













Hunt ID: MT-MDeerElk-All-Choteau-ALH-Allan

Guided Late Season Ranch Trophy Mule Deer Hunt in Montana

\$ 2000 classic Mule deer hunt reduce down to only \$ 1495 per hunter. There are a limited number of seats allowed at this discounted price on this hunt. These can be close shots or long shots depending on the habitat the bucks are found in. The best suited rifles are flat shooting calibers from the 25.06 up to the 300 magnums. Elk can be hunted at the same time but this is a much better deer area than a elk area. The fall season concludes in late November with guided mule deer hunts near our ranch along the Rock Mountain Front. The last two weeks of November are the end of the big game season and the

trophy mule deer bucks are starting to rut. On these hunts we do not use the wilderness camps because the game has moved out the edge of the mountains.

The last two weeks of November are perfect for hunters who want a late season mule deer hunting experience in Montana. We hunt this time of year from our ranch along the Rocky Mountain Front. This is the winter area for many big game animals when they come out of the mountains.

Mule deer hunting from the ranch involves horseback riding and a lot of hiking, but this is not a back country camp. The weather is much colder and there will be snow on the ground. Primarily, there is mule deer hunting, but occasionally there is elk hunting in this area. Temperatures this time of the year can range between 70 and 10 degrees. The deer will react accordingly to the weather, moving, or bedding depending on what nature tells them to do.

The weather is their key, the worse weather the weather the better the hunting but in turn the better the weather the more difficult the hunting as the bucks hang-up between the high country and ranch. These are a limited spot and stalk for these migrating bucks leaving the high country coming to their winter home on the ranch.

This is a 3 day hunt but extra days can be purchased for just a reduced rate of \$ 100 per day per person to cover our costs. Deer can go down in the middle of a ranch pasture. The town of Choteau is north of Butte Montana. We will provide game retrieval but depending on the down location and the equipment and effort to retrieve it there may be an additional charge. This hunt does not include lodging and meals but a local motel in town to stay in and there are local restaurants in the area. We will provide all transportation on the ranch during the hunt be it horses or 4x4 truck.

This is primarily a spot and stalk hunt and we are very familiar with the hangout of the bucks during this time of the year.

#### Late Season Mule Deer Hunting Schedule

Dates	Length	Available slots
11/15 – 11/19	3 days	2
11/20 - 11/24	3 days	open

#### Big Game Hunting Wilderness Hunting Rates

<u>Hunt type</u>	<u>Season / Location</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Rate per person</u>
Guided rifle hunt – mule deer	General Season Ranch		3 days \$1,495
Standard Unguided Hunt 1 (drop camp)	Early Season Wilderness **note 1*		8 days \$1,995
Standard Unguided Hunt 2 (drop camp)	Early Season Wilderness **note 1*		8 days \$1,795
Guided rifle Hunts 1 and 2 – elk, deer, bear combination	Early Season Wilderness		8 days \$3,995
Guided rifle Hunts 3 and 4 – elk, deer, bear combination	Early Season Wilderness		8 days \$3,595

Guided rifle hunt – elk, deer, bear combination General Season Wilderness 7 days \$3,195 Guided  
special permit hunts for big horn sheep or moose Wilderness or Ranch as appropriate  
As requested \$750 \* duration

Note 1: Unguided hunts require a 2-person minimum in party.

### Deposits

We require a 50% deposit to confirm a hunt. We will hold reservations for up to two weeks without a deposit. Deposits are non-refundable except in the following instances:

- The hunter experiences unforeseen serious medical difficulties prior to the trip. The deposit can be credited to the following year for a hunt of equal price and duration.
- The hunter does not receive a license in the event of a drawing for licenses. If this occurs, the hunter may have the deposit applied to a hunt the following year of equal price and duration.

### Discounts

We are pleased to offer a discount of 10% to parties of six on the same trip. This discount does not apply to any extra lodging or fees for transportation to and from the airport. Discounts only apply to fully guided hunts. Guided Hunts

Our guided big game pack in hunts include the following:

- Parties up to six in hunts
- One guide for every two hunters
- Arrival night's stay at our Ranch on pack trips
- Hunting mule deer & elk with appropriate license
- Also on same trip, hunting of black bear with license
- Best meals in the mountains
- All equipment in camp at your service
- Everything furnished except personal items, licenses, and rifle
- A saddle horse for each hunter for the duration of the trip
- Camp chores attended to by the crew
- Skinning and salting of trophies
- Delivery of meat to the processor or locker, and trophies to a local taxidermist • All trips are inclusive of riding one day in and one day out of the mountains

### Black Bear Option

Fall black bear hunting can be done out of our early season back-country camps and are no extra charge if conducted with an elk or deer hunt. Bear hunting licenses can be purchased online at <https://app.mt.gov/Als/Index>

## Big Game Seasons

- Early rifle season runs from 9/15 – 10/25
- General rifle season runs from 10/26 – 11/30

## Montana Hunting Licenses

All licenses are done on a drawing basis. License applications must be received by the State by 3/15.

Licenses may be purchased online at the following website:

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/availableLicenses.html> or by mail in application. We can assist the application process to assure it's correctly filled out.

Non-Resident License Type	General Drawing	Comments
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Elk/deer combination	\$944	Includes upland game & fishing
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Elk only	\$794	Includes upland game & fishing
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Deer only	\$542	Includes upland game & fishing
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Black Bear	n/a	Must be purchased by 8/31 *see note below*
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Conservation Tag	Included in pricing above	Required for any license above
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\*\* Bear tags require that hunter must pass on-line identification tests at following website:

<http://fwp.mt.gov/education/hunter/bearID/default.html>

## Unguided Hunts

For our hunters who prefer an unguided hunt, we have two excellent alternatives carefully tailored to meet your needs. In all unguided hunts, we pack your party into and out of the mountains. We pack out any game your party harvests. The options vary by the type of service and resources we provide. We have some flexibility in providing variations to unguided hunts, so if you're interested in some customization to the standard unguided hunt let us know.

Unguided rifle hunts are available from mid-September through mid-October. We require a minimum of two hunters in a party. More details on unguided hunts can be provided upon request.

## Standard Unguided Hunt

This hunt is available for in-season rifle hunters. We will check on you towards the middle of your hunt. The camp will already be set up for you. We provide wall tents, kitchen equipment, and wood stoves in the camp. Parties are responsible for all camp chores, including retrieving game and having it in camp when the packer checks on your camp. Particularly in warm weather, it is critical that meat be taken care of properly. Typically, hunters will supply their own groceries, although this can be negotiated.

## A Final Note

A Montana big game hunt is a very special event. We know how challenging it can be for hunters to pull everyone together. Significant resources and time are required to plan a high quality big game hunt. We highly recommend going with a reputable outfitter. It causes us great pain to hear of hunters who have made tremendous efforts to organize a hunt, only to go with a sub-par outfitter and have a less than satisfactory experience. We have been providing the highest quality big game hunts since the early 1930s. We are professionals. We will put forth every effort to give you the best, most memorable hunting experience yet. Our camps are located in beautiful and spectacular country. We hope you will join us this fall for a truly remarkable hunting adventure.

We combine our experience and passion for the outdoors to provide you a memorable and exciting big game hunt or summer trip in Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness, otherwise known as "Hunting the Bob."

Our summer adventures range from exploring the peaks of the continental divide to abundant fly fishing in Montana's rivers. Our fall big game hunts provide abundant elk hunting and mule deer hunting based in remote back country tent camps.

In our hunt area you are likely to see wildlife, such as elk, deer, bears, goats, sheep, and moose on our early season trips. High elevation trips take you through alpine meadows filled with Montana's wildflowers in full bloom.

Fall big game hunts are mid-September through November. We move our hunting locations as the season progresses to provide the best access to big game herds.

Elk hunting in Montana is special, and our early season guided elk hunts are truly unique. Our early season backcountry hunting camps are located in remote areas that we permit you to rifle hunt the bull elk while they are bugling. These unique camps also permit you to hunt trophy mule deer in their bachelor herds.

Our late season backcountry hunting camp is very close to Glacier National Park and takes advantage of bull elk and mule deer buck migrations. The bull elk and mule deer form bachelor herds near this camp. The guided bull elk and mule deer hunts here are classic Montana big game hunts.

If you are fortunate to draw a big horn sheep hunting tag, we have some of the best late season sheep hunting in the country. This part of the Rocky Mountain Front is where the sheep join in their rut and also where they winter. Our sheep hunting success rates are nearly 100%.

Elk are arguably the wildest, most cunning of big game with the noted exception of the grizzly bear. Elk are big, fast, incredibly tough, and have an unmatched combination of senses of which they take full advantage. Bull elk weigh in at 700-900 pounds live weight and the hind quarters can easily top 140 pounds each. One hind quarter of an elk can outweigh many eastern white tail deer. Elk are very fast and even the bulls with broad antlers can get through thick forest with minimal effort. They can jump almost treacherous downfall, and can cross deep snow that a horse or man would find impenetrable.



These attributes make elk the most sought after big game in North America. Their trophy antler racks grace the grandest estates and any modest adobes. With every elk hunt there is a story of preparation and determination in the face of unfavorable odds. Elk capture the hunter's imagination like no other, and it is well deserved.

#### Elk Hunting in the Bob Marshall Wilderness

Montana has the second largest elk population in the US, with a majority of that population residing in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. This area is larger than the state of Delaware, and has no fences or roads traversing it. There are no permanent dwellings or settlements within its boundaries. The only way to get around the wilderness area is by foot or horseback on established trails.

Elk hunting in the Bob Marshall Wilderness is done from tent camps. In our case, we have established tent camps between 5 and 7 hour horseback ride from the nearest trailhead. This gets us into the heart of elk country, and while there may be others hunting the same areas from time to time we rarely encounter people outside of our camp.

This remote type of hunting has several advantages. It gets us far away from the usual hunting pressure associated with day access from a given trailhead. It also puts us in strategic locations with proven elk herds. In our case, the elk camps have been established and very successful since the early 1920's.

#### Montana Hunting Seasons

Montana has two rifle seasons for elk hunting. There is an early rifle season and the general (or late) rifle season.

The early rifle season starts in mid-September when the bull elk are in the rut and bugling. This early start is restricted to only a couple of districts in the state. Hunting this time of year is unique due to hunting during the rut. The level of bugling activity can be weather dependant, but our hunting strategies are tuned towards hunting the bulls while they are in the rut and ideally vigorously bugling. The bulls are activity seeking, collecting, and protecting their harems of cows, and can exhibit very aggressive behavior. In the best of conditions bulls can be called in to within 20-50 yards. This is not common, but it's these kinds of opportunities that give the greatest exhilaration in a hunt.

The general season hunt opens in late October. This opening applies to almost all hunting districts in the state where elk hunting is permitted. The general hunting season closes the Sunday after Thanksgiving day.

The general, or late, season is when the bulls have largely separated from cow herds and often are herded up in bachelor herds. They are focused on restocking fat and nutrients for the coming winter and will feed as much as they possibly can. Snow is common this time of year and allows us to do more tracking and monitoring of the migration paths.

#### Terrain

The areas we hunt are accessible by horse or foot only. It is by any sense mountainous. Our camps are in relatively close proximity to the Continental Divide. Our peaks are in the 8,000 – 9,000 foot elevation range. Our camps are in the valleys in the 6,000 foot elevation range. The steepness varies quite a bit, but we do not have as rugged or as high mountains as Colorado or Canada. Generally, the ridge tops are open and various ridges will have open meadows dotting across them. The valley floors are often the most timbered. We have had several forest fires since 2000 which have enhanced the elk habitat in the immediate vicinity.

### Day in the Hunt

We generally leave camp in the dark with sufficient time to get to an area for glassing at first light. This usually requires riding in the dark for about an hour. The horses are well accustomed to this, although the first morning can be a little unnerving in trusting the horse this much.

The country has a lot of small openings so we look very carefully into the small meadows from strategic vantage points. If the bulls are bugling this helps locate them, but if not we can often catch the elk feeding in small parks. The rest of the day is spent glassing and stalking an area. The day ends with a return to camp in dusk or dark of early evening.

### Preparation

We do our best to accommodate the physical capabilities of each hunter, but it is important to keep in mind always that a wilderness elk hunt will be physically demanding. When the weather is completely uncooperative, getting into elk can require us to get into tougher areas where elk are hanging out. My advice is to be in the best physical condition you can be in. Even if you haven't started until August 1, six weeks of walking and working out on machines will give you a lot of conditioning./

### Shooting

I know ammunition is very expensive, but I strongly recommend spending extra time on the bench making sure the rifle is going to shoot straight and you are very comfortable with your weapon. Zero your rifle at 200 yards. Most of our shots are in the 250-300 yd range, but we can have much closer shots and can be faced with a 400 yard shot. If you shoot a bolt-action rifle, practice with a .22-caliber bolt-action (to save on ammunition). Muscle memory in shooting is important, especially for quick shots where you just get that glimpse.

### Rifles

Anything from .270 (caliber) up is good. We are seeing quite a few .300 win-mags now and they are good guns. There are a lot of 30.06 out there and they are solid. 7mm rem-mag is popular as well. The key is to be confident and comfortable. Shot placement, accuracy, and confidence each count more than having a big gun.

### Clothing/Gear

You need good-quality clothing, a quiet outer layer, and layered gear that is interchangeable depending on the weather encountered. I recommend wool for the outer layer and silk or similar as the inner most layer. The in-between layers should be consummate with the expected temperatures for the day's hunt. Wicking moisture is very important for the innermost layers. You will want to have sufficient clothes so you can change in camp and dry gear out. Have good boots, well broken in, and have them to match varying conditions. We recommend waterproof boots in the early season, and insulated boots for the later part of the early season. Pack boots become necessary by the end of October. A list of recommended gear for your hunt is provided on our website.

## Horses and Mules

The best wilderness elk hunting camps are far from the nearest road or access point. In the case of the Bob Marshall Wilderness the only way to get around is by horseback or hiking. All of our camp gear, provisions, and your equipment is packed in by mule. Hunters ride the horses. Once in camp, we use the horse to take us from camp to the individual areas that we are going to hunt from that day. Additionally, we take the mules to retrieve the elk from the field. Given the size of the average elk, we find that quartering the elk and packing them on mules is far preferable to de-boning and packing them out on our backs.

## Camp

Wilderness camps typically have the necessities to efficiently hunt from. Our camp layout is to have a central mess tent, typically the largest tent in camp, for food storage, preparation and serving. We have smaller wall tents set up for hunter to store their gear and sleep in. These are heated by wood stoves, lit by propane lanterns, and comfortably hold 2 guys. The ground gets cold in the fall so we have cots and foam pads for sleeping. The guides and camp cook have a medium sized sleeping tent. There are other tents for camp equipment storage, saddles, and hay.

There is a lot of work done by lantern light in the corral area so you will find lanterns near the corrals and hitching racks where we take care of the horses and mules. More information can be found on our camp page.

Elk hunting and mule deer hunting deep in the heart of Montana's Bob Marshall Wilderness, a long horseback ride from the nearest road, is one of the most remarkable back country hunts you will ever experience.

## Wilderness Hunts: Elk Hunting and Mule Deer Hunting

The early camps permit us to provide guided big game hunts and unguided big game hunts, especially elk hunting and mule deer hunting. Both early and late season areas are inhabited by elk, mule deer, wolf, black bear, as well as a wide range of other big game and predatory species for a unique Montana hunting experience. The unique nature of the early season rifle hunt is clear from the beginning. The bull elk are full rut and bugling, and the mule deer are in bachelor herds in overlapping territory surrounding us.



You will find the bull elk hunting and mule deer hunting part of an extraordinary Montana hunting trip. The camps are quite comfortable and the horses we use are very reliable. Montana elk hunting will always challenge you physically, but you will find the overall experience is exceptional.

#### Early Season Wilderness Rifle Hunt Schedule

Dates	Length
9/14 – 9/21	8 days
9/23 – 9/30	8 days
10/2 – 10/9	8 days
10/11 – 10/18	8 days

As the Montana hunting season progresses from the relatively mild September hunts to the cooler October hunts, the elk rut tapers off. The mule deer move lower and the black bear continue to fatten up for their hibernation. Generally, snow will start falling in October but we don't experience accumulation and low temperatures until later in October.

There are options for trophy hunts for additional species including black bear, wolf, mountain lion, big horn sheep, mountain goat, and moose. These all require a special permit, and many are in highly sought after drawings. We are happy to talk with you about options for a Montana hunting trip for these other species.

We move to a different camp for our late season hunts in November. These hunts are considered a migration hunt and generally snow is on the ground. This camp is a much shorter horseback ride; however the country is equally rugged and diverse for elk hunting and mule deer hunting.

Elk hunting and mule deer hunting in the late season is the classic late season hunt with snow, colder weather and the bulls and bucks in bachelor herds. You will do a lot of spotting, tracking, and other late season techniques this time of year.

#### Late Season Wilderness Rifle Hunt Schedule

Dates	Length	Available Slots
10/31 – 11/6	7 days	
11/6 – 11/12	7 days	

**Mike Lollar - Owner**

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**We accept**



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