

# SET's Golden Dorado Combo

Multiple Golden Dorado destinations for the best fishing experience.

Golden Dorado are native to the tropics of South America, and the apex predator of the Amazon and Parana River basins. Their primary prey is the Sabalo, a schooling fish that can weigh 4 - 6 pounds, and the Dorado are well-equipped for the hunt with a sensitive lateral line, three rows of razor sharp teeth, and astonishing speed. They frequently lie in wait along the steep banks or sunken structure, and ambush their prey.

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Despite being a fresh water species, fishing for the Golden Dorado is more comparable to a salt water experience. You will use heavier rods than for trout, larger flies to target bigger fish, and bite wire for final tippet. And in this game, we typically hunt for bigger fish rather than numbers.

Tropical fly lines are required for most weather conditions and we typically use floating lines, however, an intermediate could come in handy. Dorado are ambush predators and you will be making precision casts to structure, so an #8 weight rod is recommended.









Our Golden Dorado Combo offers quests the unique opportunity to fish two completely different destinations in just one week. With three lodges in distinctively varied locations, we have the flexibility to run a highly successful combination program.



GOLDEN DORADO SPAWNING SEASON Related article Golden Dorado are tough to catch, the environments are fragile, and weather conditions unpredictable. Each of our lodge areas are fed by different water sources, so while one may be less than optimal, the other two could be at their best.

Our priority is to always provide the best fishing experience possible under current conditions, and using charter flights as part of the program provides fast and easy access to these different waters.

# JETU'U, CASA DE ESTEROS

Jetu'u (Casa de Esteros) is our newest lodge, located on the banks of the Isoro wetlands. This lodge offers the opportunity to fish a classic marsh environment created by overflow of the mid-section of the Parana River, not from rain as in the Ibera wetlands. Having access to the Parana River also allows us to fish for numerous other species such as Pacu and Pirata, if the time of the season is right.

# LA ALONDRA 'i - laalondra.com

La Alondra'i, is our home base for the Ibera Wetlands. This is a nature reserve, donated by Douglas Tompkins and home of a rewilding project. We are the only outfitter licensed to fish in the west boundary of the wetlands. As a complement to your stay at La Alondra, we have three remote camps located inside this marsh. This allows our guests to fish different waters daily without the need to go in and out of the wetlands every day. You'll have more time on the water, plus the experience of spending the night in the middle of a nature reserve.









This fishery offers plenty of Dorados between 4 - 15 pounds, with the possibility of hooking larger fish. We use almost exclusively surface patterns such as Poppers, Crease Flies, Mice, T-walks etc. These often produce fast and explosive surface strikes.

SURFACE PATTERNS PRODUCE EXPLOSIVE GOLDEN DORADO STRIKES Related Article

You will be pampered while enjoying the peaceful setting and excellent cuisine. This reconditioned colonial house offers the perfect lodge experience to compliment your visit to the Ibera Wetland.

All common areas provide a unique atmosphere, where the past and present converge. The lodge features 4 comfortable air-conditioned rooms each with 2 double beds and en suite bathrooms. An enclosed courtyard offers the ultimate in privacy and a great place to relax after spending the day exploring the wetlands. Two separate dining areas where breakfast and dinner are served are also featured. Additionally, the small chapel located inside the courtyard is another distinctive characteristic that symbolizes the town's colonial traditions. Recently, an outdoor swimming pool was added for our guest's enjoyment.

As a complement to your stay at La Alondra, we have 3 camps located inside this marsh. This allows our guests to fish different waters daily, without the need to pull out and in every day, so,





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more time in the water, plus the experience of spending the night in the middle of a natural reserve.

**Ibera Rugua**, is a small, rustic but comfortable cabin that can accommodate 4 anglers per night. Electric power and hot water showers are provided.

**Yaguarte Ava**, is our newest addition and the perfect site for guests looking for adventure. This tented camp can accommodate 4 anglers per night and even though the location is remote an electric power supply and hot water showers are available.

**El Disparo**, our southernmost camp, is set on an island. This location provides dining area, electric power by generator, shower and bathroom facilities. Tents will be set near the fire pit, in a secluded clear, surrounded by several fruit trees populated by the most diverse bird species.

## THE ITATI LODGE - theitatilodge.com

No one can say they have truly fished for dorado unless they've fished the upper Parana River, which is the tail water of the Yacyreta Dam, providing predictable and stable water conditions. This is where you will find the largest dorado in the world. Our Itati Lodge is located on









the banks of this massive stretch of water, comparable only to the Mississippi, with boats located only a few hundred feet from your room. Here you will fish the main and adjacent channels, casting to structures such as sunken trees and rocks in search of a trophy-sized Golden Dorado. Every day you will have chances at dorado raging from 15 - 25 pounds, and every season we catch several 30 pounders. Bigger fish are there as well, with occasional dorados over 40 pounds.

HOME OF THE LARGEST GOLDEN DORADO, THE PARANA RIVER Related article

Located in a traditional "estancia", on the banks of the paraná river, our air-conditioned lodge provides the perfect balance between wilderness and comfort. Five well-appointed rooms, all with en suite bathrooms, can accommodate up to 10 anglers\*. Our professional chef, Orlando, produces a menu that is a blend of local flavors and international cuisine.

\*Itati Lodge can receive up to ten anglers, but this program is good up to a total of eight.

## THE PROGRAM

SET Fly Fishing's Golden Dorado program starts in Buenos Aires, Saturday morning. We will pick you up, and drive you to San Fernando Airport, 30 minutes outside from Buenos Aires, where you will board a Cessna Grand Caravan Executive for up to 8 anglers. From there it's a 2 1/2 hour flight to your first destination where you will spend 4 nights and 3 full days fishing. Wednesday morning we will fly you on a small Caravan, a 30 minute flight, to our second lodge, to spend your next 3 full days fishing. Saturday morning we will fly you back to Buenos Aires on the Grand Caravan with enough time to connect with your international departure that same evening.

DAY 1: Charter flight from Buenos Aires to the first lodge.

DAY 2 to 4: Three (3) full day fishing.

DAY 5: Early morning charter flight to the second lodge (30 minutes). Full day fishing.

DAY 6 and 7: Two (2) full day fishing.

DAY 8: Charter flight from the Lodge directly to Buenos Aires.

7 nights and 6 full days of fishing have a cost of \$7,550 per person, double occupancy, with one boat and guide per two anglers. This trip is limited to a total of 8 anglers.

INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- All lodging as described on the itinerary
- All meals, beer and wine
- Full-time guide and coordinator during the trip
- All charter flights and local ground transfers
- All the special services described on the itinerary
  Fishing license, all flies

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TRIP PRICE

- International Flights
- Any Buenos Aires expenses hotels, meals, transfers, etc
- Laundry
- Gratuities









## BONUS

#### Omnivorous Species At the Parana river

Pacu, is often referred to as the "permit of the river". They are often found feeding on or near the waters surface for fruit and insects and this can create some great sight fishing possibilities. Pacu are not known for their jumping ability but pound for pound are extremely hard fighting.

Pira Pita, known locally as the "salmon of the river", ranges in size from 2 to 12 pounds. Once hooked, this extremely hard fighting fish is known for its acrobatic displays and multiple jumps. Being an omnivorous species, they are targeted using large attractor flies that imitate insects, fruit, mice and even flowers. They are often fished for using lighter 6 and 7 weight rods. Fishing for Pacu and Pira Pita provides the perfect mid-daybreak from casting large flies to Dorado.

## GUIDES

At SET Fly Fishing we believe that our people make the difference that ensures our guests have a memorable lifetime experience. We are proud of our guide team which has grown and matured with the company over the past 20 years. Specific guide teams are focused on the same species, either trout or Dorado, throughout the entire season. This accounts for their high level of expertise on "their waters" and provides guests with the confidence that they are in experienced hands.





## **CHARTER FLIGHTS**

This itinerary features 3 charter flights to get you quickly and conveniently to your destinations. Both Buenos Aires flights will be aboard an 8 seat Cessna Grand Caravan EX. Flights between the two lodges will be aboard a 4 seat Cessna 206 aircraft. Two planes will be flown in order for the entire group to arrive at the same time.

## THE GEAR

For both the Upper Parana and Ibera we recommend the following equipment.

Rods: Dorado – 8 weight, 9 foot, fast action 4 piece with a good fighting butt. This weight rod allows you to cast large flies and lessen casting fatigue. It's nice to have two rods – one strung with a floating line and the other with an intermediate clear tip.

Pacu and Pira Pita – 6 or 7 weight, 9 foot, fast action 4 piece with a good fighting. These fish are found on the Upper Parana and not at Ibera. Clearly the primary target is Dorado but if the conditions are right you can fish for both Pacu and Pira Pita.

Reels: Two or three quality reels with good drag systems. All reels should be loaded with 150 yards of 30 pound backing.

Line: Lines need to be "tropical" due to the air and water temperatures.

#### SEASON AND WEATHER

For protective reasons, during the spawning months of November and December, the fishery closes. Our water conditions are stable and predictable throughout the season therefore every month fishes equally well. However, the outside temperatures and humidity are something to consider when planning your visit.









January through mid-March: Very warm and humid. Average daytime temperature will in the 80's to low 90's F and 70's F at night. The temperatures become cooler as you move from January to March. Nighttime temperature shouldn't be an issue as all common areas and bedrooms are air-conditioned.

Late April through May: Daytime temperatures between 70-80 F and nighttime temperatures in the 50's and 60's F. These cooler temperatures will push the smaller fish into deeper water. This can improve your odds of catching larger Dorado but the net result could be fewer smaller fish.

September and October: Usually sees daytime temperatures between the high 70's and low 80's F and nighttime temperatures in the range of 55-65 F. Surface flies such as mouse and lizard patterns are effective during this time of year.

Between mid January and mid February and then again between mid March and mid April: The pacu and pira pita feeding activity increases. These fish are omnivorous and take advantage of ripened fruit and beans that fall this time of year from overhanging trees.

