



ST BRANDON'S, MAURITIUS
16°26'10.53"S - 59°36'21.67"E



St Brandon's Atoll, Mauritius
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St Brandon's

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Marabou Fleeing Crab

In pursuit of big bonefish



Overview

Cost: USD\$8 600 pps ex Mauritius (includes \$100 Global Rescue Medivac Insurance)

Group Size: 6 Anglers

Accommodation: 2 guests per twin room (2 single beds per room)

Single Pax Supplement: Additional USD\$1 500pp for single room & USD\$1 500pp for single angler

Trip Duration: 10 Nights & 7 Fishing Days

Peak Season: Sept - Dec | Apr – June

If wading and sight casting to double digit Bonefish, tailing Indo-Pacific Permit and a host of Trevally species on powder white sand flats on an extremely remote Indian Ocean atoll appeals to you then look no further; St Brandon's Atoll is the destination for you. St Brandon's (also known as Cargados Carajos Shoals) is a coral atoll consisting of over 50 small islands, coral ridges and vast sand flats stretching 50 km from north to south. Situated 268 nautical miles northeast of Mauritius's main island this area is rich in fish stocks, flora and fauna. This magical atoll has quickly risen to iconic status in the world of saltwater fly-fishing and for good reason; the flats fishing for Bonefish, Indo-Pacific Permit and a host of Trevally species is simply world class!

Guests depart Mauritius for St Brandon every Monday in season onboard one of two 65ft transport vessels, crossing time from Mauritius to the atoll taking +/-26 hours. Each vessel is licensed in Mauritius for offshore sailing and is fully equipped with the latest marine navigation and safety equipment. Each vessel has two airconditioned guest cabins (3 guests sharing a cabin), a bathroom, small galley, indoor seating area as well as a large covered back deck which can be used during daylight hours. The transport vessel departs Port Louis on Mondays at +/-13:00pm on the start day of the trip and will arrive at Ilse De Sud (South Island) at +/-

13:00pm the following day. A further two hours flat water cruising in the lee of atoll will see the boats arrive at Raphael Island at +/-15:00pm on Tuesday afternoon.

Upon arriving at Raphael Island, guests and their luggage are transported by tender boat onto the island. After receiving a full briefing from the Head Guide about the week ahead, guests are given time to settle into Guesthouse 1 for their first night on the island. Guesthouse 1 is a simple but comfortable set of accommodation containing 4 bedrooms (each containing two single beds), 4 bathrooms and an undercover lounge and dining area which overlooks the ocean. Guests will spend their first night on the island at Guesthouse 1 and the following morning after breakfast they will head out for the first fishing day. When guests return from their first fishing day they will move into Guesthouse 2 which is where they will remain until departure from the atoll. Guests will spend the next 7 nights in Guesthouse 2, enjoying a further 6 full days flats fishing during this time. Guesthouse 2 also contains 4 bedrooms (each containing two single beds), 2 bathrooms and an undercover lounge and dining area which overlooks the ocean. The reason for moving accommodation after the first night is due to the fact that St Brandon's (as of April 2019) will be run on a back-to-back basis. This means there potentially can be two groups of

guests on the atoll on Tuesday evenings i.e. the day the new set of guests arrive and the evening before the group who have just finished their week depart for the return crossing to Mauritius.

Guests will begin their journey back to Mauritius early on Wednesday morning, breakfast is enjoyed over the flat water section between Raphael Island and Isle De Sud. The crossing back to Mauritius is usually slightly faster (+/-24 hours) than the way out due to the current direction and as such guests are expected to arrive back in Port Louis at +/-07:00am on Thursday morning. Although every effort is made to stick to this schedule, weather and other factors associated with remote locations of this nature can affect timing. We ask all guests to go into this trip with an open mind towards the logistics, appreciating how remote an atoll St Brandon's really is and what a privilege it is that we as foreigners are allowed to fish it!

Based on this schedule guests are requested to fly into Mauritius the day before the start date of the trip (to ensure there is a time buffer built in for missed flight connections, flight delays/lost luggage etc. Return international flight can be booked which depart after 16:00pm on the end date of the trip. Should you however wish to book a flight that departs Mauritius earlier, guests are kindly requested to contact us before doing thus so that we can advise.



Endless wading flats

The Fishing

The Average Day

Typically anglers will be up early and after a quick breakfast head out to the flats to fish the first tide. We generally stay out on the flats with a packed lunch, especially if the prime tidal movement coincides with the lunch break. There is the option to come back to the guesthouse for lunch if the tide and distance back the guesthouse prior lunch allows, however it is best arranged with the head guide the evening prior. The following day's activities and schedule will be planned the night before between the guides and the guesthouse manager. If you have any preferences please feel free to mention it to the guides. Current tidal movement and the species anglers wish to target will be taken into consideration

Flats

This most certainly is the most spectacular bonefishing you will ever encounter as on most tides anglers can expect to see shoals of these shallow water speedsters as well as enormous singles and doubles. Over the past few seasons we have landed Bonefish of up to 87cm fork length and weighing 15lbs.

St Brandon's is also the most productive Indo-Pacific Permit fishery in the Indian Ocean. When specifically targeting these gloriously finicky fish, guests are afforded multiple shots per day. Over the past seasons our guides have refined their tactics for the Permit of St Brandon's and enjoy nothing more than watching their clients lean into sizeable specimens.

St Brandon's isn't a place where anglers are going to get shots at GT's everyday but it is certainly the place to break the 100cm mark. The fish are all large and you catch more over a meter than under. We have in fact seen and hooked fish well over the 150cm. Large Bluefin Trevally are also around in good numbers and we frequently land fish between 15-20lbs. Other notable fish species one can encounter on the flats include Golden, Yellow Dot and Green Spot Trevally.

All FlyCastaway trips to St Brandon's are led by a team of world-class professional fly fishing guides. During your stay on St Brandon's there will be four guides including one head guide, allowing for a 2 guest to 1 guide fishing scenario. Each guide is a qualified skipper, has first aid experience and is extremely experienced with regards to all facets of fly-fishing the remote saltwater destinations of the Indian Ocean. Their passion and dedication is infectious and rest assured they will go the extra mile in search of your fish of a lifetime. All FlyCastaway guides are fluent in English.



Details

Cost USD\$8 600 pps ex Mauritius (USD\$8 500 fishing package + \$100 Global Rescue Medivac Insurance)	Exclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• International flights from your home to Port Louis, Mauritius• Ground transfers on Mauritius• Meals and accommodation in Port Louis or any other en route cities• Spirits, wine, items of a personal nature• Gratuities for guides and boat staff (although gratuities are purely discretionary, based on international standards guests can expect to pay USD\$600 each for guides and USD\$200 for guesthouse staff)• Travel insurance• Tackle & flies	Weather Temperatures range between 25°C - 30°C. Wind averages 15 knots.
Single supplement Single Angler - USD\$1500 pp (2 single angler slots available)		Getting there Guests need to fly into the main island of Mauritius the day prior to departure to the atoll and overnight at a hotel. We can suggest suitable options. One 65ft will transport vessel carries the 6 guests to the atoll and back. The crossing taking +/-26 hours.
Max Pax 6 anglers (2 anglers to 1 guide)		Target Species Bonefish, Indo-Pacific Permit, Giant Trevally, Bluefin Trevally, Golden Trevally & Greenspot Trevally.
Inclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Return transport to St Brandon's from Mauritius onboard transport vessel (+/-26) hours per crossing)• 8 nights full board and accommodation on Raphael Island based on two people sharing a bedroom• 7 days fully guided fishing (2 anglers to a boat and guide)• Fishing licenses• Tender boats & fuel• \$100 Global Rescue Medivac Insurance (Mandatory)• Soft drinks, water & local beers	Location 268 nautical miles northeast of Mauritius's main island	Fishing Season September to December and again from April through to June.
		Tender Boats 4 x 17ft locally built mono-hulls which carry 2 x 15 HP 2-Stroke Yamaha engines



Video & Blogs

Video
Please feel free to take a look at exciting video clips taken on St Brandon's all of which can be found on our Vimeo channel: <https://vimeo.com/channels/661063>

Blogs
Please feel free look at the weekly guide reports from St Brandon's all of which can be found on: <https://flycastaway.wordpress.com/category/st-brandons>



Spawning Shrimp

Pre Trip

Tackle & Gear

Single-handed 9ft #9wt & #12wt saltwater outfits with matching tropical floating lines. The guesthouse will have 4 x 12 weight G-Loomis Crosscurrent Fly Rods and Wade Caranx Reels and 4 x 9 weight G-Loomis Crosscurrent Fly Rods and Wade Albula Reels which can be rented on a weekly basis (fly lines excluded). A comprehensive tackle and gear list along with an order form (should you wish to purchase your tackle through us) is issued after your booking has been confirmed. The guides will also carry limited stock of suitable flies and other terminal tackle, should you run out.

Wading

The hard white sand, turtlegrass or coral flats of St Brandon's make for easy wading, thus separating it from other destinations in the world. As most of the fishing will be done whilst wading, good protective footwear is essential. Standard diver's neoprene booties with a reinforced rubber sole are not appropriate. More protective flats wading boots must be worn. There are a number of purpose made boots on the market, which are excellent. See suggested brands in tackle and gear list. Guests will not be taken onto the flats without proper footwear!



Time Difference

GMT +4

Passports

Everyone travelling to Mauritius must have a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond the end of travel.

Visa Requirements

UK, US, EU, USSR and RSA passport holders do not require a visa for entering into Mauritius for vacation purposes

Medical & Health Requirements

Mandatory medical evacuation insurance is mandatory but is included in the package rate . A Yellow Fever certificate is required if travelling from a Yellow Fever infected area.

Language

English is the official language of Mauritius, but the most widely used is French. All FlyCastaway guides speak English.

Travel Insurance

All guests are advised to have sufficient travel and trip insurance in place.

Currency

The currency of the Seychelles is the Mauritian Rupee (MUR), however all guests are requested to settle all gratuities, tackle and alcohol bills in USD\$. We can only accept USD\$ bank notes printed in 2006 onwards.

Currency Exchange

Local currency is not required unless you are planning an extended stay. Most restaurants, hotels and shops accept Forrex.

Credit Cards

Visa is the most widely accepted on Mahe. Please note NO credit card facilities are available on St Brandon.

Gratuities

The recommended gratuity for the guides is US\$600 per person per trip, and for the boat and guesthouse staff US\$200pp per 10 night/7 fishing day trip. (Please note that this is only a guideline for guests. All gratuities are up to the discretion of the individual guest.)

Plug Points & Power

Generators provide power in the guesthouse between 3pm and 9am. Plug points in the rooms are British square three prong/Type G. (<https://www.worldstandards.eu/electricity/plugs-and-sockets/g/>)

Satellite Phone & Communications

There is no mobile coverage on the atoll. All FlyCastaway guides do however carry satellite phones when out on the water in case of emergency. The island does also have a fixed unit sat phone that guests can use at their own cost. Please note guests will be billed for their time on the phone, which needs to be paid in US\$ before departing the atoll.

Whilst on the main island of Mauritius the international access code is +230. The outgoing code is 00 followed by the relevant country code (e.g. 001 for the United States). City/area codes are not required. The entire island is covered by the mobile network, added to which the local mobile phone operators use GSM networks which are compatible with most international operators. Handsets and SIM cards can be purchased at the airport. Internet cafes are widely available.



GT Semper



Your Guides

The St Brandon's guide team is made up of four young and highly energetic South African men. Don't let their ages fool you though, they are professional beyond their years and between them have 13 years Indian Ocean flats guiding experience on three different atolls. Apart from in the Indian Ocean, they have guided and fished multiple venues across the globe. Some members are active in the competitive fly fishing scene and have had podium finishes on an international level. Determined yet easy to spend time with, their passion for the Bonefish, Permit and Trevally which call this incredible atoll home make them a team you definitely want fish with.



CRAIG RICHARDSON
FlyCastaway Head Guide



NIC ISABELLE
FlyCastaway Guide



Justin Rademeyer
FlyCastaway Guide



MILAN GERMISHUIZEN
FlyCastaway Guide



Christmas Sand Prawn

Conservation

Jessica Glass is a PhD student at the African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity and Yale. She is conducting a DNA project on a variety of Indian Ocean species, including Bonefish (*Albula Vulpes*), Giant Trevally (*Caranx Ignobilis*) and Bluefin Trevally (*Caranx Melampygus*). FlyCastaway guides support Jessica in her efforts by recording data and gathering fin samples of fish caught by guests and guides.



Sponsors

We are hugely reliant on industry support from what we believe to be the finest tackle and apparel companies in our industry . We work closely with all of these brands to develop new product specifically suited for the Indian Ocean and Africa. They make our job easy and ultimately enable us to do what we do. We are proud to be sponsored by: G.Loomis, Airflo, WADE & Wild Coolers.



Standard Terms & Conditions

Booking Procedures

- All reservation made more than 12 months in advance requires an initial deposit of 20% of the total amount due to be received within 14 days of invoicing.
- Twelve (12) months prior to departure 50% of the total amount is due.
- All reservation made less than 12 months in advance requires an initial deposit of 50% of the total amount due to be received within 14 days of invoicing.
- Three (3) months prior to departure 100% of the total amount is due.
- If a booking is made less than 90 days prior to departure full payment is due immediately.

Cancellation

- If a cancellation is made 12 months or more prior to departure then 50% of the deposit will be forfeited.
- Cancellations made 12 to 6 months prior to departure, 50% of charter rate shall be forfeited.
- Cancellations made 6 months or less prior to departure, full individual charter rate shall be forfeited.
- Reservation for which payment are not received as on time as per the terms are subject to cancellation by FCA 7 days after notification.
- In case of cancellation by FlyCastaway money received will be paid back in full excluding bank charges.
- Rates are subject to change without prior notice

Conditions

All Cancellations must be made in writing. Deposit will only be refunded if a replacement can be found. Reservation for which payment are not received as on time as per the terms are subject to cancellation by FCA 7 days after notification.

*Once a deposit is received, all revisions are subject to a US\$100 handling fee. *All prices are subject to availability of bookings, change by service providers, and are quoted at low season fares. *Rates are subject to change. *The ship/lodge reserves the right to cancel a sailing/trip due to bad weather conditions.

At time of quote flight charges, island fees and government taxes are correct but are subject to change without prior notice. Increases in any of these facets are out of the control of FlyCastaway and will be transferred to the client. Service providers used such as airlines and charter boat operators are independent business concerns and are in no way affiliated to FlyCastaway (FCA). Although all reasonable efforts will be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour, FCA cannot be held responsible in any way for bad or non-performance of service providers. While all possible efforts will be made to ensure the success of this tour, FCA cannot be held responsible in any way for cancellation in total or in part or non-performance in any way, due to bad weather or any other detrimental natural phenomenon/ disaster, political unrest or war.

All guests must have a comprehensive medicalemergencyevacuationinsurance policy, as well as travel insurance policy to cover them for the duration of the trip. It is the right of the service provider to cancel any booking without refund, if the client is not adequately insured. In this case, adequate insurance means: an insurance that covers emergency medical evacuation from the scene of the illness or accident, to the nearest best hospital and then back to your hometown. Cancellation and curtailment insurance cover is also recommended. Furthermore all guests will be required to sign and return the Reservation and Indemnity Form prior to the trip.



Flexo Crab



For any additional information, give us a call.

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