

## Patagonian Basecamp Report

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**Yet another great report** from Patagonian Base-Camp, with perfect water conditions and hungry trout all around. While most anglers go down for the superb dry fly fishing, Marcel touches on how amazing the streamer fishing is, as well.

*On my last trip down I spent 2 days fishing only streamers, and it was pretty epic!*

*Mike Mercer*

– Mike Mercer

**P.S.** Below see Dave Lemaster's monster 25" brown trout which we neglected to get in the first email!



AS THE SEASON PROGRESSES, fishing continues to remain spectacular. After the hot, dry spell of December and January, February seems to be much more normal. Beautiful sunny days, interspersed by cloudy, sometimes rainy days. No serious rains to blow out our rivers, but just enough to keep them flowing at healthy levels. Predictably, the sunny day dry fly fishing this past week was just phenomenal, and on the rainy days the guides more often choose to use streamers. But streamer fishing here is just like sub-surface dry fly fishing! I would say even more visual, in some ways, as the rivers are gin clear and you often see the trout coming to the fly from "miles" away. Some anglers just come down for the streamer fishing, anglers like Mike and Dan. They had amazing days pounding the banks with "big meat". Their last day on the Palena was nothing short of miraculous. They hooked at least 10 fish over 20-inches and even had double hook-ups of big browns. And, on the same day, on the same river, Dennis and Mina had fantastic dry fly action.

While those four were doing the Palena overnight, David, John and Bob were at The TempleCamp. On the last day David caught an unbelievable 25" x 15" inch brown trout, the biggest fish of the week!

Due to weather delays, Martin, Kelly and Jay came in a day late. In the afternoon I took Kelly and Martin out on the Palena just below the lodge. In the two hours we fished, both caught great fish, amongst which were a 21-inch bow for Kelly, and a 22-inch brown for Martin. Not bad to start the week like that! The next day both did even better, with Kelly landing a 23.5-inch brown from one of the lakes, and Martin catching one of the most beautiful browns I have ever seen. A 23-inch, yellow and orange piece of art. What a beauty....

#### Water conditions:

- ▲ Water color – after the first off-color days, rivers became rapidly clear again
- ▲ Water level – a little high in the beginning, dropping to perfect by the mid/end of the week
- ▲ Water temperature – between 52° and 60° F

#### Weather conditions:

- ▲ Wind speed – hardly an issue this week, except for one day
- ▲ Air Temperature – 55° TO 70° F
- ▲ A little rain changing to clear blue skies by the end of the week

#### Fishing Conditions:

- ▲ A good mix of streamer and dry fly fishing
- ▲ Fly lines – streamers on 200 grains fishing and some on dry lines in the #6-#7 class. Dry fly fishing on #5 and #6 lines
- ▲ Biggest fish landed for the week – 25-inch brown by David, followed by a 23.5 for Mike K. and a number of 22 and 23-inchers for Marty, Jay, Dan, and Mike. Two back-to-back caught 22 and 23-inch rainbows for Mike on the Palena.

Marcel Sijnesael

Signature Destinations are available only thru The Fly Shop® and our agent/fly shop network

There are still a few spots remaining at Patagonian BaseCamp, during some prime 2012 weeks. If you are interested in visiting, please let us know by giving us a call at: (800) 669-3474 or shooting us an email and we will get right back to you.

Until the next report, tight lines and all the best fishing.

Log on to our website, or better yet call us today for information, reservations or rates.



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