

Reel Bits



Another Montebello Cast

Edition 65

November 2019

This Edition of Reel Bits provided by Pat Murphy K168 is now the second Montebello Islands trip by our Club Members and it follows Peter Collings trip which was covered in Reel Bits Edition 64 Another fantastic trip and certainly well worth reading.

Our group of nine flew to Karratha W.A. via Perth for a week on board the Charter Boat "Blue Lightning" to fish the Montebello Islands. The "Monties" are about 140 kms. south west of Dampier and were used by the British Army in 1952 and 1956 for atomic bomb testing.

The fishing is nothing short of sensational with top quality table fish like red emperor, coral trout, Spanish mackerel and various cod species for the taking. Plenty of sport fish too with multiple captures of sailfish, tuna and a couple of GT's. Did I mention the biggest crayfish I've ever seen and eaten in my life?

Our evening meal most nights was freshly caught fish and crays for entree, no complaints from anyone! We were blessed with "glassed out seas" nearly every day and we travelled far and wide passing many LNG (Liquid Natural Gas) unmanned gas rigs in pursuit of our prey, seeing very few other boats but plenty of magnificent humpback whales. Upon returning to our anchorage each afternoon we were treated to the feeding of two giant "pet resident groper that live under the pontoon, both weighing in at about 250 kgs", with our fish frames. The Skipper and his wife Leah together with a great team of crew made our trip really relaxed and enjoyable, nothing was too much trouble and I would highly recommend "Blue Lightning Charters" to you all. We all came home with a 12kg. box each of frozen fish fillets and yes they stayed frozen all the way back to Melbourne. For a trip of a lifetime Montebello Islands!

Regards,
Pat Murphy K168



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