

Fishing FAQs – (We provide fishing licenses & King salmon stamps)



How often / how long will I be able to fish? Although we are not primarily a fishing charter, we do try to offer a variety of fishing opportunities throughout the week; along with hiking, kayaking and wildlife viewing. The crew will survey you and your fellow passengers at the beginning of the trip and build the trip itinerary around everyone's interests.

My spouse/child is a novice – do you provide lessons? Sorry, no - Our guides can get you started, but their primary responsibility ashore in bear country is to ensure group safety, and often this won't allow for dedicated individual attention.

Do you supply fishing gear for novices and kids? Yes, we have plenty of spin rods & reels, troll rigs and halibut rods onboard, plus an assortment of lures. The spin rods are all set up with open face reels, which are a little more difficult to use than the Zebco-type closed face reels, but folks usually become pretty proficient at casting with open faced reels with little instruction.



*Serious anglers, please see reverse for suggestions on what to pack.



Can we fish for Halibut? Yes - Halibut are available year round and we carry all the gear you'll need to catch them.

Would we also be fishing for trout? Possibly - Trout-fishing is most common in the first half of the season There are a few Cutthroat trout and Dolly Varden in the streams in late summer; but salmon dominate streams during July and August.

What type of waders would I need? Southeast Alaska streams are typically fairly shallow and not terribly cold (high 40's to low 50's), so lightweight coated fabric (Gore-Tex) waders work best and are much easier to fit in a duffel bag or suitcase. We don't have enough storage aboard for multiple size 'loaners', so you'll want to bring your own.



What kind of wading boots should I bring? Rubber soled boots - Nationwide, felt soled waders are now prohibited - because they can transmit nuisance species from stream to stream - so we recommend rubber soled boots. Please avoid cleated soles, since these can quickly ruin the wood decks on our boats.



Do I need to get my own flies and, if so, what kind? Not necessarily - Our guides will provide you with flies when you're in the stream. But if you stop in at a tackle shop in Juneau or Sitka before your cruise, you'll likely want to pick out a few choice flies recommended by the shop owner - to round out the patterns in your own personal fly box.

May I take the fish I catch home? Yes - The crew will clean, fillet, vacuum-pack and freeze your catch and pack it in a flight-ready insulated box for transport home at the end of your trip.



Suggested Fly Fishing Gear for Serious Anglers

As most proficient fly fisherman prefer the familiarity and comfort of their own equipment, The Boat Company recommends that guests bring their own fly-fishing gear.

We suggest that serious fly fishers bring the following:

Rods: One 4 or 5 weight, 9 foot, 4 piece (or travel style) rod is most often used in SE Alaska in early spring for Dolly Varden and Cutthroat Trout.



A stout 6 weight rod can also be used for Dollies, Trout and Pink Salmon and will help to limit your carry-on luggage.

We also recommend packing a 7 or 8 weight rod for tackling larger salmon.

For more proficient and adventurous anglers a switch rod in 5-6 & 7-8 weight range is advantageous when fishing from the beach.

Reels: A high quality reel with a drag system and a minimum 150 yards of 20 lb. backing.

Line: Line according to rod weight in the Weight Forward Floating category will do just fine for most applications but it doesn't hurt to bring some sink tips or a full intermediate line.

Flies: The Boat Company provides flies but if you have an extensive selection of trout and salmon flies, bring them with you, since many of the patterns will work. A good resource for local fly patterns may be found at Alaska Fly Fishing Goods, www.alaskaflyfishinggoods.com in Juneau and Sitka Alaska Outfitters in Sitka www.sitkaalaskaoutfitters.com.

Flies may also be purchased from www.Orvis.com. Below are some proven patterns; Clouser Minnows in chartreuse/white, pink/white, black/white, olive/white; Egg-Sucking Leeches in pink, purple, and black; Deceivers, and various baitfish patterns.

Accessories: Your guide will assist in landing your fish but it is advised that you bring your own Forceps, Line snipers, and fishing vest or hip pack. A good waterproof camera is an excellent thing to have as well.

Waders: If you want to fly-fish, breathable Gore-Tex waders will keep you comfortable and dry.

Wading Belt: Keeps your waders from filling with water.

Wading Shoes/Boots: The State of Alaska now prohibits the use of felt soled shoes and boots while wading in State waters. Boots must have a sole made of rubber such as Orvis's EcoTrax.



We discourage the use of waders with incorporated boots as you may have to walk up to 2 miles in them. As the decks on both the Liseron and Mist Cove are made of wood, studded/spiked boots are strictly prohibited.

Socks & Gloves: Medium to heavy weight socks will keep your feet warm in Alaska's chilly waters. Waterproof gloves (even dishwashing gloves) will help too.

Sunglasses: Polarized sunglasses are a necessity to spot fish in the stream and to protect your eyes from flying hooks.

Fish Availability Information

Although Boat Company trips are *not* dedicated fishing charters and you just can't predict what the fish will do year to year...

- *Generally speaking*, salmon fishing is better in late July and August.
- Stream fishing is always catch-and-release.
- Halibut are caught throughout the summer.

*Keep in mind, fish & game limits the size and number of fish you are allowed to keep.

For more information, check out the Alaska Fish & Game fish-timing charts at <https://bit.ly/2HoftEJ>

Select "Northern Southeast" (the area we cruise)