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We are in the eighth year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We want to help you match the right location with your fly fishing goals and objectives and properly prepare you to fully enjoy the experience. We've been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new destinations. Whatever unbiased information on timing and locations we can provide comes at the same cost to you as booking direct – i.e., NO EXTRA COST.

ARGENTINA: LAND OF MANY AND VARIED OPTIONS

This is a land of contrasts. The northern part of the country is about 1,000 miles south of the Amazon and has a warm tropical climate. At the southern tip of Argentina, you find Tierra del Fuego that, at about 55° latitude, is less than 15° north of the Antarctic Peninsula. Geographically, another contrast exists to the west where the spectacular peaks of the Andes rise up to mark the border with Chile. The fishery is equally diverse and has some elements that are unique to Argentina.

GOLDEN DORADO: The extensive Ibera Marshland and the High Parana River are among the world's top Golden Dorado fisheries and are found in the tropical environs of northern Argentina. The Golden Dorado (below, right) is a stunning fly rod fish that jumps like a tarpon and attacks with the ferocity of a peacock bass. In certain places, they are fished with a surface fly and floating lines exclusively.



PATAGONIA: The classic rainbow and brown trout (below left) streams and rivers of Patagonia in the western portion of the country provide another option. Many of these waters provide a traditional dry fly fishery similar to our Rocky Mountains.

TIERRA del FUEGO: Any fly rodder who has spent time reading fly fishing travel brochures or magazines has heard of this famous fishery. Many anglers come from around the world every year to pursue these giant sea run brown trout (above, right). This is one of those special places in the world where sound conservation principles were put in place early enough to protect a truly unique fishery.



JURASSIC LAKE: The real name of this lake is Lago Strobel and is one of the most special places to take large, wild rainbow trout (see article below).

DOVE HUNTING: For the fly fisher that is also an avid bird hunter, world class dove hunting lodges exist in many places. And, coincidentally, the prime seasons for both dove hunting and fly fishing is mostly the same months so they can be combined in the same trip.



When we get on an airplane and spend the time and money to travel to a distant fishery, I prefer to incorporate more than one fishing environment if at all possible and I have the time available. Some destinations allow for two different fisheries and fishing environments; Argentina is unique in that if you have the time and the budget, you can utilize the air travel to one country to actually fish three different environments and three different trophy fisheries. That's pretty special!

JURASSIC LAKE - MORE

OK, Jurassic is a nickname for Lago Strobel, but the connotation of something huge and unusual is accurate. In this case, it's the rainbow trout. Our June, 2010 newsletter carried a story about the unique aspects of this fishery. It has been called the "greatest wild rainbow fishery in the world."

What makes this fishery so special? The lake is a biological sensation with zillions of protein- enriched fresh water shrimp. The fish grow to huge sizes eating these shrimp year round. The rainbows have created their own ecological system and the unending food source has created year round spawners, using the one inlet stream (the Barrancoso River) that flows into the lake. The fish enter this lone inlet all year to spawn, providing there is enough water in the river. It often is too low during the middle of their summer to have fresh runs of rainbows entering and the only river fishing is done in large pools where the fish are holed up.



The river fishes at its best during the early and late part of the season, but the main fishery in the lake is a solid year round event. The fishing is done with easy access wading from shore and, when conditions are right, there are flats where you can sight fish these brutes.

One of our globe hopping, adventure seeking clients sent a collection of stunning photos from his trip last year. His comment was, "This is definitely a must do on anyone's bucket list. It was worth the trek into it."

Up until the last few years, the only outfitter- operated accommodations was a fairly rugged set up near the river mouth. Now, one of the large family owned estancias with 8 kms of river and miles of productive shoreline on its property has established a reliable guided fishing program with comfortable accommodations and excellent Argentinian cuisine.

Since I've outgrown "roughing it" for the most part, this estancia operation got my attention and we've added a stop here during our upcoming late January – February Argentina trip. Other stops we'll make will be in Patagonia and in the northern part of the country for Golden Dorado.

KAMCHATKA – THE COMPLETE TRIP REPORT

Our September newsletter carried a partial report on a trip to Kamchatka. The complete report from Chip Fudge and Chris Degner, including options, pricing, logistics, and some information on the non-fishing week of touring they added, can be accessed through this link: <http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/Kamchatka.pdf>

WHERE TO GO IN THE SEYCHELLES



Recently, I heard a report on a Seychelles trip from a trusted source that reminded me of some of my adventures in my younger days when trying to get a jump on the newest and latest "hot spot." So often in today's world of instant communications, someone takes a trophy fish and within seemingly days, there is so much hype about this new "trophy destination" that it becomes the "place to go" without having to pass the test of time. Recent examples of this include the bonefish in many South Pacific destinations.....a few large fish were taken and the hype was on. After a few years and many disappointed anglers, the reality became known....there were some large bonefish, but very few. and in unpredictable environments with very short practical fishing tides and local netters that were

experts at removing fish from the flats. Meanwhile, flyfishing operators had sprung up in several spots.....and they folded up just as fast.



The Seychelles has had some of this element with several different operators cropping up over the last few years. The report referenced earlier had six anglers on a mothership trip in the Seychelles. A week long trip concluded with one bonefish taken. This after traveling half way around the world in search of the “latest and greatest” Seychelles experience. Sometimes, a trip gets unavoidably ambushed by weather or other negative conditions, but on this trip, everything was perfect except for a relatively new and unpredictable location and a thorough understanding of the fishery by an inexperienced outfitter.

Contrast this to the consistent feedback over the years from those fishing the sister atolls of Alfonse and St. Francois (foreground above), in the Seychelles. This fishery is unparalleled for the combination of bonefish, giant trevally (above left), and milkfish (at right) in addition to several other species. What has kept this fishery constant? The answer is the same as every other spot in the world that has passed the test of time for providing consistent trophy fishing: a rich marine environment for producing trophy fish, reasonable and controlled fishing pressure, and catch and release emphasis without native harvesting of the fish. This fishery has been protected carefully over the years and the results remain constant. This is the best place on the globe to take trophy milkfish and one of the best for giant trevally. Plus, the numbers of bonefish and easy flats wading make it a good destination also for newcomers to saltwater fly fishing. While we can book all the Seychelles outfitters, we still favor the special flavor that is Alfonse/St. Francois. This link will take you to a photo essay of our Seychelles trip.....http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/tr_seychelles.pdf



OCTOBER MEMORY PHOTO

“The picture of that fish with all its color tail walking across the river is one I will never forget”, stated Paul Souza. Indeed, that spectacular Arctic Char in full spawning dress is a very special fish! It was taken on the Tree River in the Arctic Circle while fishing with one of the outfitters who fishes the waters of northern Canada and further north. However, that’s where the good news ends. Paul also reported that the lodge seemed to be suffering from the impact of our poor economy with few clients and was not well prepared or managed while he and his friend, John Wilhelm, were there.

PHOTO CREDITS: Kamchatka - Chris Degner and Chip Fudge; milkfish – Richard Cheatham; TdF Sea run brown – Axel Wimmer; Patagonia brown – Bill and Scott Dinsmore; Golden Dorado – Tony Shanks; Jurassic rainbows - Jeff Williams and Tim Pask



Either phone or drop us an e-mail if you have questions or would like more information about any of our destinations.

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