



GUINEA-BISSAU FLY AND LURE FISHING - WEST AFRICA

The Fishing: The variety of available fishing is in large part the appeal of the Guinea-Bissau experience. The factors that make the Bijagos so unique are three-fold. First is its sheer size. As Africa's largest archipelago, the region encompasses 30,000 sq. km. of largely protected saltwater wilderness. Of the 78 major islands, only 20 are inhabited with a total population of less than 5,000 residents. Second, the region is one the largest estuarine environments in Africa, fed by four massive hyper trophic river systems. The result is a biological marvel where in places clear waters team with brown clouds of plankton attracting incomprehensible quantities of baitfish, and an all-star cast of predators that prey upon them, and lastly the region has a remarkable diversity of water and habitat types that include murky

rich tarpon waters, sand spits surrounded by crystal clear waters, mangrove channels and immense inner bays, mud flats covered with molluscs, and beautiful white sand beaches studded with rugged dark lava outcroppings. When seen in its entirety the role the region plays as one of Africa's most significant spawning grounds for baitfish and sport fish alike is easily understood.

Fishing from the stunning Unesco protected Orango island in Guinea Bissau. Make no mistake this is the best fishing area on the outer islands, remote unspoiled and diverse, we are in the best spot with the best boats {proper 9mts not those stupid 7mt things that cant go anywhere because of a wave!!}. Steer clear of the over fished areas near to Bubaque because lets face it who wants to have to travel 35kms just to find a fish everyday when you have already traveled 3500miles to get there!!!

A partial list of worthy game fish to be found is equally as impressive:

five species of barracuda, six species of snapper, twenty species of shark (five of which commonly exceed 400 pounds), Amber jack, Senegalese jack, incredible numbers of Jack crevalle, Cobia, Kob, Bonefish, Permit, Pompano, Grouper, Guitar fish, Ladyfish, Leer fish, Sierra, Tarpon and Triple tails are all caught most every week. There are sandy beaches, rugged lava points, mangrove inlets, river-like channels, and barren sand spit islands. While there



are numerous places that qualify as "flats", it is hard to categorize the region as a quality flats fishery as the tides average 6-12 feet.

This fishing area offers some of the most diverse fishing on the planet, Popper fishing, Fly, Vertical jigging, Trolling, Bait and live bait all work well and catch multiple quality fish. As a result much of the fishing is done from boats. During low wind conditions there are numerous sight-fishing opportunities for Jacks, barracuda, large needlefish, Snappers, African Sierra Mackerel and Corvina. In less favourable conditions the same species are targeted by blind fishing points, edges, shorelines, and submerged structure. Superb beach fishing can be had from any one of over 200 beaches, Big Guitar fish, Rays, Cassava, Barracuda and many more can all be taken from the surf.

Some of the most exciting fishing centres on the region's remarkable Jack Crevalle fisheries. These fish can often be seen chasing bait in what the locals refer to as "hunts". Jacks can also be targeted from the beach. A breathtaking sight for any angler is a huge pod of these aggressive fish cresting in the waves just before crashing into a school of baitfish.

While the region has the world's largest tarpon, the fishery is not ideally suited to the fly, because of the size of the fish, Guinea's average tarpon are well over 150lbs. The vast majority of tarpon are hooked with baits that are suspended only 3-4 feet beneath the surface. Needless to say the tarpon fishery is a high stakes game where the fish average over 200 pounds.

Guinea-Bissau Accommodation:

Orango – The hotel accommodation offers quality rooms, or suites, with en suite facilities. Fully stocked bar and a stylish African restaurant with an all encompassing menu cooked with quality fresh local produce. A beautiful relaxed environment ideal for anglers and couples alike. Being a Unesco World Heritage site there are many opportunities for wild life and bird watching trips.



Tackle and Equipment:

Hire Packs: – We offer a comprehensive hire tackle pack for the Guinea Bissau trips, costing around £20 per day, the packs contains pretty much everything you would need for spinning, lure fishing, bottom fishing and Jigging.

For anyone wishing to fly fish here are our recommendations.

Rods: Fly – 9-11 wt. rods will be the most useful all around rods. If you would like to target tarpon, we recommend 13-15 wt rods.

Spin – Stiff action spinning rods in the 80 -120 gram ranges are ideal.

Spin. – 50lb Braid

Reels: Fly – Any quality saltwater reels with at least 200 yards of 30 yards backing. If you want target tarpon get the best reel you can with as much backing as possible.

Spin – Good quality Saltwater spinning reels with at least 300yds of 50-60lb braid



Waders & Boots: Standard flats boots are fine for the beach fishing and many beaches and sand spits lend themselves to fishing barefoot or in water sandals. Many beaches transition quickly from white sand to rugged dark lava. Sure-footed anglers wanting to fish this terrain should consider standard felted wading boots (with or without cleats) as well as a stripping basket.

Misc: Sturdy saltwater pliers, a heavy glove for tailing jacks, hook sharpener, saltwater leader straightening box for tarpon anglers, polarized glasses with retainers, good hat, headlamp and flashlight, mid-weight raincoat for choppy boat rides, water proof sunscreen, spf lip balm, waterproof bag for all day gear on the boat, energy bars, and things like spare hats, T-shirts, and assorted items to leave as gifts with the locals

Medical and Safety :

To clarify some questions ahead of them being asked . Guinea Bissau has never had Ebola and remained unaffected throughout the 2015 epidemic . Bissau is quite and non violent , there has never been an attack or incidence of violence against a tourist in Bissau or in the islands . There are very few if no mosquitoes on the islands as there is no standing fresh water . There are however small midges { nothing like as bad as the Scottish ones } which can be irritating so take some repellent . One the whole Guineans are warm welcoming people with none of the problems that come with wide scale Tourism . Drug trafficking was rife in the late 1980s , but has been all but eradicated .

Guinea-Bissau Travel:

Travel to Guinea Bissau typically entails departing Gatwick/ Heathrow and flying to Guinea via Casablanca. Arriving in Guinea you are met at the airport and then transferred by minibus for a 20min drive to the mainland camp which has air con and a swimming pool. Overnight stay, breakfast and then a 2½ hr boat transfer to the island. A passport valid for at least 6 months will be required World Sport fishing ltd will organise your Visa through the Guinea Embassy.



Costing per person based on teams of 3 anglers

£ 2890.00

per person



The package includes :- Return International flights from Gatwick , Airport transfers, Boat Transfers Full board 10 day Trip with 8 nights at the lodge , 7 days guided fishing , Guides , boats .

The package does not include: ~

Visa 85 Euros

Guinea local tourist tax 8 Euros per day paid at lodge

Gratuities

Bar tab at the lodge



The Bijagos archipelagos a unique area and is full of unsophisticated charm with a tremendous amount of colourful Cultural for everyone to enjoy, and perhaps the Sport Fishing Adventure of a Lifetime!

We look forward to Fishing with you in the not too distant future.

Richard Sheard

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