

# ESTANCIA SANTA SOFIA

## BLUE WOLFISH / GOLDEN DORADO FISHING & HIGH VOLUME DOVE SHOOTING

**\$795 per person per night**

**(Season November – March)**

**Guests have the daily option of all-day fishing, all-day shooting or splitting the day into fishing mornings and afternoon shooting.**

**Included:** All ground transportation, all meals including beer, wine and cocktails, single-room accommodations (up to six rooms), hunting and fishing license, laundry service and fully guided hunting and fishing outings. Use of high-quality bait casting and spinning rods and good reels is included in the price, as are all dorado and wolfish lures. Fly fishermen need to bring their own rods, reels, leader, flies, etc. First rate back-ups for all fly gear and flies will be available at the lodge in case of trouble with fly equipment.

**Not included:** Commercial or charter air travel, Uruguay gun permits or gun rental, shotgun shells, fly fishing equipment and flies, gratuities, and miscellaneous purchases.

### **AIR TRAVEL/ENTRY/TRANSFERS**

A valid passport is required to enter Uruguay. Visas are not required. Currently, the most efficient way to get to Montevideo's Carrasco International airport is on the American Airlines nonstop from Miami. Once you are finished with Immigration and Customs you will be met by outfitter staff and driven three hours to Estancia Santa Sofia. Alternately, guests may opt to fly to Buenos Aires and take a short connecting flight over to Montevideo or drive from Buenos Aires (four hours) to Estancia Santa Sofia.

Rod & Gun Resources will be happy to assist in arranging your air travel, or you are welcome to purchase tickets on your own.

We are in constant contact with Estancia Santa Sofia and our transfer agencies. All organizations do an outstanding job handling all incoming/outgoing transfers.

### **GUNS AND GUN PERMITS**

The outfitter, River Plate Wingshooting, has excellent shotguns available to rent at \$70/day (subject to change). Models available include Beretta and Benelli autos in 20 and 12 gauge, along with Browning and Beretta over/unders in 20 and 12 gauge. Of course, the lodge provides backups and cleans each gun after each outing. While many clients rent shotguns, **it is very easy to take your own guns to Uruguay**—a five- to ten-minute process upon your arrival in Montevideo. For clients taking their own shotguns, the gun entrance fee is approximately \$110 per gun.

If you prefer to take your own guns, the process is simple. Rod & Gun Resources will send you a one page "gun permit pre-registration" form. You fill it out and return it to us, along with a copy of your passport, no later than 30 days prior to your departure. That's it. We will send all the proper travel documentation to you with your other final documents prior to your departure. Your outfitter will meet you upon arrival in Montevideo and assist with clearing your guns through Customs (they will have the original copy of the gun permits).

### **GUNS/CHOKES/SHELLS (if you are taking guns)**

Either 12 or 20-gauge is suitable for doves. 28-gauge shells are available with advance notice. Price for the larger-gauge shells will be around \$16/box, fees for the smaller gauges will likely be higher (all are subject to change). We recommend you bring two guns. Doubles, semi-autos or pumps are fine. We suggest improved/modified for dove shooting.

### **CLIMATE/CLOTHING**

Temperatures will range from the mid-50s to upper-80s. For doves, use dark green/brown or camo clothes with a corresponding hat. Ankle-height shoes/boots are adequate. Do not take light-colored hunting clothing. Light rain gear (brown, green or camo) is a must.

Evening wear in all areas is very informal—whatever is most comfortable, including hunting clothes if you wish. The only need for coat and tie is at sophisticated restaurants in Montevideo or Buenos Aires.

### **ITEMS FOR WOLF FISH & DORADO FISHING**

Wolf Fish and Dorado fishing at Santa Sofia is out of spacious, center-console boats with 60 to 90 horsepower outboard engines. Excellent bait casting and spinning rods and reels and lures are available at no charge. Fly fishermen should bring their own equipment.

- Cotton or microfiber long-sleeved shirts
- Shorts (weather permitting)
- Nylon/microfiber pants
- Fishing hat
- Fishing pack or bag
- Amber polarized fishing glasses
- Fishing gloves (optional)
- 20-40 lb. range of tippet material & 20-30 lb. wire leader, *Tyger Wire* (for fly fishing)
- Fishing pliers
- Hook sharpener
- Copy of passport packed separately
- Camera or video camera with extra battery
- Zip-lock bag or case to protect camera
- Small container of bug repellent (Repel eucalyptus/citrus spray or Deet)

### **FLY FISHING TACKLE**

- 8- to 9-weight fly rod(s) in 9' length
- Reel for 8- to 9-weight rod
- Floating fly line for 8- to 9-weight rods
- Sink tip line for 8- to 9-weight rods

### **FLIES**

Large muddler/deceiver flies #1 to #3/0 in color combinations of black heads with yellow, orange, black, red or blue with flash work well. All flies should be four to five inches in length.

### **BAIT AND SPIN CASTING EQUIPMENT AND LURES**

- Medium action, firm tip rods and corresponding reels with 30 lb. braided line
- Diving minnow lures (Rapala type) – 4 to 5 ½ inches, ½ oz. silver and gold spoons and spinners

You may take your own equipment and lures, but the lodge has rods, reels and lures available at no charge.

**Contact J.W. Smith of Rod & Gun Resources at (800) 211-4743 for fishing tackle and equipment advice.**

### **ITEMS FOR DOVE HUNTING**

- Shooting safety glasses—yellow for dark days, dark for sun
- Thin, soft leather shooting gloves or adhesive tape to protect hands and fingers while loading and firing
- Shell bag or vest
- Ear plugs for protection while shooting
- Shoulder pad recoil reduction device (optional)
- Light raincoat (brown, green, camo, etc.)
- Small backpack or field bag
- Multi-tool or pocketknife
- Reading glasses (if needed)
- Toiletry items and prescription drugs
- Reading material
- Lip balm
- Travel alarm clock and flashlight
- Garbage bags for dirty laundry

#### **PHONE SERVICE/WI-FI**

Santa Sofia has Wi-Fi and good cell phone service. Guests can also call home using calling cards via the international operator of their long-distance carrier.

#### **ELECTRIC CURRENT**

220 volts; a standard converter and European adapter for two-pronged plug should work fine.

#### **COCKTAILS**

Santa Sofia provides a good quality, but limited bar, along with good beer and wine. Guests are welcome to bring their own favorite brand of liquor.

#### **MEDICAL EVACUATION/TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE**

From minor medical issues to life-threatening situations, Global Rescue's critical services have been there when they were needed most. Outdoorsmen have trusted Global Rescue's medical and security travel services since 2004. Global Rescue memberships start at \$119 and feature the following benefits:

- Medical evacuation services to your home country hospital of choice
- Field Rescue services from the point of injury or illness
- 24/7 access to board-certified physicians, clinicians and specialists from the Johns Hopkins Emergency Medicine
- Division of Special Operations

Additionally, Global Rescue and IMG have created one of the industry's most complete travel insurance products, integrating Global Rescue's advisory and evacuation services with the financial protection of a comprehensive travel insurance program. Signature Travel Insurance guarantees that a trip is covered no matter what happens, and features the following highlights:

- CANCEL-FOR-ANY-REASON BENEFIT
- Trip cancellation insured up to \$100,000
- Up to \$2,500 for lost luggage/baggage delay
- \$100,000 emergency medical/dental coverage

Rod & Gun Resources recommends a Global Rescue Membership with Signature Travel Insurance for your next trip. Visit <http://www.globalrescue.com/rodandgun/> or call 617-549-4200 for more information.

## **GRATUITIES**

Gratuities for lodge staff and hunting and fishing guides are not included in hunt cost, and we suggest around \$100 total per day per person as a general guideline. This will be distributed by the outfitters to luggage handlers, fishing guides, pick-up boys, and lodge or lodge staff.

Gratuities to hotel staff and at restaurants in Montevideo and Buenos Aires are not included; the standard restaurant tip is 10 to 15 percent.

## **LANGUAGE**

Spanish is the national language, although English is spoken in most shops and restaurants.

## **SHOPPING**

Most shops are generally open all day to 7 p.m. on weekdays and 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Stylish clothes, leather coats, gloves, purses and boots, silver items and good wine are often purchased.

## **HOTEL AND CITY RESTAURANTS**

Our guests usually stay at the Sofitel Hotel and Casino in Montevideo where a great breakfast buffet is included in the room price. The hotel restaurant also serves lunch, tea, and dinner.

As to restaurants, tastes vary, so consult your tour guide or outfitter for suggestions. This southern part of South America is known for terrific European-style cuisine, with emphasis on many types of meats and fresh baked pastries and breads. For dinner, plan to eat a bit later than you may be accustomed to in the U.S.—many Uruguayans don't eat dinner until 8-9 p.m., and most restaurants do not begin serving dinner until 8 p.m. The lunch hour is also a bit later than ours.

In Montevideo, try the picaña cut ribeye at Garcia's, one block from the Sofitel. For lunch, Manzanar is located across from the Sofitel Casino. If your schedule allows, visit Mercado del Puerto for lunch and try Roldo's for a refreshing media-medio and small sandwich, then El Palenque for a main course of seafood or meat.

## **HELPFUL HINTS**

- Check the expiration date on your passport to be sure it is valid for travel. Some countries require that the passport is valid for as much as one year from your date of entry. And, again, take a photocopy of the photo page of the passport, in case you lose the original.
- Always take a raincoat (in hunting colors) and always take it with you on each outing.
- Always take your passport, airline tickets, medications, camera equipment and valuables in a carry-on such as a backpack or small valise.
- Bring a bandanna for use as a handkerchief and to cover your slightly bald head if you misplace your cap.
- Bring two pairs of sunglasses.

**Rod & Gun Resources**  
**(800) 211-4753**  
**[www.rodgunresources.com](http://www.rodgunresources.com)**