



ROD GUN

PALOMA RIVER OVERVIEW

Deep in the heart of Chilean Patagonia lies a magical place called Paloma River Lodge. The surrounding majestic peaks of the Andes loom high above the nearby valleys, with their glacial mantles giving rise to the cold, rushing rivers that make this place an angler's dream.



speaks fluent English and greatly enjoys teaching, guiding and spending time with enthusiastic clients on the river. Paul has lived in Chile since 1997, overseeing and developing two of the more well-known and luxurious lodges in Chile, and he and his Chilean wife have a true passion for fly fishing.



This region is sparsely populated, with most residents traveling by wagon or horseback. Most of the other residents are eagles, condors, ibis, giant kingfishers, parakeets, llamas, guanacos and other unique animals.

The lodge rests on the banks of the beautiful Paloma River, nestled between the river and the mountains. Catering in comfort to only four rods each week, the lodge is close to all of the best streams, rivers and mountain lakes in the Paloma Valley, with very easily accessed fishing—very little time here is spent in the vehicles—more time for fishing.

The principals in the lodge are Chilean native, Felipe Carrasco, and his American partner, Paul Kinney. Felipe was born in this area, and has been fly fishing and guiding since he was a teenager. He

COST: \$3250 for seven nights/six days fishing.

PRIME TIME: October through mid-April.

HOW TO GET THERE: American and Delta offer daily service to Santiago, Chile, as does Lan Chile, the Chilean national airline. All of the flights depart in the evening and arrive early in the morning at the Santiago International Airport. A one-time \$100 entry fee is collected at customs. After receiving your luggage and clearing customs, you'll be met and walk a few minutes over to the domestic terminal where you'll connect with a 2 1/2-hour flight to Balmaceda. In Balmaceda, you will be met and transported in a private vehicle two hours to the lodge.

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PALOMA RIVER THE FISHING



Paloma River Lodge specializes in dry fly fishing—about 80% of each day will consist of throwing big dries. Because there are six different kinds of beetles in the area, the trout are accustomed to pounding large bugs on the surface. This is truly a dry fly fisherman's paradise, since most of the dries used are between #4 and #10 all summer long. Streamers are also productive all season, but their key role is in the lakes, and late in the fall.



October and November are great early spring months and very large trout on the move can be taken on streamers. March brings cooler mornings and evenings and the rivers reach their lowest water volume, but the cooler days bring the truly large fish out of the lakes and into the rivers for spawning.



Anglers that can cast 40 feet will be able to reach most of the fish in the rivers, and intermediate

The lodge has two Aire Super Puma 14" self bailing rafts with rowing frames for float trips, and also has several other boats, including their all-welded 17' jet sled and other quality equipment stationed in various locations for quick lake fishing access.

fishermen should expect to hook 20-40 fish each day. Most rainbow and brown trout here are between 14 and 20 inches, and it is common to get shots at bigger rainbows and browns up to 25 inches. Paloma River Lodge has provided many anglers with their personal best days on trout.



The best dry fly fishing generally occurs from December through March, although

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ACCOMMODATIONS

The lodge is a very comfortable 2000 sq. foot construction, with four spacious bedrooms, each with a queen-sized bed and private bathroom. A maximum of four rods per week will be sold, so each client will have his private room.

The kitchen is open to view from the dining room and the large common room, where guests can review and re-live the day's events over cocktails and appetizers. Guests will enjoy renowned Chilean wines and creative local dishes, with grass-fed beef, fresh and delicious seafood, and will particularly enjoy a classic asado of grilled beef, chicken, pork, sausages, ribs, etc., held each Friday night at the home of the local patriarch and valley's largest landowner—this is always a bit hit with anglers.



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