

EQUIPMENT LIST FOR THE CANADIAN BARREN GROUND CARIBOU HUNTS

Backpack – we recommend the Eberlestock X2 pack for this hunt - Packed with digital camera, good fixed blade knife, batteries, flashlight, etc... I also suggest bringing along some basic candy snacks or similar that you prefer on an individual level – camps don't always have your personal favorites. Since you are hunting on the water put the digital camera and batteries in a waterproof bag with some matches.

- Lodging is likely going to be a cabin or Arctic Oven tent – a big one – with cots and heat, however in the event of extreme weather, loss of heating source, or other factors out of our control we suggest the following equipment based on our personal experiences.
- Sleeping bag w/ therma-rest pad and compact pillow – bag comfort rated to zero degrees minimum for comfort. (I use a -20 bag for comfort)
- One quality exterior waterproof jacket and two pair pants – fleeces preferred – strongly suggest the KUIU or SITKA brand outerwear – jacket, pants, and mid layer vest is the ultimate layering system
- One lightweight rubberized rain jacket (outer layer on wet days)
- Two sets of base layers such as Under Armor (tops and bottoms)
- 5 pair good socks (warm) and under garments
- 10x binoculars (quality optics preferred)
- Rifle w/ 40 rounds of ammo + waterproof gun boot or sock – The Eberlestock X1 pack has a built in gun boot that works very well if you choose that model.
- One good paperback book in a waterproof bag
- One pair of camp shoes/slippers and one set of camp clothes
- Personal toiletries + towel (basic shower)
- Boots – Knee high rubber boots or neoprene Muck Boots that are comfortable to walk in are ideal. If you cannot walk a few miles in these boots you should take your regular hunting boots with Gaters that go up to the knee. Make sure your boots are waterproof to avoid wet feet!
- DeLorme inReach SE for text communication with home if needed
- Digital Camera with 4GB SD card for photos in a waterproof case

It is suggested that you pack a full suitcase or duffle bag but bring a small duffle extra. When you get to Yellowknife pack your big bag for the trip to camp (50# max) and leave a small bag at the hotel in secure storage with a clean set of street clothes and shoes – this way when you come out of the back country smelling like a caribou you can shower and change into something clean. You leave your rifle's hard case at the hotel as well and transport to camp with a soft case or gun sock. We commend a water proof soft gun case and if it has floatation that is a bonus. You will be hunting out of a boat daily and guns do rust if they get wet as well as banged around in the boat – so protect your gun as best you can and it will take care of business when you need it to most!

Also, we recommend washing all of your outerwear in Camo Restore – this is a camo wash made for hunters that replaces your regular clothing detergent and restores its water proof or water resistant qualities.

Remember; pack light and with quality gear! **You will be RESTRICTED to 50 pounds of gear on the float plane into camp – and they will make you discard overweight items.** So pack well before your trip and weigh your bags. HINT – wear a full set of hunting clothes and your boots on the float plane ride to lighten your bags!

Communications: The camp manager has a satellite phone for daily check in with town and for coordinating air charters; it is not for personal use by clients. Please bring your own Iridium satellite phone OR we recommend that you buy and use the new DeLorme inReach for two way text/email communications. <http://www.inreachdelorme.com/>

7 ½ Foot Spinning Rod - Recommended

Rod features:

- Light-medium action for 10-12 lb test quality line
- Steel braided leaders and heavy duty swivels (required)
- Medium spinning reel with adjustable drag
- Clear fishing line – good quality
- 7 ½ to 8 foot steelhead rods work best
- Carry two piece rods in your gun case
- They also make an excellent tip for your guide

Caribou hunters in Nunavut all get chances to fish for:

Lake Trout and Arctic Char Fishing

Caribou hunters, we recommend that you take advantage of the world class fishing in Nunavut for lake trout. Since we do not hunt in the evenings after dinner, it is a great way to take advantage of the long daylight hours in the arctic and experience truly fine fishing.

Note: The steel braided leaders and good swivels are a requirement for successful fishing! These fish break off 75% of the regular fishing line leaders!

I recommend the above listed fishing rod, and the line listed below. The following page lists the lures that we had the best luck with in for lake trout and in some cases the arctic char found in lakes where we caribou hunt.

Best of luck and remember to send us some pictures when your hunt is completed. Please email them with a brief story to steve@stevesoutdooradventures.com and remember that we look forward to hearing from you when your hunt is completed.

Sincerely,

Steve West

Steve's Outdoor Adventures

1-800-303-1304

Eppinger® Original Dardevle® Spoons



The classic Dardevle remains the most popular and among the most effective all-around fishing lures on the market today..

If you do nothing more than bring the RED/WHITE Daredevil spoon lures with you in the 3” - 4” sizes you will do very well. (Color 09) It would not hurt to bring a couple of shiny silver spoons as well (#31) and some spoons 5” or better to try for HUGE lake trout and pike.

Getting Your Trophies Home from Yellowknife

Once your hunt is completed we will fly you from the caribou camp back to Yellowknife. We expect that everyone will have at least one caribou trophy to get home. Here are the questions you need to thing out in advance and your options for each of those scenarios:

- **What am I going to do with my caribou meat?**

When you get back to Yellowknife the meat flies back with you, and we ask that everyone tell us in advance what they wish to do... 90% of our hunters donate the caribou meat to feeding the hungry and we will make sure it gets put to good use. However, if you wish to fly home with the meat to have it cut and wrapped at home plan to stay in Yellowknife an extra day to freeze your meat solid, buy coolers, and package your meat for the flight home. There are no cut and wrap options available in Yellowknife.

- **What am I going to do with my caribou antlers and cape?**

CAPES

when you come out of camp you will likely have 1-2 caribou capes that were frozen in camp where we have a generator and a chest freezer. These are slightly larger than a football and will easily fit inside your duffle bag for the ride home. Make sure that you have them put in the freezer at the hotel during your overnight stay so they are completely frozen when you board your flights the next day. As soon as you get home take these to your taxidermist so he can send them off to the tannery ASAP. This way the capes are almost ready when the antlers show up later... see below.

ANTLERS

Talon Expediting – All hunters will leave your antlers behind and sometime in October we will take all of the trophies down to Edmonton and drop them off at Talon Expediting. They will then crate and ship the trophies to your taxidermist. I recommend taking laminated business cards from your taxidermist with you on the hunt. Hole punch a corner and zip tie them to your antlers. With a permanent marker write your name, address, and phone numbers on the back. This way you can be contacted by Talon Expediting.

Antlers usually show up at your home or taxidermist's office sometime in December or January depending on workload and shipping time, as well as how quickly you respond to Talon Expediting's communications and invoices for their costs, which depend on size of antlers, crating, weight, etc...

Please Note:

New as of July 1, 2015... hunters must pre-pay the export trophy fee of \$137.50 per caribou tag and \$170 per wolf or wolverine tag before going into the field. This will be collected prior to hunting. It is our suggestion to all of our clients to advise us no less than 60 days prior to hunt what tags you want to actually carry and pay for prior to going into the field. It's our opinion that it is a bad buy for the wolf and wolverine and we are asking Nunavut to change this ridiculous fee structure.



Travel Advice and Planning

We always ask that our client book their plane tickets and hotel reservations with our Canadian travel agency. They not only get the best rates and flight schedules but they also communicate directly with our camps. In the event that weather delays flights back to Yellowknife and commercial flights are going to be missed, the travel agent can change everyone's flights easily and without having 8 hunters in camp sharing a satellite phone to change their flights and spending hours on hold.

Please contact:

Beth Green
Top of the World Travel – Inuvik
1-780-985-3010
beth@topoftheworldtravel.com

We ask that all of our hunters stay at the EXPLORER HOTEL in Yellowknife – you have to request that this be the hotel you stay at in Yellowknife when speaking to Beth and making your reservations.