

Subject: : Fly Fishing Locations

Topic: : Key West

Re: Key West

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URL:

Mike Wilbur is probably the best if he is still guiding in Key West and he protege Pat Bratcher is a permit wizard. This time of year is mostly fishing for big barracuda on the flats, but I got lucky with a monster tarpon that was warming itself on the flats on the Atlantic side during a mild spell in February. Winter is also good for grouper and snapper on the edges of the channels between flats and big mullet snapper on the flats. Key west is famous for its monster cudas on the flats during the winter and you often see them 35 lbs. or better on the edges of the grass flats. Needle gar imitating flies with pale lime green backs work well. Be prepared to strip your ass off.

Most of the best permit, bonefish, and tarpon fishing I have done is in late May and June. Bone fishing is on the back country side and the middle keys like Islamorada are your best bet, but the back country side of key west can also yield some big bones in the 11 to 14 lb. range. I have had good luck with the new weighted crab flies and shrimp flies for bones and permit.