

Information Sheet

Bendoroda Wilderness Lodge

PNG



Bendoroda Wilderness Lodge is a newly established eco-tourist fishing lodge set on the mouth of the Bendoroda Estuary. This area is virtually untouched and offers an exciting variety of fishing and sight seeing to the adventurous angler. The lodge was built by the village people for the whole community as their only income is to smoke tilapia or catch and sell crocodile.

Lodge: The accommodation is built from local materials, which not only blends in with the environment but is practical as well. Each angler has their own room which opens onto a spacious veranda and haus win.

Toilet & Shower: A 12 volt shower and cubical is in place so people can enjoy a cool ash after a long day in the tropical sun. Water is a valuable commodity at this stage and all guests are encouraged to use all water sparingly. The toilet is a modern environmentally friendly composting type which is waterless and convenient.

Water: Water for washing comes from one metre under the sandy ground and is pushed up by the rising of the tide. The water is suitable for washing and bathing only. Bottled water will be brought in from Popondetta for drinking and cooking.

Power: Cooking and freezing facilities are LPG gas. Lighting is 12 volt with the addition of pressurised kero lanterns. Torches are also provided for each room. Inverted battery power is available to charge camera batteries.

Communications: VHF Radio is available for receiving and transmitting in case of emergency. Satellite phone will be available at a later date when services are in place.

Bugs: Mosquitos and sand flies are common at different stages of the day but with regular applications of suitable repellent, they don't cause much discomfort. The mosquitos do carry malaria but with the correct precautions of taking anti malaria medication at least two weeks prior to your arrival, you shouldn't have any problems.

Laundry: Clothes are washed and folded daily at no charge. Sheets, pillows and towels are also supplied and changed daily.

People: The people at Bendoroda are peaceful and fun-loving who enjoy interacting with the guests. Most speak English and will bend over backwards to make you feel at home. Their culture is very much an integral part of their daily lives. They are very religious with Anglican as their denomination. The people do not consume alcohol in the village but it is allowed within the confines of the lodge for the guests only.

Boats: Two custom built 4.95metre Stessl Edge Tracker Trucks fitted with padded swivel seats, a canopy and sounders. Powered by electric start Honda 50hp four stroke engines. Both boats have been designed to give maximum comfort and space for two anglers plus their guides.

Fishing Equipment: All tackle is supplied on a replace if lost/damaged basis. This includes lured but not terminal tackle. Black Bass are a heavy duty fish and heavy duty tackle is mandatory so both boats are equipped with custom rods fitted with Shimano Calcutta 700's or TIGA equivalent. You have a choice of fishing 15 or 24kg and a good selection of heavy duty deep diving lures. Lighter tackle for fishing from the beach at the lodge is available.

Type of Fishing: We mostly troll close to the river banks that are 5 to 8 metres deep with runs averaging from 500 to 1000kms in length. Please note that all fishing in these rivers so far has been purely exploratory with great results and is open to different styles of fishing. We are 100% tag and release with the exception of one Black Bass per group for tasting purposes. Other species include GT's up to 20kg and Mangrove Jacks up to 4kg. Spot Tail Bass are in the upper reaches and permission is still being sought to pursue them.

Weather: The wet season is from the end of November to the end of March at which time the swamps drain and the rivers clear up. The humidity is very high and you can still expect to experience the odd heavy shower. The temperature is a hot 32 degrees so sunscreen is essential and is available on both boats.

Other Activities: Other activities that are available include a bush walk through the tropical rainforest, wild pig hunting, bird watching and night crocodile spotting.