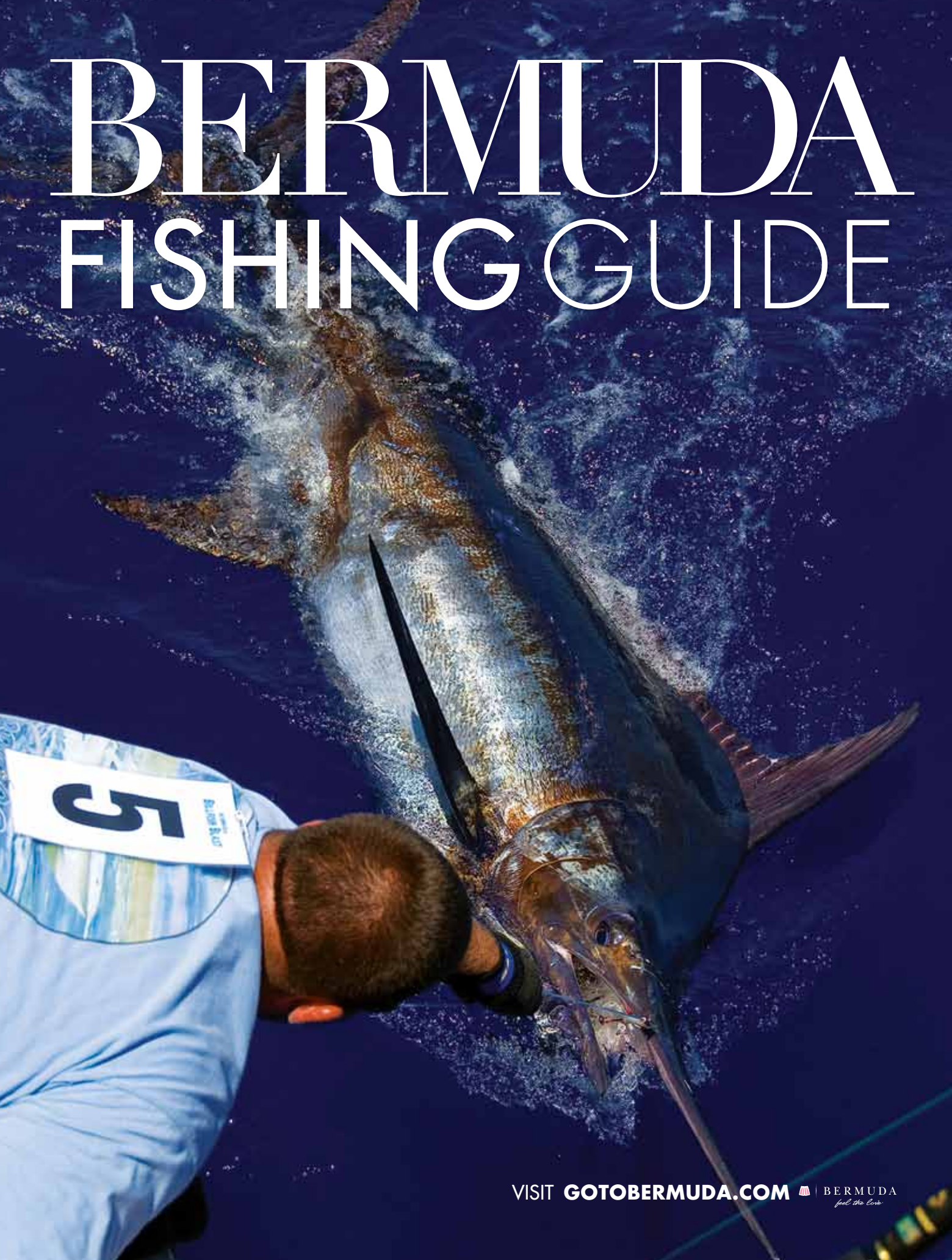


BERMUDA FISHING GUIDE



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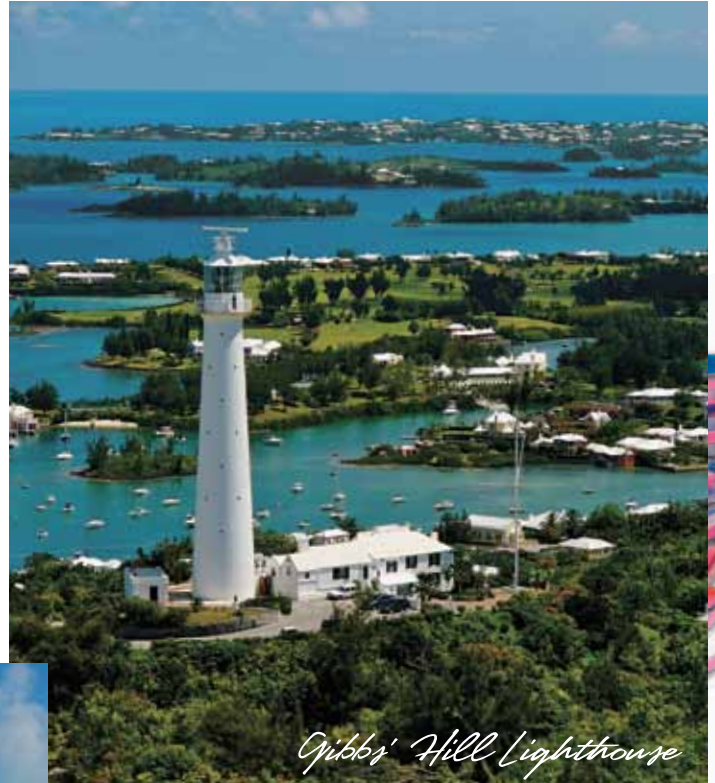
Bermuda Fishing

Finding a Fish to Pull On Was Never So Easy

Although it's completely coincidental that Bermuda is shaped like a fishhook, this cluster of islands has been hooking deep-sea anglers for years. Situated some 650 miles due east of North Carolina, Bermuda earned its spot in the big-game fisherman's playbook decades ago by providing quick access to some of the very best big-game fishing in the Atlantic Ocean. And the fish in Bermuda are no slouches.

In the world of big-game fishing, three species take the cake in terms of size, power and mystique: Those species are marlin, tuna and wahoo. Visitors to Bermuda will find all three of these species just offshore.

Bermuda is best known for its big blue marlin, and these majestic billfish grow to gargantuan size. In 1995 on the charter boat *DeMako*, Capt. Allen DeSilva caught the largest blue marlin ever recorded in Bermuda — it weighed 1,352 pounds! Another well-known captain, Alan Card, has caught a half-dozen marlin exceeding 1,100 pounds. So you never



Gibbs Hill Lighthouse



Wahoo

know if a world-record marlin might show up behind the boat in Bermuda.

For the best chance to tangle with a blue marlin, plan your trip during the peak season, which runs from June through August. But those monster blues also show up a bit earlier in the season. Fewer blue marlin are caught in May or early June, but they're typically bigger. Local boats also encounter the largest number of white marlin during the early portion of the season. White marlin are the smallest of all the marlin species, but they put up acrobatic fights marked by high-flying aerial displays. In May, for example, you may see two white marlin for every blue. In June it's more of a 50-50 ratio, and by July and August there are more blues than whites.



Yellowfin Tuna



Reeling 'er In



The Bermuda charter-boat fleet targets two main areas when looking for marlin: Challenger and Argus banks. These banks, located 12 and 20 miles offshore, were formed by the same volcanic activity that formed Bermuda itself. Challenger, the closer of the two, rises from 6,000-foot depths to just 180 feet at the crown. The strong currents push the baitfish against the steep banks, and the marlin, tuna and wahoo are never far behind.

Marlin have been caught every month of the year in Bermuda, but the fishing is best during summer when the water warms up to at least 80 degrees. During the peak of the marlin season, boats commonly see an average of five blue marlin in a day, but don't expect every fish to be

more than 1,000 pounds. When chasing blue marlin, especially as a novice angler, it's best to maintain realistic expectations. Most of the Bermuda blues average between 400 and 600 pounds. They won't all resemble small submarines, but even a 400-pounder is nothing to squawk about.

For those new anglers who want to try blue marlin fishing, Bermuda has great crews who will walk you through it and give advice on what to do and what not to do.

And remember that you could always come up empty; that's just how fishing goes. For that reason, you want to break the day up with a little wahoo and tuna fishing in the morning to get a little practice under your belt, and dedicate the afternoon to marlin. That way the pressure is off, everyone gets to pull on a fish, and it'll be more fun.

Although blue marlin represent the holy grail of big-game fish, catching wahoo and tuna is fun for the whole family. Every year, the Bermuda charter boats begin their season by chasing wahoo in late spring. By May, the action can be downright frantic, with boats catching 200 or so fish a month. Wahoo are among the fastest fish in the ocean, and their torpedo-shaped bodies are flanked with brilliant stripes. Wahoo are also among the best eating fish you can find, so make sure to get a few fillets for the grill. But be wary of the wahoo's jaws. Their teeth are razor-sharp and can inflict

Marlin have been caught every month of the year in Bermuda.

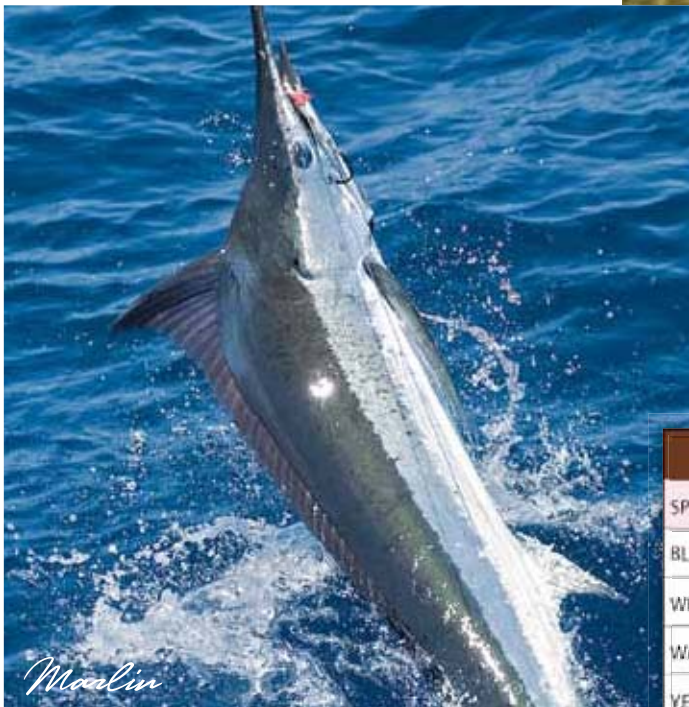
There's always something biting in Bermuda.

serious damage. The wahoo here can grow to more than 100 pounds, and on good days, the local boats will haul in up to 600 pounds of fish.

Yellowfin tuna are another mainstay of the Bermuda fishery. These beasts show up each spring and fall. The largest yellowfin caught here weigh up to 200 pounds and put up quite a fight, so be ready to invest a little muscle to get these bad boys to the boat. Chumming for tuna, a favorite technique, always gathers a crowd. In May and June, and then again during the fall months of September and October, you'll find boats anchored on the bank with a chum bag hanging over the side to attract a wide range of species, turning the water into a veritable aquarium. You can literally pick and choose which fish you want to catch and go after it.

If you for some reason miss the spring run of wahoo and tuna, don't fret; the action picks up again come September. Toward the end of the summer, just as the marlin action begins to taper off, the wahoo and tuna fishing picks back up again. The lighter tackle makes its second appearance of the season, and the fish holds are put back to use.

If you can't get offshore for whatever reason, you can always count on some action along Bermuda's many reefs. The island also has vessels that offer four-hour trips out to the island's inshore hot spots for some bottom fishing. Fishing bait on the bottom, you can catch a range of snapper species, triggerfish, porgies and more — it's a great family trip. If you're after the elusive bonefish, try the beaches on the north side of the island. Bonefish average 8 to 10 pounds out here, but definitely plan on chasing bones in the summer — all the bonefish move off for the winter months. No matter your experience level or desire, there's always something biting in Bermuda.



SPECIES AVAILABILITY CHART												
SPECIES	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
BLUE MARLIN	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
WHITE MARLIN	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
WAHOO	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
YELLOWFIN TUNA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
BONEFISH	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
HOGFISH	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

● Excellent
 ● Good
 ● Fair
 ● Not Available

Charter Directory

Bermuda's Most Complete Listing of Charter Boats



ALBATROSS FISHERIES & CHARTERS

Owned and operated by Capts. Peter and Hans Olander, this air-conditioned vessel is equipped with the latest electronics and a full range of world-class tackle. Based at St. George's on the east end of Bermuda, we're just 20 minutes from fishing the best blue marlin waters in Bermuda. **For rates and more information, call 441-331-8089, 441-334-9478 (boat), e-mail albatross@ibl.bm or visit www.fishwithalbatross.com.**



BERMUDA BANGER CHARTERS

Enjoy the comforts of home on board *Bermuda Banger*, a 50-foot Bertram sport-fishing yacht specializing in hunting marlin, tuna, wahoo and dolphin. Daily rate includes beer, soda, bait and tackle. Capt. John Whiting, an experienced fisherman, has mastered the art of deep-sea fishing. Take this opportunity to experience a real Bermudian fishing adventure that is second to none. **Call 441-534-8590 or 441-293-5740, or e-mail bermudabanger@gmail.com or bermudabanger@hotmail.com.**



CHALLENGER SPORTFISHING CHARTERS

This 40-foot Gamefisherman, owned and operated by Capt. Alan Card and his son Ian, is fast, clean and well kept. The *Challenger* has captured, in Bermuda waters, six blue marlin weighing between 1130 lbs and 1195 lbs (winner of the World Cup in 1993). *Challenger* won the inaugural Bermuda Big Game Classic in 2001. **Call 441-234-0872, 441-337-2109 (cell), e-mail ajcard@northrock.bm or visit www.bigfishbermuda.com.**



EQUALIZER CHARTERS

"Let's just go fishing" — that's our motto. Fish Bermuda's crystal-blue waters for blue marlin, wahoo, yellowfin tuna and more, all aboard *Equalizer*, a 38-foot Henriques sport-fisherman. The crew has been fishing these waters for more than a decade. Full-day charters, \$1,250; half-day charters, \$850. **Contact Capt. Reggie Horseman at 441-296-9158 (home) or 441-537-3474 (cell), or e-mail rshorseman@northrock.bm.**



GRINGO CHARTERS

Just one hour away from the fishing grounds, this 31-foot custom JC is fully equipped for offshore fishing. Chum for yellowfin and blackfin tuna, or troll for wahoo, dolphin and blue marlin — whatever baits your hook. Our season runs from April through November, with the marlin bite peaking in June, July and August. **Contact Capt. Joey Dawson at 441-295-3500, 441-504-3474 (boat) or 441-295-8053 (fax).**



JUMP DEM BONES

When you've had enough of big-game fishing, why not hop aboard Jump Dem Bones with Captain Ian Linnell and hunt Bermuda's inshore shallow waters and flats. With over 30 years experience Ian offers both fly and spin tackle fishing for bonefish, barracuda, jacks, bonito, snapper and his specialty Bermuda Hogfish. Captain Linnell is the only fly-fishing guide on the island and provides all spin and fly tackle, drinks and baits. Bonefish can be caught year-round in Bermuda and we encourage bringing your partner along so you don't feel guilty about fishing. For more information **check out our website at www.bermudabonefish.com, email jumpdembones@hotmail.com or call 441-747-6911**



LONE STAR CHARTERS

Want to fish? Then fish for tuna, wahoo, mahimahi and the big boys — marlin — with the exceptional team of Capt. Dean Jones and first mate Don Boys on board *Lone Star*, a 42-foot Bruno Stillman. The crew, which lives by the motto, "Sometimes you just gotta get tough," are proven tournament winners, placing second in the 2004 Bermuda Big Game Classic. Capt. Jones is also Bermuda's blue marlin record holder (1,352 pounds) and has caught 44 yellowfin tuna and 32 wahoo in one day, five blue marlin in one day and successfully tagged/released three blue marlin at the same time. **Call 441-799-0122, 441-296-0110, fax 441-296-0006, e-mail bdafish@northrock.bm or visit www.lonestarfishingbermuda.com.**



MAKO CHARTERS

Fishing aboard *Mako*, a 56ft. Sunny Briggs is fast and first-class. Fish with blue marlin specialists Capt. Allen DeSilva and Co-Captain Russell Young. *Mako* has caught and released the most blue marlin in Bermuda over the past 22 years and holds Bermuda's blue marlin record, a 1,352-pounder. In 2006, *Mako* caught two granders within a week of each other. **Call 441-295-0835 (office) 441-505-8626 (boat) 441-295-3620 (fax) or e-mail makocharters@gmail.com.** Check out our weekly fishing report at www.fishbermuda.com



MATTANZA SPORTFISHING

Fish for Bermuda's big blues aboard one of the island's newest and fastest charter boats. *Mattanza* a 2008 51-foot custom Carolina sport-fish. With a 30-knot cruise and all the amenities of home, you can fish Bermuda's beautiful blue water in style. Capt. Brooks Rans has fished Bermuda and many of the world's top big-game spots. Brooks captained the top release boat, second overall in the inaugural Big Game Classic. Our professional, courteous crew will go out of its way to make your day offshore a fun, and memorable experience. Let us put you on her! **Call 441-737-0265; e-mail info@fishmattanza.com or visit www.fishmattanza.com.**



MEGA BUCKS

If you're planning a trip to Bermuda, get hooked up on board *Mega Bucks*, a 43-foot Torres. *Mega Bucks* is fast, spacious and air-conditioned. We offer full, three-quarter and half-day trips for deep-sea fishing, including marlin, tuna, wahoo, dolphin and shark. We also run reef-fishing and night-fishing trips. **For more information, contact Capt. Sinclair Lambe at 441-234-3081, e-mail megabuckscharters@gmail.com or visit www.megabucksfishing.com.**



MESSAROUND

Fish with Willard Joe Kelly aboard *Messaround*, a 40-foot Downeast-style sport-fisherman with the latest electronic and safety equipment. We offer half- and full-day charters out of St. George's, just minutes from Bermuda's best fishing grounds. **Call 441-297-8093 (office) or 441-334-8953 (cell), e-mail joekelly@northrock.bm or visit www.fishandfun.bm.**



OUTCAST INSHORE FISHING

Target bonefish, hogfish, jacks, bonita, snapper and barracuda on fly and light tackle from this 20-foot fully equipped inshore bay boat. **Call 441-335-9850 or 441-238-5663, e-mail overproof@northrock.bm or visit www.overprooffishing.com.**



OVERPROOF CHARTERS

Capt. Peter Rans is a well-respected and accomplished charter captain. His boat, *Overproof*, is a 41-foot custom Carolina fishing machine. The boat is fast and comfortable. *Overproof* won second place in the 2008 Sea Horse Anglers Tournament and in 2007 won the Bermuda Triangle Billfish Tournament. In the 2005 and 2003 Big Game Classic, *Overproof* won top Bermuda boat and third overall in the 2005 Big Game Classic with an 850-pound blue marlin. **Call 441-238-5663 (home) or 441-335-9850 (cell), e-mail overproof@northrock.bm or visit www.overprooffishing.com.**



PARADISE ONE

Paradise One is a fabulous 54-foot sport-fishing CAT that is luxurious, spacious, comfortable and very fast, and is fully equipped with the best fishing tackle and gear. Brothers Allan and Delvin Bean have fished Bermuda waters, as well as Florida and the Bahamas, for more than 25 years. They take great pride in all they do. You'll never be dissatisfied! **Contact Delvin Bean at 441-735-6134 or Allan Bean at 441-734-9409, or e-mail snikisus@yahoo.com or visit www.paradiseone-fishingcharters.com**



PLAYMATE CHARTERS

GO TUNA FISHING with Bermuda's Tuna Specialists on the "Playmate", a 43 foot custom built Sportsfisherman complete with large open flybridge, fully air-conditioned cabin and very spacious fishing cockpit. We are TUNA FANATICS..! Come and join us for the best chunking action available. We support the Tag and Release for all billfish and sharks and are the number one releasers of Tuna in Bermuda. Many of our tags have been recovered around the world providing valuable information to the stock management scientists. **The "Playmate" has also guided clients to some 25 World Records to date! Contact Capt. Kevin Winter at 799-8862 or www.playmatefishing.com**



REEL ADDICTION CHARTERS

Discover Bermuda's deep-sea action on *Reel Addiction*, one of Bermuda's top sport-fishing boats. Whether trolling for wahoo, chumming for tuna or pitching to a blue marlin, *Reel Addiction* has what it takes to reel 'em in. There is no better way to experience the very best of Bermuda's sport fishing than on *Reel Addiction*! **Contact Capt. Curtis at 441-799-9927 or 441-799-9928, e-mail info@reeladdictionbermuda.com or visit www.reeladdictionbermuda.com.**



REEL HOT CHARTERS

If you are fired up to catch big fish in Bermuda, book a day on board *Reel Hot*. Our 43-foot Torres was built specifically for fishing in Bermuda with a spacious fly-bridge, air-conditioned cabin and huge cockpit with three fighting chairs for when the action gets "reel hot!" Top-shelf tackle, the latest equipment and the newest techniques complete our package. Capt. Nick New has been fishing local waters for more than 25 years. **Call 441-537-6040 (boat) or 441-297-2871, e-mail reelhot@ibl.bm or visit www.reelhotcharterfishing.com for rates and photos.**



SANCTUARY

Sanctuary is a 2008 47 foot Riviera SII built in Australia to a very high standard including watertight bulkheads. Riviera yachts can be found all over the world and have a reputation for being a true offshore blue water boat. She is equipped with twin 710 horsepower Caterpillar C12 diesels engines and a full complement of equipment including a water maker, Furuno CH300 sonar, Raymarine electronics, and all the comforts of home including a Bose Lifestyle surround sound system and 3 flat screen televisions. **Telephone 441 334 9933, email anj@northrock.bm web www.sanctuary.bm**



SHAKE DOWN CHARTERS

"We find 'em; you wind 'em" is the motto on this fully equipped and air-conditioned 35-foot Bruno charter boat, operated by Capt. David "Bounce" Barnes. For more information, write to us at P.O. Box 258, St. David's, Bermuda DD 02. **You can also call 441-335-1779 (cell) or 441-297-3635 (home), e-mail shakedown@northrock.bm or visit www.shakedowncharters.com.**



TENACIOUS CHARTERS

Fish with Capt. Sloan aboard *Tenacious*, a 40-foot Luhrs with a flybridge. We use top-of-the-line Shimano gear and provide all tackle, bait and crew. We are fast and fully air-conditioned, with all the amenities for a comfortable day on the water. Our fee during the tournament is \$1,300 per day, which includes pickup and drop-off at the weigh-in station. We can also arrange for some pre-tournament practice runs at a reduced rate. **Call 441-735-9444 (home), e-mail atlanticspray@northrock.bm or visit www.atlanticspraycharters.bm.**



WOUND UP

Bermuda's hottest and most consistent boat the last few years, the *Wound Up's* recent success includes 1st place victories in the '09 World Cup, '09 Billfish Blast, '08 Bermuda Bacardi Tournament, 2nd place in the '09 Triple Crown and top local boat and largest Blue Marlin(865# & 858#) in both the '09 and '10 Triple Crown. We also weighed a 1049 lb Blue Marlin and set the Bermuda Wahoo record (51 in one day) in '08. Expect high quality personal service, a great work ethic and the highest quality tackle aboard the *Wound Up* - a 37' Duffy with **Capt. James Robinson. freshfish@northrock.com or visit woundupbermuda.com.**

ELLEN B

Capt. Michael Baxter
32-foot Shoreline
\$800 daily rate, includes
beverages, bait/tackle
441-234-2963 home
441-334-9722 cell
441-234-5958 fax
baxtersreef@northrock.bm

LOBSTER REEF

Sally Pace
42-foot Bruno
Deep-sea fishing
441-292-0518 home
441-235-1130 cell

TROUBADOR

Blake West
42-foot Double-Ender
Deep-sea and reef fishing
441-293-0813 home

BLUE CHIP

Capt. Eugene Barnes
42-foot Sport-Fisherman
\$950 daily rate
441-297-8015 home
441-335-1779 cell
441-799-4931 cell

Tournament Calendar

Bermuda's Exciting Big-Game Events

JUNE

BERMUDA ANGLERS CLUB INTERNATIONAL LIGHT TACKLE TOURNAMENT • www.bermudaanglersclub.com
Experience world class light tackle fishing for tuna, wahoo, almaco jacks, barracuda, blue and white marlin in a fun filled atmosphere. The ILTT is a qualifying event for the IGFA Offshore World Championship. June 17-23 2012

BERMUDA BILLFISH RELEASE CUP • www.bermudareleasecup.com
The Bermuda Billfish Release Cup kick-starts the Bermuda billfish tournament season with a fun, family-oriented, all-release billfish tournament that also features awards and prizes for game fish. Those teams that turn it up a notch will go home with a handsome award package.



JULY - BERMUDA TRIPLE CROWN BILLFISH CHAMPIONSHIP

BERMUDA BILLFISH BLAST • www.bermudabillfishblast.com
The Blast is designed to provide a fun Bermuda competition that works in concert with the July 4 Blue Marlin World Cup. The World Cup has been won in Bermuda several times, giving anglers a great chance of winning both competitions. The Blast serves as the first leg of the Bermuda Triple Crown Billfish Championship. Teams and their vessels fishing in the Blast earn valuable points and compete for cash and prizes.



BERMUDA BIG GAME CLASSIC • www.bermudabiggameclassic.com
The Classic is the centerpiece of the Bermuda Triple Crown Billfish Championship. Teams fishing the Classic enjoy nightly parties, great people and the largest purse of the series. The Classic is the series' largest tournament.

SEA HORSE ANGLERS CLUB BILLFISH TOURNAMENT • www.seahorseanglers.com
The Sea Horse Anglers Club Billfish Tournament is the oldest Bermudian billfish event and the final leg of the Triple Crown. Teams competing in the tournament will enjoy a fun kickoff party and laid-back Yacht Club awards presentation. All teams and their vessels will be trying to increase their points in hopes of taking home the Championship rings and incredible prize package.



For tournament information contact Dan Jacobs at 407-571-4680; e-mail dan.jacobs@bonniercorp.com



Bermuda Department of Tourism
Global House, 43 Church Street
Hamilton HM 12
Bermuda
Tel: 441-292-0023



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