

CUBA

LOS JARDINES DE LA REINA

The finest light tackle fishing in the Caribbean



In the Jardines de la Reina you will find some of the finest bonefishing in the world. With hundreds of miles of flats, you will get to fish many areas where few anglers have ever cast a fly. The bonefish are both large and easy to catch. The average sized bonefish is perhaps a solid three to five pounds, but there are opportunities to catch fish in the seven to ten pound class every day.

This destination offers not only some of the best flats fishing in the world for fly

fishermen, but anglers using spinning and bait casting tackle can catch a wide variety of fish along the reef. It is not uncommon for anglers to catch more than twenty species of fish in just a few days. Huge groupers, snappers, horse eye jacks and jack crevalle, barracuda, sharks and other blue water fish abound.

Tarpon fishing at Jardines de la Reina is quite simply amazing. They are abundant and readily available on the flats and in the channels and "rivers" on any day. Most of the fish in the channels are "baby" tarpon - fish in the ten to forty pound class, which are a delight on a ten weight rod to catch. These smaller tarpon are far more acrobatic than their larger cousins but fight hard enough to make you work at catching them. In the flats the average size grows from 45 to 80 lbs and in a new fishery discovered in 2002,

in a deep ocean channel, the specimens grow to over 120 lbs.

Permit are also found in good numbers and the fishing is similar to the very best in the Florida Keys. The flats where we find the largest permit are two to three feet deep on a high tide, yet adjacent to deep water. Many of these fish are in the twenty to thirty pound class, with a few well over thirty. Silky sharks and Caribbean reef sharks can also be caught on the flats and sharks up to 150 lbs have been landed by fly anglers. Seeing one of these monsters roll up to the surface and smash a popper is sure to get your adrenaline flowing.

In summary, Jardines de la Reina offers some of the finest light tackle fishing in the Caribbean.



Contact us for
full trip details at:

WhereWiseMenFish®
Making fly fishing dreams reality

Tel: 0845 603 1552 **Rol Tel:** 1890 882 347

E-mail: info@wherewisemenfish.com **USA Tel:** 347 284 6333

For travel details and additional destinations visit: www.WhereWiseMenFish.com

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The Area

Named the Queen's Gardens by Christopher Columbus, the Jardines de la Reina is a pristine chain of islands, very similar in nature to the Florida Keys in the USA. The island system runs more than one hundred miles back to the northwest, from Cuba's south-eastern coast. Most of the area we fish is forty to fifty miles offshore and has been designated as a Cuban National Park.

As such, there is no commercial fishing in this exclusive area, which covers nearly eighty miles. There is no habitation of any kind on any of the islands in the National Park. This is a huge expanse of saltwater wilderness, perhaps the last place like this left in the world today. With Cuba's continued protection it should remain a treasure forever.

The Accommodation

There is a range of accommodation available at Los Jardines de la Reina while you are our guest. For example there is the "Tortuga" — a large, 110 foot long, double-decked floating hotel with accommodation for 14 anglers (two per room).



This is an unbelievably solid boat, made of steel and then anchored in a protected channel, so that it never moves about. The threat of getting seasick is non-existent. This boat doesn't move one inch. Each cabin has its own shower with hot water, toilet and individually adjustable high tech air-conditioning system. A large air-conditioned dining room downstairs with both a foredeck and afterdeck makes this a very comfortable home away from home.

The staff at the accommodation are all extremely helpful and will do their best to tend to your every need.

Wise Men Tips

Our resident "Wise Man", the lodge co-owner Filippo Invernizzi, highlights that you should spend at least one day in Havana. "From the beautiful Spanish colonial architecture of the Old Town, to the spectacular Havana Centro, this is a must day trip." (For anglers travelling from Europe, Virgin Atlantic gives you flexibility to spend extra days in Havana).

Did You Know?

You can view short video clips of our fishing trips on our website — just go to our web page titled "Video Clips" — and enjoy!

TRIP DETAILS

Season:	14th October to 1st September.
Fish Species:	Bonefish, tarpon, permit, snooks, jack crevailles, mutton snappers, cudas and sharks.
Tackle:	As noted above, it is recommended that anglers bring three rods. Three or four piece travel rods are highly recommended. A good quality saltwater fly reel is also important and it should be anodized. We will provide a full packing list on booking.
Clothing:	Tropical hot weather clothing, shorts, flats pants, saltwater fishing shirts, long billed hat with neck protection, sun screen, sun glasses, flats boots, flats pack, water bottle, light rain jacket and of course a camera.

Package includes:

- **Transfer from/to Jucaro Port to Jardines de la Reina on departure day.**
- **Six nights on floating hotel La Tortuga/Halcon/La Reina on double occupancy.**
- **Six days on full board basis.**
- **Five and two half days guided fly fishing (two people per skiff).**
- **Marine Park license.**

Lodge Capacity: **There is capacity for up to 14 anglers on various different fishing packages.**

Getting there: **Fly into Havana. Boats leave from Jucaro Port on a Saturday morning, returning Friday afternoon. We are happy to arrange any additional travel requirements you may need.**



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