



## Frequently Asked Questions

### A Foreword

To book a hunt in New Zealand, all you have to do is email a few outfitters, jump on the best deal and you're done...right?

If only it were that simple.

Hunting in New Zealand is totally unregulated. Pretty much anyone with a rifle can be a guide, anyone with land can set up as an estate outfitter and anyone can find animals to hunt. This equals huge variability in the hunting experiences on offer. Will you be hunting on 5000 acres or 50 acres? Will your guide be drunk? Is your lodge really a tent?

If price is your sole criteria, just book the biggest stag for the cheapest price and hope for the best. If estate size, game quality, trophy selection, guide professionalism and quality lodgings are important - then you need to ask a few questions, and perhaps pay a bit more, to avoid disappointment.

Below you'll find most of what you need to know about hunting with High Peak. That way, if you choose to hunt with us, at least you'll know what to expect.

### The Estate

*Who owns High Peak?*

High Peak is 100% owned by your hosts, the Guild family. Our outfitting operation is completely in-house - this means there will be no third parties affecting your experience.

*How big is High Peak?*

High Peak is 10,000 acres in total. We hunt between 4500 and 6000 acres of this area at any given time, making High Peak the largest certified game estate in New Zealand.

### *Is High Peak fenced?*

High Peak's game estate has a 6-foot perimeter fence of over 30km (20 miles) to keep our game herds separate from the adjacent public state forest for a true fair chase hunting experience.

### *Do you hunt anywhere else?*

We also hunt a range of private properties for tahr, chamois and elk that cover tens of thousands of acres, along with government concessions for over 200,000 acres of alpine hunting land.

### *What elevations do you hunt at?*

The estate ranges between 1500 and 3000 feet above sea level. Tahr and chamois hunting take place between 3000 and 6000 feet in areas mainly accessed via helicopter.

### *What temperatures can I expect?*

Temperatures during the March-April period range from 0° to 21° Celsius (32° to 70° Fahrenheit) and during the May-June period from -5° to 15° Celsius (23° to 59° Fahrenheit) with significant precipitation and wind chill possible at any time.

### *Where is High Peak located?*

High Peak is located in the foothills of the Southern Alps, 80km (50 miles) west of Christchurch International Airport. Travel time is approximately 1 hour by road, making High Peak one of the easiest estates in New Zealand to get to.

## **Arrival and Departure**

### *When should I plan to arrive in New Zealand?*

We strongly advise arriving a day before your hunt starts to avoid flight or baggage delays affecting your hunt. Plan to depart the day after your hunt ends unless you plan to tour in New Zealand after the hunt.

### *Where should I fly to?*

Your best option is to fly to and from Christchurch International Airport (CHC). Christchurch receives hourly flights from Auckland (New Zealand's primary port of entry) and some direct flights from the USA, Australia and Asia.

### *Where should I stay prior to pickup by my High Peak guide?*

We recommend the Commodore Hotel near Christchurch Airport for before and after the hunt. Hunters receive a 15% discount on rates by using the promo code 'highpeak'. Plan for pickup at 9am on the day your hunt starts. <https://www.commodorehotel.co.nz/>

### *Do you have a recommended travel agent?*

We recommend that you book your flights and any post-hunt touring with New Zealand specialist Katie Schmit of Travel By Katie, based in Boise, Idaho. <https://travelbykatie.com/>

*Do I need a visa for New Zealand?*

If you're from a Visa Waiver Country, you don't need a visa to visit New Zealand. However, you will need a New Zealand electronic Travel Authority: <https://nzeta.immigration.govt.nz/>

## **The Hunt**

*What sort of hunting does High Peak provide?*

We specialise in guided open-range, hill-country, spot-and-stalk rifle or muzzleloader hunting. We are also able to cater to archery hunters in most circumstances.

*What species do you offer?*

On the estate itself we offer Red Stag, Fallow Buck, Arapawa Ram, Pacific Goat, Wild Boar and small game. Tahr, Chamois and Elk can all be hunted via a day trip from the lodge.

*What about my guide?*

You will be assigned a professional High Peak guide prior to arrival in New Zealand. They will be with you throughout the hunt and will take primary ownership for the success of your trip. You will have the chance to ask them any questions you might have prior to arriving at High Peak.

*What are your hunting success rates?*

For species requested at the time of booking, we have a 100% success rate on rifle hunting and approx 70% for archery hunting as first method of harvest.

*Can I add or upgrade my hunt?*

Upgrades and additions are always welcome. All animals are fair game to any hunter at any time. High Peak guarantees provision of any pre-deposited and booked animal. If for whatever reason we fail to do this we will source an opportunity of equal or greater value or your money back.

*What is the duration of the Hunt?*

High Peak hunts typically run for 5 days / 4 nights. This is sufficient time to take your primary booked animal plus two to three others. Hunts can be longer or shorter duration by special arrangement, depending on availability and circumstances.

*What sort of fitness level is required?*

One benefit of hunting High Peak is our access track network. This means we can adjust the physical intensity of the hunt to suit the hunter. We recommend a good standard of fitness and mobility to get the most out of the experience.

*What rifle calibres do you recommend?*

Anything in the .270-.300 type calibres shooting 120+ grain rounds work well for hunting at High Peak. Rifles should be set up for 150-300 yard shots. Please note, we have quality loan rifles for your use free of charge if you choose not to bring yours. For importing your rifle visit the NZ Police website:

<https://www.police.govt.nz/advice-services/firearms-and-safety/visitor-firearms-licence-and-import-permits>

*How many hunters do you host at any given time?*

Our usual capacity is six hunters in three groups of two, hunting two hunters to a guide, although we may offer a three-on-one option in some circumstances. The only exception to this is an exclusive booking where we may host up to ten hunters as one party, hunting two or three hunters to a guide.

*What happens to the meat from my hunt?*

We will endeavour to utilise all usable meat from your hunt. You will have the opportunity to eat your kill during your stay at the lodge, while any excess will be used at the lodge or supplied to specialist game meat pet-food manufacturers. We are able to prepare up to 23.5kg (50lbs) of game meat as part of your baggage but offer no guarantees on whether you'll be allowed to import it back to your country of origin.

*Do you have a Gear List?*

Yes, we have an extensive list of items we recommend you bring. This will be supplied on request.

## **The Lodge**

*What is the capacity of the lodge?*

We offer up to six double rooms, each with a private bathroom. The primary lodgings have full catering facilities and comfortable furnishings for dining and socialising. We can host up to ten guests at a time in total.

*What meals can I expect?*

At High Peak we offer a continental or cooked breakfast to order, a field lunch and a three-course evening meal. Dietary requirements can be catered for in advance by request.

*Do you provide drinks?*

High Peak supplies beer, wine and selected spirits free of charge based on a 'fair use' policy. Special requirements may be catered for by advance request.

*How far is the Lodge from the hunting area?*

The lodge is located on the estate itself so you'll be hunting within a matter of minutes from departure each day.

*Do you welcome non-hunters?*

Non-hunters are always welcome if we have space. We have an extensive list of activities and options for non-hunters and a dedicated program for spouses. This can be supplied by request.

## **Additional Services**

*Can I get a video of my hunt?*

We can supply a videographer in some circumstances, depending on availability and capacity. We often have a photographer in the field to capture stills free of charge. Any imagery will be made available to you at the conclusion of the hunt.

*Do you provide taxidermy & shipping services?*

We recommend two options for taxidermy work. For those wishing to have their mounts finished in New Zealand, we work closely with Big Game Taxidermy as our preferred taxidermist, expediting and shipping service. We back their service with our full guarantee. <https://www.biggametaxidermy.com/> For those looking to mount their trophies in the USA, we recommend Animal Artistry for all mounting work. <https://www.animalartistry.com/>. Both options have their advantages and it comes down to the hunter's personal preference as to which option to choose.

*What do you offer non-hunters?*

We can supply a private guide and vehicle to cater for non-hunters over the duration of your hunt. Your guide will arrange each day's activities and supply transport based on what you want to do.

*Am I expected to tip anyone?*

Tipping is not an integral part of New Zealand culture, however it has become the norm for our hunting industry in the case of exemplary service and results. As a guide, tips for guides usually start around \$75-\$100 USD per day per hunter and our chef \$50-\$75 USD per day per hunter. We suggest bringing some cash for this purpose.

*Do you offer any kind of guarantee?*

We offer two guarantees. The first is a guaranteed opportunity, at rifle distance, on any booked trophy, or your money back. The second is a 100% satisfaction guarantee on any aspect of the hunt, or your money back.

*If you have any specific questions, please contact us!*

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