

WILLOW CREEK OUTFITTERS LTD.

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SHEEP HUNT INFORMATION

For your benefit please take time to review the following information regarding your upcoming hunt. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact us.

FLYING HERE

Book your flight to Grande Prairie Airport. Please arrive two days before the first scheduled day of your hunt, spend two nights at the hotel and we will pick you up the following morning in the hotel lobby. Giving yourself this extra time is necessary in case your luggage gets misplaced which should give the airline enough time to find it before your hunt starts.

HOTEL

Please make your hotel reservations as soon as you have booked your hunt. When flying, book two nights accommodation before your hunt starts in the city of Grande Prairie. If you are driving book your room in the town of Grande Cache. Hotel stays needed after your hunt is completed can be book towards the end of the hunt when we know exactly when we are riding back to the trailhead. The cost of the hotel is your responsibility.

DRIVING HERE

If you plan on driving here we will meet you in the town of Grande Cache a day before your hunt starts. Let us know if you are driving and we can give you detailed directions to where you will be staying.

ENTERING INTO CANADA

You will need a valid passport to enter into Canada. If you have a criminal record or D.U.I. charges you will have to deal with this months before your hunt commences. For more information about dealing with these matters go to www.bordercrossing.ca. It is your responsibility to make sure you will not be denied access into Canada. Refused entry by Canada Customs is not sufficient reason for a hunt refund.

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE

To align with our cancellation policy we highly recommend purchasing trip cancellation insurance in case you have to cancel your hunt for any reason. We have partnered with Global Rescue who can provide our clients with different levels of coverage. If you decide to choose coverage that let's one "cancel for any reason", which we recommend, you must purchase coverage and provide proof of purchase within 20 days of booking the hunt. Please check out the link for coverage options, <https://ss.globalrescue.com/partner/willowcreekoutfitters/>

BRINGING A FIREARM INTO CANADA

You will need to register your firearm with Canada Customs when you arrive. To speed up the process you can download a form from their website at <http://www.willowcreekoutfitters.com/pdf/Firearmform.pdf> or you can call them at **1-800-731-4000**. You can have it filled out but not signed when you arrive at Customs. You will need 3 copies total, fill out the required information on one and then make 2 additional copies. You will be charged a fee of \$25 plus tax when you present these forms at customs and your permit will be valid for 6 months.

WHAT WE PROVIDE

Included in your hunt cost is transportation to and from your hotel, trophy care, guide service and we provide all meals and lodging during your scheduled hunt while in the hunting area.

COMMUNICATIONS

We have satellite phone access for emergency use only. **If you need to have communication to the outside world please rent or bring your own satellite communication device.**

HUNTING LICENSES

We will pick up your hunting licenses for you just prior to your hunt as long as you have returned your contract with your WIN# (Wildlife Identification Number).

WOUND POLICY

We do have a wound policy. **If at our discretion we think an animal is possibly mortally wounded and can not be recovered, this will be considered as a kill.**

EXPORTING ANIMAL PARTS

Upon harvesting of a trophy we will salt the hide and clean the skull in preparation for transportation. Sheep horns will have to be inspected and export permit issued by Alberta Fish and Wildlife upon conclusion of hunt. This inspection will have to be done during regular business hours. At this point you may take horns and hide home with you as this is the most inexpensive option to get them home. You can also leave horns and hide with us as we have an award winning taxidermist that specializes in sheep. These are the two options, we do not crate and ship animal parts ourselves.

TIPPING

Quite often clients will ask about tipping guides. Gratuities should be based on the effort your guide puts into your hunt, not if you get an animal or how big your animal is. **The average going rate in the industry is about 10% of the hunt cost. I suggest 75% of this goes to the guide and 25% to your wrangler/packer.** Gratuities are a good portion of a guide's income. So if your guide takes care of you and tries hard to get you the trophy you are looking for, let him know at the end of the hunt that their efforts and skills were appreciated. Remember this is fair chase hunting and weather conditions and animal activity are out of your guides control.

SHEEP HUNTING GEAR

Here is a list of clothing and gear I recommend to have on your upcoming sheep hunt. With this being a backpack style hunt the most important part to remember is to think "lightweight". Having quality gear that is compatible and durable will make those days and nights out on the mountain that much more comfortable. In this list many of the products are made by Kuiu, www.kuiu.com, which have proven to work for the backpack mountain hunter. I have use many of these products and am very satisfied and would highly recommend them. You may have gear that is very similar that will do the job already so this is just a guideline, just remember that it has to fit in your pack which will be on your back! We will plan and pack for 7 day excursions and then return to camp to resupply if need be. **Please train and be prepared to carry 50 pounds in your pack while hunting.** This is what I recommend to bring with you.

CLOTHING

Hunter orange is not required to be worn while hunting in Alberta.

-Long underwear - bottom and top. I bring in a set of kuiu light merino wool and a heavier synthetic set into camp and dependant on weather, wear one set or put them in my pack.

-Outer layer - Kuiu attack or guide pant and guide jacket. These fit great and are comfortable to hike in. and have zippered vents and lots of pockets.

-Insulating layer - Kuiu super down jacket and pants - this is a great product that is super compatible and lightweight and can be put on for the during times of inactivity on the mountain.

-Rain gear - Kuiu makes to different sets of rain gear. The Chugach which is very lightweight and the Yukon which is just over a pound heavier but it little more durable.

-Gloves - 1 pair of light gloves, 1 pair of windstopper gloves to go over light pair. 1 pair that are waterproof that can fit over your light pair.

-Hats - 1 ball cap and 1 stalking cap or heavier hat for cold weather.

-Neck warmer or silk scarf

-Gaiters - These will keep debris out of your boots and keep the bottoms of your pants from getting damp and worn.

GEAR

-Pack - I would recommend the Kuiu ICON 7800. This a very lightweight pack at 5lbs,3oz and has plenty of room for everything you will need and can cinch down smaller with lighter loads. Many people make the mistake of getting a smaller bag and end up short on room, a smaller pack won't be much less weight than the ICON 7800.

-Rain cover for pack

-Boots - Meindl, Kenetrek, Lowa are all good boots. If you are getting a new pair for this hunt make sure you wear them lots for months before the hunt so they form to your feet.

-Socks - A good fitted sock ex. Smartwool. 2 pairs, wear a pair and pack one.

-Sleeping bag - down bag rated for zero degrees

-Sleeping pad

-Dry bags - Kuiu has some light weight dry bags that come in different sizes. These can be used to put your extra clothes in within your pack.

-Trekking poles - 1 or 2 - optional -but many like to have an extra point of contact for stability.

-Rifle - bring a firearm that is lightweight which you are very comfortable and familiar with. A caliber that is flat shooting as 300+ yard shot is very possible on this hunt. Bring 40 rounds of ammo on the hunt, 20 rounds in camp and 20 in the backpack.

-10X Binoculars

SMALL ITEMS

-lighters

-leatherman or multitool

-sunscreen

-lip balm

-moleskin

-2 headlamps

-2 water bottles or 1 water bottle and bladder for pack

-sunglasses - optional

-sat. phone - optional - we will have one for emergency use only.

-camp shoe

