

BLACK CANYON ANGLERS

GUNNISON RIVER, COLORADO



The Fly Shop

PRE-TRIP TACKLE & TRAVEL PLANNER

GPS Coordinates: 38°46'7.75"N 107°54'29.16"W

WWW.THEFLYSHOP.COM

Trip Questionnaire: Once you have arranged your travel details, 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](#)

Meeting Time and Place:

All trips begin and end at our riverside lodge located in Austin, Colorado. This facility is located 3.0 miles off Highway 92 (8.5 miles east of Delta, Colorado). Trips meet at 6:00 am and depart for the river at 6:30 am. Normally, trips end back at the lodge at approximately 4:00 pm on the last day.

Getting to Black Canyon Anglers

From the Montrose Airport - approximate travel time = 35 minutes

Turn right out of the airport complex onto highway 50 and head towards Delta. In Delta at the intersection of highway 50 and 92 turn right onto highway 92 and head towards Hotchkiss. Go approximately 8.5 miles and look for a Black Canyon Anglers sign on the right side of the road. Turn right at the sign onto Shea Road (a dirt and gravel road) and continue for approximately 3 miles down the lane marked with a second Black Canyon Anglers sign. Please park in the parking lot and check in at the fly shop located in the main lodge.

From the Telluride Area - approximate travel time = 2 hours

Leave Telluride on highway 145 and head towards Placerville. In Placerville at the intersection of highway 145 and 62 turn right onto highway 62 and head towards Ridgway. In Ridgway at the intersection of highway 62 and 550 turn left onto highway 550 and head towards Montrose. In Montrose at the intersection of highway 550 and 50 stay straight and head towards Delta on highway 50. In Delta at the intersection of highway 50 and 92 turn right onto highway 92 and head towards Hotchkiss. Go approximately 8.5 miles and look for a Black Canyon Anglers sign on the right side of the road. Turn right at the sign onto Shea Road (a dirt and gravel road) and continue for approximately 3 miles down the lane marked with a second Black Canyon Anglers sign. Please park in the parking lot and check in at the fly shop located in the main lodge.

From the Grand Junction Area - approximate travel time = 1 hour

Leave Grand Junction on highway 50 and head towards Delta. In Delta at the intersection of highway 50 and 92 turn left onto highway 92 and head towards Hotchkiss. Go approximately 8.5 miles and look for a Black Canyon Anglers sign on the right side of the road. Turn right at the sign onto Shea Road (a dirt and gravel road) and continue for approximately 3 miles down the lane marked with a second Black Canyon Anglers sign. Please park in the parking lot and check in at the fly shop located in the main lodge.

From the Aspen Area - approximate travel time = 2 hours

Leave Aspen on highway 82 and head towards Carbondale. In Carbondale at the intersection of highway 82 and 133 turn left onto highway 133 and head towards McClure Pass and Hotchkiss. In Hotchkiss at the intersection of highway 133 and 92 stay straight and head towards Delta on highway 92. Go approximately 11.5 miles and look for a Black Canyon Anglers sign on the left side of the road. Turn left at the sign onto Shea Road (a dirt and gravel road) and continue for approximately 3 miles down the lane marked with a second Black Canyon Anglers sign. Please park in the parking lot and check in at the fly shop located in the main lodge.

From the Crested Butte Area - approximate travel time = 2 hours

Leave Crested Butte on Kebler Pass Road and head towards highway 133. At the intersection of Kebler Pass Road and highway 133 turn left onto highway 133 and head towards Hotchkiss. In Hotchkiss at the intersection of highway 133 and 92 stay straight and head towards Delta on highway 92. Go approximately 11.5 miles and look for a Black Canyon Anglers sign on the left side of the road. Turn left at the sign onto Shea Road (a dirt and gravel road) and continue for approximately 3 miles down the lane marked with a second Black Canyon Anglers sign. Please park in the parking lot and check in at the fly shop located in the main lodge.

The physical address of the Gunnison River Farm is:

7904 Shea Road
Austin, CO 81410

Airport Shuttles:

Ground transportation between the Montrose Regional Airport (MTJ), Grand Junction Airport and the Black Canyon Anglers' fishing lodge can be arranged through Telluride Express or Mountain Limo. One way shuttles are specially priced by the van for our clients. Please call Telluride Express at (888) 212-8294, Mountain Limo (888) 546-6894, or Sunshine Rides at (970)777-7777 for current rates.

Lodge:

All trips begin and end at their unique riverside lodge located on a working peach orchard. The facility is set up to comfortably feed, house, and entertain guests before and after their adventures. Cozy 4 bed cabins, and 2 bed cabins are available. Evening meals (6:30 pm) may be reserved in the dining hall. An on-site fly shop carries flies, licenses, and other fishing supplies. Ponds on the property offer great casting practice and a great way to cool off on those really hot summer days. Guests are also invited to fish three miles of private water on the Gunnison River. It is strongly suggested that clients stay at the lodge the night before their fishing trip. Arriving early allows time for guests to pack their river bags, stop by the fly shop, fish the river, enjoy a delicious meal, relax around the fire circle, and get a good night's rest. The lodge only serves breakfast and dinner (lunch is not served). Guests arriving mid-day should plan to eat before coming to the property, or bring a picnic lunch.

Recommended Gear

On overnight trips, each guest is provided with a "waterproof" river dry bag with shoulder straps in which to carry his/her personal gear, including sleeping bag, sleeping pad and pillow. Recommended gear for the trip is below. All rafting and safety equipment, life jackets, food, kitchen gear and tents are provided. Guests are responsible for their own fishing license, fishing equipment. Lodge can provide Fly Rod/Reel, Wading boots/socks, Waders, sleeping pad, sleeping bag and pillow if needed at no extra charge. Keep gear to a minimum is always best on float trips.

Trout Tackle & Equipment

Fly Rods:

Multi-piece 5 & 6 weight fly rods will cover most of the fishing situations you will encounter. If you enjoy streamer fishing, we recommend bringing a nice light weight, fast-action 7 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. We recommend 1 spare rod per group. 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:

Guides do not provide Leaders and Tippet. Keep it simple on leaders; 9' leaders tapered to 4X, 3X and 2X (throw in a couple of 7.5' 0X leaders for throwing big bugs). Two of each leader size should be plenty. Bring fresh tippet in sizes, 4X, 3X, 2X and 0X. Scientific Anglers, Rio, and Seaguar make some of the best tippet and leader material available.

Note:

Guides will supply flies for your trip. If you would like to bring some flies you tied or some patterns that worked for you in the past, we highly recommend it. Guests may bring their own flies from home, or purchase more flies at the Black Canyon Anglers fly shop before their trip starts.

Recommended Clothing and Equipment

Clothing:

The weather in Colorado 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. Mid-June through Early September 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 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 Black Canyon Anglers is done from Rafts and there is plenty of opportunity to get out and wade fish, especially at camp each night. More wading is available on 3 day trips. From Mid-June through Early September, it is hot and wet wading is the way to go. Early and late season, 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 always wearing a wading belt.

- Skwala Waders
- Patagonia Waders
- Simms Waders

For minimal weight most guests bring a pair of wading socks sandals 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 daily. For a three fishing trip, a couple 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.

- 2 pair of Socks.

Wet Wading Socks:

On typical years wet wading is done from June 1-October 1 as the temperatures are hot outside and the water feels cool. If you are wet wading in your wading boots you will need Neoprene wading socks. Korkers and Simms makes great neoprene wading socks.

Wading Boots:

If you want more support for wading other than sandals, felt soled wading boots are recommended as they offer superior ankle support. 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 Gunnison River does not pose any real difficult wading situations, however the mostly gravel bottoms do get covered in algae (slime) and can be slippery. 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 brings some wading sandals or some kind of outdoor sandal like Texas or Chacos. Wet wading is standard from mid-June through early September.

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

Water Bottle: Very Important

In an effort to “Kick Plastic.” We ask that you bring your own favorite water container... in turn, your guide and vessel will have a clean supply of water to fill from.

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 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.

Fishing Hat:

June-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, Hemostats, Indicators, Split-shot, Floatant

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.

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 to hot 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.

Bug Repellent:

Although bugs are usually not too big a problem in this part of Colorado especially mid-summer. Early and late season and around the lodge usually has standing water and there are mosquitos and a bottle of bug dope with active ingredient DEET is not a bad idea to include in your tackle bag.

Camp Shoes:

After a long day of fishing, it is nice to get out of your wet boots/sandals and slip into a comfortable pair of shoes to wear around camp. 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. If you don't mind packing it down.

Sleeping Bag: (Can be provided)

We recommend lightweight summer sleeping bags rated to a minimum of 40 degrees (Fahrenheit), and utilizing either waterproof down or synthetic materials that does not absorb moisture.

Sleeping Pad: (Can be provided)

Getting a good night's sleep is very important while keeping your weight down. We recommend 3-4" inflatable pads that can be easily packed up. Big Agnes Insulated Air Core Ultra Sleeping Pad or Sea to Summit Ether Light XT Insulated Air Mummy Sleeping Pad are great options.

Pillow: (Can be provided)

A good camp pillow like the Nemo luxury is great to have for a more comfortable night sleep.

Towel:

A camp towel or regular towel is a must have item to bring along.

Power:

There is no power on the float trips. Typically, a phone in airplane mode will last the whole trip, but we recommend power banks to charge your phones in the evening.

Gratuities:

Gratuities are a personal decision based on services rendered. Recommended tips are 20% of the cost of the trip. Cash is the best but you can pay with a check or even a credit card. 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.

Catch and Release:

Black Canyon Anglers practices catch and release principles. Barbless hooks are recommended.

Safety:

There is some risk in all outdoor activities and you will be asked to sign a release of liability form before the trip.

Credit cards:

All major credit cards are accepted at Black Canyon Anglers for purchases in the Fly shop and gratuities if needed.

Fishing Licenses:

You can purchase your Colorado fishing license very easily online or they can get you taken care of while you are at the lodge. Colorado fishing licenses may be purchased in advance online at [Buy License Here](#) or by telephone at 1-800-244-5613. A license is required for anyone 16 years old or older.

Gear Boat:

A gear boat is an additional service that is not required to book a trip. You are paying for the luxury of having an extra guide (swamper) and boat accompany your trip to provided additional services. This allows for 2 things: 1) there is much less gear in your boat and 2) significantly more time is spent fishing with your guide, as he or she does not have to break away to attend to most of the

camp and cooking chores. Gear boats booked in June are priced at the fish float boat price due to the high demand during Salmon Fly season.

Optional Beverages:

Due to insurance requirements, they do not provide alcoholic beverages on river trips, but if guests on overnight trips want to order and pay for the purchase of beverages, they can arrange to have it packed in. Please place your beverage order on the questionnaire at the top of this PDF. All prices include handling and the extra horse pack-in fee. Beverage prices are high due to the extra cost required to pack the gear down by horse. Only beverages available in aluminum cans, boxes and plastic bottles may be ordered. If an ordered item is not available, they will do their best to substitute it with a comparable item. You are welcome to bring your own glass bottle beverages (wine and liquor) as part of your personal gear. Normally beverages are chilled in the river. For an additional fee, a cooler with block ice can be provided. Black Canyon Anglers is not responsible for any theft of beverages left on Chukar beach during the horse pack.

Available beer and soda per 6-pack (MP + is Market Price plus pack fee):

\$ MP + soda - Coke, Pepsi, 7-Up, Sprite, Mountain Dew, Dr. Pepper, and diet versions of these

\$ MP + soda - Lemonade, Iced Tea, Bottled Water

\$ MP + soda - Gatorade \$ MP + beer - Domestic beer

\$ MP + beer - Import beer \$ MP + beer - Microbrew beer

\$ MP + BOTA boxes of wine

Ice cooler filled with block ice: \$125.00

Communications:

The float in the gorge is in a steep canyon and there is no cell service. Even Satellite phones are spotty unless you hike up to the rim. Garmin in Reach is carried by the guides in case of an emergency. There is no cell service around the lodge but Wi-Fi is available in all the building and around the lodge property with a great mesh network for coverage.

Food:

Float trips include hot breakfasts, tasty lunches and gourmet dinners complete with appetizers and dessert. All meals are included starting with lunch on the first day and ending with lunch on the final day. On overnight trips optional canned beverages (beer and soda) may be purchased and packed in per your request.

If you decided to stay at the lodge before and after your trip (\$250.00 Per Person Per day), it Includes Dinner, Lodging, Breakfast, 3 Cocktails/Beer or Soda, taxes, and Gratuity) \$150.00 for kids 12 and under

Contacts Numbers

The Fly Shop®

4140 Churn Creek Road Redding, California 96002

(800) 669-3474 / (530) 222-3555

Email: travel@theflyshop.com / web: www.theflyshop.com

Black Canyon Anglers:

Lodge & Guide Service
Gunnison River, Box 180, 7904 Shea Road
Austin, CO 81410
info@blackcanyonanglers.com
(970) 835-5050

Black Canyon Anglers Travel Checklist**Necessary Items**

- Airline Tickets and Itinerary
- This Travel Planner
- Valid Passport or Real ID
- Wallet (Cash US\$ for tips, Credit cards)
- Refillable Water bottle (Important)
- Rain Jacket
- Light Socks
- Heavy Socks
- Quick Dry Shorts/Pants
- Undershirts, under shorts
- Under-wader wear
- Light pile or fleece pants
- Fishing Hat or stocking cap
(Early/Late)
- Fleece or layering jacket/pullover
- Long-sleeved Fishing shirts
- Short-sleeved Shirts
- Polarized Sunglasses
- Toiletry Articles
- Prescription Medications
- Camp shoes or sandals
- Bathing suit
- Floatant
- Split shot
- Leaders
- Tippet
- Sun Screen SPF 30+
- Towel
- Insect Repellent

- Indicators
- Clippers, Hemostats/pliers, Scissors
- Fishing Vest/Tackle Pack
- Travel Flashlight (headlamp)

Optional Items

- Flask
- Smart phone
- Belt
- Waders
- Wading Belt
- Wading Boots
- Wading Socks (For Wet wading)
- Reading Glasses
- Fly Rods
- Fly Reels
- Fly boxes (Streamers/Dries/Nymphs)
- Hook file or Stone
- Buffs
- Aspirin
- Reading Book
- Camera, battery charger, storage cards
- Lip Balm & hand lotion
- Extra pair of Sunglasses
- Fishing Gloves
- Pillow
- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad
- Slacks, Pants