



Dorado at Parana on the Fly - Itati Lodge

January through October 2019

Upper Parana River

This section of the Parana River is located in the extreme northern part of Corrientes Province in NE Argentina and flows for 180 miles as a tail water of the Yacyreta Hydroelectric Dam until its junction with the Paraguay River. This section of the Parana is known for its clear waters making this stretch of the river an ideal environment for fly fishing. This fact is remarkable since makes this fishery to be **the most stable and predictable Dorado Fishery in South America.**

The Fishing

The mythic Dorado (*Salminus Maxillosus*) is clearly the main target on this river. Dorado range between 4 and 30 pounds with the possibility of fish up to 35 pounds.

Our fishing will be done using Skiffs type boats (17 foot length) equipped with 90hp four stroke motors plus electric motors at the front of the boat which are remote controlled by the guide for a silent approach to the fishing areas. We will be mainly fishing on river branches, at the head of islands and along deep banks of the main river where different structures (fallen trees, rocks structures and cut banks) generate ideal feeding spots for a natural hunter like the Dorado.





Sight Fishing for Dorado on Sand Bars

For sight fishing lovers we fish the shallow water on sand bars. This technique is more challenging and demands precise casts since we are casting only to spotted fish and especially for dorados 12 to 25 pounds in 2 or 3 feet of water. Some time we have the chance to cast for large cat fish that often cross these sand bars “like tarpon swimming deep on a 3 feet flat”. We can transform our boats to a “flats boat” with platforms for the guide to pole the flats and for anglers to rotate casting to visible Dorado. This technique is available to add a unique variety to the fishing program and we will be doing it only for shorter periods of time when the visibility conditions are optimum.

Surface Action for Dorado and Pirapita

Another unique technique for catching large dorados are the surface actions patterns such as Mouse, Gurglers and even Poppers tie on 3/0 hook such as TMC 600 SP or Gamakatsu SL 12 in 4/0 size. We fish these patterns in cut banks sections with a lot of fallen trees and slow flowing waters, in the past we had great opportunities to land large size Dorados on this technique.

Dorado Flies

The Dorado flies we use are a variety of large deceivers made with feather tails and craft fur heads around small metallic eyes. We tie them in a variety of color combinations on 3/0, 4/0 and 6/0 hooks for 5 to 6 inches long. The guides will provide all the needed flies for the trip.

Another Species of sport value

Another two high valued species can be capture on the fly during this trip; which are Pacu and Pirapita. Both these species feed on fruits and flowers that fall from the trees of the jungle so we target them on slow water channels inside the river islands.

The Pacu is a permit profile fish that is highly combative and between 3 to 20 pounds; we will be targeting this fish casting behind branches as we drift with the current with a foam bead that



imitates these fruits. We dead drift the line as fishing dry flies for trout and we will be able to see great surface takes that will assure a lot of fun.

Pirapita, Boga & Pacui

The Pirapita is locally known as the “salmon of the river” as it feeds on insects and can be caught on large foam attractors (such as Chernobyl Ant). These species range in size between 2 to 12 pounds with amazing fights with multiples jumps. This is an omnivorous specie are ideal target for the middle part of the day where the Dorado can slow down their activity. We target them on lighter equipment normally 6 or 7 weight rods. This adds a nice variety to the fishing day and provides a perfect break from casting the larger Dorado flies. The Bogas are strictly fruit eater and more likely bottom feeders but are excellent fighters and will mixed between Pirapita when we are targeting them.

NOTE: We welcome spin gear anglers to join this trip since the technique and species targeted could be easily caught with high success using this type of equipment.

The Gear

For Dorado we recommend #8 weight 9 ft fast action rods with a reel loaded with a Tropical WF Floating Line or Intermediate Clear Tip line. Both these lines should be tropical due to the warm water conditions and the high temperatures predominant in this area.

The leaders should be 9 feet long ending with 30/35 pound test saltwater fluorocarbon or other high resistant material to abrasion; plus a 40 pounds wire bite tippet at the end of the leader to protect against the sharp teeth of Dorado.





For targeting Pacu and Pirapita we recommend #6 or #7 weight 9' fast action rod equipped with a reel with Tropical WF Floating line. Leaders for these species are built ending with 20/30 pounds fluorocarbon material and the addition of a 30 pound wire bite.

The Lodge

The Lodge is located few miles upstream from the town of Itati and is a secluded private house where your group will be the only people there. You will be accommodated on double occupancy rooms along with the other anglers on your group.

Our Local Chef will delight you will traditional meal form the area and the best Argentina wines. A selection of drinks will be available on the Lodge Bar.

Trip Itinerary

DAY 1 Fly to Corrientes Airport CNQ Airports – Transfer to Parana on the Fly Lodge - Welcome Dinner

DAY 2 to DAY 7 - 6 full fishing days

During the five full days of fishing we will fish different stretches of waters. A combination of techniques:

- ✓ Large streamer to tempt the large dorado on rocky structures on the main river, cut bank and fallen tree
- ✓ Use to Mouse patterns to tempt large dorados around slow water cut banks with multiple fallen trees and also other floating artificial such as gurglers, poppers and crease Flies
- ✓ Target Dorados on sand bars where we will be sight fishing for them while the guide is push polling from the back of the boat, such as tarpon fishing on a flat. This technique is done one angler at the time
- ✓ Target smaller internal creeks and canal where we will drifter while cast small dry flies and targeting Pacui, Pirapitas, Pacu and even small dorados



DAY 8 Check out from Parana on the Fly Lodge and private transfer to Resistencia Airport RES to take your return flight to Buenos Aires

This trip of 7 nights and 6 full days fishing has a cost of \$4,700 per person based on double occupancy at twin rooms (*) and sharing guide and boat every 2 anglers

(*) Single rooms are available for an additional charge of \$45 per person/night

INCLUDED ON THE TRIP PRICE

- All lodging as describe on the itinerary
- All meals, beer and wine.
- Full time guide and coordinator during the trip
- Transportation between local Airport and the Lodge
- All the special services described on the itinerary
- Fishing License

NOT INCLUDED ON THE TRIP PRICE

- International and Local Flights
- Airport transfers in Buenos Aires from and to International Airport and Local Airport.
- Single Rooms are available at additional \$45 per person/day
- Laundry
- Gratuities