

Antelope *New Mexico Hunt Information and* *Booking Packet*

Thanks for booking with Compass West Outfitters. We are honored that you are trusting us with what we hope will be one of many great hunts with us. We hope you are as excited about this hunting season as we are!

Call or text Chris on his cell at 505-860-3197 or call our office at 505-801-7500 anytime you have a question. Our email address is info@compasswestoutfitters.com if you prefer to email us. Our home and mailing address is:

Compass West Outfitters, LLC
33 Road 25531
Aztec, NM 87410

*Please note, this is our office, **not** necessarily the location closest to your hunt when looking at driving directions/airports. We will supply driving directions closer to your hunt date.

Please **always leave a name and a phone number in your message** as we don't always have your personal information with us. We are very good about returning phone calls, but please remember that during hunting season we are in very remote areas and may only be able to retrieve our messages every couple of days as many of the areas we hunt still lack cell phone service. **Please call the office in hunting season first!**

The following is information we hope you find useful when preparing for your hunt:

Deposits: Your deposit is due within 14 days of booking or the draw. We accept check, personal check, cashier's check or money order. Checks can be made payable to "Compass West Outfitters, LLC".

Cancelation policy: **Your deposit is refunded (less a handling fee of 15% of the total cost) only if you can fill your spot with a new hunter. No-shows will be charged the full amount. We HIGHLY recommend our hunters carry trip insurance.** You can consult with your insurance agent to learn how to obtain trip insurance. You can also check out this link

<https://globalrescue.com/compasswestoutfitters/index.html>

All disputes over billing will be handled by the San Juan County court in New Mexico between March 1st and August 15th.

Final Payments: **Final payment is due no later than 60 days before your hunt date.** If you are less than 60 days out please call us to arrange your payment. If you have a balance due when you arrive in New Mexico, it **MUST BE PAID IN CASH BEFORE YOU HUNT.** **No personal checks will be accepted in camp have cash.**

Included in Package Price: 3 days guides on firearm hunts, and 5 days on archery hunts. 1x1 or 2x1 guided hunt, beverages in the field. ***Lodging and meals are not included on any antelope hunts.***

Not Included in Package Price: Lodging or meals, travel to and from your home to local hotel meeting location. New Mexico license fee, habitat and HMAV stamps and NM sales tax. Tips for guide, meat processing, meat storage (area meat lockers charge \$20-30/day for storage) or shipping of cape or meat and taxidermy.

We will help you handle your trophy in the field and can help you get in touch with local meat processors/taxidermy shops as well as transport meat to closest butcher for you.

Gratuity:

It is customary to tip your guides based on your overall experience. This is a very special hunt, the off range hunts take an incredible amount of fuel and time to get ready. The on Range hunts are years of skill. The cost of scouting and quality gear is increasing every year, this is where the guides recoup money they spent looking for your dream bull or cow. Gratuity should not reflect number of days in the field or harvest, but rather the experience you enjoyed. For antelope hunts \$400-\$1000 is the normal range.

Our Wounded Animal Policy on Public Land Hunts:

A wounded animal is an animal that has been hit by bullet or arrow and a single drop of blood has been found. Should you wound an animal, you and your guide will cease hunting, and will spend the next **several hours to a day** looking for that wounded animal. If you are unable to find this wounded animal, you may continue to hunt.

If a 2nd animal is wounded, this will be the end of the hunt. You will spend the remainder of your hunt looking for both wounded animals until the end of your hunt, or until you depart. This policy applies to any species animal we are hunting.

Gun policy: Guns need to have a clear chamber at all times (including vehicle travel). Your guide will let you know when to chamber your weapon in the field.

Empty chamber applies to night as well. Should you have a gun chambered in camp you will be asked to leave at once, no refunds will be given. We prefer all guns to be left in the guide's truck or your vehicle in camp.

Accidental discharge of a weapon AT ANY TIME will result in you leaving camp immediately. No questions asked. Your hunt is over. No refunds will be given.

Drug/alcohol policy: It is unlawful in NM to hunt while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants, including medical marijuana.

Cell Phones:

There is NOT ALWAYS CELL PHONE reception in our camps, If you must have cell service during your hunt, talk with us about your location and we can give you a heads up to the service quality/location available. .

After Hours Emergencies:

For emergencies, our best number to call is the office number **505-801-7500**. Karin mans the office during the hunting season while Chris is in the field. Should you find yourself lost on your way at night or your family need to get in touch with you, you can call this number and she will do her best to get in touch with Chris, your guide, or the camp manager.

Should anyone need to reach you in camp, they may call/text Chris' cell 505-860-3197 (however he does NOT always have service every day). Should they call this number after hours a voice messaging system is in place and we will give you the message when we hear it. Texting is the very best way to reach Chris the fastest.

After your harvest: In the Field: Once you have killed an animal, guides will then help you as little or much as you like in dealing with the downed animal. If we are in an area that we can drive to we'll load it in the truck, or help to pack it out on our backs.

Your hunt is concluded at this point and your guide will be done once your meat and cape are dropped off at the meat processor/taxidermist.

Mandatory Harvest Report after your hunt – the state of NM requires ALL hunters to fill out their mandatory harvest report whether you were successful or not. You will want to log on to your NM Game and Fish account after the hunt to complete this step. If you don't complete this step you will not be eligible for the NM draw next year. You can also call NM Game and Fish at (888) 248-6866 to complete your harvest report over the phone.

If you have any questions, please **do not hesitate** to call us any time: **505-801-7500 (office) or 505-860-3197 (Chris' cell phone)**

E-mail us at: info@compasswestoutfitters.com

NOTES:

HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR HUNT:

GET IN SHAPE AND PRACTICE WITH YOUR WEAPON! – You WILL get out of a hunt what you put in to it ahead of time!

You will be hunting at an elevation of at about 4500' or higher. Many of you are coming from 500' or less and you're not used to the thin air like we are. Do what you can to help get your lungs ready! Even just walking for an hour a day will benefit you. Use a backpack with sand or other weight in it when you walk to get ready. If you can ride a bike or stair stepper you're going to be happy you did!

It's your hunt - guides will let you set the pace, but they will push you as they want to see you have a successful hunt. For what you are paying per day, spend some time getting ready! YOU are the one that will pay for it with a sub-par hunt, blistered feet and a crappy time overall if you don't shoot on sticks and get some exercise before you get here. Anything you can do to get ready is going to help you. There is nothing more depressing than seeing that big buck/bull on day 3 and having to run as fast as you can up a steep hill and just not having the energy to do it.

Your Ideal Hunt: Rain is the determining factor to the trophy quality of EVERY hunt we offer in New Mexico. I have killed 290 average elk in a unit that the year before we killed a 340 average. Precipitation levels in the spring (March- June) will dictate the horn growth of the animal we are hunting. Antelope are dependent on the winter and early spring moisture as they shed horns in November.

Please be sure to talk with your guide about the quality of animal that you're looking for. In the field, your guide can help advise you as to the quality of animals you are seeing, but remember that ultimately you make the call as whether or not you shoot or don't shoot. We want you to harvest the largest animals possible, but every animal you let walk is a risk of not tagging out. Remember that opportunities are not unlimited on fair chase hunts.

We are aggressive hunters. That's why we have killed over 90% harvest and 100% shot for the last 10 years. We like to walk and hike and glass for animals along the way. We are not trying to kill you, we just really want you to harvest as badly as you do! This means if you need a break you're going to have to tell us when YOU need to sit on waterholes and feeding areas to take a break and recharge. It's your hunt, you need to set the pace!

Rifle Hunters: PLEASE learn to shoot standing on sticks and sitting. You are going to be sitting 50-75% of the time on shots here. It's not something you should do for the first time once here. Cross canyon or over brush is almost always the way you are going to get a shot. We try for sitting shots anytime we can, but prone will also work well here.

Once you have your rifle ZERO AT 200 YDS start practicing shooting off sticks. Most of the guides like and will carry the BogPod tripod with the red foam grips. Primos also makes a nice trigger stick TRIPOD that is super easy to use and easy to find. **Or get some other cheap off brand to practice, as you don't have to bring them with you,** guides will carry their own. But please, get ready to use sticks and shoot a bunch before the hunt starts. You'll be glad you did!

You will not need to travel with your sticks, guides will have some with them in the field at all times.

Zero your rifle at 200, and be ready for 100-450+ yard shots. Most shots will be 300-500, but learn to shoot at 100-500+ and you'll be happy you did!

Take a shooting class, anything you can to get ready. Every year I hear that you can't shoot over 300 yards where you live, just google long range shooting in your area and USE WHAT YOU FIND. You might have to join a club or travel 1-2-3-4 hours to do so. You are traveling 1000 plus miles and spending a great deal of money on a THREE DAY HUNT, it's a small investment to be READY.

When practicing 300+ shots we recommend never shoot paper, what we like to do when practicing long distances (300+ yards) is to shoot at balloons. It gives instant feedback, and if you're popping a balloon that is the same size as the kill zone on an antelope, guess what - you're killing any antelope you are shooting at! It builds confidence at longer range! Don't discourage yourself shooting and evaluating paper..

Please bring a rifle you shot best at 100-500+ yards!

We also sell all the Huskamaw long range gear AND RIFLES! If you want a custom 300win (\$4500) let us know and I can get one to you before your hunt all dialed in for our elevation. I also sell all the Huskamaw ammo and long range shooting supplies.

Packing List - Antelope

This list should help you get a better idea of what to bring. This is a GUIDELINE ONLY.

Carcass Tag/Horn Tag – should have been mailed to you by NMG&F. Check to be sure it includes game hunting license, HMAV and Habitat Stamp. If it doesn't you will need to carry a paper copy of stamps.

Gun

Ammo- Bring enough to sight in once here as well as hunting. We like to see people bring 3 boxes. Area shops carry a limited choice of ammo and if you sighted in with 180 gr. and can't find them in the area we have to start over with sighting in again!

Quiet camouflage outer gear- There is no hunters orange law in NM (Except on on-range hunts) so we like to hunt in full camo.

Boots- solid leather boots are best. There are lots of cactus in our area as well as sharp rocks. Be sure to break them in before your hunt!

Moleskin – great on blisters in case your boots aren't completely broken in.

Camera

Day pack with waist belt- one that will hold water, camera, binoculars, gps, snacks and warm jacket... Any brand will do, but it needs to have a waist belt and be large enough to carry your gear. Should be around 3000 cubic inches.

Socks Smart wool socks are all great choices. NO cotton.

Rain gear- you'll be happy you have it if it's a wet week! Camo, packable and light weight is ideal, but overall, it must be QUIET or its likely guides won't want you to wear it!

Dopp kit- un-scented everything like soap and shampoo

Medications- Be sure to pack Ibuprofen or other pain killer, any and all meds you need.

Long johns- (depending upon time of year) you never know! Check the weather report before travel.

Warm gear- (depending upon time of year) wool and fleece with light weight layers under. The weather can change fast; you might sit still on a hill side glassing for hours. You can't have too much warm gear, the worst thing that can happen is you go home with clean un-used gear!

Butt pad- Little foam gardening pads from Lowes or Home Depot are perfect! Something small. Don't get the big ones that don't fit in your packs. If it's not small enough to fit inside your pack, don't bring it.

Knee pads and leather gloves

Binoculars- 10x42 for glassing .Talk to us more about best choices!

Spotting Scopes- are nice if you have one on antelope hunts. Guides will have one you don't need to buy one.

Spending cash- There are no ATM's for miles so if you want some cash, bring it.

Hats- Baseball and stocking bring a ball cap with a bill that you can fit a stocking cap over.

Camp shoes- Something that fits you like a glove. Boots get heavy after a day in the field. Nothing beats that favorite pair of slippers or Crocs around camp after a long day in the field!

Favorite Snacks and food- No food will be provided on antelope hunts. Your guide will have a cooler with ice and water.

Meat cooler I recommend 1 120qt cooler FULL of ice the day before the hunt starts

Game bags for this hunt for sure.

Back up gun- You never know, in the last 5 years more hunters than you would think have had to use backup guns, and BE SURE YOUR RINGS ARE TIGHT!!!!!!!!!!

We try to have a gun in camp as a backup. If circumstances necessitate its use we do charge a \$100 ammo fee and \$500 if gun is dropped or knocked off zero. Guides will often have one on these hunts, please check with guide or us if you have questions.