

# The Islands Of The Bahamas BOATING & FISHING GUIDE



Florida



Grand Bahama

The Abacos



Bimini

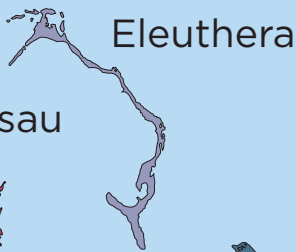
Berry Islands



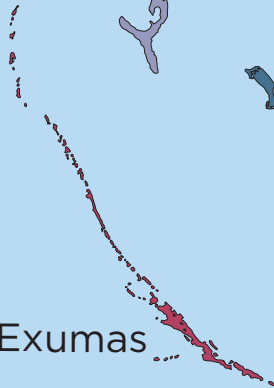
Andros



Nassau



Eleuthera



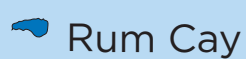
The Exumas



Cat Island



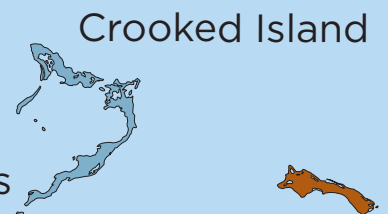
San Salvador



Rum Cay



Long Island



Crooked Island

Acklins



Mayaguana



The Inaguas



## A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF TOURISM & AVIATION

Dear Friends:

Our magnificent country lies just 60 miles off the coast of Florida, with 700 islands stretching over the most translucent blue and turquoise waters on the planet. For years, visiting boaters and sport fishing enthusiasts alike have enjoyed the beauty of The Islands Of The Bahamas along with the pristine beaches, abundance of big game fish and other fascinating sea life, scrumptious cuisine and an exciting blend of activities and cultural attractions.

Our clear waters are in demand more than ever but as a country we make a concerted effort to maintain the sustainability of our tourism industry and the preservation of our marine life so that future generations of visitors and Bahamians alike can enjoy our beautiful waters. We encourage you to do the same.

To make cruising through the Bahamas even more inviting, each year and for the past twenty five years our boating experts organize escorted boating flings for novice sailors while the more adventurous boaters chart their own course to individually explore our 700 island chain.

We are pleased once again to publish this Boating and Fishing guide to The Islands Of The Bahamas which we hope will be useful to you as you plan your visits to our beautiful islands.

We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful group of islands and when you return home, we hope that you will share your experiences with your family and friends. Enjoy your escape from everyday life!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace".

Sen. Hon. Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, C.B.E.  
Minister of Tourism and Aviation



# Traveling to The Islands Of The Bahamas

## Customs & Immigration

Effective Oct. 1, 2007, U.S. Citizens traveling by air to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda must present a passport or other Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI)-compliant documentation to enter or depart from the United States. It is always strongly recommended that U.S. Citizens verify the specific documents required for their destination country.

For more information about WHTI approved travel documentation, please visit the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) website at [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov). For information on obtaining a U.S. passport please go to [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov).

## Current Requirements

Upon your arrival to The Islands Of The Bahamas, you will be asked to fill out an Immigration Arrival/Departure Card, which you will keep part of until your departure.

All visitors are required to be in possession of a return ticket.

U.S. citizens staying for eight months or less need a return ticket plus a valid passport.

U.S. permanent residents (green card holders) require a valid green card, along with a valid passport from their place of birth, for visits not exceeding 30 days.

Canadian citizens need one of the three documents: Passport current; Official Birth Certificate for person 17 years and older; or Original Naturalization/Citizenship Certificate, accompanied by a return or onward journey ticket and proof of funds to support the visit. Stays not exceed 21 days.

Note: Persons are advised to purchase return tickets (and seek reimbursement upon returning home for the unused ticket), even when they are certain to return via a private boat—the chance of an airline/cruise line ticket agent allowing travel on a single ticket is very slim. If, however, the person gets to the point of

Bahamas Immigration on a single ticket, the captain of the boat would have to present himself and the cruising permit. However, a copy of the cruising permit will be permitted for crew members, who may be arriving by plane and returning by boat as their names will appear on the manifest. A letter will not suffice.

British subjects from the United Kingdom and colonies may enter The Islands Of The Bahamas as visitors without passports or visas for periods not exceeding three weeks. For longer stays they must present a passport.

### **U.S. Residents (Non-citizens)**

To enter The Bahamas, U.S. Residents who are not U.S. citizens need the following documentation: Alien Registration Card (Green Card) along with a valid passport from their country of citizenship.

#### **For visits NOT exceeding 30 days:**

An original Alien Registration Card is required, along with a valid passport.

#### **For visits exceeding 30 days:**

A valid passport and a Bahamas Visa are required for U.S. resident non-citizens wishing to stay longer than 30 days.

Please visit our website for complete travel details at [www.bahamas.com](http://www.bahamas.com). Please note that the entry requirements for citizens from various countries may differ.



## **You may apply for a visa at any of the following offices:**

### **The Bahamas**

Ministry Of Foreign Affairs  
Consular Section  
Norfolk House, Frederick Street  
P.O. Box N-3746  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Phone: 242-323-5578/5565  
Fax: 242-326-6186

### **USA/Washington, D.C.**

Embassy of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas  
2220 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008  
Phone: 202-319-2667  
Fax: 202-319-2668

### **USA/Miami**

Bahamas Consulate General  
25 S.E. Second Avenue  
Ingraham Bldg., Suite 818  
Miami, FL 33131  
Phone: 305-373-6295  
Fax: 305-373-6312  
Telex: 203-807849  
E-mail: [bcbgmia@bellsouth.net](mailto:bcbgmia@bellsouth.net)

### **USA/New York**

Bahamas Consulate General,  
Bahama House  
231 East 46th Street  
New York, NY 10017  
Phone: 212-421-6420  
Fax: 212-688-5926  
Telex: 2343-2580  
E-mail: [bahamasconsulate@bahamasny.com](mailto:bahamasconsulate@bahamasny.com)

### **Canada**

Bahamas High Commission  
Metropolitan Life Centre  
50 O'Connor, Suite 1313  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 6L2  
Phone: 613-232-1724  
Fax: 613-232-0097  
E-mail: [ottawa-mission@bahighco.com](mailto:ottawa-mission@bahighco.com)



## Ports of Entry

<b>ABACO</b>	Government Docks at Green Turtle Cay, Marsh Harbour, Sandy Point, Walkers Cay/Grand Cay, Spanish Cay and the Treasure Cay Marina
<b>ANDROS</b>	Government Docks at Congo Town, Fresh Creek, Mangrove Cay, Morgan's Bluff and San Andros
<b>BERRY ISLANDS</b>	Government Docks at Great Harbour Cay and Great Harbour Cay Marina, and Chub Cay Club Marina
<b>BIMINI</b>	Alice Town
<b>CAT CAY</b>	Cat Cay Club Marina
<b>ELEUTHERA</b>	Government Docks at Governor's Harbour, North Eleuthera/Harbour Island, Rock Sound, Spanish Wells and Powell Pointe at Cape Eleuthera
<b>EXUMA</b>	Government Docks at George Town
<b>GRAND BAHAMA</b>	Docks at Freeport Bell Channel Marina, Port Lucaya Marina Village, Freeport Harbour, Sunrise Resort & Marina, Xanadu Marina, and Old Bahama and the Government Docks at West End
<b>INAGUA</b>	Government Docks at Matthew Town
<b>LONG ISLAND</b>	Stella Maris Marina
<b>MAYAGUANA</b>	Government Docks at Abraham's Bay
<b>NEW PROVIDENCE</b>	Arawak Cay, Atlantis Resort and Marina, Bayshore Marina, Brown's Boat Basin, Clifton Pier, Coral Harbour Marina, East Bay Yacht Basin, Hurricane Hole Marina, John Alfred Dock, Kelly's Dock, Lyford Cay Marina, Nassau Harbour Dock West, and Union Dock
<b>OCEAN CAY</b>	Ocean Cay Dock
<b>SAN SALVADOR</b>	Cockburn Town

## Arriving by Air/Returning by Boat

Travelers are advised to purchase return tickets (and seek reimbursement upon returning home for the unused ticket) even when they are certain to return via private boat. However, if the traveler arrives at Bahamas Immigration on a single ticket, the owner/operator of the boat must present himself/herself and the vessel's cruising permit. A copy of the cruising permit will be permitted for crew members who may be arriving by plane and returning by boat as their names will appear on the manifest. A letter will not suffice.

## Arriving By Boat

Visiting boaters must clear Customs and Immigration at the nearest designated Port of Entry. As you enter each port, fly the yellow quarantine flag and notify Customs of your arrival. Only the captain is permitted to leave the boat until your vessel has been cleared.

Customs and Immigration will come to your vessel. Everyone on board must have proof of citizenship and fill out an immigration card. U.S. citizens must present a passport. Before leaving The Islands Of The Bahamas, be sure to surrender your copy of the immigration card at the last Bahamian port you visit.

## Entry Fees

All boaters entering the Islands Of the Bahamas are required to pay an entry fee. For boats up to 35', the fee is \$150.00. For Boats over 35', the fee is \$300.00. This will cover a vessel with four persons or less. The flat levy per vessel will cover the cruising permit, fishing permit, Customs and Immigration charges, and the \$15 per person departure tax for up to four persons. Each additional person above four will be charged a \$15 departure tax except Grand Bahama Island (Freeport) which is \$18. This fee is good for up to two (2) trips within a 90-day period. If you plan to stay longer than 12 months, special arrangements must be made with Bahamas Customs and Immigration.

Bahamas Customs and Immigration Offices hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Officers are on call during holidays and weekends. There is no overtime charge.

## Entering U.S. Ports

When a private vessel arrives at a port of call in the United States, the Master or Captain of the vessel must report their arrival immediately upon first landfall to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) by calling the following toll free number: 1 800 432 1216. The Captain will then be directed to the nearest Port of Entry and must physically present themselves and their passengers

for admission to the U.S. Please visit [www.dhs.gov](http://www.dhs.gov) for admission requirements.

Only the master or owner of the vessel may disembark to make his report of arrival. All others must remain on board until clearance has been granted.

When you call for clearance, have the following information available:

- Vessel name and registration/document number
- Vessel owner name and citizenship
- Vessel commander/master name, date of birth, and citizenship
- Passengers names and dates of birth
- Foreign ports or places visited and purchases made
- Customs User Fee decal number, if one has been issued

Please note rules and regulations are always subject to change visit: [www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel\\_boats](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/travel_boats) for additional information and updates.

## Bringing Your Pet

An Import Permit is required for all animals being brought into The Islands Of The Bahamas. These are available in advance for a \$10 fee for each animal. Write to the Director of Agriculture, Trade and Industry, P.O. Box N-3704, Nassau, Bahamas, Tel: (242) 325-7502. Dogs and cats must be six months of age and have current proof of vaccination and a health certificate. A request must be made in writing to the Director of Agriculture, Trade and Industry, P. O. Box N-3704, Nassau, Bahamas. For information please visit: [www.bahamas.gov.bs/](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/).

## Fire Arms

If you have a firearm on board, you must declare it with Customs. You must provide the serial number and manufacturer, plus an exact count of ammunition. Though you are allowed to have a firearm on your boat, you can not take it off the boat unless you obtain a permit from the Bahamian police ahead of time. Weapons must be under lock and key at all times. Any infraction of this law is dealt with severely.

## Replacement Parts

Spare parts and replacement boat parts may be brought in duty free, as long as the boat they are intended for has a transire (cruising permit). Equipment shipped in cargo will be subject to a 10% - 35% government stamp duty tax based on the value and type of parts being brought in. Items should be marked: FOR MARINE USE ONLY.

For information visit: [www.bahamas.gov.bs/customs](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/customs).



## Fishing and Diving Regulations

**T**he Bahamas Department of Marine Resources announced Oct. 19, 2007 several amendments to the Fisheries Resources Regulations. These changes are intended to accommodate legitimate sportfishing events and tournaments while still providing greater protection for important fish stocks within the 700 island archipelago.

Full information on recreational fishing regulations within The Islands Of The Bahamas is available at [www.bahamas.com](http://www.bahamas.com), but key changes to the existing statute include those listed below.

Any entity wishing to hold a sportfishing event or tournament must apply for a permit through the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources in order to sanction the event. Permits and tournament decals will be issued to approved events and each participating vessel must be in possession of a valid permit with decal in order for the following regulations to apply.

### Revised limits per vessel as of Oct. 19, 2007:

- Migratory species such as kingfish, dolphin, tuna or Wahoo shall not exceed 18 fish per vessel at any time. The previous limit was six (6).
- No vessel shall have onboard: marine turtles; more than six (6) conch; more than 10 crawfish; demersal species (groupers, snappers, etc.) in excess of 60 lbs or 20 fish.

Sanctioned sportfishing events or tournaments are the only circumstances under which billfish species such as marlin, sailfish or swordfish may be retained. Fishermen on independent vessels must return these fish to the water unharmed.

Foreign vessels engaged in sportfishing for which a permit was issued will be allowed to export the fishery products aboard the vessel, within the catch-limits above, for non-commercial purposes. Fishery inspectors have the right to board and inspect a vessel engaged in sportfishing to ensure compliance.

Previous revisions to the fishing regulations remain in effect stipulating that:

- A person shall fish by the traditional method of angling with a hook or lure attached to a line held in the hand or attached to a pole, rod or reel;
- A person, unless otherwise authorized by the respective permit, shall not use a spear, a fish trap, or a net other than a landing net;
- Each vessel shall use not more than six (6) rods or reels unless the operator is in possession of a permit authorizing the use of more rods or reels;

For more information on sportfishing, scheduled events or travel to The Islands Of The Bahamas please visit [www.bahamas.com](http://www.bahamas.com).

# Official Gamefish Chart

Fish	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Allison Tuna												
Amberjack												
Baracuda												
Blackfin Tuna												
Bluefin Tuna												
Blue Marlin												
Bonefish												
Broadbill Swordfish												
Dolphin												
Kingfish												
Sailfish												
Mackerel												
Oceanic Bonito												
Permit												
Tarpon												
Grouper												
Snapper												
Shark												
Wahoo												
White Marlin												

Excellent  
 Good to Excellent  
 Good  
 Fair  
 Occasional  
 None

## Bahamas Charter Services

Location	Telephone	Services
<b>Abaco</b>		
Abaco Bahamas Charter, Ltd	(800) 626-5690	Bareboat Sailboats
Donnie's Boat Rentals	(242) 365-4119	Boat Rentals
Island Marine	(242) 366-0282	Boat Rentals, Small Powerboats
The Moorings	(800) 535-7289	Crewed and bareboats
Pinder's Cottages	(242) 367-2207	Deep-Sea Fishing and Sailboats
Sea Horse Boat Rentals	(242) 367-2413	Powerboat Rentals
Florida Yacht Charters & Sales	(800) 537-0050	Bareboat Sailboats
<b>Bimini</b>		
Charlie Weech's Dock	(242) 347-3290	Bonefishing, Boat Rentals
<b>Exuma</b>		
Minns Watersports	(242) 336-3483	Small Powerboats
<b>Grand Bahama</b>		
Ocean Reef Yacht Club	(242) 373-4661	Bonefishing, Deep-Sea Fishing, Scuba Diving, Snorkeling and Small Boats
<b>New Providence, Paradise Island</b>		
Born Free	(242) 363-2003	Deep-Sea Fishing, Island Cruising
Brown's Charters	(242) 324-1215	Deep-Sea Fishing, Island Cruising, Snorkeling
Chubasco Charters	(242) 324-3474	Deep-Sea and Shark Fishing, Island Cruising
Marina Adventures Company Limited	(242) 328-2917	Deep-Sea and Shark Fishing, Island Cruising

# Bag Limits

The boat you fish from must have a sporting permit aboard. Individual permits are not required. Permits are obtained from Customs officials at ports of entry. Fishing gear is restricted to hook and line and you may not fish with more than six rods at a time. Bag limits are as follows:

**Wahoo/Dolphin/Kingfish/Tuna:** Migratory species such as Kingfish, Dolphin, Tuna or Wahoo Shall not exceed 18 fish per vessel at any time. (The previous limit was six (6))

**Stone Crabs:** Closed season is June 1 to October 15. Minimum harvestable claw is 4". Harvesting of female is prohibited.

**Turtle:** Illegal to import. No vessel shall have onboard marine turtles.

**Lobster or crawfish:** No more than 10 tails at any given time. Annual closed season is April 1 to July 31. Minimum size limits are 3-3/8 inch carapace length or six inches tail length. Egg-bearing female crawfish are protected.

**Conch:** Harvesting and possession of conch without a well formed lip is prohibited. Bag limit at any given time is no more than 6 per boat.

**Vessel Bag Limit:** Demersal species (groupers, snappers, etc.) in excess of 60 pounds or 20 scale fish.

## Special Requirements For Exporting Seafood From The Bahamas As A Part Of Personal Baggage

The Bahamas Fisheries regulations allow travelers to export a limited amount of marine resources as part of their personal baggage. Listed below are the maximum allowable limits for all travelers traveling both by air and sea.

### Seafood Export Limits carried as part of personal baggage:

- Six Dolphin, Wahoo or Kingfish
- Ten (10 lbs.) pounds of Conch\* or Crawfish
- Twenty (20 lbs.) pounds of Demersal fish

### Allowable Limits for Foreign Vessels with a Sports Fishing Permit

Persons leaving The Bahamas aboard a foreign vessel that was fishing in The Bahamas under a sportsfishing permit are limited to the amounts specified in the sportsfishing permit.

The Convention on the Trade of Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), which The Bahamas is a party to, has listed the Queen Conch as an endangered species. Therefore, any conch export from The Bahamas requires the issuance of a CITES Export Permit

Persons traveling with up to ten (10 lbs.) pounds of conch may apply directly to the Department of Agriculture's Permits Section for the CITES Export Permit. This section is located at the Levy Building on East Bay Street. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. The fee for the CITES Export Permit is ten (\$10.00) dollars.

Further information on marine resources export limits may be obtained from the Department of Marine Resources, telephone no. (242) 393-1777, or (242) 393-1014, Fax no. (242) 393-0238 or via email at fisheries@bahamas.gov.bs.

### \*Additional Requirements for Conch Exports




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The Islands Of The Bahamas**



[www.EshopBahamas.com](http://www.EshopBahamas.com)

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send and receive emails while  
exploring our islands.*



Call BTC Toll Free  
at 1-866-446-1364  
[www.btcbahamas.com](http://www.btcbahamas.com)


# MARINAS

	Slips	Rates	Fuel	Depth/Dockside	Electric-Amps	Water/Ice	Showers Wash/Dry	Marine/Groc. Supplies	Restaurant/Bar	Boat/Elect.	Charter/Boat	Channel Monitored	Motel/Hotel	Wet/Dry Storage	Tackle/Bait
<b>ABACO</b>															
Abaco Yacht Services, Ltd. Green Turtle Cay (242) 365-4033	10	On Req.	-	6'	30/50	Y	Y	-	-	Y	-	16	-	Y	-
Bluff House Club & Marina Green Turtle Cay (242) 365-4247	45	On Req.	Y	8'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	16	Y	W	Y
Boat Harbour Marina Marsh Harbour (242) 367-2158	180	\$1.50/ft	Y	9'	15/30/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	16	Y	W	-
Conch Inn Resort & Marina (Moorings) Marsh Harbour (242) 367-4000/4004	80	On Req.	Y	8'	30/50/100	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	82/16	Y	Y	A
Green Turtle Club & Marina Green Turtle Cay, (242) 365-4271	35	On Req.	Y	10'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	16	Y	-	-
Harbour View Marina (242) 367-3910	80	On Req.	Y	7'	30/50	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	16	A	W	-
Hope Town Marina- Club Soleil Resort Hope Town (242) 366-0003	14	\$.75/ft	-	11'	30/50	Y	S	A	Y	A	Y	16	Y	W	B
Hope Town Hideaways Hope Town (242) 366-0224	12	\$1.00/ft	A	10'	30/50	Y	W/D	A	A	A	A	16	Y	-	-
Lighthouse Marina Hope Town, (242) 366-0154	7	\$.75/ft	Y	6'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	A	16	A	Y	Y
Mangoes Marina (242) 367- 2366	29	On.req	-	7'	30/50	Y	Y	-	Y	A	-	16	Y	-	-
Man-O-War Marina Man-O-War Cay, (242) 365-6008	26	\$.90/ft	Y	8'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	16	A	W	A
Marsh Harbour Marina Marsh Harbour, (242) 367-2700	54	On Req.	Y	6'	30/50	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	16	A	W	A
Orchid Bay Marina (242) 365-5175	66	on. Req.	Y	3'	40/50	Y	Y	A	Y	A	-	16	Y	-	Y
Other Shore Club Green Turtle Cay, (242) 365-4195	15	\$.50/ft	Y	7'	30/50	Y	S	A	A	A	A	16	Y	W	B
Sea Spray Resort Villas & Marina Elbow Cay, (242) 366-0065	60	\$.85/ft	Y	9'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	16	Y	W	Y
Spanish Cay Marina Spanish Cay, (242) 365-0083	81	\$1.25/ft	Y	10'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	16	Y	W	-
Treasure Cay Resort & Marina Treasure Cay, (242) 365-8250	150	On Req.	Y	8'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	Y	W	Y
<b>ANDROS</b>															
Kamalame Cay Staniard Creek, (242) 368-6281	8	\$3.00/ft.	Y	5'	30/50	Y	-	-	Y	-	Y	16	Y	-	Y
Lighthouse Yacht Club & Marina Fresh Creek, (242) 368-2305	18	\$.85/ft	Y	13'	30/50	Y	Y	-	Y	-	T	16	Y	-	Y

## Code Key:

A-Available nearby, but not at Marina, B-Bar, C-Charter Rentals, D-Diesel Only, L-Limited Number, M-Marine Supplies, S-Showers Only, T-Tackle, W-Wet storage, W/D-Washer/Dryer, Y-Yes.  
Prices may vary seasonally.



	Slips	Rates	Fuel	Depth/Dockside	Electric-Amps	Water/Ice	Showers Wash/Dry	Marine/Groc. Supplies	Restaurant/Bar	Boat/Elect.	Charter/Boat	Channel Monitored	Motel/Hotel	Wet/Dry Storage	Tackle/Bait
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**BERRY ISLANDS**

Chub Cay Club Marina (242) 325-1490	100	\$3.50/ft	Y	12'	30/50/100	Y	Y	-	Y	L	Y	16/68	Y	W	Y
Great Harbour Yacht Club & Marina (242) 367-8005 / (561)391-7737	85	\$.90/ft.	Y	10'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	16/68	Y	W	A
The Berry Island Club, Fraziers Hog Cay (242) 357-2229 (713) 401-9557	12	\$1.50/ft	Y	9'	30/50	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	16	Y	-	-

**BIMINI**

Bimini Bay Resort & Casino (242) 347-2900	136	\$2.50/ft.	-	10'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	-	68	Y	Y	Y
Bimini Big Game Fishing Club Bimini, (242) 347-3391/ (800)737-1007	72	\$1.75/ft.	Y	9'	30/50	Y	S	Y	Y	A	A	16/9	Y	W	A
Bimini Beach Club Bimini, (242) 347-4500	53	\$.90/ft	-	11'	30/50	Y	S	A	Y	A	Y	68	Y	-	A
Bimini Blue Water Bimini, (242) 347-3166 /(242) 347-3291	32	On Req.	Y	10'	30/50	Y	S	A	Y	A	A	68	Y	-	A
Bimini Sands South Bimini, (305) 347-3500	60	\$1.10/ft	Y	8'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	16/68	-	Y	Y
Brown's Marina & Big John's Hotel (242) 347-3117	20	-	-	8'	30/50	Y	Y	-	-	A	-	68	Y	Y	Y
Sea Crest Hotel & Marina Alice Town, (242) 347-3071	18	\$1.00/ft	-	6'	30/50	Y	S	A	A	A	A	68	Y	-	A
Weech's Dock Bimini, (242) 347-3028	15	\$.70/ft	-	10'	30/50	I	S	Y	A	A	A	18	Y	-	A

**CAT CAY**

Cat Cay Yacht Club (242) 347-3565	106	\$3.25/ft	Y	9'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	16	Y	-	Y
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**CAT ISLAND**

Hawk's Nest Marina (242) 342-7050	28	\$1.00/ft	Y	8'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	16	Y	-	A
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**ELEUTHERA**

Davis Harbour Marina @ Cotton Bay (242) 334-6303	38	on. Req.	Y	8'	30/50	Y	Y		Y	Y	-	16	Y	-	-
Harbour Island Club & Marina Harbour Island, (242) 333-2427	32	\$1.25/ft.	Y	10'	30/50	Y	Y	A	Y	A	C	16	A	A	A
Palmetto Shores (242) 332-1305	6	On Req	A	12'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	A	A	A	16	Y	-	-
Cape Eleuthera Yacht Club (242) 422-9977/359 -7208	55	\$2.00/ft.	Y	12'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	16	A	-	Y
Spanish Wells Marina & Hardware Spanish Wells, (242) 333-4122	10	\$.75/ft	Y	10'	110/220	Y	-	Y	-	Y	Y	16	Y	Dry	T
Spanish Wells Yacht Haven Spanish Wells, (242) 333-4255	40	\$.85/ft	Y	10'	30/50	Y	Y	A	A	A	A	16	Y	W	A
Valentine's Yacht Club & Inn Harbour Island, (242) 333-2142	39	\$1.25/ft.	D	10'	100	Y	Y	A	Y	A	A	16	Y	-	-



	Slips	Rates	Fuel	Depth/Dockside	Electric-Amps	Water/Ice	Showers Wash/Dry	Marine/Groc. Supplies	Restaurant/Bar	Boat/Elect.	Charter/Boat	Channel Monitored	Motel/Hotel	Wet/Dry Storage	Tackle/Bait
<b>EXUMA</b>															
Exuma Docking Services (242) 336-2578	52	\$ .60/ft	Y	8.5'	30/50	Y	Y	A	Y	A	A	16	A	A	-
Farmer's Cay Yacht Club & Marina (242) 355-4017	15	\$1.25/ft.	Y	9'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	16	Y	Y	-
February Point Resort & Marina (242) 336-2693	32	on. Req.	-	5'	30	Y	Y	-	Y	A	Y	16	Y	Y	-
The Marina at Emerald Bay Yacht Club (242) 336-6100	150	\$2.25 -3.25/ft	Y	15'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	16/11	Y	-	-
Minns Watersports (242) 336-3483	36	On Req.	Y	6.5'	-	Y	-	Y	A	A	A	16	A	Y	-
Happy People Marina Staniel Cay, (242) 355-2008	6	\$ .80/ft	-	6'	30/50/100	Y	Y	A	Y	A	-	16	Y	-	-
Highborne Cay	L	-	Y	-	Y	-	-	Y	Y	-	-	16	Y	-	-
Sampson Cay Sampson Cay, (242) 355-2034	-	\$1.75/ft	Y	8'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	16	Y	-	A
Staniel Cay Yacht Club Staniel Cay (242) 355-2024	18	\$ .80/ft	Y	9.5'	30/50	Y	A	A	Y	-	Y	16	Y	-	Y
St. Francis Resort & Marina (Stocking Is.) (242) 336-2416	15	\$0.80	-	8'	-	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	16	Y	-	-
<b>GRAND BAHAMA</b>															
Lucayan Marina Village (242) 373-8888	150	On Req.	Y	7'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	16	Y	-	-
Old Bahama Bay at Ginn sur Mer West End, (242) 350-6500	72	On Req.	Y	8'	30/50/100	Y	Y	-	A	-	-	16	-	-	Y
Ocean Reef Yacht Club (242) 373-4662	50	\$ .50/ft	-	6.5'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	16/71	Y	-	-
Port Lucaya Marina Lucaya, (242) 373-9090	100	On Req.	-	12'	50/200	Y	Y	A	Y	-	Y	16/72	Y	-	Y
Sunrise Resort & Marina Freeport/Lucaya, (242) 352-6834	70	On Req.	Y	13'	30/50/100	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	16	Y	Y	Y
Xanadu Beach & Marina Resort Freeport, (242) 352-6782	77	\$1.30/ft.	Y	6.5'	30/50	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	16	Y	Y	-
Deep Water Cay (242) 353-3073	4	On Req.	L	7'	30/50	Y	L	-	Y	-	-	16	Y	-	-
<b>INAGUA</b>															
Matthew Town Dock (242) 339-2143	-	-	Y	-	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>LONG ISLAND</b>															
Clarence Town Dock	L	-	Y	12'	Y	Y	-	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flying Fish Marina (242) 337-3430	15	On Req.	Y	7'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	Y	16	A	-	-
Hardings Supplies Center, Salt Pond	L	-	Y	-	110 /220	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	Y	-	-
Stella Maris Resort & Marina (242) 338-2051, (800) 426-0466	15	\$ .75/ft	Y	6.5'	110/220	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	Y	Y	Y



	Slips	Rates	Fuel	Depth/Dockside	Electric-Amps	Water/Ice	Showers Wash/Dry	Marine/Groc. Supplies	Restaurant/Bar	Boat/Elect.	Charter/Boat	Channel Monitored	Motel/Hotel	Wet/Dry Storage	Tackle/Bait
<b>NEW PROVIDENCE/NASSAU</b>															
Brown's Boat Basin Nassau, (242) 393-3331	60	\$.25/ft	Y	15'	30	Y	-	Y	-	Y	-	16	A	Y	A
Claridge Marina South Nassau, (242) 364-2218	144	On Req.	Y	5'	-	Y	-	M	-	-	-	16	-	Y	Y
East Bay Yacht Basin Nassau, (242) 394-1816	35	\$.60/ft	Y	14'	30/50/100	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	16	-	W	-
Lyford Cay Club (private) Nassau, (242) 362-4131	74	On Req.	Y	9'	30/50/100	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	16	Y	Y	Y
Nassau Harbour Club Nassau, (242) 393-0771/3	65	1.00ft	Y	13'	30/50	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	16	Y	-	-
Nassau Yacht Haven Nassau, (242) 393-8173	120	\$.90/ft	Y	18'	30/50	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	16	A	W	A
<b>PARADISE ISLAND</b>															
Atlantis Marina (242) 363-6068 (800) ATLANTIS	63	\$4.50/ft	A	12'	30/50/100	Y	Y	A	Y	A	Y	16/10	Y	N	A
Hurricane Hole Marina (242) 363-3600	70	\$4.00/ft	Y	10'	30/50	Y	Y	A	Y	A	A	16	A	A	A
Paradise Harbour Club & Marina (242) 363-2992	20	\$2.00/ ft	-	8'	50/100	Y	Y	-	Y	-	A	16	Y	-	-
<b>SAN SALVADOR</b>															
Riding Rock Inn & Marina, Cockburn Town, (242) 331-2631; (800)272-1492	10	\$.90/ft	Y	9'	30/50	Y	Y	-	Y	-	Y	16	Y	-	-
<b>RUM CAY</b>															
Sumner Point Marina Rum Cay (242) 331-2823	30	\$1.10/ ft	Y	7'	30/50	Y	A	L	Y	-	-	16	A	-	A





## Boating Flings

The Flings are a series of piloted cruises to many of our beautiful islands. Spanning from June to August, seven weekends have been selected for this “Use Your Boat” promotion for pleasure boaters who would like to journey across the Gulf Stream. The crossing is quite simple and before you know it, you will be relaxing on one of our beautiful beaches and enjoying our Island Paradise.

A lead boat and captain will be provided for each Fling. Flings will commence on Wednesday evenings and end on Sunday evenings. The Fling headquarters will host a welcome “Goombay Kick-off” reception featuring a special Island drink and hors d’oeuvres. The following morning we will meet the lead boat at a designated departure point, then it’s Bahama bound!

An itinerary filled with exciting activities will be planned for you. However, there will be plenty of time to sun, snorkel, scuba dive, fish and stock up on Bahama bread. You may wish to plan your own Bahamian holiday after Sunday and return to Florida later, and that’s okay too!

There is a \$75 non-refundable registration fee per boat per Fling. This entitles you to giveaways, cocktail parties and all planned activities. Please complete the registration form, make your check or money order payable to “Bahamas Tourist Office” and forward to the Bahamas Tourist Office, Vertical Markets Unit, 1200 S. Pine Island Road, Suite 750, Plantation, FL 33324, (954) 236-9292, (800) 327-7678.

### Summer Boating Fling Schedule

<b>June</b>	Bimini, Bimini Big Game
<b>July</b>	Extended Fling: Bimini, Chub Cay, Andros, Nassau, Grand Bahama, Treasure Cay, Marsh Harbour, Green Turtle Cay
<b>August</b>	Bimini Big Game, Bimini, Grand Bahama Lucayan Marina Village, Extended Fling: Bimini, Grand Bahama, Chub Cay, Nassau, Staniel Cay

Schedule Subject to change. For actual dates, please go to [www.bahamas.com](http://www.bahamas.com). Each Fling is limited to 30 boats. Dockage space is reserved on a first come first served basis. Minimum boat length for the 10-day Fling and Grand Bahama Island is 24’ and 22’ for Bimini Flings.

# 2008 Regattas, Tournaments & Festivals

## JANUARY

15th – 18th	Wahoo Tournament (Hawks Nest Marina)
16th – 19th	Billfish Tournament (Chub Cay Club & Marina)
17th – 20th	Bahamas Wahoo Challenge (Freeport – West End GBI)

## FEBRUARY

6th – 9th	Wahoo Tournament – 2nd Leg (Chub Cay Hotel Resort & Marina)
21st – 23rd	Bahamas Wahoo Challenge (Bimini Bay Resort)
27th – Mar 1st	BWC Final Leg (Grand Bahama Yacht Club, Port Lucaya Marina – GBI)

## MARCH

29th	Billfish Tournament (Grand Bahama Yacht Club, Port Lucaya Marina – GBI)
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## APRIL

2nd- 5th	Member Guest Tournament (Chub Cay Club & Marina)
7th - 10th	Bahamas White Marlin Open Abaco (Treasure Cay Resort )
10th - 13th	First Ever International SKA Tournament" King of Bimini
13th - 18th	First leg Bahamas Billfish Championship (Treasure Cay Resort)
13th - 18th	Bahamas Billfish Central Abaco Championship
18th – 20th	Boys & Girls Club Rendezvous (Chub Cay Club & Marina)
23rd – 27th	George Town Regatta
27th – 28th	Ocean Reef Yacht Club Cruise (Chub Cay Club & Marina)
27th – May 2nd	BBC- Championship
27th – May 2nd	Marsh Harbour Championship

## MAY

TBA	Lighthouse Point Saltwater Sportsmen Association Rendezvous (Chub Cay Club & Marina)
TBA	Tuna Tournament (Grand Bahama Yacht Club, Port Lucaya Marina – GBI)
4th - 8th	Billfish Tournament (Hawks Nest Marina)
6th - 10th	Bertram Hatteras Shootout
20th – 24th	The Big Four
26th - 31st	Billfish Blast

## JUNE

1st - 6th	Bahamas Billfish Treasure Cay Championship
1st - 6th	4th Leg Bahamas Billfish Championship
4th- 8th	Lauderdale Yacht Club Rendezvous
8th - 13th	25th Annual Treasure Cay Billfish Tournament
15th -20th	BBC – Boat Harbour Championship
21st – 22nd	Marine Max Rendezvous

## JULY

TBA	Allied Richard Bertram Rendezvous (Chub Cay Club & Marina)
3rd - 11th	Abaco Regatta

\*TBA - To Be Announced \*STC - Subject To Change

For further tournament information visit us at:

www.bahamas.com  
 www.wahoochallenge.com • www.bahamasbillfish.com  
 www.bahamaswahoo.com • www.bahamaswhitemarlinopen.com



Photos by George Poveromo

## The Art of Bonefishing in The Islands Of The Bahamas

Catching the Elusive Bonefish Takes Patience and Finesse

**R**enowned as the sportfishing capital of the world, the waters of The Islands Of The Bahamas are home to many gamefish including marlin, swordfish and barracuda, but none provide quite the challenge of the bonefish. Diminutive by comparison to its muscular brethren, the bonefish exudes cunning and finesse.

Known as the “Grey Ghost,” bonefish can be found in flat areas covered by as little as one foot of water. Their fair coloration is perfectly adapted as camouflage against the sandy ocean bottom, making the bonefish difficult to spot in spite of the clear Bahamian water. Fishermen “go in for bones” stalk their prey, often looking not for the fish, but rather its shadow on the shallow bottom. Locating the fish is no guarantee of landing one. It is said that bonefish die more

often from ulcers than entrapment. Constantly on the alert for danger, the bonefish remain very aware of their surroundings and while the clear water makes sighting the fish easier, it makes taking the fish by surprise very difficult.

Anglers may employ spin casting equipment in pursuit of this elusive creature, but more often opt for fly-fishing in their hunt. Poling small skiffs along the flats or wading in the shallow water, fishermen create as little disturbance as possible. Luring the wily bonefish to strike at flies with names like Gotcha, Pink Puff and Crazy Charlie is a matter of some skill. Cast too near the fish and they scatter in fear. Success requires casting with a light touch and a keen eye for reading water so that the current carries the fly into bonefish’s field of view. The multiple challenges of

locating and landing this fish prized for its fight lure casual anglers and professionals to The Islands Of The Bahamas.

Bonefishing is excellent year-round in The Bahamas, but reaches its peak during March and April. There are many bonefishing lodges throughout the islands where fishing enthusiasts may arrange solo adventures or enlist the help of a guide to locate legendary fishing holes Bonefish Boulevard, Land of the Giants and The Promised Land off Andros Island.

With over 100, 000 square miles of water, this destination is vast so an experienced guide is crucial to having the best bonefishing experience. Each island has its own core of guides who provide local expertise and assistance. The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism certifies bonefishing guides throughout the islands (for a list of guides visit [www.bahamas.com](http://www.bahamas.com)). Additionally, some of these guides are also certified by Orvis and can coach clients on Orvis specific techniques (for a list of Orvis certified guides visit [www.orvis.com/certified](http://www.orvis.com/certified)).





## Tuna Time on Grand Bahama Island

Story and photos by George Poveromo

If you're looking for yellowfin tuna in The Bahamas, you don't have to travel any farther than Freeport on Grand Bahama Island. Out here, in the deep waters of Northwest Providence Channel, yellowfins go on a tear when flying fish and other baits are thick. If you know the tricks involved in locating these tuna, you'll cash in on some great action—all within 90 miles of South Florida.

I ran my MARC VI from the Hillsboro Inlet in Pompano Beach, FL, to the Grand Bahama Yacht Club in Freeport to chase yellowfins with Pete Rose. This life-long Bahamas resident has been catching tuna off Freeport for decades; He understands the migration routes and habits of these fish better than most fishermen on Grand Bahama.

### Where the Tuna Play

There are two main areas where most anglers search for tuna—Tuna Canyon—a deep trench that lies some 12- to 15-miles due south of Freeport, and Tuna City—a slightly flatter and shallower bottom contour that exists several miles west of Settlement Point on Grand Bahama Island.

These deep-cut bottom contours and the currents washing over them create upwellings, which produce nutrient blooms that host a wide variety of marine organisms and small fishes. And where you have small fishes, the larger predator fish—such as marlin, dolphin, Wahoo and tuna—will ultimately arrive to feed. It's the food chain, plain and simple.

Even though Tuna Canyon and Tuna City are fished heavily, yellowfin tuna can pop up just about anywhere within the expansive channel. That's where local knowledge comes in.

For example, if the better currents and bait concentrations are 20 miles farther west in the channel, it makes good sense to head there and fish. Anglers, who are on the water daily like Pete Rose, have a strong working knowledge of what the currents and fish are doing. Therefore, they'll run right to the zone that is most likely to produce fish.

### The Bird Knows ...

The sooty terns and frigates know where the bait is likely to be. And where there's bait, there should be yellowfins.



Pete Rose shows off a typical Freeport, tuna.

However, the strongest bird activity is often around sunrise and just prior to sunset. During the middle of the day, when the bait and tuna retreat deep into the water column, the birds seem to disappear. That's why searching for tuna once the sun is high overhead is a very difficult proposition at best. Most tuna action here occurs very early and very late in the day.

### About the Yellowfin

The yellowfin tuna is one of the most sought after game fish in The Bahamas. Satellite tagging studies indicate that these highly migratory fish spend nearly 80% of daylight hours swimming between 180 and 330 feet deep, and move closer to the surface at night.

Yellowfins are built for speed, as evidenced by their football shape and pectoral fins that slip within special grooves in their sides. Most Grand Bahama yellowfin weigh between 20 and 50 pounds.

### The Baits That Make Them Bite

A variety of baits work when chunking for yellowfins, so we took plenty of ballyhoo, Spanish sardines, squid and pilchards.

Yellowfins have keen eyesight and if there was ever a fish that fluorocarbon leader was invented for, this is it. We used four feet of 40- and 50-pound test Sufix InvisiLine fluorocarbon for leader and size 4/0 to

6/0 Gamakatsu Live Bait hooks. A SPRO 80-pound test Power Swivel joined the leader to the main line. The drill was to run ahead of the tuna, shut down the engines, and begin chumming and free lining baits.

Pete and I made sure our baits drifted back at the same rate as the chunks, by stripping line off the reel and letting it coil up in the water. When a fish inhaled a bait the line would come tight, prompting us to advance the drag and set the hook.

### Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

The fish were very scattered during our trip. Pete and I covered a lot of water and followed a lot of birds.

Then, late in the afternoon, we hooked up with a yellowfin! The fight was exciting, as the yellowfin ran off a lot of line and then headed into the depths. However, something strange was going on.

Once the fish settled deep, the rod tip started dipping rather violently. Pete and I knew exactly what was happening: A shark had eaten our tuna! Minutes later, we reeled in just the head! Fortunately, we quickly hooked another yellowfin and landed that one intact.

The next afternoon found us in a very active zone. Birds were diving and fish were devouring bait at the surface. Most of the activity was from skipjacks, but we did see some yellowfins in the mix.

We soon had a triple header, but lost all three due to bad luck: a hook turned back into one bait and another hook pulled from a fish during its initial run, and we broke a line on a fish. Soon after, we had more action and caught fish—but they were skipjacks.

### The Bass of all Bases

Grand Bahama Yacht Club is a beautiful facility that can accommodate boats up to 150 feet. The Club features a deep water marina, private residences, tennis and access to great diving and fishing. It's within walking distance of duty free shops, golf courses, nearly 30 restaurants, a casino and white sand beaches.

Pete and I were searching for tuna within 20 miles of the Club, making it a perfect base to fish from. However, on this visit, the yellowfins were widely scattered, so Pete and I had to do a lot of running and a lot of hard fishing to put together our catches.

At the very least, we proved once again that local knowledge and perseverance usually pays off when it comes to catching fish—and our Grand Bahama adventure was no exception!



# Fishing Lodges

## THE ABACOS

### Rickmon Bonefishing Lodge

Sandy Point  
(242) 366-4477  
rickmon@aol.com

### Oeisha's Resort

Sandy Point  
(242) 336-4139

### Moore's Island Bonefish Camp

Hard Bargain, Moore's Island  
(242) 366-6334

## ACKLINS

### Chester's Highway Inn & Bonefishing Lodge

Northern Acklins  
(242) 344-3114 / (800) 688 - 4752  
www.chesterhighwayinn.com  
chisholm\_corp@yahoo.com

### Acklins Island Lodge

Mason Bay  
(242) 344-3536

### Grey Point Bonefish Lodge

Pine Fields  
(242) 344 - 3210

### Top Choice Bonefish Lodge

Mason's Bay  
(242) 337-1005

## ANDROS

### Emerald Palms: A Tiamo Resort

South Andros  
(242) 357- 2873 / (800) 504-1794  
www.emerald-palms.com  
reservations@emerald-palms.com

### Love At First Sight

Stafford Creek  
(242) 368-6082 / (800) 688-4752  
www.loveatfirstsights.com  
Sheila@batelnet.bs

### Small Hope Bay Lodge

Fresh Creek  
(242) 368-2013/4 (800) 223-6961  
www.smallhope.com  
shbinfo@smallhope.com

## ANDROS

### Tiamo Resorts

South Andros  
(242) 357-2489 / (800) 688-4752  
www.tiamoresorts.com  
info@tiamoresorts.com

### Andros Island Bonefish Club

Cargill Creek  
(242) 368-5167

### Bair Bahamas Lodge

Little Creek  
(242) 369-5080

### Bonefish Bay Camp

Kemp's Bay  
(242) 369-1608  
rahmings@batelnet.bs

### GJ's Resort & Fishing Lodge

Nicholl's Town  
(242) 329-2194

### Glato's Resort & Fishing Lodge

Johnson Bay  
(242) 369-6281  
glatfish@batelnet.bs  
www.islandease.com

### Kamalame Cay Lodge

Staniard Creek  
(242) 368-6281  
stanairdcreekkamalame@batelnet  
www.kamalame.com

### Mount Pleasant Lodge

Mangrove Cay  
(242) 369-0730

### Nathan's Lodge

Mangrove Cay  
(242) 369-0730

### Stafford Creek Lodge

Stafford Creek  
(242) 368-6259

### Tranquility Hill Bonefish Lodge

Behring Point  
(242) 368-4132  
tranquil@batelnet.bs

## EXUMA

### Peace & Plenty Bonefish Lodge

George Town  
(242) 345-5555  
info@ppbonefishlodge@earthlink.net  
ppbonefishlodge.net

### Barratterre Bonefish Lodge

Barratterre  
(242) 355-5052  
info@barratterrebonefishlodge.com  
barratterrebonefishlodge.com

### Staniel Cay Yacht Club

Staniel Cay  
(242) 338-5273  
www.stanielcay.com  
info@stanielcay.com

## GRAND BAHAMA

### Bishops's Bonefishing Resort

High Rock  
(242) 353-5485  
gbweekly.com/bishsopbonefish

### Deep Water Cay Club

Deep Water Cay  
(242) 353-3073  
deepwatercay.com

### North Riding Point Resort

North riding Point  
(242) 353-4250

## LONG ISLAND

### Stella Maris Resort Club

Stella Maris  
(242) 338-2050 / (800) 426-0466  
www.stellamarisresort.com  
info@stellamarisresort.com  
reservation@stellamarisresort.com

### Greenwich Creek Lodge

Long Island  
(242) 337-6278  
www.greenwichcreek.com  
info@greenwichcreek.com

\*Bonefishing charters can be arranged at any major resort in The Islands Of The Bahamas



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