



# APACHE CHARTERS

# Abrolhos Islands

6 DAYS / 5 NIGHTS  
LIVE ABOARD FISHING CHARTER



**"EXPERIENCE EPIC FISHING ON THIS UNFORGETTABLE FISHING CHARTER"**

**\$2430pp + GST\***

**Max 12 PAX per trip**

Come and explore the magnificent Abrolhos Island group 60kms off Geraldton made up of 122 individual islands on our 70ft fully equipped charter boat Lady Grace. Experience 5 days of world class fishing and fresh crayfish caught daily and served for dinner each night prepared by our onboard chef.

**Trip Includes:**

- 6 nights on board accommodation
- 5 days of epic fishing
- All fishing tackle, bait & ice
- All WA Fishing & Rock Lobster Licences
- All main meals prepared by onboard chef/cook
- Skipper & Deckhand

0409 968 371 | [michelle@apachecharters.com.au](mailto:michelle@apachecharters.com.au) | [www.apachecharters.com.au](http://www.apachecharters.com.au)

\*2024 pricing. Subject to change.



# APACHE CHARTERS



## Departures & Dates

- Departs from Batavia Marina, Geraldton
- Season: Late Feb to mid May
- Every Sun 5pm to the following Sat 8am

## Fish Species

We will be fishing for all WA iconic species including:

- **Baldchin**
- **Dhufish**
- **Pink Snapper**
- **Spanish Mackerel**
- **Spangled Emperor**
- **Rock Lobster**
- **Coral Trout**
- **and more!**

All fish kept must adhere to all Dept of Fisheries WA rules and regulations and maybe subject to change without notice. The itinerary may change subject to weather and fishing regulations.

Apache is now one of the few operators that is permitted to fish for Rock Lobster under the new regulations for charter vessels. This means more pots in the water and a higher boat limit, which gives our clients greater access to the iconic Abrolhos Islands wild caught Rock Lobster.

### **\*\*Demersal tags and recent industry changes\*\***

It is business as usual for Apache Charters at the Abrolhos Islands. Due to our fantastic fishing catch history over the past 25 years we are now one of the few operators that are still allowed to fish the Abrolhos Islands. With our Demersal tags allocation issued to us, our fishing tours will remain the same epic fishing trips that you expect on the Lady Grace (albeit with a few less tour opportunities each year). So get in quick and book in your Abrolhos Fishing Trip with Apache on the Lady Grace! Some of the benefits from these recent changes include:

- The Dhufish boat limit has been removed for us which now gives everyone the opportunity to catch and take home an iconic Western Australian Dhufish as well as well as the other fish
- species we catch on this trip
- 'Catch and Cook' ensures that our onboard Chef can still deliver fresh seafood, fish and Lobster meals nightly on the Lady Grace
- The same iconic fishing trip you would expect on the Lady Grace, with tag access to the WA
- iconic demersals at the Islands



## TRIP ITINERARY

### **Sunday 5pm**

Arrive at the Batavia Geraldton Marina and board vessel at 5pm on Sunday to load your gear. Choose your bunk and load your gear. As there are more beds than guests, there is plenty of options to suit your sleeping requirements. Overnight accommodation is supplied complimentary tonight to depart for the Abrolhos islands early Monday morning. Dinner is not provided tonight; we recommend you head to the restaurants nearby - or feel free to stay on board and order a pizza with the crew.

### **Day 1 - Monday**

Departing Geraldton Marina, breakfast is served en route to the Pelsaert or Southern Group of the Abrolhos. It normally takes about 3 hours to reach the southern end of the Pelsaert group where we start trolling the area of Wreck Point for Spanish Mackerel and Tuna. From there we fish our way around the western side of the Pelsaert group bottom fishing for Dhufish, BaldChin, Pink Snapper and Coral Trout. Time to pull the daily cray pots, you can add fresh crays to the dinner menu tonight. If you can reel yourself away, lunch is served. After a hard day fishing, we steam into the island group and anchor in a well-protected spot where the water is crystal clear and the marine life abundant. While your relaxing having a few beers or flicking a line, the cook will be preparing your meals.

### **Day 2 - Tuesday**

Up and at 'em for another day of fishing. Enjoy your cooked breakfast then its off to the fishing grounds for more bottom bouncing for all the iconic WA fish species. Stopping along the way to pull the Lobster Pots. Short break for lunch then it's back into ticking off your bucket list. Fishing depths can vary, from inshore to offshore fishing - no two days are the same at the Abrolhos. Heading back to a safe anchorage for the night.

### **Day 3 - Wednesday**

After another big breakfast it's another day of fish, fish, fish and more fish, bottom bouncing, trolling or jigging with some soft plastics the choice is yours. Cray pots are again pulled and reset for tomorrow. Fresh caught crays and fish are always on the menu for dinner.

### **Day 4 - Thursday**

Yet another day of fishing and great times ahead. We take you out wide chasing great bottom fish or if you like we can also chase big pelagic species like Marlin and don't forget to pull the pots so we can throw another cray on the Barbie.

### **Day 5 - Friday**

Today is still all about fishing the Abrolhos. Fish for most of the day before heading back to Geraldton, stay on board tonight and leave the Lady Grace by 8am tomorrow in the morning for your return home. Dinner is not provided on the last night; we suggest you head to the nearest watering hole.

### **Day 6 - Saturday**

Your fish and Lobster have been packed into your esky, now its time for the short journey home. Disembarking is at 8am.



## The Vessel - Lady Grace

The Lady Grace is a 70ft fully equipped live aboard vessel and has been specially fitted out for the best fishing and live aboard experience. The vessel is used 9 months of the year for 6 nights live aboard charters and 3 months for our corporate River Cruise and Rottneest Boat Charters.

Before every season, the Lady Grace is completely fitted out with the necessary changes to ensure the vessel is fully equipped for the specialised seasonal fishing equipment. Live Aboard mode, the 10m x 6-metre-wide back deck gets transformed by adding 2 x commercial 1t freezers, 12 seat main table is secured and the fishing gear is loaded. The vessel is licenced for 70 persons on our river trips, so to only have 12 passengers on our north west fishing trips means there is plenty of room for everyone to enjoy a week of bucket list fishing.



### Vessel Features

- Airconditioning
- Lounge, galley, TV, DVD Player, s
- Satellite TV on back deck
- Two toilets
- 2 hot showers
- Huge deck area with BBQ and extra-large table with plenty of seating Freshwater maker
- 10m x 6m back deck
- 2 x 1T commercial freezers 3.5m tender
- Hiab

### Accommodation

The Lady Grace offers dorm style accommodation (no individual private cabins available) with many options for sleeping arrangements:

- 4 single bunk beds on main deck - covered
- 4 single bunk beds on enclosed flybridge
- 2 single top bunk beds in V berth with skylight for star gazing at night-time.
- 1 double or 2 singles in bottom of V Berth
- 5 single bunk beds in lower cabin
- 2 x double beds in bottom cabin



## FAQs

### **What is included on the charter?**

We supply all licences and quality fishing gear (Finor 650 reels and Shimano Tiagra trolling reels). We supply trolling lures for large pelagic species, bait and ice tackle but you will need to BYO jigs and soft plastics. You can bring as much tackle as you like or use ours. All main meals are also included as well as morning/afternoon tea, tea/coffee, drinking water from tap, nibbles for happy hour and on board accommodation. Your Skipper, deckhand and cook are also included for the duration of the trip.

### **What is not included on the charter?**

Alcohol, bottled water, soft drinks, and snacks such as lollies, crisps etc. No in water activities, no spear fishing, surfing or scuba diving.

### **What do I need to bring?**

Please bring your own sleeping bag, pillow, single fitted sheet, toiletries, and towel. Please only use a soft bag to pack your clothes, large suitcases are not allowed. Pack clothes for all seasons. Pack light, we do however have a dryer and washing machine on board for clients to use. Yes, you can bring along any fishing gear you like.

### **What type of food is provided?**

We have a dedicated cook/chef on board to ensure you are well fed during your trip. Breakfast is varied but consists of a daily choice of bacon, eggs, sausage, beans, toasts & cereals. Lunch includes cold meat & salad wraps, cooked cold chicken & salad and sandwiches. Dinners vary but consist mainly of fresh fish cooked various ways. Scotch fillet steak is on the dinner menu for one night, plus hot chips, vegetables and potato dishes. Dessert is also served nightly. Nothing beats fresh Dhufish, Rock Lobster, Pink Snapper or Mackerel on the dinner table every night. Menus subject to change.

### **What drinks/snacks should I bring?**

Please BYO any alcohol as we do not supply any at all. Please choose cans instead of glass where possible. Drinking water is supplied by the on board desal system. Please bring along your own bottled water if you prefer along with any soft drinks. We supply wine glasses and stubby holders on board. Bring along any personal snacks as we don't supply these - extra snacks are not needed however as the chef always over caters. There are also plenty of shops in Geraldton if needed.

### **What time can I board the vessel?**

Arrival time is 5pm, please do not board the vessel any earlier as our crew need time to prepare, store up and clean the Lady Grace ready for your arrival. We appreciate our clients want to come earlier and say hello and drop gear off, but please refrain as it only holds up our operational procedures and we would prefer to have everything ready so we can board and load your gear all together.

### **What's the best way to travel to Geraldton?**

Driving from Perth to Geraldton takes about 4-5 hours and seems to be the preferred choice for our guests. Qantas also offers flights from Perth to Geraldton airport about 30 mins out of town.

### **Do you provide Car parking at Geraldton?**

We park our staff cars at the Batavia Jetty and never had any security issues.



## FAQs (continued)

### **What is the mobile coverage like at the Abrolhos?**

Telstra has probably the best coverage for mobile reception, but it is unreliable. We do fish in remote areas and most of the charter will be without phone reception. Better time of day is late in the afternoon or evening when the boat is back in the island group and on anchor. Texting seems to work best. However, in case of emergencies, the vessel is equipped with a satellite phone 0011 870776418064. Or call 0409968371 during office hours and we can contact the sat phone for you. The vessels' location is also monitored throughout the trip by the office.

### **Fish Handling and transportation of fish**

All fish is filleted daily by our crew and then snap frozen in our commercial on-board freezers in trays of each species. At the end of the trip, all fillets are packed into your eskies and shared out evenly amongst passengers per species. It's not possible to take home the exact fish that you caught. Unaccompanied recreationally caught fish cannot be transported by commercial couriers. You must accompany your fish if transporting by land, sea or air. This includes all parts of the fish. At the end of your trip, you must take your fish with you, we cannot store it for you due to fishing possession limits. Labelling of each fillet or esky will be as per Fisheries guidelines at the time of departure and will be carried out on board by Apache Crew. Let the crew know if you are sharing an esky prior to the start of the fish handling procedures.

### **Eskies**

Please bring your own eskies to take home your fish & lobster. Due to stock shortages and expensive freight costs it's sometimes not possible to obtain foam eskies in Geraldton. Please make sure you have your eskies prior to arriving in Geraldton (all fishing regs apply).

### **Do you Cryovac?**

We don't offer a Cryovac service. All fillets are frozen with skin on and placed in separate fish bags. On whole boat charters you can bring along your own machine if you would prefer.

### **Are there any age restrictions?**

On mixed group bookings, we only accept bookings for 18 years and older due to the physical nature of the fishing trip. On private bookings, we can accept any age as we can customise the itinerary to suit your requirements although we would not recommend very young children on the 6-night tours. If you're unsure, please just ask us. The Abrolhos trips are the most family friendly.

### **What info is on the Manifest?**

Name, Mobile, Email, Age, Post Code, Emergency Contact Name, Any Food Allergies, Any Medical Conditions, are you deemed fit for the tour? Agree Y/N to Terms & Conditions and any Covid Regs.

### **Can we Spearfish or Scuba Dive?**

Our speciality is fishing and that's what we are good at. As we don't employ a dive master, we don't offer scuba diving activities and have removed any spear fishing activities from our itinerary.

### **Can we change the itinerary to more eco-friendly activities?**

Yes, we are happy to change the itinerary to suit your personal requirements only if the booking is for the whole boat (not a mixed group). Fishing is what Apache is all about, however if you would like to incorporate other activities (e.g. bird watching, wildlife viewing, snorkelling, swimming or visiting the sea lions let us know when booking and we can revise the itinerary to suit.



## Booking Procedure and Terms & Conditions

To book, a \$500 deposit per person is required. Bookings are not secured until all deposits are received – the booking will only be valid for 7 days. Receipt of a deposit or payment from each individual is considered as acknowledgement and consent to the terms and conditions supplied by Apache Charters.

1. Contact us to arrange your booking and confirm details
2. You will receive an email via our NetBookings booking system with all charter booking information, booking reference number, deposit details, manifest form and terms & conditions
3. Complete manifest and email back to michelle@apachecharters.com.au. Read all terms and conditions. We also recommend taking out travel insurance.
4. Pay your \$500 per person deposit within 7 days of booking. Failure to remit your deposit within 7 days voids your booking. If you need more time, let us know.
5. Receipts will be emailed to client upon receiving payments via NetBookings – accounts are checked twice a week and once payment is confirmed, your booking is secured
6. Sixty (60) days before your trip - final payment is due. Use your booking number as a reference when paying.
7. Five days before your trip, final email confirmation is sent. Let the office know if any questions.

### Fuel Surcharge

Please note that future bookings will be subject to a fuel surcharge of minimum 3% for all 2023 bookings and beyond.

### PAYMENT DETAILS

Please use your booking reference and surname when making online payments.

Westpac

Account Name Apache Charters

BSB 036 224

Account Number 385469

### Over the counter bank payments

If you are going into the bank for over-the-counter payments, please let the office know as the banks have no way of adding a reference number to your transaction.

### Credit Card Payments

We accept Visa and Mastercard. Please call 0409 968 371 to arrange over the phone.

1.25% surcharge for Visa & MasterCard. We do not accept Amex.

### Why can't I book online?

We don't use booking agents as we would prefer to discuss with you which fishing tour would be most suited to your bucket list fishing trip expectations. This saves you about \$200 pp by booking direct and not paying online booking commissions.



## Terms & Conditions

### **INDIVIDUAL BOOKINGS – DEPOSITS and TERMS & CONDITIONS**

- Immediate \$500 per person non-refundable deposit when making booking.
- All bookings are not secured until the full deposit is paid.
- Balance payable 60 days prior to charter date.
- Failure to remit deposit payment will render your booking cancelled and clients will need to rebook.

### **WHOLE BOAT CHARTERS MINIMUM 12 PERSONS – DEPOSITS and TERMS & CONDITIONS**

Whole boat bookings which require a minimum of 12 persons to book, require a \$6000 deposit which is \$500 each for 12 persons. Bookings are only confirmed once the full deposit has been paid.

Whole boat charters have 7 days to remit full deposit. Failure to remit deposit within 7 days will render your booking cancelled and clients will need to rebook. However, if you need extra time, please call the office 0409 968 371 as we may be able to offer you an extension.

Full payment is required 60 days prior to charter.

#### **Refunds**

Deposits/Payments are not refundable at any stage for any reason for all live aboard charter bookings. We suggest you take out travel insurance when booking your fishing holiday. It is up to each guest to ensure that they comply with all COVID regulations.

#### **Cancellations and changes**

Apache Charters reserves the right to cancel any charter depending on weather conditions, breakdowns, or any unforeseen circumstance. No refunds. All charters will be rescheduled within a 12-month time frame.

If in the event you book for a private whole boat charter and 90 days prior to your charter date, one or more of your groups cancel, the remaining group must still pay the 12-person rate.

Up to 89 days before your charter, one or more of your groups cancel, please contact Apache Charters 0409968371 to see if Apache can book other people on your charter so you are not liable for the 12-person minimum payment. We will do our best to assist wherever possible. Apache will charge an administration fee of \$250.00 to cover additional admin and advertising costs for each change.

For any internal changes to the whole boat booking, deposits will only be refunded if organiser or guest can find a suitable replacement and once the replacement has paid their deposit, then the original deposit will be refunded to the original persons booking. However, if this not possible for Apache to replace your numbers, your original booking still stands and your full payment for all 12 spots remains. No refunds on any deposits or payments. We suggest you all take out travel insurance.

Each charter organiser will be responsible for ensuring that each member of his/ her party receives a copy of the terms and conditions and itinerary information.





## Terms & Conditions

Apache Charters conducts charters in remote areas. The nature of these charters in some circumstances mean passengers may face some physical discomfort and even danger. In the cases Apache Charters expects all passengers to understand and appreciate the risks involved and be prepared to accept those risks. Naturally, Apache Charters undertake to provide every possible precaution and to take all due care, but ultimately all responsibility for illness, accident or death, or any property damage or loss, lies with the passenger. Apache Charters is unable to accept any responsibility for any action on behalf of any other carrier that may result in passengers failing to meet the conditions set down in booking conditions

### **Fishing Licences**

All customers on board our licenced fishing charter boat the Lady Grace are exempt from the new Recreational Fishing Boat Licences (RFBL). As we have already paid for your licence, which is included in our annual Fishing Licence to the Department of Fisheries.

### **Fishing Rules and Regulations**

Regs are as per the Western Australian Department of Fisheries and may be subject to change without notice.

### **Level of Fitness**

You must ensure that you are medically and physically fit for the fishing trip. The charters are carried out in remote areas and require a certain level of fitness, health and mobility. The charters may not be suitable for people with pre-existing medical conditions such as back issues etc. When booking and before you have remitted any payment, please advise us of any medical or physical condition(s) that may require medical attention, medication, or special treatment during your tour. If a guest has a condition that we decide may significantly affect the enjoyment, health or safety of themselves or any other person on board, we can refuse or cancel a booking. If any guest is not sure about their fitness for travel, please seek medical advice prior to booking. Should the skipper or Apache staff deem a passenger unfit to travel for safety reasons, we reserve the right to decline boarding and no refunds will be given. Sleep machines are quite common on the trips, so if you need to bring yours, just let us know when booking.

### **Seasickness**

We do not provide seasickness tablets on board the vessel. We do recommend that clients bring along their own tablets and take them according to the medication directions. We cannot be responsible for seasickness issues and cannot refund if you experience any seasickness.

### **Personal Effects**

Apache Charters is not liable for lost or damaged baggage and personal effects. Please ensure you take out comprehensive travel insurance including cancellation cover and medical cover.

### **DO NOT ARRIVE INTOXICATED**

Please do NOT arrive at the vessel for boarding intoxicated. Due to health and safety requirements for our clients and crew you will not be permitted to board the vessel and will forfeit all monies paid to Apache Charters.