

MATAVENI RIVER PACKING LIST

The first and most important... Please resist the tendency to over pack. Satena Airlines has a weight limit of only 15kg per passenger on checked bags and 5kg on carry-on bags. It's very important to be right on the weight limit. Weight limits are strictly enforced. The less luggage you have to manage, the easier it will be to get around. Fishing partners should coordinate their packing of some items to avoid unnecessary duplication. Carry your most valuable, essential and fragile in your carry-on pack. Try to fit everything into a single checked bag. Daily Laundry service is available at the camp. Any excess of baggage will be left in Bogota.

- Hooks, pliers, boga grips and fishing/fly line are not allowed in carry-on bags. These items have to go in checked bags.

-waterproof duffel bags are strongly recommended for our camping trips. Bags are often exposed to the elements during boat rides to the camp.

FISHING TACKLE

Casting and spinning rods medium-heavy action

Spinning & casting reels able to hold at least 130 yards of line.

20 to 50lb braided line recommended for casting- plug rods

12 to 30lb braid or mono recommended for spinning gear.

30 to 50lb Fluorocarbon leader or hard mono leader material such as mason

Be sure to bring extra fishing line.

40 to 60lb wire leader with strong snaps.

A light tackle outfit is always fun for smaller tropical species.

-PEACOCK BASS LURES

Luhr-Jensen Woodchopper, Peacock Specials, HighRollers, Pavon Prop or similar topwater propeller baits.

Lucky Craft Sammy, X-rap Walk, Zara Spook, walking baits in general

Pet Spoons 1/2 - 1-1/4 oz. , Temptress Samurai, or Crocodile

Three quart and half ounce jigs dressed on bright colors (one of the most effective all around lures)

Spinner baits

Soft plastics and jerk baits

Floating and diving minnows 4" - 6" in length, such as X-Rap, Peacock Minnow, Yozuris, Bomber Long-A, Cordells, etc.

-PAYARA LURES

Recommended plugs are 5-10" subsurface and deep diving plugs such as yo-zuris, bombers, Rapala magnum in colors such as silver, mackerel, orange, red/white, blue. If the payaras are feeding in shallow water rapids on the surface, the top water bite can be terrific! so, bring some top water plugs (Zara spooks or any appropriate lure to "walk the dog" which is a very effective technique for catching payaras on the surface)

All lures have to be rigged with wire to avoid cut-offs

FLY GEAR

If you are only flyfishing:

I recommend to Bring an 8wt, 9wt and 10wt rod & reel combos

-If you are mainly using spinning/casting but want to bring one fly rod I recommend to bring a 9wt. second rod in order of importance would be a 10wt.

-Make sure all your fly rods are fast action as we will be casting fairly heavy sinking lines, poppers and big streamers.

-good quality reels capable to hold at least 100 yards of backing. I recommend to bring your lightest models as you will be casting all day.

-Make sure all your fly lines are rated to be used in hot tropical weather.

The lines used are floating lines, sinking tips, intermediate lines (slow sinking)

Full sinking line from 200 to 400 grain for fishing deep lagoons and payara rapids.

I highly recommend the scientific angler supra sinking tip fly line and scientific angler wet tip for most fishing situations (WF9F/S, WF8F/S etc...)

For heavy poppers and streamers I recommend to over load your rod with a heavier floating line for easier casting (10wt rod loaded with 11wt line) or using a fly line with a heavy/aggressive taper such as scientific angler grand slam or rio outbound.

Recommended flies are: popper flies, big streamers, puglisi fish patterns, deceivers, whistlers, big clousers, heavily dressed bait fish patterns, MUSKY PATTERNS.

Flies need to be BIG in size, with a high profile but yet light and castable as you will be casting all day so if you're tying your own flies make sure to tie sparse yet create a high/big profile fly

Best colors in order of importance are red/white, yellow with black stripes, orange, chartreuse, silver, black and blue. Feel free to experiment. Bring roughly 3 to 4 dozen total flies.

If you are tying your own flies, keep in mind that hooks for payara need to have a very long shank, Light wire yet resistant and a very wide gap. The Payaras have an extremely Bonny hard mouth, what makes it very hard for a hook to penetrate and stay on. Hooks with heavy wire and smaller gap (like the ones for peacock bass) are useless for payara fishing. Fly Hooks used for XXL musky flies are ideal for payaras.

CUSTOM FLIES FOR THE AREA, CAN BE TIED FOR THE TRIP BY PREVIOUS REQUEST. If needed, please make sure to make your request no later than 60 days prior the trip.

Recommended leader material is 40lb fluorocarbon or 30lb mason hard mono for peacocks and wire leader for payaras, piranhas and other toothy critters.

A stripping basket is recommended for wading beaches and rocks in the Orinoco. The William Joseph collapsible stripping basket is highly recommended and great for traveling.

FISHING ACCESSORIES

- Needle-nose pliers
- Extra treble hooks and split rings
- Split ring pliers, line clippers
- Scale or Boga grip(IGFA certified, if you are looking for records)
- hook sharpener
- line dressing (flyfishing)
- head light (very important, please don't forget)
- spare fly line (flyfishing)

OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS

- sunscreen-lip balm
- polarized sunglasses(bring a backup pair)
- camera and film with waterproof bag
- toiletries
- personal medication
- Advil or any other similar pills
- Insect repellent
- fishing gloves (very important, do not forget)
- cash for tipping

NO VISA Is required to enter Colombia. You will need a yellow fever vaccination card at the time of boarding the flight to Puerto Inirida, please DO NOT forget this document.

CLOTHING

Long sleeve tropical fishing shirts

Long fishing pants

Fishing gloves (sun protection, insect bite protector, keep your hands healthy)

Fishing shoes or sandals (if you choose to use sandals make sure to use socks to avoid the sun and insect bites)

Mosquito head net or hat net (Mosquitos get very active around noon at the river and lagoons)

Buff or bandana for sun and insect protection

Long bill hats

Please avoid cotton clothing and bring nylon and fast drying fabrics

Make sure to bring a light weight rain coat.

Important note: All luggage (Carry-on & Check-in) will be weighed at the airport. No over-weight baggage will be allowed on any flight. Any excess of baggage will be left in Bogota. The camp has daily laundry service, so bringing a lot of clothing IS NOT necessary.

- Hooks, pliers, boga grips and fishing/fly line are not allowed in carry-on bags. This items have to go in checked bags.

If you have any questions feel free to call or email

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