



Rewa Eco-Lodge/Arapaima Fishing Pre Trip Information:

Rewa Village is a small Amerindian community located in the North Rupununi forest in central Guyana. It is situated at the confluence of the Rewa and Rupununi rivers. Rewa is home to about 300 inhabitants, mostly from the Makushi tribe. The Rewa area is renowned for its abundance of wildlife. To make this unique resource more available to tourists, the Rewa Eco Lodge was built with a community grant provided by Conservation International. In the recent past, visiting bird enthusiasts noticed that the waters surrounding the area were teeming with giant *Arapaima gigas*, a fish nearly extinct throughout their natal waters of the Amazon basin and Central/South America. Several organizations including *Conservation International*, *USAID*, and *Costa Del Mar Sunglasses* began a project in 2010 to assess the strength of the fishery and the feasibility of pursuing the North Rupununi as a sport-fishing destination.

Travel:

Jet service from the US is relatively easy. Daily service from Miami International Airport is available to Georgetown, Guyana. Caribbean Airlines operates from Miami and/or Ft. Lauderdale to Georgetown. Suriname Air also operates from Miami and Ft. Lauderdale.

Once in Georgetown, excellent accommodations are in store at Cara Lodge, which is a short distance taxi ride from the airport. The morning following arrival in-country, anglers are picked up by an early taxi to nearby Ogle international airport, where they board a Brittan-Norman Islander, twin engine aircraft for the charter flight to the interior of Guyana. This flight is approximately 1 hour, 45 minutes. Upon landing in Apoteri, anglers are met by Rovin Alvin and Matt Breuer for a 1 hour upriver boat ride to Rewa Eco Lodge.

Once at the lodge, guests settle into a private cabana to unpack and stage their gear for a week's quest for Arapaima. After a soft drink or a cold Banks beer and a quick bite, guests have the immediate opportunity to break personal records, and perhaps world records, for a fly-caught freshwater fish. By the end of day one, guests will be well aware of the truly remarkable fishery that is interior Guyana.

Immunizations For Travel to Guyana:

You should be up to date on routine vaccinations while traveling in Guyana. Some vaccines may also be required for travel. Make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before every trip. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot. Vaccinations and/or medications against **Hepatitis A and B, Typhoid, Yellow Fever, Malaria, and Rabies** are recommended on the CDC website. For the latest information please refer to the CDC website: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>

Visas:

The Government of the Republic of Guyana has with effect from February 15th, 1993, abolished the visa requirement for the following countries:

North America

The United States of America and Canada

Western Europe

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ireland, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Norway, Finland, Switzerland, Sweden and Austria.

http://www.guyana.org/govt/visa_requirements.html

Recommended Gear:

Rewa Eco Lodge is a remote destination. If you don't bring all needed belongings to the lodge, then there is no opportunity to obtain replacements. However space and weight are an issue for the flights in and out. Pack wisely and use items that fill multiple purposes.

Tackle:***Arapaima gigas:***

Rods: 12 weight single-handed rods with a fixed fighting butt; Loomis NRX and Sage Xi3 have been proven performers with Arapaima.

Reels: Large arbor reels from Abel, Tibor, Nautilus, Hatch. The Arapaima do not typically run into the backing, but a very high-quality drag is needed to put adequate pressure on the large fish. As reel parts/maintenance can be challenging in the jungle, a sealed drag is recommended.

Fly Line: We have had a huge failure rate with traditional fly lines. Highly recommend are the Rio Leviathan lines in intermediate tip and floating. Bring multiple spares; not only do lines break but the red-bellied piranha bite them to pieces as well.

Arawana, Peacock Bass, and others:

Rods: 6-8 weight rods, Loomis NRX, Sage Xi3

Reels: Large arbor reels; Abel, Tibor, Nautilus, Hatch

Fly Line: Tropical Core floating lines. Again, bring spares (we lost a few to piranhas). It is also worth having an intermediate tip and a couple of sinking lines 200-300-400 for the river.

Flies: For all species bring your full arsenal of large streamers, poppers, gurglers. Fly selection for Arapaima is an evolving learning process and we will be tying flies daily to fill our needs. If you tie flies and wish to bring your own materials/vise that would be great. We tie most of our flies with the Enrico Puglisi Ultimate Fibers. The locals are developing their fly tying skills to have flies available for purchase as well.

Leaders and Tippet: a selection of Ande or other hard mono in 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 80 pounds –one of all except 80 which 2 would be ideal.

See link for the exact product:

<http://www.basspro.com/Ande-Monofilament-Leader-Skeins/product/2355/>.

A handful of leaders 10' 15lb leaders are useful for peacock bass and arawana.

Personal Gear / Clothing:

Lightweight tropical quick-dry clothing. It is worth having long pants and long sleeves for protection from the powerful equatorial UV rays.

Raingear: Simms makes good pac-lite rain gear suitable for hot climates.

Baseball cap or full-brimmed hat, UV Buff, sun gloves; whichever sun protection you prefer

Polarized Sunglasses: Costa 580, copper base lenses

Sunscreen: 45 SPF

Bug Repellent: 3M Ultrathon or equivalent

Lightweight hiking shoes/sandals: the hike to the ponds are short

Needle-nose pliers / long-handled hemostats (Kelly clamp)

Boga Grip or similar tool

Electronic: LED headlamp, iPad/personal tablet, camera, battery charger/spare batteries

Rewa Eco Lodge has satellite internet-wifi and a functional satellite phone available for \$5 per minute. There is also small generator to recharge cameras and computers.

This is admittedly a difficult trip to pack for; you are limited in weight on the charter flight but you need to operate under the assumption if you don't bring it, it won't exist. Fortunately, it is easy to go light on clothing as it is a very warm climate and it is possible to have clothing washed in camp, if needed.

Emergency:

Because of the remoteness of the Rupinuni forest and our fishing program in Rewa Eco Lodge we are now requiring all anglers to have evacuation insurance. Oliver White and Matt Breuer both personally maintain evacuation insurance policies with Global Rescue.

In the event of an emergency, it is reassuring to know that you have the best evacuation insurance available. The premium is small in comparison to what the policy will do for you when it is needed.

Global Rescue is committed to keeping its members safe. They provide the finest medical and security services from the world's top experts and emergency evacuations from around the globe.

<https://www.globalrescue.com>

2015 Spring Rates:

The price per angler is \$7,000.00 USD. The price includes: In-country transfers, 2 hour charter flight into and 2 hour flight out of the region; meals and accommodation at Rewa Eco Lodge, 6 days guided fishing, the Arapaima license.

Not included in the price: Round trip airfare in and out of Georgetown, Cara Lodge accommodation in Georgetown, meals in Georgetown, alcoholic beverages, flies, and terminal tackle at Rewa Eco Lodge, gratuity for fly fishing guides, boat captains and lodge staff.

Acceptable forms of payment include: Electronic Bank Wire Transfer, Personal Check, and US Dollars.

For further questions, please contact:

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