

You may place one rod in a holder at the rail. All other rods should be stowed in the rod holders & be considerate of your fellow fishermen, it will go a long way towards a comfortable trip for all.

The men and women's heads are located outside, at the rear of the cabin. The heads are equipped with fresh water. We suggest you bring along your toiletries plus a small towel for your personal hygiene.

SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED IN THE CABIN OR HEADS!

CLOTHING: The days can be hot and the nights cold, so bring along enough clothing. We also suggest a rain suit in case of foul weather. Important - bring your waterproof shoes or boots! The deck will not be dead calm and the mates regularly hose down the deck to keep it clean.

SEASICKNESS: The **VOYAGER** is large and stable, but if you have ever gotten seasick or even if you've never (we strongly suggest that you consider using one of the many types of seasick prevention medication (consult your physician first)). We don't want your trip to be unpleasant for you because of seasickness.

THE GALLEY: Our Galley offers hot food and hot and cold beverages during our regular offshore trips available at no charge during offshore trips. You may bring small coolers aboard with your own microwave oven is available for you to heat your food.

For our extended tuna trips, a full menu of breakfast, lunch and dinner choices at reasonable prices in the Galley. Check our web site for the coming week's menu selections.

WE DON'T MIND IF YOU BRING A FEW BEERS OR SOME WINE, BUT WE WILL NOT ALLOW LIQUOR OR TOLERATE THE EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL. FOR YOUR SAFETY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IS NOT PERMITTED WHILE WE ARE UNDER WAY TO THE FISHING DURING FISHING HOURS. YOU MAY, HOWEVER, DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING THE DOCK. THIS RULE IS IN EFFECT NOT ONLY FOR YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY AND THE BOAT BUT TO ENSURE THAT THE MAJORITY OF FISH HOOKED ARE BOATED. THIS RESULTS IN ALL.

THE FISH: We will be fishing for tuna. On our offshore trips, we typically catch five tuna species (Yellowfin over 150 pounds), Longfin (also called True Albacore), Big-Eye and Bluefin. When you buy tuna at the supermarket, the cans labeled 'Chunk Light' typically contain Yellowfin, and those labeled 'Solid White' contain Longfin. The most common fish we catch is the Yellowfin followed by the Longfin, and the least common is Bluefin. Occasionally, anglers also catch Mahi-Mahi (Dolphin fish), edible sharks (such as Mako), White Marlin, and other species. Tuna vary in size, but are generally in the following ranges:

Yellowfin	40 to 150 pounds
Allison	150 to 300 pounds
Big-Eye	80 to 350 pounds
Longfin	20 to 80 pounds
Bluefin	20 to 1,000 pounds

Tuna in the upper end of the weight scale shown (200-350 pounds) will be very difficult to land, but not impossible. **Please note that getting ANY tuna or large fish into the boat requires TEAMWORK, PATIENCE on the part of every fisherman, the crew, and the guy tied to the fish.**

Federal recreational angling regulations allow you to keep up to three (3) Yellowfin tuna per trip. Tuna greater than 27 inches in length. Current regulations allow the VESSEL to keep ONE Bluefin tuna per trip, less than 73 inches in length. Currently, Longfin tuna do not have a size or possession limit and are subject to your quota.

We will give you three blank waterproof tags when you board the boat. When you receive these tags, use a marker (available in the galley) to write your first initial and last name on BOTH SIDES of each tag and print your name clearly so we can identify your fish at the end of the trip. If you also catch Longfin species during the trip, the mates will provide you with additional tags.

THE BAIT: You will be using Butterfish for bait in a technique called 'chunking'. The baits are called Butterfish because they exude a golden oil, which looks like butter. They are a native species in the submarine canyon off the coast, and therefore, are part of the tuna's natural food supply.

Often, you will also be able to catch Squid, Anchovies, and Mackerel for bait since they are attracted to light during the night. The boat has a live bait tank for holding fresh-caught bait. Many times, live bait works better than the frozen Butterfish we provide, and we encourage you to fish for them. So bring along your own outfit and some small hooks, Sabiki™ bait catcher rigs (six hook type) and squid jigs (Yozuri™ squid jig). The mates will fish for bait when fishing is slow, but once the action heats up; the mates will be wading and land your fish and can't take the time to catch bait. It is very difficult for them to keep up with a boat full of hungry tuna. Because of this, we ask everyone to pitch in if you want to use live bait.

don't fish for fresh-caught bait, don't expect the mates to give them to you.

THE TECHNIQUE - CHUNKING: When we get to the Canyons, locate fish and get the anchor set. Throw cut up pieces of Butterfish into the water starting a chum slick. This attracts the tuna to the whole butterfish as bait, hiding the hook in the Butterfish so that the tuna cannot see the hook, as in as natural a way as possible.

To bait your hook, open the Butterfish's mouth. Put the barb of the hook through the mouth and be care not to hook the fish in the process. Then take the barb of the hook, insert it at the rear of the point towards the belly of the fish, and push it into the fish while rotating the shank of the hook properly. Done correctly, the hook will disappear into the Butterfish and not be visible. The eye of the hook is in the Butterfish's mouth. If you can't see the hook, neither can the tuna. If you have never done this before, if it done, the mates will hold a brief seminar after we leave the dock.

If you choose to use live or dead Squid bait, you need to hook them differently than you hook a Butterfish. Hook through the tail end of the squid (opposite the end with the tentacles) so that the hook comes out the same side that simple. When using squid baits, you usually use a lead weight to help get the squid down 800 feet.

The captain will announce how deep to lower your baits. To lower your bait properly, you must strip the line in short, measured lengths. If you are using a rig with a sinker, do not just drop the rig in a free-fall. Instead, reel around your line and you will never get a fish to take it. While holding the rod in your right hand, then grab the line as it comes off the reel with your left hand, and pull the line toward the tip of the rod. This person this will strip off about 2 feet of line. Let the bait and rig fall and repeat the process until you reach the depth the captain has suggested. Once you have lowered your bait, wait a few minutes, and if you don't get a fish, start over again.

If the current is taking your line at an angle to the rod tip, then your bait is also being pushed up or down. You must make an adjustment in order to maintain the proper depth. The general rule of thumb is a 30° angle to the rod tip. Add out 10% more line to be at the right depth. If the current gets too strong, you must add one or more lead weights to help compensate for this effect.

If there is little or no current, we suggest fishing without using lead weights. This technique is more productive than using weights, but it can be more productive if done properly. When fishing without weights, your bait will sink by the weight of the line and you must make sure your line does not foul a fellow angler's line. Again, reel out by pulling off measured amounts of line with your reel in freespool. You must try to allow your line to sink with resistance so it looks as harmless as the chunks of chum that are descending. Sometimes, a small lead weight helps. Once you get 150-200 feet away from the boat, your bait will be out of the chum/chunk cloud and start again (use a fresh bait.) Don't let your bait sit out in the water more than ten minutes. If you get washed out and also be out of the strike zone. We have consistently seen this technique out-fish other techniques. Remember, it requires your full attention.

As tuna enter the boat's chum slick, they will consume the small pieces of chum and then look for a larger piece. When a hungry tuna takes your bait, it will be very obvious to you, since they take the bait at almost 30 to 50 miles per hour.) If you are using a standard hook, point the rod tip at the fish, give the fish a slight drag, engage the drag on your reel, and then REEL until the line gets tight. For those using circle hooks: reel in gently, then gently but firmly raise your rod to the '2 o'clock' position. In either case, the fish should be hooked. If you have hooked a fish, yell 'FISH ON!' This will alert one of the crew who will then come over to assist you. Tuna can swim at up to 60 miles per hour over short distances and are very powerful.

TROLLING: Sometimes during daylight hours and into the late afternoon, we find trolling an effective way to catch fish. Please note that trolling is purely circumstantial. It depends on the situation and is not done every day. We use the lures for trolling, but if you lose one with a fish on, you must pay for it (about \$20.) You may have them. We will attach the lures on the same rods you are using for chunking. When we get into two or three trolling teams. We will switch trolling teams every 20 to 30 minutes so each team can catch fish. The mates will help and instruct you in placing your lure the proper distance from the boat. If you gets a hit, the crew will yell 'FISH ON!' Do NOT grab your rod! The boat will continue to troll for fish. Try and get more fish hooked up. When the boat is finally taken out of gear, grab your rod with both hands, lift it out of the rod holder and into your harness. If you do not have a fish on, you must quickly yank your rod out of the way. Once this is done, you may start fishing with your jig rod.

JIGGING: For the team not trolling, we suggest you get yourself ready to jig for tuna. Bring a conventional reel (or equivalent) and rig it with an 8 to 12-ounce diamond jig. When fish are hooked, the boat will be turned broadside to the wind and taken out of gear. As the boat comes to a stop and the engine is off, cast or flip your jig off the upwind side of the boat (the wind will be in your face) and jig for tuna. The depth to jig at.

Jigging can be done two ways. You may either let the jig down to the desired depth and raise and drop it in sharp sweeps, or let the jig down to the depth the captain has suggested and then reel in the jig a few inches. This is uncommon to hook as many jig fish as troll fish. Jigging can also be effective from an anchored boat. We encourage you to try it. In fact, jigging is sometimes the most productive way to catch tuna. We

fishermen out-fish everyone else. Jigging can be done both day and night. However, sunrise is fr you want to jig, we ask that you reel up your chunk bait rod and stow it. Take your jig rod to the boat (usually the bow or the side opposite the side where the lines are going out) and pitch the jig use one of the above techniques.

HOW TO GET TUNA INTO THE BOAT: Please pay careful attention to this section. Our s become RULES !!!

PAY ATTENTION TO THE MATES! They have done this more times than you, know more about it than you, and are trying to help YOU get fish in the boat.

IF A MATE ASKS YOU TO MOVE OUT OF THE WAY, then move as fast as you can!

IF A MATE HAS TO CUT YOUR LINE to get you out of a tangle, he will re-rig you as soon a

FOLLOW YOUR FISH! You must move around the boat with your fish. Keep a 90° angle to the means that the line should be going straight out into the water. The old saying of 'no angle, no t the line straight out in front of you, 90° to the rail, you will not tangle as often. Tangles will occur them as much as possible. Hooked tuna swim in a giant circle, pulling up to 200 yards of line bef line will have a 'belly' in it from the friction of the water. Think of it as an upside down ice cream in this circle, it tends to collect other lines. And as the fish tires, it starts to swim in smaller circles the circles decrease you must increase your lifting pressure on the fish to keep it coming straight t

IF SOMEONE IS HOOKED UP AND COMING PAST YOU, GET OUT OF THE WAY! It is not ea: walk at the same time, even with no one in the way. After you have experienced this just one tin believer in cooperation. Typically, the man with the fish will need to go over you and your rod. M pointing your rod at the water and ducking or moving where you are told. If you don't move, expe When you get to the bow of the boat with a fish that goes under the anchor line and under the anc take the rod from you, pass it under the pulpit and return the rod to you. If you are wearing a ha unclip quickly, back off the drag just a hair and hand your rod to the mates.

IF YOU ARE IN A TANGLE WITH A PERSON THAT HAS A FISH ON, DO NOT PUT ANY PRES Immediately put your reel into freespool, and let the person finish catching his fish, or cut your lin that cutting your line is the best option since you could be in the tangle for an hour or more.

NEVER LEAVE YOUR ROD UNATTENDED AT THE RAIL! If you have to use the head, or go int REEL UP YOUR LINE AND STOW YOUR ROD. If someone is coming around the boat with a fish on, his rod over your rod and continue around the boat. The mates will cut the line of any unattendec bench or somewhere else where it is out of the way.

WHEN YOUR FISH IS FINALLY GAFFED AND IN THE BOAT, CUT YOUR LINE OFF AT THE H MATE ONE OF YOUR PRE-LABELED TAGS. The mate will take the fish to the stern, remove the tag, and then place it in the ice hold. You may be asked to help drag your fish to the stern during

These are simple rules and they must be followed to ensure everyone's pleasure, comfort and succ

TACKLE: We recommend a 6/0 or equivalent single or two-speed conventional reel and matching should be filled with new 80-pound test monofilament. A rod belt and harness are very helpful, es 6/0 or 8/0 hooks or equivalently sized circle hooks are the best for this style of fishing. Note that different numbering system so look at the hook before you buy.

You can also try jigging for tuna. If you are interested, then you should also bring along a 3/0 or matching rod. Fill the reel with either 50 or 60-pound test line. We recommend using 8 to 12-our jigs fitted with a single 7/0 or 9/0 Siwash hook.

The boat will provide 6/0 or 8/0 Eagle Claw™ hooks and/or Mustad™ circle hooks. We will also pr swivels. While we will provide pre-tied rigs, we will also show you how to tie a rig during the semi way out and we suggest you take the time to make a few rigs before we start fishing. We do NO fluorocarbon leaders, jigs or any other special tackle, so if you like to use these items you should t can't get these items locally, or if you forget to bring them, don't panic, they are all available befo Fishermen's Supply Tackle Shop.

Rods and reels are NOT included in your fare, and we strongly recommend that you bring your ow have rental rods and two-speed reels available for \$25 per setup. However, we do not provide roc need a rental setup, please let us know when you make your reservation. Also note that we only rods and cannot provide jigging or bait-catching rods. If you lose a rental rod overboard, we unf a \$350 replacement fee.

Tuna are large and very strong fish and will test your tackle to its limits. If you have the slightes likely break. The weakest parts of your tackle setup are typically your line knots. There are sev

reliably used for tuna fishing, but they must be tied properly in order to withstand the strain. We Palomar, Trilene, and Improved Clinch knots. If you don't know how to make these knots, ask the you how to tie them.

Setting your drag correctly is very important. You are fishing from a boat that is at anchor in 450 the edge of a submarine canyon that is 5,000 feet deep. The boat can't move to chase a hooked charter, so your reel drag becomes an important tool for fighting a tuna from a stationary platform your drag tension to 25% of the rated line strength (for lever-drag reels such as Penn International; them for 25% at the Strike position). For example, if you are using 80-pound test line, set your d tension. It is important that you recheck your drag several times during the trip to make sure it i commonly used to measure drag tension and we will show you how to set your drag during the se

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU CATCH A TUNA: Two or more mates have gaffed and hoisted th the deck. Your fish is finally in the boat! We ask you to cut your line off as near to the hook as y tag for the fish and possibly help get the fish to the stern of the boat.

Please note that you should cut the entire leader off. Cut the leader at the hook eye and leave th mouth. Completely re-rig for the next fish since the leader will be chafed and the hook stressed.

The mate will take your fish, attach your tag, and then carefully head and gut it. He will cut a sm anus to release the colon, cut down behind the head through the spine, and then remove the head deft pull. Amazing! He will then pack the fish in our ice hold, where it will stay until you get back

THE MATES, LOINING OF YOUR TUNA, AND TIPPING GUIDELINES: The mates are working you are on the boat. They coach, help, re-rig, chum, gaff fish, untangle your line, take photos and learned what they know by doing it over and over again until their techniques are perfected. The getting your fish into the boat. They know what they are doing, so listen to them and it will make better.

Optionally, the mates will also loin out your tuna for you, cut the loins into steaks, put them in pla pack your cooler. This extra work is done on a fee basis, not for 'handshakes and smiles'. After y understand how much work is involved in preparing your fish for the table, and how much you dor The fee for making your catch table-ready is \$15 per tuna.

Tipping guidelines are the same as for dinner in a good restaurant. If you are pleased with the ser you paid is an appropriate tip. Keep in mind that the mates are there to serve you far longer than or waitress provides during dinner. **The mates work primarily for your tips and will knock th help you.** They work hard even if we don't catch many fish. Please acknowledge their efforts.

Thank you for fishing on the **VOYAGER**. We hope you will have an enjoyable and productive trip!



[Download](#) a copy of our 2008 Stand-up Tuna Fishing Guide



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