

Fishing Monthly

Corporate Fishing Charters

Predicting Port Phillip Bay Snapper Seasons

Courtesy of Department of Primary Industries 'Fish-e-Fax' Issue 168

In 2005 Port Phillip Bay experienced that best Snapper season in the last 10 to 15 years. While keen fishers caught Snapper of all sizes (from small pinkies to large 10kg trophy fish) most were taking 2 to 6kg fish.

Funded by fisheries Victoria, fisheries scientists from DPI Research survey selected habitats in Port Phillip Bay each March after the Snapper spawning season to determine the numbers of newly settled juvenile Snapper less than 10cm in length.

The numbers of fish caught in these surveys give the scientists an indication of the success of the

previous spring/summer spawning season. This information, in turn, has allowed them to forecast the strength of the year classes entering the fisheries several years in the future.

Results from studies of otoliths (ear bones), to age fish currently being caught, can then be used to validate predictions about strong year classes entering the fishery.

The ageing suggests:

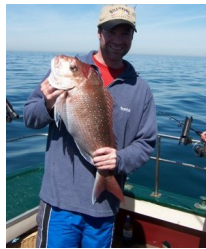
- The majority of Snapper in the 2-2.5kg size are from the 1997/98 spawning season, so they

will be 9 years old this summer

- Snapper around the 4-5kg mark are from 2 spawning seasons 94/95 and 95/96 so they will be 11 or 12 year old this summer

- Many of the Snapper around 6-7kg are from the 92/93 spawning season, so they're about 14 years old this summer

Juvenile Snapper surveys indicate that there have been several exceptionally successful spawning seasons in the last 5 years, indicating good fishing for Port Phillip Bay in the future!



JV Marine World The Fishing Charter Store

As you are all aware, JV Marine is the biggest provider of fishing tackle and boating accessories in Victoria and they have 2 fantastic superstores located in Melbourne's east and west.

Through years of friendship and paralleled efforts by JV and CFC, the two companies have finally come together to offer our

clients a one-stop-shop for all their fishing needs. In the Springvale and Laverton stores, very soon, you will find a Corporate Fishing Charters display board consisting of brochures for 6 special JV Marine trips to many of our destinations, the JV Staff will be able to assist you and if you pick your time there may even

be a CFC Specialist in store to provide information.

This is a fantastic combination of the efforts of two companies who are dedicated to the same wonderful sport to provide you with the best service that we can possibly give. Boards are due in store in approximately 3 weeks.

30th April 2006

Volume 3, Issue 4

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Upcoming Events:

- 21st-24th April 06 - Flinders Island Gamefish Trip

- 25th April 06 - CFCFC Trip St Kilda

- 7th-16th May 06 - Under 25'ish Party Tour Fiji

- 25th May-1st June 06 - Tonga Gamefishing Trip

Cape York Live Aboard Charter... Prime Season!

The Mantaray is known as a mobile fishing lodge and provides all the comforts of home with a premier sports fishing experience! The Manta-



ray is a 15.4 meter catamaran which is air-conditioned with a large lounge area downstairs and a covered upper deck for dining with the best waterfront views. She has 2 triple, 2 double and 2 single cabins along with state of the art navigation equipment and is powered by twin 240hp diesel engines.

You will spend your fishing days on 3 tenders, each of which are individually surveyed to 15n/m offshore, is

equipped with VHF radio as well as full safety equipment. This trip operates in the sheltered waters of the Gulf

of Carpentaria along the west coast of Cape York and the diversity of species and environments in which to catch them is mind boggling.

Your journey will depart from Weipa and from the time you depart all your meals and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided for you. There is an option to purchase alcohol before departing. Your trip will depart on Saturday 7th October and will return on

Friday 13th October to give you 6 full days of fishing adventure! You will be touring offshore blue water and in-shore reef areas, mile after mile of white sandy beaches and flats. Fishing offshore will place you among football field sized schools of Longtail Tuna, Mackerel and Trevally. Experience the thrill of catching these high speed pelagics as they feed on clouds of hapless baitfish.

This will be a sensational trip for only 6 passengers and the cost is \$4500 per person (ex Weipa).

Book Now...



Latest Operator in Vanuatu

Vanuatu is known as not only a great gamefishing destination, but the land of the Blackwatch's. Our latest operators are not that kind! They are ex-pat gamefishermen from North Queensland who have established a great gamefishing operation in Vanuatu.

They offer a 40ft Capricorn Classic and a 34ft Kevlacat for your selection and are happy to fish the entire Vanuatu Archipelago in one of 2 formats.

The first is a per day sole charter basis where you will be collected from your resort in Port Vila and spend an awesome day on the water, the second is a live aboard charter from 2-8 days where you will explore the waters with a fantastic crew who will ensure that you have the best fishing experience of your life!

Vanuatu is known as the best Blue Marlin fishery in the world and you

will also target other species such as Yellowfin Tuna, Black Marlin, Striped Marlin, Sailfish, Wahoo and Mahi Mahi with the option to fish for Broadbill on request.

These guys like to keep numbers to a maximum of 4 anglers for comfort and at a cost of only \$440 per person per day (based on 4 anglers), they provide you with an affordable way to enjoy the best fishing in Vanuatu!

I Fish Team Fishing & Filming in Fiji

I have just returned from Fiji with the I Fish TV Crew and we have had a great week of fishing and filming. The basic itinerary was to fish on the boats of Adrenalin out of Port Denarau and then head up to Savusavu and fish with Kapena. The fishing was great with Mangrove Jacks, Spanish Mackerel, Wahoo, Yellowfin, Mahi Mahi and Marlin being caught. Our accommodation at the Sofitel and Koro Sun Resorts was excellent and the support given to us by all the suppliers was unbelievable. The



boys, Paul & Lee, have told me that there is some awesome footage and I can't wait to see the shows when they are aired on the Channel Ten network in the next couple of weeks. The

first 'Fiji' episode should be on air in about 2 weeks time so as they say, check your local guides! The I Fish television program usually airs at approximately 1:00pm on a Saturday afternoon. Added to the fishing you may even see yours truly enjoying a great experience with the team!

Thanks for support also needs to go to Air Pacific, the Fiji Visitors Bureau, Coral Sun Transfers the Cook Family for their efforts and support on this project. From this trip, we have been invited by the Fijian Gamefishing Clubs to join their

tournaments in this tropical paradise. Here could be your chance to fish on quality boats in a quality destination, for some quality species!



FIJI...

The Fishing Frontier

When you look at places like Sydney, Queensland and Tonga as fishing destinations you know that they have the Marlin - Blue, Black & Striped... they have tagged and released them all! When you then compare these serious gamefishing destinations to Fiji, some would say that it pales in comparison... Others may say its a challenge!

In past many of our Fiji charter operators have gone for what they know is out there in the places where they know that the fish are biting, which shows the essence of a good charter operator. But lately we have seen some

real exploring operators arise in Fiji, some are new operators looking to expand the market and others have been chasing reef and small game species and are beginning to see the potential for big gamefishing in Fiji.

An email report this week shows a very interesting development for big gamefishing in Fiji with a German angler hooking a Black Marlin that was estimated to be 1400-1600lbs and 16-18ft in length. This fish was dropped unfortunately, but the north of Fiji is coming closer and closer to tagging its first 1000lb Marlin and we now have solid proof that they are out

there! We have two main operators in Fiji that are attempting to tag & release a 1000 pounder in two vastly different areas. Adrenalin are brand new operators in Port Denarau who operate a 51ft Riviera and fish the Mamanuca's and southern Yasawa's they are determined to put Fiji on the map for the big Marlin. The other operator is Kapena who operates out of Koro Sun Resort in Savusavu. An accomplished fisherman and the man who saw the hook and drop of this monster Marlin this week... Who will tag the first? We don't know but what a challenge for any keen angler!

Tui Tai Adventure Cruises

Is your dream holiday on board an amazing cruise ship surrounded by truly breathtaking views of the islands in Fiji? If so, Tui Tai Luxury Adventure Cruises has the right deal for you!

Tui Tai has packages for all types of travellers and run 3-5 day cruises including: Kayaking areas such as the Ringgold's, Cobia Island Crater and Kioa's inner coastline. Diving in areas such as "Wall Street", "Kokoda Point" and "Purple Wall". Snorkelling in

places such as "The Farm" and "The lighthouse", hiking on the islands, a night in a island village including traditional music, fun and meals. Please note that the cruise has a fishing option also. The itinerary is usually fixed although the vessel is available for sole charter either on a standard itinerary or for your own live aboard fishing adventure.

While you are relaxing on the ship, why not take advantage of the warm,

sunny, tropical weather and soak up some rays on the deck or perhaps sit and watch the stars of a night time?

So if your an active adult or honeymooners looking for a holiday that's exciting, adventurous and romantic, why not book a cruise today with a company that rates amongst the best adventures in the world?

This will be a trip of a lifetime you will never forget!

Anglers Paradise - GT Fishing Lodge, Fiji

What is paradise? To some it may be sitting on a deserted beach on a tropical island... But for any keen angler it is fishing with a guide like Jim, owner of Anglers Paradise and a die hard, dedicated fisherman. This man will fish you from dawn till dusk and you will walk away with the best Giant Trevally catch of your life as a memory! Although this operation does offer day trips which are worth while for any angler staying in the Nadi

area, what he specializes in is extended lodge stays and fishing for GT's in the north of Fiji's main island (Viti Levu). There are some great species available in Fiji, its true, but nothing that will fight as hard or give you a stronger sense of accomplishment than a GT.

Any keen angler will know that these fish are reputed to be the hardest fighting fish in the sea and what a spectacular species they are!

If you have been doing the Darwin trips with the boys once a year for too many years and are after something different where you are comfortable that it will be worth while trying... This is the trip for you. Lodge style accommodation, all meals included and some great fishing with a great guide. This is something that every angler needs to try out!



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We will put you on the right boat, in the right place, at the right time to give you a trip you will never forget!



Jay's Monthly Update

Well the major developments just keep on happening in this company! Gordon & I would like to officially welcome Sarah Kennedy to our team as an administrative assistant. Sarah will be taking over the Australian destinations through CFC for next season. We believe that she will be fantastic in the role!

As for Gordon, he is currently spending his days with Paul Worsteling & Lee Raynor of I Fish. Last we heard there have been a great variety of fish and the film crew are having a great time... So keep an eye on I Fish over the next couple of months - we are expecting the Fiji special to be sensational entertainment for the whole family!

Back at the ranch there are many preparations occurring. We are almost ready to launch the CFC boards in JV Marine stores, we are working with YHA on our budget packages, we are preparing for shows that are coming up very quickly and we still have at least 2 international trips to be completed before June! Talk about keeping ourselves busy! It will be nice to have a break from the office soon and get into some boat shows to see you all. We really are looking forward to this year's boat shows... They will definitely be something different for CFC!

Your Regular Fishing Updates Right throughout the season!

LATEST NEWS!

For all your Pacific traveling needs you can rely on Pacific Paradise Getaways!

To sign up for their upcoming monthly newsletter on traveling and the Pacific send us an email at

info@pacificparadisegetaways.com.au

Newsletters start June
2006

Darwin - A group we had in Darwin earlier in the month were successful on the Barra bagging several Barra on and over a metre in length. They also saw the boats around them catching equally good fish. There were some good Jewfish taken on the last of the neat tides building up to spring tides as well as a few Catfish.

Flinders Island - We had a group of 6 clients head to Flinders Island last weekend and they caught heaps of Salmon, a few good sized striped trumpeter, a gummy shark that was approximately a meter (7kg) in length and untold amounts of good sized flathead. They managed to sneak in some beach fishing as well which saw them bring in trevally and salmon with a few big ones dropped.

DARWIN BARRA SAFARI

5th-9th May 2006

\$2180 per person

Package Includes: 4 days on safari chasing barra and a range of bluewater species, 3 nights twin share lodge accommodation while on safari, all meals whilst on safari, return airport transfers 2 nights b&b accommodation in Darwin.

These are prime dates for chasing barra and this trip is with our best Darwin guide. It will be a short getaway with big rewards!