

CAIRNS BLACK MARLIN SEASON 2010

Update # 1 : 27th September 2010

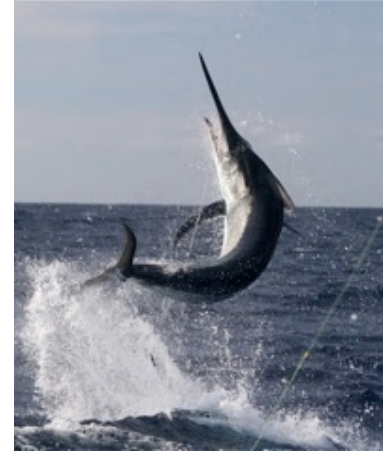
Cairns

The season got underway with most of the marlin fleet already out on the reef by late September, or at the marina making their last minute preparations.

Capt Tim Dean on *Calypso* reported 15 knot winds out on the reef and squally weather conditions, but the fishing has been good. They spotted 5 blacks on Saturday and had bites out of 4 of the fish, releasing one at an estimated 400 # and another at 450# and missed the 2 smaller fish.

Sunday saw the start of our charter, with Wayne and Ben joining the *Calypso* team for a couple days of heavy tackle fishing. They headed straight for The Bank and it proved productive. First day they raised 5 fish and caught 2 small blacks. Monday was another pro-active day with 2 small fish from 2 bites. Must of had something to do with cocktail hour on the reef?

Capt Ross on *Top Shot* also headed out on the weekend from Cooktown. He reported releasing 6 small fish from 7 bites and got a good look at a "nice sized" black



Update # 2 : 23^d October 2010

The Texans' are on their way

DA, Annlyn and Hollywood (the Texan Gang) arrive in Cairns today and we are all flying up to Lizard Island for the next weeks fishing adventures with Capt Tim Dean on *Calypso* and Capt Alan on *Laura J*. Capt Laurie and I will be joining them and cannot wait to get back out on the reef for some action.

The Gerloff and Cox party (also Texan's) are touring around Australia before arriving in Cairns at the end of the month to set out on their first GBR adventure on board *Calypso* and the luxurious mothership *Laura J*.



Update # 3 : 1st November 2010

Halloween on the Reef

Although our long time friends and clients, Dan Allen and Peggy were unable to make the trip out to the reef this season, they did bless us with sending along their son DA and his girlfriend Annlyn and long time fishing buddy, Zac (aka) Hollywood. The laughs on the reef rang out loud and clear and we were entertained all week.

The trip commenced at Lizard Island on the morning of Oct 24th, with a spectacular scenic flight to the Island. We fished down the Ribbon Reefs for the first few days of the charter. But the fishing was a very slow in the middle ribbons, so Capt Tim on *Calypso* decided to move down to the Ridge and the Bank. With perfect indigo blue water, this area produced the best day of the trip with a total of 4 fish from 4 bites. The next few days we picked away at the smaller fish, but they managed to pull hooks or miss the bite and we could only manage another couple of hook ups. DA and Zac were ever vigilant in the cockpit waiting for that illusive big black marlin. With plenty of small blacks we were all sure that the big girls were about to come on the bite. But we just ran out of time and the weeks fishing charter was over before we all knew it.

With Capt Alan (Taffy), Chef Greta, Host Steve and Hostess Alisa on our mother ship *Laura J*, the fabulous food and service was second to none. Everyone had a fantastic time and all vowed and declared to return to the reef for another attempt at finding that big black marlin we all love to see.

Today's reports from the reef have confirmed that we had to come home too early.....the big black have shown up with several boats reporting releases of fish well over the 1,000 pounds.



Update # 4 : 7th November 2010

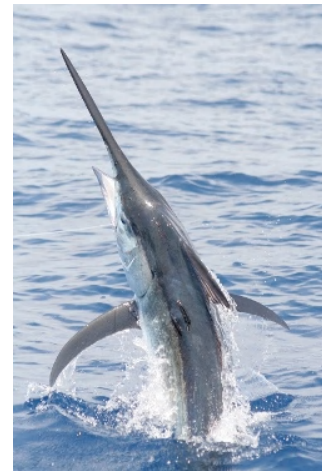
Big Fish Turn Up

Every marlin fisherman hates to have a day off during the season, the only place they want to be when the fish are biting is on the reef..... Halloween on the reef was a definite "trick or treat" with reports of good bites all up and down the reef. Reports of 10 fish over 750 lb and several granders being released.

Our next charter with San Antonio Texans', Darren, Lisa, Mike and Cindy started on Nov 1. This is their first visit to Australia and they are not disappointed. The first day of their charter and Darren released a 450 lb black before lunch, then a 700 lber in the afternoon. Mike got onto a small fish estimated a 250 lb and lost a really big fish later in the afternoon. They also managed to jump off a big sailfish. What a great birthday for Capt Tim. No doubt a few cocktails were consumed whilst recapping the day on the back deck of *Laura J*.

The second day of the charter also produced big fish with Mike releasing a fiesty 750 lber and they jumped off another good sized fish. Day 3 and a change in the weather, with squally conditions being experienced out on the reef, they hooked up to another large black, but jumped her off at the back of the boat. Day 4 they released 2 small blacks from 3 bites. Day 5 and 6 the team managed to pick away at a fish a day.

Always leave the best till last, is the motto. This is exactly what happened. The afternoon bite on the last day of the charter, with Darren in the chair, they hooked up to a big black, well over the 1,000 pound mark. After a 30 minute fight they released "Big Julie" bringing their tally to 10 fish in 7 days with several fish exceeding the 700 pound size. A great first fishing trip to Australia and the Great Barrier Reef did not disappoint.



Update # 5 : 23rd November 2008

What a season !

What a season this was for the Cairns black marlin fleet. The run of large black marlin has been phenomenal, with the fleet still catching good fish every day. At the moment most of the fleet are fishing down at the bottom of the reef around Linden Bank and Jenny Louise Shoal. Quite a few boats have gone wide out to the tuna aggregation in the Coral Sea with reports of lot's of black's along with yellowfin and big eye tuna to 150#.



Luke, and the team on *Kekoa*, Tim, and the team on *Calypso*, have done a great job this season with all their guests having some of the best fishing in years. It is a tribute to their dedication and professionalism that everyone wants to come back. Captain Alan "Taffy" Welsh on our exclusive mother ship *Laura J* absolutely spoilt our guests and chef put on a spread that was exceptional.

Our preferred sportsfishing boats and mother ship are all filling up fast for 2011, so give Julie or myself a call and we will plan your next expedition to Cairns or elsewhere. There are few vacancies on the new 56 foot *Kekoa* for their Barramundi adventure to the West coast of Cape York. If you haven't already caught one of these great sport fish you should make the effort as you will become addicted. Watch this space for a new barra lodge opening up next year on a true "big barra" river.