

## **CHRISTMAS ISLAND OUTFITTERS**

February 26 – March 5, 2019

# Hosted by Idaho Angler –Tom Governale

## Prior to departure

To complete the arrangements for your trip you will need to:

- ✓ Review Christmas Island travel notes (see below)
- ✓ Arrange flights to/from Honolulu, HI (HNL)
- ✓ Arrange flights to/from Christmas Island on Fiji Airways
- ✓ Arrange hotel in Honolulu, HI
- ✓ Complete your personal online guest registration form

**Important note on Fiji Airways flight:** It is important not to delay in booking your Fiji Air ticket. Please call Renee Mahler with Ultimate Vacations for assistance with arranging flights and hotels in Honolulu.

Renee Mahler, Ultimate Vacations

Phone: 808-949-8100

<u>renee@ultimate-vacations.net</u> 650 Iwilei Road, Suite 400 Honolulu, HI 96817

## Monday, February 25

#### Arrive Honolulu:

You will need to arrive in Honolulu on Monday or before and overnight at your elected hotel (accommodations are independently arranged and not included).

## Tuesday, February 26

Depart Honolulu: Fiji Airways # FJ 823 at 12:00PM

Arrive Christmas Island: 3:10PM

**Note on flight arrival:** Please be aware that this flight crosses the International Date Line, so when you arrive on the island it will be 3:10PM on Wednesday.

**Note:** When entering the country you will need to fill out a customs form, which will ask for the name of the place where you will be staying. The name of the hotel is "Crystal Beach Lodge".

Once on the island you will check through customs and purchase your fishing license (cost is approx. \$50 – having exact cash is helpful).

Outside of customs you will be met by head guide Bita (Peter) Kairoi (head guide). Bita will help you load your gear into the lodges transport truck(s), then you will drive 20 minutes to the lodge.

Once there you will receive a brief introduction from Bita and/or Kata (the lodge manager), check into your room and prepare tackle for fishing the next day.

## Wednesday, February 27 - Monday, April 2

Six full days of fishing on Christmas Island.

Each day you'll depart via truck or outrigger boat for the day's fishing, and spend time exploring the endless hard sand flats and pristine atolls that surround the island of Kiritimati (Christmas Island). Virtually all fly fishing entails sight casting to visible fish while wading in shallow water.

#### Typical Daily Schedule:

6:00 AM: Wake
6:30 AM: Breakfast
7:00 AM: Depart for flats

8:00 AM– 4:30 PM: Fishing

5:30 PM: Return to the lodge

7:00 PM: Dinner

Please keep in mind that your daily schedule will vary in accordance with tide conditions and you're fishing desires.

## Tuesday, April 2

Depart Christmas Island: Fiji Airways # FJ 822 at 7:35AM

Arrive Honolulu: 10:50AM

**Note on flight arrival:** Please be aware that this flight crosses the International Date Line, so when you depart the island it will be Wednesday, and when you arrive in Honolulu it will be 10:50AM on Tuesday.

**Note on same-day connections:** If you are planning on connecting with a flight home from Honolulu the same day, please do not book a flight prior to 1:00PM to ensure a smooth connection. Anglers will be required to clear customs and immigration, collect baggage, and re-enter the security checkpoint.

**Included:** Accommodations, meals, guide fees, 4 bottles of water per person/per day, and all ground transportation on the island.

**Not Included:** Airfare to Honolulu, airfare to Christmas Island, accommodations/meals/transfers in Honolulu, alcohol & soda, fishing license, staff and guide gratuities.

**Note:** Anglers who miss their scheduled transfers to the lodge will be responsible for any incurred costs related to delays and special transfers.

#### **Contact Information**

Fly Water Travel: 800.552.2729 // 541.488.4759 (Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

Fly Water Travel Emergency Answering Service: 844.560.0853

#### **Christmas Island Outfitters**

The fact that virtually every flats fishing angler in North America has heard of Christmas Island is far from coincidence. Amidst the vast inventory of the world's saltwater flats destinations, Christmas Island is a unique and natural masterpiece that magically combines all the elements critical to fly fishing success. Endless hard sand flats fishing, remarkable numbers of cruising bonefish and trevally, and consistent year-round weather await all who visit this unique atoll. The guides at Christmas Island Outfitters have been handpicked for their overall level of experience and skill, calmness under pressure, and instructional abilities. Each day anglers will depart via truck or outrigger boat for the day's flats fishing. Virtually all fly fishing entails sight casting to visible fish while wading in shallow water. Christmas Island's plentiful bonefish average 2 to 4 pounds, though each week presents numerous opportunities for larger bonefish in the 5 to 10 pound class. The guides at Christmas Island Outfitters are also among the atoll's most skilled and passionate trevally hunters and love nothing more than to share with their guests the thrill of hooking these monsters. Excellent blue water fishing for tuna, wahoo, and trevally is also available.

Catering to groups of twelve angler's maximum per week, accommodations at Christmas Island Outfitters consists of three two-story buildings. Each building consists of 4 double occupancy units. Rooms are simple, air conditioned, clean and spacious and have private baths, fans, screened windows, and refrigerators. The common meeting area features a friendly bar and a casual dining area where fresh, simple meals are served in the morning and evening hours. The daily schedule and meal times at Christmas Island Outfitters may vary slightly in order to take advantage of the best tides and fishing conditions.



Whether you are an experienced saltwater angler or a novice keen on honing your flats fishing skills, Christmas Island Outfitters offers the finest and most intimate angling experience the island has to offer.

The Ultimate Atoll: The single best thing you can do to prepare for a trip to Christmas Island is to carefully read all of the information that we provide you.

Please visit the following link for a comprehensive look at a trip to Christmas Island: <a href="https://issuu.com/flywatertravel/docs/2015ultatollexpanded.f?e=7909021/13486597">https://issuu.com/flywatertravel/docs/2015ultatollexpanded.f?e=7909021/13486597</a>

Fishing Program: Christmas Island Outfitters' head guide is Bita "Peter" Kairaoi. Bita is recognized as one of the Island's most experienced guides and he is be joined by a group of hand-picked and highly trained professionals who are amongst the islands most skilled and personable fly fishing guides. All have excellent eyes for spotting fish, calm temperaments under the pressure of sight fishing and are skilled instructors. Preferring to offer a more intimate experience for its guests Christmas Island Outfitters has limited its program to no more than twelve anglers per week. As a result the lodge boasts a highly flexible flats fishing program that can take full advantage of varying tides and fishing conditions. Each evening Bita (or another senior guide) will be available to discuss the following day's fishing plan with you based on the conditions at hand. It is likely that your departure time from the lodge will vary each morning according to the tides and where on the island you will be fishing.

Transportation to and from the vast flats of Christmas Island is via truck and outrigger boat. Both are equipped with bench seats, canopies, and rod holders.

Christmas Island is the world's largest raised coral atoll and a virtual paradise for stalking bonefish. Having almost single-handedly brought the sport of fly-fishing for bonefish into the public consciousness, Christmas Island remains one of the best destinations in the world for both beginning and advanced saltwater anglers alike. The reasons for this are many. First, the Island's vast hard sand flats enable anglers to wade fish all day in relative solitude. Second, the flats hold great numbers of bonefish that cruise in shallow water, providing anglers with constant opportunities or "shots" throughout their visit. And last, but certainly not least, the atoll's proximity to the equator (approximately 144 miles North) has blessed Christmas Island with consistently good weather, which enables a quality fishing experience year round. While the majority of the island's bonefish average 2-4 pounds, fish in the 5-10 pound class are always a real possibility as are several species of trevally

Accommodations and Meals: Christmas Island Outfitters is a small operation taking a maximum twelve anglers per week. The lodge is located halfway between the airport and London on a beautiful Oceanside location called Crystal Beach. You will stay at Crystal Beach Lodge for your week on the island. Accommodations are very rustic, simple and non-luxurious. Rooms are kept clean by staff and provide, running water (island temperature, not "hot" water) and air conditioning. We highly recommend letting your body adjust to island temperatures, opening up your windows and letting the constant Pacific Ocean trade winds keep you cool rather than the A/C. Your body will adjust nicely after a couple of days and thank you for it by performing well! Christmas Island is literally one of the most remote islands on Earth. The lodge does it's best to provide comfortable, clean accommodations in such a harsh, remote place. Again, this is a true adventure and luxury accommodations should not be expected.

Meals are a combination of island and western fare. Meals are very simple and meant only to satisfy the appetite of hungry anglers. Fresh seafood is often served as well as rice, chicken and pork. Lunches continue to be meager on the island. We highly recommend bringing a supply of snacks such as energy bars, granola bars, beef jerky, dried fruit and nuts to supplement lunches. Also, electrolyte packets to mix in to your water will keep you hydrated and feeling good for the week.