

TRAVEL & FISHING INFORMATION



ROYAL COACHMAN

— BRISTOL BAY, ALASKA —



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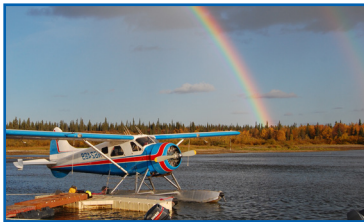
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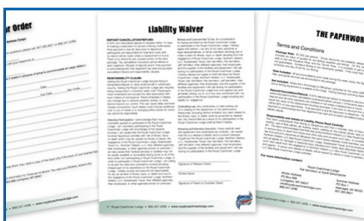
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ITINERARY & PRICES

Prices

Package Rate:

\$9,250 per person. Group discounts are available, please call us for details. This package includes six days of guided fly out fishing (weather permitting). On the very rare weather days you will be able to fish the Nuyakuk River and the Tikchik River. It is possible to get some fishing on Sundays, but it is not guaranteed and not necessarily guided. If the local river is fishing well, we may schedule one day of non fly out fishing during your week.

Rate Includes:

All accommodations and meals during the week, taxes, the flight from Dillingham to the lodge, flies, and guide services are included in the package.

Not Included:

Airfare from Anchorage to Dillingham, gratuities (10-15% of fishing package (\$925 - \$1,388) for the camp staff, liquor, and fishing equipment are not included. Some fishing equipment is available at the lodge to rent. Fishing licenses and King Salmon stamps are not included. Hotel rooms or food expenses in Anchorage or Dillingham due to weather delays getting to the lodge, are not our responsibility.

Itinerary

Arrival day:

You will need to be in Anchorage on Sunday morning to catch a 1 1/2 hour charter flight to Dillingham (TBD in January 2018). You will land at the Dillingham International Airport. A Royal Coachman Lodge representative will meet you at the airport. Please note, occasionally we have delays on our side. If no one has arrived after 15 minutes please call the lodge at 907.644.0641 or the Sweetwater office at 888.347.4286. There is a payphone in the waiting area, cellphones do not work in Dillingham. You will then be transferred in the Royal Coachman Lodge's vintage van to Aleknagik, where our floatplanes will be waiting for you. This transfer takes about 30 minutes. We will pack the plane and leave for the lodge as soon as you arrive. Not everything fits in 2 beaver loads, so we return for the remaining luggage. You will arrive at the lodge around 3:00 p.m., and the luggage flight will not get back to the lodge until roughly 6:00 pm.

IF YOU ARE ITCHING TO GO FISHING WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE LODGE, PLEASE GRAB YOUR WADERS, WADING BOOTS, AND FLY ROD OUT OF YOUR BAG IN DILLINGHAM AND BRING IT WITH YOU ON THE FIRST AIRPLANE LOAD.

Upon arrival the manager will discuss the week's itinerary with you, check and/or sell licenses, and have guests sign waivers. Appetizers and a hearty dinner will be served around 6:30 p.m.

Monday – Saturday:

Full fishing days! You will generally have breakfast at 7:00 a.m. and depart at 8:00 a.m. You will return around 6:00 p.m. after a full day of fishing. Dinner is usually served at 7:30 p.m. Repeat!

Departure Day:

We normally have a luggage run at 8:00 a.m., so you will need to pack in the morning before breakfast, which will be served at 8 a.m.. After the luggage plane leaves you will have time to settle up with the manager for your bill which will include alcohol, fishing licenses, apparel purchased, and gratuities.

After breakfast you will depart in our beavers for Dillingham. You will depart Dillingham on a private charter to Anchorage.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Travel agent

Travel Station

Agent: Julz Gilpin

1.800.522.8747

1.406.587.8747

julz@thetravelstation.com

www.thetravelstation.com

Airline service to Anchorage

Alaska Airlines

800.426.0333

Continental

800.525.0280

Delta

800.221.1212

Northwest

800.225.2525

United

800.241.6522

Airline service from Anchorage to Dillingham

Peninsula Air

907.771.2640

Hotel Recommendations

Anchorage Marriott Downtown

907.279.8000

820 W. 7th Ave

Anchorage, AK 99501

Best Western Barratt Inn

907.243.3131

4616 Spenard Road

Anchorage, AK 99517

Courtyard Anchorage Airport

907.245.0322

4901 Spenard Road

Anchorage, AK 99517

Executive Suite Hotel

907.243.6366

4360 Spenard Road

Anchorage, AK 99517

Hotel Captain Cook

907.276.6000

Fourth and K

Anchorage, AK 99501

Lakeshore Motor Inn

907.248.3485

3009 Lakeshore Drive Anchorage,

AK 99517

Millennium Alaskan Hotel

907.243.2300

4800 Spenard Road

Anchorage, AK 99517

The Puffin Inn - Anchorage Hotel

907.243.4044

4400 Spenard Road

Anchorage, AK 99503

Sheraton Anchorage Hotel

907.276.8700

401 East Sixth Avenue Anchorage,

AK 99501

Bristol Inn

907.842.2240

104 Main Street

Dillingham, AK 99576

Aleknagik School House Inn

907.842.1629

Aleknagik, AK 99555

Beaver Creek B&B

1800 Birch Circle

Dillingham, AK 99576

907.842.7335

Restaurant Recommendations

Crow's Nest Captain Cook Hotel

907.343.2217

939 West 5th Avenue

Anchorage, AK 99501

F street station

907.272.5196

325 F Street

Anchorage, AK 99501

Glacier Brewhouse

907.274.4677

737 West 5th Avenue, suite 110

Anchorage, AK 99501

Humpy's Great Alaskan Alehouse

907.276.2337

610 West 6th Avenue

Anchorage AK 99501

Orso

907.222.3232

737 West 5th Avenue

Anchorage, AK 99501

Sacks Cafe & Restaurant

907.276.3546

328 G Street

Anchorage, AK 99501

Simon & Seafort's

907.274.3502

420 L Street

Anchorage, AK 99501

Snow Goose Restaurant and Brewery

907.277.7727

717 West 3rd Avenue

Anchorage, AK 99501

Southside Bistro

907.348.0088

1320 Huffman Park Drive

Anchorage, Alaska 99515



TRAVEL & LOGISTICS

Flight information

Many airlines fly into Anchorage International Airport. Check with your travel agent or the airlines for schedules. Alaska Airlines and Pen Air are the only airlines that fly into Dillingham. This year we are using a private Charter TBA in January.

If you would like help with your arrangements, we work with Julz Gilpin at the Travel Station, travel@thetravelstation.com or by phone, 1.800.522.8747. Please mention that you are with Sweetwater Travel and the Royal Coachman Lodge.

Flight schedule

The Charter TBA departs Anchorage around 11:30 am and arrives in Dillingham at 1:00 pm on Sunday. Once you arrive in Dillingham and you have picked up your luggage, you will be greeted by a Royal Coachman Lodge representative.

Some clients prefer to fly directly to Dillingham without spending the night in Anchorage. This means that you do not have to check in twice. Dillingham is a commercial fishing town, and does not offer many options for dinner, but it does have a decent hotel and B&B.

On your return, you will depart from Dillingham around 1:45 pm.

Ground transportation

We will pick you up at the Dillingham airport on Sunday and will transfer you to the float plane. The transfer to the float plane will be a 30 minute drive to Lake Aleknagik. From Aleknagik it is a 40 minute float plane flight to the lodge. This is a beautiful flight that will give you a great perspective of the Wood Tikchik State Park and the endless landscape of Alaska. On Sunday, the last day of your week, you will fly back to Dillingham to meet your connections. We will have a van waiting for us that will take you to the airport.



About the Lodge

The lodge and fishing program have been designed to be one of the best all around programs in Alaska. We cater to a maximum of 10-12 anglers per week, with a camp staff of 10 to 12 people. The small number of guests and large staff ensures that you will receive exceptional personal service and attention.

The main lodge building houses the kitchen, dining room, massage room (please inquire about availability), and one guest room. We have finely furnished guest cabins, with one or two bedrooms and private baths. Each cabin or room has modern bath facilities, independent heat, excellent beds, and 110 electricity provided by diesel generator. Single rooms are available. You are welcome to wait until your arrival at the lodge to see if you receive a single. If you would like to guarantee that a single is available, there is a \$300 charge.

Each morning the aircraft depart from the docks about one hour after breakfast. We return to the lodge each evening around 6 pm. For those who just can't get enough of a good thing, there is great evening fishing in front of the lodge, and with the Alaskan midnight sun, you can fish all night.

The Royal Coachman Lodge prides itself on the quality and freshness of its cuisine. Freshly baked bread, rolls, or pastries are served with each meal. Fresh fruit and vegetables are always available. Dinner menus vary and include entrees such as pork tenderloin, New York steak, roast duck, and fresh caught salmon. We are happy to accommodate any dietary restrictions or requests.

Communications

The camp has satellite phones in both airplanes and telephone and wireless internet in the lodge. There is no cell phone service at the lodge or in Dillingham, and there is no television at the lodge.

Emergency facilities

There is a clinic for minor illnesses and injuries in Dillingham (2 hours by float plane). The closest major hospital is Anchorage (one hour away from Dillingham by commercial plane). Our plane can get to Dillingham in 45 minutes from our lodge, but flight time and availability of the plane are not guaranteed. Please assess your medical problems before booking. If you have medications that you take daily, please keep them with you at all times as your luggage and you can get separated.

Please keep your essential medications with you at all times. Although extremely rare, there are times where we might not return to the lodge due to weather or other extraordinary situations.

We highly recommend travel insurance whenever you travel to Alaska. If you purchase travel insurance within 21 days of your initial deposit it covers pre-existing medical conditions. There is always the possibility of an arrival or departure delay and/or cancellation due to weather. Please give us a call if you have any questions about travel insurance. Please visit [Travellex](#) or [Global Rescue](#) for travel/medical evacuation insurance.

Laundry

Guest rooms are cleaned daily, however, we do not have laundry service available for clients. Please do not plan on our crew having time to do personal laundry.

Alcohol

Alcoholic beverages are not sold at the lodge. We are not allowed to sell alcohol, and alcohol is not included in the package. If you would like to place an order to have at the lodge when you arrive we can help you arrange it. If you do not order alcohol, there will be no alcohol available for your group. We have a separate alcohol order form that must be emailed in.



Safety Instructions

Emergency contact information:

The telephone number at the lodge is 907.644.0641. You can also call our office in Montana at 406.222.0624, or email info@royalcoachmanlodge.com

Boats and Wading:

PFD's are provided for you in each boat and we recommend that you wear them whenever the boat is moving. Always face forward and pay attention when the boat is underway. When the boat is being landed or docked, please stay seated until your guide instructs you to depart. When getting in or out of boats, remember to hold the gunnel for support and be sure the water you're stepping into is shallow. When wading, we recommend that you never wade deeper than waist high. Remember that bottom conditions and current are variable. Always follow your guide's instructions on where it's safe to wade and always wear a wading belt.

Bears:

You will more than likely see bears while you are at the lodge. In reading these guidelines please understand that we have never had a bear incident during the life of the lodge, and you will always have an experienced guide at your side. If you are in bear country your guide will carry bear deterrent devices such as bear spray or a shotgun. If

you see or hear a bear, always stay alert to your guide and follow his instructions.

While you're in Alaska, remember these guidelines:

Always be "bear aware". Watch ahead for bears or for tracks. Don't surprise bears. Make plenty of noise when fishing. You will almost always be with a guide while you are walking along a river. If you see a bear that is far away or doesn't see you, turn around and go back, or circle far around. Don't disturb it and alert your guide.

If you see a bear that is close or it does see you, **STAY CALM**. Attacks are rare. Bears may approach or stand on their hind legs to get a better look at you. These are curious, not aggressive, bears. **BE HUMAN**. Stand tall, wave your arms, and speak in a loud, low voice. **DO NOT RUN!** Stand your ground or back away slowly and diagonally. If the bear follows, **STOP**.

If a bear is charging: almost all charges are "bluff charges". **DO NOT RUN!** Olympic sprinters cannot outrun a bear, and running may trigger an instinctive reaction to "chase". Do not try to climb a tree unless it is literally right next to you and you can quickly get at least 30 feet up. **STAND YOUR GROUND**. Wave your arms and speak in a loud, low voice. Many times charging bears have come within a few feet of a person and then veered off at the last second.



Our Guide Service

During your week at the Royal Coachman Lodge, you will be fishing some of the world's most productive fishing waters. We are a professional guide service. We believe we have a very important role to play in preserving this fishery for future generations.

We have a 2:1 guest to guide ratio. During your week, you will have the opportunity to fish with almost every guide on staff. If you have any questions about fishing techniques or fishing etiquette, please do not hesitate to ask. We are happy to help.

Our guides have fished around the world and make this their career. They can help the beginner learn how to cast, or show the experienced fly fisherman how to reach a tricky undercut bank. They will give you as much or as little assistance as you desire.

At the Royal Coachman Lodge, we strive to make the best decisions for your fishing. If the local river is fishing as well or better than our fly out options, we will schedule guide days on the local river. A local river day usually does not include flying out. Unless requested, we will not schedule a client for more than one day on the local river.

Fishing Schedule

The Royal Coachman Lodge has the distinct advantage of being a small operation located right on the river. This allows us to cater to both the serious and the more laid back fisherman. Flexibility is the key to our fishing schedule. Every evening we sit down with our guests and go over our plans for the next day. With nearly 20 boats scattered throughout our region and many wadable rivers, the fishing options are almost limitless. All we need to know is what species you would like to focus on for the day, and if there is a particular river that you would like to fish, and we will help pick the best fishery for you.

Each day begins with a hearty breakfast (if you are an early riser coffee is set out beforehand). An hour after breakfast, you will depart for the day's fishing. The guides will pack a picnic lunch, or if requested, they can prepare a stream side lunch of fresh salmon (when available). Our daily departure times are flexible to maximize your fishing success. Pickup time will vary depending on the group's plans for the day. Remember, that at the end of the day, if you have not gotten enough fishing in, you can always fish in front of the lodge.

Each river we fish is different. We use Jon boats with 40 hp jet units on the rivers that have boats stashed. We drift fish from the boat or wade fish, depending on your preference. If you are on a creek that does not have a boat, your guide will carry lunch in a backpack and you will wade fish for the day.

All anglers return to the lodge one hour prior to dinner, so you'll have time to shower, relax, and enjoy hors d'oeuvres. A family style, gourmet dinner, including dessert, is served between 7 and 8 pm.

On the Sunday exchange days, you can get some fishing time in (usually unguided). Please keep in mind that we use the transfer days to prepare for the next guests and the transfer, so fishing time is limited.

Fishing Program

Catch and Release

To increase the success of our catch and release program, we follow the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Catch and Release objectives. Caring for the fish you catch during your week is a critical component of our fishing program. All fishing for Rainbow trout, Grayling, Char, and Pike is catch and release. Anglers are allowed to keep 5 salmon during the week, however, we limit the keeping of Salmon within the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge to only those fish that are deep hooked and do not appear sufficiently strong to survive.

When landing fish, anglers should always strive to land the fish as quickly as possible. When landing your fish, do not drag it up on shore or lift it into the boat. Your guide will always be around to help you land your fish. If you are alone, try to avoid letting the fish flop about in shallow water, on the ground, or in the bottom of your boat. All of our guides use soft mesh nets for landing the fish to minimize the impact of our fishing.

All fishing is with single, barbless hooks. We do this for your safety and the fish's safety. Our guides have pliers for crimping barbs, your hemostats also work well for barb pinching. Barbless hooks allow you to release the fish with minimal harm. We do not allow stainless steel hooks for fishing. These will not rust out of fish and pose a long-term mortality threat to the fish. If you see that the fish is deeply hooked, please cut the leader – do not try to remove the hook, you will only hurt the fish.



Like you, we are always excited to see a great fish landed by one of our fishermen. We also want to make sure we can help you capture the sort of photographic memories which allow you to relive the experience for years to come. So, once you have landed the fish, please make sure you wet your hands before touching it. You should remove the hook prior to taking the photos of the fish. When removing the hook, you should use your hemostat or long nose pliers. Please remove the hook quickly, keeping the fish underwater.

Do not remove the fish from the water until you are ready to take a picture. When holding the fish, cradle it gently with both hands, one under its belly, one at the tail. (There is a good photo of this on page 5). Avoid placing your fingers in the fish's gills and eyes. Do not squeeze the fish, and make sure you support the fish in the water while your partner takes your picture. Fish cannot remain out of the water very long (less than 15 seconds).

After you have taken the picture, please carefully release the fish back to the river. If the fish is bleeding from the gills, it is likely to die and you should consider keeping it as part of your bag limit.

When releasing the fish, point your catch into a slow current, or gently move it back and forth until its gills are working properly and it maintains its balance. When the fish recovers and attempts to swim away, let it swim from your hands. If your fish is slow to revive, continue to assist the fish. You will have plenty of time left for fishing.

Equipment & Clothing

Fishing equipment and clothing vary greatly from week to week. As the airlines get more stringent with luggage requirements, you might consider renting your fishing equipment. A week's wader rental is \$125. Rod rental for both a salmon and trout rod is \$75 for the week with a \$50 breakage fee if you happen to break our rod during your stay. Please call us to reserve the rentals at least 90 days before your arrival. You will use a 4-6 weight fly rod for the non salmon species. The lodge also has backup fly rods available for guest use, if you happen to break a rod while you are at the lodge.

At the Royal Coachman Lodge, salmon are usually available all but the first and last week of the season. A 7- 9 weight rod is the ideal set up for these strong fighting fish, except for the Kings (available in June and July). We suggest a 9 -10 weight for the Kings. Give us a call at the office for exact rod suggestions for your week. We generally use floating lines, but occasionally sinking lines, and sink tips can be effective, especially for the Kings. Our favorite sinking line is a type IV 10 foot sink tip for silvers, for Kings it is a Teeny 300. We suggest that you bring both floating and sinking tip lines.

Fishing licenses and King salmon stamps are not included. Licenses and king stamps can be purchased online at www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/buyonline -- be sure to purchase the one week license for the dates of your trip. **King Salmon stamps are only needed in June and July.** We prefer that you purchase your licenses ahead of time online, but if you do not we can sell you a license at the lodge.

Flies are included in the package. We will have a large selection of flies on hand at the lodge. Spinning gear is not included, if you are a spin fisherman please notify us and we can tell you what is available at the lodge. If you have a trout or salmon fly collection, bring it along, as it is always fun to experiment with different patterns. We have a lodge policy of using only non-stainless steel, barbless hooks on the fresh water species. If you would like to tie some flies for your trip just give us a call and we can give you some guidelines for your week. We will have plenty of flies at the lodge. We have a fly tying table available for your personal use. While we keep a good supply of hooks and fly tying materials, if you plan on doing a lot of fly tying, please bring some of your own supplies.

In general, during June and July average temperatures are in the 60's to mid 70's. Temperatures in the fall are quite a bit cooler and average in the 50's-60's. Temperatures can drop into the 30's and 40's at almost any time in Alaska. Keep in mind that Alaska has unpredictable weather, it is good to always come prepared for anything.

Please visit www.sweetwaterflyshop.com for any clothing or equipment you need before your trip.



AREA INFORMATION

The Royal Coachman Lodge is located in the middle of the Wood-Tikchik State Park. The Park is adjacent to the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. Both the Park and the Refuge provide exceptional fishing for our guests, but also offer some of the largest and most diverse wildlife and birdlife populations in Alaska. These resources inhabit a spectacularly beautiful landscape that, due to the hard work of federal and state officials, native corporations, and conscientious sportsfishing operators, is still very pristine. During your week, you will fish waters in the Park, the Refuge, and a variety of other rivers throughout southwestern Alaska.

Wood -Tikchik State Park

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/units/wtc/index.htm>

Wood-Tikchik is the largest state park in the nation with 1.6 million acres of land. The Park was formed in 1978 with the objective of protecting the area's fish and wildlife breeding and support systems while preserving the continued subsistence and recreational activities. The Park's management philosophy is one of non-development and maintenance of the area's wilderness character. The Park is named for two, separate systems of large, interconnected, clear water lakes. The Park is bordered by the Nushagak lowlands on the east and the Wood River Mountains to the west. The lake systems span a variety of terrain and vegetative zones renowned, for their diverse beauty. These lakes are interconnected by rivers which offer exceptional fishing.

The Park is filled with mountain peaks, high alpine valleys, and deep v-shaped arms. The western arms of the lakes are sandwiched between steep mountains, which give them a fjord-like appearance. On the eastern edges of the lakes, you will find islands, gravel beaches, and the expansive tundra of the Nushagak lowlands. The lakes vary in length from 15 to 45 miles, are deep, and average 40°F to 60°F in temperature throughout the summer season.

All five species of Pacific salmon - king, sockeye (red), pink, silver, and chum - spawn in the Wood and Tikchik River systems. Rainbow trout, grayling, lake trout, arctic char, dolly varden, and northern pike are also present throughout the Park. During the week, you will fish for each of these species at different locations throughout the Park.

The Park is home to a remarkable wildlife resource. Moose, caribou, and brown bear are found throughout the park. In addition to these large mammals, you will also see beaver, muskrat, otter, fox, wolverine, mink, and porcupine. There are also healthy populations of ground squirrels and marmots.

Like much of Alaska, the birdlife in the Park is abundant. You will likely see a ducks, gulls, bald eagle, golden eagle, arctic tern, loons, spotted and least sandpipers, semi-palmated plover, willow ptarmigan, and spruce grouse. The lodge has a great collection of bird books which you are welcome to use while you are at the lodge. Additionally, there are bird books listed in the bibliography which will greatly enhance your bird watching during your visit. These can all be purchased at Amazon.com.

Togiak National Wildlife Refuge

<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Togiak/about.html>

During your week, you will spend at least a couple days fishing in the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. One of our underlying objective at the lodge, is to provide a quality fishing experience which emphasizes professional guiding but also educates fishermen about the natural diversity of this spectacular Refuge.

The Refuge was officially formed in 1980 when Congress enacted the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). ANILCA established four major purposes for which the Togiak Refuge was to be managed: to conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity; to fulfill the international treaty obligations with respect to fish and wildlife and their habitats; to provide, in a manner consistent with the Refuge's purpose, for continued subsistence uses by local residents; and to ensure water quality and necessary water quantity within the Refuge.

We have three permits to operate within the Refuge. One permit allows us to fish the Kulukak River for salmon, one gives us access to the Togiak River, and the third authorizes us to fish the wilderness lake portion of the Refuge. The permits are special use permits which are subject to a series of conditions. We take compliance with these conditions very seriously, and ask that you cooperate with us to comply with the terms of our permits.



AREA INFORMATION

The Refuge encompasses about 4.7 million acres. Of that acreage, 4.1 million acres are federal land located between the Kuskokwim Bay and Bristol Bay. The northern boundary joins the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, and the eastern boundary is the Wood-Tikchik State Park.

This vast swath of land, which is approximately the size of Rhode Island and Connecticut together, is home to a variety of landscapes; glacial valleys, tundra uplands, lakes, wetlands, sand and gravel beaches, rugged mountains (the Ahklun Mountains spread across 80 percent of the Refuge), and coastal cliffs. The topography creates numerous ecosystems and habitats which are home to a rich diversity of fish, wildlife, and birds.

The fishery resources of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge are among the best in the world. Specifically, the rivers and lakes of the Refuge are home to resident populations of Rainbow Trout, Arctic Char, Arctic Grayling, Lake Trout, Northern Pike, as well as 22 other fish species.

The Refuge rivers and bays are also home to one of the world's most robust anadromous fish resources in the world. All five species of Pacific Salmon are found within the Refuge and serve as the backbone for much of the terrestrial and aquatic life within the Refuge. In total, approximately 3 million Pacific Salmon are produced each year within the habitat protected by the Refuge management regimen.

The fishery resource is valued at \$14 million with \$8 million being attributed to the commercial fishery and \$6 million being attributed to the commercial sports fishery. In addition to the commercial value of the salmon resource, the salmon provide a significant subsistence value to local communities.

The Refuge is also home to at least 30 species of terrestrial mammals and 201 species of birds, many of which you will likely see many during your stay. Ranging from Brown Bears and Caribou to the Little Brown Bat, the Refuge wildlife relies heavily on the habitat protections provided by the Refuge management regime as well as the continued health of the fishery resources within the Refuge.

Togiak National Wildlife Refuge is also home to unique cultural resources. For at least 2000 years, three different groups of native people, collectively known as the Yup'ik people, have lived within the Refuge. The Kuskowogamiut occupied the area from the Kuskokwim River south to Chavan Bay. The Togiagamiut (also known as the Tuyuryarmiut) lived along the Togiak drainage and adjacent coast, from Cape Newenham to Cape Constantine. The Alegamiut (also known as the Aglurmiut) lived along the Lower Kuskokwim into the Bristol Bay and Nushagak Bay areas. The archeological history of these early occupants of Refuge land are evident throughout the Refuge. In light of this historic use, the Refuge manages its resources to provide for the opportunity for continued subsistence uses by local residents. We make every effort to minimize our impact upon the subsistence uses of local residents.

Maintaining subsistence opportunities for local communities is one of the main purposes of the Refuge. Yup'ik subsistence activities are a way of life for the residents within the Refuge. Salmon compose the majority of the subsistence harvest for residents of the Refuge. They are harvested by net along the coast as well as in some major rivers and lakes. In addition to the salmon, coastal communities harvest herring, smelt, and char. Inland communities harvest pike, grayling, whitefish, and char. Marine mammals – walrus, seals, and belugas – continue to be important food sources for local villages. All combined, freshwater and marine subsistence resources provide as much as 80 percent of the subsistence activities of some villages.

Subsistence activities also rely heavily on terrestrial resources. Moose, Caribou, Bear, Beaver, Porcupine, Hares, and berry gathering constitute the majority of the land based subsistence activities. Throughout the year, firewood gathering takes place. Most firewood is collected along the coastal beaches, riverbanks, and lake shorelines within the Refuge. For this reason, we do not build any fires within the Refuge.



AREA INFORMATION

During your week, you will be fishing the Kulukak River for salmon. The Kulukak River flows into Kulukak Bay. It is a relatively small river, but is very important for salmon spawning and rearing. Within the last ten minutes of the flight to the Kulukak, spectacular game viewing can be had. Moose and brown bear are often spotted around Ualik Lake and the surrounding creeks. Keep your eyes open, as this is usually the best opportunity to see these discrete mammals.

The Kulukak River originates at approximately 900 feet in elevation at the head of a long valley located between the Igushik and Ungalikthluk drainages. It flows approximately 40 miles before entering Kulukak Bay. The drainage is a combination of tundra and tidal flats most of its length. Lower stretches of the river are characterized by alders, willow scrub, and tidal grasses, whereas the upper river is home to larger trees. The lower stretch of the river has overcut banks, with the bottom 2 miles of the river being tidally affected. The upper stretch of the river is generally shallow with braided channels, gravel substrate, and some non-vegetated vertical banks.

The fishery resource of the Kulukak River is outstanding for a river its size. The Kulukak serves as a spawning river for all five species of Pacific Salmon and is home to a healthy population of Char/Dolly Varden. The first salmon to enter the river are the Sockeye and Chinook Salmon in late June. They are followed shortly thereafter by Chums and Pinks. Coho Salmon close up the salmon migration.

The Kulukak River and Bay supported a significant Yup'ik village until the early 1940's. The village of Kulukak was situated on the southwest coastline overlooking Kulukak Bay. The people of the village depended heavily on the rich salmon, marine mammal, and bird populations within the Kulukak River and Bay for their survival. Subsistence use continues here today.

With very few exceptions, the overwhelming majority of the subsistence activities occur in the spring before commercial sportfishing, which greatly reduces our impact on the subsistence activities on the Kulukak. Similarly, the majority of the subsistence activities take place along the bay and not within the river.

For those of you interested in learning more about this area and some of its history, we suggest [Arctic School Teacher; Kulukak, Alaska, 1931-1933](#), by Abbie Morgan Madenwald. It provides a captivating account of village life in Alaska.

Royal Coachman's special use permit on the upper Togiak River is in the wilderness area of the refuge. The permit allows us to use two boats and guide up to 4 anglers on a specified seven mile section. It is a beautiful and productive stretch of river with all five salmon species in addition to rainbow trout, Dolly Varden, and grayling.

The river originates from Togiak Lake and flows 48 miles before emptying into Togiak Bay. It is an important subsistence use area for the natives of Togiak village, which is located on the bay near the river's mouth. The Togiak River is used for hunting ptarmigan, waterfowl, small and large game, and fishing for both resident and anadromous fish. Subsistence use on the upper Togiak is common in August through October for berry picking, herb gathering, hunting and harvesting spawned out Sockeye and fall Dolly Varden along the banks of Togiak Lake. We see the most activity in our area in September when the moose season is open.

There are several parcels of native conveyed lands within this area. All of our activities respect these private parcels. RCL follows a strict policy of never trespassing on private property or fishing within sight of subsistence users. Because of the special restrictions in the wilderness area, be sure to follow your guide's instructions.

Our Wilderness Lakes Permit in the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge is located in federally designated wilderness areas within TNWR. These lakes are at the headwaters of the Goodnews, Togiak, and Kanektok Rivers. The lakes are surrounded by some of the highest mountains in the Refuge and are the most remote areas we fish. Due to the mountainous surroundings, we can only fish these lakes on good weather days, but this makes for exceptional sight seeing. The permit only allows for one fishing party to be on the lake at a time and we can only fish a particular lake once a week. This combination of regulations ensures that you will have an isolated wilderness experience.



PACKING LIST

Need gear for your trip?

Please call 406.222.9393 at our fly shop to speak with Dan Gigone or email dan@sweetwaterflyshop.com. Dan can answer any questions you might have relating to equipment needed. **When ordering gear please be sure to mention that you are booked with the lodge. As a thank you for your business, Sweetwater Travel Company will pay 10% of your final bill for any gear purchased for this trip. Visit www.SweetwaterFlyShop.com for the latest gear for your trip.**

Documents:

- ☐ Airline tickets
- ☐ Travelers checks or cash
- ☐ Copy of travelers check numbers

Clothing

- ☐ Winter hat
- ☐ Fishing hat/Visor
- ☐ Undershirt/Undershorts
- ☐ Light & heavy wt long underwear - top & bottom
- ☐ Heavy wt fleece jacket/pullover
- ☐ Light & heavy wt socks - Several pair. No cotton.
- ☐ Waterproof jacket with hood
- ☐ Gore-Tex waders
- ☐ Wading belt
- ☐ Wading boots - no studs, NO FELT ALLOWED
- ☐ Casual long/short sleeved shirts, pants
- ☐ Belt

Accessories

- ☐ Waterproof Bag - Large enough to carry gear for the day
- ☐ Polarized sunglasses
- ☐ Bandana or The Buff
- ☐ Camera, Batteries
- ☐ Sun Screen SPF 25+
- ☐ Lip Balm
- ☐ Reading material - books, magazine, etc
- ☐ Reading glasses
- ☐ Insect repellent (also provided at lodge)
- ☐ Toiletries
- ☐ Prescription medications
- ☐ Bug head net (optional)
- ☐ Headlamp

Fishing gear

- ☐ Fly Rods - 6 wt (trout), 8/9 wt (salmon) Fly
- ☐ reels - make sure to match well with rods
- ☐ Spare spools (optional)
- ☐ Fly lines - floating line trout & salmon
sinking line for salmon (optional)
- ☐ Tapered leaders 9 ft 1X - at least 3
- ☐ Tippet spools - 0X, 1X, & 2X (optional)
- ☐ Fly boxes (optional)
- ☐ Flies - if you want to try your own
- ☐ Fly floatant (optional June and July only)
- ☐ Clippers/Snippers
- ☐ Pliers/Hemostats
- ☐ Fishing pack/vest
- ☐ Hook file (optional)
- ☐ Split shot size B & BB (optional)
- ☐ Tape measure (optional)

Don't Forget!

Check out Sweetwater Fly Shop!
www.sweetwaterflyshop.com
406.222.9393



Deposit, Cancellation & Refund policy

A 50% non-refundable deposit is required within 10 days of making a reservation to secure a fishing confirmation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure; participants are responsible for total land costs and no refund will be made unless a replacement is found. There is no refund for any unused portion of the land package. Trip cancellation insurance will be offered to each registrant. Receipt of deposit and/or final payment is acknowledgment that registrant has read and accepts cancellation/refund and responsibility clauses.

Responsibility & Release of liability

Visiting the Royal Coachman Lodge requires flying in DeHavilland Beaver or other small aircraft in wilderness country. Visiting the Royal Coachman Lodge also requires being transported in motorized water craft. Passengers must understand and accept the risks associated with such means of conveyance. Travel schedules in Alaska can change due to adverse weather, strikes, or other factors beyond our control. This can cause delay and even missed connections. Such delays could impose additional cost to you in hotels or in changing airline tickets for which we cannot be responsible.

Voluntary Participation

I acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Royal Coachman Lodge with knowledge of the hazards involved. I AM AWARE THAT THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE INVOLVES HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES WITH RISK OF ILLNESS, INJURY OR DEATH WHICH MAY BE CAUSED BY FORCES OF NATURE, ANY ACTS OR OMISSIONS, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT CONDUCT OF THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE, SWEETWATER TRAVEL CO., NORTHERN WATERS, LLC, THEIR AFFILIATED AGENCIES, THEIR EMPLOYEES, OR OTHER AGENCIES KNOWN OR UNKNOWN. I am also aware that medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during some or all of the time while I am participating in Royal Coachman Lodge. In order to participate in Royal Coachman Lodge, I am willing to accept the risks and uncertainty involved as being integral part of my experience at the Royal Coachman Lodge. I HEREBY ACCEPT AND ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY AND ALL RISKS OF ILLNESS, INJURY, OR DEATH AND DUE TO THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE, NORTHERN WATERS, LLC, SWEETWATER TRAVEL, THEIR AFFILIATED AGENCIES, THEIR EMPLOYEES, OR OTHER AGENCIES KNOWN OR UNKNOWN.

Release and Covenant Not To Sue

As consideration for being permitted by the Royal Coachman Lodge to participate in the Royal Coachman Lodge, I HEREBY AGREE THAT NEITHER I, NOR ANY OF MY HEIRS, PERSONAL OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES, OR FAMILY MEMBERS WILL BRING SUIT OR MAKE A CLAIM FOR ILLNESS, INJURY OR DEATH RESULTING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE, NORTHERN WATERS, LLC, SWEETWATER TRAVEL, DAN VERMILLION, PAT VERMILLION, JEFF VERMILLION, THEIR AFFILIATED AGENCIES, THEIR EMPLOYEES, AND THE SUPPLIER OF THE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT I WILL USE DURING MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE.

Controlling Law

ANY CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR THE PERFORMANCE THEREUNDER, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY CLAIM RELATED TO THE ILLNESS, INJURY OR DEATH, SHALL BE GOVERNED BY ALASKAN LAW.

Knowing and Voluntary Execution

I have carefully read this agreement and understand its contents. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN MYSELF AND THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE, NORTHERN WATERS, LLC, SWEETWATER TRAVEL, DAN VERMILLION, PAT VERMILLION, JEFF VERMILLION, THEIR AFFILIATED AGENCIES, THEIR EMPLOYEES, AND THE SUPPLIER OF THE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT I WILL USE DURING MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE.

IT IS MY EXPRESS INTENT TO RELEASE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE, NORTHERN WATERS, LLC, SWEETWATER TRAVEL, DAN VERMILLION, PAT VERMILLION, JEFF VERMILLION, THEIR AFFILIATED AGENCIES, THEIR EMPLOYEES, AND THE SUPPLIER OF THE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT I WILL USE DURING MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE, FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL LIABILITY ARISING OUT OF, OR IN ANY WAY CONNECTED WITH, MY PARTICIPATION IN THE ROYAL COACHMAN LODGE INCLUDING ANY LIABILITY FOR NEGLIGENCE OR DAMAGE, LOSS, INJURY, OR DEATH.

ALL GUEST WILL SIGN THIS PAGE UPON ARRIVAL TO THE LODGE
PO BOX 668, LIVINGSTON, MT 59047, PAT@SWEETWATERTRAVEL.COM, 406.222.8863

Signature of releaser

Dated



Printed name of releaser

Dated

Liquor Information

Alaska Liquor laws require you to personally order your alcohol. IF YOU DO NOT ORDER ALCOHOL, THERE WILL BE NO ALCOHOL AVAILABLE FOR YOU AT THE LODGE. YOU WILL BE BILLED AT THE END OF YOUR WEEK FOR THE COST OF THE ALCOHOL AND THE SHIPPING.

If you have any questions please give me a call at 1.406.222.0624. If ordering beer, we'd appreciate you ordering it in cans for easier garbage transport & disposal.

To order alcohol, please email the lodge at ali@sweetwatertravel.com or info@royalcoachmanlodge.com with your exact order. The liquor stores carry or order almost any alcohol or wine.

Please be exact on the size of bottles, the number of bottles, and the brand.

Be sure we receive your order at least 8 weeks prior to your stay so it will be at the lodge when you arrive. If you have any questions please call Sweetwater Travel Company at 888.347.4286 or 1.406.222.0624.

