



Tailing Bonefish, Ascension Bay



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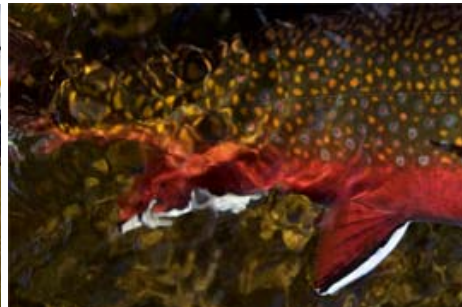
We are in the ninth year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on the great flyfishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We’ve been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new destinations. Whatever unbiased information on timing and locations we can provide comes at the same cost to you as booking direct – i.e., NO EXTRA COST.

SOUTH OF SOUTH – A QUALITY EXPERIENCE NEAR THE HORN



“Where else can you fish the most southern trout in the world, in nearly untouched wilderness, from a helicopter? I thought it was an A+ experience”: comments from well-traveled fly fisher, Dave Fudurich, on his stay at Lakutaia Lodge on Isla Navarino in southern Chile. Isla Navarino is the southernmost island in the world with trout streams and lakes. This is the most southern part of Chile, on the very tip of South America.....actually south of the famous sea-run brown trout fishery at Tierra del Fuego. Dave and his group (including his wife, Sarah, at left, and Sally and Brent Kitson) tied this destination in with fishing for the trophy browns of the Rio Grande in Tierra del Fuego. It also could tie together with a trip to Antarctica which disembarks very close to this location.

“The fish were in very good health and most fish caught were between 16 and 20 inches with a few in the low 20’s. During our stay in mid January, streamers were the most effective, nymphs worked great, drys worked good in skinny water, and mouse patterns worked nicely too. I fished a mouse pattern two afternoons and had 30-40 strikes and landed around 15 on the mouse. Rainbows, Browns and Brook trout were present in most locations, though a few areas had only one or two species.”



Above, l to r: Dave with a healthy brown; the group with guides and heli pilot; brilliant colors of a male brookie in spawning dress; Sarah with a large brookie.

“The helicopter, pilot and mechanic were absolutely top notch. The lodge owners also own the boats, planes, and helicopters that supply Antarctica, so they are well funded and can handle logistics.” The lodge used to be primarily an eco tour lodge and the heli fly fishing program is a relatively new addition.



The lodge (photos above) is located in the village of Puerto William. From Dave: “The lodge was nice considering the remote location of Puerto Williams. The lobby, lounge, bar, and dining areas were clean, light and airy, with fresh cut greens in vases, and natural rocks and driftwood creating a classy decor that reflected the local environment.” Photo at right is the traditional Patagonian asado....open BBQ.

Below, l to r: Brent with solid brookie; spectacular scenery was part of the daily copter fly outs



Closing comments from Dave who supplied this outstanding collection of photos: “Overall this was a quality experience with a comfortable lodge, good fishing for quality trout, good guides, unspoiled wilderness, and punctuated by two spectacular helicopter flights each day.” If you’d like to see Dave’s complete report, hit reply.

REPORTS FROM SPRING FISHERIES IN THE USA

SOLITARY STALKING WITHIN TWO HOURS OF NYC

John Gans has been a regular contributor to our newsletter for several years. He checks in with this exciting report from waters within two hours drive from New York City: “The anadromous Shad were in 2-4 feet of gin clear water. I sight cast to them all day. It was amazing. The fly had to be right in front of them. They take and then jump a few times. Great visual. 3-7 pound fish on a 4 weight, often took most of my backing. I couldn’t believe I had never done it and it was only two hours from the city. Not a soul on the river, even on a Sunday.”



THE BIGHORN RIVER IN WYOMING



Terry (at left) and Gary Butts, a favorite fly fishing couple, have submitted several reports and photos over the years, including a few from their New Zealand adventures. This one closer to home: “We were fishing the Bighorn in WY. Probably two of the best dry fly days ever. Lots of 19"- 21" browns, rainbow, natives, and cutbows. The BWO hatch was on, but the critters eagerly took a grasshopper pattern??? Saw only one other boat this trip. We usually try to fish this section of the Bighorn in the spring and again in the fall. We try to time our visits with the BWO hatch. This spring was exceptional. Our last Christmas card depicts our spring 2014 visit. This section of the Bighorn never received much attention until approximately 5 years ago. It is becoming more popular, but remains uncrowded. We always fish with local guides based out of Casper.”

THE GLOBE'S MOST PRIVATE GT FISHERY



Almost every fly fisher has heard of the Seychelle's famous Alphonse Island. The all round package at Alphonse is special in the realm of salt water fly fishing – a protected and incredible fly fishery, unspoiled and relaxed island, first class accommodations and scuba diving centre, great guides and staff and the list goes on. Understandably the season fills up rapidly and now is the time to secure the best rods for the October 2015-May 2016 season.

Contrasting Alphonse's popularity in the flyfishing community is Astove Lodge, their new operation which very few are familiar with. Astove is different than most fly fishing destinations, very different. First, an incredible population of all the Indian Ocean flats species, most specifically, large Giant Trevally. Total privacy and exclusivity for just six rods on one of the most beautiful atolls in the Indian Ocean. The new Astove Lodge provides an experience that is one of the most special remote fishing lodges anywhere in the world. Operating at this high level on such a remote atoll and catering to so few guests, it is expensive and totally unique. Already, it has become difficult to find space on the Astove calendar.

AFRICA TIE-IN TO THE SEYCHELLES: The Seychelles lie in the Indian Ocean, just off the east coast of Africa. Tie-in options for a trip to the Seychelles include the many adventures available in Africa. While we are familiar with both the Seychelles and some of Africa's top fly fishing and game viewing destinations, we don't know all the extensive Africa options. For that purpose, we have a "partner travel agency" in South Africa who does know intimately the many options Africa offers.

MAY MEMORY PHOTO

On almost every fly fishers bucket list is a photo of a giant tarpon. Ben Beard lived that dream recently. The photo at right, captured by his wife Linda, is an approximately 125# tarpon that eventually was brought to the boat and released.

PHOTO CREDITS: South of South – Dave Fudurich; Within Two Hours of NYC – John Gans; Bighorn – Gary Butts;

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