



Montana Fly Fishing Guides LLC is excited to be part of your upcoming fly fishing vacation. As our repeat guests will attest, your time in our part of Montana is sure to be a memorable experience – from great fishing opportunities to unparalleled scenery and the lasting camaraderie that can only be found while fishing.

Located in Craig, Montana, the Missouri River is home over 6,000 fish per mile, 3 fly shops, 2 bars and 1 restaurant, which in our mind makes it the best trout town in the world. We are happy you're joining us on this unparalleled fishing adventure.

GETTING TO THE MISSOURI RIVER

Air Travelers: Helena (HLN) is serviced by Delta, Horizon and United. Great Falls (GTF) is serviced by Allegiant, Delta, Horizon and United. Car rental services are available at both airports or one of our staff can shuttle you to your lodging location. All shuttle services are available for a fee and arrangements must be made in advance. Bozeman/Yellowstone International Airport (BZN), typically has better flight schedules, but does require and additional 2 hour scenic drive to Craig, Montana.

Driving Travelers: Missouri River is conveniently located off Interstate 15 at exit 234 in Craig, Montana. Guests staying at the Missouri River Ranch will proceed East from the off ramp approximately 2 blocks, until you see Izaak's Restaurant. Turn South (right) immediately after Izaak's, but before the railroad tracks. Travel 6/10's of a mile on the frontage road to the Ranch located on the East side of the road.

LODGING & ACCOMMODATIONS

There are few lodging options in the area including rooms, cabins, guesthouses and luxury style fishing ranches. Keep in mind that this part of Montana is an extremely popular destination for anglers from around the world so lodging availability is very limited. During the busy seasons of June, July, late September and October **we recommend you book your reservations at least 6 months or more in advance.**

Montana Fly Fishing Guides is partnered with and endorses the Missouri River Ranch, which offers full fly fishing packages that include lodging, meals and guide days. We also have a list of recommend rooms, cabins and guesthouses if you prefer - we are happy to recommend several. A good place to start is www.CraigLodging.com.

FISHING SCHEDULE

Our fishing days typically start around 7:30 a.m. and last about 8 hours in the summer months. Later starts and shorter fishing days are common in the early Spring and Fall months. We are happy to accommodate a customized fishing timeframe for you, so please let us know in advance of your trip.

We often meet our fishing clients at their place of lodging or one of the local fly shops located in downtown Craig to begin our fishing day. As our guides are highly sought after they will most likely be out on the water on the day of your arrival, but you can always contact Eric Adams with any last minute questions.

GUIDED DAYS INCLUDE

Your fishing days will include professional guide service, shuttles, box lunch, all flies and all incidental materials (tippet, leaders, floatant etc...), as well as free transportation to and from your lodging or designated meeting location. We can also provide rods & reels if you prefer. You will need to bring or rent your own wading gear. If you would like to rent gear we work closely with several fly shops that can provide gear for a reasonable cost per day. For a complete list of recommended gear please see our **WHAT TO BRING SECTION** (below).

GUIDE DAYS EXCLUDE

Our guided fishing days do not include Montana fishing license, Yellowstone Park fishing license (if needed), alcohol, personal gear such as waders, wading boots, river sandals, polarized sunglasses, rain gear, or weather appropriate clothing. We are happy to arrange or recommend how, when and where to get these items upon request. See our **WHAT TO BRING SECTION** (below) for more information or contact us directly.

FISHING LICENSES

Montana fishing licenses are not covered in your package deal or daily rate for fishing. Waiting in a fly shop the first morning of your trip is the last thing you'll want to do, so we highly recommend you purchase your fishing license **PRIOR** to your arrival. You can stop at one of several fly shops upon your arrival in Livingston or purchased online at <https://app.mt.gov/als/index/index.html>. Once online you will be given options for number of fishing days – licenses are sold in consecutive 2 day increments. ***Make sure the license is valid on your guided fishing dates.***

FOOD & ALCOHOL

We work with several fine catering companies that provide our box lunches and have a variety of options, so make sure to tell us in advance if you have preferences or dietary concerns for your guided fishing days.

Guides can not provide alcohol, but you are welcome to bring your favorite beer/cocktail with you on the boat. We enjoy a good time on the river as much as anyone, but please consider your safety and know your limits during the day. Remember we are at a higher altitude and alcohol will affect you more strongly.

GUIDE GRATUITIES

Gratuities are left entirely to the discretion of our fishing guests. However, tipping guides for their service, not necessarily how many fish you caught, is common practice. ***Keep in mind that on a tough day of fishing your guide worked much harder for you than when fishing is easy.*** Guides are generally tipped in cash either daily or on your final day of fishing (if you fish multiple days with the same guide). You may pay this directly to your guide or include it on your final payment for the trip. Typical gratuities are \$90-120/guide per fishing day (not per angler).

CELL PHONES & WIFI ACCESS

Cellular service is fair to poor in Craig and along most of the Missouri River. Verizon and AT&T work best, but most other carriers have virtually no coverage, so plan accordingly. Many of the fly shops and rental properties have a cell booster which are somewhat effective. There are also certain locations that receive better service than other and we'll be happy to point them out.

WiFi access is limited and does not support high bandwidth in most cases, but most rental properties and fly shops have access.

DEPOSIT POLICY

Prior to 30 days: a 25% deposit is required to secure a reservation. Within 30 days: a 100% deposit is required to secure a reservation. Balance is due within 30 days of the trip.

❧ CANCELLATION POLICY ❧

Prior to 30 days of arrival: the deposit is refundable less a \$75 processing fee when accompanied by written cancellation.

Within 30 days of arrival: The entirety of your balance will be retained by Montana Fly Fishing Guides, LLC. as a cancellation fee. This fee goes to cover the costs of our guides, as we are unlikely to rebook the trip on such short notice. Because of our reliance on advanced bookings and operation in good faith, we make no exceptions to our cancellation policy. If you are at all concerned with a cancellation possibility, we encourage you to purchase trip insurance.

❧ TRIP INSURANCE ❧

We strongly recommend that you purchase trip insurance. Unexpected events do arise and travel insurance is very reasonable. Insurance on a \$3000 fishing trip will cost between \$100-\$140 depending provider. There are many good travel insurance providers, but we recommend you investigate reputable companies such as AAA Insurance or Travelguard and find a plan that suites your needs.

❧ HEALTH CONCERNS & EMERGENCIES ❧

We ask that all our guests take into consideration the rural nature of the location and activities where they will find themselves. While much of Montana has access to 911 service and modern medical facilities in Helena and Great Falls, we ask that you ***please inform us of any food allergies, medical conditions or health concerns you or any of your party may have PRIOR to your fishing days.*** These conditions may include but are not limited to food allergies, reactions to bee stings, diabetes, heart conditions, history of seizures, communicable diseases or any other health issues that may limit your activity level.

Our fishing guides are all First Aid certified, carry first aid kits and most have more advanced training in CPR and Wilderness First Aid Responder courses. ***These concerns will be kept strictly confidential*** between Eric Adams and the guide, but as responsible first responders we need to be aware of existing conditions to ensure both parties health and safety.

❧ WHAT TO BRING ❧

- ♦ Montana Fishing License – see section above for details
- ♦ Rod & Reel (can be provided if you prefer) Line weights from 5 to 7 with floating fly lines
A 9 foot 6 wt is perfect for almost everything. Many of our guests find a combination of two rods is best. For example: a 5wt for dry flies & a 6wt for streamers, nymphs or windy days
- ♦ Wading Boots – ***PLEASE REMOVE ALL STUDS*** as they can damage the drift boats and rafts
- ♦ Water Shoes or Sandals - for wet wading on warmer days
- ♦ Waders - breathable waders are the only way to go
- ♦ Rain Gear - should be taken ***EVERY DAY*** as our mountain weather can change quickly
- ♦ Layers of clothing – dramatic weather changes are the norm in the mountains even in summer
- ♦ Waterproof Bag - for personal items you bring in the boat
- ♦ Sunscreen – our high altitude and low humidity allow for scorching rays
- ♦ Hat - this not only provides better vision it protects you against hooks and fly lines
- ♦ Sunglasses - quality polarized sunglasses are a must
- ♦ Cash - for guide gratuities and less expensive licenses
- ♦ Camera or Smartphone
- ♦ Waterproof case or carrier for smartphones and other valuables