TROOP 599 OFFSHORE FISHING OUTING October 14-16, 2016



Questions and Answers

Are fishing licenses required for your trips?

Technically, salt water fishing licenses are required (for anyone 17 years and older) for both the bay and the deep sea trips. This rule is not strictly enforced by us as a company. The only time we check is if, on a bay trip, a customer catches an over-sized red fish and would like to keep it. There is a red fish tag on a state license for this purpose. Please keep in mind that, although we don't check for licenses, a Texas Game Warden could be waiting at the dock at anytime to do so.

The following is from Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) website:

Fishing License Packages

License Year Fishing Packages include a resident, senior resident, special resident, or non-resident fishing license valid from the date of sale to Aug. 31, 2012 and either a freshwater stamp endorsement, a saltwater stamp endorsement with a red drum tag, or both stamp endorsements valid for the same time period.

Senior Resident Fishing Packages are available to any Texas resident who is at least 65 years of age and was born on or after January 1, 1931. The packages include a senior resident fishing license and either a freshwater stamp endorsement, a saltwater endorsement with a red drum tag, or both depending on the package selected.

Special Resident All-Water Fishing License is available to any Texas resident who is legally blind. Stamp endorsements are not required for this license. One red drum tag shall be available at no additional charge.

One-Day All-Water Fishing License includes resident or non-resident fishing license valid for the selected day or days purchased. Stamp endorsements are not required for this license. Consecutive days may be bought at the time of purchase. One red drum tag shall be available at no additional charge with the purchase of the first one-day license only.

Year-from-Purchase All-Water Fishing Package (Texas residents only) includes a resident fishing license, a freshwater stamp endorsement and a saltwater stamp endorsement with a red drum tag, all valid from the date of purchase through the end of the purchase month of the next license year.

License Fees

Resident

- Freshwater Package \$30
- Saltwater Package \$35
- All-Water Package \$40
- Senior Freshwater Package \$12
- Senior Saltwater Package \$17
- Senior All-Water Package \$22

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- Special Resident All-Water License (for legally blind) \$7
- Year-from-Purchase All-Water Package \$47
- One-Day All-Water License \$11

Please note that if you own any valid freshwater fishing package, you will be able to purchase a saltwater stamp endorsement, and conversely, if you own any valid saltwater fishing package you will be able to purchase a freshwater stamp endorsement

What does the ticket price include?

The ticket price includes the rod, reel, and squid bait. Food, fishing licenses, and fish cleaning are additional, as is the optional (but appreciated) gratuity. As an option for additional offshore bait, Spanish sardines are sold on the dock for \$15. Please bring cash for the above purchases.

What kind of gear do you use? Can I bring my own?

We use 6ft medium-action rods, 4/0 open-faced reels (Penn 113s) with 80-100lb test, and 10/0 circle hooks. Please note it is federal regulation to use circle hooks while red snapper fishing. This gear is furnished on all of our trips, but the 30hr tuna trips require the customer to supply his/her own tuna jigs and plugs. We do allow customers to bring their own rod and reel, but ask that they provide their own tackle. A small tackle box is allowed onboard for customers choosing to bring their own gear. Due to limited spacing, we only allow fishing with one rod at a time.

What can I bring on the boat?

Customers are allowed to bring small, soft-sided 6-pack sized coolers onboard. We do NOT allow hard coolers, Styrofoam coolers, glass, strollers, car seats, buckets, or alcohol to be brought on board. Customers are also allowed to bring on backpacks or beach bags with personal items, and small tackle boxes if they choose to bring on their own rods.

Do you sell food on the boat?

We have a grill on our vessel that serves food and drinks at fast food prices. Customers are also allowed to bring on soft-sided coolers with food and drinks.

What amenities do your boats have?

Both of our boats have an air-conditioned and heated galley, a grill with food available at fast food prices, café style seating, his-and-hers restrooms, and a sundeck.

What is the best time of year to catch fish?

We usually catch more fish when the water is warm. Historically, this has been between April and October. This applies to both the bay and the deep sea trips.

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When is the red snapper season open?

The federal red snapper season opens and closes at the whim of the federal government. This season is strictly enforced by our company. When we can't keep red snapper, we focus on the other fish listed under "expected catches" in the pricing section of this website.

Are there any guarantees on catching fish?

Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee a catch. That is the nature of fishing.

What kind of fish are we likely to catch?

For the following type trip you might (no guarantees) catch any of the following:

BAY AND JETTY 4-HOUR TRIP 5-7Miles in Galveston Bay:

Expected Catches:

Red & Black Drum, Croaker, Sand Trout, Whiting, Shark, Gafftop, Spanish Mackerel, Stingray, Angel Fish, etc.

How do we get our fish cleaned? Do you pack for travel?

We have cleaning tables for the use of our customers. Also, there are men at the dock who offer a cleaning service. They are not employed through us, <u>so they do charge a separate</u>, <u>but reasonable</u>, <u>price</u>. Unfortunately, we do not pack for travel. However, <u>we do sell ice</u>, so customers are welcome to bring coolers to leave in their vehicles.

General Information:

The trip is scheduled to sail at 1:30 p.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. and will run rain or shine. Please check in at least 45 minutes prior to scheduled departure time for tickets.

Our trips will provide rod and reels, tackle, squid bait, stringer and ice for the catch aboard the vessel for each customer fishing and will run rain or shine. Crew members will gladly assist with any fishing questions, regulations or other concerns. A state fishing license is required for ages 17 and up. Ages 16 and under can purchase an exempt angler tag for red drum. Licenses and tags may be purchased in our office, but recommended time for purchase is 90 minutes before sailing. When the trip returns to the dock, there will be fish cleaning available by several gentlemen who charge a small fee. Please be aware that a 'tip bucket' is normally passed at the end of the trip by the crew for your consideration of their alertness and camaraderie.

The passenger cabin is heated or air conditioned and has café style seating in booths. The grill and galley will have breakfast, plenty of great hot and cold sandwiches, burgers, drinks and other items at 'fast food' prices. A 6-pack size soft cooler (insulated bag) per person is okay to bring for your snacks and personal items.

Paid parking at the pier is \$5.00 for the day.