



Meet Captain James Stewart, owner of Short Hook Charters

Hi, I am Captain James "Jim" Stewart and I have been fishing Seneca Lake for over 36 years. I have a Master License from the USCG and am fully insured. I am a current member of the Finger Lakes Trollers Association. I have competed and placed in various tournaments in the area. I also enjoy taking my family and friends on fishing trips. Fishing is my passion, and I'll do my best to make it a memorable and safe experience.

Describe your business:

I operate a fishing charter business and I take people out fishing. We can take people out on Cayuga and Seneca Lakes and some of the other, smaller lakes. My charter business has been around for about 7 years. I'm a one man operation: just me and my auto-pilot! I can host anywhere from 1-6 people on my boat, though 4 or 5 people is probably the sweet spot. My boat, named Short Hook, is a 23 foot long Sportscraft hard top. My business runs from early April to sometime in October, so long as the weather holds up.

Tell us your story:

After retiring, having always enjoyed fishing, I took a charter course. It's a lot more fun fishing with somebody than by yourself!

What has helped you succeed:

Customers mostly have helped me succeed. This season, Seneca has had good fishing, and Cayuga has been on fire this year! We typically catch Lake Trout, Brown Trout, Salmon, and Rainbow Trouts.

What inspires you:

I love getting up in the morning and going fishing or hunting. Not sure it makes my wife that happy, but she understands!

What keeps you up at night:

There aren't too many challenges left to me anymore, and I can't think of anything that really keeps me up at night.

What is your favorite local activity:

I don't really do much else besides fishing and hunting, but once in a while my wife and I will take in a horse race at the track up in Canandaigua.

Is there anything else we should know about you?

I've never ice-fished in my life, and I don't care for the cold weather- can't keep my fingers warm- so have never wanted to even try ice fishing. Prior to retiring I worked at Corning Incorporated as an electrician, and while that was a good career for sure, it has been nice since I retired getting to fish as often as I want. I have one son who lives in nearby Gang Mills, and he is not a fisherman: the fish just don't bite fast enough for him! Kinda like his mother, he doesn't have enough patience.... 😊

Short Hook Charters

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