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FISH PLAYA BLANCA WITH US – ONE GUIDE REMAINING



We're going to be fishing at Playa Blanca in the Sian Ka'an Biosphere in the Mexican Yucatan twice in the next five months. Each week, we'll be accompanied by a small group, in many cases anglers on their first trip to this world-class salt water flats lodge and, indeed, some on their first ever salt water flats trip. Our spots for our June trip are full, but we have one guide remaining for our September 13 – 20 trip.

Last year, we visited Playa Blanca this same week in September and had a memorable trip including releasing all the primary flats species: bonefish, permit (above), tarpon (right), and snook. In fact, even though our small group collectively had very little salt water experience, we released eleven permit for the week. This link takes you to a report on that trip: [REPORT: PLAYA BLANCA TRIP](#)



If you'd like the details on our Sept 13 trip, give us a call or hit "reply" and ask.

CLASSIC NEW ZEALAND FLY FISHING

A close look at the photo below captures what is so special about fishing New Zealand. On the left



side of the photo, in front of the submerged rock, is a large brown. In his report on his first NZ experience, Chris Littauer captured in one sentence why NZ is so special: “This trip was fantastic and checked every box for us - amazing guides in terms of both skill and personality, wonderful scenery, great accommodation, diversity of water and above all else, the best trout sight fishing the world has to offer.”



Chris and friend, Tim, were on a “hard core” fly fishing NZ itinerary. They fished four days each in two different locations with a different guide in each location, and a travel day in the middle.....total of ten days on the ground in NZ.

In his wrap up, Chris commented: “NZ is beautiful beyond comparison, the people are wonderful and welcoming, everything is clean and functions efficiently and nothing ever seems too crowded. As of today, we have dates rebooked through Don for 2026 and 2027 to return and will continue this annual trip in perpetuity. It is simply impossible to beat!”

As the long-time operator of World Cast Angers in eastern Idaho, Chris has fished all over the world and his report comes from a guy with extensive experience of fishing the globe. If you’d like to see his complete report, this is the link: [TRIP REPORT NZ: CHRIS LITTAUER](#)

NZ – WHEN IT’S NOT PERFECT



You may be able to tell from the photo at left, with the muddy water swirling around Nathan Howard’s boots, that the conditions on his trip were not always perfect!

Father and son, Nathan and Tom, were on their second trip in NZ. They began their trip in the spectacular mountains of Fiordland National Park in the southwest corner of the South Island. This approach would be considered about as “hard core” as it gets.....Nathan commented on the physical nature of their Fiordland backcountry experience: “I would not generally recommend such a thing for people not in good physical shape – I am in good shape but was a bit concerned at times given how much rock scrambling we had to do and some pretty rough bush.”



After their rugged Fiordland days, things got more comfortable as they moved north to an area they had fished on their first trip. Their accommodations here were a comfortable farm stay and waters they were mostly familiar with, although some heavy rains in the middle to the trip often made the fishing challenging. “Despite the down fishing in the middle, it was a great trip and we had a really good time.” If you’d like to see Nathan’s complete and comprehensive report, including the good, the bad, and the ugly, this link takes you there. [NZ TRIP REPORT: NATHAN HOWARD](#)

EXCHANGE RATES MAKE NZ A \$\$ VALUE – DO IT ON \$4,700US

In the last few weeks, we have put together three “hard core” fishing NZ itineraries that averaged \$4,700 per person. Two of these were for groups of four and one was for a pair of guys. Here’s what they included:

- 8 days total fishing
- Four days each in two different areas
- A travel day in the middle
- World class guides
- 9 full days on the ground in NZ
- Lodging and meals in comfortable Kiwi farm stays
- Did not include air, rental vehicles, tips, and misc



EXPLORING NZ OPTIONS

From couples or family trips to the “hard core” fishing variety, there are many different ways to approach planning a NZ itinerary. I continue to believe that NZ is the best destination on the globe with world class fly fishing while also providing the option of a world class couples experience. This link will take you to a report that discusses the many approaches to visiting NZ. [THE COMPLETE NZ REPORT](#)

When planning a NZ adventure, best to plan far in advance to have the best options available – 18 or more months is not to far. We have an info piece called TEN STEPS IN PRELIMINARY PLANNING FOR A NZ TRIP. If you’d like a copy, just hit reply and ask.

THE COUPLES TRIP VERSION OF NZ



A couples approach to a NZ visit that has become very popular, if the lady does not share the husband’s fly fishing passion, is for the hubby to go over early for some hard-core fishing to be joined later by his wife for traveling, touring, and experiencing the joys of the land of the Kiwis. Or, as in the case of Nancy and Dave Hamilton below, is for the husband to stay behind after the couples touring portion is completed.

Shirley and Tim Quattlebaum (at left) were on their second NZ adventure. Both trips utilized the same approach – Tim went over early (below with a great brown

taken from that small stream in the background) and then was joined by Shirley. On their second NZ trip this year, they added, on their way home, a stop in Fiji at an out-island “second honeymoon” type beach resort. Shirley had these comments on their second trip: “After a few days in Auckland exploring the city culture, I joined Tim on the South Island. We enjoyed hiking and driving through Arthur’s Pass, which was absolutely breathtaking. Then we ventured to the West Coast of the South Island, where the natural beauty of the coast, the Southern Alps, and the remote wilderness were awe-inspiring. We even hiked to both the beach and a glacier in the same day! I can’t say enough about the warm hospitality at the two Wilderness Lodges. Finishing up the trip in Fiji gave us a chance to wind down and enjoy each other.”



As mentioned above, Nancy and Dave Hamilton, used the reverse approach. They began the trip together and Dave stayed on after they had completed their touring. They also combined meeting up with friends for several days in the middle of their trip. Dave’s comments on their trip: “Just got back from New Zealand. Nancy and I had a wonderful time all over, especially at the eco-lodges you recommended. And my guide was the best! Attached are a few photos of the many brown trout I caught. One is the biggest I caught (about 8 pounds), plus two five-pounders. Most of my fish were caught sight casting to specific fish, but often my guide would see them while I could not -- I just had to cast to a particular spot. That man has x-ray vision for fish! My largest brown was the largest trout I’ve ever caught. Really had a great time -- many thanks for helping us put the trip together!”

For this years “CUTE COUPLE PHOTO OF THE NZ SEASON” we have selected Susan and Todd Christman, at right. Susan and Todd share their fly fishing passion. To keep this real, we must admit there are no tangible benefits for this selection – we just thought it was a great fly fishing couples photo and we often have a “cute couples of the NZ season” and this was a great one this year! Luv getting messages like this written on their way home: “Don, as we are sitting in the Aukland airport on our way home, we just wanted to thank you for helping make our adventure so special. Both Scotty's were great. Got us into a bunch of fish. Amazing. Thank you so much. Susan and Todd Christman”



WHAT WE DO AT FLY FISHING ADVENTURES

This is a link with a description of who we are and what we do.....also, it lists the destinations around the world where we can provide reliable information and help you prepare for your trip: [Fly Fishing Adventures - About What We Do](#)

APRIL MEMORY PHOTO



No, it's not another large NZ brown trout.....that's Mark Andersen with a giant Lahontan Cutthroat Trout taken from Pyramid Lake. Mark was fishing with sons Sterling and Aaran....nice of the boys to let Dad take the largest fish!

Photo credits: baby tarpon, Playa Blanca – Jeff Reinke; New Zealand, top to bottom, Chris Littauer, Nathan and Tom Howard, Shirley and Tim Quattlebaum, Dave Hamilton, Susan and Todd Christman.

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,
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