



Recommended Gear List

New Zealand's climate is temperate but also very variable. During our hunting season, temperatures can fluctuate from zero degrees to 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Usually, we have cold mornings with the day warming up till mid-afternoon and cool/cold evenings. We are an island nation and the weather is subject to rapid and often unpredictable change. We often have a combination of cold and wet conditions (not unlike southeast Alaska in fall). Heavily insulated clothing and boots are NOT recommended, as they are hard to dry out in damp conditions.

Avoid cotton clothing in favour of wool or quick-drying modern outdoor fabrics.

To cater for variable conditions, we suggest a layered clothing system so that you can easily dress up or down as conditions change, i.e., base layer (thermal), mid-layer (insulating) and outer layer (water/windproof).

Several companies manufacture excellent hunting clothing that is well suited to our conditions. We have listed some websites in the information below.

CLOTHING

BASE LAYER

- Thermal underwear – Check out the Icebreaker range
- Two pairs of gloves – one pair of thin polypropylene, wool, or possum/wool mix; one pair of thick insulated leather or gortex
- Socks – Wool or wool mix [Icebreaker](#) or [Smartwool socks](#)
- Hat – Balaclava or insulated stocking cap and your usual hunting cap

MID LAYER

- Two pairs of hunting trousers – light/medium weight
- Two medium weight shirts – fleece or wool
- One lightweight jacket
- One warm hunting jacket – Windstopper fabric is recommended (check out the [Stoney Creek Range](#))

OUTER LAYER

- Windproof/waterproof shell
- Waterproof overpants and waterproof jacket – Gortex or similar
- Gaiters (puttees) to keep snow, sticks and stones out of your boots

BOOTS

- We recommend mid-weight hiking boots
- There is no need to bring heavily insulated boots to NZ
- Pack boots and boots without hiking soles are also unsuitable
- Ensure your boots are comfortable and “broken-in”
- When entering the country, make sure your boots are thoroughly cleaned as they will be checked upon arrival
- Meindel makes excellent boots that are well suited to NZ hunting conditions

OTHER EQUIPMENT

OPTICS

- Good quality 8-10 power binoculars
- We can supply spotting scopes, but feel free to bring your own
- We use Swarovski, Leica, Zeiss and Steiner
- With a hydration system.

SMALL DAY PACK

HEADLAMP

- Or small flashlight

CAMERA

- With 4-6 rolls of film or digital with your charger

SUNGLASSES

YOUR RIFLE

- Bring at least 40 rounds of ammunition that you are familiar with, good quality bullets Partition or Barnes Triple Shocks. Make sure you have spent time familiarising yourself with your rifle before you arrive. Zero at 200 yards. Most of the shots taken in NZ conditions are 100-250 yards. The ability to shoot accurately at longer ranges is an advantage
- A vari-power riflescope is preferable. Suitable magnification is the 3-16 power range
- Be prepared for low-light conditions in some circumstances
- Case your rifle well
- Check your airline's website to determine their baggage requirements for firearms and ammunition

MEDICATION/ PERSONAL ITEMS

- It is recommended that you bring at least two times the required stay days for prescriptions and daily-required medicines for the duration of the trip to New Zealand. These should also NOT be packed in your luggage but taken on as carry-on to avoid problems if baggage is lost or delayed. Also, it is a good idea to bring an extra pair of glasses, contacts and daily cleaner, and other 'essential' items for your trip