



Adventures above the rest.

Wilderness Fly Fishing Pack Trip

SIX-DAY PACKAGE

\$3500 per person for individuals or groups of 3 or less

\$3300 per person for groups of 4-8 people

Custom Trips Available Upon Request

Trip prices include all meals and tent camp accommodations for mountain trip.

Trip prices do not include your incoming or your outgoing night's lodging and meals.

You will need to make reservations in Big Timber, Livingston or Bozeman for your incoming night as well as for your outgoing night. A few hotel suggestions are included in this information packet.

Fishing Licenses not included in price of excursions/trips. For license information check out [Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks](#).

Wilderness Fly Fishing Pack Trip

This trip is for the angler adventurer. Accessed only by horseback, you will ride over a 10,000-foot pass followed by a pack string straight out of the old west and descend into beautiful Bull Moose Meadow and our camp, Hellroaring.

At this point you will be on scenic overload but that will not stop your eyes from lighting up when you realize the three forks of Hellroaring Creek meet right at camp. You are now among the lucky few who get to experience the solitude and abundant fly fishing of Hellroaring.

Your location is 8 miles north of Yellowstone National Park in the heart of the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness. Not to fear, our guides will escort you every step of the way. You will find them knowledgeable, skillful and HELPFUL. Your ONLY CARE will be to catch fish, have fun and enjoy what is justifiably called "God's country."

Those who just want to ride, relax, read, backpack, bird watch, photograph or paint will prove just as satisfied as the angler.



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Hellroaring camp accommodations consist of comfortable, roomy, carpeted, wall tents with wood stoves, cots with foam pads, a hot shower, a roaring campfire and first-class meals prepared by our camp cook.

Trip Itinerary: 6 Day Trip

Day 1: Plan to arrive at ABO Headquarters in Big Timber, MT at 9:30 am on the day of departure. Make sure you have taken time to have a hearty breakfast before arriving at Headquarters. At ABO Headquarters you will meet the guides and give them your gear. Your guides will have been up early preparing for your departure to ABO's camp at Independence. There is much to do before departure; catch horses and mules, load them in trailers, load all their tack, pack the food in panniers, and load everyone's gear. When this is completed everyone will caravan by vehicle from the ABO Lodge to the trailhead which takes 1 ½ to 2 hours, then ride 1 ½ to 2 hours on horseback to Independence. We provide you with a sack lunch to enjoy along the way. The afternoon, evening and night will be spent at Independence where you can rest, fish, hike or become more familiar with your horse and the backcountry. Accommodations will be in a comfortable tent camp with meals provided by our camp cook.

Day 2: The following day after a good breakfast, you will mount up and ride 4 ½ hours to ABO's camp, Hellroaring. The scenery is magnificent on this ride. We will take a break on top of the Hellroaring Divide, a ten-thousand-foot pass for which you will want to have your cameras handy. We should arrive at camp around two o'clock which will give you plenty of time to settle into your tent, fish and explore before our evening meal and campfire.

Day 3, 4, & 5: The next three days you will spend fishing the Middle Fork, West Fork and East Fork of Hellroaring Creek and Carpenter Lake. This area is so remote, it is rarely fished by another human other than our clients. It is truly a fishing paradise.

Day 6: Upon arising, you will turn your duffels over to the mule packers and head to the eating tent for your last Hellroaring breakfast. Full and satisfied you will mount your horse with which you have shared a lot of mountain hours and follow your guide out of the mountains to Box Canyon. This ride takes about 5 ½ to 6 hours. When you arrive at Box Canyon, if all goes as planned, the wranglers will be unpacking the mules with your gear. Gear loaded and the mountains in the rearview mirror, we hope your ABO adventure provided you a retreat in the solitude and wonder of the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness.

Special note: It does not matter how proficient the wranglers, a pack string of mules and the mountains present constant challenges, so please plan to always carry any medication you need, your wallet, etc. with you on your horse.



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Wilderness Trip Dates

Summer 2022

The trip dates below are just the days you are in the mountains.

Example: Trip 1 Ride into the mountains on July 11. Ride out of the mountains on July 16.

Trip 1: July 11-16 (Monday-Saturday)

Trip 2: July 18-23 (Monday-Saturday)

Trip 3: July 25-30 (Monday-Saturday)

Trip 4: August 1-6 (Monday-Saturday)

Trip 5: August 8-13 (Monday-Saturday)

Trip 6: August 15-20 (Monday-Saturday)



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Wilderness Fly Fishing Pack Trip

Deposit, Payment and Refund Policy

A deposit of 50% of the trip is required to book your reservation.

This deposit is non-refundable.

The balance of the trip is due 30 days prior to the trip date and is nonrefundable.

Trips not fully paid by this date will be considered canceled.

We recommend Trip Cancellation Insurance. Montana Outfitters & Guides Association suggests Global Rescue travel insurance.

<http://www.montanaoutfitters.org/travelersinsurance/>

We accept Credit Cards (Visa/MasterCard only) and Checks

Make Checks Payable to: Absaroka Beartooth Outfitters, Inc.

What's Included

The rates for fishing and pack trips include:

- In the backcountry, use of horses, mules, tack, all camp accommodations, all meals, and non-alcoholic beverages
- Caravanning to the trailhead (leaving from ABO Headquarters in Big Timber) Client will be driving his or her vehicle to the trailhead, unless previous arrangements have been made.
- Experienced Wranglers & Guides

What's Not Included

The rates for fishing and pack trips do not include:

- Lodging and meals on incoming and outgoing nights.
- Transportation to Montana
- Montana fishing licenses
- Fishing equipment including rods and flies
- Sleeping bags
- Any additional transportation costs
- Gratuities for guides, cooks and wrangler



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Travel Arrangements

Wilderness Fly Fishing Pack Trip

Please check in with ABO when you arrive in Montana.

Sarah 210-722-3817 Cameron 406-579-3866

If we do not answer please leave a message where you will be staying and your cell number so we can touch base to answer any last minute questions you may have.

GUESTS DRIVING: Big Timber is located off Interstate 90 between Bozeman and Billings. Bozeman to Big Timber is 60 miles, driving time 1 hour. Billings to Big Timber is 90 miles, driving time 1½ hours.

GUESTS FLYING: Plan to fly into the **Bozeman International Airport** (BZN) the day before your trip begins. The following airlines service Bozeman:

Delta 1-800-325-1999 United 1-800-864-8331 Southwest 1-800-435-9792
Alaska 1-800-252-7522 American 1-800-433-7300

The service is usually very good into Bozeman. However, this is a college town, home to Montana State University, so make your reservations early. Keep in mind Bozeman is on Mountain Time.

If you are flying and staying in Big Timber the evening you return from the mountains, do not make your outbound flight **too early**. Remember, **you are an hour and 15 minutes from Big Timber to the Bozeman airport. Add 1 ½ to 2 hours for airport check-in and rental car return.** Plan on leaving Big Timber 3 hours before your flight time. If you need to leave early due to connecting flights we recommend you stay in Bozeman the evening you return from the mountains.

We recommend you rent a car or use the limo service listed below. Pick up and delivery to the airport is one service we cannot offer as all of our guides and staff are busy preparing a great adventure for you. **Most major rental car companies are available at the airport.** It is an easy drive from the Bozeman airport east on Interstate 90 to Big Timber. Make your rental car or limo reservations as soon as you have booked your flight to avoid car shortages. **Classic Limo** offers an excellent roundtrip service from Bozeman to Big Timber. Last year it was cheaper than renting a car. **Classic Limo - 406-585-5466**



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For your incoming and outgoing nights, we recommend the following accommodations, food and shops.

BIG TIMBER, MONTANA

The Grand Hotel (thegrand-hotel.com) (406-932-4459).

The Grand Hotel Bed and Breakfast is a charming and beautifully renovated historical hotel in downtown Big Timber. It has recently been purchased and is undergoing another renovation but is still in operation. Each room is unique. A well-stocked vintage bar is popular with the locals and serves lunch and dinner.

Note: Due to labor shortages, please check the hotels website for updates on hours and food service.

The Super 8 Motel (super8.com) (406-932-8888).

The Super 8 Motel has comfortable rooms with small refrigerators and serves a light breakfast. For a heartier breakfast, the Bakery, located on McLeod Street in downtown Big Timber opens at 6:00 AM.

BOZEMAN, MONTANA

The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Bozeman West (holidayinnexpress.com) (406-582-4995).

The **Holiday Inn Express** is a small, friendly hotel conveniently located at 2305 Catron Street. The Inn has a breakfast bar that opens at 5:30 each morning, comfortable rooms, pool and exercise facility. They provide shuttle service to the airport. Make your reservations early. The summer is a busy time for tourists while the fall is filled with college related activities.

The C'mon Inn (cmoninn.com) (406-587-3555).

The **C'mon Inn's** heavy timbered look with Montana's big game animals perched on rocks and above waterfalls has the charm and feel of a mountain lodge. Comfortable rooms, an indoor pool, several hot tubs, a breakfast bar and shuttle service to the airport leave you wanting for little. The Outback Steakhouse is conveniently located next door. The C'mon Inn is located off Interstate 90 at Exit 305 on East Valley Center Road.



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Big Timber and Bozeman are delightful old western towns.

Big Timber - Check out McLeod Street for fun and unique shops with great prices. Don't miss **Gusts Department Store** (it will take you back in time), **Cinnabar Creek** for a great espresso and gifts, and **the Bakery** for breakfast, lunch and yummy treats. Stop for a delicious sandwich and cookie at **EarthWise General Store** and browse their unique health and Made in Montana products. **Sweet Cast Angler** is a good place to pick up any extra flies or fishing supplies. **The Fort** offers any last-minute needs from sleeping bags, hunting & fishing gear, gifts, food and "spirits" to name a few. Take in the real flavor of Montana at **The Timber Bar** with its delicious "made in house" food and top it all off with a broad assortment of both local and national refreshing craft beers. For pizza and salads, check out **Iron Star Pizza Co.** and don't miss Big Timber's own microbrewery, **Circle T Taproom**.

Bozeman has great restaurants, wonderful art galleries, the Museum of the Rockies, a fabulous shop on Main Street called **Head West** and many other fun places to shop and visit. If you need libations for your mountain trip, you will not want to miss a visit to **Single Barrel Liquor & Bar**. This unique boutique liquor store with an attached cozy cocktail bar offers a great assortment of "refreshments" as well as fun gift items. It is located on the West side of Bozeman and is a local favorite. **4535 Valley Commons Drive, Suite 101, Bozeman, MT 59718** singlebarrelbozeman.com 406-577-2163



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Equipment and Clothing List

Wilderness Fly Fishing Pack Trip

Recommended personal gear for 6 day wilderness trips

Weather may vary during the summer months from very warm to very cold, so be prepared for everything. We recommend the layered system of dressing.

- wading shoes/closed toed sandals (Preferable on warm summer days)***
- neoprene socks & wet wading pants - good alternative to waders ***
- water resistant hiking/riding boots (like Danner)
- wool socks—at least 2 pairs
- cotton or regular socks
- 2 complete changes of clothes
- lightweight shorts, jeans and t-shirts
- personal toiletries (toothbrush, glasses/contacts/personal medications etc.)
- towel
- WARM SLEEPING BAG and Pillow
- warm coat (we recommend wool)
- light coat/fleece vest
- rain gear (jacket w/ hood or poncho)
- hat and gloves
- FISHING LICENSE
- fishing gear (tackle, flies, rod) 4-6 weight rod & reel + hard case. 3-4x tippet, 3x-4x leaders
- flashlight or headlamp
- sunglasses, sunscreen, insect repellent
- water bottle **w/water filtration system**

OPTIONAL OR LUXURY ITEMS

Float tubes (You must bring a life jacket to use float tubes.)

Binoculars, GPS, Range Finder, Cell phone, Camera/extra film

Spirited beverage if desired

LIMIT WEIGHT OF GEAR TO 50 LBS OR LESS IN DUFFEL BAGS AND KEEP MULTIPLE BAGS EQUAL IN WEIGHT.



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***** We ask that all footwear worn into Montana's waters has non-slip rubber bottoms, NO FELT. This is due to the potential for aquatic invasive species (non-native invasive species). Cleaning the bottom of your rubber sole sandals, waders and wading boots with 409 is an excellent way to protect against spreading non-native invasive species.**

Backcountry Fly List

STREAMERS

Olive, Brown, Black Leeches #6-12
Black, Brown, Olive Woolly Buggers #2-6

ATTRACTOR DRY'S

Hoppers #8-12 (elk hair or foam preferable with yellow to orange body)
Yellow Stimulators #8-12
Adams #14-18
Orange Humpy #14-18
Royal Wolff #14-18
Ants 10-14

NATURAL DRY'S

Elk Hair Caddis #12-14
PMD #14-16
BWO #14-16
Mayflies #14-16

NYMPHS

Hair's Ear #12-16
Pheasant Tail #12-16
Copper John #12-16
Lighting Bug #12-16
Beadhead Prince #12-16
Freshwater Shrimp #12-16

DRY FLY FLOATANT



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A Personal Letter from The Outfitter

Dear Angler and Adventurer,

We want you to really enjoy your fly-fishing pack trip adventure with us this summer. The intentions of this letter are to limit any confusion about the trip and prepare you as much as possible. Our goal is to make your fly-fishing pack trip a great experience. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to improve our service to you.

Our wilderness fly-fishing pack trips are run out of Hellroaring Camp, located 8 miles north of Yellowstone National Park. We fish some of the most beautiful streams, high country lakes and rivers that Montana has to offer. Our recommended 6-day fishing trip allows us a half day pack into Independence, a ½ day pack into Hellroaring, 3 full days to fish, and one day to pack out. The horse pack trip to camp is approximately 4 ½ hours through magnificent country. We stop for lunch on the Hellroaring Divide, a ten-thousand-foot pass from which the views are spectacular. Our string of horses and mules are dependable. Previous riding experience is helpful but not required.

Once in camp, you can relax by the creek and enjoy beautiful Bull Moose Meadow. Your sleeping accommodations are in comfortable, carpeted, wall tents with foam padded cots and wood stoves. Propane lanterns are available, but most people prefer their head lamps. There are 2 to 4 anglers per tent. A hot shower is also available. We dine in a central eating tent with delicious food prepared by our camp cook. Please let us know of any special dietary needs in advance. If you want any alcoholic spirits be sure to purchase them before leaving Bozeman or Big Timber.

Fishing each day will begin after breakfast. We ride and walk to our various fishing destinations. The creeks and lakes are inhabited by native cutthroat trout. You can spin cast or fly fish, but fly fishing is our preference. Even the novice will catch fish in these waters. The water is cold so depending on your tolerance level you may want to bring waders.

Please remember to clean all sandals, boots and waders before coming on your trip in order to help protect our waters and wildlife. A good cleaning with 409 will do the trick. Note that Montana is asking its anglers to use rubber bottom sandals, boots and waders instead of felt. This is due to the spread of invasive species that can occur with felt.



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Flies that typically work in the areas you'll be fishing include streamers, attractor dries, natural dries and nymphs. You will find a backcountry fly list with the Wilderness Fishing Equipment and Clothing List. We usually catch and release. Sometimes we pack the mules with kitchen equipment, so you can enjoy your catch for lunch.

If you do not want to fish every day there are many ways to enjoy the backcountry. You could spend your days exploring, riding or hiking to various destinations. These might include a hike atop mountains exceeding 10,000 feet in elevation, horseback rides with spectacular views, photography trips filled with abundant wildlife or meadows lush with wildflowers. Maybe you would rather read a book, journal, meditate or paint by one of the pristine streams or high-country lakes.

Our guides are well acquainted with the areas where you will be riding, hiking, fishing, and exploring. They are experienced outdoorsmen and flexible to your needs. Whatever your endeavor, our guides are there to assist you every step of the way.

The weather in July and August is usually very comfortable. Daytime temperatures range from 60 to 80 degrees. On clear nights the temperatures can range from 20-40 degrees. However, the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness weather is variable. Prepare for the changing mountain weather. Be sure to check ABO's suggested Fishing Equipment & Clothing List.

The most important thing to remember is a great attitude. Be ready to enjoy an adventurous trip and the special things the mountains have to offer. This will be one for the memory book!

Sincerely,

Cameron S. Mayo