



Pre-Trip Information

Flight Information:

Delta, Northwest, and United all fly into Gallatin Field Airport located in Bozeman, Montana. Check with your travel agent or the airlines for schedules.

Fishing Schedule:

If you have not had the opportunity to visit Yellowstone Valley Ranch (YVR) you might be wondering what to expect. Guests typically arrive on a Saturday and leave on a Friday. Here is a sample of a typical day/week of fishing at Yellowstone Valley Ranch.

We have the advantage of being one of the only fly fishing lodges in the area to be located on the Yellowstone River and only 35 miles from Yellowstone National Park. This allows us to cater to both the serious and the more laid-back fisherman. Flexibility and variety is the key to our fishing schedule. Every evening our Director of Fishing Operations, Eric Adams, or your guide will talk with our guests and go over our plans for the next day. With hundreds of miles of both public and private water in our region, you have an amazing number of fisheries to choose from nearly everyday. We will do our best to accommodate any requests or preferences and will recommend the water that is fishing best at the time. The list of rivers we fish include:

- Yellowstone River – 120 miles of blue ribbon trout water
- Yellowstone National Park
 - Slough Creek
 - Soda Butte Creek
 - Lamar River
 - Gardiner River
 - Firehole River
 - Madison River
- Spring Creeks – located within 10 to 25 minute drive of YVR
 - Armstrong's
 - DePuy's
 - Milesnick's
 - Neslon's
- Madison River
- East Gallatin
- Boulder River
- Stillwater River
- Burn's Lake
- Story Lake
- Several other smaller tributaries that we don't advertise in order to keep the angling pressure low and the fishing quality high.

Each day begins at 7:00 a.m. with a hearty breakfast (if you are an early riser coffee is ready by 6:15 a.m.). Our guides will assemble outside of the fly shop at 8am as they prepare their gear for the day's fishing. The guides will pack a picnic lunch, and all the terminal gear needed for your outing. Our daily fishing schedule departure times are flexible to maximize your fishing success. Pickup time will vary depending on your desired plans for the day. Remember that at the end of the day, if you have not gotten enough fishing, you can always fish in front of the lodge until dinner.

Each river that we fish is different. All of our guide staff have high quality drift boats and access to rafts. We drift fish from the boat or wade fish depending on your preference and the river we are fishing. If you are wade fishing on a small stream or spring creek your guide will carry lunch in a backpack and you can wade fish the creek for the day.

Beer, wine and Hor's de Oeuvres and are typically served between 5:30 and 6:30 pm. Our guests enjoy al fresco dining whenever the weather permits. Dinner time will be between 7 and 8 pm and all the anglers will return to the lodge one hour prior to dinner, so you'll have time to shower, relax and enjoy the cocktail hour. Our Chef Josh Pastrama is a trained professional and has received numerous accolades from both guests and many local connoisseurs'. If you have specific dietary concerns please relay them to our staff prior to your arrival.

Depending on the length of your stay we can fish a different piece of water or return to streams that you preferred. If you have specific fishing requests please inform us at the time of booking so we can accommodate those needs.

Fishing equipment and clothing:

Yellowstone Valley Ranch has teamed up with Sweetwater Fly Shop to give you our top gear recommendations for fishing Montana. If you have specific questions regarding equipment please contact Eric Adams, Director of Fishing Operations at Yellowstone Valley Ranch or any of the helpful staff at Sweetwater Fly Shop.

- **Rod & Reel** (Line weights from 4 to 7 with floating fly lines, a 9 foot 6 wt is perfect for everything, but if you have a combination of two rods to fish with; like a 5 wt for spring creeks and a 6wt for big rivers and windy days it is even better)
 - Scott G2 9' 5wt, 6wt – all around dries, nymphs, & spring creeks
 - Sage Z-axis 9' 5wt, 6wt – all around dries, nymphs, & spring creeks
 - Sage ZXL 9' 5wt, 6wt – great dry fly rod
 - Sage VT2 9' 5wt, 6wt – affordable, great back up rod
- **Waders**
 - Simms G3 Guide Wader
 - Cloudveil 8x Pro Wader
 - Dan Bailey Lightweight Wader
 - Dan Bailey Women's Lightweight Wader
- **Wading Boots** - studded boots are not preferred
 - Cloudveil 8x
 - Simms L2
 - Simms Keen River Sandal – for wet wading
- **Rain Coat**
 - Cloudveil 8x Pro Wading Jacket
 - Simms G4 Pro Wading Jacket
 - Simms Freestone Jacket
- **Fishing vest, fanny pack**– all optional
 - Fishpond Waterdance Guide Pack

- Simms Dry Creek Pack
- **Sunglasses** - quality polarized sunglasses are a must
 - Action Optics are the highest quality lenses available we recommend copper, amber, brown or yellow lenses for best visibility
- **Misc. Gear**
 - Long underwear or fleece pants for under your waders
 - Layers of Clothing for Hot and Cool weather
 - Warm socks
 - A Waterproof Bag for personal items you bring in the boat
 - Sunscreen
 - Hat
 - Nippers
 - Forceps
 - Dry fly floatant
 - Sunscreen
 - Mosquito repellent
 - Camera

Other Information:

Beverage service at Yellowstone Valley Ranch – we have a wide variety of beer and a great selection of wines. We also serve lemonade, iced tea, sodas, and other juices. If you wish to have other alcoholic beverages spirits, liquor or specialty drinks please inform our staff prior to your arrival and we can arrange for you to purchase those items locally and bring them to the ranch.

Emergency Facilities – Yellowstone Valley Ranch is located 15 miles from Livingston, Montana where emergency care is available. However many of our fishing locations take us up to an hour and a half away from emergency care. All of our guides and most of our staff are first aid and CPR certified. Please assess your medical concerns before booking and inform our staff if you have concerns which we should be made aware. **All medical issues will be held strictly confidential.**

Fishing licenses are sold online at <https://app.mt.gov/Als/Index>. We highly recommend that your purchase licenses prior to your arrival. We can also purchase licenses from a variety of local fly shops.

Gratuities are not included in the cost of the package and are left to the discretion of the individual angler. The general manager will be happy to give you tipping guide lines. However, as a general guideline guides typically receive \$60 - \$100 per day of fishing. Gratuities for the Lodge staff typically range \$25 - \$35 per person per night. Guides and staff always appreciate receiving tips in cash, however we can also easily add it to your final bill.

Maid/Laundry Service- Guest rooms are cleaned daily. If you require laundry service YVR can accommodate you by having it done at the cleaners in Livingston.

Guide Service - Yellowstone Valley Ranch is fortunate to have Montana Fly Fishing Guides as our endorsing outfitter. Montana Fly Fishing Guides specializes in **professional guide service**. Our guides have fished around the world and make this their career; we do not hire inexperienced seasonal guides. **We have 2:1 guest to guide ratio.** They can help the beginner learn how to cast, or show the experienced fly fishermen how to reach a tricky undercut bank. They will give you as much or as little assistance as you desire.

We strongly recommend travel insurance to protect you and your travel investment whenever you travel to Montana.

There is always the possibility of an arrival or departure delay and/or cancellation due to weather. If you have any questions, please call Travelex Insurance Services at 800-228-9792.

Terms and Conditions

Rate Includes: all accommodations, house beer/wine, meals, taxes, and guide services are all included in the package.

Not Included: Airfare to Montana, fishing license, gratuities for the Lodge staff, liquor, purchases in the fly shop and fishing equipment. (Some back-up fishing equipment is available at the lodge.)

Deposit/Cancellation/Refund: A 50% deposit is required to confirm your reservation. If cancellation notification is received any time up to 60 days prior to the date of commencement of fishing a full refund will be made promptly, less a \$300 processing charge (per person) to cover private rod fees and guide cancellation fees. If a cancellation is received less than 60 days before the commencement of fishing, no refund will be made unless the space is resold. In this case a full refund less the processing charge will apply.

Travel insurance is recommended to help protect you from a last minute change of plans. **Final payment is due upon the completion of your stay at Yellowstone Valley Ranch.**

Receipt of deposit and/or final payment is acknowledgment that registrant has read and accepts the cancellation/refund clause.

Responsibility and release of Liability

Please Read Carefully:

The client understands that fishing is dangerous and that it includes risks of injury from, but not limited to: wading, jet boating, bears, walking on the uneven terrain, lack of immediate medical help, etc. The client acknowledges that their stay at the Yellowstone Valley Ranch LLC may result in serious injury or death from these and other risks and accepts such risks. In consideration for each and every day from arrival to departure at Iliamna the client hereby releases, holds harmless, and agrees to indemnify the Yellowstone Valley Ranch LLC and its employees and agents from any and all liability for damage or personal injury resulting from these risks described herein, regardless of whether such risks result from the negligence of Yellowstone Valley Ranch LLC and its employees and agents. **A waiver and release of liability must be signed by clients in order to partake in the Yellowstone Valley Ranch LLC and Montana Fly Fishing Guides LLC activities. This waiver will be signed at the lodge prior to going out fishing your first day.**

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to give us a call at 1.800.626.3526. Thanks for choosing Yellowstone Valley Ranch and we look forward to seeing you!