

TRAVEL | GEAR | LODGING | CONTACT INFO | MORE

PALOMETA CLUB

ASCENSION BAY - PUNTA ALLEN, MX.



The
PALOMETA
CLUB

PRE-TRIP PLANNER & OUTFITTING GUIDE



TAILWATERS
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NEED TO KNOW

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

This pre-trip planner & outfitting guide is your go-to resource for questions about your trip from now until you return home safely. It is loaded with information about travel, lodge policy, sample itinerary, and of course lots of clothing, gear, and tackle recommendations. Feel free to contact us anytime with questions or concerns, but know this is a great reference to keep handy.

LOCATION

The Palometa Club is located on the Yucatan Peninsula, approximately 56 kilometers south of Tulum in the sleepy fishing village of Punta Allen, Mexico.

DOCUMENTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- » A passport valid for at least six months beyond the dates of your trip is required to enter Mexico.
- » On your flight to Cancun (CUN), you will receive an immigration tourist card that you must present as you exit Mexico.
- » **IMPORTANT:** Parents traveling abroad with a minor must have a notarized affidavit from the other parent or legal guardian giving permission for the minor to make the trip.

FLIGHT SCHEDULES

When booking your commercial flights to/from Cancun there is a schedule that you must adhere to in order to guarantee a safe and timely ground transfer to the lodge and back to Cancun in time for your commercial connection home:

ON ARRIVAL DAY, PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE IN CANCUN NO LATER THAN 2:00PM.

ON DEPARTURE DAY, PLEASE DEPART FROM CANCUN NO EARLIER THAN 1:00PM.



GRATUITIES (SEE MORE DETAILS ABOUT GRATUITIES ON PAGE #15)

Please see page #15 for a detailed breakdown and further instructions about gratuities. **Don't forget to tip your drivers to and from Cancun! Recommended tip is \$25 per person.** If your van load is light with passengers, please consider giving a bit larger tip to your driver for good service. **All tips should be given in U.S. Currency - CASH ONLY. No Credit Cards or Checks for Gratuities.**

GRATUITY RECOMMENDATIONS

\$500-\$650 Per Person (based on full-week stay / shared room and boat)

Guides Gratuities: \$100-\$120 per boat / day **Lodge Staff:** \$60-\$80 per room / night

Drivers: \$25 per person / one-way trip

EXTRA EXPENSES & CHECKING OUT OF THE PALOMETA CLUB

Other expenses you may incur at the lodge are loaner rod and reel breakage fees (if applicable), laundry, any fly shop purchases (flies, tackle, hats, shirts, buffs, etc.) as well as massage therapy (\$100/hour plus tip) as well as any specialty liquor or wine requests. Cash is the preferred method of payment for additional expenses. However, the Club is able to process credit cards. The Club has no way of processing personal checks in Punta Allen, and the staff is reliant on their gratuities in U.S. currency ONLY.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Club provides a good selection of cold Mexican beers, wine, and top shelf spirits for all guests gratis. We also have proper mixers on hand including Topo Chico mineral water. Our menu of spirits include tequila (blanco, reposado and anejo), mezcal, vodka, bourbon, whiskey, and rum. If you would prefer a particular spirit not included on our menu, we are happy to source it for you and have it on hand for you upon your arrival. The cost for this purchase will be added to any additional expenses you might incur in the fly / gift shop at the lodge when checking out. This information is also requested in your pre-arrival survey we ask all guests to complete. The Club provides a generous amount of Mexican lager beer in the boats and behind the bar. However, if you anticipate you or your group will hit the beer inventory exceptionally hard please let us know. We will ask that your driver(s) stop en route to the Club on travel day to purchase additional flats of beer to ensure we are well stocked and to avoid multiple shopping trips up the lengthy road to Tulum.

LOANER EQUIPMENT

The Club has a nice selection of loaner fly rods and reels in 8, 9 & 10 weights as well as a handful of spinning rods. You must give us advanced notice if you are planning on borrowing rods and reels from the Club. Loaner gear is free of charge, however **there is a \$150 fee if a rod, reel, or fly line is broken.**

COMMUNICATIONS (SEE EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS ON PAGE #37)

Punta Allen does not have reliable phone service, however the lodge is equipped with reliable internet service. All communications with guests and staff in town is done with internet based calling on What's App, Facetime, or by enabling internet calling on your cellular device. In the case of emergency, we have provided you with ample contact numbers your family may use to reach you. Family and friends are also encouraged to contact us at Tailwaters if you need assistance tracking down a guest at the lodge.



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- » Travel Insurance
- » Passport Info
- » Weather Resources
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- » Fly Fishing Instruction at Tailwaters
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TRAVEL INFORMATION

PRE-TRIP PLANNER

BOOKING AIRFARE TO CANCUN
FLIGHT SCHEDULES
SAMPLE ITINERARY
SHUTTLES & TRANSFERS

BOOKING AIRFARE TO CANCUN (CUN), MEXICO

Now is also the time to secure your commercial airline reservations to/from Cancun, Mexico. You will need to make these arrangements on your own, however of course feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns about your specific itinerary before you make any purchases.

Cancun is serviced daily by nearly every airline with multiple flights daily to/from the U.S.A. There are multiple non-stop flights from Dallas / Ft. Worth and Miami (American Airlines), Houston (United), Atlanta (Delta), New York, and many more.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE SCHEDULES (FRIDAY - FRIDAY)

The Palometa Club operates on a standard Friday-Friday schedule throughout the season.

When booking your commercial flights to/from Cancun there is a schedule that you must adhere to in order to guarantee a safe and timely ground transfer to the lodge and back to Cancun in time for your commercial connection home. Deviating from this timeline can result in missing water transfers to/from the lodge as well as inconveniencing other guests at the lodge.

ON ARRIVAL DAY, PLEASE PLAN TO ARRIVE IN CANCUN NO LATER THAN 2:00PM.

ON DEPARTURE DAY, PLEASE DEPART FROM CANCUN NO EARLIER THAN 1:00PM.

From Cancun, you will be driven approximately 1.5 - 2 hours south through the town of Tulum en route to the Boca Paila Bridge a few kilometers south of Tulum. **From the bridge, guests will load into boats with the guides and make a comfortable water transfer down the Boca Paila Lagoon to avoid the discomfort of the road.**

BEFORE YOU BOOK YOUR COMMERCIAL AIRFARE

Before you solidify any non-refundable commercial airline reservations, please verify with us that your perspective flight schedule is suitable for your specific itinerary and ground connections onward to the lodge. Once you have made your airlines reservations, we will need a copy of your itinerary in order to coordinate meeting your driver at the airport.

TOURIST IMMIGRATION CARD (NO LONGER REQUIRED)

While most Mexican ports of entry still require foreigners to complete an immigrations and customs declaration form upon arrival, Cancun (CUN) airport no longer requires this documentation.

IMPORTANT NOTE: A U.S. Passport valid for at least six months beyond your travel dates is required to enter Mexico. For information on obtaining or renewing a passport, please refer to the U.S. State Department's webpage for Passport information at www.travel.state.gov.



SAMPLE ITINERARY

TRAVEL DAY

TRAVEL TO CANCUN, MX (CUN)

Arrive Cancun (CUN) **BEFORE 2:00PM** on commercial flight from USA.

CUSTOMS & IMMIGRATIONS

Once you have gone through immigrations and collected your luggage at the baggage claim, you will go through customs. Customs no longer uses the "traffic light" system, rather travelers are randomly picked for inspection. Don't be alarmed if you are picked as the process usually only takes a few minutes.

NOTE ABOUT TERMINAL #2 or #4 ARRIVALS

If by chance you arrive into Terminal #2 or #4, there is a free shuttle service just outside that will take you to Terminal #3. Unless otherwise instructed, you must take this shuttle and head to the "MEETING POINT" sign at the Berryhill Restaurant outside Terminal #3. These particular instructions will be provided to you along with your final itinerary details closer to departure day.

IF YOU ARE DELAYED

In the event of a flight delay, please call the Tailwaters Travel office **(214) 219-2500** to provide updated flight plans and status. We have also provided phone numbers for your driver and lodge manager(s).

Tailwaters Travel: (214) 219-2500

Manuel Quezada (Driver): (011) 52-1-984-114-9894



MEETING YOUR DRIVER

After going through immigrations and clearing customs, you will proceed through the terminal hallway to the right. Turn left after you exit through a large set of glass doors. Here you will find several tour operators all waiting to pick up passengers and other travelers visiting Cancun. As soon as you exit the building, turn to your left and you will see the Berryhill patio restaurant. You will see a blue sign that reads "**MEETING POINT**" at the base of a short set of stairs.

Your driver, Manuel Quezada (or one of his associates), will meet you there holding a sign with "Palometa Club" written on it. If at first you do not immediately see your escort, simply wait on the patio at the Berryhill Restaurant until he arrives. Oftentimes, the lodge has multiple parties arriving from multiple terminals or coming from Cancun hotels. Your driver will promptly show up if he is not there upon your arrival.

THE DRIVE TO THE BOCA PAILA BRIDGE

It takes approximately 1.5 - 2 hours to transfer guests from the Cancun Airport to the Boca Paila Bridge south of Tulum in a comfortable air conditioned van. The drive is on a modern highway servicing the famed resorts of the Maya Riviera and ending in the legendary ruins of Tulum. You will leave the pavement a few kilometers south of Tulum as you enter the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve and the beginning of the sandy jungle road of the Punta Allen Peninsula. Be advised the jungle portion of the road can be bumpy!

STOPPING ON THE DRIVE

Playa del Carmen and Tulum are the last places to stop for a bathroom break, tobacco, cold drinks, etc. You may also ask your driver to stop in Playa del Carmen at Sam's Wholesale or at the Chedraui store (kind of like Wal-Mart) in Tulum to pick up any surplus beer, liquor or wine you may desire to bring with you to the Club. Your driver is accustomed to this request - so feel free to ask him to stop for any last minute shopping before heading south.

THE BOAT RIDE

Shortly after passing through Tulum you will exit east and head into the entrance of the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve. Your driver will briefly register your group with the local authorities when you enter the park. The drive from the entrance to the park to the Boca Paila Bridge can take anywhere from 15 minutes to 45 minutes depending upon the weather and quality of the road at the time. It is most often a bumpy drive, but with beautiful views and a cooler of cold cerveza to make it tolerable. Upon arrival at the bridge, guides and boats will be waiting for guests to load up and take a smooth forty-five minute boat run down around the point to the beach in Punta Allen in front of the lodge. **Make sure to have a rain jacket and water friendly shoes handy for the boat ride! Your feet are likely to get wet when loading and unloading, so pack your sandals on top of your luggage.**

There is no guided fishing on your arrival day. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by with a tray of margaritas, your luggage will be taken to your room, and your first of seven incredible dinners will be served. After dinner, lodge managers will introduce the lodge staff and give a brief orientation explaining daily schedules, fishing program, and lodge policies. If you are unsure about any aspect of the trip... **PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS!**

A FEW NOTES ABOUT WATER TRANSFERS

Please remember that all guests must schedule arrival into the Cancun Airport no later than 2:00pm. This ensures enough time to get through customs and immigrations and make the drive down to the Boca Bridge with enough daylight to navigate by boat to the lodge. Delayed travelers or later arrivals should expect to drive all the way down to Punta Allen. ***** Also note that water transfers are sometimes not possible in the event of poor weather or unusually low tides.**





FISHING DAYS

6:00AM

Coffee is available in the kitchen for early risers.

7:00AM

Breakfast. A wholesome breakfast is served. Lodge managers will announce the guide rotation and assist with any special needs or requests.

7:30 - 8:00AM

Guides gather at the lodge to collect lunch coolers and meet with their anglers for the day. As soon as you are ready, you and your guides are free to load up your boat and head off onto Ascension Bay. Your guide will determine your destination for the day based upon the conditions and what species you are after. It is not uncommon to run upwards of an hour first thing in the morning to get you into good water - oftentimes fishing your way back to the lodge.

Lunch

A delicious lunch complete with your choice of beverages is packed in a cooler on board. The team will visit with you the afternoon before your following fishing day to discuss how you would like your lunch prepared and what beverages you would like packed in your cooler.

3:30 - 4:30PM

Depending on your location, water and weather conditions, and whether or not you are covered up in fish, your guides will begin heading back to the house. It is important to be safely off the Bay before sunset to provide your guide and lodge staff adequate time to do everything they must do every evening. Upon return to the lodge, your rods, reels and lines will be rinsed with fresh water and stored safely on the rod racks ready for the next day's action.

5:00 - 7:00PM

After a shower, join your mates on outside at "Kaye's Bar" for cocktails and appetizers.

DINNER

A wonderful dinner of regional Mexican and Mayan cuisine is served in the dining room no later than 7:00PM. Every evening is a feast!

AFTER HOURS

If you are up for it, there is usually a crowd that retires outside at the bar for after dinner drinks, cigars and fishing stories. The fly tying room is available upstairs, and there is wireless Internet access in the lodge for those who want to bring their own laptops or tablets. If you are still looking for some nightlife, there are a few bars in town that can be fairly sporty.

DEPARTURE DAY

At the finish of fishing on Thursday, your gear will be thoroughly rinsed and broken down so you can get partially packed up the night before. After a leisurely breakfast, you will load up in boats for the water transfer back to the Boca Paila bridge. There you will meet the van(s) and head up the jungle road and onward to Cancun for your international flight home.

Depart Cancun (CUN) on mid-afternoon flight to the USA **AFTER 1:00PM.**



ABOUT MEXICO

PRE-TRIP PLANNER

TIME ZONE
TOURIST DOCUMENTS
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
CURRENCY
MORE...

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS, CURRENCY, TIME ZONES, MORE.

TRAVELING WITH MINORS

Parents traveling abroad with a minor must have a notarized affidavit from the other parent or legal guardian giving permission for the minor to make the trip. Tailwaters Travel is happy to provide an appropriate affidavit if you plan to travel with your child.

IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To enter the country of Mexico you must have proof of citizenship in the form of a valid Passport.

TOURIST IMMIGRATION CARD

While most Mexican ports of entry still require foreigners to complete an immigration and customs declaration form upon arrival, Cancun (CUN) airport no longer requires this documentation.

LOST LUGGAGE AT THE AIRPORT

If you arrive in Mexico and you cannot find your luggage, you must report it to an airline representative before you leave the baggage claim area. If you do not, it is likely that you will not recover these items. Do not surrender your original baggage claim ticket stubs when making a lost baggage claim with the airlines. Insist that they make photocopies for their records. After informing the airline, report the loss to the lodge's local representative.

CURRENCY

The Mexican currency is the Peso. U.S. currency is widely accepted and we recommend not exchanging dollars for pesos. Visa, Master Card, and American Express are widely accepted in Mexico.

Note: ATM machines do not exist in Punta Allen. We recommend gathering enough cash for your trip prior to arrival into the country.

TIME ZONE

The Yucatan Peninsula is on Eastern Standard Time.

WEATHER

While there is no weather station on Ascension Bay and the weather can be drastically different from Tulum, the best resources for local weather in Tulum are with Weather Underground and Wind Guru as follows:

Weather Underground: <https://www.wunderground.com/weather/mx/tulum>

Wind Guru: <https://www.windguru.cz/85080>

INOCULATIONS & HEALTH

There are currently no inoculations required or recommended for traveling to Mexico. However, you may want to check with the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta for their recommendations on health precautions when traveling anywhere outside the United States.

Toll Free: (800) 232-4636 or www.cdc.gov

LODGING & FISHING OVERVIEW

P R E - T R I P P L A N N E R

GRATUITIES & EXTRA EXPENSES
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
LODGE POLICY
FISHING PROGRAM
RENTAL EQUIPMENT
WATER & ELECTRICITY
MORE...

LODGING & FISHING INFORMATION

EXTRA EXPENSES & CHECK-OUT FROM THE LODGE

Any extra charges including gifts / souvenirs, rod and reel rentals, hats, shirts, Buffs, flies and terminal tackle as well as any massages or specialty liquor orders will be billed to your room account. Cash (US dollars) is the preferred method of payment, but the Club can process credit cards for extra expenses. Sorry, personal checks and traveler's checks are not accepted. You are encouraged to settle up for any extra expenses the night before your departure day.

GRATUITIES

Tipping is a personal decision based on good service and is completely at your discretion.

The following recommendations are simply for your understanding of what the expected average tip is for a satisfied guest. Thank you in advance for bringing enough cash to cover all gratuities.

TOTAL AVERAGE GRATUITY RECOMMENDATION

\$500-\$650 Per Person (based on full-week stay / shared room and boat)

Guides Gratuities: \$100-\$120 per boat / day

Lodge Staff: \$60-\$80 per room / night

Drivers: \$25 per person / one-way trip

GUIDE GRATUITIES

Recommended average gratuity for the fishing guide teams is \$100-\$120 per boat / day (\$50-\$60 per person/day).

Anglers fishing solo should still plan on \$100-\$120 per day for a satisfactory experience.

Feel free to tip more if you are very impressed with the program and work ethic. Many clients will happily offer a larger gratuity to specific guides who communicate well, work exceptionally hard through difficult conditions, help catch a special trophy fish; or generally exceed expectations. Since anglers will rotate guide teams daily, please be prepared with cash to tip your guides at the conclusion of each fishing day.

LODGE STAFF GRATUITIES

For the kitchen, housekeeping and maintenance crews, we recommend an average gratuity of \$30-\$40 per person / night for the lodge staff based on shared occupancy. If you are rooming solo, we recommend \$60-\$80 / night. This gratuity should be provided to the lodge manager(s) on duty the night before your morning departure from the lodge.

DRIVER GRATUITIES

Our reliable van drivers are CRITICAL to the success and logistical viability of delivering guests to/from Punta Allen and the airport in Cancun. Unfortunately, they are far too often forgotten. Please make sure to provide your driver with a good tip. We recommend approximately \$25 per person / trip. If you forget to tip your driver, lodge managers will remind you when settling up for house staff gratuities.



ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The Club provides a good selection of cold Mexican beers, wine, and top shelf spirits for all guests gratis. We also have proper mixers on hand including Topo Chico mineral water. Our menu of spirits include tequila (blanco, reposado and anejo), mezcal, vodka, bourbon, whiskey, and rum. If you would prefer a particular spirit not included on our menu, we are happy to source it for you and have it on hand for you upon your arrival. The cost for this purchase will be added to any additional expenses you might incur in the fly / gift shop at the lodge when checking out. This information is also requested in your pre-arrival survey we ask all guests to complete.

The Club provides a generous amount of Mexican lager beer in the boats and behind the bar. However, if you anticipate you or your group will hit the beer inventory exceptionally hard please let us know. We will ask that your driver(s) stop en route to the Club on travel day to purchase additional flats of beer to ensure we are well stocked and to avoid multiple shopping trips up the lengthy road to Tulum.

WATER

We recommend you do NOT drink the tap water. If you are particularly susceptible to intestinal problems in the tropics, you probably should not brush your teeth with it either. There is purified drinking water found in your room which is replenished daily.

BOATS

Boats used by the lodge are 23 foot traditional Mexican Pangas that will accommodate two anglers and two guides comfortably. Each boat is equipped with 40-50 horsepower Yamaha outboards and is constructed with a forward casting deck, tandem passenger seats, rod storage for six rods and a poling platform. Before you board the boats each day, you should be sure to have reel covers on your reels. While running, the reels often bounce and can be damaged.

GUIDES

The Palometa Club only uses the best guides on Ascension Bay - this is the true equity in the Club. Anglers at Palometa Club are accompanied by two senior guides who are all accomplished fly anglers and excellent instructors. All speak conversational English. The Palometa Club rotates guests daily through the guide staff - so anglers have an opportunity to fish with as many as twelve guides throughout the week.

BOAT REFRESHMENTS

Every morning your boat's cooler will be well stocked with complimentary non-alcoholic beverages and boat beers. Be sure to inform someone if you would like more or less of a specific beverage.

DRESS ATTIRE AT THE LODGE

The atmosphere is very laid back at The Palometa Club. You're on vacation! Please feel free to wear whatever is comfortable during the day.

MAID AND LAUNDRY SERVICE

The lodge has daily maid service. Laundry service is provided on request no later than Tuesday. A variable fee is charged for laundry service.

MASSAGES

The Club can arrange for massages on the balcony by certified massage therapists in Punta Allen. The cost of these massages is **\$100 per hour** not including gratuity. **CASH ONLY!**

ELECTRICAL CURRENT & AIR-CONDITIONING

There is electrical power (110 volts/60 cycles) identical to U.S. power supplied by both the town's generators as well as a backup generator at the lodge. There is no need for converters or adapters. Rooms are equipped with individually controlled air conditioning.

TACKLE & EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE AT THE PALOMETA CLUB

All anglers should plan on bringing their own fishing equipment and tackle. The Palometa Club does have a modest amount of fishing equipment including flies, leader materials, and terminal accessories. Although you may be able to supplement your own equipment at the Club, we highly recommend not planning on stocking your fly-box with their flies, leaders, and tippet material. The remote nature of the Club does not guarantee that these items will be well stocked. Guides at the Club often tie flies for sale, and will charge approximately \$5 per bonefish fly and \$10 - \$20 per permit fly.

ROD & REEL OUTFIT LOANER GEAR

The Club has a nice selection of rental fly rods and reels in 8, 9 & 10 weights as well as a handful of spinning rods. You must give us advanced notice if you are planning on borrowing rods and reels from the Club. **There is a \$150 fee if a rod or reel is broken.**

GUIDES & FISHING HOURS

The Palometa Club is not a "fishing hotel" with super strict policy on fishing hours. However, the 8:00am start time is fairly firm, while the afternoon quitting time is more flexible. Depending on your location, water and weather conditions, and whether or not you are covered up in fish, your guides will begin heading back to the house between 3:30-4:30PM. It is important to be safely off the Bay before sunset to provide your guide and lodge staff adequate time to do everything they must do every evening.



EQUIPMENT LIST

PRE-TRIP PLANNER

MANDATORY GEAR
CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES
SPECIES SPECIFIC TACKLE & EQUIPMENT
RENTAL GEAR
FLIES

MANDATORY ITEMS

- » 7-8 wt. rod/reel with floating warm water fly line (bonefish)
- » 9-10 wt. rod/reel with floating line (permit & tarpon)
- » 10-12 wt. rod/reel with floating line (summer tarpon only)
- » Polarized sunglasses and hat
- » Fly selection
- » Leaders and tippet
- » Tropical weight rain jacket
- » Sandals, water shoes or zippit booties (easy on and off for permit fishing)
- » Wading boots and hip/chest pack (if you plan to wade for bonefish)

NOTE: You don't need or want laced wading boots for permit fishing!

QUICK NOTES ABOUT GEAR & TACKLE

NOTES ON ROD & REEL SELECTION

Ascension Bay is a very diverse fishery with excellent opportunities for bonefish as well as permit, snook and juvenile tarpon year round. Anglers want a 7-8 weight rod with a floating line for bonefish and a 9-10 weight with floating line for permit and tarpon. During the early summer (May - September) you may want to consider bringing an additional 10-12 weight loaded with a floating line for migratory tarpon.

NOTES ON FOOTWEAR

Almost all fishing for bones and permit is done wading, so bring high quality wading boots and a good hip/chest pack. Many bonefish wading areas do require proper wading boots. *If you are planning on a lot of permit fishing, we recommend simple closed toed sandals, water shoes, or neoprene booties that are easy to get on and off. Permit wading areas don't require full wading boots and you want footwear that is quick and easy to put on and take off.*

LOANER EQUIPMENT

As mentioned previously, rental fly fishing and spin fishing equipment is available at the lodge on a first come, first served basis. Please let us know well in advance if you are planning on borrowing any equipment. All anglers must be prepared with a basic selection of flies and terminal tackle as well as appropriate clothing, rain jacket, polarized glasses and appropriate footwear.

The Club has a nice selection of rental fly rods and reels in 8, 9 & 10 weights, however you must give us advanced notice if you are planning on renting rods and reels from the Club. **There is a \$150 fee if a rod is broken.**



FOOTWEAR FOR PERMIT FISHING: Many experienced permit anglers on Ascension Bay will go barefoot the majority of the time. You just want to have some shoes accessible in case the guides suggest you protect your feet in certain areas. Pulling on and off clunky boots with laces and gravel guards are way too cumbersome and time consuming.



TACKLE

FLY RODS

We highly recommend multi-piece travel rods in the four and five piece models for all travel with commercial airline carriers. Fly rods for all saltwater flats applications should be fast action models with fighting butts capable of handling windy conditions and delivering heavier flies. Remember, wooden reel seats will corrode and rot in the saltwater, so make sure your rod is equipped with an aluminum reel seat. We highly recommend nine foot rods as the ideal length for nearly all line weights between six - twelve weights. We also always recommend bringing a backup rod in case of breakage.

REELS AND SPOOLS

Reels should be anodized, corrosion-resistant saltwater models that will hold a full fly line plus the appropriate amount backing in accordance with the species you are targeting. Reels equipped with high quality, smooth, drags are essential to prevent break-offs from the blistering runs of a hooked fish. We cannot stress enough the importance of a reel with a high quality drag!



If you are planning on chasing multiple species that require the same rod and reel but a differing line, we highly recommend the convenience of an additional reel or spool. Having an extra spool loaded with a different line (or simply a backup line) can make changing fly lines infinitely easier and faster.

FLY LINES

Nearly 100% of all bonefish and permit applications require a standard weight forward floating line, however when fishing for tarpon or other big game species there are sometimes scenarios and conditions that dictate using an intermediate sinking or full sinking line. Fly lines can easily break on coral or mangroves as well as fall victim to sharks or barracudas, so make sure to bring additional lines as backup.

SPECIES SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT

BONEFISH

RODS

A nine foot, eight-weight rod is the standard universal bonefish rod used by the vast majority of all anglers worldwide. You want a rod that has enough fortitude to deliver the fly in windy conditions. However, the ideal bonefish rod also has enough feel in the tip section to allow for more delicate and accurate presentations at closer casting ranges. Some experienced anglers will also bring a 7 or even a 6 weight rod in the event the wind lays flat, especially on the Yucatan where the bonefish are generally a bit smaller than fisheries like the Bahamas.

REELS AND FLY LINES

Reels with a superior drag that will accommodate up to 175-200 yards of twenty-pound dacron backing are suggested for your bonefishing outfit. A weight forward floating line is all that is required for all bonefishing. In addition to the standard bonefish and redfish taper lines, there are many new fly lines with tropical tapers by Scientific Anglers and Rio that work well.

PERMIT

RODS

A nine foot, 10 weight rod is the standard issue permit rod. However, depending on the conditions and the types of flies used, many experienced anglers will opt to go with a sturdy 9 weight. Fishing for permit usually dictates casting heavy, wind resistant flies, and larger specimens can take up to an hour to land. If you decide to go with the 9 weight be sure you choose a fast action model with a lot of backbone.

REELS AND FLY LINES

Reels with a superior drag that will accommodate up to 250 yards of thirty-pound Dacron or 30-50 pound gel spun backing are suggested for your permit fishing outfit. A weight forward floating line is all that is required for nearly all permit fishing applications.

TARPON

RODS

For summertime migratory fish above eighty pounds, we encourage anglers to use a 10-12 weight. 100+ pound tarpon can take well over an hour to land (much longer if fought improperly); a larger rod is much easier on the angler as well as the fish. Juvenile tarpon, or "babies," in the 5-50 pound range can be easily handled on a nine or ten weight in most circumstances.

REELS AND FLY LINES

Reels with a superior drag that will accommodate up to 300 yards of thirty-pound Dacron or fifty pound gel spun backing are suggested for your tarpon fishing outfit. A weight forward floating line is required for the vast majority of the fishing for both juvenile and adult tarpon. We suggest the Tarpon taper lines by Scientific Anglers or Rio as your standard fly line.

If your trip is in the summertime and you are interested in targeting adult tarpon, we also recommend bringing an additional spool or reel loaded with a sinking line. Although not mandatory for most situations, an intermediate or full sinking line can have many worthy applications. A full sinking 400 - 500 grain fly line on an 11 or 12 weight can be very useful when fishing ("dredging") in deeper water for summertime adult tarpon or possibly other species such as dorado, jacks, or cobia.

OTHER SALTY SPECIES

(SHARKS, BARRACUDA, SNOOK, JACKS)

If you are prepared with the above rods and reels for the primary species, you should be well equipped with the proper rods and reels for alternative species you may encounter.



EQUIPMENT & ACCESSORIES

LINE CLEANER

Saltwater has a way of making fly lines sticky and dirty after a few days of use. Anglers should bring along some sort of line cleaner to keep your fly line in good working order. Rio makes excellent products. The staff at the Club will clean and dress your fly lines following each day on the water.

TIP: Consider soaking a small rag with Armor-all and keep it in a zip-lock baggy. Armor-all is an excellent line cleaner and dressing.

ROD CARRIER

For anglers who prefer to carry on rods, you should strongly consider investing in multi-piece rods (4-piece) that will fit in a quality rod carrier. This makes it simple to consolidate all of your rods into one case and is less alarming to airport security. Our favorite is the Fishpond 4-piece carrier called the Dakota Bag. It holds numerous rods as well as room for reels and other carry-on approved tackle. We have several other quality cases in the shop as well.

SPARE PARTS & LUBRICANT

Locate a very small fly box and stock up on any extra spare parts applicable for your reels. Today's quality fly fishing reels are very sophisticated and have a few moving parts including springs, o-rings, drag knobs, pawls, etc. that will wear out after significant usage. It is also a good idea to have an old toothbrush for cleaning and some synthetic lubricant on hand as well.

MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

It is very important to rinse saltwater and sand from the inner workings of your reels, rods, pliers, fly boxes, etc. following every day on the water. A quick freshwater rinse will keep saltwater from corroding and damaging bearings and drag plates on your reels, and keep all of your equipment in good working order.

Once you arrive home from your trip, you should take apart your reels and soak them in soft soapy warm water. A light coat of synthetic oil on the surface of your reels is also a good idea before storing them. With fly rods, make sure to wipe them down with some Windex or 409. This will keep the glass finish looking sharp and prevent rust from forming in the guides and reel seat.

COMPLIMENTARY RIGGING AND CLEANING AT TAILWATERS

Remember, you can bring on your rods and reels to the shop before or after any trip and we will rig and clean them up for you. It is always a good idea to check all of your knot connections and make sure that your backing is in good shape before heading on any fishing trip. It is a heart breaker to lose an entire fly line or break off a once in a lifetime fish because of a lousy knot or weakened backing. Bring in your equipment and we will ensure your gear is in perfect working order. Buy a reel from us and we will throw in the backing for free.

CLIMATE AND GENERAL CLOTHING

The lower Yucatan Peninsula is almost always hot and humid regardless of the season or time of year. When packing, keep in mind that the lodge dress code is extremely casual. Clean and dry fishing clothing is always acceptable at the dinner table. Other than your fishing related clothing, a couple of tee-shirts, and a pair of casual shorts or pants, we recommend only one set of street clothes for travel days. Pack lightly!

The key to staying comfortable on the flats is to remain cool while protecting yourself from the sun. Lightweight clothing with plenty of ventilation is recommended. Odds are you will continually get wet all day long while wading, running in the boat, or during a rain shower. You want your fishing clothing to shed water and dry quickly.

LUGGAGE

We recommend roller style, soft-sided duffel bags for nearly all our travels. Ideally you have a bag that adheres to airline size restrictions but it still large enough to fit a couple of rod tubes, tackle, boots and other gear. If you have a particularly large bag, we advise you to communicate with your commercial carrier as well as the TSA regarding any baggage weight restrictions that might be applicable.

We carry many excellent sets of luggage by Patagonia, Simms and Fishpond. These bags are the ideal size, bulletproof, and are equipped with efficient roller systems. Some models also have separate compartments for storing wet boots and/or waders or even rod tubes. Don't forget to mark your luggage with appropriate personal identification bag tags.

LIGHTWEIGHT SHIRTS

Fishing shirts should be cool and dry quickly, have breathable flaps that allow air to circulate through, and should be easy to pack and maintenance-free. Howler Brothers, Patagonia, Free-Fly, Simms and others make several different models and styles both in short and long sleeves. If you are bothered by the sun, we recommend the long sleeved versions, especially in late Spring and early Summer. Proper fishing shirts also should be equipped with chest pockets for storing small items like tippet material or a cleaning cloth for sunglasses and camera lenses.

SHORTS

Fishing shorts should also be made of a synthetic quick dry material. We suggest shorts with pockets and belt loops for accommodating pliers. Howler Brothers, Patagonia and Simms make excellent models.

LONG PANTS

Sun protection, rather than warmth, is the primary function of long pants when fishing in the tropics. Biting sea lice can also be deterred by wearing pants while wading. Howler Bros, Patagonia and Simms make great pants specifically designed for fishing. They will protect you from the sun, are wind resistant, and dry quickly. Some pants have removable pant legs that zip off to become shorts.

SUNGLOVES / FINGER GUARDS

Sun gloves made by Black Strap, Patagonia, BUFF or Simms are great for protecting your hands from the sun. We also recommend finger guards for protecting your fingers if you are not keen to wearing gloves.

ADDITIONAL CLOTHING & SHOES

Tee-shirts, shorts, and lightweight pants will round out your everyday attire. Flip flops, sandals, or tennis shoes are ideal for wearing around the lodge or in town. A light jacket may be appropriate for winter months as it can be chilly at times December – March. Don't forget your swimsuit!

WADING BOOTS, GRAVEL GUARDS & GUARD SOCKS FOR BONEFISH FISHING

If you are planning on doing much dedicated bonefishing, you will need high quality and durable wading shoes or boots for maximum foot and ankle protection. While wading the flats anglers will encounter various types of footing and ground surfaces including sand, rock, coral rubble, sharp shells...not to mention encounters with urchins, crabs, and sting rays. Excellent wading boots are mandatory while targeting bonefish on Ascension Bay, so please know not to cut corners with in the flats shoes department!

Our favorites are the Simms Flats Sneaker or the Patagonia Marlwalker. They have thick soles, drain quickly, and offer ankle support that tennis shoes and sandals do not. For extensive wading, gravel guards will help keep sand and coral from getting inside your boots. Simms also makes a product called a Guard Sock that simulates the comfortable neoprene boots found with Gore-Tex waders, as well as provides the same protection from debris as traditional gravel guards.



NOTES ON CLOTHING

The Palometa Club could not be more casual! Sandals, tee-shirts, a light rain jacket and fishing clothing is all you need and will help you pack lightly.

RAIN GEAR

A high quality, lightweight rain jacket is another essential piece of clothing while on the flats. Patagonia and Simms both make great lightweight jackets that will keep you dry during tropical rainstorms or while crossing choppy water on a lengthy boat run.

POLARIZED SUNGLASSES

This is your most important piece of equipment for flats fishing, which is primarily sight- fishing. Without the ability to see the fish you are stalking, you put yourself at a great disadvantage. Copper, brown, and green lenses are the best choice for this type of fishing. Yellow lenses are great for mornings, late afternoons, and cloudy conditions. Always bring two pair of polarized sunglasses in case you lose or break a pair. Costa and Smith make a variety of stylish frames to choose from. We can special order bifocal or trifocal lenses for many of these frames with enough advanced notice. A lanyard or "croakie" is also invaluable in order to keep from dropping or losing your glasses.

HAT

Bring two hats or caps for sun protection. If you are sensitive to the sun, make sure to bring a hat that covers your head as thoroughly as possible. Hats that have dark colors underneath the brim help to reduce glare from the water aiding in spotting fish.

SUN PROTECTION

The tropical sun is very intense even on cloudy days. Pack some sun block and lip balm with a minimum of 30SPF. We carry a number of great sunscreen products at the shop. Hoodies are always a good call, and head and neck tubes by BUFF or Black Strap are a comfortable, lightweight, and breathable garment that functions similar to a bandanna and will keep UV rays off of your head, neck, and ears. We carry several models and styles.

BOAT BAGS

A boat bag is important for carrying your tackle and gear with you on the boat each day. Running in the boats over open water oftentimes sprays saltwater mist into the boat, so you should have some type of waterproof or water resistant bag with you in the boat for storing cameras, lenses, tackle, flies, extra reels, spools, sunscreen, rain jackets, spare reel parts, bottled water, snacks, or anything else you don't want to carry on you while fishing. Patagonia makes a wonderful 99% waterproof bag called the Great Divider. It is also the exact dimensions of the under seat storage area on an airplane. We often use the Great Divider as our carry on luggage. Simms and Fishpond make very comparable products in several sizes as well. Everything stays dry, salt free, and out of the humidity.

HIP / CHEST PACK

Hip packs are great for carrying fly boxes, a camera, leaders and tippet etc. while wading. Consider buying one that can hold an easily accessible water bottle. Fishpond, Patagonia and Simms all make practical packs in different styles, sizes, and price points. **Hip packs are really not needed for permit fishing... but do come in handy on extended wading sessions for bonefish.**

PLIERS & BELT

Although your guide should be equipped with pliers, we recommend a quality pair of corrosion resistant pliers as an essential tool when fishing the saltwater... especially for big game. Pliers by Abel, Hatch or Ross aid in hook removal, cutting heavy monofilament, and tying big game knots. All pliers should be kept in a sheath and have a check-cord to avoid dropping them overboard. Don't forget to bring a synthetic belt to be worn in order to accommodate your pliers' sheath.

INSECT REPELLENT

Mosquitoes and other biting flies may be a problem anywhere in the tropics – especially if the wind dies down. If you are particularly bothered by bugs, we recommend bringing a product with a large Deet component. We carry a number of different and effective bug repellent products at the shop. Wearing lightweight wading pants and long-sleeved shirts will also discourage biting insects and sea lice.

TOOLS & GADGETS:

Items like nippers, hemostats, and hook hones are necessities in every fishing pack. The tools can be kept on a retractor or on a lanyard. A Leatherman multi-tool is also a nice extra to have in the boat bag.

LENS CLOTH

While fishing the flats, it seems like glasses are always getting wet when landing unruly fish or on boat runs. This can be quite frustrating if you are not prepared with a quality lens cleaning / drying cloth. Consider taking a proper lens cleaning kit by Smith or Costa or something comparable to wipe salty film and sweat off of your glasses.

Tip: Always grab some toilet paper, Kleenex, or a napkin and store it in a shirt pocket within an empty leader package to keep it dry. The freshwater in the cooler is always a good spot to rinse your lenses as well.

TAILING GLOVES

If you are planning on fishing for certain species such as tarpon, barracuda or jacks, you should be prepared with a quality pair of protective gloves. Although your guide should have a set of tailing gloves in his possession it is always a good idea to be prepared. All species of jacks have a very sharp set of spines running down their lateral line close to their tail that is often razor sharp. Tarpon also have extremely hard mouths and a sharp gill plate that requires a solid pair of gloves to properly handle. Don't ever try to land a larger jack crevalle or a tarpon without protective gloves!

TRASH BAGS & ZIPLOCS

Always thrown in a couple of small trash bags in your bag for packing wet wading boots and gravel guards for the trip home in order to keep mildew from spreading through your clothing. Having some Ziploc baggies on hand are also a good idea for keeping camera equipment or papers dry in your boat bag.

FIRST AID KIT & TOILETRIES

A simple first aid kit with Band-Aids, alcohol wipes, Imodium, waterproof tape, and Dramamine for motion sickness is always a good thing to have on hand. The lodge provides shampoo and soap but does not have other personal items like razors, deodorant, shaving cream or toothpaste. Make sure to bring your own. The lodge does provide hairdryers in every bathroom.

FLASHLIGHT OR HEADLAMP

A flashlight can be an invaluable item to have when taking a stroll after dinner. Our favorite is the Petzl headlamp. Headlamps are great for reading at night while your roommate is sleeping, and free up your hands to get organized in the dark.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Water bottle (for hip pack), measuring tape, camera, alarm clock, batteries



SUPPORT THE SHOP!

RODS // REELS // FLIES // TACKLE // OUTERWEAR // WADING GEAR

PACKS + LUGGAGE // SPORTSWEAR // LEADER + TIPPET // LINES // TOOLS

GET EVERYTHING YOU NEED FOR...

PALOMETA CLUB





MUST HAVE PATTERNS FOR PALOMETA // DON'T LEAVE WITHOUT THESE!

PALOMETA CLUB CRAB



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: White, Tan
SIZE: 2, 4

TPC CASA BLANCA RAGHEAD



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: White
SIZE: 2, 4

CASA BLANCA RAGHEAD



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: Tan
SIZE: 2, 4

RAGHEAD CRAB



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: Tan
SIZE: 2, 4

ENRICO PUGLISI SPAWNING SHRIMP



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: Tan, White, Green
SIZE: 2

BAUER FLATS CRAB



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: Green, Tan
SIZE: 4

ER CRAB



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: Tan
SIZE: 2, 4

CATHY'S FLEEING CRAB



SPECIES: Permit
COLOR: Pearl
SIZE: 4, 6

GOTCHA



SPECIES: Bonefish
COLOR: Pearl
SIZE: 4, 6

BECK'S SILLI LEGS



SPECIES: Bonefish
COLOR: Tan
SIZE: 4, 6

TARPON TOAD



SPECIES: Tarpon
COLOR: All Colors
SIZE: 1/0 - 3/0

FISHALICIOUS



SPECIES: Tarpon/Snook
COLOR: Red / White
SIZE: 1/0

BONEFISH SELECTION // FLIES NEEDED TO HAVE SUCCESS WITH BONEFISH

As a rule of thumb, Ascension Bay bonefish prefer smaller (size #6 - #8) flies, however it is a good idea to have a few size #4 flies in your box. There is no need to have dozens of different patterns, rather a decent selection of the 8 - 10 top producers in various colors, sizes and weights. This will ensure you are able to match the appropriate pattern for differing bottom structure and water depth. There is no rocket science to picking right bonefish selection for Ascension Bay - just stick to the basics.

PATTERN: Gotcha | **COLOR:** Pearl | **SIZE:** 6, 8

PATTERN: Bunny Gotcha | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 4, 6

PATTERN: Crazy Charlie | **COLOR:** Brown, Tan, White, Pink | **SIZE:** 6, 8

PATTERN: Beck's Silli Legs | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 6, 8

PATTERN: Bonefish Scampi | **COLOR:** Tan/Pink, Tan/Brown | **SIZE:** 6, 8

PATTERN: Bonefish Junk | **COLOR:** Tan, Brown | **SIZE:** 6

PATTERN: Pink Puff | **COLOR:** Pink | **SIZE:** 6

PATTERN: Bonefish Bitter | **COLOR:** Amber | **SIZE:** 6, 8

PATTERN: Veverka Mantis Shrimp | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 6

BONEFISH LEADERS & TIPPET MATERIAL:

Leader Recommendations: 9' or 10' - 8.8 and 10lb

Tippet Recommendations: (1 Spool of Each - Fluorocarbon) - 8 lb, 10 lb, 12 lb

Average Ascension Bay bonefish are not particularly large (2-3 pounds) and can be leader shy at times. Normally 9-10 foot 8 lb tapered leaders work fine. At other times you can get away with 10-12 lb leaders and tippet, so you should have these on hand. Although not mandatory, we always recommend using fluorocarbon tippet material as it is more abrasion resistant.

TAILWATERS HAS CUSTOM FLY SELECTIONS IN THE SHOP

ASCENSION BAY CUSTOM FLY SELECTIONS

We have cherry picked the best fly selections for all species on Ascension Bay. Many of our fly patterns are custom designed and unavailable anywhere else. Our flies are also guide favorites and you will not be sold flies you don't need. Check out our fly selections online (www.tailwatersflyfishing.com) or simply notify us by email or phone if you'd like us to build you a custom selection. We can also add any applicable leaders and tippet you might be missing from the arsenal as well.

PERMIT SELECTION // ALL THE FLIES YOU NEED TO HAVE SUCCESS WITH PERMIT

A large staple food for all Permit on Ascension Bay are small crabs and spawning or mantis shrimp. Depending upon where you are fishing you will want to have different sizes and weights of crab and shrimp patterns (tungsten eyes, lead eye's and bead chain eyes) for different depths. Having a decent selection of flies will ensure you are able to match the appropriate pattern for differing bottom structure, water depth, and fish behavior. The most important flies to have in your permit selection are any variation of tan and white colored ragheads--- most often in a size #4. Spawning and mantis shrimp patterns are also very important to have. Enrico Puglisi makes the best Spawning Shrimp patterns with several different styles, colors, sizes, and eyes (bead chain and lead).

CUSTOM PERMIT FLIES: We have a few particular patterns custom tied for Palometa Club guests that are not found commercially tied. Variations of Rainy's Casa Blanca Raghead ("TPC Raghead") as well as our white and tan bodied "Palometa Club Crab" are what the guides look for first. These flies and other custom ties are available for purchase at Tailwaters Fly Fishing Company and oftentimes upon arrival at the Club.

HELP TYING YOUR OWN FLIES?: Let us know if you need any assistance with fly recipes for permit crabs. We prefer smaller bodied flies with heavy eyes (tungsten eyes can be great if you can cast them).

PATTERN: Palometa Club Crab | **COLOR:** Tan, White | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: TPC Casa Blanca Raghead Crab | **COLOR:** White | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Casa Blanca Raghead Crab | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Raghead Crab | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Tequila Twister | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: ER Crab | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Enrico Puglisi Spawning Shrimp | **COLOR:** Tan, White | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Enrico Puglisi Ascension Bay Crab | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Cathy's Fleeing Crab | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Various Enrico Puglisi Crabs | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2, 4

PATTERN: Avalon Fly | **COLOR:** Tan | **SIZE:** 2

PERMIT LEADERS & TIPPET MATERIAL:

Leader Recommendations: 10' - 12-20lb Fluorocarbon (mostly 16lb)

Tippet Recommendations: (1 Spool of Each - Fluorocarbon) - 12lb, 16lb

We recommend fishing 10-12 foot 16 pound test tapered leaders most often. There are times when you can get away with 17-20 pound test, while sometimes you will need to downsize to twelve (12) pound. For this reason, you should have additional leaders and tippet material on hand. We also always recommend using fluorocarbon tippet material as it is more abrasion resistant.

CUSTOM PERMIT FLIES FOR PALOMETETA CLUB // WE HAVE THEM HERE



TARPON SELECTION // MANY ALSO WORK FOR SNOOK

The majority of the tarpon fishing on Ascension Bay is in the backcountry lagoons and lakes for juvenile "baby" tarpon in the 5-25 pound range. During the late spring and summer months you may also encounter large adult, migratory tarpon on the flats or near the reef on a calm day. Almost any type of baitfish pattern or standard issue tarpon pattern will work well ---in accordance to the size of the fish being targeted. Baby tarpon flies should be 1/0 - 2/0 & adult tarpon flies should be as large as 3/0 - 4/0.

There is no scientific method to preparing your tarpon box, so just have a nice cross section of the following recommendations as well as any of standard tarpon patterns you may already have. It is also a good idea to have a few seducers and deceivers in the arsenal.

PATTERN: Fishalicious | **COLOR:** Red / White | **SIZE:** 2/0

PATTERN: Tarpon Toads | **COLOR:** Red/Black, Purple, Chartreuse, Brown, Tan | **SIZE:** 1/0 - 3/0

PATTERN: Triple Threat | **COLOR:** Brown | **SIZE:** Large & Small

PATTERN: Big-Eyed Tarpon | **COLOR:** Brown/Orange | **SIZE:** 1/0 - 3/0

PATTERN: Green Zima | **COLOR:** Green | **SIZE:** 2/0

PATTERN: Tarpon Snake | **COLOR:** Black | **SIZE:** 3/0

PATTERN: Various Clousers & Deceivers | **COLOR:** Green, Blue, Chartreuse, Black, White | **SIZE:** 3/0-2



LEADER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Unless you are interested in setting IGFA records, we recommend simply rigging your tarpon leaders with straight fluorocarbon. A 5-6' section of non-tapered fluoro is super strong and easy to tie with a loop to loop connection onto your fly line. When fishing for baby tarpon in the backcountry mangroves, you are constantly hanging up in the trees. For this reason, fishing class leaders can be troublesome as you will always be breaking off flies in the mangroves. It is more practical to use class leaders when fishing the flats away from the mangroves if you prefer.

Straight Fluorocarbon Recommendations:

Juvenile "Baby" Tarpon: 40-50lb Straight Fluoro
Adults(May -September): 80lb Straight Fluorocarbon

Class Leader Recommendations:

Juvenile "Baby" Tarpon: 16lb Class - 40-60lb Shock
Adults (May - September) 16-22lb Class - 80lb Shock





OTHER SPECIES // SELECTION OF FLIES FOR OTHER POPULAR SPECIES

BARRACUDA & SHARKS

FLIES, LEADERS & TIPPET

Barracuda will eat long needlefish and baitfish patterns stripped very quickly. Ideally, your cuda' fly has a tandem or trailer hook to increase the likelihood the hook will hold. Both lemon sharks and barracuda will eat poppers as well. A 4-5 foot piece of straight monofilament with a 10" wire "bite" tippet is required. We recommend a minimum of 35-40lb wire and our favorite brand is the knotable wire by Rio as it easy to knot and super strong.

SNOOK

FLIES, LEADERS & TIPPET:

Snook will eat most all standard baitfish and baby tarpon flies, however as a rule of thumb snook tend to key in on red and white colored flies in particular. Make sure to have a handful of red/white clousers, deceivers, and even a few poppers in the box for snook. Snook are generally not very leader shy and you should be able to present your typical baby-tarpon fly rigged with 40 or 50lb successfully without having to change flies or leader.

JACK CREVALLE

FLIES, LEADERS & TIPPET:

Jacks are very aggressive and will eat nearly all baitfish patterns. Jack Crevalle are group feeders and will swarm around bait balls of sardines or small mullet when feeding. Jacks are also not leader shy and they have rough teeth that can cut through light tackle easily. We recommend approximately 40lb straight fluorocarbon or monofilament when fishing for jacks.



PATTERN: Snookeoo | **COLOR:** Red/White | **SIZE:** 2

PATTERN: 'Kuda Fly | **COLOR:** Chartreuse | **SIZE:** 4

PATTERN: Major Herring | **COLOR:** Blue / White | **SIZE:** 3/0

PATTERN: Clouser Minnow | **COLOR:** Chartreuse / White, Blue / White | **SIZE:** 2/0, 2, 4

PATTERN: Saltwater Popper | **COLOR:** Chartreuse, Red/White, Blue | **SIZE:** 2/0, 2

PATTERN: Seaducer | **COLOR:** Red / White | **SIZE:** 2

PATTERN: Various Deceivers | **COLOR:** Multiple | **SIZE:** 2/0, 2, 4

PATTERN: Various Enrico Puglisi Spawning/Mantis Shrimp | **COLOR:** Tan, Root Beer, Olive, Pink | **SIZE:** 4, 1/0



COMMUNICATION

PRE-TRIP PLANNER

COMMUNICATION WITH GUESTS
CELL PHONES
INTERNET
EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS



PALOMETA CLUB COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

Punta Allen does not have reliable phone service, however the lodge is equipped with reliable internet service. All communications with guests and staff in town is done with internet based calling on What's App, Facetime, or by enabling internet calling on your cellular device.

In the case of emergency, we have provided you with ample contact numbers your family may use to reach you. Family and friends are also encouraged to contact us at Tailwaters if you need assistance tracking down a guest at the lodge. The lodge is also equipped with a satellite phone in the case of emergency.

CELLULAR PHONES:

Cell phones will work in Cancun and on the highway to Tulum, however we suggest you contact your cellular service provider to ensure international service is provided under your existing plan. We have found that Verizon does not provide good service on the Yucatan. AT&T works well. Cell phones will NOT work once you leave Tulum or at the Palometa Club in Punta Allen. Make sure to disable the data roaming feature on your smart phone to avoid huge fees with your cellular provider!

EMAIL / INTERNET:

The lodge is equipped with wireless Internet access. Please feel free to bring your laptop if you intend on using a computer to check email or the web. Bandwidth can be limited with too much use, so please do not stream video or download large files. We also ask you shut down devices when not using them. Ask the managers on duty for the wireless log-in information.

EMERGENCY CONTACT

GROUND TRANSFERS

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