



## FLORIDA KEYS SALTWATER SPORT FISH

SPECIES	SEASON
Amberjack	March-May
Barracuda	Year-Round
Bonefish	May-October
Cobia	November-April
Dolphin (Mahi-Mahi)	April-October
Grouper (Multiple Species)	May-December
Cero Mackerel	November-April
King Mackerel	October-April
Spanish Mackerel	November-March
Blue Marlin	May-October
White Marlin	April-September
Permit	March-November
Redfish	Year-Round
Sailfish	November-May
Shark (Multiple Species)	Year-Round
Snapper (Mangrove)	Year-Round
Snapper (Mutton)	April-September
Snapper (Yellowtail)	Year-Round
Snook	March-November
Swordfish	Year-Round
Tarpon	March-August
Tuna (Blackfin)	Year-Round
Wahoo	November-June

**TIPS FOR BOATERS & FISHERMEN:** Dumping trash at sea is illegal; plastic bags & other debris can injure or kill marine animals. Retrieve fishing gear & equipment, especially monofilament line. Accidental boat groundings damage the reef. Prop damage destroys shallow seagrass beds. Consult tide and navigational charts & steer clear of shallow areas. Remember, "Brown, brown, run aground. Blue, blue, sail on through." Use reef mooring buoys or anchor in sandy areas away from coral & seagrasses so you do not damage the coral or seagrass beds. Use sewage pump-out facilities, biodegradable bilge cleaner and never discharge sewage or bilgewater at the reef. Maintain safe distances from fishermen. Observe size & catch limits; release all fish you can't eat. Avoid wildlife disturbance; stay 200 feet or more offshore; keep speed, noise & wakes to a minimum near mangroves.

The  
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 & Key West**  
 ... come as you are®

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Go Fish.



The  
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No fishing destination in the world can match the quantity or variety of angling opportunities found throughout The Florida Keys & Key West. In fact, with the Gulfstream to the east, the Gulf of Mexico to the west and Florida Bay and the Everglades in-between, The Florida Keys offers true fishing nirvana. No wonder so many tournaments and IGFA records are set (and broken) here. So whether you want to sight fish for tailing redfish in the shallows, flyfish for bonefish, permit and tarpon on the flats, go deep sea fishing for marlin and sailfish or simply try your luck at one of our acclaimed bridges (42 at last count), The Florida Keys will have you recounting your own fish stories (true ones) for many years to come.

### Deep Sea Fishing

If it's the big fight you're after, head offshore aboard a deep-sea charter boat in The Keys. These high-tech, fully equipped sportfishing yachts offer big comfort and big rewards for up to six anglers. Our charter boat captains are old salts at the techniques and tactics required to locate, hook and land some of the world's toughest gamefish. Depending on conditions you'll kite fish, troll, anchor, drift or deep drop your way to big gamefishing heaven. Sailfish, blue and white marlin, tuna, wahoo, cobia, yellowtail, amberjack and sharks are but a few of the denizens of the deep you might encounter on a deep-sea expedition in The Keys.

### Reefs and Wrecks

With living coral reef just minutes from shore and countless shipwrecks stretching from Key Largo to Key West, bottom fishing in The Keys is one of the most productive techniques you can employ. These bottom structures are home to some of the most powerful fish in the sea. From bus-sized goliath grouper to big mutton snapper to powerful amberjack, it's one tug-of-war you won't soon forget.



### Flats & Backcountry Fishing

Surrounded by miles of sand and grass flats and crystal clear shallows, the Florida Keys was made for sight fishing. Here, bonefish and permit root out shrimp and crabs, while hungry tarpon prowl the edges in search of their next meal. Not surprisingly, the Florida Keys provide the perfect opportunity for a grand slam: releasing a bonefish, permit and tarpon all in the same day. And there's no better way to land the big three than with an experienced Florida Keys backcountry guide. These professional captains know when, where and how to help you spot, hook and land these elusive gamesters of the flats.

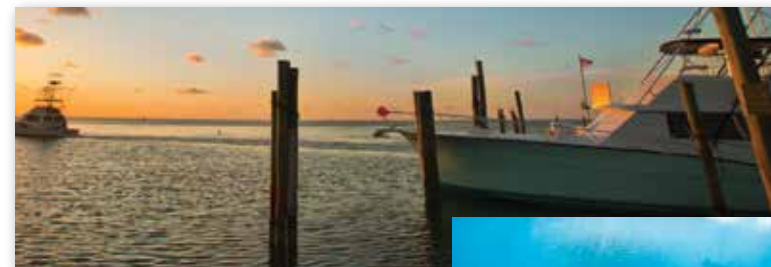
For many anglers, the fabled backcountry of The Florida Keys is fishing in its purest form. Remote. Unspoiled. Serene. Here, on the Gulf side of the Florida Keys you'll discover miles of uninhabited mangrove islands, expansive grass flats, shallow channels and narrow passes extending from Key Largo all the way to the pristine Florida Everglades. These brackish waters are the main feeding grounds for a wide range of light-tackle all stars – snook, redfish, baby tarpon, spotted sea trout and sheepshead, to name a few.

### Light Tackle Fishing

For a hands-on action-packed adventure, no fishing technique equals the challenge or excitement of light tackle angling. This is the essence of true sport fishing, where smaller rods and lighter lines put angler and quarry on a more level playing field. Light tackle charters are some of the most flexible charters in The Keys, perfect for everything from a casual family trip for some tasty "dinner fish" to a fly rod expedition for elusive gamesters. Center-console open fishermen boats provide a versatile and comfortable fishing platform for upwards of six anglers. Almost any species can be targeted with light tackle, from tarpon to deep-water sailfish and everything in-between.

### Party Boat Fishing

Next to bridge fishing, one of the easiest and most economical ways to fish The Keys is to hop aboard a party boat and head offshore for a stress-free morning, afternoon or evening of angling adventure. Charters last approximately four hours, and include everything you'll need to land your very own Moby Dick – from bait and tackle to available snacks and drinks. Grouper, mutton snapper, yellowtail, kingfish, mahi-mahi – the possibilities are as endless as they are tasty. Best of all, no fishing license is required, reservations aren't necessary and your catch will be cleaned for you when you arrive back at the dock. It's that simple.



### Bridge Fishing

No boat? Not a problem here in The Keys. Our historic bridges provide an excellent opportunity to hook and land an incredible variety of fish. These "fishing platforms" are a combination fishing pier and artificial reef all rolled into one. Snapper, snook, tarpon, permit, grouper and sharks are just some of the game fish that visit our bridges throughout the year. Just don't forget your "bridge basics": cooler, ice, bucket, rods, tackle, flashlights, cast net, rags, knives, drinking water and a tide chart.