









Hunt ID:5080-CO-G-C-1800-024-ElkMDeer-ORDB3UF-S3GB-O1MT-Great for the hunter with whitetail experience

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Hunt Colorado elk country and don't break the bank. This hunt is geared toward the hunter that has hunted elk before but wants some guidance as to where to hunt for the elk in all those mountains that Colorado offers. Our hunting area is in Units 23 and 24 in the White River National Forest, which is all covered by 1 license.

The guiding will start every morning from the cabins and end at the same place. Most cases we will drive from the cabin area but can walk out from the cabins, depending where the elk are located. Your guide will take your group and set each hunter at crossings and work the woods in the vicinity to move elk to you. In the elk world we have many, "Honey Holes" in elk country where elk like to bed and feed. Elk are like gypsies they can call anywhere home.

Their main priority is safety then follow with a much lower importance food and water. This and their annual migration make elk a moving target. Some of the honey holes are good at holding elk in the early season and others during the early seasons. Add to this that the weather is their major moving drive you would think on a certain date you can find elk at a certain location. Wrong! Deer migrate by the moon so we can use that to tie them to out hunting seasons. Elk on the other hand don't care about the moon they migrate by the weather. The only thing less dependable then elk is the weather. Sometimes we will get 70-degree weather in November and snow in September, while the next year it may be the opposite. So now you know why I have so many honey holes and why elk are a moving target.

Knowledge of which way the elk travel in the area is very important and is what makes the success rate climb. If you want to do your part to increase your personal success it is to practice with your rifle and get in physical shaper. Both will extremely increase your opportunity to take home a bull elk. If you wish you can have a bull elk, a cow elk and a buck deer license in your pocket and the hunt price does not increase.

When someone has an animal down the guide will set up the other 3 hunters for the afternoon so they can be watching a draw, or a saddle, while the guide and the successful hunter get the out of the woods. The guide has access to a 4-wheeler and horses whatever is needed. At time, there is a 3<sup>rd</sup> guide that will handle animal extraction and your guide will continue hunting with the 3 remaining hunters.

We offer a 5-day hunt with flexible schedules to begin your hunt. We are a totally limited license area and availability varies widely.

If there are only 2 hunters we will provide the same service. We provide transportation to and from your hunting spot, and even though we hunt from daybreak until dark, we generally take a few hours off during the middle of the day when the animal activity is at a minimum. We also provide packing your animal out. The general areas we hunt are east of Meeker and west of The Flattops. We also have some private land parcels in both areas. This offers our hunters a wide variety of hunting conditions; from high mountain meadows, dense timber, aspen groves to oak brush. This diversity allows us to move to different areas as the animals do.

We use 4-wheel drive vehicles to travel to the hunting areas each morning and return to cabins each night. We provide guides and assist you in getting your animals out and back to town.

We hunt from dawn to dark each day, no matter what the weather. The method of hunting will vary, depending on many factors. We can adjust the hunt to meet the physical restraints of your party. However, the better your physical condition, the more enjoyable the hunt.

The only way we provide 1 on 1 guiding is on second and 3<sup>rd</sup> season we hunt the first 5 days with groups. For the last 4 days, it is \$350 per day per person and you could be 1 on 1 or 2 on one or 3 on 1 or 4 on 1, but as the norm most hunters are pleased with the 5-day hunt and stop there. Note our hunt pricing is higher for archer and muzzleloader because we can only take 3 hunters at a time because of the extra guiding needed to make the shorter-range weapon successful.

## **Licensing**- Read Slow

In Colorado, the bull elk license is over the counter for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> season, unlimited in number for the late October and early November seasons. The 1st and 4<sup>th</sup> season requires an application be submitted in late March to draw a bull elk license in mid-October and Mid November. The cow elk licenses require an application submitted for all seasons in this area. Mule Deer licenses are a draw only and to draw require preference points gained by putting in and not drawing or by paying \$40 per year for a point, applied for during the march application process. The other way to bypass the application points process is with a landowner voucher for GMU023 and GMU024, which are few and far between. They also have a going price tag of around \$2000. Plus, you still must purchase your license. If this sounds confusing, then I know you are reading this, it is confusing. After everything above there are situations when the Colorado Parks and Wildlife has allotted more licenses than what was drawn out by the hunts March applications. In that case there are "Leftover Licenses." These leftovers are posted in Mid-July and can be purchased the first week in August.

The good news is that even though the deer licenses are never leftover, the elk license on the other hand are left over in different amounts in each season except for muzzleloader, they always draw out. So, it is very possible to get a bull, cow or both elk licenses during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August 1<sup>st</sup> come 1<sup>st</sup> serve sale. It is a first come first serve until they are sold out, so some sell out the first day and other the first week or so.

Unique to this area the Archery License requires 1 point to draw an archery license where most of the state archery license are over the counter.

Additionally, with your bull elk license the state of Colorado provides you with a Fishing license for free. You may want to spend some time fishing for the Rainbow Trout during mid-day when elk hunting gets slow or return to you cabin for a nap.

## Lodging

You will go out each morning after sleeping in a warm cabin or you can bring your own lodging, camper or motorhome and in early seasons even in tents. You are hunting around 8000 feet in altitude so a tent

can become a little drafty during the late seasons. If you want the cabin lodging it averages \$40 to \$80 per night depending on how many are in your group or cabin, which cabin you select, and availability.

We have ten rustic cabins and two modern cabins for those who want a few more amenities. Our rustic cabins are completely furnished with refrigerator, coffee pot, toaster, all pots and pans. The coal and wood stove not only cook your dinner, but provide heat for your cabin. Each cabin has a screened in porch or a deck with a picnic table and BBQ grill.

## **Pricing**

5-day Rifle Hunt with a ratio of **4** hunters to one guide for \$ 2500 discounted down to only \$1,795 per hunter.

5-day Archery or Muzzleloader Hunt with a ratio of **3** hunters to one guide for \$ 2700 discounted Down to only \$ 1,795 per hunter.

Extra days after the 5 days of the hunt is \$ 350 per day but not available for the 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Seasons because those seasons are only 5-day long seasons.

2<sup>nd</sup> or third season there are possibilities to hunt just the 4 days of the season if space allows it.

We offer lodging if needed \$ 40-\$ 80 per night depending on the size of the group you have in your cabin and which cabin you select along with availability.

## Special Note: Booked for 2017-Taking Reservation Security deposits for 2018 Now

We are a small outfitting service so we only have the outfitter and 1 guide for a maximum of a total of 8 hunters per season. Because of that we book up quickly. All hunters that hunt with us the prior year have preference over new hunters. We have an 85% return rate so what we do is have the hunters that booked with us the previous year send their deposit of 50% in before December 31. We take all the hunters that put in a \$ 200 Security deposit, Before December and work from the top of the list to the bottom of the list. We see what dates they want and if they are available. If the dates are available we get the balance of the deposit and they are booked for that fall.

You can get a license application and regulations from the <u>Colorado Parks and Wildlife</u> by calling 303-297-1192. Please note that anyone born after January 1, 1949 must have a hunter safety card in Colorado to purchase any Hunting License.

Hunt	Guide I	Ratio	Dates
Archery	3 to 1 Max	Aug 2	29 - Sep 27
Muzzle	3 to 1 Max	Sep 1	2 - Sep 20
1st Rifle	4 to 1 Max	Oct 1	0 - Oct 14
2nd Rifle	4 to 1 Max	Oct 1	7 - Oct 25

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