

SW FLORIDA FISHING

Time for tarpon is here!

BY CAPT. SANDY MELVIN

It's tarpon time! After what seemed like weeks of heavy spring winds, the area is now loaded with silver kings. While we have seen some tarpon scattered around since late February, the Pass is currently holding a big school and they are still being found up the harbor, off the beaches and in the deeper backcountry areas. They are pretty much everywhere, and more are coming.

If a tarpon is on your bucket list, now is the time to catch one and most local guides are ready to go for these early season fish. Give one a call to secure your date.

Backcountry fishing for snook, redfish and speckled trout continues to be good and the offshore fishing is also going strong.

In a nutshell, light winds and sunny warmer weather has all our local fishing taking off.

Enjoy our great fishing!

Capt. Sandy Melvin is a local fishing guide and is the proprietor of Gasparilla Outfitters. He can be reached at 941-964-0907, or on the web at 4tarpon.com



Janet Wills with a nice one-dot redfish.



Dick Wills with a two-dot redfish, as Janet smiles for him



Betsy McKenna with her snook - one.



Betsy with her redfish - two.



Betsy with her seatrout - three - backcountry slam!

Photos provided by Capt. Melvin

Boca Grande Fishing Guides

In our efforts towards preservation and restoration of our maritime fishing history we would like to share with you some captains who are helping keep these traditions alive.

Capt. Chad Bombenger	941-809-4739 - TT-S	Capt. Lamar Joiner Jr	941-307-4776 - TT-S	Capt. Nick Morris	941-999-0085 - TT-I-O
Capt. Dave Chatham	941-270-1527 - TT-I-O	Capt. Travis Joiner	941-462-9082 - TT-I-O	Capt. Fred Scott	941-628-8839 - TT-S
Capt. Blake Cheske	941-270-0377 - TT-I	Capt. Wayne Joiner	941-270-0384 - TT-I-S	Capt. Marty Scott	941-270-2179 - T-I-O
Capt. Charlie Coleman	941-809-8791 - TT-I	Capt. Brian Knight	941-626-6096 - TT	Capt. Cj Soderquist	941-662-8730 - TT
Capt. Jesse Craddock	941-585-9772 - TT-I-O	Capt. Mark Liberman	941-809-7424 - TT-I-O-F-S	Capt. Brecken Stinnett	863-255-9881 - TT-I-F-S
Capt. Frank Davis	941-270-1364 - TT-I	Capt. Sandy Melvin	941-964-0907 - TT-I	Capt. Will Waterhouse	914-907-6628 - TT-I
Capt. Robbie Hayes	941-815-6120 - T-I-F	Capt. Waylon Mills	941-270-0291 - TT-O	Capt. Nick Wenzel	941-626-9786 - T-I-S
Capt. Nelson Italiano	941-276-6130 - TT	Capt. Willie Mills	941-270-0353 - TT	Capt. Eric White	941-234-8436 - T-I-O

TT- TRADITIONAL TARPON • T- TARPON • I-INSHORE • O-OFFSHORE • F-FLY • S-SIGHTSEEING

This announcement is brought to you by the Gasparilla Island Maritime Museum

TIDES & SKIES

April 19 - 25

Boca Grande Tides

19 FRI	Low 4:56 am	Low 6:16 pm	24 WED	High 2:41 am
	High 11:37 am			Low 6:50 am
	Low 4:45 pm	22 MON	High 12:56 am	High 12:33 pm
	High 11:16 pm		Low 6:12 am	Low 8:17 pm
			High 12:20 pm	
20 SAT	Low 5:23 am		Low 6:57 pm	25 THU
Full Moon	High 11:51 am			High 3:41 am
	Low 5:33 pm	23 TUE	High 1:47 am	Low 6:57 am
			Low 6:34 pm	High 12:47 pm
			High 12:28 pm	Low 8:59 pm
21 SUN	High 12:07 am		Low 7:37 pm	
	Low 5:49 am			
	High 12:07 pm			

LUNAR CALENDAR

- Full Moon
Apr 23 - 7:49 p.m.
- Last Quarter
May 1 - 7:27 a.m.
- New Moon
May 7 - 11:22 p.m.
- First Quarter
May 15 - 7:48 a.m.

SUNRISE	SUNSET
Friday, Apr. 19 - 7:00 a.m.	Friday, Apr. 19 - 7:55 p.m.
Saturday, Apr. 20 - 6:59 a.m.	Saturday, Apr. 20 - 7:55 p.m.
Sunday, Apr. 21 - 6:58 a.m.	Sunday, Apr. 21 - 7:56 p.m.
Monday, Apr. 22 - 6:57 a.m.	Monday, Apr. 22 - 7:57 p.m.
Tuesday, Apr. 23 - 6:56 a.m.	Tuesday, Apr. 23 - 7:57 p.m.
Wednesday, Apr. 24 - 6:56 a.m.	Wednesday, Apr. 24 - 7:58 p.m.
Thursday, Apr. 25 - 6:55 a.m.	Thursday, Apr. 25 - 7:58 p.m.