

Prepared for Blue Safari Fishing

# BLUE SAFARI FLY FISHING SEYCHELLES

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## Platte Island

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Platte Island, named after its flat appearance, is a small, isolated island located 130km south of Mahé. This remarkably remained relatively uninhabited until the Waldorf Astoria Hotel was constructed in 2023. Platte is recognised as a pseudo-atoll because it lacks a lagoon, instead featuring a barrier reef that creates a lagoon-like environment on the western side of the Atoll. The barrier reef stretches for 7.4 kilometres in length and 1 kilometre in width, offering excellent wadeable flats. Additionally, the submerged reef area with scattered pancake flats is much larger, providing ideal conditions for hunting ambush predators such as GTs and grouper.

Platte's beauty and diverse marine life make it a haven for nature enthusiasts and adventurers seeking an unspoiled paradise.

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### *At a Glance*

- Located 130 km and a 20 minute flight south of Mahé in the Seychelles.
- Unique atoll, providing a different fishing experience.
- Diverse offshore fishing for various pelagic species as well as spectacular on shore flats fly fishing for triggerfish, GTs and permit.
- Accommodate 4 anglers per trip in the luxurious Waldorf Astoria Hotel (50rooms)
- Scheduled flights depart and return to Mahé domestic terminal every day.
- Similar time zone to Europe, African and Middle East.

### **Hightlights**

- Indo-pacific Permit hot spot
- Perfect mix of fishing and a luxury family holiday
- A tropical paradise in the Indian Ocean that's brimming with wildlife both on land and underwater
- Six restaurants and bars from an award-winning chef
- Enjoy an array of programs including eco-awareness education, fly fishing, outdoor cinema, and snorkelling
- Previously unfished and uninhabited.
- Easy beach access, with the ocean only meters away
- Impeccable service, cuisine, activities and experiences

## Platte Island Fishing

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The fish populations surrounding Platte remain among the most pristine in the world, offering exciting flats sight-fishing and venturing a bit further, the reef topography provides exceptional bluewater fishing experiences.

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### *Flats fishing*

The flats of Platte Atoll are truly exceptional, offering a distinctive landscape with a unique barrier reef and a deep open lagoon area behind it, featuring scattered pancake flats. What sets Platte apart is that most of the atoll is accessible at all tides, providing excellent fishing opportunities throughout the day, regardless of the time. This accessibility makes Platte an ideal destination for short half-day fishing trips when tides are favourable, or for introducing your partner to fly fishing.

It also serves as a great warm-up before heading to one of our outer islands. Platte Atoll is home to a good population of permit, offering a challenge for anglers. The slightly deeper lagoon also opens up opportunities to catch numerous species of tropical fish on fly, with up to 60 species including various trevally, grouper, and snapper species.

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### *Bluewater fishing*

Platte Atoll is a paradise for offshore game fishers, offering anglers the exhilarating opportunity to catch some of the world's strongest and fastest fish. Among the commonly targeted gamefish species are tuna, sailfish, and wahoo. Anglers can begin fishing a mere 5 minutes from the island, with fishing grounds on your doorstep. Anglers can choose to fish conventionally as well as with flyfishing gear for the Pelagic species on offer. Anglers can opt for either a half or full day to target some of the hard-fighting fish available.

Our vessels are specifically designed and equipped to target these game fish, providing many memorable days of fishing off Platte.

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### *Vessels and Guides*

There are two purpose built Baymaster skiffs that are on anchorage on Platte Island. These skiffs will be skippered by our experienced, world class and professional Alphonse Fishing Co. Guides. Their passion and dedication is infectious and rest assured they will go the extra mile in search of your fish of a lifetime. Angling teams will be split up into groups of two anglers per skiff and guide.

In addition to the skiffs, we offer a 36ft Gulf Craft Touring vessel with two 300 Yamaha outboards. This boat is ideal for offshore bluewater fishing, fly-fishing, scuba diving, and blue safaris. Known for its smooth ride on the ocean, this vessel ensures that fishing and diving excursions are extremely comfortable even in slightly rough seas.

## Platte Island Fishing

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The final vessel in our fleet is a 51ft Leopard power catamaran. Led by an expert captain and a highly skilled deckhand, this boat offers day charters, sunset cruises, and long-distance fishing excursions that are truly unforgettable. Renowned for being one of Leopard's most stable and comfortable vessels, it provides some of the smoothest sailing experiences in the Seychelles. The spacious saloon, aft and fore decks allow for comfortable sailing all day long, giving guests plenty of room to bask in the sun or seek shade during the heat of the day. Whether you're looking for a day of sailing, comfortable fishing trips, scuba diving, snorkelling to see the Seychelles' famous species, or a combination of activities, the Leopard power catamaran is the perfect choice for you.

### *Our Guides:*

- Are professional, passionate and extremely experienced with all facets of fly fishing in these remote saltwater destinations.
- Are fluent in English [some speak French and Creole].
- Carry waterproof VHF radios and are in constant communication with each other as well as the base.
- Are qualified skippers, with STCW qualifications and have impeccable boat handling skills.
- Have first aid experience.
- Have pioneered many of the techniques in catching the various species that call Seychelles home eg: milkfish & triggerfish.

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### *Seasons*

Platte island is open year around, with the primary fishing season being September - May. 2 rods available year-round

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### *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 protective footwear is essential. Standard diver's neoprene booties with a reinforced rubber sole are not appropriate. A more 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.



## Seychelles Species

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### *Bonefish (Albula vulpes)*

Platte Atoll has a small population of bonefish in the 4 to 6lbs range. On both incoming and falling tides bonefish can be found in small schools on the outer edges of the flats surrounding Platte island.

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### *Moustache Triggerfish (Balistoides viridescens)*

Platte Island has a good population of moustache triggerfish that are mostly targeted on the outer reefs or on the turtle grass flats. These colourful characters grow in excess of 12lbs and can be targeted throughout the tidal cycle.

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### *Indo-Pacific Permit (Trachinotus blochii)*

Platte Island is a prime destination for targeting Indo-Pacific permit with, one of the healthiest populations of permit in the Seychelles. Tides are crucial when targeting them successfully on Platte.

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### *Yellowmargin Triggerfish (Pseudobalistes flavimarginatus)*

Platte Island has a healthy population of yellowmargin triggerfish that can be targeted on the outer reefs as well as in the lagoon on the flats at low tide. These colourful characters that grow in excess of 10lbs can be targeted throughout the tidal cycle.

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### *Giant Trevally (Caranx ignobilis)*

Platte Island is not known for an expansive population of GTs like that of our outer atolls. Whilst this is the case there are daily opportunities for this notorious fish. Walking in the surf areas as well as poling the lagoon is the best way to target GT's.

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### *Bluefin Trevally (Caranx melampygus)*

Bluefin trevally are distributed throughout the tropical waters of the world with populations varying according to fishing pressure. Areas like Platte, that have shallow lagoons, support healthy populations of juveniles, which contribute immensely to the overall population. The typical size of fish would be from 18 cm to 80 cm, with an 80 cm specimen being a trophy.

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### *Indo - Pacific Sailfish (Istiophorus platypterus)*

The sailfish is the fastest fish in the ocean and named after its large dorsal fin, which extends most of the length of its body. These acrobatic fighters can be found in the deeper waters that surround Platte Island.

## Seychelles Species

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### *Dogtooth Tuna (Gymnosarda unicolor)*

Dogtooth tuna are a resident-pelagic fish that are found along the drop-offs in good numbers in the Seychelles. They patrol continental shelf drop-offs and frequent depths between 50 and 150 ft, which are found relatively close to shore around the atoll. These fish can be targeted by dredging with a heavy sink tip fly line and a Mega Clouser.

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### *Barracuda (Sphyraena barracuda)*

These fearsome looking creatures are extremely fast and jump when hooked. Larger barracuda, which grow to over 240 cm, are more or less solitary in their habits and hunt alone when on the flats. Although all of our destinations have decent numbers of barracuda, Platte island doesn't have a large population.

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### *Wahoo (Acanthocybium solandri)*

The Seychelles waters are known for their incredible numbers of wahoo due to the rich currents that flow close to the atolls. Reaching speeds of up to 80 kilometres per hour, the wahoo is the third fastest fish in the sea. Wahoo are caught in fair numbers offshore of Platte island when actively targeted.

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### *Yellowfin Tuna (Thunnus albacares)*

Yellowfin Tuna migrate through out the Seychelles year-round following bait and particular ocean currents. As a result the tuna caught around Platte Island fluctuates, with the majority of catches being seen at the start and end of the season. When actively targeted offshore yellowfin tuna can be caught in good numbers surrounding Platte.

## Tackle & Gear Checklist

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### Rod & Reel Loan

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. It's important that angler's pre book the rod hire to insure that we have sufficient stock. Anglers can either purchase fly lines in the shop or bring fly lines from home to accompany their respective hire rods. All rod breakages are for your account and will be billed at US\$150 per rod.

### Tackle & Gear

The lodge will have a range of fly lines, flies and various other items for sale should you run out. Any tackle that is needed can be pre-ordered and will be delivered to the lodge for your arrival. All tackle sales may be settled at the end of your trip upon check out.

### Recommended 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.

### Recommended 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.

### Recommended Giant Trevally, Bluefin Travelly, Barracuda & Bluewater

- 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 meters of 80lbs braid.
- 1 x High quality heavy weight forward tropical floating line, suitable for warm water conditions.
- 1x 750 grain sinking line for dreoging

### Terminal Tackle

- 1 x 15lb fluorocarbon tippet material
- 1 x 20lb fluorocarbon tippet material
- 1 x 25lb fluorocarbon tippet material
- 1 x 100 lbs Shilton mono leader

## Tackle & Gear Checklist

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### 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. A full selection of flies, which are specific to Platte Island that can be purchased when on location.

### Bonefish

- 4 x Gotchas #6
- 4 x Golden Knight #6
- 4 x Pillow Talk # 6

### Permit & Triggerfish

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

### Giant Trevally, Bluefin Trevally & Barracuda

- 4 x GT Brush Fly #5/0 SC15-2H
- 4 x GT Bucktail Deceivers # 8/0 SL12S
- 4 x GT Barrel Popper #8/0 SL125

### Bluewater & Billfish

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



## Waldorf Astoria Seychelles Platte Island



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### *Property Overview*

Platte is a uniquely isolated island, a perfect example of a castaway island in the Indian Ocean. Its ecosystem is pristine and untouched, with minimal human impact over the years. Daily encounters on Platte provide evidence of its remote and preserved nature. The island serves as an important breeding and refuge area for birds and turtles alike. Brown noddies and white-tailed tropic birds nest here, while lesser noddies and bridled terns roost on the island at night. Hawksbill turtles are regular nesters, often wandering up to your doorstep.

Accessible by private plane only, Platte is a tropical paradise in the Indian Ocean. Relax in paradise in one of 50 seaside rooms and villas. Each villa provides a secluded tropical oasis featuring a private pool, spacious patio, and bohemian décor.

Enjoy sustainable garden-to-table dining at one of their six restaurants. The diverse island provides a variety of fruits and vegetables offering a unique culinary experience. Choose from fresh oysters, tapas, Afro-Latin fusion, and more.

Embark on a journey of self-discovery on Platte Island and enjoy a range of amenities including a serene spa, public outdoor pool, tennis court, beach access, and more.

## Waldorf Astoria Seychelles Platte Island

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### *Accommodation*

#### **Hawksbill Villa**

Relax in this thoughtfully designed 141 m2 villa, which sleeps two guests and features a bedroom with one king-sized bed and an expansive separate living room. Enjoy outdoor living, as the villa opens onto a spacious deck with its own private pool and outdoor dining space. Revel in direct beachfront access and invigorate your senses with an outdoor shower. Other amenities include an espresso machine, free wifi, a minibar, bathrobe, and slippers.

## Platte Island Activities

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Snorkelling around the pirouetting coral heads and barrier reef of Platte Island is an otherworldly experience. Guests can hire snorkelling gear at the centre or bring their own to discover the beauty beneath the surface. Kayaking along the island's edge during high tide offers a chance to witness the abundance of turtles, rays, fish, and other sea creatures that call Platte home. Kayaks and SUP boards are readily available for guests to explore with.

## Platte Island General Information

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### **Access Document**

- [Platte Island Access Document](#)

### **Getting there**

- The Seychelles is a four-and-a-half-hour flight from Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Doha which will serve as a connecting hub for regular international flights from Europe, the United States, Africa and Asia.
- There are easy connections across to East Africa via Nairobi, and South Africa via Johannesburg.
- Platte Island a 20 minute flight from Mahé (the main island of Seychelles).
- Flight times are subject to change. Please make sure you confirm your correct flight times with our reservations team

### **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.

## Platte Island General Information

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### 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.

### Environmental Levy

Please take note that the Seychelles Government has introduced a Tourism Environmental Sustainability Levy which will come into effect from the 01 August 2023. Establishments will charge and collect this levy from the visitors upon guests check-out. For more information, please refer to Seychelles Tourism Sustainability Levy. This levy is applicable for all guests over 13 years old.

### Accident Medevac Insurance

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

### Indemnities

You are required to sign an indemnity form onsite, this will be provided to you upon arrival.

### Passports & Visas - Entry into Seychelles

#### Passports & Visas

No visa is required for a holiday. - This applies to all foreign passport holders.

#### Entry Into Seychelles

Every visitor who intends to travel by air or sea to the Seychelles must have an approved, valid Travel Authorization or Disembarkation Information Form. Applications can only be made up to 29 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 and / 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 will need this vaccination certificate to apply for your Travel Authorisation. Get in touch with our team if you are unsure of which countries fall within the yellow fever endemic region. Please note that all travellers must have a valid credit / debit card available to pay the fee. (€10 per application and you get your clearance within 9 hours).

For more information and to apply, please refer to the [SEYCHELLES IMMIGRATION WEBSITE.](#)

Before you apply, ensure you have all of your mandatory documents ready:

- Valid passport

## Platte Island General Information

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- Selfie or passport-type photo
- Contact information
- Details of your arrival flight into Seychelles
- Details of your visit in Seychelles
- Details of accommodation for every night of your stay in Seychelles
- Details of your departure flight from Seychelles
- Yellow Fever Vaccination (if you have visited a yellow fever endemic region prior to arrival in Seychelles)

## Flights & Luggage

- Guests are expected to arrive in Mahé a minimum of 4 hours before their trip as any delay on the day of departure will certainly cause the trip to be missed.
- The domestic flights leave from the domestic terminal at Mahé Airport.
- Please always confirm flight times, as flights are subject to change.
- Check in starts 1 hour before your scheduled departure time and closes 30 minutes prior to take off.
- Please see weight limit restrictions in bold below
- On request, the Alphonse Team in Mahé will assist you with the storage of excess luggage while you are on Alphonse Island.
- It's as important for return flight to be booked a minimum of 4 hours after arriving back in Mahé as any delays may cause guests to miss their international flights.
- There will be a Waldorf Astoria representative at the Domestic terminal who will be able to assist you.

**Your check in luggage is strictly limited to 23kg (50 pounds) per person, and 5kg (12 pounds) carry-on luggage.**

## Suggested Fishing Packing 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 – as 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



## Platte Island General Information

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- 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 or torch
- 1 x Soft tissue for drying & cleaning lenses
- 1 x Pliers for removing hooks and squashing barbs

Our Fly shop offers a range of clothing suited for fishing these waters

### Health & Safety

#### *Water Consumption*

There is a desalination plant at the Camp and the water from the faucets is safe to drink. We do not stock mineral water and will only supply it if you specifically requested prior to your arrival.

#### *Sun Protection Clothing*

The climatic conditions in the Seychelles can be harsh for those that aren't accustomed to them. Light weight breathable fabrics are recommended. Sunscreen should ideally be SPF 50 for any exposed skin. A packing list will be supplied in your Pre-Trip Information.

#### *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 inadvertently 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 venom and these will pass through a thin rubber sole with ease. For this reason all wading should be done wearing thick-soled wading boots.



## Platte Island General Information

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**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.

### Electricity Supply

The Waldorf Astoria 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.

### Gratuities

Tipping is never mandatory. The below serve as a guideline based on average tips given. Tips are to be left with the water sports centre manager upon departure for equal distribution. Any gratuities will be appreciated by the staff and we thank you for your generosity.

- Fishing Guides: ± US\$700 per angler per week or US\$110 per day guideline, which is given to the fishing manager at the end of the week. The Guides work on a rotational basis so your tip will be divided equally.
- Activity Centre Team: ± US\$25 per person per day for the activity team if you have joined any activities.

### Currency

You do not need to change your US\$ (US Dollars), € (Euros) or £ (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 250g tobacco, 2 litres spirits and 2 litres wine.

### Payable Services At Mahe International Airport

- Salon de Vallée de Mai Departure Lounge – for the comfort convenience of clients awaiting air connections upon departure. This service is complimentary to business class travellers.
- Meals in Mahé will be for your own expense.
- The Payanke Lounge is available for all travellers at Mahe Airport and can be booked by our team at additional cost.

## Platte Island Documents & Links

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### PDF Documents

[Platte Island Fly Fishing Package 2025 Rates](#)

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### PDF Documents

[Alphonse Foundation Brochure](#)

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### PDF Documents

[Platte Island Flight Schedule](#)

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## Platte Terms & Conditions

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### Cancellation Policies

- 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 season.
- If a booking moved to an alternative year, the 10% fee and the applicable rate increase will apply. Bookings may only be moved more than 181 days prior to arrival.
- A fee of 50% shall be levied if cancellation is between 180 and 90 days prior to arrival.
- A fee of 100% shall be levied if cancellation is 90 days or less prior to arrival.
- All cancellations and provisional bookings must be confirmed in writing.
- Bank fees associated with refunds are for the guests' account.

### Payment Terms

- Reservations will be held for 2 weeks.
- We require a 50% deposit to confirm the booking.
- Final payment to be made 3 months prior to arrival.

### Tariffs

- Inclusive of VAT in US Dollars
- Subject to availability
- All tariffs are subject to change, without prior notice, however rates quoted for confirmed bookings will be honoured.

## Platte Terms & Conditions

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### **Indemnity & Insurance**

- All activities require the client to sign an indemnity once on location.
- All clients are required to submit “From Scene of Accident Medevac Insurance” prior to arrival.
- It is highly recommended that guests take out travel insurance that covers part or full cancellation of a trip due to flight delays, health, weather or force majeure.

## Blue Safari Contacts

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### **Island**

Telephone:

- +248 422 97 00
- +248 422 90 30

Email:

- [info@bluesafari.com](mailto:info@bluesafari.com)

### **Reservations**

Email:

- [reservations@bluesafari.com](mailto:reservations@bluesafari.com)

*Postal Address:*

Providence Industrial Estate Zone 18  
Parcel S9566 No. 6023,  
Providence Mahe Seychelles

*Website:*

- [www.bluesafari.com](http://www.bluesafari.com)