

THE PALOMETA CLUB

PUNTA ALLEN, MEXICO, March 15-22, 2024



Hosted by Luke Geraty & Brian Kohlman
GPS Coordinates: 19°47'57.60"N 87°28'32.67"W

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Dear Fly Fishing Angler,

The most hardcore permit lodge in Ascension Bay is The Palometa Club, located on the ocean-side beach in the little fishing village of Punta Allen. The “Club”, is situated in the heart of Mexico’s Sian Ka’an Biosphere Reserve, and Ascension Bay is home to some of the most productive permit fishing in the world.



Permit are not the only fish available in Ascension Bay. **Bonefish** are plentiful, and they love to eat flies. You’ll find them tailing in skinny water during lower tidal phases, perfect for wading, and often congregating in large schools as the tide rises. **Snook** and **tarpon** inhabit the mangrove backcountry, and round out the potential for the coveted “Grand Slam”.

Sian Ka’an means “where the sky is born” in Mayan, an apt name for the 1.3 million acres of grass savannas, mangrove lined lagoons, white sand flats, and 70 miles of the Palancar Reef, the second largest barrier reef in the world. Designated a World Heritage Site in 1986, the reserve is home to ocelots, jaguars, crocodiles, manatees, and hundreds or species of exotic birds.

Fishing at Palometa Club

There are miles and miles of flats in Ascension Bay, some covered with turtle grass and others composed of hard white sand, just waiting Palometa Club anglers to wade in search of permit or bonefish. The deeper water will hold the permit this area is famous for, while the mangrove lined shorelines are home to snook and juvenile tarpon. The guides are seasoned and dedicated to putting anglers in front of feeding fish. The guide

to angler ratio is one to one. Every boat has 2 skilled guides hunting for telltale signs of the elusive permit. One guide is up on the poling platform, the other on the deck with the caster, pointing direction and calling distance. If The Palometa Club has a fishing specialty it is permit, hands down.

It is the diversity in species that inhabit Ascension Bay in such prolific numbers that is the main attraction for so many intrepid flats anglers. Known for its outstanding permit fishery, the bay boasts the daily possibility for snook, tarpon, bonefish, barracuda, sharks, jacks, snapper, and more. There are always fish to hunt inside the bay, no matter the current weather conditions.

The guides all speak English, and are on the water hundreds of days each year, either guiding fly rodders or fishing lobster. The Palometa Club hires the best independent local guides from Punta Allen, each with their own boat, and they understand fly fishing and guiding. They are fly tiers, excellent casters, calm instructors, and have decades of experience in their home waters.



Lodging at Palometa Club

Located on the beach in Punta Allen, The Palometa Club is built of Mexican brick and mortar, beautiful handmade tile, and rich hardwoods. Every guest room has a private bathroom, two double beds, comfortable pillows and linens, A/C, ceiling fan, and large storage spaces for your clothing and gear.

Unlike many simpler accommodations in the region, the lodge is tastefully decorated and equipped with 24-hour electric power, wireless high speed internet; super cool A/C, a fly tying study, library, living room, and a large dining room adjacent to the open kitchen. There are several outdoor patios and a beautiful outdoor bar. The style and culture at the lodge is refined and professional, but also laid back and charming.

A Day at Palometa Club

Your rich Mexican coffee will be ready at sunrise, followed by a traditional hot breakfast complete with fresh juices, cereal, eggs, ham, bacon, and pastries. A lunch buffet is available for your boat lunch, including sandwiches, fruit, desserts, ice water, cold beer, and other beverages of your choice.

Boats leave the beach between 7:30 and 8:00, returning before sunset. The staff will wash and rack your gear, so all you need to do is slide into cocktail time at the outdoor beach lounge where icy margaritas and sweet Pina Coladas accompany fresh caught ceviche and empanadas.

Dinner is served family style, featuring delicious local Caribbean and Mexican dishes like pescado mojo de ajo, pollo con mole, chili rellenos, and always followed by scrumptious locally inspired desserts. Purified water is used for drinking and ice.

Weather at Palometa Club

The east coast of the Yucatan has a tropical climate, with few temperature differences between seasons, and a pronounced rainy season. The coast is warm year-round, with air temperatures moderated by trade winds off the ocean. Annual rainfall is around 50 in, falling on 115 days per year. More temperate conditions occur from November to February with occasional refreshing northerly breezes. It is drier and becomes warmer in March and April, and the warmest from May to September.



Seasons

The Palometa Club is open each year from January to September. All times of the year can produce amazing fishing for permit, as well as the other flats species of the area. Winter and spring can be the mildest temperatures, but can get windy. This is the primetime for bookings, so plan ahead and book early if you want to get into spring dates. Summer can be amazing fishing for permit, and crowds are usually down from the spring months. It can be hot, but if you are tolerant to the heat, this can be the most productive time of the year for permit. Late summer and spring continue to be amazing permit fishing, and some of the other species can really turn on, such as larger tarpon and snook. It is hurricane season, but the gamble of booking this time of the year can have giant rewards.

Getting to Palometa Club is easy

You'll begin your adventure with a flight to Cancun, Mexico. Cancun is serviced by most every major airline, with direct flights from Houston, Miami, and Dallas. In order to make comfortable connections to the Club, guests must plan their flight reservations to arrive in Cancun no later than 2:00 pm on Friday, and schedule their return flights no earlier than 1:00 pm the following Friday. In Cancun you'll be met by lodge representatives and transferred approximately 3.5 hours south to Punta Allen in a comfortable air-conditioned van.

The Palometa Club operates on a weekly schedule, Friday to Friday.

All the best fishing,

Brian Kohlman & Luke Geraty
Confluence Outfitters

Rates

Shared room and boat

7 nights / 6 days - \$5,500

Non-Friday ground / water transfers - \$400 per van

Inclusions

Accommodations; Full days of guided fishing; All Meals; Ground / Water transportation to lodge; Happy hour beverages (Margaritas, Beer, Standard Spirits and Wine); Non-alcoholic beverages; Loaner rod/reel outfits; Wireless Internet; Mexican VAT tax

Non inclusions

Commercial air to Cancun, Mexico (CUN); Additional specialty ordered alcoholic beverages; Guide and staff gratuities; Fishing Tackle & Flies); Organized eco-tours; Laundry Service; Loaner rod/reel outfit breakage fees (if applicable)



Why should the Palometa Club be your choice on Ascension Bay?

- Every panga has 2 guides for 2 anglers. One on the poling platform in back and one on the deck with the caster. This doubles the number of professional eyes looking for permit, greatly improving your chances at early fish spotting and opportunities for good shots. The extra guide on the deck with you is also hugely helpful with coaching techniques, relaying information being yelled from the guide on the pole, and line management before and after fish are hooked.
- The Palometa Club uses big 23-foot pangas. This is a giant advantage on the big water crossings of Ascension Bay. The boats are far more comfortable than flats boats in this bigger water, are also very stable when you are up on the nose taking shots at permit. The large boats allow your guides to utilize the entire bay, instead of being isolated to the north or south shore as the lodges using flats boats are.
- The beachfront Lodge accommodations are super inviting and comfortable and the perfect setting for a flats fishing lodge. Right on the water in Punta Allen, the guide's pangas pull up to within 50 feet of the lodge's backdoor, and the closest flats to cast at permit are only a 10-minute run. There is no better possible location to access the entire bay and the Boca Paia Lagoon.
- The American Lodge managers Dick and Kaye alongside Mike and Maureen Gifford run this operation seamlessly. Their staff is super professional and English speaking, making the level of service at the Palometa Club second to none on Ascension Bay.
- This area of Mexico has some of the world's finest permit angling and the Palometa Club has strived to become the most elite permit-oriented lodge out there. The guides live and breathe permit, that is all they think about. You can choose to look for the other species in the Grand Slam, but if you are a permit Junky, this is your place... And the permit can be enormous here!

