



FISHING

Version: October 2005

Contact:

BVK Public Relations

Laura Tanin: 414.351.9563 or laurat@bvk.com

Patty Tazalla: 414.247.2174 or ptazalla@bvk.com

The Dominican Republic (DR) hosts several international billfish tournaments each year, including ESPN's Billfish Xtreme Tournament at Punta Cana Resort & Club. Several world records for mammoth fish have been broken in the waters surrounding the country. Off the coast of La Romana, the 50-pound tackle world record for Atlantic blue marlin was set with an 850-pound catch.

Despite this, most fishing enthusiasts and vacationers to the DR aren't aware that the country is one of the best hideouts for dozens of species of sought-after fish. For those who are not looking to become legendary anglers but would like to fight a marlin or reel-in a toothy barracuda, several charters are available throughout the country.

Not as popular among tourists but still a thrilling activity, is freshwater lake fishing. In a country known for its ocean waters, the DR offers excellent fishing in crystal clear mountain streams and rivers. One of the best locations is Lake Hatillo near the remote town of Cotui. The lake is actually an attractive reservoir that holds large quantities of lake bass.

Popular fish species found in the DR include:

Amberjack	Grouper	Sailfish
Barracuda	Jack	Spearfish
Bonito	Kingfish	Sea-Breams
Cobia	Permit	Shark
Dorado (Mahi-Mahi)	Porpoise	Spanish Mackerel
Espadons	Redfish	Yellow Tail Snapper

Certain types of fish make the DR a port-of-call as they pass through on their migration journey to various parts of the Caribbean. At the north coast, white marlin is abundant May through August; blue marlin and tuna thrive July and August; and sailfish are numerous November through April. Wahoo, king mackerel and dorado can be found year-round.

At the southern side of the DR, white and blue marlin, dolphin fish and barracuda are frequent visitors June through September. Sailfish and wahoo can be found October through January.

MORE



Fishing Charters:

Deep sea fishing arrangements may be made at most resorts throughout the DR. In addition, there are several charters that have fished these waters for decades and know which species are running when and where.

When securing the services of a captain and crew, visitors should be sure the charter is holds a license and make sure the boat has life preservers, safety equipment and a working radio. It is also advised that guests ask about the crew's experience and if they will keep hooks baited, check for crossed lines and help unhook catch.

Aqua Adventures

Aqua Adventures specializes in small group deep sea adventures for tuna, marlin and snapper. Located in Sosua, Captain Pablo Santos is a native Dominican who speaks fluent English (he was raised in the United States).

Reservations: (809) 571-1868 or pablophoto@yahoo.com

Tours: Deep Sea Fishing - Small groups of up to four people for \$75/person

www.aqua-adventures.com

Captain Don

Offshore, inshore, half-day, or full-day, Captain Don Miller at Puerto Plata Tours knows how to plan a fishing trip. After all, he has more than 20 years experience fishing in the DR. Offering chumming, trolling and live bait fishing, Captain Don caters to all levels of fishing experience.

Reservations: (809) 781-4107 or donmiller00@yahoo.com

Private Charters: Available for up to 10 people for \$475

Tours: Deep Sea Fishing - \$75/person

www.roomspop.com

Coconor

With charters out of Puerto Plata twice a day, this experienced crew hosts groups on either their 45-foot or 32-foot fishing yachts. The fees include roundtrip transportation, snacks and drinks, equipment and a guide. This charter is recommended for all levels of fishing enthusiasm.

Reservations: Contact Enrique at (809) 586-4195

Tours: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. - \$75/person

MORE

Gone Fishing

This charter company has two trips each day out of Puerto Plata, Punta Cana and the Bavaro resorts. The crew will take enthusiasts out to the turquoise waters in search of blue and white marlin, mahi-mahi, wahoo or sailfish, depending on the season. Not into fishing but want to tag along? They offer a discounted companion rate for the curious.

Reservations: Contact Jan at (809) 221-4583 or reserve@puertoplatahot.com

Private charters: Half-day up to 12 passengers for \$620/Puerto Plata; \$690/Punta Cana

Tours: Puerto Plata - 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. - \$93/person; \$62/non-fishing companion

Punta Cana - 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. - \$99/person; \$69/non-fishing companion

www.puertoplatahot.com

Got Marlin?

They do. A full-day charter on "Just Us" tours the Caribbean and hits the premiere islands at prime fishing times. From May through August, a group can charter the 46-foot "Just Us" Bertram for white marlin fishing and July through August for blue marlin averaging 350 to 450 pounds.

Reservations: (786) 218-2107

Private charters: Full-day from \$900

www.gotmarlin.com

Pelicano Explorer

Offering daily trips into the deep sea from the Ocean Bavaro Resort in Punta Cana, Pelicano Explorer caters to all levels of fishing enthusiasts. An introductory course taught by experienced instructors is available for those unfamiliar with deep-sea fishing. They promise to never have more people on board than lines, guaranteeing everyone has a chance to catch the "big one."

Reservations: (809) 552-1720 or pelicanoexplorer@hotmail.com

Private charters: Full-day \$1150

Tours: Half-day - \$85/person

www.pelicanoexplorer.com

###