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We are in the twenty-first year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on the great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. 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.**

WHAT MAKES NEW ZEALAND SO SPECIAL?



If you want the answer to that question, and have a few minutes, read on. Doug Monnig has fished NZ for more than 25 weeks during his 14 trips since 2002. He has a depth of experiences to draw upon when explaining why NZ is so special. He submitted an extremely detailed and complete report on his Kiwi fly fishing experiences. The link to his complete report is at the bottom of these excerpts.....(photo at left of Doug with a 10.25# brown taken on a dry fly).

Below are two excerpts from Doug's outstanding report.....

WHAT IS A GREAT DAY IN NZ? “My most productive day was on a beautiful backcountry river where we spotted 45 or more good trout, stuck

around 25, and landed 21 between 3.75 lb. and 9 lb. Fifteen of those landed were over 5 lb., and seven were at least 7 lb. The trout were feeding well most of the day. Most ate #14 or #16 mayfly nymphs, but I also had 5 dry fly eats (mayfly and cicada patterns) from browns that all looked to be over 5 lb., including the largest brown landed that day - a beautiful 9 lb. male (~30 inches long).”



STALKING AND SIGHT FISHING TROPHY TROUT – THIS IS THE BEST! “I was targeting a large brown that was feeding sporadically on mayfly nymphs, mayfly adults and cicadas. We

both stared in astonished disbelief as the trout rose for and then refused a large, natural cicada that was struggling on the surface, and then immediately started lining up on the small, parachute mayfly pattern dry fly that I had just placed a few feet upstream from the live cicada. Expecting the live cicada to disappear into those big jaws, we both nearly forgot about my drifting fly. Our jaws dropped simultaneously as the big brown slowly rose and gently inhaled my small dry fly, turning down the natural, steak entrée for the artificial, after-dinner mint. Regaining my wits, I eventually set into solid resistance and then, after a blistering run, spent the next 10 minutes trying to turn that

magnificent 8.5 lb. male and coax it out from under the far bank and back to our side of the river, where we eventually landed it.”

Here is the link to Doug's entire report.....[NEW ZEALAND - FULL REPORT BY DOUG MONNIG](#)

REPORT FROM AUSTRALIA.....AND NZ



Globe hopping fly fisher, Joe Sugura, recently was on one of his extensive adventures which included both the east (Queensland) and west (Ningaloo Reef) coasts of Australia plus New Zealand. His time in NZ was spent on the North Island, unlike the majority of our NZ reports which come from the South Island. In addition to some productive trout fishing time in the Lake Taupo area, Joe did some salt water fly fishing. He got into some exciting sight fishing for Kingfish (at left) in the Tauranga Bay area. Joe reported sight-fishing them while they swam and fed on the back of black rays.

On the east coast of Australia, in the state of Queensland, Joe brings us a favorable first report on a salt fly fishing guide and lodge. This area is known for finding most of the shallow water salt water fish of Australia – queenfish, GT's, barramundi, golden trevally, and Pacific permit. Joe hit very favorable conditions and so spent most of his time using those conditions to successfully pursue the permit (Joe with nice fish at right). He took six permit, up to 22#.



From there Joe moved on to the northwest corner of Australia and an area which has been reported on in our newsletter many times, the Ningaloo Reef and the small town of Exmouth. In his time fishing the Northwest Cape, Joe hit tough conditions, but managed to add one more permit, GT's, Queenfish (at left), and Golden Trevally to his collection of Australian gamefish. A highlight of his time here was swimming with the migrating Whale Sharks, just off the Ningaloo Reef. March is the month that the Whale Sharks begin

to show here. The Ningaloo area is a protected World Heritage Site and an incredibly rich marine environment which includes nesting area for several different species of sea turtles.



PATAGONIA WITH DANA AND JOHN LANDIS



Dana and John Landis are a world traveling couple with frequent contributions to our newsletter. They have had their reports and outstanding photos grace our newsletter from New Zealand to Africa to the Seychelles and many places in between. In Patagonia, they have their favorite lodges – one tucked into the Andes on the Chilean side and the other a part of a 50,000 acre working Estancia in Argentina. This report is from the Argentina Estancia. This lodge is far more than just a world class fishing lodge.....maybe this phrase best describes it: each day, your fishing guide or one of the hosts will be on hand to help plan your day, whether you are feeling like fishing, mountain biking, horseback riding, a spa day, shopping in town, a morning by the river or even a tango lesson. For fishing, two of Argentina's finest gin clear streams flank the 100 year old Estancia.

Dana explains her view of why they return here: "The setting is magical as it is nestled among the towering evergreens with lavender hedges surrounding all the intimate gathering spots outside around the lodge. It feels like home the minute you arrive. The staff creates a relaxed, family style atmosphere with great attention to detail in everything they do .

The simplistic landscape setting and holistic approach that the Tipiluke team presents its guests, shares the vision of what is offered between the rivers and the mountains that makes this special place an easy choice to visit over and over again."

Photos, l to r: Dana with healthy rainbow and showing off her river; the wildlife is not like home; dining is a treat; cute couple!



Photos, l to r: Patagonia sunset; traditional Patagonia Asada; John with a nice rainbow; working the Estancia



AMAZING WINTER DAY IN UTAH

From son Scott: “Bob Ogle and I had an amazing day of winter fly fishing on the Provo River in Utah. It was sooo cold – coldest weather I’ve ever fished in. My guides on the fly rod froze every 15 minutes and I had to break ice off my rod. It was between 15 and 28 degrees. But the Provo is a tailwater – so the water was not too cold for insects and fish – epic hatch and fished all day on the surface (5 hour day) – landed 22 brown trout.”

Photos, l to r: a walk in the snow; Bob with pretty brown; Scott with fish on and the release.



WHAT WE DO AT FLY FISHING ADVENTURES

This is a link with a description of who we are and what we do.....also, listing the destinations around the world that we can provide reliable information regarding the experience and how to prepare for your visit:

[Fly Fishing Adventures - About What We Do](#)

NOVEMBER MEMORY PHOTO

A part of the Seychelles, the sister atolls of Alphonse and St. Francois are one of the world’s top destinations for couples with world class fly fishing. My wife and I met George Toledo there 15 years ago.....memorable trip that we blended Africa into. Now fast forward to this year 2023 – that’s Carolyn and George with a very unique double



taken while wading. Carolyn with a nice bonefish and George with a Milkfish, one of the most difficult salt water target fish to take on a fly. George had some extra anxiety while getting the Milkfish to net. A 5 foot Lemon shark attacked the fish. George broke his rod fighting off the shark, but still landed the fish!

PHOTO CREDITS: New Zealand – Doug Monnig; Australia – Joe Sugura; Patagonia – Dana and John Landis; Utah – Bob Ogle and Scott Muelrath.

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,
Don Muelrath
Fly Fishing Adventures
www.flyfishingadventures.org
888-347-4896