

TUCKER RIDGE OUTDOORS

Hunting Trip Packet

Fall Bear Hunts



Release, Medical, Contacts, What To Expect, Procedures, Species Information, Lodging & Meals, Local Amenities & Services, Licensing, Seasons & Limits, Packing Lists, FAQ



John Floyd /DBA / Tucker Ridge Outdoors
642 Tucker Ridge Rd
Webster Plantation, Maine 04487
207-217-2800

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

Q. What exactly does this trip involve? How exactly will we be fishing, hunting or travelling? Am I (or others in my party) physically capable of this trip? What changes can be made if the trip is too difficult?

A. Each type of guided trip is unique. We'll provide activity specific brochures for your trip/hunt in your packet. They can also be downloaded from our website on the Resources page at www.tuckerridge.me

Your answers on the questionnaire in your packet will help us determine the trip details for specific activities in accordance with your fitness level and or medical conditions. For instance, having a fear of heights means no tree stands for some hunters and not being able to swim is an important factor in planning a canoe trip. As a general rule, most outdoor activities require physical exertion. Please be prepared for the activity you are booking; having to greatly modify or suspend your trip in progress may result in a disappointing experience.

Q. How likely are we to be successful?

A. How you define success may be different from another person's view. Any guarantee of success should be viewed with caution. While we will make every effort to put you in position to make a shot or catch fish, your success truly depends on your skill and effort as a sportsman. We are very happy to provide any additional help or tips you may need on your trip.

Q. How many others will be in camp? How many others will be with my guide? Will someone other than the person I am talking with be my guide?

A. We aim to never have a greater ratio of five clients to one guide. This ensures maximum attention to client needs and helps you fully enjoy your trip/hunt. I believe this size camp also helps build camaraderie and develops long-lasting relationships – something very important to us at Tucker Ridge. John is the owner-operator and will be your guide. He is available to you 24 hours a day.

Q. What can I expect for weather conditions? What will happen if the weather conditions prevent my trip from happening as expected? Is there an alternative trip or refund plan?

A. There is an old saying in Maine..."If you don't like the weather, wait five minutes." Unfortunately, weather is the only thing we cannot control during your trip. The amount of planning, resources allocated and money spent in advance of your trip can not be recouped if we cancel trips for rain or



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snow. In some cases, a little weather may enhance your experience. In extreme cases such as natural disasters, multi-day blizzards, acts of terrorism or other events beyond reasonable control that prevent a trip as scheduled, we will reschedule you at no cost or penalty. We reserve the right to cancel or modify trips due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.

Q. What is the price? Exactly what is included in that price? Are there any other costs? Are tips or gratuity included or added on?

A. Each trip/hunt is priced individually. All guided trip/hunt packages include lodging unless stated otherwise with the Housekeeping Plan (you provide your own meals) standard. Meal plans are available with a live in camp cook depending on trip type or hunting camp. No gratuities are expected for your guide, however, if you wish to tip the camp cook please feel free to do so. The only other costs are licenses or permits for you specified hunt/fishing trip and registration fees for ATV or snowmobiles if applicable.

Q. Is a deposit required and if so, what is the policy on refunds? What are the expected terms of payment?

A. Deposits are required on all trips. This ensures we can have all of the requirements in place for your visit. A 50% **non-refundable deposit*** is due when you book your trip with the balance due upon arrival and check in. We accept cash, checks and all major credit cards. Personal checks may only be used for deposits.

*You may reschedule your trip up to six months in advance; inside the six month window, if you fill your slot with another qualified, paid client, we will be happy to refund your deposit.

Q. Are meals included? If so, what sort of meals will be served?

A. All guided trips/hunts include the Housekeeping Plan standard. We offer meal plans for trips on a requested basis. Your trip/hunt will be planned as either a Housekeeping or Meal Plan in advance. Meals are based on type of trip activity but staples include farm fresh eggs to order, pancakes, chicken, pasta and wild game for those who enjoy it. If you have special dietary requirements or requests make sure that you let your guide know.

Q. Is transportation included? If so, from where to where?

A. All local transportation is included. We'll get you to and from hunting sites, put in and take out sites for boaters and all game tagging, processing and taxidermist locations. We'll also provide trips to the local general store or services hub of Lincoln, ME as needed. For clients flying in to Bangor International Airport, we offer a pick up and drop off shuttle service for a flat fee.



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Q. Are licenses required? If so, are they included?

A. Licenses are not included but may be purchased here upon arrival. Hunters must possess a Hunter's Education Safety card or previous hunting license (including out of state) to buy necessary permits/licenses onsite at the camp. We can also facilitate the registration of ATV's and snowmobiles upon arrival.

Q. Are you fully licensed? What certifications do you hold?

A. John is licensed by the Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as a Registered Maine Guide with endorsements in Hunting, Trapping & Commercial Boat Operator, Lic. #12121623

John is also a Certified NRA Instructor with ratings in Pistol, Home Firearm Safety and Range Safety Officer, Cert #177106770

Additionally, John is an NRA Hunter Clinic Program Instructor certified to teach Wild Turkey and Whitetail Deer hunter clinics. He holds a current American Heart Association *Heartsaver First Aid* certification and completed the *Combat Lifesaver First Aid* course in the U.S. Army.

Other considerations

- Please contact us to discuss any aspect that you are unsure of, especially what will be included in the package price for services. I want to make sure that we are both clear on every included detail and are in firm agreement on the price and services offered and expected.
- Be realistic and have obtainable goals. Realize that many factors can affect hunting or fishing trips including things, such as inclement weather, that are beyond the control of the guide. Be sure that you are not asking your prospective guide for something unreasonable, unobtainable, or unsafe.
- We will send you a written or email confirmation of what is included when booking a trip after the deposit is made. It will outline each detail offered, promised, or expected on the excursion. It will also include method of payment and terms of payment. Terms for cancellations or refunds will also be outlined in the agreement.



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What to expect at hunting camp

As a professional hunting guide in Maine, I often expect to find myself dealing with the seasoned hunter; an individual who has hunted for many years, perhaps made a hunt or two out west or down south, and now is coming further north to hunt for species that have eluded him elsewhere.

The seasoned hunter knows what firearms he needs and what equipment will be necessary - and he knows the ropes. The most noticeable thing about seasoned hunters is that they don't seem to be lost souls. It's obvious that they have done this before.

They generally bring one rifle in a hard case; it is sighted in, has a quality scope installed and a couple of boxes of extra ammunition are on hand. They also have a minimum of personal equipment, which is packed in two small duffels that will easily fit in camp.

Proper footwear, cold weather and rain gear are in one of the duffel bags, and a super light camera is tucked in a shirt pocket. Perhaps the only items of obvious excess are the cell phone and other electronic gadgets prominent today.

Many first-time hunters are sure they know someone of the type I'm talking about. Furthermore, on their first hunt they are often positive I've described everyone else in camp – and not them.

The truth is very few hunters are the above-described "perfect hunter."

Most hunters still bring too much gear, and they pack it in oversize gun cases and extra-large duffels. New hunters to the north woods of Maine tend to pack everything but the kitchen sink and even experienced ones pack things they don't need.

I think we (as hunters) probably come to expect this "perfect hunter" persona of everyone, and all too often forget about the people who haven't hunted in the north before. These hunters often are intimidated by what goes on around them.

At last they are in Maine, Big Woods Country, and the place that dreams are made of. It's all new to them and sometimes, overwhelming. The size of the country, the remoteness, and the casual manner in which everyone treats the sprawling woods and quick changing weather is quite different from what they are used to.

They sometimes feel they do not fit in. They don't ask questions for fear of looking ignorant, or maybe they just don't know what to ask. It is obvious to me that many don't book hunts, simply because they do not know what to expect. Others are willing to go, but only if they have someone along who has been here before.



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What to expect (continued)

It is my hope that seasoned veteran hunters mentor and offer advice to the younger, less experienced in camp. Similarly, novice hunters should seek the wisdom and experience of those who have “been there, done that.”

This dynamic of hunting camp is one that solidifies the hunting community and ensures that traditions pass down from generation to generation. Hunting camp is far more than a place to sleep when you aren't on stand. It is a place of camaraderie, union of spirit and legacy building.

At Tucker Ridge Outdoors, we aim to capture the spirit of the traditional sporting camps of Maine lore. As hunters, we are all brothers (and sisters) in arms, from the astute woodsman to the greenhorn rookie. We all share the passion for the pursuit of game and all that nature reveals to us, deep in the solitude of the wood.

We hope you enjoy your time on Tucker Ridge. As you make new friends and swap tall tales, you'll not only be participating in the richest of hunting heritage and tradition, you will be helping to build ours...

See the enclosed brochure for information regarding your specific hunt

Upon arrival at camp, you will receive:

- **the current Maine Summary of Hunting Laws book**
- **the current Maine Summary of Fishing Laws book**
- **the current Maine Summary of ATV & Snowmobile Laws book**
- **your hunting license and bear tag if you decide to purchase them here (bring a previous hunting license or hunter safety card)**
- **a copy of the Northwoods Sporting Journal**
- **a briefing and overview of the hunt, procedures and bait sites**
- **the opportunity to check zero on your rifle if needed**

We'll also finalize payment and address any last minute questions or concerns



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Recommended Gear, Equipment & Packing List

Firearms and ammunition

We recommend .30 caliber and above rifles. That's not to say you can't take a bear with a .270 or even a .243, but we are talking about recommendations, not absolutes. You want to create a wound channel large enough to not plug up with bear fat while creating both entry and exit wounds. A .30 caliber ensures this.

Recommended ammunition is a soft point, round nose cartridge in the 170 – 200 grain range for .30 caliber rifles. Larger bore rifles such as 45/70, .450 Marlin and .44 Rem Mag don't require the same amount of expansion as the smaller caliber rifles so reach for any soft point or hard cast round in the 300 grain range.

Handgunners will want to stick to a .44 Rem Mag or above. For many of the same reasons, calibers like .357 Mag and .45 Auto may get the job done, but that's a big chance to take.

Cold weather/Wet weather gear

Bring both as the weather can swing 40 degrees in a day here. Stick to quiet fabrics and avoid the cheap PVC rain suits. Military surplus ponchos work great and can also be used as a shelter. Wool breathes naturally and will keep you warm even when wet. It is the first choice of Maine guides.

Footwear and headwear

Any quality, waterproof hunting boot will do, however knee-high rubber style hunting boots are very popular here in Maine. They are also good for scent control. We are centered in boreal forest with lots of cedar bogs around. If we need to track a bear down into the bog, your feet will get wet without proper footgear.

We recommend wearing a cover; a camouflage ball cap or boonie hat style. Also head nets are handy here in the fall as mosquitos and black flies sometimes hang around longer than expected. Some boonie hats are even manufactured with a head net integrated. Bandanas around the neck work well too. There is no Hunter Orange requirement in our area during bear over bait season.

Optional/Miscellaneous supplies

Brown Jersey Gloves, Insect Repellant (Deet based recommended), Gun Cleaning Kit

Flashlight or Headlamp W/ Spare Batteries, Compass, Knife, Field Dressing Kit, Whistle

Cooler (for your bear meat), Spare Eyeglasses or Contact Lenses, Fishing Gear (for downtime)



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Local Amenities and Services

Smith's General Store - Springfield, ME (15 min)

Services - Lincoln, ME (40 min)

Bangor International Airport (90 min)

Day Trips

Million Dollar View (45 Min)

Mattawamkeag Wilderness Park (25 min)

Bar Harbor (2 Hrs.)

Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge (1 Hr. 20 min)

West Quoddy Head Lighthouse (2 Hrs. 10 min)

Baxter State Park/Mt Katahdin (90 min)

Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument (1 Hr. 40 min)

Lakes & Rivers

Silver Lake, Lee	Duck Lake, Lakeville	Bottle Lake, Lakeville
Big Lake, Grand Lake Stream	West Grand Lake, Grand Lake Stream	Upper Cold Stream Ponds, Lincoln
Grand Lake, Danforth	Sysladobsis Lake, Lakeville	Stump Pond, Lincoln
Mattanawcook Pond, Lincoln	Folsom Pond, Lincoln	Molunkus Lake, Macwahoc
Baskahegan Lake, Brookton	Cold Stream Pond, Enfield	East Musquash Lake, Topsfield
Penobscot River, Lincoln	Mattawamkeag River, Kingman	Long & Caribou Ponds, Lincoln
Junior Lake, Lakeville	Mattagodus Stream, Webster	And more....



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RELEASE, WAIVER, INDEMNIFICATION, HOLD HARMLESS, AND ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, in return for use of premises and equipment, instruction in firearms, professional guide services & for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Undersigned agrees to the following:

To indemnify, hold harmless and defend **Tucker Ridge Outdoors** and any of its employees, instructors, directors, officers or agents from any and all fault, liabilities, costs, expenses, claims, demands or lawsuits arising out of, related to or connected with the instruction in or discharge of firearms and/or guided hunting, fishing, camping and recreational activities ; the Undersigned's participation in discharging firearms and/or guided hunting, fishing, camping and recreational activities; observing the discharging of firearms and/or guided hunting, fishing, camping and recreational activities, the range, buildings, lands, waters and premises used (the "Premises"); the Undersigned's presence on or use of Premises; and any and all acts or omissions of the Undersigned. Should any such claim, demand or lawsuit arise or be asserted in any way related thereto, whether arising under the laws of the United States, the State of Maine or any other State, or under any theory of law or equity, the Undersigned will indemnify, hold harmless and defend **Tucker Ridge Outdoors**, from any and all costs, expenses or liability including, but not limited to, the cost of any settlement or judgment made or rendered against **Tucker Ridge Outdoors**, whether individually, jointly, or in concert with the Undersigned, together with all costs of court and other costs or expenses incurred in connection with any such claim, demand or lawsuit, including attorney's fees.

The Undersigned waives any and all rights and claims for damages, losses, demands and any other actions, which exist or which may arise **Tucker Ridge Outdoors**, (including, but not limited to any and all injuries, damages or illnesses suffered by the Undersigned or the Undersigned's property), which may, in any way whatsoever, arise out of, be related to or be connected with: discharging firearms, guided hunting, fishing, camping and recreational activities, the Premises, including any latent defect in the Premises; the Undersigned's presence on or use of Premises; the Undersigned's property (whether or not entrusted to **Tucker Ridge Outdoors**); **Tucker Ridge Outdoors**, shall not be liable for, and the Undersigned, hereby expressly releases **Tucker Ridge Outdoors** from any and all such claims. This waiver is both personal and on behalf of any minor for whom it is executed.

The Undersigned hereby expressly assumes the risk of entering the Premises and taking part in activities on the Premises which include, but are not limited to the discharge of firearms, the firing of live ammunition and/or guided hunting, fishing, camping and recreational activities; or observing individuals discharging firearms and/or guided hunting, fishing, camping and recreational activities; & the use of the facilities. The Undersigned furthermore hereby acknowledges and agrees that he/she has read, understands and will at all times abide by all **Tucker Ridge Outdoors** rules, instructions, procedures, safety rules, and any and all Range Safety Officer instructions, whether communicated in writing, posted on the premises & communicated verbally.

This instrument binds the Undersigned and his/her executors, administrators, assignees or heirs and any minor for whom it is signed. If obviously under the age of 21, my age is listed. If a minor, under the age of 18 years, I understand a parent or legal guardian's signature is required.



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By signing this waiver I also confirm and attest; that I am not a convicted felon, or under indictment in any court for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year, I am not a fugitive from justice, I do not use or addicted to any unlawful controlled substances, I have not been adjudicated as a mental defective or have been committed to any mental institution, I am not an illegal alien, have not been discharged from the military under dishonorable conditions, have not renounced my United States citizenship, am not subject to a court order restraining me from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner or child of the intimate partner, and have never been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. I also further attest to the fact I am not currently under the influence of any substances that may hinder or impede my actions in handling a firearm, hunting and/or fishing equipment or recreational vehicles, safely for the intended purposes of this course, training or activity.

X _____
Printed Name

X _____
Age if under 21

X _____
Signature

X _____
Date

X _____
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

X _____
Date

X _____
Parent/Guardian Contact #1

X _____
Parent/Guardian Contact #2



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EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Please provide us with Primary and Secondary emergency contacts in the event of hospitalization or injury (Exclude contacts that will be present with you during your trip/visit)

Primary

Name		Relationship
Address		
Phone 1		Mobile or Home
Phone 2		Mobile or Home

Secondary

Name		Relationship
Address		
Phone 1		Mobile or Home
Phone 2		Mobile or Home



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MEDICAL & HEALTH BACKGROUND / QUESTIONAIRE

Outdoor recreation frequently involves hunting & fishing equipment, firearms & ammunition, primitive camp sites and strenuous physical activity. While your guide/instructor maintains Red Cross First Aid certification, ensuring we have a client's background of any current medical conditions or chronic ailments will help us to help you if an unforeseen incident or injury occurs. We are well aware of HIPA privacy laws and will treat your information accordingly. This is strictly a volunteer questionnaire and you may request this section back or destroy it at the end of your visit.

Do you currently have or suffered in the past, any of the following: (circle all that apply)

Shortness of breath	Dizziness/Vertigo	Seizures
Heart Attack		

Do you currently suffer from any of these conditions: (circle all that apply)

Diabetes	High Blood Pressure	Raynaud's Syndrome
Hemophilia	Epilepsy	

Have you ever suffered a hot or cold weather injury such as Heat Stroke, Heat Exhaustion, Frost Bite or Hypothermia? YES / NO If so, please describe: _____

Do you have any known allergies? If so, please describe: _____

Do you know your blood type? _____ Do you wear a Medical I.D. bracelet? YES / NO

Is there any other pertinent information that would assist us in a First Aid situation should you be unable to respond? If so, please describe: (please list any prescription medication, insulin, etc)



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2018 Fall Bear Hunt Reservation

Black Bear over Bait season starts Monday August 27 and ends Saturday September 22. Please indicate which week you desire to hunt, in order of preference. 1 = first choice, 4= last choice, if available to hunt any week indicate ANY. Choose preferred hunt site type. 1 bear bag limit.

____ Week 1 (Aug 26 – Sep 1) ____ Week 2 (Sep 2 – Sep 8) ____ Week 3 (Sep 9 – Sep 15)

____ Week 4 (Sep 16 – Sep 22) ____ ANY available week ____ Tree stand ____ Blind

American Plan Hunts - All meals will be provided by a live in camp cook. Breakfast may include eggs, toast, breakfast meats, pancakes, cereals and oatmeal. Coffee, tea, milk and orange juice provided. Lunch will be the main meal of the day and include dishes like chicken, pasta and spiral ham along with sides of potatoes, vegetables, rice and dinner rolls. Supper will be a buffet style due to different hunter schedules getting back to camp. Meals may be changed upon request. Please indicate any special dietary needs below:

Hunt Cost per person = \$1200 standard Black Bear over Bait + \$250 Meal Plan (if applicable)

\$1200 HUNT

Maine Big Game hunting license – Resident \$26.00 / Non-Resident \$115.00

Bear Permit – Resident \$27.00 / Non Resident \$74.00

\$250 Meal Plan

Name	
Address	
City, State, ZIP	
Telephone/Email	

Deposit of \$600 payable to Tucker Ridge Outdoors

Balance due upon arrival

Pay deposit online at: <https://squareup.com/market/tuckerridge/black-bear-guided-hunt-over-bait> or mail along with this page to: Tucker Ridge Outdoors, 642 Tucker Ridge Rd, Webster Plantation, Maine 04487. We will contact you finalize your trip details upon receipt.