

Louisiana PASS



Photo of girl with croaker courtesy of Bayfish.net.

For more information about croaker fish, click on one of these links:

[Information on the Atlantic Croaker](#)

[Description of the Atlantic Croaker](#)

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Who's That Croaking?

Can you guess why a croaker fish is called a croaker fish? Well keep reading to find out.

There are different kinds of croaker fish. The Atlantic croaker, spotfin croaker, white croaker, and yellowfin croaker are just a few. However, we're going to talk about the Atlantic croaker, also known as the *Micropogonias undulatas* (that's the scientific name).

The Atlantic croaker fish has a silver-gray or bronze body with dark, wavy lines. It also has a scary looking mouth, similar to that of a shark! But don't worry. It usually weighs less than 2 pounds and is about 20 inches long. The largest one ever found was still pretty small--only 3 pounds and 12 ounces! Besides, the croaker fish is a bottom-feeder (meaning it lives on the bottom of the bay) and it feeds on invertebrates (animals without a backbone). However, the most unusual thing about the croaker fish is that it croaks like a frog!

Those of you living on the Gulf of Mexico have probably seen croaker fish before because that's where they live. So next time you're walking along the beach and you hear a frog-like croaking, remember who it might be.

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