Karoo Yellowfish Reserve (KYR)

We are excited to introduce the Karoo Yellowfish Reserve. Situated in the most remote part of the Vanderkloof Dam, Northern Cape, South Africa. The potential of this magnificent still-water-fishery is only being discovered now. Experience an abundance of smallmouth and largemouth yellowfish as well as sharp-tooth catfish and carp on fly in unprecedented sight-fishing-conditions. The only place in the Southern Hemisphere where you can target the elusive largemouth yellowfish in a walk-n-stalk experience unique to the Karoo Yellowfish Reserve. Fast becoming a world-renowned destination, this pristine part of Vanderkloof Dam, abound with indigenous wildlife in an untouched part of South Africa, offers you the opportunity to experience true wilderness and the adventure of a lifetime in a world-class fishery.

Smallmouth yellowfish (*Labeobarbus aeneus*)

Smallmouth yellowfish are strong fighters and have been compared to bonefish because of their speed and strength. Fly-fishing for smallmouth yellowfish is exiting and can be technical at times. They can be caught on dry flies, nymphs and streamers, making them one of Africa's premium freshwater fishes to target with a fly.

Largemouth yellowfish (*Labeobarbus Kimberleyensis*)

Largemouth yellowfish are magnificent predators. The species is relatively unknown world wide, and can be described and compared to the Mahseer found in India. Largemouth hunt in a variety of ways; from ambushing their prey near structure to cruising and surprising their prey from below. They are strong fighters and grow up to 40lbs. Because of the largemouths predatory nature it is a rush from strike to net. The ideal fly rod to target this species is a fast action nine-foot 7 to 8 weight rod.

Camp

The camp is situated on the banks of the remotest part of the Vanderkloof dam with four single tents and an outside lounging / dining area around and African fire. The camp is rustic with running water, comfortable beds and cold drinks, no other amenities such as cellular reception or electricity, a rarity in the modern world.

Boats

We use custom made inflatable boats, designed to transport up two fishermen. Guests are expected to pilot their own low powered motorised boat while their guide will be accompanying them in a guide boat.

Guiding

The guide to fishermen ratio is 1:2. All guides are carefully selected for the operation and they have many years' experience guiding in the Vanderkloof area.

A typical day in the reserve

Early departure with launching the boats at first light. Guests spend the whole day fishing the dam from boats and also stalking fish from shore. Lunch packs and coolers with cold drinks are supplied to enjoy between fishing sessions.

Itinerary/Travel

Guests are advised to travel to Vanderkloof spend the night before their scheduled trip start date.

	Time	**Activity**	**Duration**
Day 1	7am	Depart from Vanderkloof to camp with guide/representative	1hr 30 mins
	8:30am	Welcome and tackle setup	1hr
	9:30am - 5pm	Fishing	6-8 hrs
Day 2	6am - 5pm	Fishing	8-10hrs
Day 3	6am - 5pm	Fishing	8-10hrs
Day 4	6am - 9am	Fishing	3hrs
	10am	Depart from camp to Vanderkloof	1hr 30 mins

Season

The season will run from the middle of November through to middle December. The climate and weather are stable and warm during this time of year, and the fish are hungry and stacked up.

Cuisine*/meals*

Breakfast – Coffee, rusks/biscuits, muesli & yogurt, fruit and cereals provided
Lunch – Packed lunch with cold meats, bread, snack bars and fruit
Dinner – Traditional South African braai with meat, starch and vegetables.
*guests are encouraged to bring any special dietary requirements / snacks but, be advised that limited refrigeration is available in camp.

Drinks

Guests bring their own alcohol and soft drinks. Filtered water and ice is provided in camp. Each boat is equipped with a cooler and ice at the beginning of the day.

Swimming

Safety on and off the dam is a great concern to us. Because of the nature of the boating operation it is imperative that all participants are able to swim. Alternatively, participants must wear a lifejacket at all times when portage over deep water sections take place.

Wading/Walking

If any participants have problems with their balance or any other medical conditions they must come equipped with a wading staff and attach it to their person with a lanyard. Adequate wading boots for dry and wet terrain are required.

Dangerous animals

Dangerous wild animals such as buffalo, snakes and biting insects are prevalent in the reserve. Although encounters of this kind are rare, guests are advised to always be on the watch out and to enjoy such encounters from a safe distance.

Medical conditions

Participants with any medical conditions must be aware that fishing of this nature can be strenuous and very tiring. Participants are personally responsible for all medication and must make their guides aware about any inhibiting medical conditions.

Medical Evacuation and Travel Insurance

Medical Evacuation and Travel insurance is of utmost importance. Clients are to make sure that they are adequately insured for medical evacuation and any personal loss during the entire length of the trip.

Rates - 2021

Cost: R18,700 per pax.
Pax: 4
Host: 1

Includes:

- Food
- Accommodation
- 4x days of 2:1 guided fly-fishing
- Boat Hire
- The best fly-fishing in Southern Africa ☺

Excludes:

- Travel
- Accommodation, restaurant meals and drinks in Vanderkloof (if required)
- Insurance
- Personal expenses
- Tackle, gear, flies

Bookings + T&C's:

TO CONFIRM A BOOKING:

A deposit of 50% is required within 10 days of invoicing.

FINAL PAYMENT:

Three months (90 days) prior to the expedition date, the remaining 50% is due.
Failure of the final payment within 10 days of the three-month notice will be considered as a written cancellation.

CANCELLATIONS:

Cancelations are only effective on receipt of written notification or failure to meet the payment schedule mentioned above.
More than 120 days' notice before arrival, 50% of the deposit amount (25% of the total expedition cost) will be refunded net of bank charges and admin costs.
Less than 120 and more than 61 days' notice the deposit (50% of the total expedition cost) will be forfeited.
Less than 60 days' notice 100% of the total cost of the booking will be forfeited.
Should the participant/guest fail to join a tour, join it after departure or leave prior to its completion, no refund can be made.
The operator (TGC, GE)) may decide to cancel /postpone the expedition for any reason they see as necessary. For such cancellations 100% of the expedition fee will be refunded net of bank charges and transaction fees.

POSTPONEMENT / ROLL-OVERS:

In the event of an expedition being postponed/rolled-over to the following season, subject to availability and limited to the next season (less than 390 days of original expedition dates), a 10% re-booking fee will be charged.
The 10% rebooking fee excludes ALL costs external, but not limited to, hotel reservations, international flights, visa costs, taxes and fluctuations in fuel costs or any other impacting factors. Any such expenses may be added to the 10% re-booking fee at the discretion of the operator (TGC, GE) and is payable by the participant/guest within 30 days of such notice.
Postponement/roll-overs can only be sanctioned or validated by the operator (TGC, GE) for any reason they deem valid or safe practice.
Any unforeseen reason by the operator (TGC, GE) that deems the expedition unfit to complete.
Guests / groups / participants / hosts / acting agents, may not invoke postponement/roll-overs for any reason, nor can they determine the reasons valid therefore. If an expedition is deemed executable and safe by the operator (TGC, GE) it is non-negotiable.
Should a suitable postponed/rolled-over date (within 390 days of original expedition dates) not be agreed upon or by the operating authority (TGC or GE) and participants/guests, 80% of the full expedition fee will be refunded and 20% retained by the operating authority (TGC or GE), net of bank charges and transaction fees. In this event, an additional re-booking fee may be negotiated (within 390 days of newly suggested expedition dates).
Should the 10% re-booking fee and additional expenses not be paid within 30 days of re-invoicing, it will be considered as a cancellation and 80% of the full expedition fee will be refunded and 20% retained by the operating authority (TGC or GE)), net of bank charges and transaction fees. In this event, an additional re-booking fee may be negotiated (within 390 days of newly suggested expedition dates).

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE: Participation requires the use of rented boats and vehicles. Passengers must understand and accept the risks, which are inherent in and associated with such means of conveyance.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION: I acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in an expedition (the Expedition) to C.A.R., particularly the Vanderkloof Dam. I am voluntarily participating in the expedition with knowledge of the hazards involved. I am aware that the expedition involves hazardous activities, with risk of illness, injury or death which may be caused by forces of nature, or by any act or omission (whether or not negligent) by operators or organisers, their affiliated agencies, their employees, owners or other agencies known or unknown. I am also aware that medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during some or all of the time while I am participating in the expedition. In order to participate in the Expedition, I am willing to accept the risks and uncertainty involved as being an integral part of my experience in RSA. I hereby accept and assume full responsibility for any and all risks of illness, injury, or death due to any act or omission (whether or not negligent) by operators or organisers, their affiliated agencies, their employees, owners or other agencies known or unknown.

RELEASE AND COVENANT NO TO SUE: As consideration for being permitted to take part in the expedition, I hereby agree that neither I, nor any of my heirs, personal or legal representatives, or family members will bring suit or make any claim whatsoever in respect of any illness, injury or death that I may suffer resulting directly or indirectly from any act or omission (whether or not negligent) by operators or organisers, their affiliated agencies, their officers and employees, owners, and the supplier of the facilities and equipment I will use during my participation in Vanderkloof. As further consideration for being allowed to take part in the expedition, I hereby release, and hold harmless, operators or organisers, their affiliated agencies, their employees, owners, and the supplier of the facilities and equipment I will use during my participation in the expedition, from and against any and all liability arising out of, or in any way connected with, my participation in the expedition including any liability for negligence.

CONTROLLING LAW: I hereby confirm that any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the performance hereunder, including without limitation any claim related to my illness, injury or death, shall be governed by South African Law. Any lawsuit filed as a result of my participation in the expedition shall be filed in Johannesburg, South Africa.

KNOWING AND VOLUNTARY EXCECUTION. I have carefully read this agreement and understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract between myself and operators or organisers, their affiliated agencies, their employees, and the supplier of the facilities and equipment I will use during my participation in the Expedition.

.... Date:
Signature of the Releasor Printed Name of the Releasor

.... Date:
Signature of the Witness Printed Name of Witness

TACKLE LIST

- Rod Reel and Line Setup
- Rods: 5 and 8wt, nine-foot multi-piece medium to fast action fly rods
- Reels: Large arbor fly reel with reliable disc drag system
- Lines: 5 and 8wt floating lines (Olive or grey cammo lines for 5wt)
- Leader & Tippet: 4-15lb Soft Mono or Fluorocarbon.

Flies (Fly packs available from The Guide's Company)

- Orange Stimulator
- Elk hair caddis
- Klink hammer
- Hoppers
- Small nymphs
- Large mouth flies
- Carp flies
- Catfish flies

Clothing

- Polarised Sunglasses
- Hat/cap
- Buff
- Sun-gloves
- Technical shirts with SPF factor
- Technical pants with SPF factor
- Lightweight wading boots. MUST HAVE A FELT SOLE.
- Warm jacket or fleece.

Other equipment

- Waterproof boat bag for easy access to tackle
- Pliers and Landing Net
- Sunscreen SPF 30+
- Packable Raincoat
- Insect repellent
- Lens cleaning cloth
- Wading Staff
- Stripping basket
- Headlamp or Torch

Optional Equipment

- Camera
- Dust / raincoat for camera
- Binoculars