ORCHID ISLAND · TAIWAN

KUROSHIO SEAMOUNT EXPEDITION

TARGETING BIG DOGTOOTH TUNA

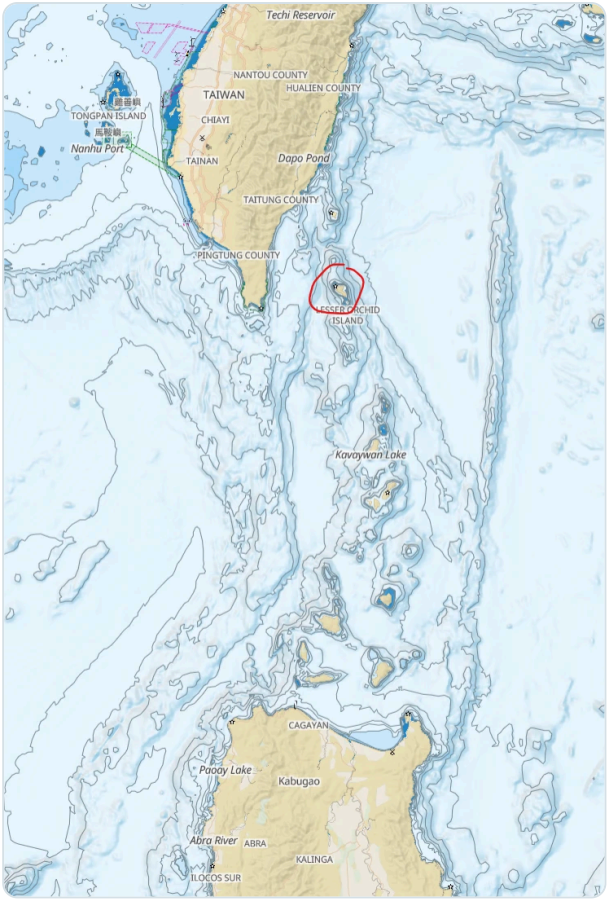
Untouched seamounts in the path of the Black Current.

8–17 APRIL 2027
10 DAYS · 7 FISHING DAYS

WHERE TWO OCEANS MEET

Orchid Island (Lanyu) rises from the sea off Taiwan's southeast coast, where the South China Sea meets the Pacific Ocean. This volcanic island is home to the Tao people, whose ocean culture and hand-carved *tatala* canoes have been tied to the sea for centuries.

Orchid Island also sits right in the path of one of the world's most powerful ocean currents.



ORCHID ISLAND, BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE PHILIPPINES

THE BLACK CURRENT

The **Kuroshio**, or "Black Current," is one of the strongest ocean currents on Earth. It starts east of the Philippines, where it branches off the North Equatorial Current. From there it runs north past Orchid Island and along Taiwan's east coast towards Japan. It gets its name from its deep, dark blue water, which is clear because it carries so few nutrients.

The Kuroshio carries warm tropical water at speeds of up to several knots. Where this fast current hits islands and seamounts, it creates upwellings, current lines and eddies that concentrate bait. That makes it a natural highway for pelagic fish.

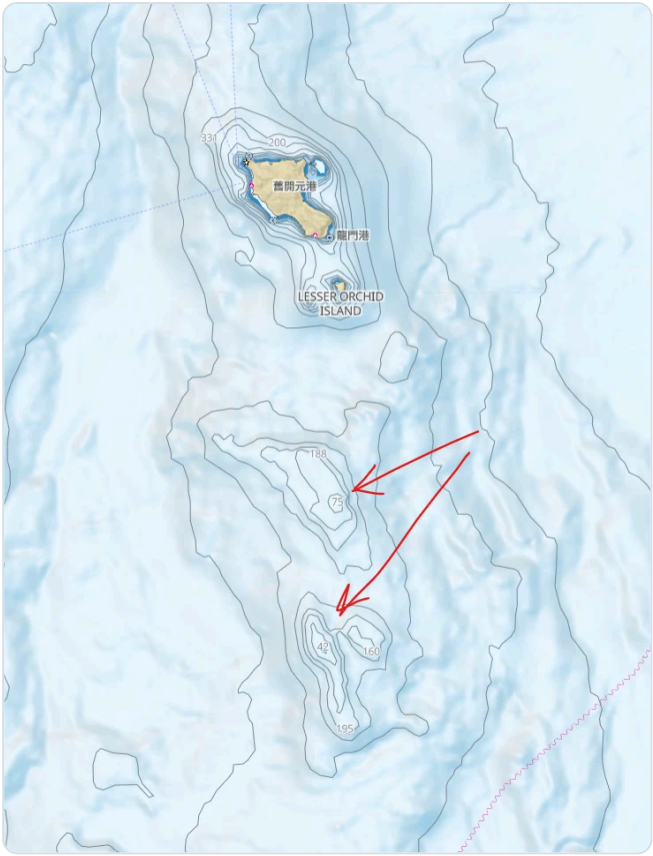
April is the peak. Each spring, the Kuroshio brings huge schools of flying fish past Orchid Island. Big pelagics follow them: wahoo, yellowfin tuna and mahi-mahi gather to feed, and the fishing comes alive.

THE SEAMOUNTS

Our main target is **two seamounts south of Orchid Island**. They rise from deep water to within about **40–75 metres of the surface**, right in the path of the Kuroshio.

They're far from mainland Taiwan, and even Orchid Island's local fishermen rarely go that far out. As a result, these seamounts **see very little fishing activity**. It's exploratory fishing in the truest sense: steep pinnacles, strong current and fish that have rarely seen a lure.

> **Our main target is big dogtooth tuna.** Steep pinnacles swept by strong current are classic dogtooth territory. With almost no fishing pressure, these seamounts could hold fish of serious size.



THE TWO SEAMOUNTS SOUTH OF ORCHID ISLAND

TARGET SPECIES

MAIN TARGET

DOGTOOTH TUNA

The seamount pinnacles are prime dogtooth structure, and we'll be jigging and popping for big fish.

POPPING & STICKBAITING

- **Yellowfin Tuna:** They follow the flying fish schools and crash surface lures.
- **Wahoo:** Fast, aggressive and common in the Kuroshio in spring.
- **Mahi-Mahi:** Often found along current lines and floating debris.

JIGGING: SEAMOUNTS AND DROP-OFFS

- **Amberjack:** Powerful fish from the deep walls.
- **Giant Trevally:** Around the island's rocky points and the seamount tops.
- **Grouper and other reef species**

ITINERARY

DAY 1 THU 8 APR	Arrive at Taoyuan International Airport (TPE). Private van transfer to Taitung (about 6 hrs) and overnight hotel.
DAY 2 FRI 9 APR	Ferry to Orchid Island (about 2.5 hrs). Departs 07:00 or 12:30, depending on ticket availability. Check in and rig tackle.
DAYS 3–9 SAT 10 – FRI 16 APR	7 FULL DAYS OF FISHING
DAY 10 SAT 17 APR	Ferry to Taitung (departs 09:30), then private van to Taoyuan and overnight hotel near TPE.

Fly home from TPE on Sunday 18 April or later.

ACCOMMODATION

On Orchid Island, you'll stay in a local **民宿 (minsu)**, a family-run guesthouse. It's a simple, comfortable base with a real feel for island life. Meals are taken at local eateries on the island, which are good value.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Private van transfers from Taoyuan Airport (TPE) to Taitung and back (about 6 hours each way)
- 7 full days of fishing

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Hotel and guesthouse stays (about US$50 per night)
- Return ferry between Taitung and Orchid Island (about US$80)
- Meals on Orchid Island (inexpensive)
- Fishing tackle
- Travel insurance

RATES

One price per angler for the full expedition, with a small group on two boats.

US$3,100
per angler

10 days / 7 fishing days
2 boats · 3–4 anglers per boat
Minimum 3 · Maximum 8 anglers per trip

BOOKING & PAYMENT

- **Deposit:** US$1,000 per angler to confirm your booking
- **Balance:** US$2,100 per angler, due one month (30 days) before the trip starts

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly recommend comprehensive travel insurance. It should cover trip cancellation, travel disruption, lost baggage and fishing equipment, and **medical evacuation**. Orchid Island is remote, and medical facilities on the island are basic.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- **More than 30 days before the trip:** The deposit is non-refundable. It may be moved to another available date within 12 months, once.
- **Within 30 days of the trip:** 100% of the trip cost is non-refundable.
- **Replacement angler:** If you find a replacement for your spot, we will refund your payment minus a US$200 admin fee.
- **If we cancel the trip,** for example because the minimum group size isn't met, you will receive a full refund of all payments made to us.
- **Weather and transport:** We can't refund fishing days lost to weather, sea conditions, or ferry delays or cancellations.

WHY THIS TRIP

01
THE BLACK CURRENT

Fishing in the path of the Kuroshio at its April peak, when flying fish and pelagics arrive.

02
UNTOUCHED SEAMOUNTS

Two remote pinnacles that even local fishermen rarely reach, with big dogtooth the main target.

03
SMALL GROUP

Two boats and a maximum of 8 anglers, so everyone gets plenty of room to cast and jig.

FISH WHERE FEW HAVE EVER FISHED.

BOOK YOUR SPOT

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