

Fishing FAQ's

How often & how long will I be able to fish?

While we are not a dedicated fishing charter, we provide a variety of fishing opportunities throughout the week alongside hiking, kayaking, and wildlife viewing. At the start of your voyage, our crew will survey you and your fellow guests to build a custom itinerary around everyone's interests. We aim to balance our time so that every guest gets the most out of their Southeast Alaska experience.



My spouse/child is a novice – do you provide lessons?

Our guides are happy to help get you started with the basics. However, please keep in mind that their primary responsibility while ashore in bear country is the safety of the entire group. This often means they cannot provide dedicated, one-on-one instruction for the duration of an excursion.

Do you supply fishing gear for novices and kids?

Yes! We have plenty of spin rods, reels, troll rigs, and halibut rods on board plus a wide assortment of lures. Our spin rods are equipped with open face reels. While these require a little more practice than a closed-face reel, most guests become proficient at casting with just a small amount of instruction from our crew.

***Serious anglers:** please refer to the last page for suggestions on what to pack.



Can we fish for halibut?

Halibut regulations vary annually. For the 2026 season, regulations allow for the retention of a limited size range, so we will likely practice catch-and-release for most halibut. We also offer saltwater opportunities for lingcod and rockfish as the season progresses. We carry all the gear you will need for a successful day on the water.



Would we also be fishing for trout?

Trout fishing is most common during the first half of the season. You may find Cutthroat Trout and Dolly Varden in the streams during late summer, though salmon tend to dominate the waterways during July and August.

What type of waders will I need?

Southeast Alaska streams are typically shallow and maintain temperatures in the high 40s to low 50s. We recommend lightweight, breathable fabric waders (such as Gore-Tex). These are much easier to pack in a duffel bag than neoprene options. Due to limited storage on our vessels, we do not carry loaner waders, so you will want to bring your own for a perfect fit.

What kind of wading boots should I bring?

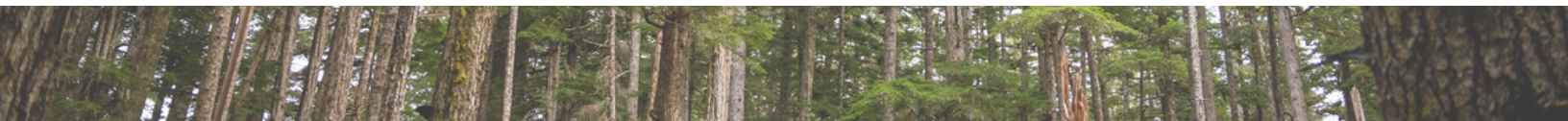
Rubber-soled boots are required. We discourage the use of waders with incorporated boots as you may have to walk up to 2 miles in them. Nationwide, felt-soled waders are prohibited to prevent the transmission of invasive species between streams. Additionally, please avoid cleated or studded soles, as these can quickly damage the wooden decks of the M/V Liseron and M/V Mist Cove.

Do I need to get my own flies, and if so, what kind?

Our guides will provide the necessary flies while you are in the stream. However, if you have time to stop at a local tackle shop in Juneau or Sitka before your cruise, we recommend picking up a few choice patterns suggested by the local experts to round out your personal fly box!

May I take the fish I catch home?

Absolutely! Our crew will clean, filet, vacuum-pack, and freeze your catch. At the end of your trip, we will pack it into a flight-ready, insulated box for your journey home.



Suggested Fly-Fishing Gear for Serious Anglers

As most proficient fly fishermen prefer the familiarity and comfort of their own equipment, The Boat Company recommends that guests bring their own fly-fishing gear. We suggest that serious fly fishers bring the following:



Rods:

- Early Spring (Trout/Dolly Varden): A 4 or 5 weight, 9 foot, 4 piece travel rod.
- Versatility: A stout 6 weight rod works well for Dollies, trout, and pink salmon.
- Large Salmon: A 7 or 8 weight rod is best for tackling larger species.
- Beach fishing: Pro-level anglers may find a switch rod in the 5-8 weight range advantageous.

Reels:

A high-quality reel with a reliable drag system and at least 150 yards of 20-pound backing.

Line:

Line according to rod weight in the Weight Forward Floating category will do just fine for most applications, but it doesn't hurt to bring some sink tips or a full intermediate line.

Flies:

The Boat Company provides flies, but if you have an extensive selection of trout and salmon flies, we encourage you to bring them with you since many of the patterns will work. A good resource for local fly patterns may be found at Alaska Fly Fishing Goods, www.alaskaflyfishinggoods.com in Juneau, and Sitka Alaska Outfitters in Sitka www.sitkaalaskaoutfitters.com.

Flies may also be purchased from www.Orvis.com. Some proven patterns are: Clouser Minnows in chartreuse/white, pink/white, black/white, olive/white; Egg-Sucking Leeches in pink, purple, and black; Deceivers, and various baitfish patterns.





Accessories:

Bring your own forceps, line snipers, and a fishing vest or hip pack. A wading belt is essential for safety.

Waders:

If you want to fly-fish, breathable Gore-Tex waders will keep you comfortable and dry.

Wading Belt:

Keeps your waders from filling with water!

Socks & Gloves:

Medium to heavy-weight socks will keep your feet warm in Alaska's chilly waters. Waterproof gloves (even dishwashing gloves!) will help, too.

Sunglasses:

Polarized sunglasses are a necessity to spot fish in the stream and to protect your eyes from flying hooks.



Fish Availability Information

Although The Boat Company trips are not dedicated fishing charters, and fish patterns cannot be guaranteed...

- Generally speaking, salmon fishing for most species is better in late July and August. There are limited opportunities for Chinook/King Salmon in June.
- Stream fishing is always catch-and-release.
- Halibut are caught throughout the summer.
- Keep in mind, Alaska Fish & Game limits the size and number of fish you are allowed to keep each year.

For more information, check out the Alaska Fish & Game fish-timing charts at: <https://bit.ly/2HofE1> (select "Northern Southeast" for the area we cruise)

