



ASCENSION BAY BONEFISH CLUB



TRIP PLANNER

THE ASCENSION BAY
BEACH
CLUB



Mexico's East Coast of the Yucatan Peninsula has always been a favorite of Bonefish anglers. The crystal clear water, large population of Bonefish, and other numerous varieties of fish have drawn anglers for many years. The superb Permit fishing adds an additional dimension to the light tackle challenges, with the occasional Tarpon and Snook completing this most attractive menu through out the year.

Ascension Bay Bonefish Club was started over 12 years ago, in order to take advantage of the Yucatan's finest fishing waters. Located in Punta Allen, about four hours south of Cancun, it has access to remote and productive flats in the large (90 square mile) bay area. The lodge's clean, refreshing accommodations and small size insures plenty of personal service from the manager and his staff.

Any worthwhile trip begins well before you arrive, in not only the dreams everybody shares about the good fishing to come, but also in the preparation. When trips occur in remote areas, advance planning becomes all the more important as convenient tackle supplies are not readily available.

With that in mind, we'd like you to take a few moments in anticipation of your visit to review the following topics:

THE FLATS AND THE FISHING: Ascension Bay stretches for many miles and there are literally hundreds of flats to explore. Most are easily waded, white sand flats that make spotting fish easy. Many flats surround small islands, and, in some cases, there are also networks of flats on the more protected inside lagoons of these islands. In some areas, there are also extensive silt bottomed flats, studded with mangrove shoots. Here Bonefish tail willingly and because the flats are quite shallow, spotting cruising fish is quite easy. Permit usually prefer deeper flats, and often these long flats run parallel to the shorelines of elongated islands or beaches. The majority of the Permit fishing is done from the skiffs, though frequently anglers will find Permit in areas where careful wading can get anglers within casting range.

BOATS AND GUIDES: The lodge presently maintains four flats skiffs and three sets of excellent guides, all highly trained. Each skiff will accommodate two anglers and two guides (one guide per angler). The advantages are many, including having two pairs of experienced eyes spotting fish.

Also, when anglers are wading, one guide will bring the skiff to the fisherman, so there's no long walk back to the boat after fishing a large flat. The skiffs are 23 feet long, and despite their large size, are able to get into shallow flats. Each has comfortable seats, a large casting platform, and all are extremely comfortable if the bay turns rough.

CLOTHING: In the tropics, clothing is very important, both, for sun protection and to keep anglers as cool as possible in the tropical heat. Choose items in NEUTRAL colors. More and more anglers are discovering the specialized clothing made for this type of environment, such as garments made by Patagonia, Ex-Officio or Columbia. Anglers should plan on wearing lightweight pants/shorts, and long sleeve shirts, coupled with a wide brimmed or flats style hat. Most anglers wear long pants rather than shorts. A lightweight raincoat is always suggested in the tropics. Polarized sunglasses with either amber or brown lenses are best for spotting cruising Bones and Permit. Sunscreen with a protection factor of at least 30 is recommended, along with 95 % Aloe gel for soothing any burns that may occur. At the lodge, dress is usually neat, but casual. Guests are urged to dress as they feel most comfortable.

The vast majority of the fishing is done via wading, with the majority of the flats consisting of hard packed, white sand. Anglers should have proper lightweight shoes for wading, such as, neoprene lightweight wading boots or Nike aqua type socks are fine, which protects against the occasional, sharp limestone bottom.

DOCUMENTS required for entry into Mexico should include a valid proof of US citizenship. While a valid passport is the best proof, a birth certificate (original, not a copy) is also acceptable along with a picture ID. Mexican tourist cards will be issued by the airlines flying you into Cancun. Also check your airline ticket for prepaid departure tax in Mexico, the cost should be \$11.50 US dollars.

If a parent is bringing a minor child into Mexico unaccompanied by the other parent, you need a notarized letter from the parent not making the trip, giving permission to the traveling parent to bring the child into Mexico.

LIQUOR: Limited beers and soft drinks are available upon request at the lodge. There's always a pitcher of ice tea or lemonade on hand. Hard liquors should be brought along or it can be purchased on the way down to the lodge. Specialty liquors such as Single Malt Scotch or Premium wines should be purchased at duty-free shops or in the country of origin due to the heavy import tax and availability in Mexico.

INSECTS are not a major problem while fishing, and are seldom encountered on the water. On very calm nights at the lodge, there are some sand fleas. Mosquito coils in each room do a good job of keeping them at bay the vast majority of time, though a bottle of your favorite 95% DEET type repellent should be brought along just in case.

THE CLUB is located in the small town of Punta Allen. It is comprised of two comfortable houses situated about 50 yards from the ocean, in a fenced-in compound. Punta Allen is primarily a lobster village, with an active fishing cooperative, three small stores and a few local accommodations.

The lodge has three bedrooms, each with two or three single beds, large dresser and hanging closets. Each room has a bathroom facility, some are built into the room and some are located across the hall from the room. The tiled bathrooms are quite large, with full showers, sinks and commode. There's plenty of hot water available at any time. The remainder of the lodge consists of a lounge area, dining room and kitchen, plus a large outside patio. Anglers leave their rods outside in the provided racks, along with any wet shoes or clothing. The house has many windows facing all directions and there's usually breezes to keep things pleasant and cool. There are fans throughout the house, and they are turned on as needed, though electricity runs from 5:30 P.M. to 11:30 P.M. Solar powered fans in each room remain on throughout the night to help circulate the night breezes. Water for the entire village is provided from a fresh water spring located 3 miles outside of town. Bottled water is always available at the lodge for drinking and brushing teeth.

TRIP ITINERARY: trips run Friday to Friday. Guests should plan to arrive in Cancun around noon to 2 P.M. A representative from the lodge will meet guests just outside the airport doors after clearing customs, and drive them approximately three and a half hours south to the lodge. The representative will have an ABBC sign with them. On the way to the lodge, the driver will stop at the angler's request, to purchase any specialty alcohols. The road is a paved, two lane highway to Tulum, and from there a narrower, dirt road. If time allows, guests can stop for a quick tour of the Mayan ruins at Tulum. Fishing begins on Saturday and runs through the following Thursday. On Friday, transfer again will be provided back to Cancun. Guests should anticipate taking flights out of Cancun after 12 noon or later.

PHONE CONTACTS: The lodge manager receives calls & messages at (011.52) 984.877.8532, please leave a message if no one answers. If you need to receive calls while at the lodge, there is a service fee of \$2 US per minute to receive calls. The lodge phone is (011 52) 984-877-8532. Calls can best be handled in the evenings.

TACKLE SUGGESTION LIST - FLY FISHING

(Spin Fishing List available upon request)

BONEFISH TACKLE

- Fast action fly rod, 9 ft, for a 7- 8 weight
- Salt water reel capable of holding at least 150 yards of 20 lb. backing
- Fly-line: weight forward, saltwater taper, floating.
- 12 ft leaders 8-or 12-lb. clear mono
- Tippet material 8-12 lb. Flouro-Carbon

Bonefish flies

- Crazy Charlie type (pink, white, tan, root beer) #6 - #8
 - Joe's APC #6 (available at the lodge)
 - Gotcha #6 - #8
 - Pink Puff #6 - #8
 - Snapping Shrimp w/o eyes #6 - #8
- It is a good idea to have some flies with no eyes or plastic eyes for shallow water--

Note: Flies are available for purchase at the lodge.

PERMIT TACKLE

- Fast action, graphite fly rod 9 ft. for a 8 - 10 weight.
- Saltwater large arbor reel
- least a 150 yards of 20-30 lb. backing.
- Fly Line: Weight forward saltwater tapered floating line. (use one size up than rod recommendation for easier casting of larger flies OR take a casting lesson from Tom)
- 12 - 15 ft. leaders 12-15 lb. mono
- Tippet material 12-15 lb. Flouro-Carbon

Note: Please review article entitled "Improve Your Permit Percentage" at www.ascension-bay.com/blog/

Permit Flies

- Joe's APC #2-#6 (white, tan, light grey) available only at the lodge
- Raghead Style #2- #6 (tan, olive, white)
- Del's #2 -#4 (tan/brown, white/tan) light, medium, and heavy.

TARPON TACKLE

- Graphite fly rod 8-10 weight (same as permit)
- Saltwater, large arbor reel
- 150 yards of 20-30 lb. backing
- Weight forward saltwater taper line (use one size up than rod recommendation for easier casting of larger flies OR take a casting lesson from Tom)
- 9-ft. leader 10-15 lb. class tippet
- 30-50 lb. shock tippet

Tarpon flies

- Cockroach #2-1/0
- Seaducer #2 -1/0
- Popper (medium size in white)#2-1/0

SNOOK TACKLE

(Same as bonefish & permit tackle)

- Shock tippet 20 to 30 lb. mono

Snook Flies

- Seaducer #1 & 1/0 (red/yellow/grizzly, white/red)
- Saltwater poppers (white, white/red)

BARRACUDA TACKLE

(Same as permit tackle requirements)

- 9-ft. clear mono leader
- Shock tippet (6 inch. of 20 - 30lb. wire section)

Barracuda flies

- Long, slim `Cuda Flies (chartreuse w/double or single hook)
- Poppers

FLY LINE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Scientific Anglers, Cortland, Rio & Airflo all make Saltwater specific lines. Consult with your local fly shop. **NOTES:** _____

TRAVEL ADVISORY

ATTENTION NON-U.S. BORN AMERICANS!!!

As of 1/2/02 Mexico is requiring Non-U.S. Born Americans from certain countries to have a 'Entry Visa' to be able to enter Mexico. The list of countries is changing daily and it is highly advised to consult your nearest Mexican Consulate for the most current list and applications.

MEXICAN CONSULATES (Consul Generals):

ALBUQUERQUE
400 Gold SW
Suite 100
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Tel (505) 247 - 2139
Fax (505) 842 - 9490

ATLANTA
3220 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30305
(404) 266 - 1913

AUSTIN
200 East 6th Street
Suite 200
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 478 - 9031

BOSTON
20 Park Plaza, 5th Floor
Suite 506
Boston, MA 02116
(617) 426 - 8782

DENVER
48 Steel Street
Denver, CO 80206
(303) 331 - 1871

DETROIT
600 Renaissance Center
Suite 1510
Detroit, MI 48243
(313) 567 - 7709

CHICAGO
300 North Michigan Ave,
2nd floor
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 855 - 0056
(312) 855 - 9257

DALLAS
8855 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, TX 75247
(214) 630 - 7341

PHILADELPHIA
111 South Independence Mall
East
Bourse Building, suite 1010
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(215) 625-4897

FRESNO
830 Van Ness Av.
Fresno, CA 93721
(209) 233-4219
(209) 233-5638

HOUSTON
3015 Richmond, suite 100
Houston, TX 77098
(713) 524-2300
(713) 523-6244

LOS ANGELES
2401 West 6th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90057
(213) 351-6800
(213) 389-6864

MIAMI
1200 N.W. 78TH Ave, suite 200
Miami, FL 33126
(305) 716-4977
(305) 593-2758

NEW YORK
8 East 41ST Street
New York, NY 10017
(212) 689-0465

ORLANDO
823 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 894-0514

PHOENIX
1990 W. Camel Back Rd, suite
110
Phoenix, AZ 015
(612) 242-7398
(612) 242-2957

PORTLAND
1234 South West Morrison
Portland, OR 97205
(503) 274-1442
(503) 274-1540

SALT LAKE CITY
458 East 200 South
Salt Lake City, UTAH 84111
(801) 521-8502 & 03
(801) 521-0534

SAN ANTONIO
127 Navarro, Street
San Antonio, TX 78205
(210) 227-1085

SAN DIEGO
1549 India Street
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 231-9741

SAN FRANCISCO
870 Market Street, suite 528
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 392-6576

SEATTLE
2132 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121
(206) 441-0552



ABBC CHECK LIST

CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Shirts
- Pants/shorts
- Belt
- Rain Jacket
- Hat (darkly shaded under the brim)
- Boat/wading shoes
- Socks
- Bathing suit
- Bandana
- Shore attire
- Sun-gloves

FISHING GEAR

- Polarized sunglasses w/side shields
- Sunglass cleaner
- Pocket knife
- Clippers
- Hemostats/pliers
- Hook file (for small hooks)
- Wading/fanny pack
- Line cleaner/dressing & pad
- Lighter
- Waterproof boat bag
- Tape measure
- Fly reels
- Fly rods
- Fly lines
- Leaders & tippet material
- Fly boxes

OTHER

- Zinc oxide
- Lip balm SPF30+
- Sunscreen SPF30
(waterproof/odorless/greaseless)
- Insect repellent, w/DEET
- Garbage bags, heavy duty or dry bag
- Zip lock bags
- Adhesive tape
- Camera, film & batteries
- Small flashlight & batteries
- After sun lotion (ie Aleo Vera)
- Binoculars
- Journal, books & pens
- Snorkeling gear (optional)

DON'T FORGET

- Passport
- ATM card (best exchange rates)
- Cash/ travelers checks
- Credit card
- Airline tickets
- RX drugs
- Keys
- Travel vouchers

NOTES: _____

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-800-819-0750 **OR EMAIL:** abbc@fishingpursuits.com

ADDITIONAL TRAVEL INFO

CASH OR TRAVELERS CHECKS

We have been asked for more information on the amount of cash or Travelers checks needed at the lodge.

GRATUITIES are of a very personal nature, however standard gratuity (to be pooled amongst the staff) is about \$300 - \$400 per person per week, per person. Extras would be a tip to the captain for a grand slam (\$100) or a tip to the maid for laundry services (\$5 a load).

ANOTHER \$100-\$200 SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THE FOLLOWING:

At the lodge you can purchase cigars, flies, shirts and hats. We have Columbia long sleeved fishing shirts, t-shirts and some sun hats.

Alcohol can be purchased along the way from Cancun to the lodge and must be paid for in cash.

Of course all of this is dependent on how many shirts/hats you bring home, how many cigars you smoke, how many flies you need and how much liquor you pick up along the way!

Have a great trip and please drop us a line or call us to tell us how your trip was – we love to hear fishing reports!

IN-COUNTRY CONTACT NUMBERS:

The Club (011-52) 984-877-8532

Shuttle Driver (011.52) 984-100-2489 or (011-52) 999-906-8744

To make a 'in-country' call from a payphone, purchase a "Telmex" calling card at any Mexican convenience store, gas station, etc... They are very easy to use. Insert card in Telmex phone (most pay phones) and dial all but the (011-52).

CELL PHONES:

There is coverage on the main highway from Cancun to Tulum. Cingular works perfectly with no roaming. Call your cell company about its international program. NO CELL PHONES WORK AT THE CLUBS.

1.800.819.0750



abbc@fishingpursuits.com