



Andros South Trip Planner

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Welcome!

Andros South is a lodge focused on providing the finest bonefishing in the world. With South Andros Island's endless, diverse flats, the opportunities are boundless.

Do you want to fish to giant schools of hungry bonefish? No problem. Have your sights set on casting to large tailing bones? We can make it happen.

At Andros South our guide staff possesses the knowledge of the flats and the skills necessary to provide you with the bonefishing experience you have dreamed of.

If you're looking for white linen tablecloths, you should look elsewhere. If you're looking for clean, comfortable accommodations, outstanding service and the finest bonefishing in the world, you've come to the right place.

The purpose of this trip planner is to give you all the information that you will need to plan a successful trip to Andros South. We hope that we've answered all of your questions in this guide, but if you have any questions that we didn't answer, or if we can help in any way, please don't hesitate to get in touch by calling us at **1-800-344-3628** or emailing us at info@deneki.com.

Thank you and welcome to Andros South!



Our Location

Andros South is located in the settlement of Kemp's Bay on the eastern shore of South Andros Island in the western Bahamas. South Andros is the southernmost portion of Andros Island, the largest island of the Bahamas. Andros sits in the middle of the Great Bahama Bank and is flanked to the east by The Tongue of the Ocean, a deep water trough that drops to more than five thousand feet not more than a mile offshore. Along the edge of the drop lies the third largest barrier reef in the world. Andros Island itself is riddled with innumerable tidal creeks and inland flats, all home to thousands of hungry bonefish. The largest of the waterways are the North, Middle and South Bights, which split Andros Island into the smaller islands of North Andros, Middle Andros, Mangrove Cay, and South Andros.

Travel Logistics

Your final destination will be **Congo Town (also known as South Andros Airport)** on South Andros Island.

The most popular route to our Island is flying to the Nassau Int'l Airport and then taking a short twenty minute flight into Congo Town with Western Air. Historically Western operates two flights each day, these flights typically depart Nassau at 8:00am and 3:00pm - the turnaround times back to Nassau are typically 30-40 minutes later. Scheduling your flights in an out of Nassau around the 'noon' hour work very well and allow for time to clear customs on both side of your trip. **Schedule the afternoon flight for your arrival and the morning flight for your departure.**

The round-trip fare is approximately \$155 per person and can be paid either on line or at the Western Air ticket counter in Nassau. They accept most major credit cards and cash (USD). You can make your reservation online at, <https://westernair.flythebahamas.com/> or give them a call at (242) 377-2222.

The other flight option to Congo Town is with **Watermakers Air** out of Fort Lauderdale. They offer direct nonstop flights multiple times per week into and operate from the centrally located Fort Lauderdale Executive airport, allowing for easy connections with flights within the United States. Outbound guests clear US Customs in Fort Lauderdale, which is typically a smooth process. **The best way to make a reservation is to call for available seating and fares.** Here's their phone number, (945) 771-0330 and their website, <http://www.watermakersair.com>. Groups of more than 6 persons may also consider a private charter from Ft. Lauderdale.

Once you arrive in **Congo Town**, a representative of our facility will meet you at the airport for the short drive to our lodge.



Staying in Fort Lauderdale

Here are a few recommendations for lodging and entertainment for our guests who have some time in Fort Lauderdale on either side of their trip to Andros South.

Hotels

Courtyard® by Marriott®
Ft Lauderdale Air & Cruise
Port 400 Gulf Stream Way
Dania Beach, Florida 33004
954-342-8333

The Courtyard at the Fort Lauderdale Airport is a hotel that's just a couple of miles from the airport. The rooms are nice and the hotel shares a parking lot with the IGFA Museum, Bass Pro Shops, and the Islamorada Fish Company. The Courtyard provides free shuttle service to and from the airport. Ask for the Deneki Outdoors corporate rate.

Restaurants and Attractions

Seminole Hard Rock Casino
1 Seminole Way
Hollywood, FL 33314
1-866-502-7529

About 15 minutes from the airport and its hotels is the large Hard Rock Casino complex on the Seminole Indian reservation. In addition to the hotel and casino, the complex includes 18 restaurants in a variety of styles, all with outdoor seating, 13 bars and clubs, and some high-end shopping. The cuisine includes something for everyone, and the people-watching is a sport unto itself!

IGFA Museum
300 Gulf Stream Way
Dania Beach, FL 33004
954-922-4212

If you want to see some **really** big fish, stop off at the IGFA Museum and Hall of Fame. It's located very near the airport and the Wyndham.

Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World
200 Gulf Stream Way
Dania, FL 33004
(954) 929-7710

There is an Outdoor World / Bass Pro Shops also located just a couple of minutes from the airport. This is a fun store to spend some time in, and maybe pick up some poppers and wire leader to help in your pursuit of our 'other species'.



Staying in Nassau

There are many options for your stay in Nassau, ranging from small family-owned inns situated in quieter areas to full-scale casino/resorts on Cable Beach and Paradise Island. There is an array of restaurants and clubs, day cruises and other activities. Below are some of our recommendations but we encourage you to hop on any of the popular travel websites and do some research of your own. As always, feel free to contact us with any questions.

Hotels

The following hotels are popular with our anglers:

SandyPort Hotel and Resort

West Bay Street

242-327-4279

Email: info@sandyport.com
reservation@sandyport.com

Website:

www.sandyport.com

SandyPort Hotel is part of the greater SandyPort Development. It is located 10 minutes from the airport and can be a great choice for your over-night in Nassau. You will find a variety of dining options, stores and even a health club within walking distance of your accommodations. It has a relaxing atmosphere and a very professional staff.

Orange Hill Beach Inn

West Bay Street

242-327-7157

Email: Info@orangehill.com

Orange Hill is a quaint family-owned inn 5 minutes from the airport. It is a convenient, economical choice for our traveling anglers. It sits across the street from a nice quiet beach and has a small bar/restaurant and a refreshing outdoor pool.

British Colonial Hilton

No. 1 Bay Street

242-322-3301

The British Colonial is a beautiful, well-appointed, luxury hotel situated right in the heart of the action on famous Bay Street. The grounds are amazingly quiet considering where it is situated. It is everything you expect from an International Hilton property and places you within walking distance of all the shops and restaurants of downtown.

Atlantis Resort and Casino

Paradise Island

242-363-2000 x 65401

The grandeur of "The Atlantis" is hard to describe. It truly is a "mega" resort in the spirit of Las Vegas. It houses one of the largest aquariums in the world, a Vegas-style casino and numerous shops and restaurants. It hums with energy and activity 24 hours a day. If you are staying elsewhere in Nassau, it is worth taking a taxi to Paradise Island and wandering through.



Restaurants

The following restaurants and bars are popular with our anglers:

Indigo Cafe and Deli

West Bay St. and Skyline Dr.
242-327-2535

Indigo is a relaxing, stylish Cafe with a very eclectic menu of wonderfully prepared foods. Choose from local Bahamian, Asian, and European cuisine, even an impressive selection of fantastic sushi! They also have a full service bar and espresso.

The Poop Deck West

SandyPort on the Beach/
West Bay Street
242-327-3325

An island favorite, the Poop Deck features a full bar, great steak, seafood and traditional Bahamian dishes

Twin Brothers

Arowak Cay
242-328-5033

Located at the Arowak Cay Fish Fry Grounds, Twin Brothers is a fun, relaxing place to enjoy great local Bahamian cuisine. It is a favorite among the locals. Enough said?

Clay Oven

Downtown
242-325-8639

A wonderful, reasonably priced authentic Indian Restaurant. This is where our manager eats when he's in Nassau!

Green Parrot

Paradise Island / Hurricane Hole. Sorry, no phone # for this one.

A well-known, very popular outdoor bar and grill that sits on the Hurricane Hole Marina. This is a fun place to hang out day and night watching the boat traffic in and out of Nassau Harbor, while chatting with the crews of the many yachts that are parked in the marina.



Our Facility

Andros South is a friendly, laid-back bonefishing lodge that concentrates on providing a fishing experience that is second to none. If you are looking for white linen tablecloths, you should look elsewhere. If you're looking for a very comfortable place to spend a week fishing, relaxing and enjoying a quiet island in the Bahamas, you've come to the right place.

Guest Rooms

The rooms are clean, comfortable, and air conditioned. Each has its own bathroom, which awaits you with a warm relaxing shower at the end of your fishing day. Did we mention each guest gets his own room? Yes, it is true! No listening to your "good buddy" snore all night. Each room has tile floors and is furnished with comfortable beds and modern dressers and nightstands.

Dining Room

Our dining room is welcoming and laid back. It is perfect to enjoy cocktails, great meals and conversation with friends, both new and old.

'Slack Tide'

The 'Slack Tide' is our favorite spot to enjoy coffee in the morning, a cold Kalik in the afternoon, or conversation with fellow anglers at any time. It's located right on the beach and comes with a great view and a steady ocean breeze at no extra charge!

Our Grounds

The grounds are well-maintained and filled with coconut palms and a variety of other native plants. Also, between the guest rooms and the beach, there is plenty of open sandy space to practice your casting in preparation for your next day of fishing. To the south of us are the cottages and homes of some local families as well as a few Spanish fishermen. They are warm friendly folks and we consider them a wonderful addition to the experience. You will find them sometimes walking through our grounds over to the public dock that lies on the north side of the property. This is where some of the locals head off for a day at sea and return in the evening to clean their catch. It is also a great place to fish at night for snapper, barracuda or the occasional grouper.

The Beach

The lodge is situated on a beautiful white sand beach, taking advantage of the intoxicating trade winds of the Bahamas. Take a relaxing swim each evening, or maybe a walk or a run. You may even want to wade in with your fly rod and hone your casting while gazing out at azure blue water. There are also hungry barracuda and the occasional large bonefish cruising along the white sand. If you find yourself in need of a longer beach to run on, you can head just north of the marina and find yourself on a white sand beach that stretches as far as you can see.



The Fishing Day

Breakfast starts early. Our breakfast staff arrives at 5:30 am and prepares coffee immediately. Prior to daybreak, you'll notice lights in the dining room and guests are welcome to pour a cup of coffee and enjoy it on our outdoor patio while the sun rises. This is a perfect time to discuss the day's strategy and recount highlights of the previous day with friends or other guests. Our breakfasts are in the traditional American style and start at 6:30 am.

Our guests are invited to prepare their own lunch from the many choices available to them from our lunch preparation table. Cold cuts, fresh breads, tuna fish, meats, snacks, fruit, cookies, sodas and juices may be placed in your own container and included in a nearby cooler that will accompany you on your boat.

Our van parks adjacent to our facility at 7:15 and departs for the nearby dock at 7:30. Guests are assisted into their boats and are on their way by 8:00 each morning. Selecting from an array of areas to fish and depending upon winds, tides, and personal choices, our guests will be casting within 15 minutes to an hour from their departure time and will be returned by 4:30 p.m.

South Andros provides an enormous fishery with a selection of flats that vary greatly in terms of their water depths, tidal exposure and type of bottom. Most of our guests will spend their weeks doing a combination of wading flats and fishing from the boat while their guide poles. Some guests prefer wading to poling or vice versa. Since our fishery is so fast, we are able to accommodate many angler desires and tailor your week to your preferred mix of wading versus poling. We encourage our guests to be flexible, as many factors (weather, tides, bottom type, etc.) may influence the most effective fishing method on any given day.

At the end of the fishing day, while waiting for all boats to return, our guests may enjoy a cold beverage at the Little Creek Bar, a wonderfully colorful meeting place right at the dock. Discussing the day's successes and enjoying an ice-cold Kalik (a Bahamian favorite beer) at this popular gathering spot is a great way to complete a day on the flats of South Andros Island.

Returning to the lodge, guests are welcome to enjoy a snack on the patio and an additional beverage as well. Beer, wine, soft drinks, mixers, and a selection of liquors are complimentary throughout your stay at Andros South. The late afternoon is also a great time for guests to enjoy a dip in the ocean or a run on the beach.

Served at 6:30 p.m., dinners at Andros South are served family-style and feature the finest and freshest products our island can provide. Each dinner is individually prepared by our kitchen staff and accents the tastes and flavors of the Bahamas. Fresh local fish, lobster, chicken and conch are featured with fresh desserts including Key Lime and Coconut pie. Again, complimentary wine is available during dinner. Guests with dietary requirements are requested to notify us prior to arriving so we can adjust to your personal needs.



Catch and Release

Andros South adheres to a strict catch and release policy for bonefish, permit and tarpon. Although other great-eating fish like snapper and grouper are available, we are not equipped to send our guests home with a box of fish.

Gratuities

Gratuities at Andros South come in two forms—daily tips for guides at the end of each day, and a single tip for the lodge staff at the end of your stay. The economy on South Andros Island is primarily cash-based, so our preferred method for tipping is in cash (USD) and Bahamian currency are interchangeable on the island—both work fine. For guests who don't bring cash, all gratuities may be processed at the end of the week via credit card.

We are frequently asked questions regarding the 'correct' amount to tip. That is a very hard question to answer, but may be best addressed by telling you what our average tips have been in the past—we'll do that below. We encourage you to follow your heart and tip in accordance with the level of service you feel you received.

Guide Gratuities

Guide tips vary widely but have averaged roughly \$100 per boat per day (\$50 per angler if two anglers share a boat).

Tipping for guides can be done at the dock each day (cash only; our preferred method) or at the end of the week (cash or credit card). If guides are tipped at the end of the week, you will need to indicate what amount is intended for each guide and on which day. If you intend to tip at the end of the week be sure to let your guide know that at the end of each day.

If you forget to bring cash on a particular day, that's no problem—you should simply let the guide know that the tip will be left with the manager for the guide.

The best time to give the guide his tip is at the dock just before getting out of the boat. It's helpful to be prepared, have cash handy and if possible to discuss tipping with your fishing partner before reaching the dock.

When preparing for your trip, it's helpful to come with a sufficient amount of 5-, 10- and 20-dollar bills to cover tipping each day, and to allow for the possibility of an exceptional tip for an exceptional day. Many guests also like to bring enough cash to purchase a few drinks at the local bar at the end of the day.



Lodge Staff Gratuities

Tips for the lodge staff are collected once at the end of your stay, and are pooled and divided among the entire lodge staff, including drivers, cooks, housekeepers and our maintenance crew and host. Lodge staff tips may be given via cash or credit card. Lodge staff tips vary widely but have averaged roughly \$25 per angler per day.

Alcohol

Beer, red and white wine are included in our standard package at Andros South, as is a variety of liquors, which typically includes rum, vodka and scotch. A range of mixers are provided along with soft drinks. Guests are welcome to bring along any alcohol that they prefer.

Passport

It is now critical that every visitor to Andros South have a **current passport with an expiration date at least 90 days after the trip date**. Without a current passport, guests will not be allowed into the country!

Packing List

South Andros may be the most informal place on the planet Earth. Comfortable, casual wear is accepted and encouraged. Flip-flops, sandals, shorts, t-shirts...casual is king. Expect mid-80's during the days, and high 60's to low 70's in the evening and early mornings.

Although casual tropical attire will generally work great during your time on the water, there are three fishing-specific items that are **critical for each angler to bring**—a **raincoat**, for boat spray or the occasional cloudburst, **polarized sunglasses** to help you see the fish, and **flats boots** or other footwear suitable for wading. Since the flats that we wade vary greatly in their bottom surface (hard sand, soft sand, grass, coral), **we do not recommend wading sandals**—boots are greatly preferred.

We recommend long-sleeved shirts and long pants while on the flats. Liberally apply a waterproof sun block of at least 30 SPF rating to all exposed skin including your ears and lips. Re-apply occasionally through the day and consider a wide-brimmed hat. After applying sunscreen, scrub your hands with a scoop of sand and water as bonefish can smell lotion on your fly and will quickly turn away.

Even on sunny days we suggest including a rain jacket in your boat bag. Boat spray can occur at any time and a cloudburst can form when least expected.



Check List

Here's a list of items you already planned to pack but may have just forgotten.

√ Item

Airline Tickets
Alarm Clock
Band-Aids
Bandana
Boat Bag
Books
Bug Spray
Camera / film
Cash
Chest / fanny pack
Clippers
Flies, Fly box
Fly Line
Fly Rod (+ Spare Fly Rod)
Garbage bag - for bringing home any wet clothes or fishing gear
Hat(s)
Hemostat
Lip Balm
Neoprene Reel covers

√ Item

Pants
Passport
Prescription Medicines
Rain Gear (wind jacket)
Reading Glasses
Reel Lube
Rubber Bands (multiple uses)
Spare Reels
Sunglasses (and spare)
Sun Gloves
Sunscreen
Swimsuit
Sandals
Shampoo
Tippet / Leaders
Toiletry Kit
Traveler's Checks
Wading Shoes
Zip Lock Bags (for lens cleaning cloth, toilet paper, cash, etc.)

Tackle Recommendations

Rods

Under most conditions, 9-foot rods in 7, 8, and 9 weights are ideal for fishing bonefish on the flats of South Andros Island. We have loaner rods available in the event that a rod is broken. We strongly suggest 4-5 piece rods to facilitate packing and less stressful travel. There may also be opportunities to cast to tarpon and permit so a 10 weight or 12 weight could be brought as well.

Reels

Since few fish run like a bonefish, bring quality, sturdy, large arbor reels with adjustable drags that are designed for saltwater use. Reels must hold your fly line and 150 yards of 20 lb backing. You'll grow fond of your large arbor reel (which retrieves line at a much faster rate than a conventional reel) if you're playing your fifth, large bonefish in an hour! Take a spare reel or spool with you (in a pouch) each day should your line be pulled into mangroves or over a coral head and destroyed by an 11-pound bonefish. The same holds true for the 10 weight and 12 weight rods--just be sure to double the amount of backing.

Lines

Bring weight forward, floating, saltwater fly lines in high visibility colors. Your guide needs to see where you are casting to assist in getting your fly near the fish. Also, you may want to bring along a sink tip line or 350 grain shooting head to cast to large jacks and snapper. Cleaning your line a couple of times during the week with line conditioner is recommended as saltwater can get it gummy in no time.

Leaders

On windy days, use a 9-ft leader in the 10-12 lb range. On calmer days, use a 10-12 ft leader. Generally speaking, our bonefish are not leader-shy but those in the double digits can be more particular. Bring several leaders with you and a spool of 10 and 12 lb test tippet material. Monofilament and fluorocarbon both work fine.

Flies

Although most of our guests enjoying tying and/or selecting their own flies for their trip, we do have flies available for your use as well. One of the joys of fishing South Andros is that the bonefish are not particularly shy or picky with regards to what they eat. In many cases, a simple roll cast will be sufficient to reach the fish you will see. Standard Gotchas, Crazy Charlies, and Clousers in pink, tan, white, and olive in 2's and 4's with bead-chain or leadeyes are enough to do the job. We use 2's frequently as we believe larger fish are attracted to them more readily and they find the bottom faster, especially in deeper water. We suggest bringing a few clouser-style streamers for snappers along the mangroves. Although not abundant, there are tarpon and permit on the flats and creeks of South Andros and you may encounter a few during your stay with us. We suggest bringing a tarpon fly or two as well as a crab pattern just in case!

Additionally, there are large numbers of barracuda in the creeks and flats of South Andros.... some 15-30 pounds. We suggest bringing a few very large and very gaudy flies to present to these monsters. If casting from the boat, we suggest using large poppers or crease flies. If it's a cloudy day and the bonefishing is slow, cut your leader back a few feet, attach a 6" wire leader, clip on an eight inch, tandem-hooked needlefish imitation, throw it over the side of your slow-trolling flats boat, tighten your drag, and be prepared for a major event in a short period of time.



Contact Information

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Andros South

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Anchorage, AK 99503

Reservations and information: 1-800-344-3628

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Anchorage office

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In Season

Andros South Lodge Address – Contact us prior to any shipping!

Andros South Bonefishing Lodge

Kemp's Bay

South Andros

Bahamas

Phone: 242-554-0049

