

La Alondra 'i + The Itati Lodge Combo

Ibera Wetlands and Upper Parana River, North east Argentina
October 15-22, 2022

We offer our guests two distinctly unique Dorado fishing environments and lodges in the same itinerary. The week is divided between two locations and allows you to experience the most diverse Dorado fishing itinerary that is available anywhere.

An important distinguishing feature of the Dorado Combo Program is the close proximity of the lodges. A short 30-minute charter flight allows you to easily fish 3 full days at each destination.









## LA ALONDRA 'i - laalondra.com

You will be pampered at La Alondra 'i while enjoying the peaceful setting and excellent cuisine. This reconditioned colonial house offers the perfect lodge experience to compliment your visit to the Ibera Wetland.

All common areas provide a unique atmosphere, where the past and present converge. The lodge features 4 comfortable air-conditioned rooms each with 2 double beds and en suite bathrooms. An enclosed courtyard offers the ultimate in privacy and a great place to relax after spending the day exploring the wetlands. Two separate dining areas where breakfast and dinner are served are also featured. Additionally, the small chapel located inside the courtyard is another distinctive characteristic that symbolizes the town's colonial traditions. Recently, an outdoor swimming pool was added for our guest's enjoyment.

During your visit at La Alondra Lodge you'll have the opportunity to overnight at one of the satellite properties located deep in the marsh. Ibera Ragua, is a small, rustic but comfortable cabin that can accommodate 4 anglers per night. Electric power and hot water showers are provided. Yaguarte Ava, is our newest addition and the perfect site for guests looking for adventure. This tented camp can accommodate 4 anglers per night and even though the location is remote an electric power supply and hot water showers are available. For additional information about both camps please visit our website. Can you link directly to the camp info.





# THE ITATI LODGE - theitatilodge.com

Located in a traditional "estancia", on the banks of the paraná river, our air-conditioned lodge provides the perfect balance between wilderness and comfort. Five well-appointed rooms, all with en suite bathrooms, can accommodate up to 10 anglers\*. Our professional chef, Orlando, produces a menu that is a blend of local flavors and international cuisine.

\*Itati Lodge can receive up to ten anglers, but this program is good up to a total of eight.

# THE FISHING

The mythical Dorado (salminus brasiliensis) is clearly the main target at both lodges.

Along the western boundary of the world famous Ibera Wetlands you can fish the endless miles of "gin clear" creeks, channels and lagoons. SET Fly Fishing has been granted access to this unspoiled and untouched natural environment. The fishery typically produces Dorado ranging in size from 4 to 15 pounds, however, 20+ pound fish have been hooked and landed. Fishing takes place from flats style boats equipped with pooling platforms and 40 hp engines. Surface patterns are the preferred flies for fishing the wetlands.

The Upper Parana River offers the chance to catch a trophy, a truly once-in-a-lifetime golden Dorado. Every season, a handful of fish above 40 pounds are landed! This section of the river is the tailwater to the Yacyreta Hydroelectric Dam, which is located approximately 90 miles upstream. Being a tailwater, the water conditions are clear and stable – the ideal environment for productive fly fishing. Here you'll be casting surface and sub-surface flies towards structures such as logs, rock outcroppings and fallen trees.







Carolina Skiffs, equipped with 90 hp engines, are located a few steps from the lodge and close to the action. They also provide for quick access back to the comforts of the lodge for lunch between the morning and afternoon fishing sessions.

Pacu and Pira Pita, both omnivorous species, are also available for you to fish for during your visit.

# Omnivorous Species At Upper Parana

Pacu, is often referred to as the "permit of the river". They are often found feeding on or near the waters surface for fruit and insects and this can create some great sight fishing possibilities. Pacu are not known for their jumping ability but pound for pound are extremely hard fighting.

Pira Pita, known locally as the "salmon of the river", ranges in size from 2 to 12 pounds. Once hooked, this extremely hard fighting fish is known for its acrobatic displays and multiple jumps. Being an omnivorous species, they are targeted using large attractor flies that imitate insects, fruit, mice and even flowers. They are often fished for using lighter 6 and 7 weight rods. Fishing for Pacu and Pira Pita provides the perfect mid-daybreak from casting large flies to Dorado.





### **GUIDES**

At Set Fly Fishing we believe that our people make the difference that ensures our guests have a memorable lifetime experience. We are proud of our guide team which has grown and matured with the company over the past 20 years. Specific guide teams are focused on the same species, either trout or Dorado, throughout the entire season. This accounts for their high level of expertise on "their waters" and provides guests with the confidence that they are in experienced hands.

### **CHARTER FLIGHTS**

This itinerary features 3 charter flights to get you quickly and conveniently to your destinations. The outbound flight from Buenos Aires will be directly to La Alondra Lodge. The return flight to Buenos Aires will depart from itati Lodge.



Both Buenos Aires flights will be aboard an 8 seat Cessna Grand Caravan EX.



Flights between La Alondra Lodge and Itati Lodge will be aboard a 4 seat Cessna 206 aircraft. Two planes will be flown in order for the entire group to arrive at the same time.







### **PROGRAM**

DAY 1: Charter flight from Buenos Aires directly to La Alondra Lodge.

DAY 2 to 4: Three (3) full day fishing in the Iberá Wetlands.

DAY 5: Early morning charter flight from La Alondra'i to the Itati Lodge (30 minutes). Full day fishing at Upper Parana River.

DAY 6 and 7: Two (2) full day fishing at Upper Parana River.

DAY 8: Charter flight from Itati Lodge directly to Buenos Aires.

7 nights and 6 full days of fishing have a cost of \$6,250 per person, double occupancy, with one boat and guide per two anglers. This trip is limited to a total of 8 anglers.

#### INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- · All lodging as described on the itinerary
- · All meals, beer and wine
- Full-time guide and coordinator during the trip
- · All charter flights and local ground transfers
- · All the special services described on the itinerary
- · Fishing license, all flies

#### NOT INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- International Flights
- Any Buenos Aires expenses hotels, meals, transfers, etc
- Laundry
- Gratuities









### **THE GEAR**

For both the Upper Parana and Ibera we recommend the following equipment.

Rods: Dorado – 8 weight, 9 foot, fast action 4 piece with a good fighting butt. This weight rod allows you to cast large flies and lessen casting fatigue. It's nice to have two rods – one strung with a floating line and the other with an intermediate clear tip.

Pacu and Pira Pita – 6 or 7 weight, 9 foot, fast action 4 piece with a good fighting. These fish are found on the Upper Parana and not at Ibera. Clearly the primary target is Dorado but if the conditions are right you can fish for both Pacu and Pira Pita.

Reels: Two or three quality reels with good drag systems. All reels should be loaded with 150 yards of 30 pound backing.

Line: Lines need to be "tropical" due to the air and water temperatures.

Upper Parana – One weight forward floating (WFF) for surface patterns, mainly mice and one intermediate clear tip (WF I/I) for streamers.

Ibera Wetlands – Two weight forward floating lines (WFF). One used for surface patterns and the other used for streamers.

#### SEASON AND WEATHER

For protective reasons, during the spawning months of November and December, the fishery closes. Our water conditions are stable and predictable throughout the season therefore every month fishes equally well. However, the outside temperatures and humidity are something to consider when planning your visit.

January through mid-March: Very warm and humid. Average daytime temperature will in the 80's to low 90's F and 70's F at night. The temperatures become cooler as you move from January to March. Nighttime temperature shouldn't be an issue as all common areas and bedrooms are air-conditioned.

Late April through May: Daytime temperatures between 70-80 F and nighttime temperatures in the 50's and 60's F. These cooler temperatures will push the smaller fish into deeper water. This can improve your odds of catching larger Dorado but the net result could be fewer smaller fish.

September and October: Usually sees daytime temperatures between the high 70's and low 80's F and nighttime temperatures in the range of 55-65 F. Surface flies such as mouse and lizard patterns are effective during this time of year.

Between mid January and mid February and then again between mid March and mid April: The pacu and pira pita feeding activity increases. These fish are omnivorous and take advantage of ripened fruit and beans that fall this time of year from overhanging trees.