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2017/2018 Price List, General Information & Hunt Dates

BIGHORN SHEEP

Price \$52,500 USD Flat Rate Hunt Or
\$37,500 base + \$20,000
Trophy fee payable on an opportunity,
miss or kill of a legal (Full Curl) ram.
1x1 guided.
Dates: August 15th – September 30th
Other: Moose or Elk: \$5,500; Black Bear: \$3,000

CANADA MOOSE (Peak Rut Hunt)

Price: 10 Day: \$9,750 USD
Hunt is 1x1 guided or
2x1 guided: \$8,500
Dates: September 22nd – Oct. 3rd
Other: Black Bear: \$3,000

British Columbia Government Licenses and Tags

(All \$ are in US Funds & are subject to change. Tags must be purchased before the hunt. Prices include GST, HRHPF (150 USD))

Hunting License: \$180.00	Sheep: \$620.00	Elk: \$250.00
Black Bear: \$180.00	Moose: \$250.00	Wolf: \$50.00

Additional Costs & Hunt Options

Hotel and Meals (before and after hunt), about \$125/night – Grande Prairie
Shipping & Crating of Trophies and/or Meat (unless hunter self-exports). Per Taxidermist
Government Licenses and Tags (see above)
Commercial Airlines Flight or Drive to Grande Prairie, Alberta
Guide and Camp Staff Tips (typically 6-10%)
Non-Hunting Companion: \$200+/day

Arrival & Departure

All hunts start and end in Grande Prairie, Alberta, which is accessible by daily airline service (Air Canada and West Jet) through Edmonton or Calgary, AB. You will arrive in Grande Prairie in the evening, then check into a hotel. Most likely your hunting license and tags will be purchased before you arrive in Canada. The next morning, you'll depart for the hunting area, which is a 2-3 hour drive on 30% pavement and 70% gravel roads, depending on if you'll be hunting moose or sheep. Our clients have had good success with all luggage arriving with them, but if your luggage is delayed, we can wait for it to arrive the next day or you can arrive a day early and spend an extra day in town to ensure your luggage arrives on time for the hunt. However, since we drive to camp and don't fly, luggage delays haven't been an issue. On the last day of the hunt, you'll be taken back to Grande Prairie, where you'll get a hotel to clean up before flying home. Also, at any time, during a moose hunt, we can drive to town for supplies or your business/email needs as we don't have cell phone or wifi at camp, but most hunters spend the duration of the hunt in the field. The sheep hunt is more remote. We will assist you with registering and plugging the Bighorn (compulsory inspection), after your hunt. Unless scheduled in advance, sometimes they won't inspect a ram on the weekend, so we might have to wait until the following Monday or you can leave it with us and we will have a taxidermist ship it after it is inspected and the skin is dried. We will call the game department using Satellite phone, from base camp, to schedule the inspection.

Hunting Area/Methods

The non-resident BC Bighorn season runs from August 15th – September 30th in Region 7-19. The area is owned by Fredlund Guide Service, but he is busy with Moose/elk/goat which is in a different part of his area and he asked us to handle his bighorn tags for a couple years. He gets 1-2 allocations per year (it is a 5 year quota). Hunters can go to the BC Wildlife website and see the map and area boundaries. We want our clients to shoot good rams, but often time and perseverance is needed, so the longer you can plan to hunt, the higher the success rate. This is the most Northern Bighorn range in N. America; it is very isolated and road-less, with horse and backpacking access only. It is nice not to be in a foot race with residents, which can happen in many of the southern AB and BC areas, where several hunters are sitting, waiting like wolves, for the sheep to make a mistake. The hunting in our area is a cross between Stone Sheep and typical Bighorn hunting. The terrain is less bushy and cliffy than many of the southern areas and few places are treacherous.

When hunters arrive in camp, all gear is sorted, rifles are shot and we ride into the area, 4-7 hours on horses. We do a lot of glassing and spike out in mobile camps, using Hilleberg style tents to hunt the area. Horses are used to reach the main area, as we ride on old seismic trails and outfitter trails. Sometimes we have to backpack, but most areas can be hunted with horses and day hunted, coming back to horses at night. Some areas require walking to avoid spooking rams and to be in position for glassing during prime times. There are several different mountain ranges in the area, some low and with a lot of brush and others, several thousand feet above tree line. The area's elevation ranges from about 3,500 to 8,000 feet, from base camp to the tallest peaks. It is a very scenic and majestic area. Most rams are hunted between 4,750 to 6,000 feet, so altitude sickness is generally not an issue. Rams like to feed in green pockets and slides, as well as between timber and brush patches, so they are rarely up in the alpine. Rams will bed in the timber or on rock ledges near brush lines; spotting them is seldom "easy", unless they are feeding with their white rump patches, exposed. Tree line is between 5,500 to 5,800 feet in most places, but in some it's below 5,000 feet. The sheep can come in/out of the timber, so it's important to be in good locations for spotting them, during these critical hours. After a big rain or snowstorm, and during cold weather the rams can be active and moving/feeding all day. Often times, we use an additional/spotter to help locate new sheep, while the hunter is out with his main guide. Sometimes, we might hunt two hunters at one time, as often the rams are in groups of 3-12 with several full curl/legal sheep per group.

Moose are hunted by walking and calling in timber and meadows near the AB/BC Border. We use Quads to access the area due to road closures. Because of the remoteness, we have not seen any resident hunters. The moose area is also 7-19, which is a trophy bull area. All bulls must have 3 brow times or 10 total points per side. This means that moose will be over 45" and typically over 50". This area averages over 50" which is the same size as most fly in areas, which are \$5,000 + more expensive. We only take 2 moose hunters per year in this area, during peak Rut. The area can and does produce Boone and Crockett sized moose. Hunters sleep in tents, not cabins.

Bighorn Sheep

This area is a "Full Curl" area, which means that many 7.5 year old sheep will be "legal" to shoot but most will be 8.5-10.5 years old. Some young rams can broom early and never reach "legal" status and some old rams can go from "legal" to not legal if they broom off too much, as they age. The sheep in this area move back and forth between the British Columbia and Alberta, but in the last few years, BC has had more rams than AB. Also, we don't have any park or coal mine borders, so we don't have to sit on the borders, waiting for rams to come into our area, like some other areas in southern Alberta or BC. The biggest ram ever killed in the area was about 179-180 B&C, in the research we've done. The typical ram scores from the low to mid-150s to mid-160s. A 170 Class is possible, but we don't sell this size of sheep. In 2014, a hunter saw a low to mid-170s ram, but it was not shot. The sheep are very handsome, but smaller and more compact than a southern bighorn, both in body and horn size. Even in early September, the capes are some of the best we've ever seen, both in color (quite dark) and hair quality. A Bighorn hunted, fair chase in an open area of Canada is a trophy well earned. It is not for people without patience, time and mental toughness. It is one of the hardest hunts in North America and one of the most sought after and cherished trophies.

History

Randy Bedell, Sundown Outfitters, hunted this area successfully for many years, before Aaron Fredlund, Fredlund Guide Service, purchased the tags about 12 years ago. Aaron guided the bighorns for many years, but the Bighorn area is far from his lodge and it makes more sense for him to have us guide his permit(s) each year.

Deposits & Hunt Payments

A hunt, less than 1 year away, is booked with a 50% deposit. Hunts booked more than 1 year out only require a 25% deposit and more than 2 years out, a 15% deposit. For hunts, more than a year out, a 50% deposit will lock in the hunt price. If a deposit is less than 50%, we will hold dates and set price, a year before the hunt. Final payment is due approx. July 1st the year of your hunt (60 days out). If a hunt is cancelled, and we have adequate time to resell the hunt, we will refund the deposit less our booking fees (about 10%). Hunts booked at less than retail value will be refunded minus the difference between retail and the cancellation hunt selling price, and minus a 10% booking fee. If the hunt cannot be rebooked, the deposit is non-refundable, but it can be transferred to another party for the same year and dates. Exceptions may be made and will be handled case by case, as determined by the company. Licenses and tags are purchased in Dawson Creek, BC prior to your hunt.

Trophy Fees

We offer the hunts as a flat rate or trophy fee based hunt. If you choose, the trophy fee style hunt, trophy payment must be presented at the beginning of your hunt. No personal checks will be accepted: only traveler's checks, money orders, bank checks, cashier's checks or US Cash. If an animal is not harvested, wounded or missed, the trophy fee monies, where applicable, will not be owed and will be refunded to you. **But**, the trophy fee will be due, if the hunter is presented/shown a legal ram, even if no animal is taken or wounded. If a hunter leaves earlier than dates on hunt contract, the trophy fee is also due. This area always has legal rams in it, so hunters willing to hunt for the duration, will have an opportunity at a legal ram. But we also offer the trophy fee based hunt, so that hunters have the option of a flat rate or trophy fee style hunt. If a hunter hunts the duration of the hunt and doesn't have an opportunity at a legal ram, the hunter can stay longer for no charge or they can come back the following year, just paying a reasonable daily rate (about \$1,000/day) until they are successful.

Trophy Care

Trophy care on your hunt includes caping, fleshing and salting of all hides, horns and antlers in the field or we will take the skin to a taxidermist and have him prepare it for you. You can generally take salted/dried sheep and goat trophies home as checked luggage if the BC Fish and Wildlife department is available to inspect it right away. A local taxidermist can ship trophies for you or we have a US Taxidermist who will haul trophies to the US after the season if you are in a hurry to go home. This taxidermist can ship your trophy(s) to you if you have your own taxidermist or he can mount and deliver them to you as he has excellent and fast service. All shipping and crating is at the hunter's expense.

Meat Handling

If you wish to take bighorn meat home with you (about 50 pounds) a cooler and waterproof bags can be purchased in Grande Prairie. If not, the guides will be happy to take the meat. We don't recommend leaving meat with a butcher, having it cut/wrapped and shipped. It is expensive and not efficient.

Gear List/Itinerary/Additional Information

A detailed information packet will be emailed to you after booking a hunt. It will contain an equipment list, suggested fitness plan, travel tips, assistance with airline flights & hotel reservations, emergency phone numbers and extensive information regarding all aspects of your trip. It is easy to bring a rifle to Canada; you just need to fill out an online form from the Canadian Firearms website, present it and your rifle, at the border and sign it in the presence of an officer. We provide camp equipment, meals, lodging & guides, plus horse or ATV and all vehicle transportation to/from and while in the hunting area. Please call or email us for additional information. We look forward to you hunting with us.