



DIY FISHING

and Vacation Rentals

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for FREE

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Happy Tails



LOTS OF EXCITING THINGS GOING ON at *DIYFishing and Vacation Rentals* in our effort to build and improve on the world's only platform that provides traveling anglers with up-to-date fishing information, connects them directly with local area specialists, and gives them access to the most appropriate Vacation Rentals for each fishing destination.

I love contests and we have a beauty coming up. It officially kicks off on September 1, and it runs until midnight September 30. The winner will be drawn and announced on October 2, 2017. This is one sweepstakes you and your friends will want to enter. The Grand Prize is an extraordinary one-week fishing adventure for one lucky angler to Calabash Caye, located on the southern end of the world famous Turneffe Atoll in Belize.

Trip travel dates are December 2 through 10. And the Grand Prize winner will join a team that includes *DIYFishing* and The Fly Fishing Nation experts for the trip of a lifetime. Bonefish flats are steps away from the front door of the luxurious [Calabash Caye Hideaway Villa](#), and the renowned "Permit Highway" is easily reached by either kayak or guide boat.

This promises to be one of the best trips I've ever been on, and I look forward to spending time with the winner and our friends from The Fly Fishing Nation, one of the industry's top media companies that will capture the entire week in photos and on film.

Entry into the contest is simple. Either click on the "Sweepstakes Ad" on page 19, or sign up through the website, our Facebook page, or on Instagram.

This month also marks the launch of our new [Fishing Reports section](#), where users can search for Fishing Reports from around the world based on Destinations, Species, Guides or Bodies of Water. With over 2,000 reports already loaded, and hundreds more being added each month, the Fishing Reports search engine is destined to be the one-stop-shop for anglers looking for current fishing reports on their favorite species. The reports are posted by *DIYFishing's* Area Specialists, subscribers and website users from every corner of the globe.

I encourage everyone to post and share their most recent fishing adventures, so that we can all enjoy the places you have visited.

There are some great articles in this month's issue written by true professionals who know how to make a cast, a rise or an evening sunset come to life. I'm not in that category, but writing deficiencies aside, I decided to throw in a photo-essay on the pink salmon fishing we experience here on the east coast of Vancouver Island in British Columbia. This is one of my favorite fisheries for some very basic reasons. It's not very exotic and the fish are not large... but man are they fun to catch and simple to find. It's the perfect outing for a beginner, a family or for the angler who just wants to feel a "tug."

Some people fish for them in the rivers, I prefer to target them as they make their way along the beaches (well within casting range) on their way to their ultimate spawning grounds. The most productive beaches are never far from home, usually 5 to 20 minutes away. The flies are dead simple. And a six- or seven-weight rod with a floating line is perfect.

Standing in two feet of water on a bright sunny day with schools of 3- to 5-pound pink salmon swimming by is a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Rod Hamilton

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BECOME
AN AREA
SPECIALIST

CONTRIBUTE





Bonefish Unsolved

THE BONEFISH & TARPON TRUST (BTT) IS SEARCHING FOR ANGLERS with knowledge of the Florida Keys fishing history to help it pinpoint locations where bonefish historically spawned, and to identify locations where bonefish spawning still occurs. Scientists say it's possible that bonefish spawn in the general area where commercial kingfishing occurs. And the organization recently dug up a 1959 article from [Sports Illustrated](#) that describes king mackerel netters coming across large schools of bones. Based on this account, BTT is targeting offshore areas where the king mackerel fishery once thrived. "We're interested in reports of where, exactly, these fisheries occurred so that we can visit these areas on full moons during spawning season to search for schools of spawning bonefish." If you have information that may be helpful, [please contact BTT](#). 🐟



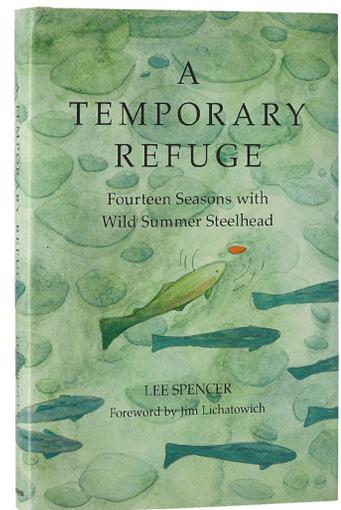
Atlantic Salmon Spill



LAST MONTH'S ECLIPSE—that swept the U.S., from the coast of Oregon to the shores of South Carolina—didn't bring the apocalypse. But it supposedly helped generate tides that allowed 305,000 farmed Atlantic salmon to escape their floating net pens and pollute Washington's Puget Sound. The jailbreak has the makings of an environmental doomsday, the concern being that alien Atlantic salmon will out-compete native chinook and steelhead for food and spawning grounds. Kurt Beardslee of the [Wild Fish Conservancy](#) said this event should be of concern, especially as Cooke Aquaculture, the company responsible for the outbreak, is proposing a larger [Atlantic salmon net pen](#) in the Strait of Juan de Fuca. "The majority of our salmon migrate through the straits when they're leaving as juveniles. You start having a viral or parasitic outbreak there, when our juvenile fish are moving through—it could be a disaster." Meanwhile, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is encouraging recreational harvesters to [scoop up as many strays as possible](#). 🐟

Seasons at the Dynamite Hole

EVERY DAY ON THE RIVER—WOULDN'T THAT BE THE DREAM? For author Lee Spencer, it's been the reality for almost 20 years, ever since he started a volunteer gig overseeing the wild summer steelhead annually returning to the Dynamite Pool on a spawning tributary of Oregon's North Umpqua River. In his new book, [A Temporary Refuge](#), Spencer details the behavioral quirks of these shrewd creatures and, à la Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac*, takes the reader on a sensory ride through the symbiotic rhythms of aquatic and riparian life coursing past his perch. Accompanied by his dog, Sis, Spencer's story also forms the basis of something more important, an unignorable conservation treatise for the imperiled steelhead of the Pacific Northwest. The caretaker writes: "Presently, Sis and I fulfill that duty, and we know we are lucky to have the opportunity to do something that is altogether so straightforward, so positive, and so helpful to these wild fish we have grown to admire." 🐟

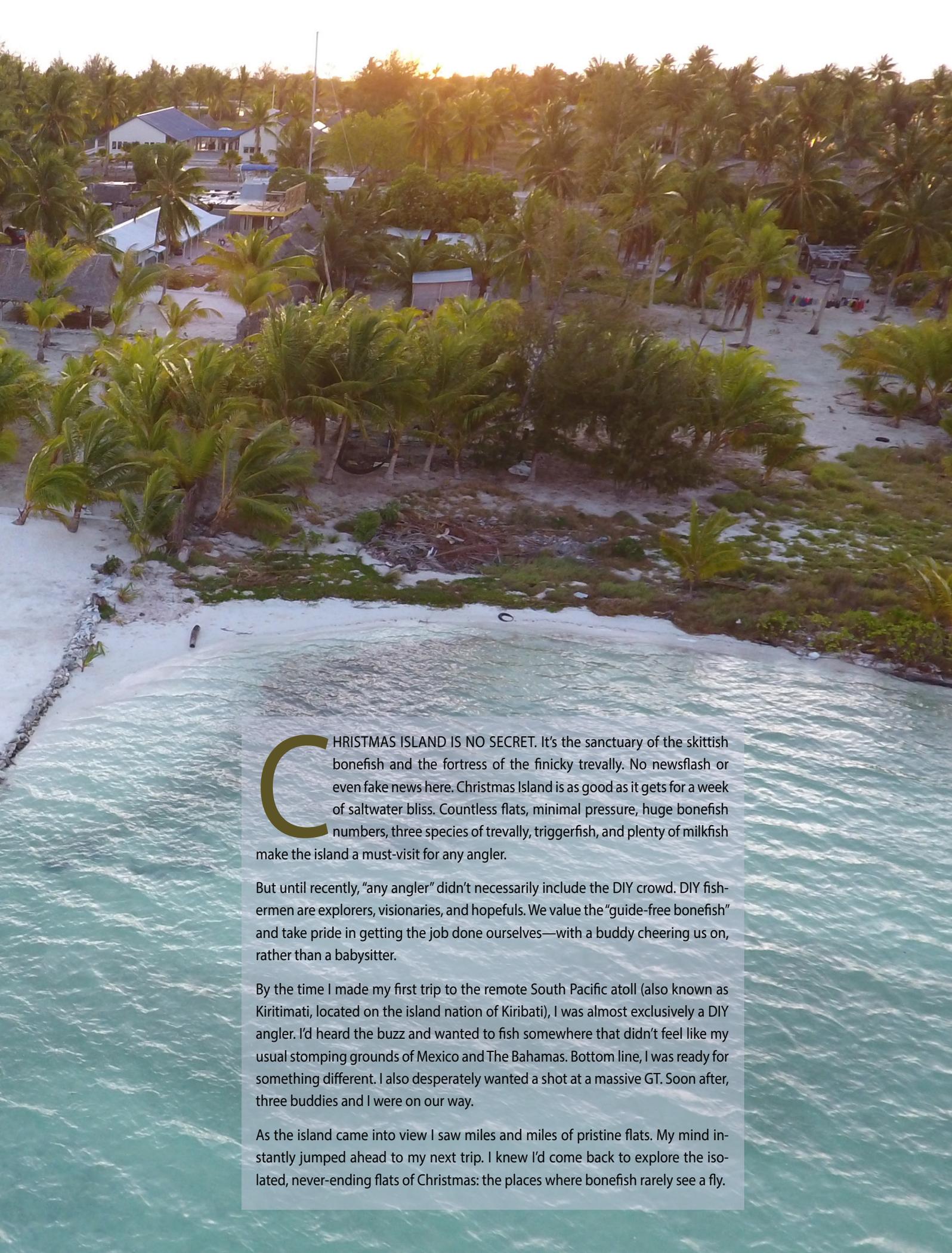




Christmas Unwrapped

Introducing Kiritimati's newest DIY option

By David Cook



CHRISTMAS ISLAND IS NO SECRET. It's the sanctuary of the skittish bonefish and the fortress of the finicky trevally. No newsflash or even fake news here. Christmas Island is as good as it gets for a week of saltwater bliss. Countless flats, minimal pressure, huge bonefish numbers, three species of trevally, triggerfish, and plenty of milkfish make the island a must-visit for any angler.

But until recently, "any angler" didn't necessarily include the DIY crowd. DIY fishermen are explorers, visionaries, and hopefuls. We value the "guide-free bonefish" and take pride in getting the job done ourselves—with a buddy cheering us on, rather than a babysitter.

By the time I made my first trip to the remote South Pacific atoll (also known as Kiritimati, located on the island nation of Kiribati), I was almost exclusively a DIY angler. I'd heard the buzz and wanted to fish somewhere that didn't feel like my usual stomping grounds of Mexico and The Bahamas. Bottom line, I was ready for something different. I also desperately wanted a shot at a massive GT. Soon after, three buddies and I were on our way.

As the island came into view I saw miles and miles of pristine flats. My mind instantly jumped ahead to my next trip. I knew I'd come back to explore the isolated, never-ending flats of Christmas: the places where bonefish rarely see a fly.



I've since spent almost two months exploring this magical place, and it has yet to disappoint. Predominantly hard-packed sand makes for easy days walking the flats. I've found areas with huge numbers of bonefish, coming in wave after wave with the rising tide. I've also found unexpected nooks that hold fish closing in on double-digit sizes. I've discovered edges where trevally cruise with heart-thumping regularity, and I've spent hours casting to school after school of milkfish. One thing I haven't experienced is other fishermen. Many of the DIY flats aren't accessible by boat, resulting in little interaction with guided anglers from popular guided lodges such as the Ikari House and The Villages.

As the only lodge catering to the DIY set, [Lagoon View Resort \(LVR\)](#) offers accommodations, meals, laundry services, and rental cars. Not only will you have a great DIY experience, LVR is the better values on the island. Locals Timei, Tima, and their daughters, will spoil you in this family run lodge.

Want to troll the blue water for tuna, wahoo and giant trevally? Want to cast at the *HUGE* schools of milkfish? [LVR](#) also has a captained boat available for a change of pace.

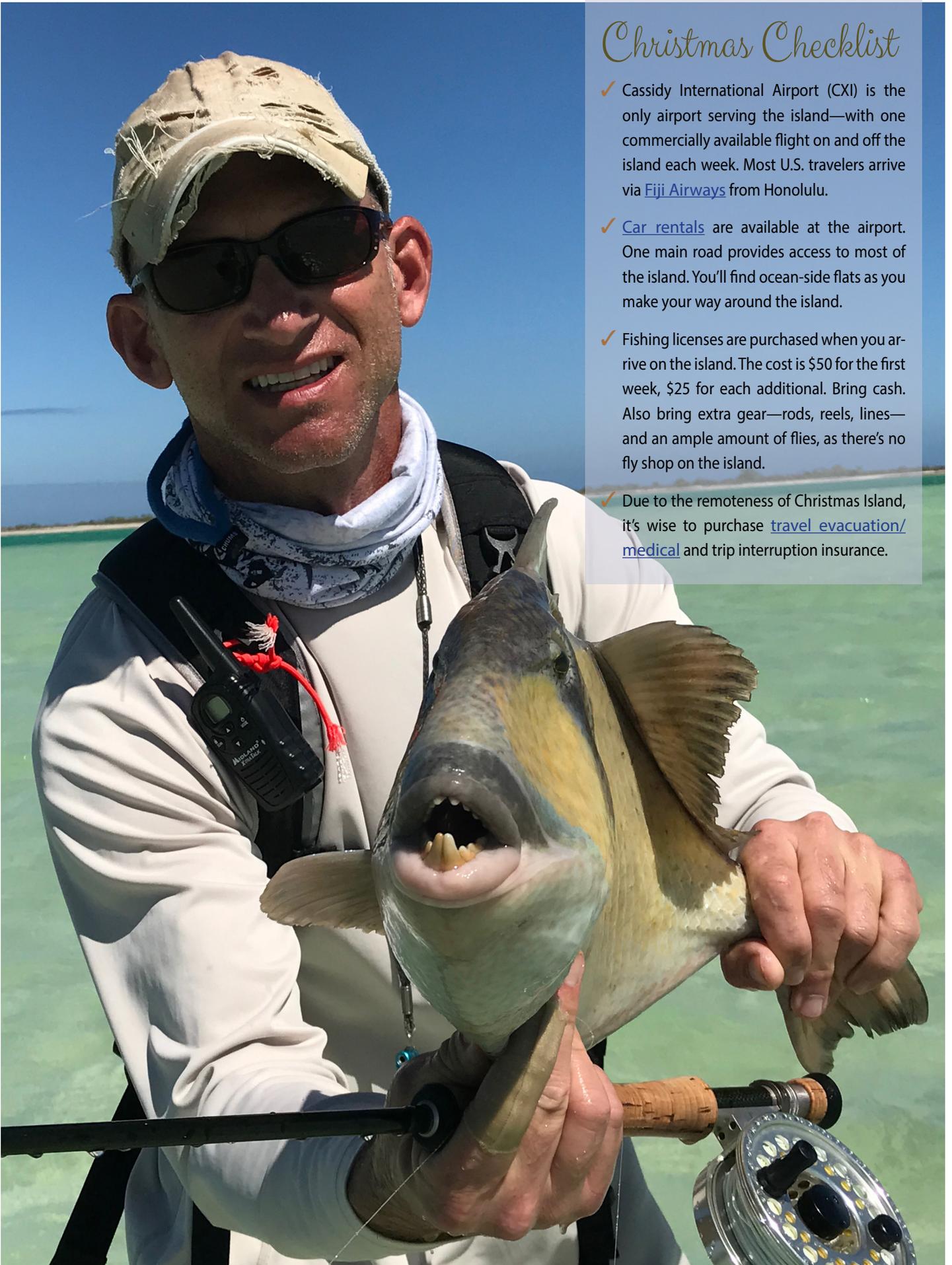
I don't know how many weeks it would take to explore Christmas Island and all it has to offer. When studying Google Earth, the options seem endless. Wearing out pair after pair of booties in this beautiful place, I've come to one conclusion; there is no better spot for the "guide-free bonefish." 🐟

[David Cook is DIYFishing's Area Specialist for Christmas Island. His business, [Skinny Waters](#), is the booking agent for Lagoon View Resort.]



Christmas Checklist

- ✓ Cassidy International Airport (CXI) is the only airport serving the island—with one commercially available flight on and off the island each week. Most U.S. travelers arrive via [Fiji Airways](#) from Honolulu.
- ✓ [Car rentals](#) are available at the airport. One main road provides access to most of the island. You'll find ocean-side flats as you make your way around the island.
- ✓ Fishing licenses are purchased when you arrive on the island. The cost is \$50 for the first week, \$25 for each additional. Bring cash. Also bring extra gear—rods, reels, lines—and an ample amount of flies, as there's no fly shop on the island.
- ✓ Due to the remoteness of Christmas Island, it's wise to purchase [travel evacuation/medical](#) and trip interruption insurance.





Fall Fishing in the Adirondacks

Words by Lisa Ballard
Photos by Jack & Lisa Ballard

'M WILLING TO WAGER MY OPINIONATED MOTHER approved of my husband, Jack, after our prenuptial autumn fishing trip to Saranac Lake in New York's Adirondack Park. But it wasn't his enthusiasm for the fishing that won her favor. It was where we stayed, William Avery Rockefeller, Jr.'s former "great camp" called The Point.

In Adirondack vernacular, any lakeside summer home is called a camp. A "great camp" is bigger and more luxurious. Most of these waterfront mansions date back to the late 1800s when prominent businessmen like William, who co-founded Standard Oil (now Exxon) with his brother

John, and who had interests in copper mining, railroads, utility companies and the National Bank of New York (now part of Citigroup), headed north with their families to escape the Big Apple. He wasn't alone. The Vanderbilts, Astors, Guggenheims and Lehmans were among the New York elite who built Adirondack great camps.

Today, Rockefeller's camp [The Point](#), on Upper Saranac Lake, is the only one in this six-million-acre tract of mountains, forests, lakes and streams that operates as a 5-star hotel for anglers and other guests who seek a great camp experience.

While staying there, one can imagine being entertained by the wealthy oil magnate. Room rates are a hefty \$2,500 +/- per night. My parents live in the Village of Saranac Lake, at the northwest end of the three-lake Saranac chain. They knew of The Point, which is why Jack's invitation impressed my mother. (Full disclosure: as Jack was writing a magazine article, we did not have to pay to stay at the great camp, but we didn't tell her that.)



Upper Saranac Lake, the southernmost and largest lake in the Saranac chain is 8-miles long, and a sizable 5,250 acres. Its 37 miles of shoreline has numerous bays and inlets, harboring both warmwater and coldwater species of fish. The State of New York stocks brown, rainbow and lake trout in the lake. It also holds smallmouth bass, northern pike, perch, bluegill, rock bass and pumpkinseed sunfish.

Upon arriving at The Point, I was tempted to forget the fishing and simply relax on our private deck. Jack had other ideas. "Let's go fishing," he urged, ignoring the rustic glamour. We walked to the boathouse, a two-story building with another guest room on top and three boat slips below. "Can I help you?" asked a cheerful attendant. "How about a guideboat?"

Invented as a way for professional guides to take their clients into the wilderness to hunt and fish, Adirondack guideboats resemble a canoe, but are rowed rather than paddled. The guide sat in the middle of the boat handling the oars, while up to two guests and a substantial amount of gear filled the bow and stern. Originally made of highly polished wood, the modern Adirondack guideboats at The Point were crafted from more durable fiberglass.

I rowed Jack along the shoreline near the boathouse. He caught a few small bass, then we veered toward deeper water, where he hooked something bigger. The fish that came to the net was one we had never seen before, a fallfish. Silver, with a small mouth like a mountain whitefish and pronounced carp-like scales, fallfish are a type of chub.

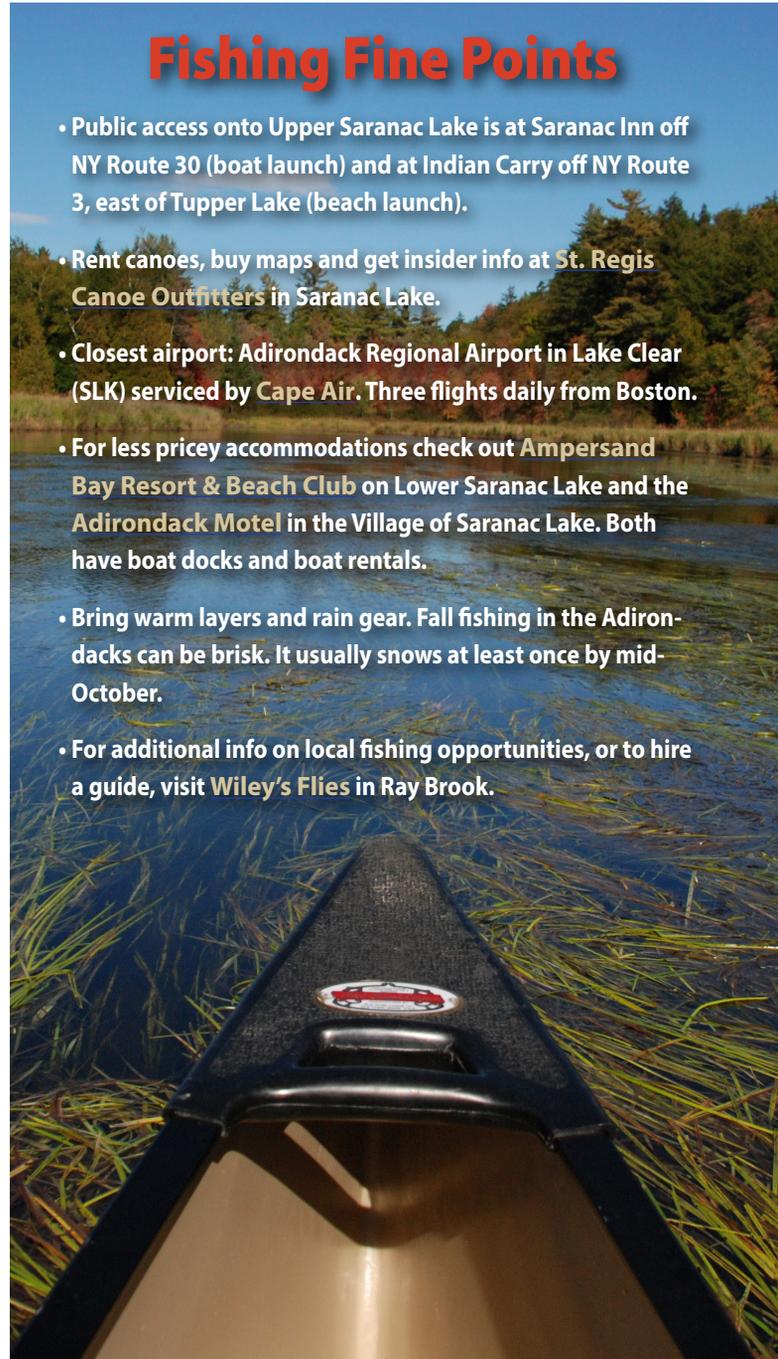
Saranac River. Though catching a fallfish was interesting, it didn't satisfy our inner angling desires. Rumor bespoke of large bass and northern pike in the Saranac River below the village, so we rented a canoe in order to float the first three miles.

We put in just below the dam by the town hall. The water moved along at a brisk pace but there were no rapids of any consequence. We quickly left the village behind and were soon rewarded with several smallmouth bass in the three- to five-pound range, plus a toothy pike.

We meandered down the river, going ashore now and again to either wade-fish, picnic, or nap in the sun. The multi-hued mountains drew my attention as much as the weedy water, until the next tug. I thought I'd hooked another bass, but as the fish drew near, I realized it was another fallfish. "Must be the season," I chuckled, letting it go. 🐟

Fishing Fine Points

- Public access onto Upper Saranac Lake is at Saranac Inn off NY Route 30 (boat launch) and at Indian Carry off NY Route 3, east of Tupper Lake (beach launch).
- Rent canoes, buy maps and get insider info at [St. Regis Canoe Outfitters](#) in Saranac Lake.
- Closest airport: Adirondack Regional Airport in Lake Clear (SLK) serviced by [Cape Air](#). Three flights daily from Boston.
- For less pricey accommodations check out [Ampersand Bay Resort & Beach Club](#) on Lower Saranac Lake and the [Adirondack Motel](#) in the Village of Saranac Lake. Both have boat docks and boat rentals.
- Bring warm layers and rain gear. Fall fishing in the Adirondacks can be brisk. It usually snows at least once by mid-October.
- For additional info on local fishing opportunities, or to hire a guide, visit [Wiley's Flies](#) in Ray Brook.





It's a F—ing Rooster

by Lizzie Urbina



My boyfriend (Captain Ben Alan Paschal) and I woke up early on our 3rd day in Baja California Sur, loaded up the ATV, and headed out to the beach. We drove up and down—posting up every few hours for some fresh *ceviche* and a few *cervezas*. After not seeing a single thing all morning and most of the afternoon; finally, around 4:45 p.m., Ben spotted some birds working a few miles offshore...

[Read the full report](#)

Great Inagua DIY

by Tom Rapone



The trip was really great. What a totally awesome place in the world. I wouldn't have changed a single thing. Henry, his crew, and the place were all top notch. We had awesome bonefishing in a bunch of spots, including the creek down south, the south-side ocean flats, and the lagoon up north. There were cudas and triggers just about everywhere we went...

[Read the full report](#)

Durango Delirium

by Duranglers Fly Shop



The alarm always comes quicker than hoped, between the hours of “really dark” and “still dark,” when the only “dark” you want to hear about is the coffee. Times like these, the fringes of sanity are tested as multiple pre-dawn hours behind the wheel only yield a few miles traveled on mountain roads that dead-end at seldom used trailheads. The altitude burns the lungs, the incline burns the legs, and the cool mountain dawn burns the skin. Many miles beyond... we find waters rarely graced by man’s presence.

[Read the full report](#)

Islamorada Is On

by Greg Poland



It’s tarpon season in the Florida Keys and the bite is on. This time of year it’s hard to get me to think about any other species than the Silver King. I wait all year for the chance to chase them and, in my opinion, they are the perfect fish. Once you hook one of these gladiators they will burn 50 yards of line before you know what’s happening, then they’ll flip out of the water like an Olympic athlete. And so the battle begins....

[Read the full report](#)



Area Specialists provide up-to-date fishing information and Fishing Reports for DIYFishing's users and subscribers. Each month we highlight six of these industry and angling professionals and the territories they serve.



David Cook

Christmas Island

When not running one of several small businesses in Missoula, Montana, Area Specialist David Cook is busy looking for new saltwater DIY opportunities. He's spent a great deal of time exploring Baja, Mexico, the Bahamian Out Islands, and most recently Christmas Island. "After a week spent with a fishing lodge on Christmas Island, I was left with the desire to fish the area on my own," Cook says. "At the time, this wasn't the easiest proposition." But the effort paid off. Cook has now spent more than two months fishing Christmas Island guide-free, "and there are still miles of flats I've yet to explore!"



Dave McCoy

Seattle, Washington

Growing up near Eugene, Oregon, Dave McCoy's early stomping grounds included Crane Prairie and Hosmer Lakes, and the Deschutes, McKenzie and Umpqua Rivers... to name a few. "I quickly discovered the thrill of having a fish on, but was always in awe of my surroundings," he says. McCoy has now been in the fly-fishing industry for 21 years, "and I'm relentlessly striving to surpass expectations everywhere I can." His aspirations are fueled by his inspirations: his wife, Natalie, and daughter, Nessa. McCoy a Patagonia, Costa and Keepemwet ambassador; Winston, Rajeff Sports and Bauer Pro Staff Member; Winston Pro Photographer; and an IFFF Certified Casting Instructor.



Brian Clemens

Sacramento, California

Brian Clemens' love for fly fishing has taken him to waters across California and beyond. Along the way, he's met a handful of anglers who've helped him expand his knowledge and hone his skills. "And to be honest, I wouldn't be the fly fisherman, the guide or the man that I am today without their personal advice and guidance," he says. "So to those few, I thank you." Fly fishing is Clemens' number one passion in life, and that's putting it lightly: "I'd have to say it's more than a passion, it's an addiction. You can call me a fishoholic, or a trout bum... or just plain crazy."



Chris Lemons

Aspen, Colorado

Chris Lemons owns Aspen Fly Fishing Guide Service, Inc. "We've been in business since 1996," he says. "And I've been involved as a manager and guide since 2000, and as an owner since 2005. The company employs 12 guides and provides guided wade and float trips throughout the Roaring Fork Valley. "While our primary focus is on the guide service, we also operate a small retail shop in downtown Aspen during the summer months," lemons adds. "While the summer season is obviously our busiest season, we guide year-round and love showing clients the great fall, winter and spring fishing our valley has to offer."



Matson Rogers

Emigrant, Montana

Matson Rogers has owned Angler's West Flyfishing Outfitter since its inception in '99. He started guiding in Jackson Hole in '91, for then Bressler Outfitters (now WorldCast Anglers). After moving to Bozeman, Montana with his wife in 1996, Rogers continued guiding for several of the top regional fly shops. "I eventually bought what was left of a fly shop and business in Emigrant, and have been pushing forward ever since." Rogers employs 6 to 8 guides, during a season that runs March through October. "We are, as you can well imagine, super busy as a destination during the peak summer months of June through September."



Keegan Kennedy

Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Keegan Kennedy always dreamt of working in the fishing industry, "and during my previous job as a teacher, I spent every available spare second concentrating on how I could make a difference through fishing. Kennedy has run fishing academies and clinics to help grow and nurture the sport in South Africa. "This gave me the opportunity to learn from some of the best in the industry and grow an amazing network throughout the country," he adds. "I spent years learning, teaching and transferring my passion for fishing onto others."



Looking for the hottest fly-fishing destinations on the planet? We have what you need, including the perfect vacation homes for your next adventure. Explore all our featured rentals at DIYFishing.com.



Lagoon View Resort

Christmas Island (Kiribati)

Situated on a flat overlooking miles of skinny water, Lagoon View Resort lives up to its name. A white sand beach and plenty of palm trees add to the privacy and the serenity of this pristine place. Lagoon View Resort is located on the edge of the village of London. Take a right at the main road as you leave the airport (CXI). A 15-minute drive will bring you to the DIY-friendly lodge, where a large, white sailboat welcomes you, letting you know your vacation has begun!



Sea Biscuit

North Carolina, USA

Sea Biscuit is located on the ocean in the beautiful and spacious west end of Holden Beach. Among other awards, the publisher of the annual list of "Top Ten Beaches" named Holden Beach America's No. 1 Family Beach! Holden Beach faces due south, and Sea Biscuit has magnificent views of both the ocean to the south and the Intracoastal Waterway and marshland to the north. So you'll have splendid views of the sun rising and setting.



Mayan Beach Garden

Mahahual, Mexico

This secluded hotel is located on the beachfront, a 30-minute drive from Mahahual and Costa Maya. It offers charming beach huts and ocean-view rooms with a private terrace or balcony. The rooms at the Mayan Beach Garden feature terracotta floors and ornate mosaics in the bathroom. Each one comes with a ceiling fan and a private bathroom.



Selah Vie

Abaco, Bahamas

Selah Vie is a wonderful, quiet retreat where you can escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. It's so peaceful and serene that you won't want to leave. The house has everything you need to stay connected if you want, or unplugged if don't. The house is 800 feet from the beautiful Eight Mile beach, which stretches from just south of the house to Casuarina Point to the north. Located about 25 miles south of Marsh Harbor, which has groceries, tackle, restaurants, and other shopping opportunities.

Lake Street Cottage

Idaho, USA

This desirable Lake Street home is located on a corner lot in the heart of Sandpoint, ID. The house is within walking distance of restaurants, the farmers market, entertainment and shopping in downtown Sandpoint. A large health food grocery store is just a block away. A short five-block walk to swimming and sunning on the lake at City Beach! Or use the bikes that come with the rental. Sandpoint lies on the shores of Idaho's 43-mile-long Lake Pend Oreille. It's surrounded by mountains and, in 2011, it was named the nation's Most Beautiful Small Town by Rand McNally and *USA Today*.



Villa Orquidea

Tulum, Mexico

This villa is furnished with lovely hardwoods and includes artistic touches from renowned artists. As you enter through the beautiful wrought iron entrance gate, walk up the handicap accessible entrance to the house and open the front door, where you'll be greeted by the turquoise blue waters of the Mayan Riviera.



Villa Cascadas

Akumal, Mexico

Cascadas blends 21st century Spanish Hacienda architecture with 18th century charm and furnishings. Before entering this lovely home, you will encounter the natural-looking, lighted swimming pool that features a man-made rock waterfall. The downstairs has 2 bedrooms with king-size beds and private bathrooms (both have showers and one also has a tub).



LaTeDa Beach House

Florida, USA

The "La Te Da" house is a two-story Key West-style home located on the Gulf of Mexico. The backyard is a private beach, and you are simply footsteps away from beautiful turquoise water and sand. There's great fishing in Placida Harbor for snook, trout, redfish, snapper and more, and in the world famous Boca Grande Pass you can try your hand at tarpon fishing. Little Gasparilla Island is the ideal place to get away from the mainland madness. Come relax and unwind in this secluded tropical paradise.



East Coast of Vancouver Island



Kalyn Sutherland photo



Fishing for pink salmon

By Rod Hamilton

With the arrival of August, fly fishers on the east coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia, are preparing their equipment and their sun tan lotion to begin doing battle with the millions of pink salmon about to appear off the beaches and in the local rivers.

Ranging from three to seven pounds, pinks are the smallest of the Pacific salmon family. Unlike longer-living (and hence larger) salmon species, the pink's lifecycle is only two years. But what they lack in size they make up in sheer volume. On the east coast of Vancouver Island, they appear on odd calendar years, and we are hoping that 2017 is another banner return.

Depending on location, pinks spawn relatively close to saltwater and begin to appear off the beaches around mid-July. They remain around the mouths of their home

streams until the fall rains begin. This dependence on rain makes the length of the beach season really variable. But it generally lasts from July 15 through September 1.

Northern Vancouver Island is where the pink salmon first appear, as they make their way south with the first reports coming from rivers and estuaries such as the Quatse, Keogh, Cluxewe and Nimpkish. About a week or two after that, they begin showing up in more southern regions like Campbell River, Salmon Point, Oyster River, Comox, Courtenay, Fanny Bay and the Nile River.

In addition to pinks being an ideal game fish, one of their most endearing qualities is how easy they are to find and access. Although pinks are found pretty well everywhere along the east coast, most of the key locations are easily reached from Highway 19, which more or less borders the shoreline. When first learning how to fish for them, pick

one of the more popular spots, park your car and make the normally short walk to schooling fish. There you are bound to find a number of experienced fishers willing to help you learn the basics.

Techniques & Tackle

What makes this fishery so much fun is the simplicity of the preparation. You can use almost any gear to be successful. For the beach, a good 6-weight fly rod with a floating line on a decent reel is all you need. In rivers it can be advantageous to move up to an 8-weight rod in order to put the brakes on a fish using the current to run downstream. Unless you're fishing one of the faster flowing rivers, you will seldom need more than 50 yards of backing.

For both beach and river fishing, a leader from 9 to 11 feet is perfect, with tippet strength around 7 pounds. Often the fishing is done during the heat of a summer day.



I like the incoming tide, and all that's required are shoes, shorts, a long-sleeved shirt, sunglasses and a hat. If you are going to spend a lot of time in the water or in one of the colder rivers, then a good pair of lightweight waders will come in handy.

From the Beach: First locate schools of fish by sighting them on the surface. They travel in large schools, so often you will see dark patches in the water with fins breaking the surface. Cast your fly into the middle of the school and begin your retrieve. The retrieve will vary depending on the mood of the fish. Start with a moderate-fast strip, hoping a fish will chase and grab the fly. If they prove to be uninterested, then slow it right down. Use a hand-twist retrieve. Pinks tend to take the fly delicately. Often it's just a "tick," or the line becomes tight. Set the hook on any little bump, since you are only fishing one to two feet under the surface and anything you feel is a fish.

For river fishing, depth is key. The fly needs to be on the bottom in front of their nos-



es. Where allowed, add split-shot, or simply weight the fly and use a sink-tip for fly-fishing only water. An effective technique is to high-stick the fly, similar to nymph fishing, again following the basic premise of getting the fly in front of the fish at exactly the right depth they. In fly-fishing only water an indicator is *not* allowed, so you are fishing by "feel." In other waters an indicator setup works great.

Fly Patterns

For the last fifty years on the east coast, most anglers generally follow the rule, "pink colored flies for pink salmon." That old adage has start-

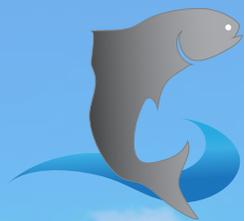
ed to change as techniques become a little more advanced. But most anglers will still start their day with a pink fly. If that color doesn't work, then the "tour de fly box" begins—with green, blue, and purple often being the next best choices. Hook sizes range from #4-8, with most flies falling into the middle or smaller size of that range. There are lots of flies to choose from and most tackle stores stock a wide variety. You will also see dozens of patterns on the Internet. But for starters, Handlebar-style flies are effective, as are slimmed-down patterns that look like pink shrimp. 

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