

KODIAK PACKING LIST & other Helpful Hints, Ideas, and Hacks. (revised 08/18/22)

Stores in the area

- a. Walmart
- b. RAYS, is a sporting goods store and it's not outrageous in pricing. Has always been well stocked.
2. Watch the videos of our previous trips on our facebook group or website. This will give you a great “**look and feel**” of your fishing trip.
3. Pack so you can check in only ONE bag. You're allowed one carry on, and one personal item on Alaska Airlines.
 - a. The first check in bag is \$30 and the 2nd is \$40 (for your fish on the way home). UNLESS, you get an Alaska Signature VISA Card to use, then the first 2 bags are free. Everyone on your confirmation code will also get this benefit so hook up with them.
 - b. 3rd bag is \$100- This obviously will be fish.
4. We are never more than 30 minutes away from a bathroom (unless on Afognak) but I WOULD bring toilet paper.
5. Always fun to help your friends who know less than you do. It creates a bond and memory.

Clothes:

6. Take clothes for only a few days. There is a washer and dryer. Weather would remind one of a chili October day. Typical of Utah Fall Climate. Layering is always recommended.
7. Since your feet are in the cold water, warm socks are recommended.
8. Definitely a good rain/wind jacket with a hoodie is in order. Don't go cheap here.
9. Have never worn gloves, but occasionally it can get chili. Fingerless Gloves have been used.
10. I like long sleeve shirts because I don't like the sun on me all day, but that's just me. Occasionally it can get very warm.
11. Always wear: 1. A hat 2. P **olarized sunglasses are a must** (I also get them in “readers”). They not only provide sun protection, but also eye protection from hooks, and the polarization helps you see and identify fish underwater.
12. Sunblock for the ears, nose, neck, arms, and side of your face.
13. On chillier days I wear long johns under sweatpants. Otherwise just wear sweatpants.
14. Lounging clothes. Whatever works for you.

GEAR

1. Rods
 - a. Fly Fishing - 8 wt rods and matching reels and line (I like slow sink in Kodiak but floating line works as well). 20 lb test is what I use for taper and tippet. 20 - 30 lb

fluorocarbon tippet can be used instead of tapered leader. You will want to learn the perfection loop in this case. Tapered leader has a pre-tied loop.

- b. Spin Cast - Regular Trout rods and reels will NOT handle the pressures so get heavier duty equipment. We recommend using a 30 lb braided line. You will be attaching lures to your fishing line with snap swivels. Ask your sporting good salesman what can handle the pressures of 10-20 lb fish. Possible reels are the pflueger 35x, or 40 x reels, or the Sedona 3000, or 4000 series. A 25', 20-30 lb fluorocarbon leader is recommended on your spin rod.
2. Breathable Waders. **NOT** 100% neoprene waders. Those are for duck hunters and very uncomfortable to move around in.
3. Wader Boots. Get one size larger than your shoe size. Pliers (for removing hook). Snips (for cutting line). Mosquito Net for your head. Heavy duty fish stringer rope style (not with the gill hooks). These items can be purchased there.
4. Flies and Lures:
 - a. Flyfisherman. Chartreuse Clousers size 2, Pink stuff size 2. They also like green colors. RAYS also sells affordable flies of many kinds.
 - b. One of our popular flies is the Tullis Wiggle bug. You can purchase them www.rainysflies.com. Pink should be a majority of your purchase but others colors are fun to try. Purple, Chartreuse, black are other colors you can try. Randy Browning filmed a tutorial on how to tie the wiggle bug, which can be found on the website.
 - c. Spinner LURES: Randy and I will have some available for a nominal fee that he has made up that work. You can see pics on our website. MEPPs flying C in orange and pink work well. Other options can be found at Rays such as the Kodiak specials designed for Silvers. The principle of big lures - big water, small lures- small water applies here.
15. Backpack or similar pack to carry your fishing stuff around day to day. A fishing vest works for some, others use small storage boxes for their lures and tippet. Zingers (retractable cord that hangs on your waders or vest) work well for holding nippers, and hook sharpeners well. I found that pliers, purchased with a holster that attaches to your wader belt, are handy.
16. Bear protection. You can bring a gun if you want. I don't carry a firearm, but do carry bear spray, of which I have a few extra but they can be purchased in Alaska. You CAN'T take bear spray on any flights, so don't bring them from home.
17. Licenses can be purchased online or in Kodiak. They are about 45 for one a one week licens. If the Ocean Run king salmon are around, a king salmon stamp will be purchased online or in the store once you find out what day your group is ocean fishing.
18. A memory video will be made of your adventure. Taking lots of pictures is a must. Bring your phones or a digital camera. Gopros are fun as well. At the end of the trip, I will provide a Google drive that will be able upload your pics and videos. Or at the end of the trip we can do an AIRDROP if you have an iphone.
19. Occasionally the bugs are bad on the road system but not too often. Bug spray can be helpful on those occasions, a head net can also come in handy especially on the Litnik trip. RAYS in Kodiak carries head nets, or you can bring one with you.

LEARN YOUR KNOTS. Bring leader if you need to practice.

- a. Rapala Knot for tying on flies.
 - b. Simple overhand loop knot (or perfection loop which is a bit more complicated)
 - c. Fishermans Improved Clinch knot.
 - d. Palomar knot.
 - e. Double UNI Knot.
 - f. We have made our own videos of these knots and can be found on the website and our facebook page.
 - g. OUR youtube channel shows how we like to tie these knots but others have posted very helpful videos as well.
20. Plane tickets (remember to check on Alaska air website for any last minute changes to your itinerary)
 21. Wallet, Cash (recommended \$300-\$500 a person for tipping and souvenirs)
 22. Hygiene Kit
 23. Phone and camera chargers
 24. Small flashlight or headlamp
 25. Sunscreen, lip balm, reading books, Reading glasses,

Afognak Day/ overnight trip (where applicable)

26. We will provide
 - a. Sleeping bags, blankets
 - b. Cooking gear where applicable
 - c. Water filtration (bring your own would be helpful)
 - d. Cots
 - e. Garbage bags

You should provide and bring

27. Flashlight
28. Polarized Glasses
29. Water
30. Matches (only for emergencies)
31. First aid kit
32. Toilet paper
33. Food (can be purchased as a group)
34. Rope - some 10 feet of paracord would do.
35. Rope stringer for rish
36. Your fishing gear - flies and lures, weights, leader, and general tackle you feel you need.

37. Waders and boots and jackets and other clothes for one overnight.
38. An extra set of clothes in case you get wet.
39. School type backpack
40. Bear spray
41. Head net
42. Snacks
43. Raincoat