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RIPP SPORTING

Providence Atoll

FACT SHEET

THE LONGEST ATOLL IN THE OUTER ISLANDS

www.rippsporting.com

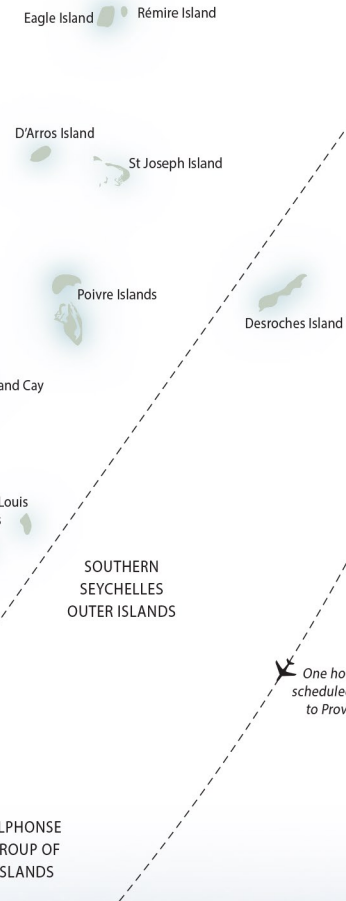


Providence Atoll

Providence Atoll is situated 700 km southwest of Mahe and 56 km to the north of Farquhar Atoll, the most southerly atoll in the Seychelles. This remote atoll has a total area, including the large lagoon, of 345 km², which is 55 km north to south and 14 km east to west. The atoll comprises of two Islands, Providence North and Cerf Island and an enormous shallow lagoon system with vast flats and sand banks that link to the ocean through countless feeder channels. The large ear-shaped lagoon with safe leeward anchorages provides easy skiff access to the amazing fly fishing grounds.

AT A GLANCE

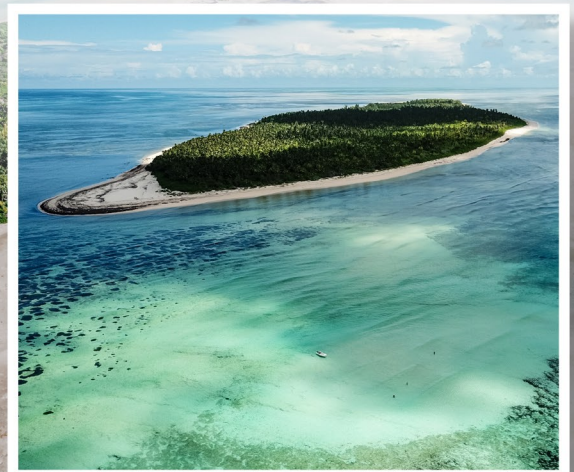
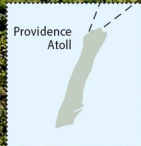
- Located 700 km SW of Mahé in the Seychelles.
- Situated only 9° south of the equator.
- 345 km² of wadeable sand flats, turtle grass banks and lagoon edges.
- One of the most remote islands in the Seychelles.
- Can accommodate up to 6 fly fishermen per trip on board the luxury MY Quo Vadis.
- Similar time zone to Europe, Africa and the Middle East.
- One of two atolls where you are able to target bumphead parrotfish.



One hour scheduled private flight to Alphonse Island

One hour 45 minute scheduled private flight to Providence Atoll

45 minute scheduled private flight from Aphonse to Providence



PROVIDENCE ATOLL

Remote, Pristine & Untouched...

Like many of the other atolls in the Seychelles Providence Atoll is a true fly fishing wilderness. The vast flats, enormous lagoon system and feeder channels offer fly fishermen the opportunity to wade 345 km² of pristine sand flats, turtle grass banks, surf areas and lagoon edges while targeting a multitude of species. Anglers can expect to target and sight cast to giant trevally, bumphead parrotfish, triggerfish, bluefin trevally, milkfish, Indo-Pacific permit and much more. Providence Atoll is known for its fantastic offshore fishing for sailfish, tuna and other pelagics.

A TYPICAL DAY

On a Fishing Expedition to Providence

DAY 1

Your charter flight departs Mahé from the IDC hangar, flies one hour to Alphonse Island for a thirty minute stop and then flies a further fifty minutes and lands on Providence Island. The group is then transferred to Quo Vadis which will be anchored in close proximity.

DAY 2-6

Breakfast at 07h00, teams to be ready to leave Quo Vadis at 08h00 for fishing. There is a choice between a packed lunch or lunch onboard. At 16h30 your team will head back to Quo Vadis. Pre-dinner drinks will commence at 18h00 and dinner will follow.

DAY 7

Breakfast at 07h00, teams to be ready to leave Quo Vadis at 08h00 for fishing. There is a choice between a packed lunch or lunch onboard. At 16h30 your team will head back to Quo Vadis. There will be time in the evening to de-tackle your gear with snacks and cold refreshments so that you are able to pack your rods, reels and fishing gear away in preparation for departure the following morning.

DAY 8

The time of the flight will be confirmed with you at dinner the evening before departure. Shortly after breakfast you will be required to vacate your cabins so that the crew can prepare them for the incoming group. Checked in luggage will leave Quo Vadis shortly after breakfast. You remain on Quo Vadis where you can swim and relax until an hour before the flight when you will be transferred by tender to the North Island beach, which is a short walk away from the airstrip. After take-off the flight will fly fifteen minutes to Farquhar Atoll where it will need to refuel and then either fly one hour fifty minutes directly to Mahe or divert to Alphonse after an hours flying time, stop for thirty minutes, fly one more hour landing at the IDC hangar in Mahé.

REGULAR CATCHES : bonefish | moustache triggerfish | milkfish
giant trevally | barracuda | bluefin trevally | permit | jobfish
bohar snapper | yellowlipped emperor | sailfish | yellowfin tuna
dogtooth tuna | wahoo | yellowmargin triggerfish | bumphead parrotfish



GETTING THERE

- The Seychelles is a four and a half hour flight from Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Doha which all serve as a connecting hub for regular international flights from Europe, the United States, Africa and Asia.
- There are direct flights to the Seychelles from Paris, Bombay, Nairobi, Mauritius, Antananarivo, Johannesburg, Addis Ababa, Reunion, Colombo, Dar-Es-Salaam, Frankfurt and London.
- Providence Atoll is a one-hour forty-five minute flight from Mahé (the main island of the Seychelles).
- The group meets an hour before the scheduled departure time at the IDC hangar terminal for check in. Check in closes 30 minutes prior to departure.
- Scheduled flights depart and return to Mahé each Sunday.
- Scheduled Flights depart from the IDC Hangar, Pointe Larue, Mahé.
- Flight times are subject to change. Please make sure you confirm your correct flight times with our reservations team.
- Guests are expected to arrive in Mahé the day before their 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 guests to miss their international flights.
- The Alphonse Island reservations team will assist with all return flight reservations between Mahé and Providence at the time of booking.



PROVIDENCE ATOLL

Equipped for the Ultimate Fishing Experiences



TACKLE & GEAR

Quo Vadis will have a full range of tackle on sale such as fly lines, flies, clothing, leader, and various other items.



FLEET & GUIDES

SKIFFS

All fly fishing trips to Providence are accompanied by three experienced fly fishing guides and three purpose built flats skiffs that are equipped with polling platforms and poles, and will be skippered by our experienced, world class and professional Alphonse Fishing Co. guides. Angling teams will be split up into groups of two anglers per skiff and guide.

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 on Quo Vadis.
- Are qualified skippers, with STCW qualifications and have impeccable boat handling skills.
- Have first aid experience.

ROD & REEL LOAN

Fly fishing outfits consisting of Thomas and Thomas fly rods and Shilton reels loaded with 300 yards of Cortland braided backing, these can be loaned at no charge. Fly lines will need to be purchased from the shop to avoid fishing with lines damaged from previous anglers. There is a full range of flies that are custom tied for Alphonse Fishing Co. destinations on the right hooks and with the correct material. It's important that angler's pre book the rod hire as well as tackle to insure that we have sufficient stock. All tackle sales may be settled at the end of your trip upon check out at the guest house. All rod breakages are for your account and will be billed at US\$150 per rod.



EST 1969

THOMAS & THOMAS
THE ROD YOU WILL EVENTUALLY OWN



PROVIDENCE ACCOMMODATION



Motor Yacht Quo Vadis

Quo Vadis is an exceptional 750 luxury expedition catamaran that is well equipped for exploring the most remote Outer 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 10 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. Anchor in the shallows and enjoy Quo Vadis' outstanding dining, all expertly prepared.

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. Step onboard and be welcomed by our expert Captain, First Mate, Steward and Chef who will make sure your cruise is one to remember.

QUO VADIS AT A GLANCE

- Length 75 ft
- Beam 35 ft
- Draft 3.5 ft
- Cabins 4 King / Twin
(3 Cabins for Guests + 1 Cabin for Guides)

ROOM HIGHLIGHTS

- Large port hole windows
- Cupboards
- Electrical points
- En-suite bathroom
- Fully air-conditioned



ESSENTIALS & AMENITIES

Air-conditioned | Bath & Beach Towels | En-suite Bathrooms
L'Occitane Amenities | Yeti Coolers



SEYCHELLES SPECIES



*A Saltwater Wilderness
Waiting to be Explored!*

FLATS FLY FISHING



BUMPHEAD PARROTFISH *Bolbometopon muricatum*

Providence is one of only two atolls in the Seychelles where targeting bumphead parrotfish on the flats is a realistic expectation, with large numbers of these fish calling Providence home. It is not uncommon to find groups of up to 50 fish tailing together on the vast turtle grass flats that Providence is famous for. Incredibly powerful and strangely gorgeous, these are often the fish that draw most anglers to Providence to tick this off their bucket list.



BONEFISH *Albula vulpes*

Providence has an extremely healthy population of bonefish that frequent the flats in the six to nine lbs range. The Seychelles is renowned for world-class bone fishing and Providence atoll offers exactly that. Bonefish can be found on both neap and spring tides. Large expanses of turtle grass and white sand flats gives anglers the opportunity to test their skills at large groups and single tailing fish.



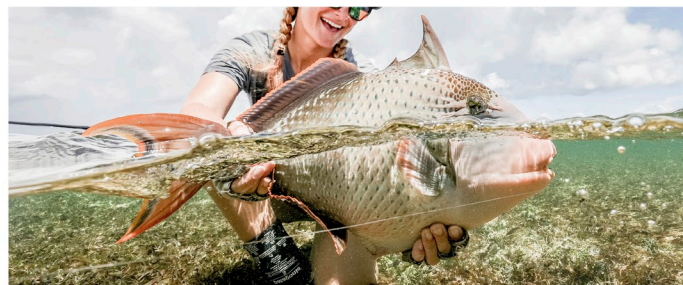
MOUSTACHE TRIGGERFISH *Balistoides viridescens*

A colourful and energetic feeder that tails when feeding in the shallows, both up on the flats and on the reef edges. Known as giant, titan or moustache triggerfish, it is the largest of the three species that can be caught at Providence. AFC Guides were the first to develop the flies and techniques to deceive these fish, as well as to introduce them as a much sought-after trophy for flats fisherman.



INDO-PACIFIC PERMIT *Trachinotus blochii*

Also known as pompano, it is a member of the Carangid family and a relative of the Atlantic permit. Providence has the odd permit that turns up from time to time. The permit on Providence tend to be found along the edges of the mottled flats. If seen, the AFC Guides have near-perfected the art of catching these fish, considered the "Holy Grail" of saltwater fly fishing!



YELLOWMARGIN TRIGGERFISH

Pseudobalistes flavimarginatus

Providence offers great opportunities when it comes to targeting yellowmargin triggerfish. These colourful characters, will test even the most seasoned anglers' patience. With their tenacious and aggressive attitude and sometimes discerning taste, they can be a true trophy catch on the flats.



MILKFISH *Chanos chanos*

A finicky filter feeder and a ferocious acrobatic fighter reaching lengths in excess of 180 cm and weights over 50 lbs. The AFC Guides were the first to develop the flies and techniques to catch this sought-after trophy. The milkfish at Providence are often found outside the lagoon feeding on scum lines or offshore in large numbers.



GIANT TREVALLY *Caranx ignobilis*

The giant trevally fishing on Providence can be exceptional at times with large numbers often seen on the flats that can be targeted on foot. As Providence has a shallow lagoon and is predominantly made up with turtle grass flats, the introduction of skiffs with polls and polling platforms will open up a new dimension of fishing at Providence. New areas will be discovered and the elevation and sight from a skiff will prove invaluable.

SEYCHELLES SPECIES

BLUE WATER FLY FISHING & GAME FISHING



BLUEFIN TREVALLY *Caranxa melampygus*

Bluefin trevally are distributed throughout the tropical waters of the world with populations varying according to fishing pressure. Areas like Providence, 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.



BARRACUDA *Sphyræna 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. Providence boasts beautiful off-shore fishing and is home to incredible specimens.



INDO-PACIFIC SAILFISH *Istiophorus platypterus*

The sailfish is the fastest fish in the sea and named after its large dorsal fin, which extends most of the length of its body. These acrobatic fighters are found in the deeper water that surrounds Providence in good numbers.



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. The wahoo that frequent the Providence waters range between 10 to 50 lbs.



DOGTUOTH TUNA *Gymnosarda unicolor*

Dogtooth tuna are a resident-pelagic fish that are found along the drop-offs in good numbers at Providence. 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.



YELLOWFIN TUNA *Thunnus albacares*

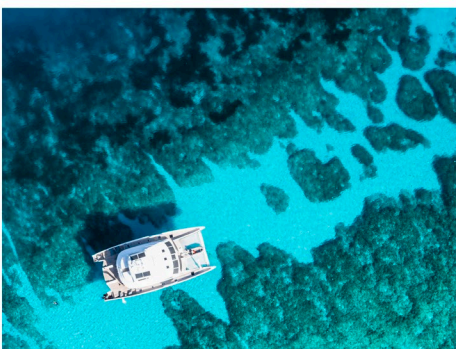
Providence is extremely vast and is surrounded by sheer drop-offs and ledges. Yellowfin tuna tend to follow the bait as they migrate past the various atolls. Providence usually has good numbers of yellowfin tuna for periods of the year.

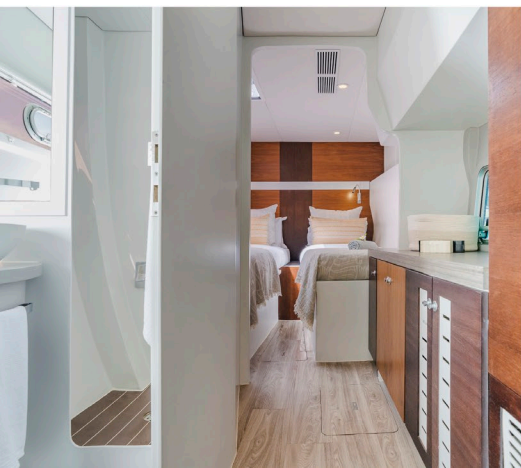
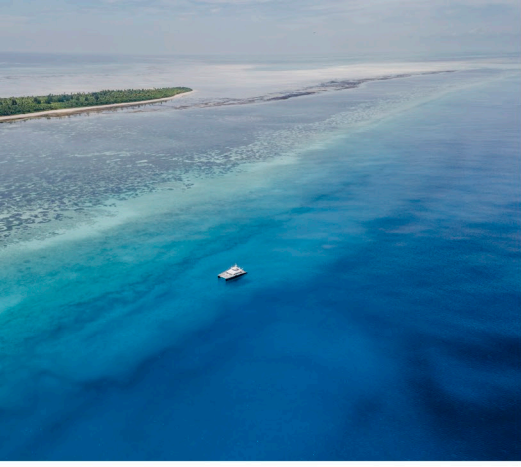
PROVIDENCE EXPERIENCES

Over and Above our World Class Fishing...



Providence Atoll needs to be experienced to be believed... The geographical isolation of Providence Atoll creates an atmosphere of undisturbed solitude where guests forget about the outside world and immerse themselves in all the natural wonders and unique experiences that the island has to offer.





THE FINER DETAILS

Things to Take Note of...

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

RATES INCLUDE

- 7 Night package with all meals included
- Scheduled charter flights
- Six days fully guided fishing
- Max Pax: 6 anglers (2 anglers per 1 guide & skiff)
- Tender boat and fuel
- Rod & reel loan
- Soft drinks, water, tea, coffee, a selection of beers, wines and spirits
- Laundry

RATES EXCLUDE

- International Flights
- Accommodation and transfers in Mahé
- Special alcohol
- Telephone and internet charges
- Travel and medical insurance
- Tackle and flies
- Gratuities
- Conservation donation of US\$210

GENERAL INFORMATION

WEATHER

Seychelles is typically hot and somewhat humid with midday temperatures hovering at $\pm 35^{\circ}$ Celsius [$\pm 90^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit]. The 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 AT PROVIDENCE

The AFC season runs from January to March each year.

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\$210 per week [US\$30 per day]. This will be included on your confirmation invoice and is settled prior to arrival. All packages exclude this conservation donation which is given to the Island Conservation Society 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 on the Island.

Alphonse Island Lodge Limited and agents cannot assume any financial responsibility for consequences incurred if this has not been obtained.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

You are required to obtain travel insurance that will cover any costs incurred due to flight or trip delays for any reason.

INDEMNITY FORM

You are required to sign an indemnity form on boarding Quo Vadis.

ENTRY INTO THE 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 5 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. Note that all travellers must have a valid credit / debit card available to pay the fee. For more information and to apply, refer to the Seychelles Immigration website: seychelles.govtas.com

FLIGHT TIMES

NB: Please check flight times as they vary. The flights leave Mahé from the IDC hangar and arrive on Providence one hour and forty-five minutes later. When leaving, usually, the flight will fly 15 minutes to Farquhar Atoll where it will need to refuel and then either fly one hour fifty minutes directly to Mahe or divert to Alphonse after an hours flying time, stop for 30 minutes, fly one more hour landing at the IDC hangar in Mahé.

LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

Your check in luggage is strictly limited to 20 kg [44 pounds] per person, and 5 kg [12 pounds] carry-on luggage for Providence Atoll. This is a strict policy that allows us to deliver fresh food produce to the boat. If it is not possible to load extra luggage, it will have to be repacked and left in Mahé until your return.

Please adhere to the limits. It is suggested that lighter soft-shell luggage is used. Pack a separate bag with excess equipment to avoid having to repack at the airport. Excess luggage can be left with an Alphonse Fishing Co. 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. A full packing list will be supplied in your Pre-Trip Information.

COMMUNICATION

The phone service is operated via satellite and there is no Wi-Fi.

We advise that you leave the contact details of Alphonse Island with your family and friends. The lodge satellite phone is only switched on at certain times for logistical updates so a message can be passed onto you at this time.

Alphonse Island Number:

+248-4-22-9700 [GMT+04:00].

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The lodge has 24-hour electrical current [240 volt, 50 cycles AC] with British plug points. A European electrical current adapter [three-point, square-pin] is necessary.

WATER CONSUMPTION

There is a desalination plant at the guest house 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.

BEVERAGES

Should you have any special beverage requirements please let us know so we can ensure it is on board for your stay. There will be a selection of wine, beer and spirits on board.

GRATUITY GUIDELINE

If you wish to show appreciation to the general staff, we suggest a US\$350 per guest per week or US\$50 per day guideline. This is to be left with the head fishing guide upon departure for equal distribution.

For the Fly Fishing Guides a US\$650 per angler per week, which is given to the head guide at the end of the week.

All tips are preferred to be paid in cash.

CURRENCY

You do not need to change your US\$ [US Dollars], € [Euros] or £ [Pounds] into the local currency SCR [Seychelles Rupees]. We accept Rupees, Dollars, Euros and Pounds. Please bring sufficient cash to settle tackle bills, tips and other costs incurred. There is a credit card facility onsite. All tabs settled by credit card will incur a 5% credit card levy.

DUTY FREE ALLOWANCE

200 cigarettes or 50 cigars, one litre spirits and two litres wine.

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.

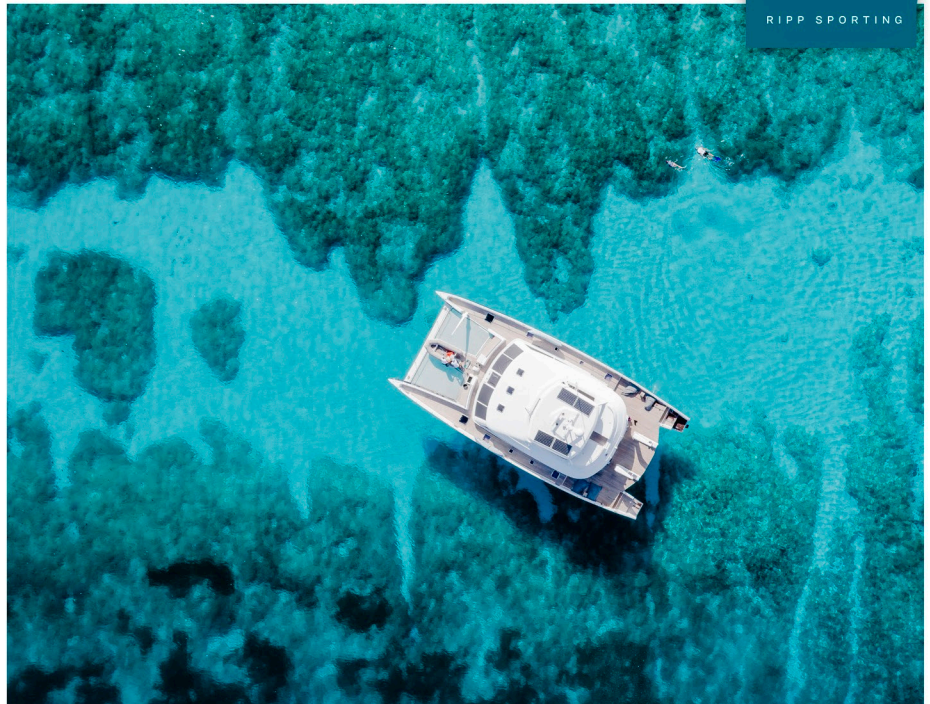
DANGERS TO WATCH OUT FOR WHILST WADING

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.

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 paralyzing venom. The venom from certain species can be fatal, how-ever 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.



RIPP SPORTING

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