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Alpine Hunting New Zealand

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Trip & Travel Notes

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Many of our clients enquire about gratuities for staff....this works the same as in the USA, and gratuities are appropriate and greatly appreciated by lodge staff and your guide.

CHECKLIST FOR YOUR HUNTING TRIP

- ❑ **Completed Firearms Permit for New Zealand Police**
 If your baggage is missing upon arrival at Auckland Airport it is **CRITICAL** that you still take the permit and clear your firearms with the police so that your firearms may be forwarded on to Alpine Hunting. To reduce processing time at Auckland Airport please FAX completed out form one week IN ADVANCE to NZ police. Fax number: **011 64 9 256 0486**. If you have any problems just forward the form to us and we can fax it for you. Bring the original copy with you to New Zealand. For a list of approved firearms & further info; www.police.govt.nz
- ❑ **Passport, Itinerary and Airline tickets**
- ❑ **Alpine Hunting contact numbers:**
 From US 1 888 891 0526
 Within New Zealand: 06 388 1344 or 0800 891 1344
- ❑ **Minimum \$60 New Zealand currency**
 \$25 NZ dollars firearms permit. \$30 NZ dollars departure tax. US dollars may be exchanged at your bank/ or on arrival at Auckland International Airport.
- ❑ **Name and full address details of your US Taxidermist and your US Customs Broker**
- ❑ **Cash, travelers checks or personal check**
 for hunt balance (no credit cards)
- ❑ **Visa or Mastercard**
 for costs and preparation of trophies and shipping
- ❑ **Driver's license**
 if hiring a car within New Zealand
- ❑ **Hunting boots**
 must be **CLEAN** to enter New Zealand due to strict agricultural laws. Remove any dirt thoroughly before traveling/packing.

It is also advised to obtain form 4457 from US Customs before you depart the US to ensure a problem free re-entry to the US with any firearms and other valuable items. This can be done at your US point of departure or else obtained from: www.customs.ustreas.gov

SUGGESTED CLOTHING LIST

- 1 pair sturdy walking boots, preferably with heels
- 1 warm windproof jacket
- 1 shower proof jacket
- 1 sweater
- 2 hunting shirts
- 2 pair hunting pants
- 1 hat
- 1 pair gloves
- 3 pair hunting socks
- May/June/July please also include thermal underwear
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Casual clothes for evenings in lodge
- Sunglasses
- Hairdryers and curling irons are provided (for the ladies of course!)
- Face paint if you are a bow-hunter
- Video camera if you wish to have hunt footage (guides are willing to film on your camera, however guides own videos will not be copied and provided to hunters)
- Bathing suits for the jacuzzi

Please remember that excess baggage can be expensive and is difficult to travel with so don't over pack! The internal allowance within New Zealand if you are traveling around after your hunt is just 44lbs and our airlines are strict with excess baggage charges. We have a full laundry service available daily at our lodge, so you will not need different clothes for every day.

Alpine Hunting has top quality New Zealand made hunting jackets, pants and shirts available for sale at the lodge!

TRANSPORTATION OF TROPHIES FROM NEW ZEALAND

When your trophies are transported from NZ, **US legislation** requires all animal skins and heads to be sent **directly** to a designated Fish and Wildlife port for clearance through customs before they can be forwarded to your nominated taxidermist.

Alpine Hunting's appointed agent, "Go Do" will arrange for your trophy shipment to be sent to the designated Fish and Wildlife port nearest to you/your taxidermist. As soon as your trophies arrive in the US responsibility is transferred to yourself or your nominated agent/s. When you come to hunt with us, it would be helpful if you can supply the CONTACT PHONE NUMBER OF ANY TAXIDERMIST, FUR DRESSING COMPANY OR CUSTOMS AGENT that you prefer to use.

If you live within reach of your closest port, you will save considerable expense through clearing your trophies at Customs yourself. Any charges incurred in the clearance, handling and subsequent delivery within the USA is the hunter's care and in addition to airfreight costs

Designated Fish and Wildlife Ports:

LAX	Los Angeles	
SFO	San Francisco	
PDX	Portland	
ANC	Anchorage	
DFW	Dallas Fort Worth	Houston
ATL	Atlanta	Memphis
ORD	Chicago	Louiseville Kentucky
JFK	New York	

Denver requires 'Designated Port Exception Permits' plus a fee of approximately NZ \$100 (US\$70). **Seattle, Miami, Baltimore, Boston** and **New Orleans** are US Fish and Wildlife ports but require on forwarding by truck at approximately NZ \$100 (US \$70).

After your hunt, you will fill out the necessary paperwork with an Alpine Hunting team member, who will forward your details to the shipping agent. When your crate is ready to be shipped, the agent (Geoff Olsen) will contact you/your nominated party with shipping details and cost options.

AIRPORT TRAVEL AND ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

Today, speak to any seasoned traveler and you will know that airplane travel is the most difficult and sometimes trying aspect of any journey. Customer service appears to be an unknown term in the airline's dictionary. And furthermore, it is slightly more complicated when flying with a checked firearm. But only in the sense that it is very difficult to obtain accurate and reliable information on checking firearms. However, if you are knowledgeable of the general requirements, you should have no problem with the process. We take the time here to offer you some basic incite to making the journey to New Zealand from home.

1. Make sure the airline reservation has a note on your reservation that you will be checking a firearm(s) and ammunition, at time of booking or 2 weeks in advance.
2. Try to obtain the airline's (each airline used on your travel) firearm baggage check requirement - they normally state simply that the firearm is to be unloaded and checked in an airline suitable or approved case, with ammunition checked separately. Keep a copy with your travel documents and reference it if the agent is not sure of their own policy. Be 'helpful' if you can.
3. If the rifle is a bolt action, remove the bolt, and place it in the firearm case – an old sock works well, but do not put it in any other check-in bag.
4. Your ammunition should be limited to 40-60 rounds. The FAA limit is actually 5 kgs, about 10+ lbs. Pack your ammo in the factory boxes, or use ONLY packaging designed specifically for ammo, and keep all in a container of some type so if they ask to see it, and weigh it, it is easy for you to find in your luggage. I use a soft 6 pack cooler case which is perfect in shape and size. Also, do not put the ammo in with the rifle case. (FAA and TSA actually state that this is not a requirement, but the airline typically does)
5. All misc firearm parts - magazines, slings, scopes, cleaning kits, ANYTHING that looks like a part or used on a firearm, place in your checked rifle case as well. Also knives and other weapon type things (I had camo duct tape cause an issue in Canada!) If in doubt, check it.
6. Arrive 3 hrs minimum before departure... go to the check-in desk, and advise the agent immediately that you have a firearm(s) and ammo to check, and you may even state that it should be noted on your reservation record.
7. They will ask you to sign a card which states the firearm is unloaded, and then you will place it in the case. They do not ask to see or handle the firearm. Do not forget to lock the case!
8. After you have checked in and received your boarding passes, tell the agent you will stay near the desk, and in 15 mins or so, ask the agent if

- the firearm went through TSA screening ok. (On one occasion, they called me in the airport and I had to exit security and they brought the case back to me to be opened and re-screened)
9. When you are confident it is cleared, proceed through security and your gate as normal.

Arrival in Auckland

Your firearm should be checked all the way through your itinerary; however, you will need to obtain your NZ Firearms permit and clear NZ customs in Auckland, before checking in for your domestic flight from Auckland to Palmerston North. So here is this routine.

1. Enter passport control on arrival - they will typically ask you why you are there and for how long. Simple and truthful answers are the only way to go.
2. Proceed to baggage claim and on the arrival carousel, pick-up your checked bag (not firearm case). Use a cart – it's free.
3. Proceed to the Police desk, directly opposite the carousel, where your firearm case will be brought from the plane (it should not be on the carousel)
4. Present your Firearm Application form to the officer - the one you have faxed in as per our instructions. They will recover your file and then ask you to open the case to verify the Serial No., stamp your permit, and collect their NZ\$25 fee.
5. With permit now cleared and in hand, proceed to NZ Customs, provide them with your customs arrival form and your cleared NZ Firearms permit.
6. Once you have cleared customs, you will exit International arrivals and you then need to proceed to the NZ Domestic Terminal

The Domestic Terminal is about a 15 min walking or transfer ride from the International Terminal. I suggest that you walk to the domestic terminal. You simply follow the blue painted line on walkway and it will take you to the Domestic Terminal. If the weather is crummy, you can also take a bus. Just ask.

At the Domestic Check-in for your flight from Auckland to Palmerston North, you will recheck your bags onto your flight and obtain your boarding pass as well. This should be a simple process, as you have already arrived in NZ and now just traveling onwards. Then get a coffee or a light bite and relax. The hard part is over.

US RETURN WITH A FIREARM

Just as importantly, is your USA Customs clearance of your firearm on your return trip home. It is essential that you obtain the **USA Customs Form – 4457** for the firearm(s) you bring into New Zealand. This form must be completed and signed/stamped by a US Customs Officer before your departure from the United States. Customs is interested on where you purchased the firearm for tax purposes. On the Form 4457, list not only the firearm details – make, model, caliber and serial number, but also the scope details – make, model, and serial number.

You can obtain more information regarding USA Customs regulations on firearms using the following website link:

http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/travel/clearing_goods/certificate_of_registration.xml

A list of all the USA Ports of Entry, by State, can be found on the following:

<http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contacts/ports/>

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Depending on your final arrival/departure destinations, likely Auckland or Palmerston North, you will need accommodation after or before your flights. Detailed below are some suggestions in both cities. Below are the hotels we recommend our clients use during their trip -

Palmerston North Hotels

We recommend the **Travelodge Hotel** (Tel. no. 011-64-6-355 5895) in Palmerston North. You can book your stay on-line at: www.travelodge.com.au/locations/ . (Be advised that the best rates for the hotel are via the internet, so if you are not able to do so, ask your travel agent to make the booking for you accordingly) Situated in the town centre, this hotel is just a few minutes walk from lively cafes, shops, theatres, art galleries, and the museum. Expect to pay from NZ\$150 per night, depending on the season. Another option is the **Hotel Coachman** (Tel. no. 011-64-6-356 5065) also available online, see www.coachman.co.nz . This hotel is also very central and has two restaurants and 2 bars.

The taxi cab ride from the airport to the central Palmerston North is approx. 10 minutes. If however, you are arriving in Palmerston North the day before your pickup, we will collect you from your Hotel.

Auckland Hotels

If you decide on your arrival into New Zealand to overnight in Auckland, here are some hotels we recommend.

Rydges Auckland (Tel. no. 0011-64-9-375 5900) All rooms enjoy views of the inner city, while some enjoy sweeping views of the Auckland Harbour Bridge. Website www.rydges.com/hotel/0/RZAUCK/Rydges-Auckland.htm **The City Central Hotel** (Tel. no. 0011-64-9-307 3388) is also located in the heart of Auckland Central City, within walking distance of the Sky Tower, the tallest building in the Southern Hemisphere! www.citycentralhotel.co.nz

If you have booked a pre-hunt tour with Alpine Hunting, you will be picked up by one of the team at the Auckland International Airport when you arrive. All we need is your flight number and we will take care of the rest!

AIRLINE TRAVEL, HOTEL AND TRIP PLANNING

We recommend that you start making your hotel and airline flight reservations **7-9 months in advance**, as the most economic travel and accommodation can be hard to book at specific times during the season, if left at short notice. However, you may want to wait until at least October/November, in an attempt to book around the high USA travel/booking season.

When you contact the travel agent, you must keep in mind, that when traveling to New Zealand, you will 'lose' a day getting there. For example, if you depart the USA on the 10th, you will arrive in New Zealand on the 12th. And in regard to your return trip - if you depart New Zealand on the 20th, you will arrive back in the USA on the 20th. Furthermore, we recommend that you arrive in Auckland at least one (1) day before the start date of your hunt. This allows you to relax from your journey and adjust to the climate and time changes, and also not rush into your hunting.

APPROXIMATE AIRFREIGHT COSTS TO US

Due to new Fish and Wildlife regulations, multiple shipments are only allowed from family members, all other hunters' trophies must be crated and shipped individually.

TROPHIES	LAX/SFO/PDX/ANC	DFW/ORD/ATL/JFK	CRATE SIZE
1 Hunter with Red Stag plus other trophies	NZ\$425.00	NZ\$580.00	980x105x420=.43m3 or 72 kgs
2 Hunters with 2 Red Stags, 2 Sika, 2 Rams, 2 Goats	NZ\$660.00	NZ\$850.00	1020x1200x630=.77m3 or 129 kgs
Mounted Red Stag Removable Antlers	NZ\$450.00	NZ\$550.00	69x68x96=.45m3 or 75 kgs

All prices quoted in New Zealand Dollars and indicative only – subject to fluctuation with airline fuel surcharges. All prices are based on volume weight (167 kgs per cubic meter). Prices include cartage from Alpine Hunting to Auckland Airport, Documentation, Fuel Surcharges, security fees and handling.

LAX- Los Angeles SFO – San Francisco
PDX – Portland ANC – Anchorage
DFW Dallas Fort Worth ATL – Atlanta
ORD – Chicago JFK – New York

EXPEDITING CHARGES (SALTING AND DRYING OF YOUR TROPHIES)

SHOULDER MOUNT: NZ\$120
Life-size: NZ\$240
CITIES PERMIT: NZ\$80 Big/Small Game
NZ\$140 including birds

NOTE: shipping and expediting charges are payable directly, Via Visa/Mastercard