

PRE-TRIP INFORMATION

Amirante Quo Vadis Charter

WELCOME TO YOUR ULTIMATE FISHING EXPERIENCE...



MAHÉ

35 minute

AMIRANTE ARCHIPELAGO

Get Ready for a Trip of a Lifetime ...

The Amirante Archipelago lies south-west of the extensive, shallow-water Seychelles Bank in the western Indian Ocean and comprises of a group of carbonate island and islets extending over a distance of approximately 152km, from 4°52'S, African Banks, to 6°14'S, Desnoeufs Atoll. Most of the islands are sea-level coral reef platforms with varying degrees of subaerial sand cay and coral island development.

The Amirantes Bank is an elongate structure, measuring approximately 180km by 35km, deepest in its central zone with a marginal rim at water depths of 11 – 27m.

95km further south are the atolls of Alphonse, Bijoutier and St Francois. Desroches Island lies 16km east of the Amirantes Bank.







African Banks

Remire



WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT Fishing in the Amirante Archipelago

Your Quo Vadis liveaboard trip is unique in the fact that anglers have the opportunity to fish up to six areas during the charter. Poivre, Sand Cay, African Banks and Remire Atolls are blessed with its wide array of thriving and unexploited marine life.

It's a diverse place offering great offshore fishing for various pelagic and resident species as well as spectacular on shore flats fly fishing for bonefish and permit. However, beyond the diverse offering of fishing adventures to choose from, what makes the Amirantes one of the most desirable fishing destinations is its remote nature; the islands are largely undeveloped, allowing you to explore the untouched beauty these atolls have to offer.

For expert fisher man and beginners alike, the Amirantes has a huge variety of hard fighting adversaries, which can be caught with various techniques of your choice.

We practice a strict catch-and-release fishing policy, except for limited fish that are taken for the kitchen.



THE FISHING

GAME FISHING

The Amirantes has some of the greatest offshore angling that the Seychelles waters has to offer, and the beauty is that all the spots are easily accessible by Quo Vadis. The offshore structure is ideal, with a mixture of rings of sunken coral atolls, sheer drop offs, ridges and ledges, all of which are teeming with game fish. Anglers enjoy exploring the edges of the famous "Ledge", the "Amirantes Trench", "Sand Cay Banks" as well as the other rims and coral reef platforms, while targeting the diversity of species both pelagic and reef that can be caught by using various methods. Fish like sailfish, wahoo, dogtooth tuna, yellowfin tuna, dorado, giant trevally, bluefin trevally, jobfish, tropical amberjack and a large variety of snapper, wrasse and grouper can be caught on any given day.

BLUEWATER FLY FISHING

If you have never fought a sailfish, wahoo or yellowfin tuna, to name a few, on the fly, you are at the right place! The deep blue depths provide a prolific feeding ground for various fish species as the constant flow of rich currents well-up against the drop offs, ledges and ridges of the Amirantes. Anglers can start fishing for sailfish a mere 10 minutes away from Desroches as the fishing grounds are a mere two miles from Quo Vadis's mooring. The pelagics are often lured to the boat by trawling a spread of teasers. Once they are within casting range, the hook-less teasers are removed and the angler casts a fly. The reef species can be targeted by dredging with a heavy sink tip fly line and a Mega Clouser. There is also the option of targeting both pelagic and reef species that congregate around the shoals of baitfish, such as fusiliers and scads.

FLY FISHING ONSHORE

Catching a permit on fly is an experience that every saltwater fly angler aspires to achieve. The broken coral and turtle grass flats surrounding Poivre, Remire and African Banks are the perfect habitat for these graceful feeders. Poivre is known as the atoll with the most prolific populations of indo-pacific permit in the Seychelles. On certain tides, there are also good numbers of bonefish in the four to eight pound range, which feed on the edge of the atoll. Poivre is purely a wading destination and anglers get to stalk these finicky feeders on foot as they hypnotize anglers with the waving of their sickle tails.



WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

Remote Untouched Islands

AFRICAN BANKS

The African Banks lies about 230km west of Mahé and the nearest island is Rémire lying 27km south. The group is a pseudo, has two small islands, which appear as just small sandstone ridges exposed only at low tide. The underwater bank extend over four kilometers north to south, three kilometers east to west and occupy a total area of about 10 square kilometers. The shallow coral ring is incomplete with the western edge varying between 19 to 36 meters deep.



RÉMIRE ISLAND (EAGLE ISLAND)

Situated 245km south of Mahé, Rémire is a tiny island only measuring 300 square meters. It is about halfway between African Banks, which is 25km north, and D'Arros Island 31.5km to the south. 2.5km west of Remire lies the southern edge of Remire Reef, which is detached and makes for a great fishing area.

POIVRE ATOLL

Poivre lies 268km south of Mahé and is situated on the eastern edge of Amirante Bank. It's a small atoll, which is made up of two islands, Poivre and Ile du Sud, occupying the cardinal points of the compass. These islands are separated by a shallow lagoon which extends all the way back into ile du Sud on a high tide. This area has the best of both worlds with mind blowing flats that will excite any fly fishing enthusiast, and arguably the best game fishing area that the Amirante Atoll's have to offer. Situated on the eastern edge of the Amirante Trench which steadily steps down to 1200 meters only a few kilometers from shore, the area is synonymous for its great bluewater fishing. One of these renowned areas is the appropriately named "kennels" that is home to record breaking dog tooth tuna. Poivre is known as the best indo pacific permit fishery in the Seychelles.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

The snorkeling around the pirouetting coral heads and walls of the Amirates is simply out of this world. There are snorkeling outfits on board for your use.

The kayaking along the edge of the islands on a high tides givesgueststheopportunity to see the magnificent bounty of turtles, rays, fish, and various other sea creatures, which call the Amirantes their home. There will be two kayaks onboard which you are welcome to explore with.



ADDITIONAL BOATS - PRE-BOOKING REQUIRED

To add to the experience Alphonse Fishing Co. has an array of sportfishing boats that can be chartered to accompany Quo Vadis during the cruise. All these vessels are skippered by our experienced and professional Alphonse Fishing Co. Captains.

Should you require additional boats for your charter, please book this in advance with the reservations team.









QUO VADIS TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS	
ENGINES	2 x Cummins QSB5.9-305 MC
WATER MAKER	2 x Osmosea – 150 litres per hour
GENERATORS	2 x 16KVA Vetus Marine
LIFE RAFTS	2 x 6 Pax Duarry Solas
NAVIGATION	1 x Garmin GPSMAP 1020XS, 1 x Garmin Radar GMR 24XHD
TENDERS	20 ft Geminin rib with 2 x 70hp engines 8ft Gemini rib with a 15hp engine
CREW	Captain, First Mate, Deckhand, Chef 3 Fly Fishing Guides
ACCOMMODATION CONFIGURATION	
CABIN 1	1 x King Size Bed OR 2 x Twin Beds (En-Suite) (Forward Port Side)
CABIN 2	1 x King Size Bed OR 2 x Twin Beds (En-Suite) (Aft Port Side)
CABIN 3	1 x King Size Bed OR 2 x Twin Beds (En-Suite) (Forward Starboard Side)
CABIN 4	1 x King Size Bed OR 2 x Twin Beds (En-Suite) (Aft Starboard Side) (For Guides)
FEATURES	Open entertainment area with ample seating, trampoline, air conditioning, 8 seater dining table on aft deck



Quo Vadis is an exceptional 750 luxury expedition catamaran that is well equipped for exploring the most remote atolls of the Seychelles.

Designed with a high bridge and deck, she ensures quiet and smooth voyages across the Indian Ocean. Her shallow draft allows passage to areas that most vessels of this size can't access. This beautiful catamaran boasts an easy-flowing and spacious saloon with a well-appointed bar and breakfast counter. The aft deck is equally as spacious with a large eight seater dining table, two daybeds, bench seating, cocktail tables and a barbeque.

The four fully airconditioned twin or kings size guest cabins, with en-suite bathrooms are luxurious by expedition yacht standards. All cabins and indoor areas are fully air conditioned, allowing guests a chance to relax after a long days fishing. All meals, snacks, drinks and a selection of alcoholic beverages are included. Laundry is complimentary and is done on a daily basis. To add to the experience she is equipped with dive equipment, dive compressor, snorkelling gear, stand-up paddle boards, kayaks and two tenders.

The crew consists of a Captain, First Mate, Deckhand, Chef and three Alphonse Fishing Co. Guides, who cater for your every need. The chef prepares a mix of Creole and international cuisine which incorporates fresh fish daily.

We accommodate up to four fishermen per trip in a combination of single and sharing cabins. Quo Vadis is only available on an exclusive charter basis and caters comfortably to groups of between three to six guests. She is fully rigged to cater for fly fishing, game fishing and spin fishing groups.





IMPORTANT POINTS Please Take Note...

WEATHER

Seychelles is typically hot and somewhat humid with midday temperatures hovering at $\pm 35^{\circ}$ Celsius ($\pm 90^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit). Evenings are also invariably warm with the exception of the first and last few weeks of the season, when there may be a strong, cooling breeze.

THE FISHING SEASON

The main fishing season runs from early October to the end of May.

HOURS OF DAYLIGHT

Due to its proximity to the equator, there is no real twilight in the Seychelles. The sun rises quickly at around 06h15, and sets with equal swiftness at about 18h30. This varies by only minutes throughout the year, giving nearly a full 12 hours of daylight for 365 days a year.

CONSERVATION DONATION

There is a conservation donation of US\$30 per person per night or \$210 per person for the week for anglers. These funds are donated to the Alphonse Foundation for the preservation of nature in the Seychelles.

FROM SCENE OF ACCIDENT MEDIVAC INSURANCE

You are required to obtain "From Scene of Accident Medivac Insurance". Please supply these details prior to arrival. Alphonse Island and agents cannot assume any financial responsibility for consequences incurred if this has not been obtained.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Guests are required to take out travel insurance that covers part or full cancellation of a trip due to flight delays, health, weather, force majeure or any other reason.

INDEMNITY FORM

You are required to sign an indemnity form before boarding the transfer vessel.

ENTRY INTO SEYCHELLES

Every visitor who intends to travel to the Seychelles must have an approved, valid Travel Authorization or Disembarkation Information Form. Applications can only be made up to five days prior to your arrival date in Seychelles. There are different requirements for travel to the Seychelles for citizens, permit holders and visitors. Please pay attention to the required documents that apply to you or your group. A yellow fever vaccination is needed if you are traveling to Seychelles from a yellow fever endemic region. If you are transiting through an airport of a yellow fever endemic region for less than 12 hours you do not need yellow fever vaccination. You need this certificate to apply for your Travel Authorisation. For more information and to apply, refer to the Seychelles Immigration website: <u>seychelles.govtas.com</u>.

WATER CONSUMPTION

There is a reverse osmosis water maker on Quo Vadis, and water from the faucets is safe to drink. We do not stock mineral water on board and will only supply it if you specifically requested prior to your arrival.

FLIGHTS

You will need to arrive in Mahé the day before your trip as any delay on the day of departure will certainly cause the trip to be missed. It's as important for return flights to be booked the next day after arriving back in Mahé as any delays may cause you to miss your international flights. The group meets an hour before the scheduled departure time at the IDC hangar terminal. After the 35 minute flight to Desroches Island, you will be met by the Alphonse Fishing Co. crew and transferred to Quo Vadis. On the last evening, Quo Vadis will sail back to Desroches where you will overnight onboard. The IDC charter flight will collect your group for your flight back to Mahé. Flights are scheduled for Saturdays and Wednesdays allowing for four, seven, 10 and 14 night stays.

Alternatively private charters can be arranged to suite any dates required. It is also possible to fly into Poivre. Please contact us for more information.

LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

Your check in luggage is strictly limited to 15kg (33 pounds) per person, and 5kg (12 pounds) carry-on luggage. If it is not possible to load extra luggage, it will have to be repacked and left on Mahé until your return.

It is suggested to use lighter soft-shell luggage. Pack a separate bag with excess equipment to avoid having to repack. Excess luggage can be left with an Alphonse representative at the hangar.





FISHING CLOTHING

Lightweight long sleeve shirts and long pants that can be zipped off are recommended. Sunscreen with a minimum protection factor of at least 30 is required for any exposed skin areas. A buff is of great importance for sun protection of your face. Sun gloves will help protect your hands. See checklist at the end of this document.

COMMUNICATION ON QUO VADIS

There is a satellite phone on Quo Vadis for emergencies. If you need to use the phone you may do so and will be charged US\$12 / minute.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The vessel has 24-hour electrical current (240 volt, 50 cycles AC) with British plug points. A European electrical current adapter (3-point, square-pin) is necessary.

CONTACT

We suggest you leave the contact details of Alphonse Island Lodge with your family members in case they need to contact you. The Lodge will then send a message to Quo Vadis for you.

Alphonse Island: +248 422 9700 (GMT+04:00).

GRATUITIES

If you wish to show appreciation to the staff please use the below as a guideline based on average tips given. General vessel staff \pm US\$300 per person per week [US\$50 per day] guideline. Fishing Guides a US\$600 per angler per week [US\$85 per day] guideline.

Any tips may be left with the captain upon leaving the vessel, tips will be will divided equally between respective teams. Any gratuities will be much appreciated by the staff and we thank you for your generosity.

CURRENCY

You do not need to change your US\$ (US Dollars), \in (Euros) or \pm (Pounds) into the local currency. We accept US Dollars, Euros and Pounds and all major credit and debit cards. We do not accept American Express.

DUTY FREE ALLOWANCE

200 cigarettes or 50 cigars, 1 litres spirits and 2 litres wine.

PAYMENT TERMS

Reservations will be held for 2 weeks. 50% deposit required to confirm the booking, final payment is to be made 3 month prior to arrival.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Should you need to cancel your trip, at this stage of the booking, a fee of 100% will be levied. This cancellation must be confirmed in writing.

- A 10% fee shall be levied if cancellation is made more than 180 days prior to arrival.
- A 10% fee shall be levied if the reservation is moved to an alternative date within the same year.
- A 50% fee shall be levied if cancellation is between 180 and 90 days prior to arrival.
- A 100% fee shall be levied if cancellation is 90 days or less prior to arrival.
- Private island bookings require a 50% non-refundable deposit with final payment 90 days prior to travel.
- All cancellations and provisional bookings must be confirmed in writing.
- Bank fees associated with refunds are for the clients' account.



WADING

The hard white sand, turtlegrass or coral flats of the Seychelles make for easy wading, separating it from other destinations in the world. As most of the fishing will be done whilst wading, good protectivefootwearisessential.Standarddiver's neoprenebooties with are inforced rubbers ole are not appropriate. Amore protective flats wading boots must be worn. There are a number of purpose made boots on the market, which are excellent. See suggested brands in tackle and gear check list at the end of this document.

DANGERS TO WATCH OUT FOR WHILST WADING

Stingrays: Some atolls host large numbers of stingrays on the flats. Most species have a venomous, barbed spine near the base of their tails that they can use for defence. These spines can inflict a nasty wound, should an unwary wader in advertently stand on a stingray. These often sedentary or slow moving fish are easy to see and avoid, and to date no anglers have had any problems with these docile creatures.

Stonefish: Found mainly in the shallows on the coral edges of reef flats, stone-fish are not only lethally toxic but are also very well camouflaged and will not move unless touched.

A stonefish has 13 strong hollow spines through which it injects its venomand these will pass through a thin rubber sole with ease. For this reason all wading should be done wearing thick-soled wading boots.

Cone Shells: Fish-eating cones live in crevices among the coral or half covered by sand awaiting their prey which they attack by shooting out a dart that injects a paralysing venom. The venom from certain species can be fatal, however proper footwear will ensure your safety.

Sharks: Frequently encountered whilst wading in Seychelles, sharks are inquisitive and may pause for an instant and give you the once over, but if you remain calm and quietly stand your ground, these magnificent creatures will not bother you.



TACKLE & GEAR Check List

FLY FISHING TACKLE

Fly fishing outfits consisting of Thomas and Thomas fly rods and Shilton reels, loaded with 300 yards of Cortland braided backing can be loaned at no charge. Fly lines will need to be purchased and it is recommended that you pre-order a fly pack for your charter, which would include all the flies you would need for the various different species on offer. There is a full range of flies that are custom tied for Alphonse destinations on the right hooks and with the correct material. All tackle sales may be settled at the end of your trip. All rod breakages are for your account and will be billed at US\$150 per rod.

RECOMMENDED FLY FISHING EQUIPMENT:

FLY FISHING TACKLE

PERMIT, BONEFISH, TRIGGERFISH & MILKFISH OUTFIT

- 2 x 9-foot 9# or 10# weight fly rod (1 x Spare)
- 1 x High quality large arbor saltwater series reel, with a strong smooth drag to match the weight of the fly rod. Load the reel with two to three hundred yards of 50lbs braid.
- 1 x High quality weight forward tropical floating line, suitable for warm water conditions.

TREVALLY, BARRACUDA & BLUEWATER OUTFIT

- 2 x 9-foot 12-weight fly rod (1 x Spare)
- 1 x High quality large arbor saltwater series reel, with a strong smooth drag to match the 12-weight fly rod. The reel should be loaded with three hundred yards of 80lbs braid.
- 1 x High quality weight forward 10-weight tropical floating line, suitable for warm water conditions.

TERMINAL TACKLE

- 1 x 15lb fluorocarbon tippet material
- 1 x 20lb fluorocarbon tippet material
- 25lb fluorocarbon tippet material
- 130lbs Suffix Zippy soft mono

FLIES

It is critical that all anglers carry a complete selection of flies tied the correct way with the correct materials and on the correct hooks. We recommend the following fly selection, which will cover all your fishing. There is a really good selection of flies, which are specific to the Amirantes that can be purchased when on location.

PERMIT & TRIGGERFISH

- 12 x Alphlexo #2 (Various colours)
- 2 x James's Sand Prawn #2
- 2 x James's Sand Prawn #4
- 4 x Fleeing Crab Cream/ Salmon Pink Orange Legs #2

BONEFISH

- 4 x Gotchas #6
- 4 x Christmas Island Special (Orange) #6
- 4 x Pillow Talk # 6
- 4 x Fleeing Crab Cream/Tan #8

MILKFISH

4 x Milkydream Chartreuse or Olive Rams Wool #2

GIANT TREVALLY, BLUEFIN TREVALLY & BARRACUDA

- 4 x GT Brush Fly #5/0 SC15-2H
- 2 x Not Your Average Popper (NYAP) #8/0

BLUEWATER & BILLFISH

- 8 x Deep-throat Dredging Flies #8/0
- 2 x Pink, White & Purple Cam Seglar Sailfish Tube Tandem #8/0 x 2













CONVENTIONAL FISHING TACKLE

Quo Vadis is fully rigged with a selection of rods, reels and lures for trawling, which is included in the package. There will be a limited selection of casting lures and jigs for sale on Quo Vadis. We strongly suggest you bring your own range of specialized rods and reels as well as a selection of lures. Lighter rods reels and lures will also need to be provided by the guests.

CLOTHING & ACCESSORY Check List		
Although a minimal amount of clothing is required when fishing the flats, it is important to follow the recommended list.		
3 x UV Proof Flats Shirt (Soft natural colours – Bright colours alert fish!)		
1 x UV Proof zip-off pants (Soft natural colours)		
1 x UV Proof short pants (Soft natural colours)		
1 x Rain jacket (must be lightweight)		
1 x Sungloves		
1 x Cycling / Lycra shorts for wearing under your flats shorts to prevent chafing		
 1 x Flats wading boot, with thick soles and good ankle support (Please refrain from using neoprene booties. They do not offer adequate protection!) 		
1 x Gravel guards		
1 x Waterproof fly box to prevent your flies from rusting.		
2 x Polarized sunglasses (Costa Del Mar's 580 amber and green mirror lenses)		
1 x Sunscreen (SPF 30+)		
1 x Lip Block		
2 x Buffs		
1 x Hat/Cap		
1 x Stripping gloves		
1 x Waterproof backpack		
1 x Headlamp / Torch		
1 x Soft tissue for drying & cleaning lenses.		
1 x Pliers for removing hooks and squashing barbs		

We hope this information helps to enhance your fishing experience at Alphonse Island. Should there be any further assistance you require, please do not hesitate to contact us on

reservations@alphonsefishingco.com

-Blue Sal