

# nomad

sportfishing adventures



**Guest Information Booklet**

*Thank you for choosing Nomad Sportfishing for your next fishing adventure.*

*We aim to provide you with the best bluewater fishing trip in Australia. Your satisfaction, enjoyment and safety are our top priorities.*

*Our staff and crew are there to assist you in any way possible at any time, so please feel free during your trip to let us know if there is anything we can do for you.*

*This booklet contains all the information you need for your trip. We require that you thoroughly read this booklet, keep it to assist with trip planning, and even bring it with you on your trip so you have all the required information on hand.*

*See you on the water*

*The Nomad Sportfishing Team*

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## Bookings

**Booking form:** Once you have decided on your trip dates, we ask you to complete and return a signed copy of our booking form. We request this form as acknowledgement that you have read through this booklet, are aware of your personal obligations when booking a trip with Nomad Sportfishing and agree to our booking terms and conditions.

**Deposits:** We also require a 50% deposit to secure your position on any of our trips. We cannot consider you as being booked and having reserved a place until the 50% deposit is received. Receipt of deposit and/or final payment by Nomad Sportfishing is acknowledgement that the registrant has read and accepts our terms and conditions.

**Final payments:** Balance payments for trips and any flights coordinated through our office are payable 1 month before departure for the trip.

## Terms and Conditions

**Travel insurance:** We require that all clients take out travel insurance for their trips. In the event that a trip is cancelled/rescheduled due to weather or any unforeseen circumstances, we cannot accept responsibility for any loss of trip costs, airfares, lost holiday time or any other financial consequences as a result of the booking. We make every effort to conduct all trips on time and to the proposed itinerary. Cancellations are exceptionally rare, but we believe travel insurance is a wise and also very cheap investment. It is a condition of booking that you agree to take out some type of travel insurance to cover any unforeseen events. For this reason, we have established a partnership with Chartis, one of the world's largest insurance companies, to provide a coverage option for Australian guests on our trips. For all overseas guests, please contact your local travel agent for insurance options.

Chartis Insurance (Australian citizens only) receive a 20% Discount:

By booking through the nomad link on our web page you will receive a 20% discount on the normal Chartis rate. All you need to do is go to our home page, **www.nomadsportfishing.com.au**, and click on the travel insurance link. This will then take you to the Chartis Nomad Sportfishing page, where you can choose the cover that is right for you. Simply click the "get quote" button on the category that applies. We recommend choosing the full comprehensive package listed under Australian domestic travellers. Note that this insurance is offered through Chartis Insurance, and Nomad Sportfishing has no control over claim settlement or any other aspect of claim

payment. Nomad Sportfishing simply presents this as an option for travel insurance, as a service to our guests. Before taking any travel insurance from any company, please read the full product disclosure statement, and be satisfied that the policy provides you with the cover you require for your circumstance.

**Medical evacuations:** We are able to evacuate people from the remote areas we visit through our seaplane service, the Royal Flying Doctor Service and government rescue operations. It is our understanding that medical evacuations for Australian Citizens that are co-ordinated by the Royal Flying Doctors are covered by the Australian Medicare system, but medical evacuations for non Australian citizens are not covered by our Government. Please ensure that your travel insurance covers medical evacuation if you are not an Australian citizen. Please note that all guests, Australian or non-Australian, would be liable for the cost of a medical evacuation requested through our seaplane provider.

**Cancellation policy:** Deposits are non refundable. However, you can transfer the date of your trip if there is a legitimate reason, and we are notified of the request in writing more than 100 days prior to departure for the trip. Please note that if you cancel or want to move your trip, less than 100 days prior to the day of departure, for any reason at all, you will be liable for the full price of the trip including the seaplane flight cost. This amount will be payable 1 month before the scheduled departure for the trip. It is unlikely that we will be able to fill the vacant position at such short notice, and this is the reason for this policy. If you notify us more than 100 days prior to the trip about a cancellation or rescheduling, and we are able to fill the position you will be charged an administration fee of 6% of the total trip cost, including floatplane fees if relevant, and the remainder of your deposit will be refunded.

**Weather cancellations and delays:** Cancellations/delays due to weather are at the discretion of the skipper of Odyssey and the owners of the vessels involved in the trips, or as per instructions from the seaplane pilot regarding suitability of weather for landing the plane. Guests will be notified as soon as possible regarding any delays or cancellations due to weather. In the event that a trip is cancelled/delayed, usually only due to exceptionally strong winds, the travel insurance you have taken out will need to cover cancellations or reductions in trip length, any rescheduling of flights and accommodation. On rare occasions the weight limit available to guests on floatplane flights is revised due to weather conditions to allow the floatplane to carry an additional fuel safety margin, and travel insurance will need to cover the freight costs for baggage that may need to be left onboard and posted to you after Odyssey returns to port. Please also be aware that unfavorable weather conditions may mean that additional

crew are required onboard Odyssey to safely facilitate floatplane flights, and this may impede our ability to take guests fishing when the floatplane is schedule to arrive/ depart. Nomad Sportfishing does not offer a trip refund for weather cancellations, or reductions in trip length, but we will do everything possible to ensure that you have everything you need to make a claim on your travel insurance. You will be able to use the invoices issued at the time of your booking to claim back the full amount of the trip, including airfare, on your travel insurance policy. We must reiterate that it is HIGHLY unlikely that a trip will be cancelled at the time of year we normally operate.

**Fuel surcharge:** Due to the uncertainty of world oil prices, we now have to charge a fuel levy on charters if the price of fuel changes too dramatically. If the pump price of diesel or unleaded fuel that we pay at the time that we refuel for your trip goes over \$1.50/litre, we will be charging \$65/person for every 10 cents over \$1.50/litre for diesel fuel and \$65/person for every 10 cents over \$1.50 for unleaded fuel. This will be an incremental scale. You will be notified before the trip if this levy applies and the additional amount will be placed onto your bar or tackle tab at the end of the week.

**Minimum numbers for mixed group weeks:** Please be aware that we have a minimum number threshold in place before we can run a mixed group week that individuals and small groups have booked onto. For Drive Out Trips this minimum is 7 anglers, for Lagoon Explorer and Ultimate Adventure trips this threshold is 6 anglers. It is very rare that we do not reach this minimum but we will inform you two months before your departure date if there is an issue that may require a charter to be rescheduled.

## Getting to the Reefs

**Getting to reefs using floatplane flights:** All floatplane flights to Kenn, Frederick, Wreck, Marion, Flinders, Diamond Islets, Bugatti Reef, Shoalwater Bay and Elusive Reef depart from Hamilton Island, the largest island in the Whitsundays group in North Queensland. Hamilton Island can be reached by direct flights from most state capital cities with Qantas, Virgin Australia and Jetstar airlines. Please ENSURE that your connecting flights to Hamilton Island arrive the day before you fly to the reef, and depart the day after you return from the reef. This allows for some flexibility as far as weather and tides go for the seaplane to land at the reef. Tides permitting, or if you have a whole boat booking, we do have some flexibility for connecting flights to save staying a night at Hamilton Island if you choose, however we take no responsibility for lost connections should a delay arise on the day of your flight.

Hamilton Island as a whole is run by the one company - there are a variety of

accommodation styles available but accommodation is limited so please ensure that you make your travel arrangements well ahead of your trip. We have a deal with the Island, and are able to provide a small discount to Nomad guests. Please contact us for assistance with booking accommodation at Hamilton Island or if you would prefer to book direct the number to call is 13 REEF (137 333) within Australia or +61 2 9433 0444 outside Australia. If your accommodation is organised by our office you will receive confirmation details by email or post. If you have not received confirmation details from us, we have not made a booking on your behalf. It is each guest's responsibility to check reservation details once confirmation advice has been received. Please make sure you take a copy of your booking confirmation with you to the island. Courtesy buses provided by the hotel you are staying with will meet you on arrival at Hamilton Island and take you to your accommodation.

On the day of your floatplane flight, an Island Air courtesy bus will pick you up from your hotel at a designated pickup time before the floatplane flights. You will be contacted approximately 1 week before departure for your trip with final confirmation details. We will advise you of an estimated pickup time from your hotel but please note that the same pick up time is provided for all six guests travelling on each plane and it may take 10-15 minutes for Island Air to make their way to everyone's hotels. If you have any concerns please call Island Air on the number provided at the back of this booklet. Alternately you may ask your hotel desk to phone Island Air for you.

**Getting to Mackay:** All Drive Out Trips depart from the Mackay Marina. Mackay can be reached by daily flights from Brisbane, Sydney or Cairns run by Jetstar, Virgin Australia and Qantas. Once you have arrived at the airport, there is a complimentary taxi phone outside the Virgin Australia arrivals door, and the marina is a short 15 minute drive from the airport. If you intend to stay overnight in Mackay we recommend the Clarion Hotel at the Mackay Marina. If you plan to drive to Mackay we have contact details for a secure storage facility that will pick up your car from the marina and return it at the end of your trip.

**Getting to Jewell reef:** The pick up point for all Jewell Reef trips is Lizard Island, a remote Island located to the north east of Cooktown on the Cape York Peninsula, that is accessed via a short 60 minute flight from Cairns. Flights to Cairns are available from all Australian capital cities with Qantas, Virgin Australia and Jetstar airlines. Please allow 1 hour between your flight to Cairns and your Lizard Island departure time for domestic connections and 2 hours for international connections. Lizard Island flights depart from the general aviation section of Cairns airport. The hangar is a short 5 minute taxi ride from the main domestic/international terminals. All guests will be met

by our crew at the small “terminal” (open air hut) next to the runway at Lizard Island and escorted to Odyssey.

**Getting to Bligh reef:** The departure point for all Bligh Reef trips is Portland Roads, in Far North Queensland. Portland Roads is easily accessed via daily flights from Cairns to Lockhart River with Skytrans. We co-ordinate all flights with Skytrans and payment for your flights is made through our office one month prior to departure. Once you have arrived at Lockhart River you will take a vehicle transfer or boat transfer to Portland Roads, which is approximately an hour away. Full confirmation details for this transfer will be provided one week prior to your departure. Skytrans is located at the main domestic terminal at the Cairns Airport. Please allow at least 1 hour between your Skytrans flights and your domestic connections and 2 hours for international connections. Lockhart River is a dry Aboriginal community and it is illegal to carry alcohol into town, even if unopened.

**Transporting rod tubes:** Many domestic air carriers in Australia have baggage weight limits and restrictions on the length of rod tubes allowed to be carried. Jetstar Airways allow rod tubes up to a maximum length of 1.9m. We believe that Qantas and Virgin Australia airways allow longer rod tubes, but please ask your travel agent to ensure they check any special requirements. There are no size limits on the length of rod tubes that can be carried on Island Air floatplane flights or Skytrans flights. There may be size limits on the length of rod tubes that can be carried on flights to Lizard Island, depending on the type of plane used for your flight. Please check this at the time of booking.

## **The Floatplane (Seaplane)**

For those trips incorporating Floatplane Flights, your transport to the reefs will be aboard a Cessna Caravan equipped with floats. This plane can land at most reefs in up to 25kn of wind, but only at low tide in strong winds. It is for this reason that we ask you to allow some leeway with connecting flights to avoid any missed flights. This is particularly important for guests travelling from outside Australia.

Floatplane flight delays/cancellations are rare but are a possibility that needs to be considered before travel. In the event of a delay our office will provide assistance with alternative arrangements for any clients requiring help, but neither the airline nor Nomad Sportfishing can be held liable for issues with connecting flights, accommodation or additional costs as a result of cancelled or rescheduled flight itineraries, and we strongly recommend that you take out travel insurance for your trip to help avoid any

issues. Please also be aware that unfavorable weather conditions may mean that additional crew are required onboard Odyssey to safely facilitate floatplane flights, and this may impede our ability to take guests fishing when the floatplane is scheduled to arrive/depart. The times of year we operate are outside normal extreme weather periods, and it is unlikely that there will be a problem with seaplane flights, but it is something we would rather make you aware of now rather than when it happens. We do not control the cost of the floatplane flights, and due to the uncertainty of world oil prices, please also note that the price of floatplane flights may vary when making bookings a long way in advance, and any increases in this cost will be passed on at the time of final payment for your trip. If floatplane costs increase, you will be notified immediately that we are made aware of the situation.

**Weight limits:** There is a strict 20kg weight limit on the seaplane to the Coral Sea. If you exceed this weight limit it is at the pilot's discretion that you may be asked to leave some baggage behind. You will need to contact us before your trip if this is a problem. On rare occasions the weight limit available to guests on floatplane flights is revised due to weather conditions to allow the floatplane to carry an additional fuel safety margin, and travel insurance will need to cover the freight costs for baggage that may need to be left onboard and posted to you after Odyssey returns to port.

**Arriving at Odyssey via seaplane:** When you step off the seaplane and aboard the mothership (Odyssey) you will be greeted by our crew and asked to make your way to the top deck of Odyssey to allow us to unload and reload the seaplane. All your bags will be placed downstairs in the main saloon, and after the safety briefing, you will be directed to choose a cabin, and take your luggage to that cabin. Please keep the aft deck clear upon arrival.

## **Our Boats - Odyssey (Mothership)**

Odyssey is an 80ft aluminium catamaran that was completed in August 2005. The boat has been purpose built for our charter work, and offers you a very comfortable platform from which to enjoy your trip.

**Safety onboard Odyssey:** We take your safety very seriously in such a remote environment. Please advise us if you have any medical conditions which we need to be aware of. We also ask that you tell us of any allergies or food related issues so we can cater accordingly. Please advise us of this well in advance of your trip. During the course of your trip you will need to be able to climb from the mothership onto any of our smaller vessels. This is not at all difficult, and assistance is always

provided by the crew, but we do ask that you take **EXTREME** caution when moving from one vessel to another. Just follow the instructions from the crew when boarding and disembarking vessels, and always take your time and ensure a good safe footing. We have a full Royal Flying Doctor Service medical kit onboard and our crew are familiar with safety techniques and resuscitation. However we need you to be aware that you are travelling to a remote location and while we have taken every step to ensure your safety there are still risks involved with being in a remote location, should a medical emergency occur. When joining one of our fishing charters, you agree to absolve Nomad Sportfishing and its employees of any liability for any harm that may come to you as a result of this trip. Nomad Sportfishing always takes its duty of care to each and every guest very seriously, but it must be accepted that risks still exist, and by joining one of our trips you formally agree to absolve Nomad Sportfishing of ANY legal liability for any injury, harm or other incident that may occur as a result of one of these trips. By joining one of our charters you also agree to adhere strictly to all safety procedures and instructions given by the skipper and crew at ALL times. ALL garbage will be disposed of according to our onboard guidelines, and **NOTHING** is to be thrown over the side of any vessel while in these pristine areas.

**Smoking onboard Odyssey:** Smoking is permitted on the mothership, as per crew instructions, but on the top deck area only. We are very strict on the enforcement of where you can smoke as we usually have a large amount of fuel stored around the vessel and hot ash poses a major safety hazard near fuel breathers.

**Meals onboard Odyssey:** All meals onboard Odyssey are catered for by our chef. If you have any food allergies, or any special dietary requirements we need to be notified of them at least 6 weeks prior to departure for your trip, otherwise we cannot guarantee that we can accommodate these special requirements. If there's a chance that you may require an EPIPEN in the event of an allergic reaction please make sure you bring one with you, and that you alert our crew as to its location and use. Breakfast usually consists of a continental breakfast with toast, cereal, fruit juice, bacon, eggs, hash browns and sausages, or a combination of these. Lunches are available to be eaten onboard the mothership should you choose to return for lunch, or a packed lunch is taken onboard each fishing vessel, usually consisting of ham or chicken and salad wraps with fruit and muesli bars or biscuits available throughout the day. Dinner is a 3 course feast every night, and this is where our Chef shines. An entree, main and dessert will be served, and the nature of these dishes varies from week to week. All soft drinks, fruit juice, keg beer and bottled water are supplied while onboard.

**Alcoholic beverages onboard Odyssey:** Our onboard bar will provide complimentary beer on tap for the duration of the trip. There are 2 kegs provided free of charge on each trip, after the 2 kegs are used, all beer can be purchased through the bar. We are a licensed venue bound by liquor licencing laws. Under the conditions of our Liquor Licence, we are unable to serve guests under 18 years of age, our bar opens at 10am and closes at 12am daily, BYO alcohol is prohibited and any persons deemed to be excessively intoxicated will be refused service. Our bar stocks a full range of local and imported beer as well as spirits and wines. These will all be available for purchase onboard Odyssey during our approved trading hours of 10am until midnight and onboard the fishing vessels during daylight hours after 10am. Please advise us if you have any specific requirements and we will make sure it is onboard for your convenience. Please be aware that all guests are expected to comply with Queensland drug and alcohol legislation, and any persons found to be breaking these laws will be immediately removed from the vessel at their own expense.

**Drinking water onboard Odyssey:** We have desalinated water onboard the mothership, this water tastes better than bottled water. We supply each guest with a complimentary reusable water bottle to use during the trip and take home. We also supply coolers of desalinated water onboard the fishing vessels and these are used to top up your water bottles.

**Photo service onboard Odyssey:** We will provide you with a DVD compilation of all the images from all crew and guest cameras on your trip. You do not need to bring anything for this, and it is complimentary. You will go home with a DVD with a huge collection of everyone's pictures from the trip.

**Music onboard Odyssey:** Please feel free to bring any CDs or your Ipod onboard the vessel. If bringing an Ipod, please make sure you have an AV jack to plug into the front of a Yamaha amp.

**Accommodation onboard Odyssey:** There are five guest bedrooms in total, 2 x twin share rooms and 3 x quad share bunk rooms. Each room has storage facilities for personal gear (excluding tackle, which is stored on the top deck). All linen including pillows, sheets, blankets and towels are provided onboard the vessel. Please bring your own beach towel if you intend to swim or snorkel.

**Cabin reservation:** We have 2 forward cabins on Odyssey which are twin share. These cabins can be reserved on a first in first served basis. The cost to reserve these cabins is \$250/person twin share or \$500 for sole occupancy.

**Toilet/shower facilities onboard Odyssey:** There are 2 x combined toilet/shower rooms for shared guest use.

**Other activities onboard Odyssey:** Other complimentary activities available while on Odyssey are:

- snorkeling (mask, snorkel and fins in a variety of sizes are available)
- DVDs
- boardgames
- playing cards
- beach walking/bird watching (reef specific)

**Storage of personal items onboard Odyssey before/after trips:** If you are concerned about weight limits on the floatplane we do offer the option to send gear ahead of your trip, to be taken out to sea on Odyssey. Any items sent ahead will need to arrive at Mackay/Cairns Marina or the specified location directly before Odyssey's departure from port, which in some cases may be up to 9 weeks before your trip. Please co-ordinate this with our office. Nomad Sportfishing takes no responsibility for ensuring that items sent ahead do make it onboard Odyssey, and it is the guest's responsibility to ensure that their items arrive at the correct location at the correct time to be picked up by our crew. We would suggest you call us on the day of estimated delivery of your gear to confirm that it is onboard for your trip. All personal/fishing items must be removed from Odyssey on your departure at the end of the trip. Due to space constraints onboard Odyssey, we are unable to store guest items onboard between trips, even if you do come fishing with us on a regular basis. Please understand that we go out to sea for up to 10 weeks at a time and all storage space is a required to allow us to stow essential items for charter.

## **Our Boats - Fishing Boats**

We use a variety of different sportfishing vessels on each trip, and the size of boats available varies depending on the trip style you have chosen.

**Safety onboard fishing boats:** We take your safety very seriously in such a remote environment. Each fishing boat is equipped with a small first aid kit, life jackets, flares and an EPIRB. Our crew will give you a safety briefing when you first board each boat. Please make sure you are aware of the location of all safety items in case of an emergency, and also that you are aware of how to use a VHF radio in the event that

your guide is injured/incapacitated. We need to be advised if you have any medical conditions which we need to be aware of while you are fishing. Please make sure you bring any personal medicine that you may require on board with you each day and make our crew aware of any actions they may need to take.

**Rotation between fishing boats:** Our Ultimate Adventures, Lagoon Explorers and Drive Out Trips offer a wide variety of fishing options using a range of different sized boats, and you will be rotated throughout our range of vessels during your trip. We speak with our guests of an evening to see what they would like to do the next day, and allocate boats according to everyone's fishing preferences.

**Toilet facilities on fishing boats:** Toilet facilities are available onboard our 36ft sportfishing vessel but the smaller 18ft and 25ft centre consoles do not have toilets fitted. If you have any problems with this arrangement, please let us know well before your trip and we may be able to ensure a porta potti toilet is onboard a vessel for you.

**Smoking:** Smoking is also permitted onboard the smaller fishing vessels, but it will be as per the guidelines identified by the crew on these vessels.

## **What To Bring - Personal Items**

**Clothing:** Bring plenty of long sleeved shirts, and sun protective headwear. Broad brimmed hats are a must in the often hot, sunny climate. Polarised sunglasses are also very useful for fishing around the lagoons. Suitable footwear for walking around the rough coral found on the sand cays and islands is also essential. A raincoat/sprayjacket is recommended for all trips, as well as a supply of sunscreen. Please remember to bring some warm clothes for any trips booked between June-September as it can get a little chilly at night out on the water.

**Toiletries:** Please bring all of your own soap, personal sanitary items, toothpaste and toothbrush. Earplugs are also a good idea when sharing a cabin with potential snorers.

**Medical requirements:** We must be notified of any medical conditions/requirements that we need to be aware of. It is assumed that guests with existing medical conditions have been deemed fit and able to participate in a long range, offshore fishing trip by a registered medical practitioner. You are responsible for bringing any special medication or medical equipment you may need on board with you. Please make sure that you make our crew aware of any actions they may need to take to assist you in

an emergency.

**Security:** We ask that each guest is responsible for the security of their own belongings. We aim to provide the safest environment possible and we ask that all guests respect the belongings and privacy of others whilst onboard.

## Fishing Tackle

**What is provided (rods and reels):** Each guest will have made available a variety of rods and reels for use on all of our charters. Drive Out Trips and Lagoon Explorer guests will have access to top of the range Shimano/Yamaga spin gear for popper fishing, light jigging, light tackle trolling and light tackle lure casting. Ultimate Adventures guests will be provided with these plus outfits for deep water jigging and a full range of Shimano light and heavy tackle stand up and chair gear. We also have multiple gimble belts onboard each boat for guests to use.

Due to wear and tear, we will charge a nominal weekly maintenance fee for some rod/reel combinations, dependent on which trip you have chosen, and what gear you wish to use. The amount for this will be advised prior to your trip. Many outfits will be provided as part of your package price, and the maintenance fee will only apply to specific outfits such as heavy GT spinning outfits.

**What fishing gear do I have to pay for?:** In addition to the maintenance fee for the Heavy GT outfit (if relevant), we ask anglers to pay for terminal tackle and lures used/lost because this is such a variable cost from week to week and it is very difficult for us to factor this into the pricing. We believe a user pays system is much fairer for all guests. Onboard our vessels, the skippers and guides will have all the lures/terminal tackle you need for each day. This will be professionally rigged and ready to go when you get onboard every day. Whatever tackle is used/lost will be put on each angler's tab throughout the week according to the following guidelines:-

Any new lure used (deployed overboard) will be paid for by the angler using that lure. That lure is then the property of the person first using the lure, and they are welcome to keep it at the end of the day.

Any trolling lure on shared trolling outfits supplied by Nomad that is lost will be put onto the account of the person who was on the rod when the lure was lost. If you are trolling with shared trolling outfits and pick up a rod that happens to get busted off by a fish, then that is your lure. All trolling lures used on personal trolling outfits will be charged

to the angler who owns that outfit.

Any line lost from our reels due to bustoffs or reefings will be put on the account of the person who lost the line. People will not be charged if line is simply changed because it is old.

Any rods or reels that are broken or dropped overboard will need to be payed for by the angler. Any line, rods or reels lost will be paid for at our cost price.

All tackle will be noted down each day by your guide/deckie and placed on your tackle tab sheet that evening. You will then be expected to settle the account at the end of the week via credit card, or cash. While every effort is made by our crew to ensure this tab is accurate it is each guest's responsibility to monitor this tab and ensure the items recorded are correct. We suggest initialling your account each evening to be sure it is up to date.

**Onboard tackle shop:** We will be running a tackle shop onboard the vessel, which stocks everything you will need for a week in the Coral Sea. All the tackle we recommend to bring will be available onboard to purchase. You can simply fly in step onboard and go fishing safe in the knowledge that all the very best tackle available will be on hand for you to use for the week. You can ask us to send you the tackle shop prices, or simply check them out at our online store:

**[www.nomadtackle.ashop.com.au](http://www.nomadtackle.ashop.com.au)** before you come out.

**What tackle to bring (optional):** If you want to bring some of your own tackle, you will need to bring gear that is up to at least the standard of the gear we provide. Our recommendations for each specific reef are detailed at:

**[www.nomadssportfishing.com.au](http://www.nomadssportfishing.com.au)** or you can speak to one of our guides by calling the office on 1800 021 014.

We require the use of heavy lines in some situations to ensure fish are landed quickly and released in good condition. If you do not bring tackle which is up to the required standard, you will not be permitted to use it in certain situations if the guide is concerned about losing or harming fish.

## **Fish Handling and Release Practices**

**Code of Practice:** Particular attention must be paid to these guidelines by ALL guides, skippers, fishing crew and guests. Compliance with these guidelines is

mandatory for attending any trip, and this code of conduct will be strictly enforced with no exceptions.

- All fish are to be handled in a way which does not damage them.
- No fish is ever to be removed from the water tail first, or held up by its tail, as this is likely to break the fish's back. All fish should be held up with a hand on the tail, and another hand supporting under the belly or gill plates of the fish. Hands are NEVER to be placed inside the fish's gills for photographs.
- Barbless single hooks are to be used at ALL times, unless using small lures for light tackle fishing. Treble hooks UNDER size 4/0 are permitted for use on smaller lures and minnows for light tackle fishing, but trebles of size 4/0 and over are not to be used under any circumstances.
- Wet gloves are to be worn by any guest holding a fish, and wet gloves are the only acceptable way in which a guide or guest should ever hold a fish.
- Fish should never come in contact with a dry shirt. If a fish is likely to come into contact with a dry shirt while being held for a picture, the guest's shirt will be sprayed with salt water to ensure the fish does not lose its protective slime coating.
- Boga Grips are generally used on all fish for handling and release. When using a lip gaff to remove a fish from the water, be particularly careful to insert the lip gaff in a way in which it does not damage the fish's tongue or jaw. It should be inserted under the tongue and out the opening under the jaw, ensuring the fish is not damaged
- ALL fish that come to the surface with an inflated swim bladder will be popped by inserting a special deflating device into the abdomen, just behind the pectoral fin. This shall be as demonstrated by an experienced skipper or guide.
- All fish that come to the surface with an inflated swim bladder will be released on a release weight. The crew will ensure that the release weight is ready at all times to be deployed when fishing. It is the vessel skipper's responsibility to ensure this device is onboard and used at all times.
- Each guest is allowed to choose 2 dogtooth tuna per week to remove from the water and photograph. Once they have removed their 2 dogtooth tuna from the water, any other fish can be photographed in the water before release, with the angler kneeling near the fish whilst still in the water.
- Dogtooth tuna being released in the water should be released using a release weight if there is any sign of a bloated swim bladder. The fish should also be deflated with the deflating tool.
- When a dogtooth tuna is taken from the water, it is not to be out of the water for longer than 20 seconds for a photograph. This is as determined by the skipper

of the vessel. All necessary arrangements for pictures must be made before the fish is removed from the water. There are no exceptions to this, and journalists/presenters must also adhere to these rules. Cameras must be made ready if required, but most skippers will have a camera on which to take photographs and can assist with this.

- If fishing in any location where a fish is taken by a shark, the skipper of the vessel is required to cease all fishing in that spot and immediately move from that location, by at least 500 metres. The skipper is not to return to the location of the shark attack for at least 2 hours. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- No dead fish are to EVER be left floating on the surface. If a fish has died, it will be brought back to the mothership, and used appropriately.
- ALL GTs and dogtooth tuna are to be tagged in the appropriate location before release. Please ensure that tag cards are correctly filled with your full name and address to assist with record keeping. The skipper of the vessel tagging the fish is responsible for returning tag cards.
- Any angler bringing tackle of their own which is not in line with the tackle recommendations for that particular location will be instructed to use the gear supplied onboard the vessel or will not be allowed to fish. This applies particularly to dogtooth tuna fishing and GT fishing in certain locations. Light tackle results in lost fish, fish being sharked and exhausted fish, all of which are outside our guidelines for an environmentally sustainable fishery.

**Taking Fish Home:** We do discourage taking fish home, and there are weight limits on the plane which make it very difficult to bring anything back to the mainland. For this reason, we do not facilitate the bringing home of fish fillets. However we will be eating fresh fish while on the trip and you can request to eat as much of this as you like.

## **Additional Costs (Optional)**

**Merchandise:** We run a shop that sells Columbia fishing shirts, T-shirts and numerous other Nomad Sportfishing promotional items.

**Phone and Email Service (onboard Odyssey only):** We have a satellite phone and email system onboard which is available for general usage. The satellite phone can be used from anywhere on the vessel and is operated through a normal household cordless phone. To use the satellite phone you will have to purchase a phonecard onboard which will allow between 20-30 minutes talk time. Email is available and is charged per 100Kb of information sent/received via our system. Please note that we

have a size limit on incoming and outgoing mail.

**Clothes Washing Service (onboard Odyssey only):** We can wash a small number of clothes onboard at a small fee per load. We do have to make our own water and therefore we do need to limit the washing of clothes.

**Tipping The Crew:** While it is not expected or required, if you feel that any member of the crew, or the crew as a whole, have provided you with a level of service worthy of a tip, then please feel free to do so. The amount of the tip is at your discretion, but we usually tell people to do the same as they might do in a restaurant. Tips can be given to individuals or to a senior member of the crew, and will be shared between the entire crew.

## **Paying For Items Onboard**

All clients wishing to purchase any items including tackle and drinks onboard will be asked to pay for their purchases at the end of each week. We will keep a running tab for the week that will have all purchases detailed, and we will ask each person to sign their ledger at the end of the week to confirm that this record is correct. Once you have signed the purchase sheet we will process your payment via credit card or cash.

## **Important Contact Information**

### **Nomad Sportfishing Office:**

**1800 021 014 or +61 (0)7 3256 9433**

### **Hamilton Island Air - Seaplane:**

**+61 (0)7 4969 9599**

### **Hamilton Island:**

**Accommodation Reservations: 137333 or +61 (0)2 9433 0444**

**Switchboard & Restaurant Bookings: +61 (0)7 4946 9999**

### **Skytrans - (Lockhart River Transfers):**

**[www.skytrans.com.au](http://www.skytrans.com.au) or +61 (0)7 4040 6700**

### **Voyages - (Lizard Island Transfers):**

**Daintree Air +61 (0)7 4034 9300**

**Jetstar Airways: 13 15 38 or +61 (0)3 9092 6401**

**Virgin Australia Airlines: 13 67 89 or +61 (0)7 3295 2296**

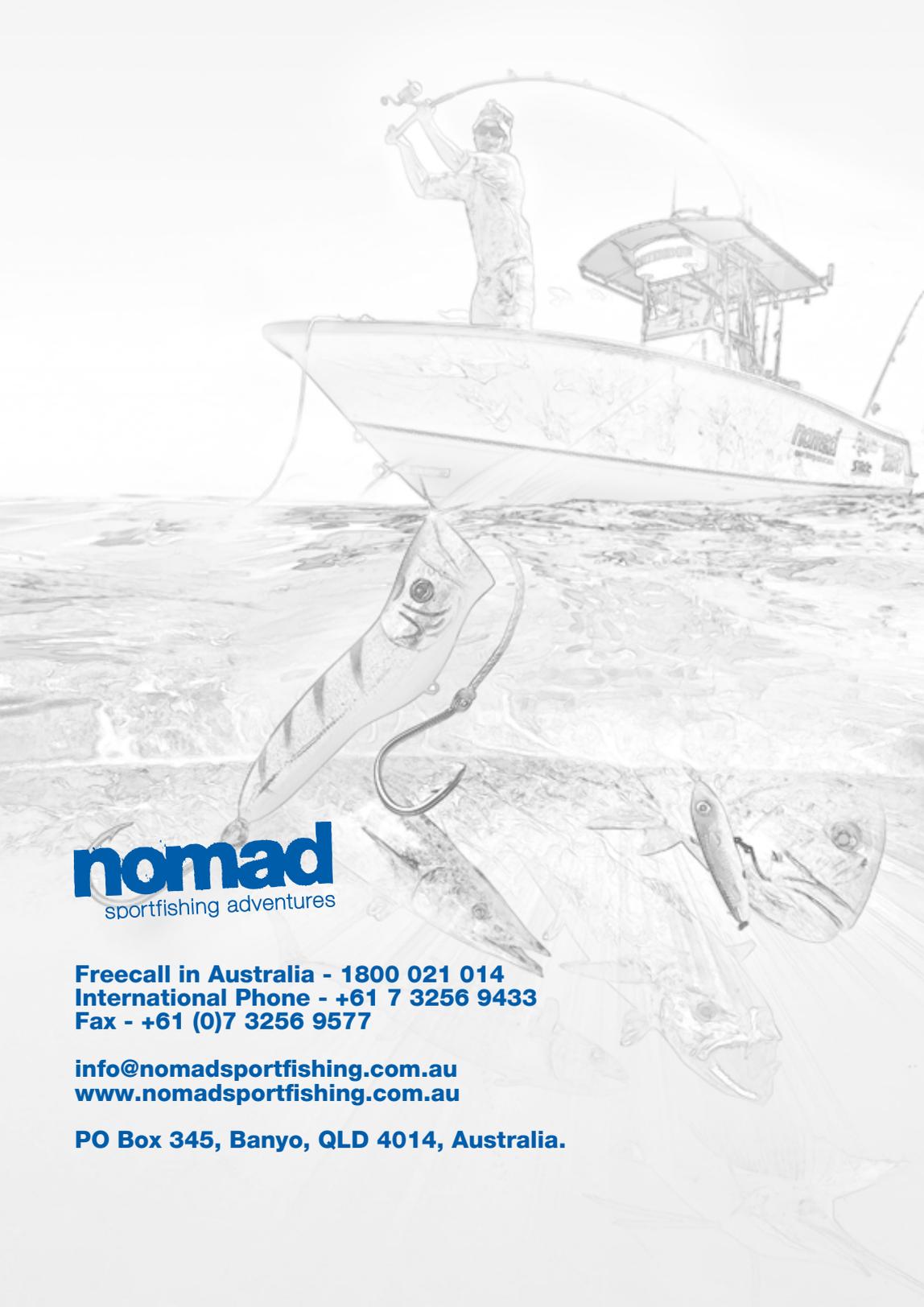
**Qantas Airways: 13 13 13**

### **Chartis/Nomad travel insurance website (20% discount):**

**[www.chartistravelinsurance.com.au/nomadsporfishing/default.aspx](http://www.chartistravelinsurance.com.au/nomadsporfishing/default.aspx)**

### **Chartis Travel Policy and Claims enquiry:**

**1800 017 682**



**nomad**  
sportfishing adventures

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