



Fishes of Seychelles



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With 115 islands scattered across 1,400,000 sq.km of territorial water and lying between 4° and 10° south of the Equator, it seems Seychelles was deliberately designed for all levels of fishermen since it offers diverse and impressive fishing opportunities and catch. Big-game fishing and bottom-fishing can be enjoyed throughout the archipelago, while the shallow flats of the Outer Islands and their surrounding waters offer some of the best fly-fishing and blue-water fly-fishing in the world.

The Seychelles Tourism Board (STB), with the assistance of the Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA), has prepared this document as a convenient reference guide so that visiting seasoned and novice fishermen can have an appreciation of the fish stock that they may encounter, or better still catch, whilst fishing in Seychelles.

The list has been classified into three main categories of fish (pelagic, demersal and sharks), with a further breakdown into sub-species. The English, scientific and Creole names are given.

We hope that this listing will give you a good idea of just how rich our waters really are.

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Pelagic

These fish occupy the upper layers of the open ocean, are 'top swimmers' and include the following species:

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> | <u>Creole Name</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sailfish | <i>Istiophorus platypterus</i> | Dyab lavwa |
| Blue marlin | <i>Makaria mazara</i> | Espadon ble |
| Black marlin | <i>Makaria indica</i> | Espadon nwar |
| Swordfish | <i>Xiphias gladius</i> | Espadon |
| Yellowfin tuna | <i>Thunnus albacares</i> | Ton zonn |
| Dogtooth tuna | <i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i> | Ton ledan |
| Skip jack | <i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> | Ton raye |
| Bonito | <i>Euthynnus affinis</i> | Bonit |
| Wahoo | <i>Acanthocybium solandri</i> | Kin fis |
| Dorado | <i>Coryphaena hippurus</i> | Dorad |
| Great barracuda | <i>Sphyrna barracuda</i> | Tazard |
| Pickhandle barracuda | <i>Sphyrna jello</i> | Bekin |
| Rainbow runner | <i>Elagatis bipinnulata</i> | Galate |
| Yellowspotted trevally | <i>Carangiodes fulvoguttatus</i> | Karang plat |
| Bludger | <i>Carangoides gymnothetus</i> | Karang balo |
| Giant trevally | <i>Caranx ignobilis</i> | Karang ledan |
| Bigeye trevally | <i>Caranx sexfasciatus</i> | Karang ledan |
| Bluefin trevally | <i>Caranx melampygus</i> | Karang ver |

Demersal

These fish live close to the sea bottom and on the flat bodies of water surrounding atolls and islands. They consist of the following species:

Groupers

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> | <u>Creole Name</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Slender grouper | <i>Anyperodon leucogrammicus</i> | Seval dibwa |
| Peacock hind | <i>Cephalopholis argus</i> | Vyey kwizinyen |
| Golden hind | <i>Cephalopholis aurantia</i> | Vyey zannana |
| Chocolate hind | <i>Cephalopholis boenak</i> | Vyey kwizinyen |
| Coral hind | <i>Cephalopholis miniata</i> | Vyey zannana |
| Tomato hind | <i>Cephalopholis sonnerati</i> | Msye angar |
| Brownspotted grouper | <i>Epinephelus chlorostigma</i> | Vyey makonde |
| Blacktip grouper | <i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i> | Madanm dilo |
| Blue and yellow grouper | <i>Epinephelus flavocaeruleus</i> | Vyey plat |
| Brown-marbled grouper | <i>Epinephelus fuscoguttatus</i> | Vyey masata |
| White-blotched grouper | <i>Epinephelus multinotatus</i> | Vyey plat |
| Camouflage grouper | <i>Epinephelus polyphekadion</i> | Vyey goni |
| Potato grouper | <i>Epinephelus tukula</i> | Vyey toukoula |
| Blacksaddled coral grouper | <i>Plectropomus laevis</i> | Vyey babonn zonn |
| Spotted coral grouper | <i>Plectropomus maculatus</i> | Babonn |
| Marbled coral grouper | <i>Plectropomus punctatus</i> | Babonn |
| Yellow-edged lyretail | <i>Variola louti</i> | Krwasan |

Snapper

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> | <u>Creole Name</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Green jobfish | Aprion virescens | Zob gri |
| Two-spot red snapper | Lutjanus bohar | Varvara |
| Humpback red-snapper | Lutjanus gibbus | Terez |
| Common bluestripe snapper | Lutjanus kasmira | Madras 1 |
| Humphead snapper | Lutjanus sanguineus | Bordomar |
| Emperor red snapper | Lutjanus sebae | Bourzwa |

Emperor

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> | <u>Creole Name</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Blue-lined large eyed bream | Gymnocranius grandoculis | Kaptenn blan |
| Small tooth emperor | Lethrinus conchyliaius | Gel-de-vin |
| Yellowtail emperor | Lethrinus crocineus | Laskar 1 |
| Thumbprint emperor | Lethrinus harak | Anba lasann |
| Pink ear emperor | Lethrinus lentjan | Zekler |
| Sky emperor | Lethrinus mahsena | Danm beri |
| Small tooth emperor | Lethrinus microdon | Bek long |
| Spangled emperor | Lethrinus nebulosus | Kaptenn rouz |
| Longface emperor | Lethrinus olivaceus | Gel long |
| Spotcheek emperor | Lethrinus rubrioperculatus | Baksou 1 |
| Slender emperor | Lethrinus variegatus | Baksou 2/Toloy |
| Yellowlip emperor | Lethrinus xanthochilus | Bawa |
| Bonefish | Albula vulpes | Banane |
| Milkfish | Chanos chanos | Libin |

Sharks

These species cartilaginous fishes of predatory habit comprise the order Selachii (Klasse Chondrichthyes). In Seychelles' water you are most likely to encounter the following types of shark:

| <u>Common Name</u> | <u>Scientific Name</u> | <u>Creole Name</u> |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Silvertip shark | Carcharhinus albimarginatus | Reken waro |
| Grey reef shark | Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos | Reken bar |
| Black-tip shark | Carcharhinus melanopterus | Reken bar |
| Oceanic whitetip shark | Carcharhinus longimanus | Reken gran lezel |
| Tiger shark | Galeocerdo cuvier | Demwazel |
| Spottail shark | Carcharhinus sorrah | Reken nennen pwent |
| Bull shark | Carcharhinus leucas | Reken gro latet |
| Hammerhead | Sphyrna zygaena | Marto |
| Mako shark | Isurus glaucus | Montan ble |
| Whale shark | Rhincodon typus | Sagren |
| Nurse shark | Ginglymostoma cirratum | Andormi |
| Reef whitetip | Triaenodon obesus | Reken andormi |

For more information visit
www.seychelles.travel