

## Kau Tapen Lodge, Argentina

March 8<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Hosted by



The Rio Grande in Argentina is the best sea-trout river in the world. Period. And Kau Tapen has long been considered one of the best lodges in the world. This is a first class operation with wonderful hospitality, gourmet cuisine and very large fish- the average size is 10-12 pounds with 30 pounders lurking in the depths. I have been to this lodge several times over the years and have never failed to have a fantastic time. My best fish is 23 pounds. I am trying to put a group of serious and fun loving anglers together for 2012. Please consider joining me. Thanks, Val

**Fishing Program:**

Kau Tapen has the most fishing beats of any lodge (70 pools!) on the Rio Grande including both banks of the river. Their waters stretch from above the Menendez down to Villa Maria on the lower river. Sea-run brown trout of the Rio Grande average 10-12 pounds, and fish have been landed in excess of 30 pounds. The river bottom is primarily a fine gravel bottom, so the wading is very easy.

Expect to spend about 9 hours per day fly fishing among two fishing sessions, with lunch at the lodge and a siesta in the afternoon before returning to the water. The afternoon session starts later during the months of December and January to take advantage of the magical fishing hours at dusk. Kau Tapen is strictly a catch and release fishery.

Kau Tapen guides are first class professionals from Argentina and abroad. Guides are equipped with nets and will assist guests in weighing and releasing fish without damaging them. All are able to give casting instruction with both single and double handed rods.

*Rio Grande Brown trout history:* John Goodall stocked the first brown trout in Tierra del Fuego in 1935. One hundred thousand eggs were shipped in milk cans packed with moss and water from Puerto Montt, Chile and planted in the Candelaria and McLennan rivers, both tributaries of the Rio Grande. 60,000 *Salmo trutta* eggs survived and even prospered and eventually found their way to the sea. A theory is the fish are attracted by the rich nourishment of the estuary.

Sea-run browns in the Rio Grande remain in the river from one to four years after hatching, before they become smolt and head out to sea. They will feed and grow in the ocean for about 6 months to a year before returning to the Rio Grande for their first spawning run. Upon the first return, the fish will average about 6 pounds in size. Unlike Pacific Salmon, which die after they spawn, sea-run brown

trout often survive the spawn and head back out to sea to feed and grow until it is time to spawn again. A brown on its fourth return can weigh over 20 pounds. There are few natural enemies to the brown trout from the Rio Grande and researchers have found some brown trout to have spawned up to six times.



#### **Accommodations and Meals:**

Kau Tapen Lodge is an attractive wood paneled lodge which accommodates up to 12 guests. The lodge features a dining room, sitting room, bar, wading room, and fly tying table. The lodge also offers amenities such as massage, sauna and a steam room. There is a fly shop fully equipped with flies, rods, reels, lines, and suitable clothing and Argentine crafts.

Kau Tapen has nine bedrooms total, six of which are double rooms (each with two queen sized beds), and the other three are single (king size beds). All bedrooms have private baths with bathrobes provided. Single rooms can be requested based on availability and an upgrade charge.

Guests enjoy gourmet dining with Argentina's famed beef, fine wines and desserts. A traditional Asado (BBQ) will be held once during your stay, and you can sample different cuts of meat and wonderful salads.

#### **Dates:**

***March 8<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012***

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***Thursday / March 8<sup>th</sup>:***

***Depart home.***

***Friday / March 9<sup>th</sup>:***

***Arrive Buenos Aires.*** Overnight at elected hotel  
(*independently arranged, price not included.*)

***Saturday / March 10<sup>th</sup>:***

***Depart Buenos Aires:***

***Arrive Rio Grande:***

A lodge representative will meet you at the Rio Grande airport and transport you to the lodge in a 4-wheel drive vehicle. This transfer from the airport to the lodge takes

about an hour. After arriving at the lodge, you'll be shown to your private room, given a brief orientation and tour of the facilities, guides will be assigned, and you'll have a chance to organize your tackle for the fishing.

After getting settled in, you will fish 2 – 3.5 hours in the evening session.

***Sunday – Friday /  
March 11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>:***

Six full days of fishing on the Rio Grande

A day typically begins with an early morning wake-up call and a light breakfast. After a morning of fishing you will return to the lodge for lunch. After lunch and a siesta, you will return to the river in the late afternoon and fish until dark (do not forget your headlamp!). Return to the lodge for cocktails, dinner, and overnight accommodations.

***Saturday / March 17<sup>th</sup>:***

This morning after breakfast and packing, you will be driven to the Rio Grande airport and assisted with check-in for your flight to Buenos Aires.

***Depart Rio Grande***

***Arrive Buenos Aires:***

***Depart Buenos Aires:***

***Sunday / March 18<sup>th</sup>:***

***Arrive Home.***

***Rate:***

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\$7250.00 + \$250.00 Fishing License + \$300.00 group leader fee = \$7800.00 per person

Included: Accommodations and meals at lodge, round-trip ground transportation from Rio Grande airport to lodge, cocktails, beer and wine with dinner, all fishing services including guiding, transportation.

Not Included: Airfare to Buenos Aires and Rio Grande, accommodations and meals and transfers in Buenos Aires, personal equipment, terminal tackle, staff and guide gratuities.

***To confirm your space on this trip please contact:***

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Val Atkinson @ 415-731-4385 / valatkinson@speakeasy.net

Fly Water Travel / Brian Gies @ 1-800-552-2729 / brian@flywatertravel.com

Once you confirm you space Fly Water Travel will send you a complete deposit package that will include an itinerary, deposit invoice, and all pre-trip information (including flight and hotel info).



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