



# Acute Angling - Exotic Fishing Trips

Fishing News - Acute Angling's Summer '2005 Newsletter  
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Volume 7 - Issue 3

FISHING NEWS

Summer 2005

.... Summer Notes ....

● **The Peacocks are Coming!** - Our fall schedule begins in mid-September - just three months away. Take a look at the updates and interesting adjustments we've made to our fall schedule (see page 5). There are still a few spaces available on the best value trips in the Amazon.

● **New Jatapu Variety Exploratory** - After 3 years of discussions, the Waiwai Indians have finally agreed to let us fish in their huge reservation. We're putting together an exploratory trip next February for hard-core campers only. Big Peacocks, giant catfish, trairao, bicuda and more.

● **2005 Peacock Bass Exploratory** - We've almost completely filled next December's peacock exploratory trip. Only four spaces remain on this exciting adventure into totally new fishing waters and a potentially great new trophy fishery. If you've never experienced one of these unique expeditions, don't miss this chance!

### 2005 Trip Availability Notes

**Fall Amazon Angel** - Due to a rearrangement of client schedules, 4 openings have become available on this popular, previously sold-out trip.

**Thanksgiving Special** - If you can travel during Thanksgiving, you can take advantage of one of the best deals in Amazon fishing. See page 5.

**NEW - Advance Group Policy** - In recognition of group booking efficiencies and as an incentive to early booking, we now offer group pricing benefits, available on selected trips. Call for special offer details..... PR

## Select Your Own Peacock Bass Trip Schedule

To our surprise and pleasure, most of our scheduled featured trips are nearly full for the upcoming Fall 2005/Winter 2006 season, well in advance of our expectations. One would think, that since this is exactly what we work for all year long, we wouldn't find a problem associated with this obvious sign of success. Yet there is, in fact, a problem.

It is always our goal to provide our clients with the fishing trip of a lifetime, but when there is no more space available for a new peacock bass angler, we simply can't fulfill that objective! So, to serve you better and to make certain that we can provide the highest quality trip at the dates you want, we've joined forces with River Plate Anglers.

Experts in Amazon outfitting since 1992, River Plate's extensive resources, coupled with Acute Angling's dedication to your satisfaction greatly augments our ability to fulfill your fishing dreams. With access to over 20 different Amazon fly-in fisheries and the flexi-

bility to move into the best performing locations at any given time from August through March, there is no better way to tailor a trip to your specifications. Our joint efforts ensure that your trip is hosted by one of Acute Angling's or River Plate's expert camp managers and that you will fish with the best and most experienced guides in the Amazon. A full range of dates and places are now available for your selection at the level of quality we demand. Problem solved!



What makes River Plate so good? They literally outdistance the competition - River Plate's Fly-In Floating Cabins are the perfect fishing tools, providing headwaters access, mobility, comfort and luxury. River Plate selects locations with productive secluded lagoons, hours away on even the fastest bass boats from the melee of competing house boats and lodges congregated on the Rio Negro's main channel waterways. On arrival from the US, you travel directly to one of five Floating Cabin camps via a new, state-of-the-art, 8 passenger Cessna Caravan turbo prop float-plane, effectively eliminating daily 3-5 hour boat

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Monster peacock s lurk in the Amazon's remote waters

## River Plate Anglers Fly-in Safari Camps

travel or expensive daily Fly-Outs.

What you'll find when you arrive are fully carpeted, tastefully decorated, air-conditioned, floating cabins, with every detail carefully considered. The highly mobile camps include every function necessary for your comfort. At the 12' x 23' combination dining/sitting lounge, you'll dine on linen table cloths enjoying the chef's four course

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# River Plate Peacock Bass Trips .....Continued

meals. Fresh breads and pastries are baked daily and chilled wines, ice-cold beer, soft drinks, and Brazilian-style "Caipirinhas" flow freely throughout your trip. Each of the Floating Cabin operations are managed by a knowledgeable fisherman, experienced in handling the logistics inherent in Amazon fishing operations. Since the groups are small, the staff and bilingual host offer uniquely personalized hands-on attention. Breakfast room service, daily laundry service and guest access to a pay satellite phone are a few of the available amenities.

What you won't find in the River Plate camps are the much publicized Hollywood-style "terrors of the Amazon". The floating cabins are cool at night, comfortable and secure. No herds of wild pigs will trample your camp. No Anacondas will steal you away. Typically parked against beautiful white sand beaches, these camps have more of the feel of a Caribbean resort than a jungle outpost. After a long day of fishing, you can relax on the beach, barefoot and in a bathing suit, with a chilled cocktail in hand. There are almost never any pesky bugs. The pristine rivers in the region have naturally high tannin levels (from extensive leaf decay) which discourage the development of biting insects. But don't worry, you can still tell tall tales about the hardships of the jungle to everyone at home, even though what you really experienced was more like a resort-style vacation.

You fish from fully equipped, 18 foot, shallow-draft bass boats, with two anglers and one guide per boat. Your cooler is stocked with cold drinks; water, soda and beer, and a boxed lunch. Within minutes of leaving camp, you're fishing. There is no need for long boat rides—your camp is already situated in the most productive fishing areas. Peacocks tend to take a break at midday and so do our anglers. Relax in the shade and enjoy lunch or have your guide string a hammock so you can take a pleasant snooze. At day's end,



you'll probably find that the camp has caught up to your boat and is situated so that you're ready to fish a new area, with completely new water, the next morning. Without a doubt, this extreme mobility and flexibility is what assures that River Plate's safari camps out-fish the competition. Depending on the river selected, anglers will experience a fishing trip that yields a balanced mix of good numbers of fish, good average size and hook-ups with monster trophy peacocks.

When you're ready for the trip of a lifetime, Acute Angling and River Plate Anglers will make sure that you have the best of all possible access to the most amazing freshwater fish in the world, in full comfort and security. Don't settle for less. Trips range from \$2950 to \$3650, depending on the date. Full groups are welcome and, with our new advance group policy, they can earn additional package benefits if reservations are made early. Pick your dates and fishing preferences, we'll do the rest. Come challenge the mighty peacock bass and leave the crowds behind.

River Plate Trip Information at a Glance	
<b>ACCOMMODATIONS:</b>	Air-conditioned, floating cabins
<b>SEASON:</b>	August-March
<b>RATE:</b> (Not including International air fare)	\$2950 through Dec. 1 \$3,650 from Dec. 1st on
<b>INTERNATIONAL AIRFARE:</b> From Miami to Manaus	\$700 - \$900
<b>LODGING ACCESS:</b> (from Manaus)	Float-plane Fly-In direct to Floating Cabins
<b>TYPICAL FISHERY ACCESS:</b> from Lodging (one way):	5 - 15 minutes
<b>MAXIMUM PARTY SIZE:</b>	8
<b>ANGLERS PER CABIN:</b>	2
<b>FULL FISHING DAYS:</b>	6
<b>NIGHTS:</b>	8
<b>RIVERS FISHED:</b>	Tributaries of the Rio Negro, Rio Branco and Rio Madeira
<b>RATE INCLUDES:</b>	<b>NOT INCLUDED:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All necessary transfers.</li> <li>● One overnight at the 5-Star Tropical Hotel in Manaus.</li> <li>● Fly-In on a turbo prop Cessna Caravan float plane to Floating Cabins in remote fishery.</li> <li>● Guide-operated 18 foot shallow draft bass boat per two anglers.</li> <li>● Use of 2 quality rods and reels (if needed) and fishing licenses.</li> <li>● All meals at camp, including wine, beer and hard liquor.</li> <li>● Daily laundry service at fishing destination.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● International air fare</li> <li>● Brazilian visa and Airport departure tax.</li> <li>● Voluntary tips to camp staff and guides (~ \$ 200 total)</li> <li>● Luggage over-weight (44 lbs. per person limit)</li> <li>● Food and beverages in Manaus and private city tours</li> <li>● Special transfers &amp; hotel reservations when not arriving with the standard party or itinerary.</li> <li>● Satellite phone calls (\$ 3/minute)</li> </ul>

Sample Itinerary	
<b>Friday</b>	Depart Miami via International flight to Manaus Brazil, usually leaving about 9:00 PM EST.
<b>Saturday</b>	Arrive in Manaus. After clearing customs you are met by our agent and transferred to the domestic airport for a charter float plane flight to the river. Arrive at the camp by mid-morning. Enjoy a delicious brunch. Then, relax and unwind or set up your gear and get in an extra half day of fishing.
<b>Sunday through Friday</b>	Six full days of fishing. Your angling day begins with breakfast at 6:00 AM. Your guide is ready to depart at first light, although you can remain in camp at your leisure. Relax for an hour at lunchtime each day. Return to camp before dusk for appetizers, drinks and bragging, followed by a delicious dinner. Jungle hikes, spotlighting trips and local village visits can be arranged. Conditions permitting, we will provide anglers with the opportunity to experience as much of the river as possible by routinely moving the camp. Enjoy new lagoons, new water and new experiences every day.
<b>Saturday and Sunday</b>	Early Saturday morning, transfer back to Manaus by float plane. Overnight at the beautiful, five-star, Tropical Hotel. Transfer to the international airport in the morning. Arrive in Miami about 4:00 PM Sunday afternoon.

Please note - This itinerary may vary.

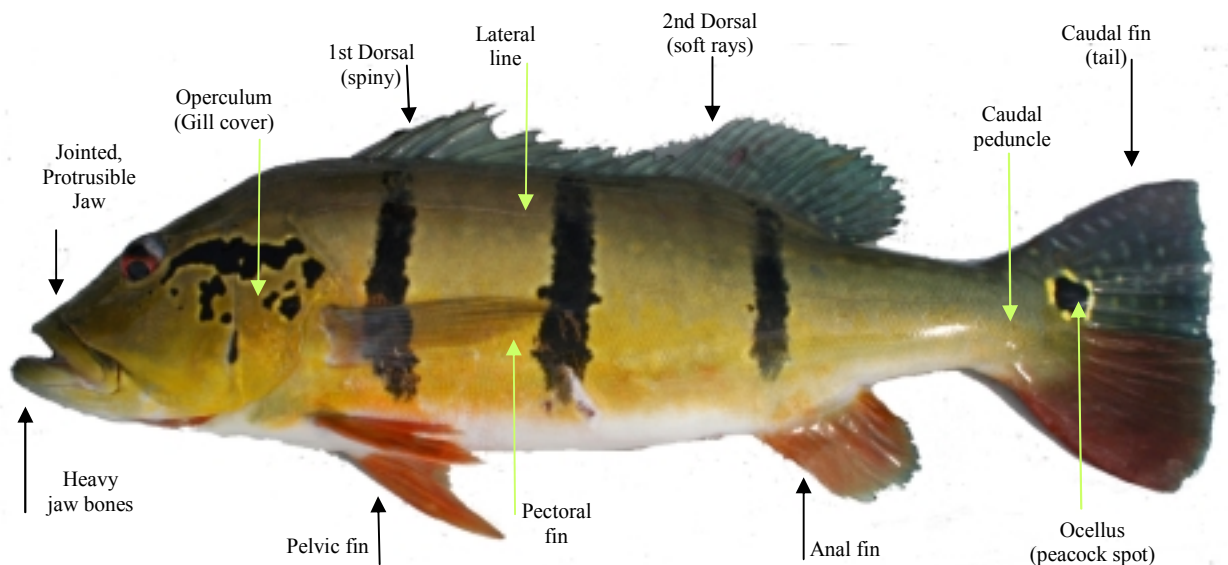
## ... Know Your Adversary ...

# What makes the peacock bass such a great fighter?

The peacock bass is the undisputed king of explosive freshwater power. All it takes is one medium sized peacock bass on the end of your line for you to realize that you're hooked up to something very different. The violent strike is awe-inspiring and the animal's sheer power is extraordinary. So much so that it leaves most anglers simply shaking their heads in disbelief. No fish this size should be this amazingly powerful. Why? Although there are many individual factors that we can point to, somehow, even when considered all together, they don't seem to explain the breathtaking reality of the peacock bass in the water and on the line. But, let's try to shed what light we can on this sportfishing wonder by looking at what its body and behavioral habits can tell us.

**Body Type** - The peacock bass is a "percoid" fish, a term describing its overall body type. A close look shows an unusually large, rigid and broad tail with a thick, muscular caudal peduncle (the area connecting the tail to the body). Further forward on the body, the peacock literally bulges with powerful skeletal muscles, running the length of its torso and providing a solid base

### The Anatomy of a Fierce Aquatic Warrior



from which to drive its tail motions. These features help create rapid acceleration and give the peacock bass the ability to achieve bursts of very high speed when pursuing fleeing baitfish - or your lure.

**Swimming Mechanism** - The peacock bass is a "carangiform" swimmer (a term describing its swimming mechanics). It uses its powerful muscles to throw its body into a rapidly oscillating waveform, terminating in maximum amplitude at the tail. In the peacock bass, the application of this power is further assisted by the existence of a functional hinge connecting the tail to the caudal peduncle. This allows the fish to maintain its tail at an ideal attack angle of 10° to 20° throughout much of the power stroke, thereby increasing thrust and minimizing drag. This highly developed advance in physiognomy helps maximize acceleration and swimming effect without increasing energy expenditure.

**Muscle Type** - Striated skeletal muscle in fishes is divided into two types; Red muscle provides extended, low-speed cruising ability; White muscle provides high power bursts of maximum speed, anaerobically (without requiring oxygen). The majority of the peacock bass' entire body behind the head is made up of this quick-power type of muscle fiber, helping to explain its ability to create rapid, violent motion and to apply sudden, concentrated force.

**Head and Jaws** - While the peacock's extraordinary speed and power allow it to run down its prey, its huge head, gaping maw and powerful, bony jaws give it the tools needed to make short work of the large forage fish it catches (as well as angler's lures, hooks, lines and rods). An additional advantage is provided by the peacock's protrusible jaw. This mechanism allows it to extend its mandibles toward prey faster than the predator's actual body motion, enabling an increase in attack velocity of up to 40%.

**Feeding Habits** - The trophy Amazon peacock (*Cichla Temensis*), the pinnacle of the angler's quest, is a piscivorous (fish eating) predator. This propensity for consuming living, fleeing fishes probably helped drive the development of its powerful, stunning strike. Unlike our largemouth bass (an ambush feeder) the peacock is a pursuit feeder. Once having locked on to an object as food, the peacock will tend to aggressively run it down until it is able to deliver its explosive strike.

**Biochemistry** - Peacock bass, along with other Amazon fishes have developed biochemical adaptations to help them to survive and prosper in the unique conditions that occur in the Amazon's "pulsative" ecology. The existence of several isomers of hemoglobin (oxygen carrying molecules) and variable respiratory chemistry at changing blood pH levels are just some of the specialized biochemical mechanisms that may help contribute to its physical power. This relatively unstudied aspect of the peacock bass deserves greater scrutiny and may be a key to further understanding what makes the peacock bass the ultimate freshwater predator.

# Tactics & Techniques

## Packing the Right Gear for Your Trip

**Your peacock bass trip is getting closer.** You've selected your rods, your reels are spooled with brand new line and you're eyeballing a kaleidoscopic mix of lethal looking lures. But once you cram it all into your bags, where will you fit that shiny, new, 9 lb. solar-powered automatic hook reforming and electroplating device that the manufacturer swears you can't do without? ... The best place for it is probably in your closet at home. Save your precious 44 pound baggage allotment for the really important stuff. Pack light, but pack right. Last issue, we reviewed the tackle you'll need. Now let's take a look at what other gear should go in your baggage, step by step.

**Clothing** - Our operations all do laundry daily. This will enable you to keep your clothing to a minimum. Here are our suggestions; Bring only 3 changes of clothing. One outfit for traveling (wear clothing that you can use for fishing also) and 2 more sets of fishing clothes. One pair of comfortable travel/land shoes and a pair of flip-flops or reef walkers for fishing. Bring a bathing suit and clean underwear. A lightweight rainsuit can also double as a jacket on cool morning boat rides. That's all of it! Leave the suit and tie at home.

**Sun and Insect Protection** - Most peacock bass fishing is done within a scant few hundred miles of the equator. The sun is more powerful at these latitudes than anywhere else on earth because the diminished angle at which its rays arrive reduces the filtering effect of the atmosphere. It's not like California or Florida, or even central America. It's far more intense. For this reason anglers should be equipped with complete sun protection. Select UV resistant tropical fishing clothes with long sleeves and long pants. Wear a hat with ear and neck protection. Sun gloves, fishing gloves or stripping gloves can protect your hands from the powerful sun.

**Medicines** - Bring all your necessary personal medicines. You will almost certainly not be able to obtain medicines once you leave home and there are no pharmacies in the jungle. In addition, bring the following; Cipro (a broad spectrum antibiotic); An Anti-Malarial (i.e., Lariam or Malarone - see your doctor); Allergy or cold pills; Cortisone or anti-itch cream (for rashes, allergies); Imodium, Pepto-Bismol or other anti-diarrheal; Band-Aids, Anti-bacterial crème and Aspirin or Tylenol. All of our camps have complete first aid kits.

**Documents and money** - Your documents are critical when traveling. Make sure you have a secure, dry place in your carry-on to keep them. You must have a current passport with visa. Carry a photocopy of the first two pages of your passport. Make sure you have your Airline Tickets; cash (for tipping and other incidentals while traveling); Take a credit card and a book or other reading matter.

**Personal Gear** - A few small items will greatly increase your comfort in camp and while fishing. Bring the following; A small flashlight, headlight or booklight; Extra batteries; Your personal toiletry kit (toothbrush, razor, etc.); Good quality, polarized sunglasses; Fishing gloves to prevent blisters (golf or baseball gloves also work fine). Water proof bags (zip locks) or durable containers for delicate items.

**Camera and Video Gear** - A trip of a lifetime deserves a good photographic or video record. Some of us can do great work with a small, high resolution digital and some of us wouldn't be caught dead without our full SLR system. Either way you choose to go, keep weight restrictions in mind and select gear that is relatively weatherproof or can be safely protected. Bring plenty of film or media. The photo opportunities are endless.

**Fishing Tools** - If you are traveling with a fishing partner, you can both save some weight and expense by sharing certain items. Consider the Boga-grip for example. It's an indispensable tool for peacock anglers.

Not only is it a convenient landing and weighing device, but it's perfect for keeping big, angry fish calm and under control while photographing them. Share one between you. Also, keep in mind that your guide will handle the mundane tasks such as unhooking fish and maintaining your lures and lines (so you can maximize your fishing effort). He will generally have a set of fishing tools of his own. With that being said, we suggest having one of the following available to share; A Pocket Knife, Needlenose Pliers and strong cutting tool (we recommend a Leatherman tool); Boga grip or other device to safely hold fish; Hook Sharpener or file; Braided line scissors;

**Fishing Accessories** - Keeping your gear organized and readily accessible can often be critical to fishing success. We recommend clear plastic fishing boxes (such as Plano 3600 and 3700) that fit into your fishing or boat bag (such as Plano's Soft Tackle System). In addition to your lures, add the following to your organizing system; Replacement Hooks (4x strong #1, #2 and #4) Heavy Duty Split Rings and a split ring pliers. Many of your lures will come with bass grade hardware. Peacocks will turn it into mush with the first strike. You'll need to upgrade quite a few hooks and split rings; Extra line - In case you need to respool (for spinning gear just bring a spare spool already prepared); Oil to lubricate your reels, they'll be working hard.

**Luggage Selection** - The right type of bags can help make both travel and weight considerations simpler. We recommend a good-sized rolling duffel bag and a small carry-on. Select lightweight bags. Selecting a high-quality rolling duffel bag that weigh less than ten pounds when empty will help give you greater flexibility in your gear selection. It's also much easier to handle while traveling. When you've checked in your duffel, a carry-on bag with a comfortable shoulder strap will be easy to handle in the airport and on the plane. Make sure it fits airline size restrictions.

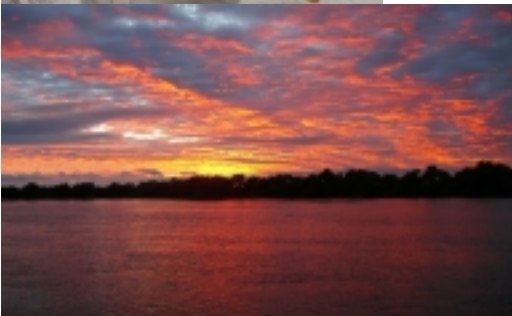
**Baggage Organization** - Today's air travel security regulations define the best way to organize your baggage. You will have a checked in bag(s) and a carry on bag(s). Your checked-in baggage (a duffel and a rod tube, if necessary) will constitute your 44 pound baggage limit. All tools, knives, hooks and other sharp items must be checked in with this bag. Use this bag for your clothing and bulky gear. To eliminate big rod tubes, we highly recommend pack rods. They will simplify your packing and probably outperform most one-piece rods. Pack rods will fit inside your duffel, simplify packing and significantly help reduce weight. For those who must carry conventional rods, a plastic, lockable rod tube, available from any tackle dealer will be able to safely contain all of your rods. Pack it carefully and pad it inside with some of your clothing. To help keep weight down, you can share a tube with your partner.

Your carry-on bag should contain your camera equipment, reading material, medicines, other small, heavy items and your basic travel needs. You might add a change of underwear and your most important personal necessities. Anglers with pack rods can also carry a small tube with two rods as part of their carry-on baggage. Add two reels to your carry-on and you will ensure that you have the basic gear at all times, even if your checked-in bags are delayed.

**Where to Buy** - The items recommended here can be found at most sporting goods outlets. All specialized items are available at [www.Tackle-box.net](http://www.Tackle-box.net) or call 866 832-2987 or 866 431-1668 for help.

**Assistance** - That's what we do best. Call us, toll-free, anytime with any questions. We've taken thousands of anglers to Brazil over the last decade and we've learned how to do it right. Let our experience and our proven expertise ensure that you have the trip of a lifetime.

# Trip Report - Pantanal Dorado Exploratory



You can't control the weather, the water or the fish. I know this going in on every single trip we operate. Exploratory trips however, present even more variables. On this trip, I wasn't even sure that I could control the status of our primary tool, our houseboat, upon which we would depend for accommodations and mobility. When last I saw Santa Lucia in February, she could only be described as a "rust-bucket". After contracting for her refit, I had 2 months to hold my breath over how she would come out. So when I arrived at the dock in Corumba with our first group of Pantanal anglers, I was so pleased that I let out a sigh of relief loud enough to have people nearby checking for leaks in their tires. The boat was beautiful!

Complete with all new fittings, furnishings and paint, our Pantanal operating partners had taken care of every detail. They even made sure that she got a new name (Ere), a fancy logo and classy shirts for our crew. As her motors rumbled to life, we headed into the giant Pantanal wetland, with nothing more than the usual factors of weather, water and fish to deal with - and over the course of our voyage, we got hit with every one of those factors; wild weather, icy water; and, eventually, our share of trophy game fish of the Pantanal. But it was bad weather that showed its ugly face first.

Our journey began with Ere ascending the Rio Paraguay for an entire night. By morning we were fishing in the central region of the giant wetland. We caught a few, lost a few and worked our way North in the Pantanal system. By the middle of our first week we had encountered regions with concentrations of fish and we were gaining an understanding of the techniques, tackle and mechanisms necessary to succeed here. Things were going pretty much according to plan, which was to continue ascending until we reached the upper regions of the great swamp. But, the first of our uncontrollable variables, the weather, promptly modified our plans. We awoke in the middle of the night to an incredible racket; banging fishing boats, crashing waves and the wailing howl of a constant 50 mph wind, no gusts, no letup! We were being rudely introduced to the "vento sul", the Pantanal's wicked Antarctic wind.

The relentless wind pinned us and our beautiful boat tightly against our mooring on the Rio Paraguay's banks for 2 1/2 days. No fishing, no exploring, no moving! We talked, ate, drank and tried to keep warm while temperatures plummeted from 95° to 45°. Ere was well equipped with air-conditioners, but we began fervently wishing that she had cabin heaters instead.

Finally, as suddenly as it began, the wind calmed and we were able to leave our enforced captivity. We hurriedly made radio contact with the airplanes bringing in our second group, confirming their schedule, while we raced to meet them. So much for controlling the weather.

With the winds abated and our mobility renewed, we headed to our intended upper Pantanal goal with refreshed enthusiasm. Whereupon we discovered the inevitable aftereffect of the extraordinary weather ..... cold, cold water. The Antarctic winds had chilled the previously warm water to the point where feeding fish became a rarity. Five days of cold and overcast kept the fishing slow and the anglers uncomfortable

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# Pantanal Trip Report

.....Continued from Page 4



until the sun finally returned with a glowing grand entrance. As the waters warmed and the fish turned on, the trophies started arriving. Dorado in the mid-teens, suribim in the 20 pound class and even a new world record biara (*rhaphiodon vulpinus*, a relative of the payara). We had suffered through the wicked weather and the icy water but as soon as conditions relented, we reaped the reward of good fishing. The fishing equation had come back into balance, as it eventually always does.

In the end, wind and water notwithstanding, we realized that our exploratory trip was a success. We learned enough about the Pantanal to convince us that a return trip was in order. We'll be back in 2006, a month or so earlier this time (to avoid the "vento sul"), and a lot better educated in the ways of the world's largest wetland. Not only will we be back on Eré, our beautiful, comfortable Pantanal home, but the earlier dates should minimize our vulnerability to weather and water, leaving finding fish as the only variable. That's what we're all about, after all - and that's why they call it fishing.

We'll operate 3 groups with departures on March 20, March 27 and April 3, 2006 priced at \$3250 per angler. Trips will include 6 + days of fishing and 7 nights on Eré, as well as all charters and transfers, wonderful meals and an open bar. The earlier dates we've selected should let us find concentrations of Dorado in the Pantanal's more remote northern marsh areas, providing a crystal clear, small water fishing environment remarkable similar to Argentina's famous (and crowded) Ibera Marsh. With our now smoothly tuned operation and our beautiful, comfortable boat, this is a trip you won't want to miss. Enjoy a wide range of gamefish species in an incredibly beautiful environment. Give us a call to reserve your space.



Results	Anglers	Fish	Avg.
Group 1	5	129	26
Group 2	7	186	27
Group 3	5	362	72

## Fall '2005 Featured Trip Updates

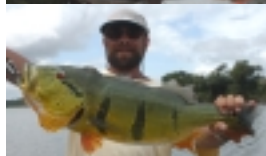
**Amazon Angel Yacht Trips** - Our comfortable September/October yacht voyages have always been among our most popular trips. This year our regular schedule has filled up so early that we've decided to



implement a new idea to help provide space for folks who have missed out. We have planned a trip for September 14th, a week earlier than usual, that will concentrate its efforts in a region not normally accessible to the big boat. We plan to ascend

above Parana Coara on the Matupiri River, normally our navigational limit. The higher water levels expected in the lower river during this early part of the season will enable us to pass through the shallow island region and into the rarely fished upper Matupiri and Amapa Rivers just as their waters reach optimal levels. Only one week is available in this unique format and it opens as of this announcement.

**Hidden Lakes Trip** - Featuring big peacocks, giant aruana, brawny pirapitinga and monster catfish, this isolated chain of four big lakes offers a fresh and unpressured fishery. Enjoy comfortable houseboat accommodations, top quality peacock bass fishing and great species variety without the usual extended travel requirements. Limited to a total of six anglers, you can still enjoy this unique new trip for the great price of \$2800 per angler. Call for availability.



**Thanksgiving Special** - Everything about this trip is special; A special place, the beautiful Rio Xeriuni; A special format, including two luxurious jungle lodges; And a special price, only \$2500 per angler, makes this one of the Amazon's best values. If you can travel over the Thanks-

giving holiday, you can take advantage of this opportunity to fight powerful trophy peacock bass with a fishing trip bargain that can't be passed up. Six openings remain during the two available weeks.

**Exploratory Peacock Bass Safari** - Without a doubt, our yearly exploratory safaris are the most exciting peacock bass trips in the Amazon. Unfished waters, unexplored lagoons and a unique hands-on jungle experience provide a high level of excitement and adventure. The black waters of the Rio Negro basin are known to hold the world's largest peacock bass and every cast in this most remote fishery can mean a new world's record. Last year's peacock exploratory yielded an incredible total of 37 peacocks over 20 pounds with fish up to 25½ pounds. Our satellite photos show hundreds of miles of promising water with complex lagoon structure. Four places remain in December, 2005 for adventurous, big fish anglers with a yen for the unknown.



# Revisiting an Old Favorite Yields a New Trip for Tarpon, Snook, Guapote & more!

## Trip Report - Rio Parismina Lodge - Costa Rica

When Acute Angling's regular fishing season came to a close this year, I decided to treat myself and my family to a busman's holiday. I gathered up my wife Sheila, my fisherwoman daughter Jenny and her boyfriend Jason, and we headed off together to Rio Parismina Lodge in Costa Rica. Parismina Lodge is a gorgeous facility, elegant, comfortable and relaxed. It literally blooms with manicured gardens featuring Costa Rica's spectacular flora and it's environs teem with exotic jungle fauna. Not only was I looking forward to sharing the wide range of fishing opportunities and species variety with my family ... but, best of all, I was going as a client. I'd be enjoying Parismina's great hospitality without a care in the world, except catching fish.

Arriving in San Jose airport (Costa Rica's capitol city) on a non-stop flight from the 'States', we were picked up by Parismina's English-speaking agent, Roberto. A half hour later, we were relaxing in the pool at the Melia Cariari Hotel, where we'd spend the night until the next morning's charter flight to the lodge. Roberto arrived bright and early and we found ourselves in Parismina, enjoying a quick breakfast, and then out on the water, fishing, by 8:00 AM.

Not only do we Reisses have a serious fishing addiction, but we're ridiculously competitive about it as well. So my family promptly



**Parismina's big, stable boats make it easy to cruise the near-shore waters for big tarpon.**

organized competing fishing teams; one day it was husband and wife; the next father and daughter; and then it was the guys against the girls. We headed out each morning vowing to beat each other's totals and to catch bigger fish. The potential was great for the dreaded curse of fishing exaggeration to rear its ugly head, but the fish saved us from ourselves. Thankfully we all caught so many big tarpon that our weary carcasses couldn't keep up with the totals and the bets faded away into an exhausted competition over who was the most arm-weary of the group. The fishing was great. We jumped off 2 or 3 for every one we we landed and still we were landing at least 6 or 7 tarpon per boat each day. Truthfully, any more tarpon and our arms would have been too tired to hoist a beer in celebration.

Located near the mouth of the Rio Parismina, the lodge sits at a confluence of four great fisheries. Less than a mile from the dock is the

endless Caribbean Sea, with its resident near-shore tarpon schools. On calm days, just a short ride away, are readily available offshore species, including wahoo, sailfish and tuna. Stay closer to home and fish the river mouth and you can encounter huge snook (five world records have been set here). Finally, head inland into the national park and you can explore mile after mile of freshwater river and creek environment, filled with machaca, mojarra and guapote (an aggressive cichlid related to the peacock bass). No matter what the weather or your fishing preference, there are great fishing options available every day.



**The grandeur of 6 feet of chrome-plated tarpon soaring skyward is stunning.**

Rio Parismina Lodge is also a great place to bring the whole family.

The wide variety of fishing options ensures that there is excitement for everyone in this tropical fishing paradise, while the lodge's beautiful gardens and comfortable facilities provide a pleasant and relaxing vacation environment, even for non-fishers.

My family had such a great time at Parismina that Acute Angling will now begin including Rio Parismina in its schedule of featured trips. We've made arrangements with the lodge to set aside the full week beginning May 6th, 2006 especially for Acute Angling clients, hosted by myself (Paul Reiss). Our anglers will enjoy the full range of Parismina's great options (for 3, 4 or 7 day trips) at an optimal point in the fishing season. Not only is this all-inclusive trip logistically convenient (with direct flights on domestic carriers from many U.S. Airports), but we're planning a special agenda of activities in San Jose for our group. We can also arrange other Costa Rica activities, including roosterfish and billfishing on the West coast, white-water rafting, jungle tours and more. Finally, to put the icing on the cake, all of this will be available at a special, reduced price for Acute Angling clients and mailing list members. If you think you'd like to join us, please call ASAP so that we can set aside the limited space available before we publish the trip details for open public booking .... **PR**



# '2005/6 Featured Trip Schedule

## PEACOCK BASS TRIPS - Fall 2005

#	Depart	Return	Fishing	Host	Location	Price	Availability
<b>Amazon Angel Yacht Trip - Comfort and Mobility - Igapo Acu Reservation</b>							
1	Sept. 21, 2005	Sept. 30	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Igapo Acu	\$2450	- FULL -
2	Sept. 28, 2005	Oct. 7	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Igapo Acu	\$2450	- 2 openings
3	Oct. 5, 2005	Oct. 14	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Igapo Acu	\$2450	- FULL -
4	Oct. 12, 2005	Oct. 21	6 full days	Paul/Leandro	Igapo Acu	\$2450	- FULL -
5	Oct. 19, 2005	Oct. 28	6 full days	Leandro N.	Igapo Acu	\$2450	- 2 openings
6	Oct. 26, 2005	Nov. 4	6 full days	Leandro N.	Igapo Acu	\$2450	- FULL -
<b>Lagos Romeros - Houseboat Trip - Rio Branco Lagoons - Peacock Bass &amp; Variety</b>							
7	Nov. 9, 2005	Nov. 18	6 full days	Wellington	R. Xeriuini	\$2800	- open -
<b>Thanksgiving Holiday - Lodge Trip - Xeriuini River - Air-conditioned Comfort</b>							
8	Nov. 16, 2005	Nov. 25	6 full days	Wellington	R. Xeriuini	\$2500	- 6 openings
9	Nov. 23, 2005	Dec. 2	6 full days	Wellington	R. Xeriuini	\$2500	- 1 opening
<b>Exploratory Safari Camp- - Rio Papagaio - Moveable floating bungalows</b>							
10	Nov. 25, 2005	Dec. 4	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Rio Negro	\$2900	- FULL -
11	Dec. 2, 2005	Dec. 11	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Rio Negro	\$2900	- 1 opening
12	Dec. 9, 2005	Dec. 18	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Rio Negro	\$2900	- 3 openings

## The Best Values in the Amazon

Our most popular trip and a perfect introduction to peacock bass. Explore Amazonia on a comfortable, air-conditioned yacht. Our mobility allows access to 300+ miles of majestic waters. Excellent daily catch averages (15 - 50/day) with an average size around 5 pounds. Trophy fish in the high teens are common and monsters over 20 pounds are taken here each trip. Return every evening to fine food and drink and the secure comfort of the yacht. Enjoy jungle hikes, Indian village visits, spotlighting, and more, on this unique and exclusive adventure. Protected within an Indian reservation, this sportfishing-only reserve's peacock bass populations have burgeoned in recent years, while our ongoing explorations have opened up new, even more highly productive water in this gigantic fishery.

One week only, limited to six anglers, this unique, comfortable trip offers a great mix of species including trophy peacock bass, giant redbtail and suribim catfish, pirapitinga and more.

A unique, 'one-of-a-kind' bargain. Luxurious Macaroca lodge, and rustic Posao lodge, both located on the beautiful Xeriuini River, provide air-conditioned comfort and great peacock bass fishing. If you can travel during the Thanksgiving Holiday season, you can fish them both for less than the price of either one on our special itinerary!

Fish the headwaters of beautiful, black water tributaries of the Rio Negro, far from the reach of the growing crowd of novice peacock bass operations. Live in comfortable, movable floating bungalows with daily access to new water. These tannin-stained fisheries favor surface action and explosive topwater strikes. Good daily catch averages (5 - 20/day) and plenty of giant fish opportunities. A high proportion of huge trophies up to 26 pounds are caught in this region.

## PEACOCK BASS TRIPS - Winter 2006

#	Depart	Return	Fishing	Host	Location	Price	Availability
<b>Winter 2006 - Rio Xeriuini - Protected Clear Water Fishery in Northern Brazil</b>							
14	Jan. 4, 2006	Jan. 13	6 full days	Wellington	2 Lodges	\$3200	- open -
16	Jan. 11, 2006	Jan. 20	6 full days	Wellington	2 Lodges	\$3200	- 2 openings
<b>Winter 2006 - Fly-in, Rio Tapera - Amazonia's most beautiful Peacock River</b>							
17	Feb. 3, 2006	Feb. 12	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Roraima	\$3650	- 1 opening
18	Feb. 10, 2006	Feb. 19	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Roraima	\$3650	- 2 openings

## Air-Conditioned Lodge

Beautiful white sand beaches and clear black water provide an extraordinary setting on this comfortable, air-conditioned lodge trip. Enjoy the laid-back atmosphere while catching excellent numbers (15 -30 /day) with an unusually high percentage of medium to large fish (10 to 20 pounds). The lodge features spacious rooms, a screened dining area with panoramic river views and complete bathrooms with hot showers. Enjoy a taste of luxury in the jungle.

## Floating Safari Camp

Live in comfortable floating bungalows on white sand beaches surrounded by "Jurassic Park" jungle and clear black water. Great for fly fishermen and plug casters alike. Fantastic daily catch averages (20 - 70/day) with fish up to 22 pounds.

## MULTI-SPECIES VARIETY TRIPS - Winter 2006 - Urariquera River Camp

#	Depart	Return	Fishing	Host	Location	Price	Availability
<b>Wild &amp; Beautiful Waters - Fish for record-class payara, pirapitinga, giant catfish &amp; more</b>							
19	Jan. 11, 2006	Jan. 20	6 full days	Paulo Petry	Urariquera	\$3650	- FULL -
20	Jan. 18, 2006	Jan. 27	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Urariquera	\$3650	- FULL -
21	Jan. 25, 2006	Feb. 3	6 full days	Paul Reiss	Urariquera	\$3650	- 2 openings
26	Jan. 4, Feb. 1, 8, 15 & 22	9 days	6 full days	Paulo Petry	Urariquera	\$3650	- Openings -
<b>Upper Jatapu Exploratory - Pup-tent camping - Variety Fishery</b>							
27	Feb. 8, 2006	Feb. 17	6 full days	Wellington	R. Jatapu	\$2650	- 2 openings
28	Feb. 15, 2006	Feb. 24	6 full days	Paul Reiss	R. Jatapu	\$2650	- FULL -

We've discovered a spectacular new destination on the fringe of the Amazon basin. The beautiful Rio Urariquera, closed to sport fishing since 1952, holds an amazing variety of gamefish. Protected by the pristine Maraca Island Bio-reserve, this fishery has yielded 5 IGFA records so far with many more on the horizon. We've seen payara over 27 lbs., pirapitinga over 25 and giant catfish well over 200. If you can land them on rod and reel, you can demolish world records. Live in comfortable bungalows and enjoy excellent meals in a safari style camp in the middle of the river's most productive region.

A unique exploratory trip in an Indian reservation. For hard-core campers only. Very basic accommodations; Sleep in Pup tents; Eat fish; Bathe in the river. Remarkable variety. Peacock bass, giant catfish, trairao, bicuda and more. The Land that Time Forgot.

**NEW - Special Group Dates & Rates- Acute Angling can set aside entire weeks for full groups - Call for details!**  
**Acute Angling can arrange your choice of exotic fishing trips - anywhere in the world ... Let us know what you'd like to catch!**

**Join us on the fishing trip of a lifetime!**

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