

## Pre-Trip Planner and What to Bring List

### Travel 2022

**Getting to the Lodge** Your fishing adventure begins in Dillingham AK, which is a 1 hour and 15-minute commercial flight from Anchorage. Most national carriers have daily flights from major U.S. cities to Anchorage. You should plan on staying overnight in Anchorage on the Friday before your Saturday departure to Dillingham and the Lodge.

It is ideal that all our incoming guests arrive on the same Anchorage to Dillingham flight for a smooth transfer to the Lodge. Our RAVN Alaska Charter will bring in our guests on a DHC-8-100 chartered aircraft. The plane will leave out of the Ted Stevens International Airport, “A” gates. Details will be sent in your 2022 Pre-Trip Planner after the first of the year.

**Day of Arrival** Weather in Anchorage can be very different from the weather when you arrive in Dillingham. You will be outside after leaving the airport in Dillingham, loading in the floatplanes in Aleknagik for your flight to the lodge. ***Please wear comfortable walking shoes and have a jacket and rain jacket.*** Your luggage may be in another vehicle, so it is best to have it handy. Flip flops, sandals and open toed shoes are not recommended.

Upon your arrival in Dillingham, TNL staff will meet your flight and assist with luggage transfers. We will transport you by van to our float planes at Aleknagik Lake for a 35-minute flight to the Lodge.

**Trip Cancellations:** No one likes to think of calamities that can happen before or during a trip - an accident or emergency, a missed flight, lost baggage, or to have your long-awaited trip cancelled due to illness. Unfortunately, things do happen. To help you handle these and other unforeseen travel headaches, we highly recommend trip cancellation and travel insurance. With our short season and limited capacity, we have had to adopt stringent cancellation policies. Insurance would help defray these costs. We can send you specific trip cancellation information, or your local travel agent could provide you with the information.

### While at the Lodge

During your stay with us, all of your Tackle Shop and bar purchases will be charged to your personal account. Your account can be settled by either cash or personal check on the morning of your departure. If you are bringing cash, do not forget to consider gratuities. ***We do not accept credit cards.***

**Fishing Licenses:** The State of Alaska requires you to purchase a fishing license. The non-resident 7-day Sport Fishing License costs \$45.00. Alaska also requires a King Salmon Stamp for those anglers catching Kings. The non-resident 7-day King Salmon Stamp is \$45.00. Anglers joining us in June and July can expect to purchase King Salmon Stamps if their goal is to catch King Salmon. ***As of 2022, all fishing licenses and King Salmon Stamps need to be purchased online. Please see the Fishing License Page in your Pre-Trip Planner for details.***

**Communications - Phone calls and Wireless Internet** - We have our own Satellite dish with two phone lines and high speed internet with **wireless in the Main Lodge**. We have a dedicated phone line located in the Lodge for guests' use.

For incoming messages, we are recommending that you have your families, friends, and business associates send e-mails. They can send e-mails directly to your personal accounts (we do have a computer with internet access for our guests), or they can send e-mails to our Tikchik e-mail address ([info@tikchik.com](mailto:info@tikchik.com)) and we can print out any attachments and pass them along to the guest. ***Please be sure the guest's name is mentioned in the subject line of the e-mail for anyone trying to reach you by e-mail.***

Because we have just **one phone line** for all of our guests, the use of the phone is generally busy with outgoing calls during peak hours. Peak hours of use are in the morning before we fly out, and in the evening when our anglers get back from fishing. Anyone trying to call in will probably get a busy signal, whereas e-mails will be more efficient for getting messages through to our guests.

Your e-mails will be printed out and delivered to your room each day before you return from fishing. You can then return calls at your convenience.

***The use of the computer and internet is complimentary.***

**Faxes** – We do not have fax capabilities.

**Lodge Phone Number is (866) 342 2909**

**E-mail Address is [info@tikchik.com](mailto:info@tikchik.com) Website Address is [www.tikchiklodge.com](http://www.tikchiklodge.com)**

**Note:** Cell phones do not work in this area – we are too remote. ***Iridium handheld satellite phones*** work very well and can be rented in Anchorage.

**Meals** Our meals are fresh, well-prepared and well-presented. Our ample sized portions are creative and varied. Our dining room staff is polite, gracious and attentive to detail. We are tenacious in our commitment to a quality dining experience. We fly in fresh vegetables weekly, and we supplement our meals with greens and herbs grown from our greenhouse.

All of your meals are included as part of your fishing package. We serve a hearty made-to-order breakfast with a light fruit, yogurt and hot or cold cereal option. For lunch you have a choice of a sandwich, salad and dessert, or a shore-side salmon lunch prepared expertly by your guide. At each evening dinner we offer two entrees – a meat or fish selection. Desserts are wonderful and our coffee is custom roasted in Anchorage. Thoughtfully chosen domestic and foreign wines accompany your evening meals.

***Please do not hesitate to ask ahead of time for special consideration if you have any dietary needs, or special alcohol requests.***

**In Room Amenities** All our guest rooms have a coffeemaker stocked with gourmet coffee, both decaf and regular. We offer a complimentary snack basket, which is filled daily with a variety of granola bars, chips, and candy bars. Our hospitality items include shampoo, lotion and soap. Our rooms have 24-hour electricity, 110-volt, 60 hertz for charging cameras, batteries, and laptop computers, etc. Hair dryers are available upon request.

**Laundry** We are pleased to offer our guests light laundry service. We can wash, dry, fold and return your laundry in the same day. This service is complimentary.

**Gratuities** To eliminate the awkward feeling of wondering how much and who to tip, we recommend that you leave one total gratuity at the end of your stay. Your gratuity will be distributed evenly amongst the entire staff. The amount of gratuity is at the discretion of each guest. As a recommended guideline, most guests leave 10% to 12% of the lodge package price. Extraordinary service can increase the amount you may want to tip.

**Tackle/Gift Shop** We carry a selection of fishing accessories, Tikchik apparel, sun block, bug repellent and miscellaneous items. Remember, we provide all the fishing gear, lures, flies and accessories.

**Lodge Library** We have a small library with books on Alaska, fishing, flora, wildlife and best seller novels. We also have a selection of games, chess, backgammon, and of course, cards and poker chips.

**Bar** Tikchik has a full-service liquor license. We have a bartender on duty and offer standard brands of premium liquor, a selection of imported domestic beer, and a tasteful selection of foreign and domestic wines. We also offer a selection of mixers and soft drinks at no charge. Please let us know if you have any personal favorites and we will have it on hand for your stay.

**Sauna** We have a centrally located wood-fired sauna which is available for you to enjoy after a day's fishing. Don't forget to pack your swimsuit!

**Weather** Throughout the summer the temperatures will range from the low 50s to the mid 70s. The temperatures in mid to late September are slightly cooler with the temperatures in the low 40s to high 50s during the day. In late September, it is possible to have a frost at night; however, this usually happens during clear skies, and the days will be sunny and pleasantly warm.

The weather is unpredictable and can easily reach both extremes during any week of our season. Bristol Bay is famous for its storms and rainy weather. Each year is different and totally unpredictable. Generally, June and July are dryer than August and September. The June and July days are quite long with little darkness. As the days become shorter in the fall, our temperatures will fall accordingly. Our weather can also change very quickly. Proper clothing and being prepared is the key to a comfortable trip.

There are several "on line" weather tools that you can use to check the weather in Dillingham before your trip, our website ([www.tikchiklodge.com](http://www.tikchiklodge.com)) under the Useful Links and Pre-Trip Information page, can link you right to them.

**Taking Salmon Home** In the spirit of conservation, we encourage the release of all freshwater species of fish. Salmon bag limits have been reduced in recent years in an effort to allow more fish to reach the spawning grounds. We do encourage our guests to take a few Salmon to enjoy at home. Our emphasis is on sending home a quality product. We will gladly process your fish in serving sizes for 2, 4 or more. We package your catch in insulated boxes for transportation home.

***The only way to get your fish home is to take your fish as luggage. We cannot ship any frozen product from Dillingham.*** Unfortunately, airfreight shippers will not accept frozen product for shipment to the lower 48 states. *Dillingham does not have Fed Ex or UPS outgoing services.*

## What to Bring

**Clothing** Alaska's weather is unpredictable – a warm, sunny morning can turn to cool showers all within a day's fishing. To counter this range of climatic conditions, we highly recommend the layer method of dressing. Long sleeve shirts, polar tech or fleece pullovers along with a Gore-Tex outer shell work well. As our Alaskan summer temperatures change, you can take off a layer or add one. Because you will have your waterproof day pack/bag you can pack extra layers in the morning, and they will be dry for you as the need arises.

For mid-August through September, you should bring an extra heavier layer. Long underwear, a sweatshirt or sweater along with neoprene fishing gloves and a warmer hat for under your rain gear will be adequate.

**Lodge Attire** Evenings at the Lodge are informal; therefore, casual, and comfortable are appropriate. Do not forget shorts for those hot summer evenings.

**Rain Gear ~ Be Prepared** It is important that you bring good quality rain gear. The highest quality Gore-Tex "storm wear" coats with hoods are required. Because you will be wearing waders, you will not need rain pants.

**Day Pack** You should bring a waterproof day pack/bag for carrying your rain gear, extra layers of clothing, camera, and anything else you might need during the day.

**Shipping Items to the Lodge** Dillingham is a remote location; there is limited and somewhat unreliable UPS service. FED EX does not service this area. For any items that you need shipped we would recommend Alaska Airlines Goldstreak Service. Packages can be sent in care of Tikchik Narrows Lodge with the Dillingham lodge number **(866)342 2909**. You can also ship via US Postal Service Priority or Express mail (**PO Box 690, Dillingham, AK 99576**) *Make sure you allow plenty of time.*

**Waders** We can provide **Orvis** stocking foot waders and boots for our Anglers. Please see the **Wader Information** form, which has a size chart on the back side. This form is found in the right-hand pocket of your 2022 Pre-Trip Planner. Make sure to let us know your boot size as well if you need them. Boot sizes are based on shoe size. Round up to the nearest shoe size if needed. Your waders and boots will be in your cabin upon your arrival.

*Please send this form in as soon as you can if you would like us to provide waders to make sure we have all sizes available for you.*

**\*\*\* As of January 1, 2012, Felt Soled Waders are no longer allowed to be used in the State of Alaska \*\*\***

Felt soles have been banned in Alaska to protect against invasive species. Please bring non-felt soles if you are bringing your own waders. ***Please do not bring waders or wading boots with studs. They are quite slippery in the aluminum boats and tear up the floats and floors of our aircraft.***

**Sun Glasses** Good quality, polarized sun glasses are a necessity for fishing in Alaska. Glasses protect your eyes from flies and lures. They also allow you to see what the guides see. Whether it is site fishing for trout or observing a school of salmon, polarized glasses are an important tool in fishing. It is a good idea to bring a spare pair of sunglasses.

### Other Items to Bring:

- Insect repellent – We recommend pump spray or roll-on with 15% to 20% DEET. 100% DEET is not necessary.
- Sun block – Even though this is Alaska, our sun can be very intense, especially intensified by the reflections off the water.
- Lip balm with SPF 15.
- Camera and batteries (Many anglers use their Phones)

### Fishing Equipment

**Fishing Tackle** For your convenience and ease of travel, Tikchik provides all your fishing rods and reels (both spin and fly), along with the necessary tackle for each day of fishing. That includes flies, lures, leaders, tippets, and swivels, etc.

Your guides will be well-equipped and will carry everything that you will need for your day's fishing. Orvis and Sage fly rods and reels are featured. We provide 7 weight and 9 weight fly rods with both floating and sink tip fly lines. Lamiglass rods with Shimano spinning reels and Abu Garcia 6500 level wind reels are provided for King Salmon. We also provide inflatable fishing vests for your use.

**Bringing Your Own Rods** You are welcome to bring your own equipment. During a week of fishing you will catch many different species of fish ranging in size from 2 to 15 pounds, and during King Salmon runs up to 50 pounds. If you bring your own rods:

Spinning and/or bait casting rods: We recommend that you bring two rods:

- A light rod with 6 to 8 pound test line is suggested for our fresh water species.
- A medium weight rod with 12 pound test line is suggested for Salmon, other than King Salmon.

**Please do not bring one piece rods – they do not fit in the airplane.**

**Fly Fishing** The key to fully enjoying Alaska fly-fishing is to be versatile, utilizing the correct outfit along with floating and sink tip fly lines. Two rods are recommended – one medium weight rod for fresh water species and one heavier rod for Salmon.

- A light weight fly rod for our fresh water species. We suggest a 6 or 7 weight rod with one floating line and an extra spool of fast sink tip line.
- A medium weight fly rod. We suggest a 9 weight rod with one floating line and one fast sink tip line.

We provide all the flies, leaders, tippet material, strike indicators, split shot, and dry fly floatant, etc. If you would like a list of flies, please notify us and we will be glad to send you one.

Whether you have limited or no fly-fishing experience, you will find our waters to be very accommodating and productive. Our guides are very patient and can teach every aspect of fly-fishing. You can expect to catch fish on a fly on your first day of fly-fishing. A week at Tikchik Narrows Lodge can be equal to attending the finest fly-fishing schools, except that you will catch a lot more fish while learning.

*At Tikchik Narrows Lodge we don't just go fishing, we take guests to catch fish!*

We staff our Anchorage Office all year. Please use the Anchorage address for all correspondence and questions. Mail is sent out to the lodge on a regular basis. If you need to talk to someone at the lodge directly (June to September) **Phone: (866) 342 2909**

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