



Back-Country Fishing

What is it? The tranquil Florida Bay, known as the "Backcountry", is home to BONEFISH, REDFISH, PERMIT, SEA TROUT and the mighty SILVER KING TARPON. This is great fishing on light tackle, but you'll need a guide to find the hot-spots and navigate these shallow waters that range from a few inches to a few feet deep.

In the strictest sense, it is an expedition north from the Keys into a watery wilderness of uninhabited, mangrove-lined keys and broad expanses of shallow water areas called flats. Quite often guides will take their anglers into a nearby national park or refuge area such as Biscayne National Park, Everglades National Park, Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge, National Key Deer Refuge, or Key West National Wildlife Refuge. These trips are highlighted by beautiful scenery, plentiful bird life, and for the most part, superb fishing. It is a true "get away from it all" adventure.

However, it's not unusual to hear the term "backcountry fishing" used in a broader sense to describe fishing the flats and channels in the nearby waters of the inhabited Keys. A lot of good fishing takes place on the oceanside flats of the Keys; don't be surprised if you find yourself fishing here during part of your "backcountry" trip.

A special breed of boat was developed to deal with the many varieties of fishing encountered by the Florida Keys guides. The backcountry flats skiff averages 16 to 20 feet in length and has a very shallow draft (drawing 10 to 12 inches with the motor tilted up), so that it can fish (or run) in very shallow water. A platform is positioned above the motor of most skiffs to provide the captain maximum visibility as he poles his skiff quietly across the flats in search of fish. The rest of the boat is constructed with fishing in mind...flow-through livewells, excellent storage areas for rods and other gear, raised bow area for casting, and gunwales wide and sturdy enough to walk upon. The backcountry skiff is, in effect, a clutter-free highly mobile, casting platform. These excursions will accommodate at most 4 people (including your guide).

If you like the challenge of stalking and then making a finesse presentation to a great gamefish...if you enjoy the feeling of really being "on the water"...if you appreciate the concept of having a guide customize your trip to meet your needs, then a backcountry charter is for you. Spend a day with a skiff guide in the Florida Keys backcountry and those fish won't be the only ones to get hooked.



Reserve Your Back-Country Charter

We recommend calling or visiting our Concierge with anticipation, however, every effort will be made to fulfill your last-minute request.

Average back-country fishing charters begin at an average of \$450 for two anglers for a half day (4-hour) experience.



Reef, Patch or Inshore Fishing

Patch reefs are small coral reef formations inside of the main barrier reef. Most of the patch reefs are 5 to 15 feet deep and 100 feet or less in size, and most are accessible with a small boat.

Fishing patch reefs is a good way to start out fishing in the Keys and learn the techniques of Florida keys fishing.

Patch Reef Fishing is great for the kids and adults alike. On the inshore reefs, you can typically catch grouper, mangrove snappers, yellowtail snappers, mutton snappers, mackerel, and even some cobia and permit!

Average inshore fishing charters average between \$750-\$900 for a half-day (4-hour) experience with a max of 6 anglers per boat.

Advanced reservations are encouraged but our Concierge will be happy to attempt to find a Captain for you upon request.



You catch it...
We cook it!



Offshore or Deep Sea Fishing

The reef is so close you can almost see the blue water from land, the sport fishing boats don't have to travel far to have you in some stellar blue water deep sea fishing.

Key Largo is famous for it's in incredible deep sea fishing for species such as Dolphin, sailfish, tuna, wahoo, cobia, kingfish, marlin, swordfish, kingfish, and more.

Key Largo charters are well maintained with very experienced captains and mates here to show you a great time, time after time.



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Deep sea fishing charters out of Key Largo target many different species of fish. In the blue waters you will fish for dolphin (aka, mahi-mahi or dorado), wahoo, tuna, marlin, and sailfish. On the reef (mostly winter time) there are; sailfish, kingfish, barracudas, cobia, shark, bonito and mackerel.

Most of the deep sea fishing boats offer their anglers bottled waters and ice on the boat to keep drinks, food and fresh catch cool for the day. Fishing licenses, bait and all the tackle you will need are also provided.

On a deep sea fishing charter out of Key Largo anglers should wear light long sleeved clothing, hats, and sunscreen. Good glasses are a must for sun exposure.

Again, advanced reservations will help us to book your fishing adventure more readily. The average three-quarter (5.5 hour) deep sea charter averages between \$950 to \$1,200; max 6 per boat

Party Fishing

Half-Day open fishing trips are available within miles of the resort.

As a beginner in fishing or, if you have a group of up to 45 friends or co-workers, you may consider patch fishing on any of the reputable vessels in our area:

THE SAILORS CHOICE, KEY LARGO, MM100

305-451-1802

In-Shore, Half-day 9AM or 1PM, Adults \$40, Kids \$20
Fri-Sat 7:30PM (pending minimum fares)



THE ISLAND STAR, ISLAMORADA, MM84

305-664-0100

9:30AM, 2:30PM, 7:30PM, Adults \$65

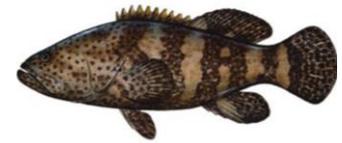


CAPT. MICHAEL'S, ROBBIES MARINA, MM77

DEEP SEA FISHING

305-664-8070

9:30AM, 2PM, 7:30PM, Adults \$45, Kids \$24.50



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