

Guideline For Sport Fishing – Water Based Adventure Tourism

For Registration with Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

1. INTRODUCTION

Sport fishing is a popular boat based recreational activity. The activity should be defined as follows.

- i. Fresh water fishing (lakes and rivers)
- ii. Brack Water Fishing (kivul diya- brackish water)
- iii. Salt water fishing (sea).

Salt water fishing could be categorized as below.

- i. Coastal fishing - Area between the shore and 5 nautical miles.
- ii. Offshore fishing - Area between 5 nautical miles and the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

2. BASIC OPERATING PROCEDURE / GUIDELINE

2.1. STANDARDS OF THE VESSEL

- i. The boat should be purpose built for the activity with cabin or T-top, seats etc.
- ii. The engine power should be compatible with the size and load capacity of the boat
- iii. The boat should be well maintained and process an annual renewal survey including Seaworthiness certificate.

2.2. CREW

- 2.2.1. Experience and the qualification of the crew should be certified (International standard STCW)
- 2.2.2. The crew should be able to speak at least English and should be able to explain and demonstrate to customer satisfaction
- 2.2.3. The crew should have an adequate knowledge of navigation and technical background of the vessels/boats as well as separate dwelling areas of different species.
- 2.2.4. The captain of the vessel should have a VHF radio or GSM telephone for communication purposes.
- 2.2.5. The captain has the responsibility to check the weather forecast before any trip and to ensure safety of tourist and crew.
- 2.2.6. Minimum one member of crew should be trained in life saving and first aid including CPR.

3. MINIMUM STANDARDS TO RECOGNITION OF OPERATORS.

3.1. GENERAL

- 3.1.1. All the professional operators must be registered under Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and other relevant authorities and obtain a license and annual renewal of license is a mandatory requirement.
- 3.1.2. During the Sportfishing activity, avoid damages to corals, fish and other sea habitants.

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- 3.1.3. Measures should be taken to minimize possible damage to the environment by avoiding releasing sewage, oil and other waste material to the sea and preventing any leakages of oil to the sea.
- 3.1.4. For Saltwater fishing, the boat size and engine power will allow to fish in the 2 categories Mainly coastal fishing and Offshore fishing.

4. MANDATORY EQUIPMENT

The following equipment should be approved under rules and regulations of Director General of Merchant Shipping (DGMS)

- i. Vessels/Boats
- ii. Communication Equipment
- iii. Life Rafts, Life Jackets and Life Buoys
- iv. Fire Fighting Equipment

The following should be available on board.

- i. Anchor and Anchor rope with adequate length
- ii. Binoculars
- iii. A mobile phone in addition to the other communication equipment.
- iv. Fully stocked First Aid Box.

5. SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

- a) Personal Safety Instructions, emergency handling, safe evacuation etc. should be briefed before sailing.
- b) Details of all passengers and crew with emergency contact nos. must be available.
- c) The carrying capacity of the vessel should be in accordance with the specifications of the seaworthiness certificate, but subject to prevailing or forecasted sea and weather condition.
- d) An adequate amount of drinking water should be available on board.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION

6.1.FACILITIES & SERVICES

- 6.1.1. Availability of adequate well-trained staff on board.
- 6.1.2. For boat up to 23 ft, sanitary facility should be provided to passengers and crew
- 6.1.3. Food & beverages should be provided to the passengers on request.
- 6.1.4. Adequate facility at the dock or anchor the boats

7. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS / APPROVALS

7.1.GENERAL

- 7.1.1. All the professional operators must be registered under Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority and other relevant authorities and obtain a license and annual renewal of license is a mandatory requirement.

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- 7.1.2. During the Sportfishing activity, avoid damages to corals, fish and other sea habitants.
- 7.1.3. Measures should be taken to minimize possible damage to the environment by avoiding releasing sewage, oil and other waste material to the sea and preventing any leakages of oil to the sea.
- 7.1.4. Number of passengers per vessel/boat should be limited as per the international /local standards.
- 7.1.5. For Saltwater fishing, the boat size and engine power will allow to fish in the 2 categories: Coastal fishing and Offshore fishing (for example a 19ft boat with a 40 hp engine cannot take tourist fishing more than 5 nautical miles as safety.
- 7.1.6. Most of the fish caught should be release in a good safe manner to survive (Refer Sri Lanka Fishery Harbor Corporation rules regarding sport fishing activity)

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