

TAYLOR RIVER LODGE

ALMONT, COLORADO



The Fly Shop


PRE-TRIP TACKLE & TRAVEL PLANNER

GPS Coordinates: 38°44'45.19"N / 106°42'42.96"W

WWW.THEFLYSHOP.COM

Trip Questionnaire: Please click on the link below. This will take you an electronic questionnaire form that we ask you to complete and submit to The Fly Shop. Please be sure to click the **“Submit”** button at the end of the form. The information provided will help us -- and the outfitter best coordinate your trip. THANK YOU! Trip Questionnaire: [Click Here](#)

Getting to Taylor River Lodge

By Plane:

The airports that are nearest to Taylor River Lodge are the Gunnison Regional Airport (GUC) 25 minutes south of Taylor River Lodge. Montrose Regional Airport (MTJ) 90 minutes west of Almont. Aspen Regional Airport (ASE) 2.5 hours northwest in the summer (via Kebler Pass). Grand Junction Regional Airport (GJT) 3 hours west of Almont. Denver International Airport (DEN) 4 hours northeast of Almont. Airport transfers for guests are included in the price of your stay from the Gunnison Airport (GUC)

By Car:

Guests are welcome to drive to Taylor River Lodge.

Directions from Melrose Regional Airport: [MTJ-Lodge](#)

Directions from Grand Junction Regional Airport: [GJT-Lodge](#)

Directions from Denver International Airport (DEN): [DEN-Lodge](#)

If you are driving up the Taylor Canyon, be sure to go past mile marker 11 and look for the long lodge pole fence to your left with a metal gate. When you turn inside the property, you will see the check-in office located on your left. If you are driving down the Taylor Canyon, you'll come over a cattle guard and see a hanging address sign for Canon House on your right and the Taylor River Lodge entrance will be on your left. Look for the long lodge pole fence with a metal gate, and when you turn inside the property, you will see the check-in office located on your left.

The physical address of Taylor River Lodge is:

10931 County Road 742, Taylor River Canyon, Almont, CO 81210

Airport Shuttles:

Airport shuttles can be arranged from the Montrose Airport (MTJ) for an additional cost. Please let us know well ahead of time so we can arrange this.

Altitude

Taylor River Lodge is located at around 8600 feet and some of the fisheries are higher in elevation. High Altitude can affect each individual differently. To combat the effects of high altitude, which can include trouble falling asleep, shortness of breath and nausea, we recommend hydrating regularly and getting adequate rest.

Trout Tackle & Equipment

Fly Rods:

Multi-piece 6, 5 & 4 weight fly rods will cover most of the fishing situations you'll encounter. If you enjoy streamer fishing, we recommend bringing a nice light weight, fast-action 6 weight. We strongly recommend a multi-piece travel rod (3, 4 or 5 piece). If you had to take one fly rod, take a 6 weight rigged with a floating fly line. Rods you might consider are:

- Scott Fly Rods
- R.L. Winston Fly Rods
- The Fly Shop Signature Fly Rods

Fly Reels:

Good quality, lightweight fly reels, with simple disk drags or pawl drags, are the best choice. Reels should be filled with fresh 20-pound backing. Reel models to consider might include:

- The Fly Shop's Signature Reels
- Galvan Reels
- Ross Reels

Fly Lines:

Floating lines are used almost exclusively. If you have a type III sink tip for a 6-7 weight, be sure to bring it along.

- Scientific Anglers & Rio Freshwater Floating Fly Lines

Leaders & Tippet:

Keep it simple on leaders; 9' leaders tapered to 6X, 5X, 4X and 3X (throw in a couple of 7.5' 0X leaders for throwing big bugs). Two - three of each leader size should be plenty. Bring fresh tippet in sizes, 6X, 5X, 4X, 3X and 0X. Scientific Anglers, Rio, and Seaguar make some of the best tippet and leader material available.



Note:

If you would like to bring some flies you tied or some patterns that worked for you in the past, we highly recommend it. TRL guides carry with them all available tackle and a complete selection of the lodge's entire inventory including their custom fly patterns and providing flies, leaders and terminal tackle is part of the package price of your stay.

Month	Insect/Bug	Sizes	Patterns
MARCH/	Midges	#16-20	BH Zebra Midge, Skittering Midge, CDC emerging Midge
APRIL	Blue Wing Olive (BWO)	#16-20	CDC Dun, Missing Link, Film Critic, Micro Mayfly Nymph
	March Brown	#12-14	Improved Sparkle Dun, Hunchback March Brown, PT nymph
	Golden Stone	#4-8	Crowd Surfer Stone, Morning Wood Special, PB Golden Stone
	Streamers(Leeches & Sculpin)	#2-8	Slumpbuster, Home Invader, Sparkle Minnow
MAY	Blue Wing Olive (BWO)	#16-20	CDC Dun, Missing Link, Film Critic, Micro Mayfly Nymph
	Golden Stone	#4-8	Crowd Surfer Stone, Morning Wood Special, PB Golden Stone
	Streamers	#2-8	Slumpbuster, Home Invader, Sparkle Minnow
JUNE	Golden Stone	#4-8	GB Poxystack Golden Stone, Double Dutch Bug
	Salmon Flies	#2-6	Pat's Rubberlegs, Flush Floater, Morning Wood Special
	Callibaetis	#14-18	Film Critic, Missing Link, Poxystack Callibaetis Nymph
	Caddis(Spotted Sedge)	#14-18	Amber Jiggy Caddis, Amber Bubbleback, Silvey's Beaded Pupa
	Caddis	#12-20	Missing Link, E/C Caddis, Jiggy Caddis, Poopah
	Green Drake	#10-12	Foam Profile Green Drake, Missing Link, Hunchback GD
	PMD	#14-20	Film Critic, Sparkle Stacker, Missing Link, GB Poxystack PMD
	Streamers	#2-8	Slumpbuster, Home Invader, Sparkle Minnow
JULY	Caddis	#12-20	Missing Link, E/C Caddis, Jiggy Caddis, Poopah
	Caddis(Spotted Sedge)	#14-18	Amber Jiggy Caddis, Amber Bubbleback, Silvey's Beaded Pupa
	Green Drake	#10-12	Foam Profile Green Drake, Missing Link, Hunchback GD
	PMD	#14-20	Film Critic, Sparkle Stacker, Missing Link, GB Poxystack PMD
	Streamers	#2-8	Slumpbuster, Home Invader, Sparkle Minnow
	Hoppers	#6-14	Hopper Grande, Morrish Hopper, Head Turner Hopper
	Ants	#16-20	Hegan Ant, Carl's Foam Ant, Parachute Ant, Schlotter's Ant
	Beetles	#10-18	Hi-Vis Beetle, Carl's Cicada, Chubby Chernobyl
AUGUST	Green Drake	#10-12	Foam Profile Green Drake, Missing Link, Hunchback GD
	PMD	#14-20	Film Critic, Sparkle Stacker, Missing Link, GB Poxystack PMD
	Hoppers	#6-14	Hopper Grande, Morrish Hopper, Head Turner Hopper
	Ants	#16-20	Hegan Ant, Carl's Foam Ant, Parachute Ant, Schlotter's Ant
	Beetles	#10-18	Hi-Vis Beetle, Carl's Cicada, Chubby Chernobyl
	Streamers	#2-8	Slumpbuster, Home Invader, Autumn Splendor, Sex Dungeon
SEPT	Midges	#16-20	BH Zebra Midge, Skittering Midge, CDC emerging Midge
OCT	Blue Wing Olive (BWO)	#16-20	CDC Dun, Missing Link, Film Critic, Micro Mayfly Nymph
	Streamers	#2-8	Slumpbuster, Home Invader, Autumn Splendor, Sex Dungeon
	Hoppers	#6-14	Hopper Grande, Morrish Hopper, Head Turner Hopper
	Ants	#16-20	Hegan Ant, Carl's Foam Ant, Parachute Ant, Schlotter's Ant
	Beetles	#10-18	Hi-Vis Beetle, Carl's Cicada, Chubby Chernobyl
	October Caddis	#6-10	Skating October Caddis, Tungsten October Pupa

Recommended Clothing and Equipment

Clothing:

The weather in Eastern Idaho is constantly changing. One afternoon it may be 90° (+) and sunny, down right hot; then only a few hours later it may be windy and hailing. July and August are more stable month and typically high pressure, sunny and hot. You are typically wearing lightweight, sun protective clothing that covers your skin. Early and late season brings more unpredictable and cooler weather, so you should always plan for any possible weather. Clothing strategies should be based on the "layering system." By using the "layering system," anglers can adapt to whatever Mother Nature dishes out. The whole idea behind layering is to trap heated air (generated by your body and stored between the different layers of insulation), thus keeping you warm.

Here is the formula preferred by the staff at The Fly Shop®:

1... Base Layer: Start off with a synthetic fabric next to your skin. This often is a pair of thermal underwear (tops and bottoms) and they usually come in three weights: light, mid and expedition. According to your individual metabolism, pick what is best for you. Synthetic (non-cotton) materials retain little moisture and "wick" moisture away from your skin. This is very important when you are walking in waders or when outside temperatures heat up.

2... Thermal Layer: Your second layer of insulation should match the weather and conditions you are going to be fishing in. Lightweight insulation for cool weather, midweight for colder conditions and heavyweight for really frigid days. Fleece is an outstanding choice here in either tops and bottoms or overalls. Merino Wool is also a good choice as it stays warm when damp, though dries very slowly.

3... Outer Shell (Rain Jacket & Waders): Your final layer should be a breathable rain jacket and waders.

- 1 set light or mid weight – Patagonia, Simms, and others (tops and bottoms)
- 1 set heavyweight – Patagonia, Simms, and others (tops and bottoms)
- 1 layering jacket – A lighter weight jacket that can fit under your wading jacket or that can be used by itself

Rain Jacket:

High quality Gore-Tex® type products are the best. Your rain jacket should be 100% waterproof and breathable. Rain jackets must be seam sealed, multi-layered, of QUALITY construction and from a recognized outdoor clothing company. Jackets specifically designed for fly fishermen are the best. We have listed a few of our favorite brands below.

- Skwala
- Patagonia
- Simms

Wading Equipment:

Fishing at TRL is done from drift boats and there is plenty of opportunity to get out and wade fish on some high mountain streams as well as on the Taylor River. Stocking foot, breathable waders are the only way to go. Neoprene waders are antiquated, do not permit moisture to escape, are heavy and cumbersome and only appropriate for sedentary fishing (float tubing) where insulation is the only concern. "Breathable" waders have totally revolutionized wading equipment. You will

experience little or no moisture build-up inside the waders, even after a long hike; they wear like iron, and are comfortable to be in all day. Lastly, "Breathable" waders take up a fraction of the space neoprene waders take-up when packed in your duffel bag. All waders should be worn with synthetic fiber under-wader wear for maximum comfort, minimum moisture retention, and warmth. For safety we strongly recommend wearing a wading belt at all times.

- Skwala Waders
- Patagonia Waders
- Simms Waders

On the hot summer days of July and August wet wading can be a great choice. This does not mean leave your waders at home, but a pair of wading socks and quick dry shorts is all the extra things you need and you will have the option to wet wade.

Socks:

Anglers should bring enough socks to alternate on a daily basis. For a week's fishing trip, three pairs should be fine. Do not wear the same socks every day, but alternate, leaving one pair to dry and air while wearing the other set. Wool, polypro or a combination of both are the best choices in sock material. Try on your socks with your waders and wading boots before you leave for your trip to ensure that you have plenty of room to move your toes. Being unable to move your toes and cramping of your feet in your wading boots are the biggest reasons for numb toes and cold feet. We've experienced great success with the disposable air-activated heating pads available at many outdoor stores. Removal from the cellophane wrapper activates them and they then simply stick to the outside of socks for hours of cozy warmth.

- 2 - 3 pair of Wading Socks.

Wading Boots:

Felt soled wading boots are highly recommended as they offer superior ankle support and are exceptional for hiking to and from waters. Felt is still allowed in Colorado. Simms, Patagonia and Korkers make some good models to consider. Korkers are nice because you can change out felt soles for rubber, or studs depending on each situation. For the most part the rivers fished by Taylor River Lodge do not pose any real difficult wading situations, however the mostly gravel bottoms do get covered in algae (slime) and can be slippery. In these situations, studded boots can be handy. Gravel guards are a must. Make sure if you are bringing felt wading boots, they are clean and dry to prevent the spread of invasive species. If you are fishing during summer months, consider bringing some wading sandals or some kind of outdoor sandal like Tevas or Chacos.

- Simms Wading Boots
- Korkers Wading Boots
- Patagonia Wading Boots

Wool or Polypropylene Gloves:

For Early and late season, fingerless gloves are great for cold and or rainy days. Neoprene gloves are fine, but retain a lot of water when wet. We have had the best success with synthetic or wool gloves.

- Simms Half-finger Gloves or Flip-mitt Gloves.

Fishing Vest or Tackle/Vest Pack:

For vests, we like high quality products that offer options. Many of the best new vests can be attached to your favorite backpack, sling or pack. Choose one that has room for a rain jacket, or

camera in the back. Brands we like are Patagonia, Simms and Fishpond. If you prefer a tackle pack, take a good look at Fishpond, Patagonia, or Simms.

Small Day Pack:

This can be an important article to include while packing. We like a waterproof, top-loader day pack that can hold extra gear, clothes, flies, camera, snacks, etc.

Boat Bag:

A waterproof boat "dry bag" can be extremely handy for storing extra clothes, tackle and camera equipment while on a raft. The white-water type "dry bags" are the best.

Fishing Hat:

July and August in Colorado can be clear and bright with lots of sun. A good hat to keep the glare off your eyes and the sun off your face is imperative. Look for a hat that is comfortable and that has a good size brim.

Line clippers, Pliers, Hemostats, & Hook File:

These are essential to any fisherman and should not be left behind.

Polarized Sunglasses:

Fly fishing is often a very visual experience. Spotting the fish is part of the excitement, and part of the challenge. Good quality polarized sunglasses are a must. Polarized sunglasses not only let you spot fish more effectively, but protect your eyes from the intense sunlight experienced in the high altitude of Colorado, as well as hooks. Costa and Smith make some of the best in the industry.

Camera:

Waterproof digital or splash-proof digital cameras are handy. If you are going to take your digital SLR camera, make sure you have a waterproof case for it. The best waterproof cases we have found to protect expensive camera equipment are made by Pelican Products, www.pelican.com. Don't forget your flash unit.

Headlamp:

Our favorite is the Loon Nocturnal Headlamp, preferring models with LED bulbs and that can be recharged.

Sun Protection:

The summer weather in Colorado is generally pleasant with average temperatures ranging between the low 60's and mid 90's. Wide-brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts, and frequent use of sun block (SPF 30+ UVA/UVB) are highly recommended. Sun gloves will save the backs of your hands. The Lodge will provide Sunscreen and chapstick. Bring your own if you require a special type.

Bug Repellent:

The Lodge will provide Bug spray

Camp Shoes:

After a long day of fishing, it's nice to get out of your waders and slip into a comfortable pair of shoes to wear around the lodge. Crocs are a great choice and super lightweight.

Wading Staff:

If you use a wading staff on your home waters, then bring it, it will come in handy.

Gratuities:

Gratuities are a personal decision based on services rendered. Tipping the guides and staff is optional but appreciated. Normally, guides are tipped daily as you may have a different guide each day. We recommend that you tip your guide on a daily basis, somewhere in the nature of \$75 - \$100 per day, per boat/guide (usually shared between two anglers). For the lodge staff, (chefs, housekeeping, wait staff, etc.) we recommend \$50 per day per person. You can leave the tip in the form of cash, or add it to your final invoice at the end of your stay. If you have any questions concerning gratuities, please feel free to call or ask the lodge owner for guidelines.

As soon as you have your flight schedule finalized to Colorado, please forward it to us at travel@theflyshop.com, so that we can coordinate your transfer to the lodge. If you are renting a car and driving to the lodge, detailed directions are above.

Credit cards:

Besides tips for the staff, Taylor River Lodge is a cash free property. All major credit cards are accepted at Taylor River Lodge for purchases in the Gift shop or Spa treatments such as Yoga, Meditation sessions and Massages.

Fishing licenses:

Fishing Licenses are required. You can purchase your Colorado fishing license at the lodge or you can save some time and purchase online in advance of your trip from Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

[Purchase License here](#)

Alcohol Policy

All house alcohol is included in your stay at Taylor River Lodge. They have an excellent selection of Colorado craft brews and spirits, as well as your traditional favorites at the lodge bar. We ask that you please do not bring your own alcohol onto the premises, as this does not comply with our liquor license at the property. A bartender will be on duty and available to serve drinks to your party each evening.

Communications:

Taylor River Lodge is located in a steep canyon and cell service is limited depending on your carrier. Most guests that have Verizon are able to get a signal at the lodge, although do not plan on having reliable service during floats or any guided fishing. Wi-Fi is available in all of the building and around the lodge property.

Dining

Meals at Taylor River Lodge showcase locally-sourced ingredients from the Rocky Mountain's local farms and purveyors. Tell us your dietary preferences and then their culinary team will create dishes

like smoked pulled pork with heirloom grit soufflé and cast-iron chicken with cornbread Panzanella salad with watercress and apple cider jus.

Breakfast includes a variety of breads, fresh fruit, granola and eggs served to you on an individual breakfast board.

Lunch is served at the property or in the field depending on guests' preference and fishing location for the day.

Every night is a different dining experience with custom dishes provided by the culinary team. A bartender is on hand to create craft cocktails for the whole group. Let us know before hand and the Eleven team will work with each guest to ensure they know your food preferences, allergies, and dietary preferences and restrictions.

Yoga, Meditation and Massages

Yoga and Meditation classes are offered in private or group sessions for an additional price starting at \$165. Swedish and deep tissue massages can be arranged while you are staying at the Lodge starting at \$210 for 1 hour. Other specialty massages and therapies can be arranged while you are staying at TRL as well. Please inquire about all of the options available.

Included Summer Activities

Crested Butte is an outdoor enthusiast's dream, with endless summer adventures just outside Taylor River Lodge's doorstep. While the fishing will be the main focus of your trip, it is always nice to have the option to take a day off and explore the other adventures the Lodge provides. It is also a great place for a non-fishing spouse or friend and a great spot for a vacation the whole family can enjoy. Mountaineering - Guides Ridge, Hiking, Mountain Biking, Rafting, Rock Climbing and Stand-up Paddle Boarding are additional activities you can also enjoy during your stay at the Lodge. Please let us know if you would like to participate in any of these activities and we would be happy to help arrange them. They must be booked in advance and are based on availability.

Emergency Contacts:

The Fly Shop®

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Taylor River Lodge

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Taylor River Lodge Travel Checklist

Necessary Items

- Airline Tickets and Itinerary
- This Travel Planner
- Valid Passport or Real ID
- Wallet
- Cash US\$ for tips
- Credit cards
- Rain Jacket
- Light Socks
- Heavy Socks
- Slacks, Pants
- Quick Dry Shorts
- Shirts
- Undershirts, under shorts
- Under-wader wear
- Light pile or fleece pants
- Fishing Hat or stocking cap
- Fleece or pile jacket/pullover
- Long-sleeved Fishing shirts
- Short-sleeved Shirts
- Polarized Sunglasses
- Reading Glasses
- Toiletry Articles
- Prescription Medications
- Camp shoes or sandals
- Bathing suit

Optional Items

- Flask
- Smart phone
- Belt
- Waders
- Wading Belt
- Wading Boots
- Wading Socks (For Wet wading)

- Fly Rods
 - Fly Reels
 - Spare Spools, Spare Lines
 - Leaders
 - Tippet
 - Fly boxes
 - Dry Flies
 - Streamers
 - Nymphs
 - Floatant
 - Indicators
 - Clippers, Pliers, Scissors
 - Fishing Vest/Tackle Pack
 - Day Pack, Tackle Bag
 - Hook file or Stone
 - Knot Tool
 - Hemostats
 - Split shot
 - Waterproof Bag for Wading Gear
 - Travel Flashlight (headlamp)
 - Buffs
 - Aspirin
 - Tape measure
 - Pen and Pencil
 - Reading Book
 - Addresses & phone numbers
 - Camera, battery charger, storage cards
 - Lip Balm & hand lotion
 - Extra pair of Sunglasses
 - Insect Repellent
 - Fishing Gloves
 - Sun Screen SPF 30+
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