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Spring Brown Bear Hunt Gear List

Here's our recommended personal gear list. Gear is always improving.

Alaska Non-resident Hunting License, Locking-tags, Registration Permits/Harvest Tickets:

- Alaska Hunting License (Non-resident or Non-resident Alien).
- Locking-tag(s) for each big game specie hunting.
- Registration Permit(s), Harvest Ticket(s), Draw Permit(s), if applicable.
- Keep hunting license, locking-tags, permits and harvest tickets in zip lock bag or waterproof bag.
- Pre-purchase Alaska hunting license and locking tags for each specie online at the ADFG website store. Also, obtain required registration permits and harvest tickets online at the ADFG website, no fee required. License, tags, and permits are kept on clients in the field.

Rifle, Scope, and Ammunition:

- Rifle: For Brown Bear hunts, recommend .375 H&H or .375 Ruger. Popular calibers for bear hunts are: *.338 Win Mag, .340 WBY Mag, .338 RUM, .375 H&H, .375 Ruger, .416 Rem, .416 Rigby.*
- Rifle Scope: Recommend high-quality optics. Most of the shots are less than 50 yards to 200 yards. Suggest 1 to 6 or 8 power. Popular calibers: Leupold VX3 2.5-8.5 x 33mm, VX6 1-6x24 or 2-12x42, Nightforce NXS 2.5-10x42, Nightforce NX8 1-8 or ATACR 1-8, Swarovski Z8 1-8x24.
- Ammunition (two boxes, 40 rounds). Use high-quality bonded or solid copper hunting bullets. Recommend: Barnes TSX or LRX, Swift A-Frame, Nosler Partition or Nosler Accubond. 300 Gr triple shock for .375 H&H; 200 - 250 Gr triple shock for .300-or .338-Win Mags.
- Handgun (Pistol) (optional). 10 mm Glock 40, .44 Magnum revolver, SIG P320 X-Ten 10mm Pistol ISIG SAUER.
- Bipod or Shooting sticks (optional). Leki trekking poles and/or Havoc Bipod.
- Hard case for rifle on commercial airline travel.
- Soft case for rifle or waterproof case (Nomar Waterproof Rifle Scabbard) for air charter flights and boat rides.
- Otis tactical gun cleaning kit and scope cleaning cloth, and ear plugs.

Optics/Tech:

- Binoculars (high quality) – Swarovski, Leica, or Zeiss (10 X 42). KUIU PRO Bino harness, optional.
- Spotting scope (optional). *Swarovski ATX 65 or 85*, with quality tripod such as Outdoorsmans or Gitzo Mountaineer, and fluid head such as Gitzo or Outdoorsmans.
- Range finder (optional). Leopold-Hunting RX-1600i TBR/W rangefinder or Leica 1000R Rangefinder.
- Cameras (optional) with extra charged batteries and spare ScanDisk memory cards. List of camera gear: 4K Camcorder, Sony A7 III camera with Sony FE 100-400mm, Go Pro, Phone scope, iPhone, case, etc.
- Lens Cloth.
- Communication (Optional). Garmin InReach and/or Iridium Satellite phone.

Backpack Gear:

- Use only quality packs for hunting. Barney's Pinnacle Pack or Stone Glacier Sky Guide 7900 are both great packs. Large packs (7000 plus cu. Inches) are used for hunting and ready for rapid stalks. Include pack rain cover.
- Small Day Packs are used as a travel carry-on for personal valuable items.
- KUIU Large Waterproof Dry Bag or Duffel. Kodiak 6600 Duffel, SeaLine 120L Dry Pack or the Sea to Summit Hydraulic Dry Pack 120L. Or, use two medium dry bags.
- Waterproof bags, compression stuff sacks/bags, (2-small, 2-medium, 2-large). Zip Top, Sea to Summit.

Other Gear:

- Platypus tube and Hydration bag or Nalgene 2-Quart Water Bottles.
- Headlamp and/or small flashlight with extra batteries. Petzl Myo or FEnix HP15.
- Knife w/ sharpener (Havilon or Victorinox), small handsaw, duct tape, Leatherman tool (optional), parachute cord (optional). Pair of skinning gloves.
- First-aid: Neosporin Plus and a few band-aids; and moleskin (Dr. Scholls) for blisters on your feet.
- Head net/insect spray (DEET or equivalent).
- Water-proof matches or lighter or fire starter.
- Packaged moist towelettes (baby wipes) & one roll of toilet paper in zip lock bag.

Sleeping System:

- Lightweight Down or Synthetic Sleeping Bags rated 0 degrees to 10 degrees Fahrenheit and 2 to 3 ½ lbs. Suggest: Mountain Hardware Ultra Lamina 0, Stone Glacier Chilkoot 0 degrees, Mountain Hardware Phantom Gore-Tex. Or, Kuiu Super Down Sleeping Bag 0 or 15 Degree. Sleeping bag should be light, but warm and easily compacted. Bivy sack is a great option.
- Lightweight Sleeping Pad. Suggest Thermarest NeoAir XTherm.
- Pillow case (stuff clothing in case to make pillow).

Layering System:

- Travel clothes (one set).
- Base-Layer:**
- Boxer Shorts, 3 sets, KUIU Peloton 118 Boxer or Smartwool or Ice Breaker.
- Next to Skin Top, 2, KUIU Peloton 118 SS Crew-T
- Next to Skin Bottom, 2, Peloton 118 Zip-Off Bottom
- Mid-Layer:**
- Mid-Layer, 1, KUIU Peloton 97 Fleece Zip-T Hoodie or KUIU ULTA Merino 145 Zip-T Hoodie
- Mid-Layer, 1, KUIU Peloton 200 Zip-T Hoodie
- Pants (2-Lightweight). KUIU Attack Pants or Pro Pants.
- Belt, KUIU belt.
- Insulation Layer:**
- Quality rain gear is a must! Helly Hansen with hood (knee length) and pants. Or, KUIU Yukon Jacket and Pants, KUIU Chugach NX Rain or Sitka rain gear.
- Insulating Jacket, Ultra Down Hooded. KUIU Super down or Barney's Brook Range
- Jacket (windbreaker/light weight), KUIU Guide DCS Jacket.
- Headwear.**
- Head wear, 2-hats - one ball cap and one polar fleece cap for cold weather. KUIU or Smartwool.
- Balaclava. KUIU Merino Neck Gator or Smartwool.
- Gloves:**
- Waterproof Outer Shell Gloves. Mtn. Hardware or Absolute Zero Mitt.
- Gloves (2 sets). Lightweight leather gloves and wool gloves.

Footwear:

- Waders are a MUST! Chest or Waist-high breathable Waders: Simms, Cabela's, & Orvis.
 - Wading boots. Boots go over stocking foot waders. Simms, Cabela's, & Orvis. Get them large enough for 2 pairs of socks.
 - Wader Socks (2-pair). Neoprene wader socks or SealSkinz Waterproof Extreme Cold Weather.
 - Socks (wool socks and liner sock), 6 pairs each. Darn Tough or Smartwool
 - Muck Wetland rubber knee boots.
 - Camp shoes or clogs.
 - *Light weight waterproof hiking boot. Timberland or Columbia boots. Use as camp shoe.
- *NOTE: Occasionally, hiking boots are used when Brown Bear are still up high on the mountainside at snow level. Waders are dropped at bottom before climb.

Personal Gear:

- Toothbrush, toothpaste, floss and razor (optional).
- Nail clippers, tweezers, and Q-tips.
- Towel, washcloth, shampoo, bar of soap, and deodorant.
- Chap stick, skin lotion, and sunscreen lotion.
- Personal medication - 15-day supply. Aspirin, Advil, or Tylenol (for the aches and pains).
- Glasses, sunglasses, contacts, and contact eye cleaner.
- iPhone and extra battery. Recharging battery bank. Anker – PowerCore 20K.
- Reading material (2 books).
- Personal/bank checks or cash.

Packing. Pack all hunting gear in one large waterproof bag or two medium bags, except day pack and rifle (soft case). Gear is hand carried on air charter flights. Weight limit on small air charter (Cessna 206 and DeHavilland Beaver) is approximately 100 lbs and rifle with case. Hard case for rifle, unnecessary luggage, and travel clothes can be stored at air charter for pickup upon return from base camp.

Weather. Weather can be harsh in Alaska during Spring and Fall hunts with temperatures range from low-30's to high-40's, strong winds, rain, and possible snow. Prepare for the worst weather.

Rifle, Scope, and Ammo for Rent. For International clients by exception, we do rent firearms and ammo for hunting trips, \$450 per person for nine-day hunt (\$50 per day). Clients will double check zero on rifle in the field prior to their hunt.