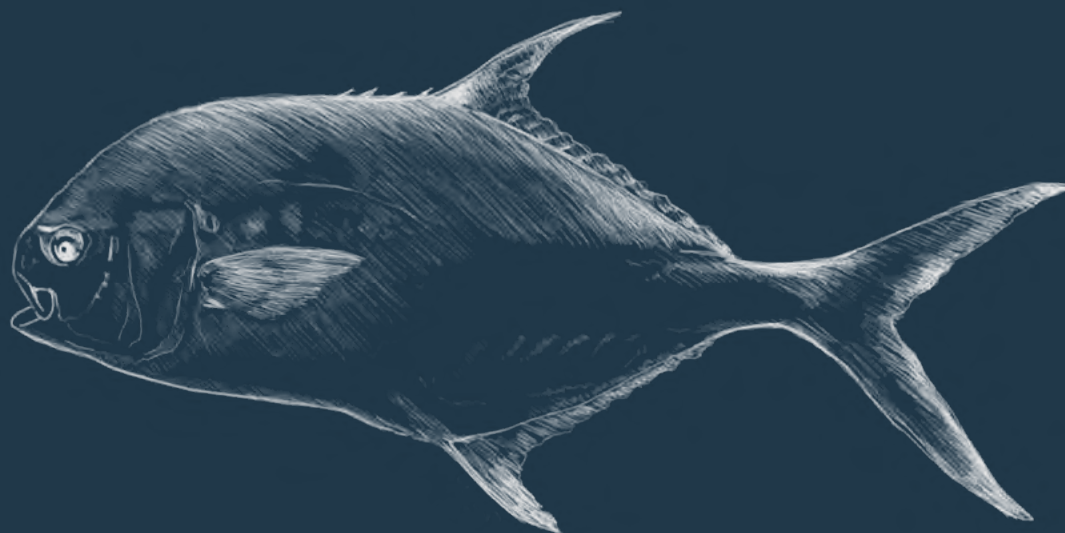




NERVOUS WATERS  
A HIGHER FORM OF FISHING

# ESPÍRITU SANTO BAY LODGE

PUNTA HERRERO, MEXICO





*Located deep within Mexico's protected Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, ESB Lodge sits directly on the Caribbean Sea, offering anglers immediate access to one of the Caribbean's most remote and lightly pressured saltwater fisheries. With just four rooms accommodating up to eight anglers per week, the lodge delivers an intimate and exclusive experience in this untouched corner of Bahía Espiritu Santo.*

# ESPÍRITU SANTO BAY LODGE

## *Pioneers of the slam*

Set within Mexico's vast Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve—a 1.3-million-acre UNESCO World Heritage Site—Espiritu Santo Bay Lodge is one of the Caribbean's most exclusive saltwater fishing destinations. Founded over a decade ago by pioneers Dane Emerson and Chiara de Tomaso, and now proudly part of the Nervous Waters family, ESB was the first lodge established along the remote southern shoreline of Bahía Espiritu Santo. Its privileged location provides anglers access to untouched flats, hidden lagoons, and pristine backcountry waters that remain remarkably protected from fishing pressure and development. Over the years, ESB has earned a global reputation as one of the world's premier destinations for permit fishing.

What truly defines ESB is the diversity and consistency of its fishery. Vast turtle grass flats hold exceptional populations of permit and bonefish, while nearby mangrove estuaries offer outstanding opportunities for tarpon and snook throughout the season. This unique concentration of species gives anglers the rare opportunity to pursue all four coveted flats species within close proximity—creating one of the Caribbean's finest "Grand Slam" programs. More than a decade of exploration and refinement by ESB's experienced guides has produced a remarkably versatile fishery, where every day offers memorable sight-fishing opportunities across crystal-clear waters.

Equally important to ESB's identity is its commitment to conservation and authentic hospitality. Operating with a carefully managed, low-impact approach, the lodge helps preserve the health and integrity of Bahía Espiritu Santo's ecosystem while ensuring a sustainable future for the fishery. Refurbished accommodations, solar-powered systems, exceptional cuisine, and relaxed evenings beneath the palapa bar complete an experience that is both wild and refined—an unforgettable immersion into one of the most rewarding and distinctive flats fisheries in the Caribbean.

## WHY CHOOSE ESB LODGE?

- **One of the Caribbean's premier Grand Slam and Super Slam fisheries:** Target permit, bonefish, tarpon, and snook within the same vast and interconnected ecosystem, often encountering multiple species in a single day and sometimes on the very same flat. Combined with ESB's exceptional permit fishing and long migratory tarpon season, the fishery offers anglers one of the world's best opportunities to pursue both Grand Slams and Super Slams.
- **The best permit fishing in the region:** ESB consistently produces more permit landed than virtually any other operation in the Caribbean, offering exceptional opportunities at fish of every size and behavior – from shallow tailing singles to large cruising schools.
- **One of the least pressured fisheries in the Caribbean:** Fish untouched flats, lagoons, mangrove shorelines, and estuaries within the protected Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, a 1.3-million-acre UNESCO World Heritage Site where minimal fishing pressure and a remarkably preserved marine ecosystem create an exclusive saltwater experience.
- **The bay's oldest and most experienced guide operation:** After more than a decade exploring and understanding the fishery, ESB's highly versatile guide team offers unmatched knowledge of seasonal movements, tides, weather patterns, and fish behavior, while catering equally well to seasoned permit anglers and newcomers discovering saltwater fly fishing for the first time.



*Many consider Bahía Espíritu Santo the finest permit fishery in the world, renowned for both the numbers and size of its fish. At ESB, anglers target cruising and tailing permit alike – wading the flats or stalking from Hell's Bay skiffs in crystal-clear Caribbean waters.*

- **Short runs and maximum fishing time:** Productive water begins just minutes from the dock, allowing anglers to spend less time running and more time on the flats.
- **Purpose-built technical skiffs:** Fish from comfortable 18-foot skiffs modeled after the legendary Hell's Bay Waterman, fully equipped with leaning bars and specifically designed for shallow water fly fishing.
- **An intimate beachfront lodge experience:** Accommodating only eight anglers per week in four double-occupancy rooms, ESB offers a private and relaxed atmosphere overlooking the Caribbean Sea.
- **Comfort and service at a higher standard:** ESB was designed and is operated under the Nervous Waters standards of service, hospitality, and guest comfort, creating the perfect balance between serious fishing and relaxed luxury.
- **Caribbean flavors and local ingredients:** Fresh seafood, regional ingredients, and coastal Mexican flavors come together in a thoughtfully crafted dining experience inspired by the culture, traditions, and surrounding waters of the Yucatán Peninsula.
- **Exceptional guest satisfaction:** With a return rate exceeding 90%, ESB has earned a loyal following among anglers from around the world.
- **Seamless access to paradise:** Your fishing package includes private charter flights, making travel to this remote fishery remarkably easy and efficient.



*ESB's migratory tarpon season delivers nearly five months of true sight-casting opportunities to aggressive 80–150 lb fish in shallow water, using floating lines and accurate casts to cruising giants.*



## FACILITIES AND SERVICES

ESB Lodge is intimate by design, built to comfortably accommodate just eight anglers per week in the remote wilderness of Mexico's Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve. Located directly on the beachfront, the lodge combines authentic Caribbean character with thoughtful comforts tailored specifically for traveling anglers.

The property features four double occupancy beachfront rooms arranged in two duplex-style cabanas overlooking the Caribbean Sea. Each room includes air conditioning, private bathrooms, hot showers, comfortable beds, and ample space for fishing gear and equipment. Shared oceanfront decks provide the perfect setting to prepare tackle, enjoy a cold drink, or simply unwind after a day on the water.

At the center of the lodge sits a traditional thatched-roof palapa housing the open bar, lounge area, and fly-tying space, while the adjoining dining room serves fresh regional cuisine inspired by Mexican and Caribbean flavors. Days at ESB often end with cocktails, appetizers, cigars on the deck, and stories shared beneath the palapa overlooking the sea.

- Capacity: Maximum 8 anglers per week
- Accommodations: 4 beachfront double occupancy rooms with private bathrooms and air conditioning
- Main Lodge: Open-air palapa with bar, lounge area, fly-tying space, dining room, and oceanfront deck
- Meals: Fresh regional cuisine featuring local seafood, grilled meats, tropical fruits, and customized daily lunches
- Boats: Hell's Bay style flats skiffs designed specifically for shallow water fly fishing
- Services: Daily housekeeping, wireless internet access, open bar, and fully stocked coolers on the boats



*The open-air palapa sits at the center of lodge life at ESB — a gathering place for cocktails, fly tying, stories from the flats, and evenings overlooking the Caribbean Sea.*



*ESB Lodge accommodates just eight anglers per week in four beachfront double occupancy rooms with private bathrooms and air conditioning, creating an intimate and relaxed atmosphere overlooking the Caribbean Sea.*

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## LOCATION

ESB Lodge is located deep within the protected wilderness of the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve along the remote southern shoreline of Espiritu Santo Bay on Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula. Designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the reserve spans more than 1.3 million acres of protected mangroves, lagoons, estuaries, flats, and Caribbean coastline, creating one of the most pristine and lightly pressured saltwater fisheries remaining in the region.

Unlike many more developed fisheries along Mexico's Caribbean coast, Espiritu Santo Bay remains remarkably isolated and untouched due to its remoteness and restricted access. The result is an incredibly healthy ecosystem where permit, bonefish, tarpon, and snook thrive across an immense diversity of fishing environments.

From white sand flats and shallow turtle grass lagoons to mangrove shorelines, river systems, and deep channels, the bay offers anglers endless opportunities to explore one of the most dynamic and naturally preserved fisheries in the Caribbean.



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## GETTING THERE

ESB Lodge is accessed through Cancún International Airport (CUN), which offers multiple daily direct flights from major cities throughout the United States and Latin America. Guests typically overnight near the airport before traveling to the lodge the following morning, with the Courtyard Cancún Airport being the recommended option due to its close proximity, complimentary shuttle service, restaurant, pool, and comfortable accommodations.

The following morning, guests are transferred from the Courtyard Marriott Cancún Airport Hotel to the private aviation terminal for a scenic charter flight south along the Caribbean coastline into the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve. The flight takes approximately one hour and lands at the remote Pulticlub airstrip, followed by an overland transfer through the reserve to reach the lodge.

Despite its remarkable remoteness, reaching ESB is efficient and straightforward, allowing anglers to comfortably access one of the Caribbean's most isolated and lightly pressured saltwater fisheries in a single morning of travel from Cancún.

On departure day, guests transfer back to the Pulticclub airstrip in the morning for the return charter flight to Cancún's private aviation terminal, where transportation will be waiting for the short transfer to CUN Airport. We recommend booking return flights no earlier than 2:00 PM.

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## THE FISHING

Espíritu Santo Bay Lodge offers access to one of the Caribbean's most diverse and lightly pressured saltwater fisheries. Located deep within Mexico's protected Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve — a 1.3-million-acre UNESCO World Heritage Site — the fishery remains remarkably pristine thanks to strict conservation measures and limited development throughout the bay.

The diversity of habitats found across Bahía Espíritu Santo creates ideal conditions for permit, bonefish, tarpon, and snook to thrive within the same interconnected system. White sand flats, turtle grass lagoons, deep tidal channels, mangrove shorelines, and remote backcountry estuaries all combine to produce a fishery where anglers regularly encounter multiple species throughout a single day — and often on the same flat.

What truly sets ESB apart is its opportunistic style of fishing. Rather than running long distances to target a single species, anglers remain prepared for whatever opportunities the day presents. A morning may begin targeting tailing permit before shifting to resident tarpon along mangroves or schools of bonefish pushing across flooded flats as the tides change. Every skiff is fully rigged with rods prepared for all primary species, allowing guides and anglers to adapt instantly throughout the day.

### Permit

Permit are the defining species of Bahía Espíritu Santo and the foundation of ESB's global reputation. Widely considered one of the finest permit fisheries in the world, the bay consistently produces extraordinary numbers of encounters with fish of all sizes and behaviors.

Anglers target permit across a wide range of scenarios, from shallow tailing singles on white sand flats to large schools moving through deeper channels and turtle grass edges. Most fishing is done from technical shallow-water skiffs, though anglers occasionally stalk tailing fish on foot when conditions allow.



*Wading the shallow flats of Bahía Espíritu Santo in pursuit of tailing permit is one of fly fishing's purest and most rewarding experiences.*



### Resident Tarpon

The mangrove-lined shorelines and estuaries throughout the northern bay hold healthy populations of resident tarpon ranging from 5 to 20 pounds. These fish provide exciting sight-fishing opportunities with lighter tackle, particularly along mangrove edges during falling tides. Resident tarpon are commonly targeted with baitfish patterns and topwater flies, producing aggressive eats in shallow water throughout the season.

### Migratory Tarpon

For nearly five months each year, large migratory tarpon move through Bahía Espíritu Santo following enormous schools of baitfish. These fish typically range from 80 to 150 pounds and provide true sight-casting opportunities in relatively shallow water.

Fishing is focused around deep channels and moving tides near the mouth of the bay, where tarpon stage and feed aggressively. Using 11 and 12-weight rods, anglers target rolling and cruising fish with large baitfish patterns and accurate presentations.



*ESB offers some of the finest sight-casting migratory tarpon fishing in the world, targeting aggressive fish in shallow water as they intercept massive schools of bait along the bay's tidal channels.*



## Snook

ESB offers some of the best snook fishing in the Caribbean thanks to healthy mangrove habitat and minimal fishing pressure. Snook are commonly targeted along mangrove shorelines and creek mouths where they coexist closely with resident tarpon.

During the fall months, larger migratory fish enter the system, giving anglers legitimate opportunities at trophy snook exceeding 20 pounds.

## Bonefish

Bonefish are found throughout nearly every corner of the bay, from flooded turtle grass flats to shallow white sand shorelines. Average fish range around three pounds, though larger fish over five pounds are landed each season.

The fishery is ideal for anglers who enjoy technical shallow-water sight fishing with lighter tackle, particularly during higher tides when tailing fish flood the flats.

## Barracuda & Other Species

Barracuda are among the most exciting and underrated species encountered throughout ESB. These aggressive predators patrol white sand flats, river mouths, and backcountry lagoons, often appearing unexpectedly while targeting permit or bonefish.

Large jacks are also frequently encountered throughout the bay, offering blistering runs and powerful fights on fly tackle.





## ESTIMATED DAILY ITINERARY

The typical trip does not include guided fishing on arrival or departure days, allowing guests time to settle into the lodge, organize tackle, and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the Caribbean coast. Fishing days at ESB are full and flexible, built around tides, weather conditions, and the species anglers wish to pursue.

- 6:00 AM - Coffee available in the main lodge
- 6:30 AM - Breakfast served
- 7:30 AM - Depart lodge for the fishing grounds
- 8:00 AM - Meet guides and begin fishing
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM - Lunch taken on the water in a shaded area of the bay
- 5:30 - 6:00 PM - Return to the lodge for cocktails and appetizers
- 7:00 PM - Dinner served

After dinner, guests often gather beneath the palapa for cigars, drinks, fly tying, and stories from the day on the water.



*Within the protected wilderness of the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, jaguars still roam and swim the remote shorelines of Bahía Espíritu Santo — a rare reminder of how wild and untouched this ecosystem truly remains.*

# RATES 2027

February to November

**7 Nights / 6 Days Fishing**

**Shared room & boat**

\$ 7,200 p/person

**Single room & boat**

\$ 10,650 p/person

Note: Rates are in USD per person. All ESB Lodge fishing weeks run Sunday to Sunday.

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

Guests typically overnight at the Courtyard Marriott Cancún Airport Hotel prior to the charter flight departure. While the hotel offers a complimentary airport shuttle, many guests prefer taking a taxi for convenience and reduced waiting times. Please note that the scheduled transfer provided by ESB operates exclusively between the Courtyard Marriott and the private aviation terminal. Guests choosing to stay at alternate hotels are responsible for arranging their own transportation to the Courtyard Marriott prior to departure, as transfer vehicles cannot accommodate multiple hotel stops. For this reason, the vast majority of ESB guests choose to stay at the Courtyard Marriott on arrival night. We recommend booking return flights departing no earlier than 2:00 PM on departure day.

## INCLUDED

Included as part of the fishing package are the scheduled transfers between the Courtyard Marriott Cancún Airport Hotel and the private aviation terminal, as well as return transfers from the charter terminal back to Cancún International Airport (CUN) or the Courtyard Marriott on departure day. Also included are the private charter flights to and from the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, all ground transfers between the Pulticlub airstrip and ESB Lodge, lodging accommodations, all meals and beverages including open bar, professional guide services, loaner fishing equipment (rods, reels, and fly lines), wireless internet, and Mexican VAT tax.

## NOT INCLUDED

Commercial airfare to Cancún (CUN) and the overnight hotel stay in Cancún prior to arrival at the lodge are not included. Transfers from Cancún Airport to the hotel upon arrival are also not provided. Fishing licenses and permits (\$100 per person), travel insurance, specialty alcoholic beverages outside of the lodge's open bar, guide and staff gratuities, flies, laundry service, personal insurance, baggage insurance, items of a personal nature, and costs associated with itinerary changes requested by the guest are also not included.

## PRIVATE CHARTER FLIGHT POLICY

The private charter flights operate on a strict Sunday-to-Sunday schedule and cannot be adjusted. Because incoming and outgoing groups share the same aircraft rotation, delays or schedule changes would impact both arriving and departing guests. The inbound charter departs Cancún early Sunday morning, allowing the outgoing group to return to Cancún in time to connect with afternoon commercial flights home the very same day. For this reason, all arriving guests are required to arrive in Cancún one day prior to the charter departure and overnight near the airport to ensure the flight departs on schedule the following morning.

## PAYMENT TERMS

A fifty percent deposit is required at the time of booking to confirm all reservations. Final balance is due ninety days from departure. All deposits and/ or final payments are non-refundable. Refunds or credits cannot be issued for fishing time lost due to inclement weather. Receipt of deposit and/or final payment is acknowledgment that registrant has read and accepts the cancellation, refund, and responsibility clauses. Travel insurance is highly recommended.

# OUR OTHER SPORTING DESTINATIONS

## Born of passion, backed by ownership.

With more than 30 family-owned, high-end sporting lodges across Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Mexico & The Bahamas, **The Kautapen Group** brings together a lifetime of experience dedicated to fly fishing, wingshooting, and big-game hunting. Through **Nervous Waters**, **David Denies Bird Hunting**, and **Red Stag Patagonia**, we deliver best-in-class guiding, authentic hospitality, and the consistency that comes only from operating our lodges under our own ownership and uncompromising standards. Each experience reflects our commitment to excellence, conservation, and the values that have guided our family for more than four decades.



**NERVOUS WATERS**

## A Higher Form of Fishing

With 13 signature fly-fishing lodges and counting, Nervous Waters continues to expand into new horizons across Argentina, Chile, The Bahamas, and Mexico. Pursue sea-run browns, wild browns & rainbows, dorado, & other exotic freshwater species as well as the ultimate flats species—bonefish, permit, tarpon, & snook—guided by the most experienced teams in the field. Our lodges offer a level of service on par with the finest boutique hotels of the world, yet each shines with its own personality.



**DAVID DENIES**

## A Higher Form of Wingshooting

Comprising 13 world-class lodges across Argentina & Uruguay, David Denies redefines the art of wingshooting. From high-volume dove and wild pigeon shooting in northern Argentina, to the fertile wetlands of Buenos Aires Province—where marshes and swamps fill with ducks in remarkable numbers—to the rolling pastures of Uruguay, home to the world's greatest concentration of hard-flying perdiz over pointing dogs, we deliver the ultimate wingshooter's paradise. All with a level of style, service, and attention to detail found nowhere else.



**RED STAG PATAGONIA**

## A Higher Form of Hunting

Red Stag Patagonia sets the standard for authentic Big Game hunting in South America. Operating across Argentina and Chile, our carefully curated programs deliver truly wild, fair-chase hunts throughout the breathtaking peaks of Patagonia and the vast Argentine Pampas, targeting free-range red stag, axis deer, blackbuck, fallow deer, and other select game species. Whether you prefer spot-and-stalk, horseback pursuits, or vehicle-assisted outings, we tailor every experience to all skill levels—always providing the finest wild and fair-chase hunting adventures.





## BEYOND ESPÍRITU SANTO BAY LODGE

ESB Lodge is proud to be part of the family of destinations operated by Nervous Waters, within [The Kautapen Group](#). Beyond ESB, a world of adventure awaits through our sister brands—[Nervous Waters Fly Fishing](#), [David Denies Bird Hunting](#), and [Red Stag Patagonia](#)—each offering exceptional outdoor experiences while sharing the same commitment to guiding excellence, thoughtful hospitality, and the highest standards of service.

Across the Americas, our lodges showcase some of the most celebrated sporting destinations in the world. In the Bahamas, Abaco Lodge on Great Abaco Island and Bair’s Lodge on South Andros provide access to extraordinary bonefishing. In Argentina, our fishing lodges target sea-run brown trout, golden dorado, and wild trout, while David Denies Bird Hunting operates premier wingshooting lodges in Argentina and Uruguay. Through Red Stag Patagonia, the group also offers distinguished big-game hunting experiences across Argentina and Chile.

## THE SPORTSMAN’S SEASONAL CALENDAR

ARGENTINA, CHILE & URUGUAY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
SEA-RUN BROWN TROUT	• •	• •	• •	•								•
DORADO	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •
TROUT	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •						• •	• •
DOVES	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •
DUCKS					• •	• •	• •	• •	•			
PERDÍZ					• •	• •	• •					
PIGEON				•	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	•		
BLACKBUCK ANTELOPE					• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	•
AXIS DEER					• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	•
RED STAG			• •	• •	• •	•						
FALLOW DEER			• •	• •	• •	•						
WILD BOAR					• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	•

BAHAMAS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
BONEFISH	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	•			• •	• •	• •

MEXICO	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
PERMIT	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •
TARPON				• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •			
SNOOK	• •	• •								• •	• •	• •

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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