



SEYCHELLES AND AFRICA



THE SEYCHELLES: a collection of spectacular atolls and islands off the eastern coast of Africa. Many rumors have surrounded the famous bonefish and trevally flats in the stunning Seychelles Islands. The Alphonse Island Resort, a five star property on this isolated atoll, is the most recognizable headquarters for fishing this destination. The rumors have included a variety of reports, the most common being that the island was sold and the fishery closed down. The reality is that the resort was sold to a high end developer and his goal is to build what will be the most exclusive resort in the world. Fly fishing is not a priority for this new owner. Originally, he was going to close down the atoll for two years while construction took place.



However, due to the pleading of fly fishing marketers and past visitors (and the promise of \$60,000 in weekly revenue), he decided to keep enough of the old resort operating to service only 10 rods a week. The old resort is no longer a full service resort – everything has been closed down except for the fishery, accommodations, dining room, and water oriented activities like snorkeling (no diving). The fly fishing operation will stay open until the end of April '09. What will happen at that time is not clear, but most likely, the fly fishing operation will close down while the new resort is completed.

When this news became public, many of those who had visited Alfonso in the past wanted to get in one more trip in case things did close down. Hence, the only weeks in 2008 with meaningful space available are 12/13-20 and 12/20- 27. There are few other openings during the last quarter of '08. However, from January 1, '09, through the end of April, each month has at least one week with meaningful openings.

Price: \$6,850 per rod and \$3,990 for non-fisherman, based on double occupancy and shared guide.

OTHER SEYCHELLES OPTION



The other option to fish the Seychelles is via a mothership that operates approximately 8 to 10 weeks a year, during the prime fishing months of October through April. Accommodation is aboard a spacious and comfortable 73 foot motorized catamaran.

The boat anchors inside the lagoon of the legendary Farquhar Atoll, in the lee of the island and just meters from the flats. There are 6 guest cabins – 3 double beds and 3 double bunk configurations.

AFRICA: COMBINING TIGERFISHING AND SAFARI



Our November 2007 newsletter carried a trip report on what is renowned as the best place in Africa to fly fish for tigerfish while enjoying a quality safari experience. The location of this combination experience is in the Lower Zambezi River National Park in Zambia and is unique in that the fishing is limited to two boats only at any one time. Primarily, this is a safari camp with some of Africa's best tigerfishing available. Also, no netting is allowed in the park keeping the fish populations optimum. You can view the November newsletter through this link. <http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/70.pdf>

The prime time for both game viewing and tigerfishing happen to coincide during September, October, and early November. That is the "dry season" when the waters are most clear and low; also, the wildlife congregates near the water.

COMBINING IT ALL – SEYCHELLES, TIGERFISH, AND AFRICAN SAFARI WILDLIFE VIEWING

I am a fan of dual environment experiences where (providing you have the time and the budget) on one trip, you can spend time in two totally different environments. This is certainly true in the case of the Seychelles and the Lower Zambezi River. While not right next to each other in proximity, they are about 1500 miles apart and in the same general part of the world, making a combination trip possible.

OUR PERSONAL PLANS FOR 2008

I strongly feel the responsibility to our traveling fly fishing friends and clients to continue to provide a good example of how to be a retired fly fishing adventure traveler. That responsibility is a driving force in my life and, in that spirit, Marte and I are off on the exotic "dual purpose" adventure mentioned in this newsletter next October. The rest of our 2008 plans include:

Feb – repeating our Fiji and New Zealand trip, amazingly just 3.5 hours via air from each other in the South Pacific.

Spring and summer: two or three Belize trips on the Meca and Seaduction

July: a return to the land of the giant brook trout on the Minipi River, Labrador

Mid – late summer: work in visits to Three Forks Ranch in northern Colorado and the Elk River system in Fernie, BC.

December: Open

Someone's gotta do it, and for me, it's all serious business.....

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,
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PHOTO CREDITS

John Parsons and Jay Strako: tigerfish

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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