Refugio County
Guided Fishing Market Research

Refugio County, TX

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Research Summary

Researchers conducted web searches using the Google search engine on a computer cleared of cookies and caches, and not signed into a google account. They searched first by the county name, using the terms “ ‘X’ County, Texas Guided fishing” and then searched by a community name, using the terms “ ‘X’, Texas Guided Fishing”. They took the top results for each search, stopping when they reached 12 or when the search page returned no relevant results. There was a maximum possible 24 results from each county – 12 from a county search and 12 from a community search. These results come from a standard internet search and may not represent all of the guides operating in the county. The results reflect how well the guide businesses have positioned their websites to appear in standard searches.

Relevant results were individual fishing guides, or guided fishing companies. The “Standard Product” used for this research was a Half-Day Guided Fishing Trip for 2 where Red Drum was a target species fish. Data was also taken for non-standard product results, such as Full Day Guided Fishing Trips and Trips for more than 2 people. The results are differentiated by creating two categories “Total Results” and “Standard-Product Only Results”.

Researches took information on the prices of fishing packages, whether or not they offered the 8 most commonly offered amenities, and where the guide was located.

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Google Form

This Google Form was used to log information as it was received. It contains a multitude of questions to assess the different amenities offered by guides, the variety of prices, and the type of results obtained for different searches.

- **Business Name**: This is a required question.
- **Business Website**: 
- **Half Day Guided Fishing Trip For 2**: Yes, No
- **Included In Package**:
  - Tackle
  - Artificial Bait
  - Live Bait
  - Ice
  - Ice Chest
  - Fish Processing
  - Photographing
  - Rods and Reels
- **County Location**:
  - Jefferson
  - Chambers
  - Galveston
  - Brazoria
  - Matagorda
  - Calhoun
  - Refugio
  - Aransas
  - San Patricio
  - Nueces
  - Kleberg
  - Kenedy
  - Willacy
  - Cameron
- **Package Price**: 
- **Public Waters**: Yes, No
- **Red Fish Target Species**:
  - Yes, No
- **Found By What Search**:
  - County, TX
  - Other
Standard-Product Only Results

Total Results: 1
Average Price: $400.00
Median Price: $400.00
Minimum Price: $400.00
Maximum Price: $400.00

Guides With Standard Product:
- CT Bay Charters

Amenities Provided By Guides
Percentage of companies that provide each listed amenity:

- Tackle: 100%
- Ice: 100%
- Artificial Bait: 100%
- Live Bait: 0%
- Fish Processing: 0%
- Rods/Reels: 0%
- Ice Chest: 0%
- Photographing: 0%

Search Results
Non Standard Product 50%
Standard Product 50%
Total Results

- **Total Results:** 2
- **Average Price:** $450.00
- **Median Price:** $450.00
- **Minimum Price:** $400.00
- **Maximum Price:** $500.00

**Guides Without Standard Product:**
- Johan’s Guide Service

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**Amenities Provided by Guides**
- Percentage of companies that provide each listed amenity

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**Search Results**
- Percentage of results found via search by Community and Search by County
Search for “Refugio, County, TX Guided Fishing”
Conducted on 1 Oct 2013 – First Page Results

Hunting and fishing - Refugio County Texas
www.refugiocountytx.org/hunting/fishing.htm
Hunting and fishing opportunities in Refugio County and the surrounding area. ... Decoys of guide services are available to help hunters bag the waterfront.

Alligator Car Guide Texas, Bowfishing Guide
www.bigfishboxfishingtexas.com
Some guide services claim to be #1 or the BEST. This guide service holds MORE State and Water Body records than any other similar guide service BAR NONE.

Refugio County TX - Fishing Guides, Charters, Bail Information...
www.hookandbullet.com › Fishing › United States › Texas › Refugio County, TX - Fishing, Guides, Charters, Bail Information. Browse Fishing Spots in Refugio County, TX. 1,2,3... Slowide Guide Services & Kayak Rentals.

Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing Reports - Texas Parks & Wildlife
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/recreational/fishreport.phtml
Weekly fishing reports for selected Texas inland and coastal waters, with access to past reports. ... Water Home - Lake Finder - River Guide - Bays - Invasive Species - FAQs - Franklin Mountains SP, Galveston Island SP, Garner SP, Caddo Lake SP & HS, Goose Island. ... Welcome to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Fishing Reports.

Texas Commercial Fishing Guide - Texas Parks & Wildlife Depa...

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department | Outdoor Annual
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/regulations/outdoor-annual/
Outdoor Annual iPad Edition App. Take the Outdoor Annual with you. Once downloaded, no internet connection is needed to view the Texas hunting and fishing ...

TPWD: Beach and Bay Access - Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/land/water/habitats/bays/beachaccess.phtml
Access points all along the coast for boating or fishing. ... The Texas Beach and Bay Access Guide, 2nd Edition (created by the Texas General Land Office) is ...

Texas Coastal Access Guides - Texas Gulf Coast Fishing
www.texasgulfcoastfishing.com/coastal_access_guides.html
The Texas Beach and Bay Access Guide from the Texas General Land Office is ... Kempen, Kleberg, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties: Lower Rio ...

Bay Flats Lodge
www.bayflatslodge.com/
Just outside the town of Seadrift, Texas is Bay Flats Lodge, providing outdoor ... and spectacular professionally-guided fishing and duck hunting adventures.

Texas Beach and Bay Access Guide - Texas General Land Office
www.glo.texas.gov/what-we-do/...TexasBeachBayAccessGuide.pdf (Aransas, Kleberg, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties) ... tourists seek out beaches and bays for fishing, swimming, wildlife viewing, picnicking, ...
Results From All Texas Coastal Counties

Total Results: 130
Average Price: $450.15
Median Price: $450.00
Minimum Price: $300.00
Maximum Price: $900.00

Amenities Offered (Standard and Non-Standard)

- Artificial Bait
- Live Bait
- Ice
- Ice Chest
- Fish Processing
- Photographing
- Rods and Reels

Standard v Non-Standard Product Results
- Standard Product: 22%
- Non-Standard: 78%

County v Community Search Results
- Results from county: 62%
- Results from community: 38%
Fishing Economics Data

The 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation shows that $41.8 billion dollars are spent annually on recreational fishing. This means that Texas, with their $4.2 billion in spending on fishing account for approximately 10 percent of the United States’ total income from fishing.

Texas places second overall in spending on recreational fishing, after Florida. Recreational fishing in Texas totaled $4.2 billion in spending, supported 59,000 jobs, had $392 million in state tax revenue, and $482 million in federal tax revenue. Hunting and Fishing: Bright stars of the American economy

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) states that anglers spend $1.1 billion dollars per year on bait alone. They spend $5.3 billion on equipment, including rods, reels, boats, and boat accessories, $4.3 billion on food, and $2 billion on lodging.

According to Daniel Nu of outdoorhub.com, the sportfishing industry is an economic powerhouse in Texas. He states that freshwater anglers generate more than $981 million in retail sales in Texas annually while over 750,000 saltwater anglers have an economic impact of over $1.7 billion. Fishing News: Texas A&M to Create New Sportfish, Conservation Research Center

Recreational Fishing: In 2009, over 2.8 million recreational anglers took 22 million fishing trips in the Gulf of Mexico Region. Almost 90% of these anglers were residents of a regional coastal county. Of the total fishing trips taken, 59% were taken from a private or rental boat and another 37% were shore-based. Spotted seatrout were the most frequently caught species or species group with 29 million fish
caught in 2009, and represented 47% of total fish caught in the region. Of the spotted seatrout caught, 57% of them were released rather than harvested.

The Tables below highlight recreational fishing impacts from the report.

### 2009 Economic Impacts of Recreational Fishing Expenditures (thousands of dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fishing Mode</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>Sales</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Value Added</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For-Hire</td>
<td>1,331</td>
<td>152,916</td>
<td>46,109</td>
<td>81,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Boat</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>27,309</td>
<td>8,391</td>
<td>14,745</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Durable Equipment Impacts</td>
<td>20,047</td>
<td>2,620,846</td>
<td>841,046</td>
<td>1,312,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total State Trip and Durable Equipment Economic Impacts</td>
<td>22,126</td>
<td>2,846,858</td>
<td>910,011</td>
<td>1,434,733</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2009 Angler Trip & Durable Expenditures (thousands of dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fishing Mode</th>
<th>Trip Expenditures</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Durable Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For-Hire</td>
<td>1,456</td>
<td>25,732</td>
<td>157,427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Boat</td>
<td>3,846</td>
<td>99,137</td>
<td>82,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shore</td>
<td>1,309</td>
<td>17,588</td>
<td>215,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trip Expenditures</td>
<td>6,611</td>
<td>142,457</td>
<td>921,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total State Trip and Durable Equipment Expenditures</td>
<td>2,095,511</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

| Harvest (H) and Release (R) of Key Species Species Groups (thousands of fish)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheephead</td>
<td><strong>2000</strong> 78</td>
<td><strong>2001</strong> 80</td>
<td><strong>2002</strong> 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern flounder</td>
<td><strong>2000</strong> 100</td>
<td><strong>2001</strong> 125</td>
<td><strong>2002</strong> 91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted seatrout</td>
<td><strong>2000</strong> 1,128</td>
<td><strong>2001</strong> 966</td>
<td><strong>2002</strong> 965</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>