

BLACK BEAR HUNT

Packing List

- 1 pair of easy-on/off camp slippers (with rubber bottoms). We have a muddy boots-off policy in all our buildings & these slippers will make your building-to-building travel easy
- 1 pair of long underwear
- 1 pair of hunting pants/jacket (light-duty, lightweight, camo)
- several shirts and undershirts
- a coat &/or extra sweatshirt for cool evenings
- 1 fresh set of travelling clothes for the trip home
- camo rain suit or poncho
- 1 pair of warm mitts or gloves (water repellent), 1 pair light gloves
- 1 pair of waterproof hunting boots (knee-high rubber boots are best)
- 1 pair of good hunting boots-We love Meindl!
- Extra duffel bag/cooler for transporting meat &/or trophies (only if you are driving &/or want to bring your own, we provide Rubbermaid style totes for transport)
- 1 hat/beanie for cool rides on boats & ATVs (we have available for purchase at lodge)
- Personal toiletries, scent free shampoo, toothbrush/paste, shaving kit, etc.
- flashlight/headlamp & replacement batteries
- compact light binoculars (optional)
- medium/large sized backpack (quiet material) for the stand
- Thermacell (airlines will not let you travel with butane/accelerant: Walmart, Cabelas & Co-Op will have these available for you to pick up on your way to the lodge)
- insect repellent with high (at least 90%) deet content (optional, Thermacell is 1st choice)
- a headnet (optional, Thermacell is 1st choice, storable in your pocket)
- sunglasses, sunscreen, chapstick

Required Hunting clothing/equipment

- A soft case for transporting your gun or bow from camp to the hunting area.
- Bring the gun or bow that you shoot the best and get in a lot of practice in the month before your trip.

If you are hunting with a rifle you will need:

- A vest (an outer garment that covers the torso) of scarlet, bright yellow, blaze orange or white or any combination of these colors. The vest may include a label or crest not exceeding 100 cm² (15 in²);
- Scarlet, bright yellow or blaze orange headwear (white is not allowed). The headwear may include a small label or crest not exceeding 50 cm² (7.8 in²).
- Your rifle should be at least a 270 or larger. You should be capable of a 6 inch group at 100 yards

If you are hunting archery, crossbow or muzzle-loader:

- Hunt in full camo (except if you have a rifle in the stand for protection then you must wear above requirements-makes sense, eh?)
- We **suggest** wearing an orange vest & hat travelling to & from the stand (we have extra at camp)
- If you are hunting with a bow we recommend at least a 55# draw and efficient broadheads. You should be capable of a 5 inch group at 25 yards. Whatever broadhead you choose to bring, make sure you can shoot it accurately. Although your 3D test will be with field points, we will have a block for testing broadheads. You can bring dull broadheads just for this.

USD CASH

Bring enough **USD** cash to cover tips. We can accept cash, checks and credit cards (3% fee) for merchandise but **please** bring USD cash for your gratuity.

The Truth About Tipping/Gratuity

Tipping is one of the least understood aspects of a guided hunt & can be the most awkward to discuss or ask about so we created some guidelines/tips to better understand the tipping process.

- Camp minimum/average is 10% of your total hunt (per hunter).
10% = Good hunt
15% = Great hunt
20% + = Hunt of a lifetime
- Tips should be paid in USD cash directly to your guide and the Chef. They also work hard to make sure food is delicious- how much would you tip at a restaurant? Chef gratuity is over/above the 10% (for example \$350 to the guide, \$100 for chef)
- As owners, we do not take any tips from this amount as we know our staff works hard for their tips and want to reward them to the fullest extent.
- If you had the hunt of your lifetime; harvesting a bear of a lifetime, fishing, etc. please tip accordingly (trophy = approx. \$1,000)!
- Tips should be forthcoming whether or not any animals were taken-provided the guide did his/her best to find said animals. It isn't the guide's fault if it is a slow hunting week.

If you tip lower than is customary, we take it to mean you are unhappy with your experience and do not plan to re-book with us.

Passports

ALL VISITORS TO CANADA HAVE TO HAVE A VALID PASSPORT. HAVE YOUR PASSPORT WITH YOU WHEN YOU GET TO THE AIRPORT AND DO NOT ATTEMPT TO BRING INTO CANADA MORE ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS THAN YOU ARE ALLOWED.

IF YOU HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD, EVEN A DUI, YOU MAY BE REFUSED ENTRY. IF SO CONTACT CANADA BORDER CROSSING SERVICES 1-800-438-7020 OR VISIT <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/travel-voyage>

Guns, Ammunition, Hunting laws & Regulations

- Handguns are illegal. Don't bring them!
- Declare all firearms to a border services officer with your 'Non-Resident Firearm Declaration Form' when you arrive at the border and answer all questions truthfully.
- Non-Resident Firearm Declaration Form (form RCMP 5589) is required along with a nominal fee.
– The declaration form should be filled out prior to arrival at the point of entry, in order to save time.

However, it **should not be signed** before arriving at the entry point, as a Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) customs officer must witness the signature.

- Once the declaration has been confirmed by the CBSA customs officer, it acts as a licence for the owner and it is valid for 60 days.
- If you are interested in pre-processing your firearm prior to entering Canada as a non-resident hunter, contact your local CBSA. It is advisable to start the process early.
- Note: Muzzleloader hunters cannot fly with black powder. You can buy it at Cabelas/local Co-op
- A five-point safety harness in good condition is required for all tree stand hunters, NO EXCEPTIONS! We have these in camp

Hotels

If your travel plans involve a stay in Saskatoon we would recommend the following properties.

- The Saskatoon Inn (306) 242-1440 www.saskatoon.com
- The Sandman Hotel (306) 477-4844 www.sandmanhotels.com
- Travelodge 1 -800-255-3050 or (306) 242-8881 www.travelodgesaskatoon.com

*Ask for their outfitter rate under the name of 'Safari River/Goose Haven'

These hotels are hunter friendly & provide freezer space for travel home

Flights

You can fly into:

- **Saskatoon Airport YXE**- John G. Diefenbaker International Airport (approx 3 hours & 30 min from lodge)
- **Edmonton International Airport YEG** (approx 5 hours from lodge)
- Meadow Lake Airport YLJ (Personal planes only) (approx 30 min from lodge)
- It is a good idea to confirm your flight the night before your departure. This can usually be done online or by phone.

Getting to Camp (Car Rentals)

You can rent a vehicle from any car rental agency at the airport and drive to camp. Remember when talking to these agencies the currency will be in Canadian \$. We recommend the following out of Saskatoon:

- Easy Auto Rental (639) 471-4669
- Budget (306) 244-7925

*Ask for their outfitter rate under the name of 'Safari River/Goose Haven'

Beverages

Safari River Outdoors does NOT provide alcohol for clients. We provide water, coffee, tea, orange/apple juice & a punch/juice for dinner. We suggest purchasing alcoholic beverages in Saskatoon/Edmonton or locally at the SLGA liquor store in Meadow Lake and local supermarket for your mixers.

Fishing

Targeting Walleye & Northern Pike

If you are going to do some fishing we have the gear to do so. Please remember that fishing is a bonus for you.

For an additional cost/lure & tackle donations, we can provide gear, bait and license for bank fishing.

For a guided fishing trip (minimum 2 people), contact us ahead of time for price and availability.

Fishing licenses (available at the lodge)

1 day= \$25 USD*

3 day= \$50 USD*

Annual= \$100 USD*

*Price subject to change. Please check with outfitter for current price.

Fish cleaning= \$5 USD per fish (includes filleting, bagging & labeling for travel/border crossing)

Cell Phones & Internet

We have cell coverage/a cell booster at the lodge and in over half of our hunting spots & wi-fi at the lodge.

On your travel day: What to expect

Please stay in contact with us on your travel day. Feel free to text us at Emily's cell: (207) 576-6034.

We like to be prepared for your arrival with appetizers/a hot meal, help you settle in, get sighted in, etc. On the next day after breakfast, you will have a hunter meeting. You will be issued your safety harnesses, walkie-talkies, Thermacell, chat with your guide, etc.

Re-booking

We offer first-refusal to all returning clients for their returning date the following year. Please let us know ASAP if you would like to return for the following year. We can get an invoice generated and collect a deposit to lock in your spot. If you fail to get back to us and do not have a deposit down, we will begin to contact people on our waiting lists. Please understand in most circumstances we have a waiting list and once your spot is given away, *they* now have first refusal to return the consecutive year. We will do our best to get you back in as you, as a returning client, have higher precedence than a new inquiry.