

Planning a Fishing Trip? You Have Options!

by Lloyd Fridenburg ©2008

Variety is the spice of life and we are fortunate to have a wide variety of options available. Early on in the planning process for your fishing vacation you should decide, as a group, what type of accommodation and plan best suits your objectives and budget.

HOUSEKEEPING: you are merely renting an accommodation. Things such as pots, pans, cutlery, etc., are usually supplied. Bedding may or may not be supplied and this is an important consideration; particularly if you have limited space available. Some include amenities such as TV, radio, and tape player, while others rent them at additional cost, and some don't have them at all. Decide what amenities are must have, like to have, and don't care about, before you book your accommodations.

AMERICAN PLAN: This can be a fisherman's dream vacation. It is more costly, but you don't usually have to worry about anything other than fishing. Along with your accommodation you usually have daily maid service and three meals a day included. However, you should ask if meals are served at specific times or if it is a restaurant style where you can eat when you please. There's nothing worse than having to head back for dinner just as the fishing gets hot.

FLY-IN TRIPS: this is a unique type of experience that can lead to some of the best fishing. Remember though, you are generally in a remote area left largely to your own devices with limited resources for the duration of your stay. Remember that the amount of equipment, food, and clothing you can take is usually limited by weight. Strategic planning and packing is essential.

HOUSEBOAT RENTALS: this can be a unique fishing experience that allows you to move your cabin to different fishing locations or fish right from your front porch during inclement weather. This is a vacation largely overlooked by fishermen and it is both relaxing and versatile. Be sure that at least one member of your party is experienced with handling large watercraft. Someone who is proficient with a 16ft runabout isn't qualified, without training, to run a 40ft houseboat. Sometimes the rental company will let you use a small runabout that you can tow behind the houseboat. This is great for an evening fish after you're tied up for the night.

Be adventurous and explore different options; you might just luck into that trip of a lifetime.

For more great information about fishing in Southern Ontario visit **Southern Ontario Outdoors**.