

ORYX 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
Po Box 123
Pinon NM 88344

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

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 helpful when preparing for your hunt:

Deposits: Your deposit is due within 14 days of booking or the draw. We accept checks, personal checks, cashier's checks, or money orders. 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 that our hunters carry trip insurance.** You can consult your insurance agent to learn how to obtain trip insurance. You can also check out this link <https://globalrescue.com/compasswestoutfitters/index.html> The cancel for anything policy will cover, "anything".

All disputes over billing will be handled by the Otero 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 checks will be accepted in camp; have cash.**

Included in Package Price: White Sands, Mc Gregor (ON BASE) hunts - all legal hunting time (usually 2.5 days). McGregor hunts are 2 days. Off-range hunts are 5 days, 400\$ per day, add-on if needed. No Oryx hunts include any meals or lodging. We will make recommendations for the areas closest to your hunt if you like.

Stallion Range: Socorro, NM, for hotels and plan to fly into Albuquerque.

Rhodes Canyon or McGregor Range: Alamogordo, NM for hotels stay, and fly into El Paso, TX

Off Range: You will need to talk with us; plan for Alamogordo for now. I will help you lock in a location, and guides will reach out 24-48 hours before the start of the hunt to confirm the meeting time and place. I would recommend El Paso, TX, for flights on most hunts, but ABQ will also work; you'll just have to drive more.

Not Included in Package Price: Travel to and from your home to the local hotel meeting location. *Lodging and meals are not included on any Oryx hunts. 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 and transport meat to the closest butcher for you.

Gratuity:

It is customary to tip your guides based on your overall experience. This is a very special hunt; these hunts take an incredible amount of fuel and time to get ready. The cost of scouting and quality gear is increasing every year; this is where the guides recoup the money they spent looking for your dream animal. Gratuity should not reflect the number of days in the field or harvest, but rather the experience you enjoyed. For ORYX hunts, \$700-\$1000 is the normal range.

Our Wounded Animal Policy on Public Land Hunts:

A wounded animal is an animal that a bullet or arrow has hit, 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 **24 hours** looking for that wounded animal. If you cannot find this wounded animal, you may continue to hunt.

If a 2nd animal is wounded, this will end 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 of animal we are hunting.

Gun policy: Guns must always have a clear chamber (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/recreational marijuana.

Cell Phones:

There is NOT ALWAYS CELL PHONE reception on this hunt. If you must have cell service during your hunt, talk with us about your location, and we can give you a heads-up about 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 while Chris is in the field during the hunting season. Should you find yourself lost on your way at night or your family needs to reach you, you can call this number, and she will do her best to reach Chris, your guide, or the camp manager.

Should anyone need to reach you in camp, they may call/text Chris' cell at 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 help you as little or as 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 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. After the hunt, you will want to log on to your NM Game and Fish account 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's cell phone)** or e-mail us at: info@compasswestoutfitters.com

HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR HUNT:

GET IN SHAPE AND PRACTICE WITH YOUR WEAPON! You will get out of a hunt what you put into it ahead of time!

You will be hunting at an elevation of about 4500' or higher. Many of you come 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 when you walk to get ready. If you can ride a bike or stair stepper, you'll 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. Nothing is 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:

Please be sure to discuss the quality of animal you're looking for with your guide. In the field, your guide can help advise you on the quality of animals you are seeing, but remember that ultimately, you make the call whether 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 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. If you need to sit on waterholes and feeding areas to take a break and recharge, let us know. It's your hunt; you need to set the pace!

Rifle Hunters: PLEASE learn to shoot standing on sticks and sitting. You will be standing 75% and sitting 20% and 5% prone on shots here. Shooting on sticks is not something you should do for the first time once here. Over brush is almost always how you will get a shot. We try for sitting shots anytime we can, but prone will

almost never happen because of the terrain we hunt.

Once you have your rifle ZERO AT 200 YDS, start practicing shooting off sticks. Most 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, for the good of your hunt, get ready to use sticks and shoot a bunch before the hunt starts. Bring them; you'll be glad you did!

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

Take a shooting class or do anything you can to get ready. Every year, I hear that you can't shoot over 300 yards where you live, but 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. Well, you are traveling 1000+ miles and spending a great deal of money to visit us, so it's a small investment to be ready.

When practicing 300+ shots, we recommend never to 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 Oryx, guess what - you're killing any Oryx you are shooting at! It builds confidence at a more extended range! Don't discourage yourself shooting and evaluating paper.

Please bring a 300 or better rifle. I know 6.5, 30.06, 308, 270, 280, will all kill Oryx, but you will not be taking all the shots you could with these rifles. They don't shoot long well. As a rule they are the guns we leave the greatest number of animals in the woods lost with.

New Mexico Oryx Hunt Packing List

Kuiu discount code and Bargara discount code are on my forms page

Gear ****Some items only if camping****

- **Hunting License (make sure you have all the required stamps)**
- **GAME BAGS**
- **ORANGE VEST AND HAT for on base hunts**
- **4 small size Alaska Game bags or game bags of any kind!!**
- **Rifle w/ 1-2 full boxes of Ammo, scope, scope cover (zeroed at 200 yards)**
- Large black garbage bags 2
- Binoculars (Swarovski, Zeiss, Leica 10x42) with Bino Straps
- Range Finder
- Water Bottle (Lightweight Nalgene)
- Light-weight flashlight (extra batteries), be sure to place one battery backwards!!
- Head-lamp flashlight (extra batteries), be sure to place one battery backwards!!
- Light weight camera, batteries if needed or phone with battery booster.

Clothing

- Temperatures could be 10s to 100s. wind, rain, snow

- Sturdy, hard-soled boots (High-quality mountain boots with rubber around the toes to protect from rocks), waterproof treated and tested.
- Extra Socks (2-4 pairs; “Darn Tough” are the best, but any Merino wool is recommended)
- Extra Sock Liners (2 pairs, silk or?)
- 1 pair of wicking underwear Merino is best 130 or 200 wt.
- Long-sleeve shirt 1 (wicking layer) Merino or smart wool of any kind
- Mid-weight Merino top
- Lightweight rain gear (top and bottom)
- KUIU Guide Jacket or outer layer that is windproof
- Mid-layer style vest
- **Puffy down jacket and pants**
- Pants (fast dry, loose fit): I like the KUIU guide pants or Tiburon pants on early hunts
- Long underwear, Merino, or smart wool of any kind
- Beanie hat (for cold weather and sleeping, Merino or fleece)
- Baseball cap or sun-protective hat
- Gloves (light pair for hiking (important in the rocky terrain) and
- Gloves/mittens (heavy pair for cold weather), waterproof and warm is a must
- Lightweight sweater or mid-weight fleece

Personal Items

- Sunscreen (unscented, mineral-based SPF50+ recommended)
- 4-gallon Ziploc bags
- Sunglasses (high-quality UV protection)
- Toilet Paper/wet wipes needed for your hunt
- Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Floss
- Mole skin for blisters, antibiotic ointment, Band-Aids, ***ibuprofen***
- Bic Lighter
- Medications
- Pre-moistened facial towelettes
- Zip-lock bags (for personal items and trash) in gallon and quart sizes
- Parachute cord 50’ any color

*Minimize personal toiletries to essential items.

***Make sure your toenails are trimmed short 3-5 days before the hunt.**

Food

- All food and snacks
- I have been turned into a fan of MTN Ops and Wilderness Athlete!

Other Miscellaneous

- Favorite knife