

# KULIK

## LODGE



# 2020 TRIP PLANNER

PHOTO: ARIAN STEVENS

## Contents

Contents.....	2
Travel.....	3
Our Location:.....	3
Getting to the Lodge:.....	3
Staying in Anchorage:.....	4
Accommodations and Amenities.....	4
The Lodge:.....	4
Guest Cabins and Facilities:.....	4
Hot Tub and Sauna:.....	5
Gift Shop:.....	5
Communications:.....	5
Fishing Program.....	5
Daily Schedule:.....	5
Guided Fly Outs:.....	6
“Unguided” Bear Viewing Fly Outs to Brooks Falls:.....	6
Remote Safety Systems:.....	7
Fishing Licenses:.....	7
Taking Fish Home:.....	7
Gratuities:.....	8
Packing Information.....	8
What to Bring:.....	9
What Not to Bring:.....	9
Loaner Gear:.....	9
Tackle Recommendations:.....	10
Contact Information and Directions.....	11



## Travel

### Our Location:

Kulik Lodge is located within a remote area of Katmai National Park, nestled between the eastern shore of Nonvianuk Lake and the mouth of the Kulik River.

Just a short flight away from numerous legendary rivers, creeks, and lakes, Kulik is centrally located between some of the finest fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities throughout Bristol Bay.

The Bristol Bay region of Southwest Alaska is a 40 million acre piece of land sandwiched between the Bearing Sea and the Gulf of Alaska. Home to a vast network of pristine rivers and lakes, expansive wetlands and tundra ecosystems, and dense alder and spruce forests, the Bristol Bay watershed harbors nearly 30 native fish species, almost 200 species of birds, and over 40 land-based mammals.

Most well-known for its exceptional runs of Pacific salmon, Bristol Bay supports the largest run of sockeye salmon (aka red salmon) in the world, along with prolific runs of King Salmon (aka chinook), chum salmon (aka dog salmon), pink salmon (aka humpy), and silver salmon (aka coho).

Thanks largely to the forage provided by its unparalleled runs of wild salmon, Bristol Bay also houses one of the world's most productive populations of trophy native rainbow trout, along with healthy populations of numerous other game fish including lake trout, arctic char, dolly varden, grayling, and Northern Pike.

We look forward to sharing this spectacular piece of Alaska with you.

### Getting to the Lodge:

Your trip to Kulik begins when you board our pressurized PC-12 aircraft (operated by our own Katmai Air flight service) in Anchorage. All flights depart from our Katmai Air office located on the south side of the Anchorage International Airport. Please note, our office location has changed for the 2020 season (address and directions on page 11).

Your check-in time for your flight is **one hour** prior to your departure time (this time is noted in your itinerary).

Each guest may bring up to 50 lbs. of baggage (including carry-ons). Any additional baggage will be flown to the lodge on a space available basis only (delivery not guaranteed). For those traveling with excess baggage, storage is available at our office in Anchorage.

The duration of your flight from Anchorage to our airstrip at Kulik Lodge is approximately one hour. Please note that there is **no restroom** on board, so you may want to rethink that extra cup of coffee!

# KULIK

## LODGE

Upon arrival at Kulik, members of our lodge staff will take you to the main lodge building where you will receive your Alaska fishing license and a brief orientation.

Following your orientation, you will be shown to your cabin where one of our guides will stop by to outfit you with waders and/or fishing gear if needed, and answer any other questions about the fishing program you might have.

### **Staying in Anchorage:**

Due to the travel required to reach Alaska, most trips to Kulik require overnights in Anchorage before and/or after your stay. In case of any flight/weather delays, we strongly suggest that you plan to stay overnight in Anchorage before flying home or onto your next destination.

## Accommodations and Amenities

### **The Lodge:**

The historic main lodge building, built of native spruce, boasts a large stone fireplace and bar where our guests enjoy complimentary beer, wine, or cocktails, reflect on the day's adventures, and/or tie flies in preparation for the days to come.

The bar is open at 3:00 PM and a bartender will be on duty until 11:00 PM to serve you. Please be aware that the minimum drinking age in Alaska is 21 years of age.

Also located in the main lodge building is the dining area where guests and staff alike gather to dine "family style" on hearty meals prepared by our friendly and talented kitchen staff.

### **Guest Cabins and Facilities:**

All of our guests are housed in comfortable cabins during their stay, each of which include electricity, shower, and private toilet facilities. Towels and bedding are also provided.

Our guest cabins feature several different layouts, consisting of both shared and separate bedrooms. Our two-bedroom cabins (Cabins 1, 2, and 3) are only guaranteed for parties of three or four guests. If you are a party of two and wish to *guarantee* a two-bedroom cabin, please inquire about availability and additional costs.

# KULIK

LODGE

## Hot Tub and Sauna:

Also on-site at the lodge is our sauna and outdoor hot tub where guests routinely rejoice about their day on the water while taking in the spectacular view across Nonvianuk Lake. Those interested in taking advantage of the hot tub or sauna during their stay should pack a swimsuit.

## Gift Shop:

No visit to Kulik Lodge would be complete without a visit to our gift shop. Merchandise including a selection of fishing supplies, souvenirs, Kulik Lodge logo-wear, as well as commonly forgotten personal items can be found in the lodge gift shop located next to the office cabin. Items for sale are also available in the office cabin itself as well.

Gift shop purchases can be made with either cash or credit card.

## Communications:

Getting away doesn't mean you can't be connected. Despite our remote location, Wi-Fi is available in the main lodge building. Please note that streaming services are limited (Facetime, Skype, etc.) but bandwidth is generally dependable enough to stay connected via email, social media, iMessage, etc.

Should you require the use of a telephone during your stay, lodge phones are also available.

## Fishing Program

### Daily Schedule:

If requested, your fishing day starts with a hot cup of coffee and a knock on your door from your guide approximately 1 ½ hours before your scheduled departure for the day.

For the majority of our season, hot breakfast (served to order) is available from 5:30 AM to 7:00 AM. After 7:00 AM, the grill is shut down, but there will still be a large selection of fruit, yogurt, cereal, juice, and other continental options to choose from.

During the month of September (when days become shorter), breakfast will be served one hour prior to our earliest departure.

Your departure time for the morning will be dependent on where you will be fishing and/or flying to that day. Your guide will discuss this with you the evening before at dinner.

# KULIK

## LODGE

For those fishing the Kulik River, a buffet-style lunch will be available at the lodge at 12:00 PM each day. If flying out to another fishery for the day, your guide will take your lunch order the evening before and pack the lunch for you the following day.

You will return to the lodge at approximately 5 PM each evening in time for a hot shower, a steam in the sauna, or a dip in the hot tub.

At 6:00 PM, hors d'oeuvres are available in the bar area of the main lodge building. During this time, our head guide will meet with you and your party to discuss fishing options for the following day.

Dinner is served family-style in the dining area of the main lodge building at 7:00 PM. Your guide for the following day will introduce themselves, discuss departure times, and answer any questions you might have for the day to come.

### **Guided Fly Outs:**

We consider ourselves extremely fortunate to be located in what we feel is the most central location to access Bristol Bay's most prolific creeks and streams. Thus, we highly recommend booking some guided fly outs during your stay.

Starting in 2020, we're recommending all guests book/pay for fly outs while on-site at the lodge (as opposed to prior to their trip). We feel that this provides the highest level of service for our guests by ensuring that fly outs are only purchased when fishing conditions and/or weather is optimal.

Guided fly outs are now available at a flat rate of \$450 per person per day (two person minimum). However, please note that fly outs booked prior to your trip are not subject to refund or credit.

Fly outs booked while at the lodge can be paid for on your final day via cash, check, or credit card (Visa, Mastercard, and Discover accepted).

### **“Unguided” Bear Viewing Fly Outs to Brooks Falls:**

For those interested in bear viewing during their stay, we offer free “unguided” bear viewing flights to the legendary Brooks Falls for all Kulik guests **during the month of July**. Unlike our guided fishing fly outs, these flights will not be accompanied by a Kulik fishing guide. However, members of our sister lodge, Brooks Lodge, will greet you upon your arrival and usher you to “bear school” where you will receive a brief orientation by the National Park Service. During your time at Brooks, members of both Brooks Lodge and the National Park Service will be available to answer any questions you might have.

# KULIK

## LODGE

Guided fishing fly outs to Brooks can also be arranged during the months of June, August, and September as well, but are subject to our regular “guided” fly out rate of \$450 per person per day (two person minimum).

### Remote Safety Systems:

While we operate in remote locations with limited connectivity, we take the safety of our staff and guests extremely seriously. All of our guides are equipped with state of the art Garmin inReach 2-way satellite communicators that allow them to communicate with the lodge and other guides via text message through the Iridium satellite network (i.e. no cell service needed). In the event of an emergency, these devices also feature an interactive SOS button that once triggered sends a message to GEOS, a professional global monitoring and response center that is able to notify emergency responders in your area.

All of our float planes used for our guided fly outs also utilize a service known as spidertracks, an aircraft tracking and communications service that allows our lodge staff to monitor where our fleet is at all times.

### Fishing Licenses:

Alaska fishing licenses (for the duration of your trip to Kulik) are included in your package. Licenses will be purchased upon your arrival to the lodge and **must remain on your person** at all times while on the water.

To expedite the process of purchasing fishing licenses at the lodge, please have a photo ID (such as a driver’s license or passport) on your person upon arrival.

### Taking Fish Home:

With cold winter temperatures and a short growing season, Alaska’s resident fish mature slowly. Therefore, we maintain a strict catch and release policy for all resident freshwater species (rainbow trout, lake trout, char, pike, etc.).

However, we consider ourselves extremely fortunate to operate in an area with sustainable numbers of wild salmon which affords our guests the opportunity to harvest salmon to bring home.

If you are interested in bringing salmon, be sure to mention this with our head guide and/or lodge manager when discussing fishing options for the week. Daily limits, sizes, and species availability is dependent on a number of factors.

# KULIK

## LODGE

All salmon kept by our guests are filleted, vacuum packed, frozen, and stored in a wax-coated fish box for you to travel home with as a checked bag (normal baggage fees apply). For those with layovers in Anchorage, freezer space is available for a small fee at the Anchorage International Airport.

### Gratuities:

Many of our guests inquire about tip and gratuity policies at Kulik Lodge. We encourage you to tip to the level of service you feel is appropriate.

At Kulik Lodge, we operate a shared “camp tip” structure which is divided equally among all employees regularly engaged in customer service positions at the lodge (excluding management), as well as accept personal tips should you deem a particular employee deserving of it. For your convenience, below are some suggestions if you would like to tip employees. Again, we encourage you to tip to the level of service you feel is provided.

- **Camp Tips:** Tips that you would like distributed evenly among the service based staff at Kulik Lodge (fishing guides, lodge pilots, servers, baggage handlers, and passenger drivers). These can be arranged upon check-out time and paid for with cash or credit card (Visa, Mastercard, and Discover accepted). On average, camp tips range from \$100 - \$150 per night.
- **Personal Tips:** Tips given to an individual that you feel went above and beyond to make your stay more memorable. If you would like to give someone a personal tip, feel free to tip him or her directly (cash is preferable). They will undoubtedly appreciate the gesture.

If you have any questions regarding gratuities, please don't hesitate to ask a member of our management staff. We would like to make your stay as comfortable as possible and are happy to answer any questions you might have.

## Packing Information

Comfortable, medium weight sport clothes are the norm. While fishing or hiking we recommend that you dress in layers to regulate your body temperature with the whims of the weather. Expect temperatures in July and August to average 55-60 degrees Fahrenheit with fluctuations varying from 40-75 degrees Fahrenheit. June, September, and October can be much cooler and wind chill can drop temperatures as much as 30 degrees. Extra warm clothes are recommended for these months.

The baggage weight allowance for each guest staying at Kulik is 50 lbs. per person. Your clothing and gear should fit into no more than two small, soft-sided bags and a rod case. Any excess baggage may have to be flown in at a later time, on a space available basis. However, storage is available at the office in Anchorage for items not required at the lodge.



## What to Bring:

High quality rain gear, a warm sweater or jacket, long-sleeved shirts, warm socks, fleece pants, and polypropylene or merino wool underwear (for use under your waders) is highly recommended. Cool morning boat rides and wet fishing days require warm hats and fingerless gloves.

Dry storage is also limited on our boats, so we recommend use of a waterproof 'dry bag' to store extra layers, camera equipment, and other items that you don't want getting wet while on the water. Waterproof roll top backpacks are available for guest use at the lodge.

We also recommend comfortable walking shoes or boots for wearing around the camp (a waterproof pair is ideal). You may also want a swimsuit for our hot tub and sauna.

Guests should also bring their toiletries (soap and shampoo is provided) and other personal items. However, bedding and towels are supplied at the lodge.

## What Not to Bring:

Please do not bring sleeping bags, towels, nylon landing nets, gaffs, creels, firearms, or bear mace. If you are traveling with bear mace, be sure to inform your pilot as it is not allowed on the plane for safety reasons. **We do not recommend bringing bear mace.**

## Loaner Gear:

Don't want to pack your own fishing gear? No problem! We're able to outfit all of our guests with the rods, reels, fly lines, flies, and terminal tackle (leader, tippet, split shot, etc.) needed during your time on the water.

We also offer Simms, Redington, and Cabelas brand waders and boots for our guests to use during their stay (children's sizes up to adult XXL waders and wading boots up to size 16 are available). You can save some weight and bulk when packing by using our waders.

Some folks prefer their own waders and boots, however please note that **felt soled** boots are no longer allowed in Alaska. Boots with **metal cleats** are also not allowed at our lodges. A common compromise from our guests is to bring their own waders but use a pair of our wading boots during their stay.

## Tackle Recommendations:

For guests that would prefer to fish their own gear (heck, we know that's part of the fun), we'd recommend the following:

- **Fly Rods.** At minimum, we recommend a 7-weight single-hand fly rod for most fishing situations. This will handle the majority of situations when fishing for rainbow trout, lake trout, Arctic char, dolly varden, grayling, pike, and more. For those hoping to target silver (coho), sockeye (red), or chum (dog) salmon during their trip, an additional 8 or 9 weight rod is worth considering. For those interested in swinging flies for trout (i.e. spey fishing), small spey and/or switch rods in sizes 5 – 7 weights are a great option.
- **Fly Reels.** Fly reels do not need to be the most expensive or elaborate, but we do recommend those with a reliable drag system and enough capacity for at least 100 yards of backing.
- **Fly Lines.** We recommend bringing both a floating and a fast sink-tip fly line.
- **Leader and Tippet.** We typically use 8 – 12 lb. test tippet material for most applications with heavier tippet material (15 – 20 lb.) used when targeting salmon. A common exception is when dry fly fishing, in which case we often use a 7 1/2 to 9 ft. 3x – 4x tapered leader. A selection of 4 through 15 lb. test tippet material should cover the majority of situations.
- **Flies.** Fly selection generally depends on timing. A well-stocked fly box consists of a selection of streamers (sculpins, leeches, fry, and other baitfish patterns), traditional dry flies (elk hair caddis, adams, etc.), mouse flies, flesh flies, and salmon egg imitations (i.e. trout beads) in various sizes and colors.

For more information on gear and/or fly patterns, please feel free to contact our office for recommendations.

## Contact Information and Directions

Please note our Anchorage office location has changed for the 2020 season. Directions to our new location (see 'Katmai Air Office') can be found below.

### **Anchorage Office and Reservations:**

**Toll Free:** 800-544-0551

**Local:** +1 907-243-5448

### **Katmai Air Office:**

Katmai Air  
6400 South Airpark Place  
Unit 6  
Anchorage, AK

### **Directions from Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport (ANC):**

- Head east on International Airport Rd. toward Jewel Lake Rd.
- Turn right onto Jewel Lake Rd. (1.3 miles).
- Turn right onto Raspberry Rd. (1.0 miles).
- Turn right onto S Airpark Pl. (371 feet).
- Turn left to stay on S Airpark Pl. (0.3 miles).
- Arrive at Katmai Air, 6400 S Airpark Place.

**Katmai Air**  
**6400 South Airpark Place**  
**Unit 6**  
**Anchorage, AK, 99502**

