

ALASKA PRIVATE GUIDE SERVICE

Black Bear Spring gear list:

- Bring your copy of the contract.
- Bring your license and tags.

The most important thing is quiet layered clothes. Polar fleece or wool is the best for outerwear. The clothes must not make noise when rubbed against one another. You need easy to add layers. IT will be warm when we start hunting in the early evening and then cool considerably when the sun goes down at 11 pm. Then the boat ride back to camp at 2 am is cold. I usually wear a full set of polypropylene under wear and add layers on as needed.

It seldom rains while we are at the bait at night but we do get rain in the afternoon/evening going to the baits. So you need a light weight rain suit just in case. A plastic poncho at a minimum will work for that but it is noisy and seldom used at the bait.

You need one set of hunting clothes. One set of camp clothes. And your travel clothes for the plane. Put on your camp clothes before you leave for camp in the morning. Travel as light as possible. You can leave your hard gun case and travel clothes in your gun case in town and put your gun in a soft case. Big bulky hard cases should seldom come to camp.

Duffle bags are best for the trip from town to camp and back. 2 smaller bags are better than 1 large bag. When packing a duffle bag. Sort you clothes in different plastic trash bags. That will help you keep them organized and dry for travel and in camp.

Hunting clothes:

Socks - a couple pair of warm socks and couple pair of lighter socks for camp.

Water proof hiking boots light weight (not short boots but taller boots) some baits have water between the boat and the bait. Rubber knee boots are fine and will cover everything if they are warm or big enough to add warm socks.

1 pair of long johns and shirt, fleece or poly pro. 1 pair of hunting pants and 2 hunting shirts.

1 light weight jacket, sweater or shirt. On heavier jacket or shirt. One light weight wind proof and water proof jacket and rain pants or poncho.

1 set of outer wear camp clothes. As in pants, shirt and light jacket. And shoes.

Hunting gear.

Weapon and ammo 10-20 round at most. Site your gun at home for 5-50 yards. Weapon should have a low powered, light gathering scope. Nothing bigger than a 3 power minimum (3x9 variable power) or a 2x7 or straight 2 power is fine. The bigger the scope tube the more light, the better. Open site weapons are strongly discouraged because it is tough to see the sites and their location on the black bear in the woods at 1 am near dark. If you wear bifocals; you must use a scope. 1 Set of extra glasses if you wear them.

1 flash light with 1 set of extra batteries.

Camera with NEW battery. Extra video batteries, extra tapes. Tripod for the video cam. We typically can only charge via 12 volt or low power 12 volt to 120 inverter on the boat. We have 120 volt at the cabin.

Binocs are optional but if you bring them they need to be light gathering 7x35 minimum or 10x50. 10x25 is not good at night.

GPS is optional. Typically not needed unless we have to track a wounded bear.

Head net, mosquito head net. One with the hoops to hold the net off your ears and away from your eyes. It also needs to be a larger mesh. Thin mesh netting is hard to see through the later it gets. I usually cut mine out of the way in front of my eyes.

Bug dope. I like the Cutters unscented plastic bottle pump spray in 6 OZ. TSA may seize a large bottle of pressurized bug spray. You can use the oily 100% deet in the little bottle but usually the 25%+ spray is just as good and spreads more evenly. The good thing about fleece is the mosquitoes can't drill through it, even thin fleece. So you don't need to cover much skin with bug dope, hands, face, ears and ankles area. I put a little on the baseball hat under the brim and on the back.

Range finder optional. The shots are close. Only bow hunters would need them.

Skinning knife. If you want to learn how to skin and flesh, split lips and turn the ears then bring a fleshing knife and an Exacto knife blade with extra blades.

Sleeping bag. Usually we provide them with all the extra baggage charges nowadays. Feel free to bring a fleece liner. The nights get cool but not cold. By 6 am the tents start to heat up.

Book. Many times the client goes to bed long before the guide. You may be getting up before the guide is done with the hide. So the guide will need some quiet sleeping time during the early parts of the morning and afternoon.

Cell phone- some work sometimes from different locations. We have Sat phones. Our other communication is with marine VHF radios.

Personal medications and include enough of important meds to cover for any travel delays. 2 band aids, 10 tums, a few aspirin etc...

1-2 of your favorite candy bars / night.

Water bottle for use at the bait.

Alcohol. If you want it, you must bring it. Stay away from glass bottles. They are heavy and they break. Plastic and cans are better. You may be limited by weight on the plane and alcohol is the first to be kicked off when the load limit is reached. There are alcohol stores all over and it is easy to stop on the way to the plane or hotel. All weapons including spears must be unloaded and stored before alcohol or hallucinogens are consumed. If you see Jesus, the bear killed you or you have had too much.

Leave a copy of your itinerary at home so that if you need to change your flight to leave early we can call someone to do it.

Send us your plane schedules, both incoming and outgoing. Also send us a note with where you will be staying the night you arrive. Call us and pilot if you are delayed. Call the pilot when you get into town if not past 10 pm or call first thing in the morning.

Have all the information on who to send the hides, skulls and meat to via USPS, Fed Ex or UPS, all are by the airport. The hides and skulls must be sealed by F&G before leaving town. Weekdays 8-5. If needed we can get them sealed for you and then freeze and ship or ship unfrozen if dried well enough. When you come back to town, you can usually book a flight home for that evening.