

Bear/Deer Hunt Gear list

1. High quality rain gear (Sitka, Kuiu, or Helly Hansen) (pants and jacket)
2. Good clothing that can be layered and adjusted for hiking (synthetic or down layers are great)
 - a. Our guides use a 2-3 layer system for their upper body and lower body. Base layers with a hunting pant and a rain pant cover are my system for my lower body. Same for my upper body except with a rain jacket. The rain gear also serves as an excellent wind break. I want a system that I can change quickly as the weather and the physical activity changes
 - b. Sitka and Kuiu are all gear companies that help you design your gear system and make it easy to set up good clothing. There is nothing wrong with wool and old school clothing either.
 - c. Set up your clothing so you can minimize sweating
3. High ankle hiking boots or rubber knee boots (if leather we highly recommend you use "snowseal" or other waterproofing on the leather, will keep your boots dryer longer, Kodiak is very wet) (rubber boot brands like muck boots or lacrosse work very well, make sure they are insulated for colder temps and they fit well)
 - a. Our guides use mostly insulated rubber boots for the bear hunts. The waterproofness and warmth make them a good option.
 - b. We use Muck brand but there are a lot of good options on the market like Lacrosse. Make sure there isn't too much slop inside the boot.
4. Lots of good socks
5. Backpack (should be at least 4000 cubic inches of space) (external frame are the best, kuiu, stone glacier, etc). You will need to pack food, water, and clothing all day long.
6. Lightweight rifle (popular bear calibers: .30 caliber of some kind, 375 H&H, 33 Nosler)
7. Light tough gloves for grabbing brush and protection for your hands
8. Heavier mitts or gloves for wearing on top of glassing knobs, waterproof gloves/mitts are better
9. Beanie or warm hat
10. Reliable headlamp with extra batteries
11. Sleeping Bag
12. Sitting pad for glassing

Personal gear weight limit for flight to camp: 75 lbs.

Bear hunts generally involve a fair amount of hiking and a lot of glassing for both the spring and fall hunts. We highly recommend training as much as possible. We take hikes that will be around 6 miles long round trip on a regular basis. We access some country by foot and some by boat, but all our areas will require a fair amount of boot footing.

Fall hunts will most likely involve a little less walking but the walking can be wet and boggy. Bears are on the rivers and creeks fishing. That's where we will spend the most of our time hunting and glassing. Fall temps can be somewhere around 15-45 degrees.

Spring hunts will involve more hiking. The bears are in the valleys and higher on the hills. They are coming into rut in the spring. Bears like the valley hillsides and move around a lot. Hiking the mountains for these bears is not uncommon in the spring. Spring temps can range "from 30-50 degrees.

Shooting distances vary. We try very hard to be 200 yd or less when we start shooting. The closer we get the greater chance that the animal is taken ethically and quickly.

We cannot stress enough on the physical preparation aspect of hunting. The fitter you are the better your experience will be and the chance of success for your hunt goes up exponentially.