	Enterprise Aviation Partners	
N619PR	Piper PA.31-350	Lorenzo's of America	
N6UL	Bell 206L-4	Air Sansone / WKMG Local 6	
N7027U	Robinson R44	Metro Networks	
N70TS	Cessna 500	Starbird	
N72204	Cessna 337G	Karamel	
N770XJ	Cessna 750	Nephron Pharmaceuticals	
N813CS	Bell OH-58C	Orange County Sheriff	
N823QS	Cessna 560 Encore+	Netjets	
N87461	Cessna 310R	private	
N885PE	Cessna 208B	Sunshine Aircraft	
N889DT	Raytheon 390	Mountain Solitude	

The next day, part of the family went shopping at the Florida Mall, while my dad and I spent some hours at Orlando Executive. There's a good airfield guide of this airport on the Scramble website and in the aforementioned edition of the magazine.

We drove around the entire field and noted a lot of bizprops and bizjets, as well as some news helicopters. We were not bothered at all by security or anybody else, but we also didn't take any pictures because of the heathaze, high sun and very limited good photo opportunities.

29 July 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N450XX	Gulfstream IV-X	Stephenson Air Services
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30 July 2013 St Petersburg-Clearwater KPIE

7176/"1023"	HU-16E Albatross	US Coast Guard	<i>preserved</i>
1502, 1503, 1706, 1716	HC-130H Hercules	US Coast Guard	
1717, 1718	HC-130H Hercules	US Coast Guard	
6008, 6014, 6016	MH-60T	US Coast Guard	
6018, 6019, 6021	MH-60T	US Coast Guard	
N149UP	Airbus A300F4-600R	UPS	
N15KA	Beech 200	Into Air	
N265CP	Sabreliner 65		
N400GR	Beech 400A	TCB Aviation	
N463UP	Boeing 757-200PF	UPS	

At 9AM this morning we had a pre-arranged basevisit at the US Coast Guard Air Station at Clearwater. At this Air Station there are 6 Herculeesses (5 operational, 1 spare) and 9 MH-60s stationed.

The three of us had to join another group, so this base visit was not just focused on spotting/photography. First we got a brief presentation and watched a little movie about the USCG and then it was off to the hangars and aprons. Fortunately for us the sun was in our back, which resulted in a few nice photos, albeit with some patience. At the Air Station there were also a few civil airplanes noted. On the civil side of the airport, I noted two UPS aircraft and also saw a few Allegiant Air Maddogs, which remained unidentified.

30 July 2013 St Petersburg-Albert Whitted KSPG

N41584	Robinson R44	Safari Choppers
N6822U	Cessna 414A	Longview Aircraft Rental

In the afternoon we paid a very brief visit to this little airport, located adjacent to the Tampa Bay. There wasn't too much going on, probably because it was too hot (100 degrees Fahrenheit).

30 July 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N133PD	Bell OH-58C	Puerto Rico Police
N63086, N63097	Bell OH-58A	Osceola County Sheriff

In the evening one of the Sheriff's helicopters was outside as it was being refueled. The friendly crew allowed us to photograph it and they even moved the helicopter in order to get the sun in our back! Inside the hangar I noted two more new helicopters.

1 August 2013 Orlando

N144BW	Robinson R44	International Heli-Tours
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On the first day of the month we started the day with the fifth heliport that offers cheap helicopter rides above Orlando. This heliport is located at 12651 International Drive. Light is best early in the morning and late in the afternoon. However, don't be there too early, because operations start at 9AM. By the way, International Heli-Tours is the same company as Orlando Helitours.

1 August 2013 Orlando-Loews Royal Pacific Resort

(N693S)	HU-16C Albatross	Royal Pacific Airways
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After the heliport we went on the hunt for this Albatross. To get there, drive to Hollywood Way and then take a right at Pacifica Ballroom. The Albatross is lying in the lake on your left. If you walk around the lake, you'll find a pier from where the resort boats depart. If you go a little bit further, you'll see a small beach from where you can photograph the plane. Light is good from 10AM till early afternoon.

1 August 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N119FM	Gulfstream IV-SP	KM Ventures I
N126MT	Cessna 650	Wells Capital

N857DN Cessna 650 Debordieu Dallas

2 August 2013 Daytona Beach KDAB

(84-0069)	C-21A	USAF/ERAU
N101WR	Beech 400A	Ventana Enterprises
N1074U, N737PE, N767PE	Piper PA.34-200	Phoenix East Aviation
N2247F, N345FA	Piper PA.44-180	Airline Transport Professionals
N305QS	Cessna 680	Netjets
N469WC	IAI 1124 Westwind	SW Aerospace
N500R	Falcon 2000LX	NASCAR
N511TL	Gulfstream IIB	Turbine Leasing
N706NA	Cessna 550	Gale Aviation
N905GA	Convair 580F	Geo Air / RPG Airlift
N92ME	Cessna S550	Florida Custom Coach

On this day we paid two visits to the airport of Daytona. In the morning we had a look at the Embry Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU), which is located adjacent to the airport and in the afternoon we made a quick tour around the field.

Daytona Beach has three runways, two roughly east-west and one roughly north-south oriented. The main runway is 07L-25R, the other two are only used by small single-engine GA airplanes.

If runway 25R is in use, you can photograph the landing and departing planes on both the north side (ERAU has a terrace on top of one of its buildings, but I don't know if this is accessible to non-students) and the south side (Aviation Center Parkway).

If runway 07L is in use, you can park your car and stand along Midway Avenue on the north side of the runway. Light is good here in the late afternoon and evening. You can photograph both landing and departing planes, as well as planes on the taxiway.

There are also a few good photo points along the various aprons. Be aware that you need stairs at most places.

The Convair is stored near the control tower, at Bellevue Avenue Ext on the southside of the main runway.

The former USAF Learjet can be found at the ERAU campus.

Traffic comprises mainly of (large and small) general aviation, especially when there is a racing event at the Daytona International Speedway, located next to the airport. There's also a limited amount of scheduled airline services (Delta and US Airways).

3 August 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N750EL BAe 125-750 Goldwing Aircraft Trust

3 August 2013 Kissimmee-America's Chopper Pilots Heliport 1FL1

N328SS Robinson R44 Leading Edge Helicopters

Today we noticed a new helicopter at this heliport. The rates seem to have been lowered as well: only \$15!

5 August 2013 Kissimmee-Gateway KISM

N180B	Cessna 560 Ultra	Quality Liquid Feeds
N21385	Schweizer 269C1	Bristow Academy
N306JA	Learjet 24D	SkyWay
N30RM	Beech E55	private
N3271X	Cessna 310L	Coastal Defense
N414MM	Cessna 414	private
N460WM	Bell 407	South Florida Water Mngmt District
N8689G	Cessna 340A	Adamas Marketing

In the morning we said goodbye to our homebase with a final tour around the airport.

6 August 2013 Orlando KMCO

56-0687	B-52D	USAF	<i>preserved</i>
CC-ADN	Cessna 525	Servicios Aeronauticos Tamarugal	

G-VIIO	Boeing 777-200ER	British Airways
N111KJ	Cessna 525B	CitationAir
N155JH	Cessna 560 Encore	Jack Henry & Associates
N155RW	Cessna 560XLS	Excel Holdings
N20CZ	Cessna 501	Aircraft Owners
N257WN, N499WN	Boeing 737-700	Southwest Airlines
N271SK	Embraer 145LR	Delta Connection
N272MH	Cessna 680	Cloudscape
N494BA	Cessna 525	Florida Suncoast Helicopters
N532US, N644DL	Boeing 757-200	Delta
N561LS	Cessna 560XL	Westwind Air Holdings
N571CS	Cessna 560XLS	CitationAir
N586NW, N592NW	Boeing 757-300	Delta
N639SW	Boeing 737-300	Southwest Airlines
N643QS	Cessna 560XLS	Netjets
N757MB	Cessna 650	Pro-Rentals
N903DE	MD-88	Delta
N915AT, N959AT, N985AT	Boeing 717-200	AirTran
N928QS	Cessna 750	Netjets
N937DN	MD-90-30	Delta
PP-MDB	Cessna 560XLS	
PR-EGS	Cessna 680	
PR-VRD	Cessna 560XL	Seguranca Taxi Aereo

Before we returned our rental car, we visited the B-52 and the Cessna Citation Service Center (see Scramble Airfield Guide). The B-52 can be photographed best in the late afternoon/evening. At the Citation Center, it should be OK to stop for a couple of minutes and read the aircraft on the apron, but I don't think they'll be very happy when you get your camera and stairs out.

While waiting for our flight Delta 2028 (N532US, B757-200) I did some spotting from the terminal.

6 August 2013 Detroit-Metropolitan KDTW

F-GLZN	Airbus A340-300	Air France
N182DN	Boeing 767-300ER	Delta
N315US, N325US, N372NW	Airbus A320-200	Delta
N367CA, N369CA	CRJ 701ER	Delta Connection
N389DA	Boeing 737-800	Delta
N507US, N532US, N696DL	Boeing 757-200	Delta
N636CZ	Embraer 175LR	Delta Connection
N709EV, N720EV	CRJ 701ER	Delta Connection
N801NW	Airbus A330-300	Delta
N824MD	Embraer 170SU	Delta Connection
N831AY	CRJ 440LR	Delta Connection
N831MH	Boeing 767-400ER	Delta
N8505Q, N8525B, N8972E	CRJ 200LR	Delta Connection
N865DA	Boeing 777-200ER	Delta
N910DE	MD-88	Delta
N927XJ	CRJ 900LR	Delta Connection

Our last stop in America was Detroit. The above was read while waiting for flight Delta 234 (N801NW, A330-300) to Amsterdam and while taxiing towards the runway.

All in all I had a very nice holiday with over 300 new aircraft logged. The number of photos however, was quite a bit less than expected (and hoped). Photo conditions in Florida during mid-summer are not ideal for a number of reasons:
 *it was very hot (and humid), so heathaze are a big problem if you're not close to the action;

*especially during midday the sun is right on top of you, so the bottom half of the aircraft is shaded;

*days are shorter than in northwestern Europe (it was already dark by 8PM), with a rapid sunrise and sunset;

*every afternoon it was overcast with showers and thunderstorms, after which the skies failed to clear up.

So if you'd like to go to Florida, I suggest you go between September and May (which should also be the dry season).