

Lord Howe Island



I had the pleasure of spending a week on Lord Howe Island with my wife and two other friends. Managed to get out for one morning of deep sea fishing (on the banks between the island and the majestic Ball's Pyramid). Targeted fish were the famous kingfish but also silver trevally – both were caught along with some interesting interlopers. Reef sharks were a menace once we got good fish on, but the most telling moment was when three of us had our catch taken in quick succession by what proved to be a bronze whaler. For about 20 minutes we had the joy of having the kingies about 2 metres below the boat so it was 'sight fishing'.



One of my kingies – note I'm wearing the marine camouflage/CAA tartan shirt – Ball' Pyramid in background.



My Rock Cod was discarded.



Reef shark being handled



I bought a toy rod to muck around in the lagoon chasing mullet, wrasse and this dude (juvenile sweep?)



Ned's Beach offered the chance to hand feed the fish – wrasse, silver drummer, king fish, spangled emperor, mullet and reef shark were seen.



Sunset from balcony of Lord Howe Island Golf Club

Some Details

Multiple flights via Qantas from Sydney. There are only 400 beds available on the island at any time so accommodation has to be arranged before/with booking of flights. We took a package from Oxley Travel. One week (no meals) in a one bedroom apartment (we stayed at Beachcombers) plus flights from Sydney was \$1,475 per person. Half Day fishing with Carina Fishing was \$150. Some of the catch goes 'back into the economy' – ie sold by the charter – but I still took home 5 large fillets (enough for more than two meals for four people).

Lord Howe Island sits at the junction of five different currents so fishing is amazing. Colourful coral is present both within the coral fringed lagoon but also on the Eastern side of the island. Lots of challenging and beautiful walks for when you aren't fishing, golfing, snorkelling, lawn bowling ... Plenty of excellent restaurants with a wide diversity of costs are available.