

Sonora- Hunt Information and Booking Packet

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

You can call or text Chris on his cell at 505-860-3197. Chris will also text you from his In-Reach (satellite texting device) before you head to Mexico. This will be a 201 area code number, so you must reply! This will allow Chris to text you and get texts from you anyplace while in Mexico. Our home and mailing address is:

Compass West Outfitters, LLC
PO Box 123
Pinon NM 88344

You will want to make reservations to fly into **Hermosillo, Mexico, on Sunday and fly home the following Sunday. If possible, you will want to try to get a seat to the front of the plane (not first class, just front area) from PHX, as you will be near the front of the line at customs and for gun check. You will depart your flight, check in at customs, grab your rifle and luggage, and walk (30 feet) to the police checkpoint. Your gun permit and 3 copies will be waiting for you here. You must keep your gun permit **with your gun** and extra copies with you at all times, everyplace you go in Mexico. Put the gun permit in the gun case after the police check you in, and once in camp, put your original (green) gun permit in your day pack that goes **everywhere your gun goes** with you after that. Anytime you move from one location to another, you must **LOCK YOUR GUN IN A CASE**. If you hit pavement at any time, it is illegal in Mexico to not have your gun locked in a case and the gun permit on your person!*

You will also want to ensure you have at least a 3+ hour layover in Phoenix on your return leg. You must re-check your gun and luggage here, which takes some time. US Customs is on the bottom floor, and getting to recheck your bag is about a 10-minute walk, plus waiting in line and re-entering the airport TSA security lines again.

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

Deposits: YOUR DEPOSIT IS DUE, AND THE PRICE IS VALID WITHIN 14 DAYS OF BOOKING. We accept checks, cashier's checks, money orders, or, in Mexico, VENMO or Zelle for additional animals. Having over \$10,000 US dollars in Mexico is illegal, so VENMO or Zelle is the best way to pay for extra animals. Credit cards also work for little stuff in Mexico (not our fees); US dollars for tips and a little extra is a great plan.

Cancelation policy: Your deposit will be credited (less a handling fee of 15% of the total

cost) if you or we can fill your spot with a new hunter at full price. Any discounts or associated booking fees in the resale of your spot will be deducted from the credit if given and the 15%. **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> (cut and paste this link)

All billing disputes 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 Oct 1st.***

Included in the Package Price: Airport pickup and shuttle to camp, hunting, all meals, lodging, and guides. Mule deer hunters will have a guide and a driver; coues deer hunters can hunt with guides or guides and drivers. After hunting that morning, we will return you to Hermosillo Saturday afternoon. You will stay at the Fiesta Americana and be our guest for a night out in Hermosillo at a local steakhouse, located 3 blocks from the hotel (or at our preferred location). We will return with you to the hotel for the evening. At 730am (if you like), we will have breakfast at the hotel, set you up with your capes and horns, and line you out with shuttles back to the airport. **Just remember, exact plans and schedules are subject to change at any time once in Mexico. We will have you taken care of regardless!**

Trophy care: We will freeze your cape (required by law), and guides and/or drivers will boil your head and clean it for import to the US. Your cape will be removed from the freezers the night before departure to allow them to be pliable for US customs to inspect.

Going home: On your packing list, you will see 2 large black trash bags. On your departure morning at the Fiesta America, you will want to put your cape in the large trash bag and then inside your luggage for the return flight. At the airport in Hermosillo, we will have your horns wrapped in plastic wrap for shipping as luggage, so on your way home, you will have 3 bags (gun, luggage, and horns).

Once back in the US:

Once you land in Phoenix, you will want to check YES if you have items to declare! US Customs will inspect the cargo, look for ticks, and verify the tag numbers and paperwork (all provided to you on departure day). You will then recheck your luggage and return it to the system for flights home.

Not included:

Because this is an international hunt, we try to cover everything for you. We will have Mexican beers, some mixed drinks in camp, soda, and bottled water. We are happy to take/get you to a specialty liquor store or grocery for personal items if you would like. Please inform me of this request in advance so I can attempt to have a personal shopper get items for you or a special driver to help you find your items and get you to camp. An additional transport fee may apply here as we must hire an extra car and driver for this service.

Our Wounded Animal Policy on all Mexico hunts:

Drawing blood will end your hunt (see continue hunting below). We will do everything in our power to find your deer!

**Cowboys will find most animals at some point, and we will work on getting antlers to you.

How can you continue to hunt for an additional fee:

We are working to manage ranches for quality deer with limited harvest. Often, a wounded animal will result in you being allowed to continue hunting, but with a \$2000 trespass fee for a different location that still has additional tags available. You can continue your hunt here in the new location for the \$2000 fee. If you harvest an additional deer here, your \$2000 will be deducted from the additional tag fee for that species.

Once you have killed out:

Your hunt is concluded at the point that you have taken an animal. You will now relax and enjoy yourself in camp. We can also get you back to town. Here, we can help you arrange duck/dove hunts, bass fishing, or deep-sea fishing—all very close!

Once you have killed out what can I do?

If you would like to continue hunting, you can pay an additional trespass fee of \$1500 and continue to hunt for additional animals in a new location unless additional tags are available where you are hunting. If you harvest an additional animal, the \$1500 will be deducted from the kill fee for the additional animal. We have a few options for you once you are tagged out. Here they are.

\$12,000 mule deer add-on to mule deer package

\$6000 coues deer (south ranches)

Dove and duck hunting near Hermosillo is also possible (day rate)

Gratuity: Customary

Guides \$1000

Drivers \$200-400 they should earn with service to you on the trip!

Head cook \$200

Extra cook or kitchen help \$100-\$200

Gun policy: Guns must always have a clear chamber; your guide will let you know when to chamber your weapon in the field. They will also talk with you regarding guns in high racks.

You will take your unloaded gun into your room each night and return it to the guide truck after breakfast.

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: You will not hunt while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants.

Cell Phones:

There is no CELL PHONE reception in most camps here. If you must have cell service during your hunt, talk with us about your location, and we can give you a heads-up on the service quality/location available. We have added Starlink at most camps; please let us know if you need service.

Drinking Water: Drinking water will be provided as bottled water.

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. I also have my satellite communication Inreach with me. Joe, our outfitter partner in Mexico, is also a good guy to try 209-649-1541.

Should anyone need to reach you in camp, they may text Chris' cell at 505-860-3197. Texting is the best and fastest way to reach Chris.

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)**

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!

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 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 determines the trophy quality of EVERY hunt we offer in Mexico. Please be sure to talk with me about the quality of animal that you're looking for. 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.

Bow Hunters Information:

I like Slicktrick 4 blade 100g, Exodus 125g and Whack'em 125g but shoot what you shoot best! We have had BAD luck with the Montec G5's - they are dull we all hate them!!! Plan on 20-60+ yard shots but 20-50 is most common.

Call me anytime about bow or gear questions; I am a bow hunter!

Rifle Hunters: PLEASE learn to shoot standing on sticks and sitting. You will be standing or sitting 75% of the time on shots here, if not in high rack. It's not something you should do for the first time once here. Once you have your rifle ZERO AT 200 YDS, start practicing shooting off sticks. But please, for the good of your hunt, get ready to use, bring sticks, and shoot a bunch before the hunt starts. You'll be glad you did, and bring the ones you are accustomed to. We try to have them in camps, but sporting goods stores and special items are not easy to replace here if they break!!

Zero your rifle at 200, and be ready for 100-400+ yard shots. Most shots will be 100-200, but learn to shoot at 300-400+, and you'll be happy you did! On rifle hunts, you need to be solid at 300-400+ yards. Coues deer hunters plan on 300+. Be ready! When practicing 300+ shots, we 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 the same size as the kill zone on a deer, guess what - you're killing any deer you are shooting at! It builds confidence at longer ranges! Don't discourage yourself by shooting and evaluating paper.

High rack shooting:

There is not really a way to get ready for this, but you can try to shoot from a seated position on a padded pipe rail or something to get ready. We will discuss this more once you are in camp and show you a few tricks! Most shots will be well under 300, and under 100 is common!

Take a shooting class, and 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.

Sonora, Old Mexico Mule Deer Hunt
Packing List

Kuiu and Bergara rifle discount codes on forms tab for you!

- **Rifle w/ 3 full boxes of Ammo, scope cover**
- **Bow/2 dozen arrows/extra release**
- **Day pack, 2000-3000 or something to take daily in trucks**
- Binoculars (Swarovski, Zeiss, Leica 10x42)
- Range Finder
- Head-lamp flashlight (extra batteries), place one battery backwards!!
- Lightweight camera, batteries if needed, or phone with battery booster.

Clothing

- Temperatures could be 30s to 80s. Wind, rain, and wind chill can get you into the teens
- Sturdy, hard-soled boots (High quality with rubber around toes to protect from rock), waterproof treated and tested.
- Extra Socks (4 pair; “Darn Tough” are the best, but any Merino wool is recommended)
- Extra Sock Liners (2 pairs, silk or?)
- Long-sleeve shirt 2 (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 are great in the high rack in the mornings!**
- Pants 2 (fast dry, loose fit); I like the KUIU guide pants or Tiburon for hot 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 because here everything has a pricker)
- Gloves/mittens (heavy pair for cold weather), waterproof and warm is a must
- Lightweight sweater or mid-weight fleece
- Crocks or camp shoes
- Bring sweatpants and a sweatshirt to sleep in and lounge around camp in

Personal Items

- 2 Large black garbage bags **for packing your cape in on the way home**
- Sunscreen (unscented, SPF 50+ recommended)
- SPF Lip Protection
- Sunglasses (high-quality UV protection)
- Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Floss
- Mole skin for blisters, antibiotic ointment, Band-Aids, ibuprofen
- Medications
- Pre-moistened facial towelettes
- Zip-lock bags (for personal items and trash) in gallon and quart sizes