



Dear Private Yacht Guest:

Thank you for contacting us and requesting information on our Private Yacht membership. Attached you will find information about our lodge and a Private Yacht Membership request form. Please complete and return to our Orlando office. We will contact you to let you know if your membership is approved and if the dates are available.

Tropic Star Lodge is and has always been a “private” fishing resort with a very elite clientele. We have built a reputation of being one of the most professionally operated sport fishing resorts in the world, and we intend to keep it that way! We are a full service all inclusive fishing lodge with rooms, meals and boats.

In the past years, many world-renowned sport fishermen have brought their own yachts to Pinas Bay and have requested services from Tropic Star Lodge. The Private Yacht Membership Plan was developed to accommodate a limited amount of yachts. Private Yacht memberships are reserved for yacht owners and their guests (and crew in most circumstances). **CHARTER BOATS will not be granted membership under any circumstances, nor will any “charters of convenience”.**

Our private yacht membership is structured for yachts that will be staying in the area for one week or more. We are able to provide a variety of services to the private yacht member. We can offer accommodations based on availability. Reservations must be made in advance to our Orlando office. Upon arrival to Pinas Bay: reservations for services and dining while at the lodge and any other inquiries may be made by calling us on VHF channel 84. Resort privileges and services shall be: pool side dining, enjoying a cocktail at our world famous bar, a relaxing massage and shopping in our exclusive boutique. We can also offer procurement for your vessel by advance email or radio communication to our Pinas Bay office and or Panama office staff. A 30% service fee of the purchase invoice will be added to your bill. Services and privileges during peak operating hours may be limited especially during our high season months December thru March. During this time of year the lodge staff will do their best to accommodate your reservations.

Private boat owners and their guests may join us on Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday nights at our poolside buffet dining (such as Texas style BBQ, International Night and Panamanian Night). 12 hour notice is required. Dining room reservations may be available and 48 hours advanced notice is required. (Availability varies from week to week depending on number of guests staying at the lodge.)

Even if you do not intend to arrive on Saturday, **the reservation for PYM must be made from Saturday to Saturday during the months of December thru March.** After March, the weekly membership will be calculated from your arrival date and then charged weekly.

Upon arrival to Pinas Bay, please call VHF radio 84 to check in.

**It is necessary that all yachts that apply for membership agree to fish only circle hooks, have water makers on board and can anchor safely and securely in the bay on the south eastern side of our operation.**

Pinas Bay Resorts is proud of the conservation efforts we have worked so hard to achieve here in Panama. If you or your crew would like any assistance on the best technique to rig or strike the billfish with circle hooks, we will be happy to assist you at any time.

Attached is an application request form, which must be submitted in writing to our Orlando reservation office. **Our fax number is 407-839-3637.** Or you can email it to [reservations@tropicstar.com](mailto:reservations@tropicstar.com). Our Private Boat Membership Committee will review your application in the order it is received. This membership is for private yacht owners, their guests and crew in most cases.

Once your membership is approved, please make sure that all guests and crew read the attached information, including updated rules and approval letter.

We reserve the right to cancel any boat membership without refunds, when the conduct or behavior of the yacht owner, guests and/or crew is not up to Tropic Star standards.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you in Pinas Bay in the near future.

Terri and Mike Andrews

CEO/Operators  
Piñas Bay Resorts

# PINAS BAY RESORTS – TROPIC STAR LODGE OF PANAMA

## PRIVATE YACHT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

### SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

#### IN PANAMA CITY

1. **ROYAL SALOON Meet and Greet Service:** The International Airport has a wonderful service whereby you are met at the gate and the Royal Saloon representative takes care of all your documentations and retrieves your luggage and includes taking you to the Royal Saloon lounge. While your documents are being processed and your luggage retrieved you can sip a cool cocktail in the VIP lounge. **This service is \$50.00 pp upon arrival to Panama City only and is highly recommended.** The Royal Saloon personnel will request your passport, tourist card and a \$1.00 per bag. Tipping to the Royal Saloon representative is optional. You will be assisted to a cab unless you choose us to set up transfers, see #3 below. **Flight information must be received in our Panama City office, 72 hours prior to arrival** either by fax or emailed to the numbers listed on the last page. **We will reconfirm this service from our Panama City office. If you do not receive confirmation – please give us a call.** If your plans change, you must give us 24 hours notice of your arrival date, to have this charge deleted from your account. This service will be provided ONLY when we receive complete flight information for your arrival in a timely manner. Charges for these services will be billed to your yacht account at the lodge.

**We must have your record locator number along with your flight information in order to help you with any changes to your itinerary or to confirm your reservations.**

2. **Panama City Hotels:** Hotel reservations for your stay in Panama City should be made through us. We recommend the Sheraton Hotel, The Bristol Hotel, Aloft Hotel, Marriott Hotel, Trump Ocean Club, Holiday Inn, and the TRYP Hotel. All hotels will charge a 10% room tax. **Please note, all room reservations are guaranteed,** so if your plans change you must alert us within 24 hours of what your arrival date was, in order that the reservation can be canceled. **During Peak Season some hotels require 72 hr. cancellation during certain “black out dates”.** We recommend hotel reservations are made well in advance, as Panama’s tourist industry is booming and hotels are much harder to reserved December thru April. **If there is no availability in the seven hotels we recommend, we will not be responsible for finding other hotels.**

Call or fax us directly to the Panama City office (Phone: 011-507-396-6414 or 6413 Fax: 011-507-315-1739) or email Eleanor@tropicstar.net When your yacht is in Pinas Bay, reservations and flight information can be given directly to our staff in Pinas Bay. **The Orlando, Florida reservation office can answer some of your questions, but most of these arrangements should be made directly with the Panama City or Pinas Bay office. If you do not receive confirmation from us in a timely manner, please let us know.**

3. **Transfer Services and City and Canal Tours:** With advanced notice, we can arrange professional pick up services from the different airports and hotels and also recommend professional tour guides.
4. **Air Travel to the Lodge:** All charter flights to and from the lodge must be arranged through our Panama City or Pinas Bay offices. Special charters, seats on the Tropic Star Lodge charters or seats on the regular flights are arranged by Tropic Star Resort and copies of these charges will be attached to your weekly billing in Pinas. **We are not responsible for any coordination of flights not made through our office.** Special charters depend on the number of people and cargo and we can fax you a price list for the planes available. All Tropic Star Lodge charters are on Saturday. **If there is space available on our charter, it will be made available to yacht members at the cost of \$150.00 a seat.** These seats will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. All regular flights limit your **checked luggage to 30 lbs.** and a 15 lb. limit for carry-on bags. If you will be bringing excess luggage, please let us know in advance and we will try to accommodate you. We do not recommend these regular flights as they cancel without notice, many days leave a few hours late and sometimes land up to three times at other villages, and go thru long immigration and custom lines.

When we set up your airplane charters, if the plane is going in empty or returning empty, we reserve the right to use the seats and cargo holds for Tropic Star Lodge staff and cargo. Sometimes we have other clients that are leaving the same day. We will do our best to inform you when we feel you have the opportunity to “share” your charter with someone that can help pay for portions of your charter. This does not include Tropic Star Lodge staff.

5. **Shipping Agent:** We recommend Delfino Shipping Agent for your canal transits and marina needs in Panama City or Colon. Pete Stevens is the owner and can be reached in **Panama at 261-1931 and ask for Pete’s assistant. Pete’s cell number is 507-6735-7356.** Tropic Star Lodge will need to know what marina you will be staying during you stay in Panama City and your estimated time of departure from Panama City and arrival in Pinas.

## PINAS BAY RESORTS – TROPIC STAR LODGE OF PANAMA

### PRIVATE YACHT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM:

#### SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH OUR MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

##### IN PINAS BAY

1. **Tropic Star Resorts** will bill for rooms, dinners, club memberships and incidental bills. All air services, supplies and transport of these supplies will be charged by **Tropic Star Resorts**. (See letter where we recommend you to call your bank letting them know there will be numerous charges coming in from the Republic of Panama.) **Visa and MasterCard are the only cards accepted.**
2. **ROOMS at the Lodge: Tropic Star Lodge** will reserve any available rooms during a weekly Saturday to Saturday schedule during the months of December thru March. These rooms are on a first-come-first-serve basis and should be prepaid through our Orlando reservation office. Lodge rooms normally cannot be reserved until all Tropic Star Lodge boats are rented and deposits received. We offer two suites overlooking the bay if the owner or guest would like to take advantage of staying on our beautiful property. These rooms are available for any desired length of time. Once rooms are confirmed, they must be prepaid to our Orlando office. Please see the attached rate sheet. All rooms are **NON-SMOKING including the Palace and the bar/dining room area.**
3. **FUEL to Private Member's Yachts:** Tropic Star Resorts can sell you fuel while at Tropic Star Lodge. They will provide this service for all yachts in the Private Yacht Membership Program. The rates change on the first of each month. Fuel is available during the hours of 06:30 a.m. till 12:00 p.m. (noon) and between 04:00 p.m. till 05:30 p.m. No fuel will be dispatched after 06:00 p.m. Please call to find out the best time and tide for fueling.
4. **Bar Service: Our pool bar will be open for the owners and guests from 5:00pm to 8:30pm unless prior reservations have been arranged directly with the lodge.** Due to limited space in our restaurant bar/dining room, this area will not be open to private yachts during the hours of 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., **except for those who have a room, or if advance reservations have been made directly with the lodge verbally or by communicating via VHF radio channel 84.** Arrangements can be made to keep the bar open longer for special occasions with advanced notice. The dining room and porch service closes when the onshore guests retire for the evening.
5. **Freshwater Pool:** Tropic Star Lodge's freshwater swimming pool will be open to those members who have rooms at the lodge only. For other member yachts with no rooms, the pool is open from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. each evening. **Saturdays the pool is not available nor is it available on Tuesday afternoon**, as that is the night our resort guests have their pool party and dinner at the pool. **Please provide your own towels.**
6. **Moorings:** We will attempt to have moorings available for those long term yachts, but **please be advised most of these moorings are for boats in the 50' range**, so if your yacht is over 55', it is advisable to use a stern anchor. Mooring assignments will be designated by our Dockmaster. If you plan to bring your own mooring, please work with the Dockmaster for the best place to anchor it. All yachts should have their own dingies to come to and from the lodge. Please **do not leave your dingy on the dock between the hours of 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.** Panga service is not always available and is subject to charge.
7. **Panga Service and Airport Transfers in Pinas:** Panga service to and from the lodge and the Pinas airstrip will be limited to those who book charters through our office and may not always be available. Our new Pinas Tiki Bus requires one of our executive staff to drive it, along with our older tractor/trolley, so may also be limited this year, but we will do our best to assist you.
8. **Garbage Service: When you check in, info will be provided regarding our policies for disposing your trash.** We do require that you separate all trash three ways, as **we do recycle in Pinas**. This service is complimentary to member yachts, as long as you follow our guidelines. Tips to the panga drivers are optional. **Please do not give your garbage to the local kids.**
9. **Certified Fish Scales:** Use of our certified fish scale and cart is available until 06:00 p.m. every day. Fish transport, clean up and towing off of fish carcass is the responsibility of the yacht crew. Please remember that Panama Law requires that you **RELEASE YOUR BILLFISH**. There will be no charge for weighing a world record billfish, but a \$500.00 charge will be levied on all other billfish weighed and the payment will go directly to a Panamanian Fishing Conservation organization. This will include the service for us to take certain billfish flesh and heart samples to send off to obtain scientific data of all billfish brought in dead, as per Panamanian law.
10. **Watermakers are Mandatory** when visiting Pinas from December thru May. In case of an emergency or water maker breakdown, Tropic Star Lodge will assist you as much as possible. However, December thru April is the dry season and water is very limited. Please stock up on spare parts for your water makers.
11. **Laundry Service:** Limited laundry service is available. Check with the lodge office for the price list and schedules. **This service may be discontinued if critical water situations arise** or may be sent out to laundry service in the village. Please allow 72 hours or more for this service. A guideline for laundry days will be in your welcome packet upon arrival.

12. **Ice:** Ice can be purchased between 07:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. seven days a week. With advance notice, we will have the ice available on the dock. Price depends on the bag size and will be charged to your yacht account.
13. **Local Crew:** If local crew is needed during your stay, please inform our managers. Tropic Star Lodge will try to make these arrangements when possible. **We can suggest a daily rate and would appreciate your compliance in observing this recommendation.** Tipping the crew will be at your discretion.
14. **Supplies:** For extended stays, Tropic Star Resorts provides a supply boat service to Pinas usually on a weekly basis. With enough notice, they can supply almost anything you might need with the following exceptions, unusual vegetables and fruit, unique dairy products, non-alcoholic and many U.S. brand beers, etc. A sample order form will be provided in your welcome packet.

## **Have a Wonderful Time in Pinas and Good Fishing!**

**Contact Information: Orlando Office (for application forms, and Tropic Star Lodge guest room reservations, before November 30) Contact Bonnie L. Karp in the U.S. office at 407-843-0125 or fax 407-839-3637 or email to: [reservations@tropicstar.com](mailto:reservations@tropicstar.com)**

**Contact Information: Panama City (for rooms at the lodge after November 30, Panama City meet and greet services at the International Airport, Panama City hotel reservations, city tours and all air charters.) Contact Eleanor Armstrong at 011-507-396-6414 or 6413 Fax: 011-507-315-1739. You can also email her at [Eleanor@tropicstar.net](mailto:Eleanor@tropicstar.net)**

**Please always identify yourself as a private boat member and give the name of your yacht.**

**Visit us on the Internet for further information on the lodge**

<http://www.tropicstar.com>