

# MISSION LODGE

## TRIP PLANNER

### What We Offer



You can expect to experience a world class fishing trip with fine dining, margarita Mondays, and the great Alaska outdoors.

### What's The Weather Like



Average temperatures range anywhere from 50-70 degrees. With Alaska you can expect unpredictable and rapidly changing weather from rain to sun or windy to calm.

### Other Activities

Aside from fishing, you can get a nice massage, play pool or darts inside, take on the abundance of nature and go on a long walk/hike, take photographs, go paddle boarding, etc.



### Location

Mission Lodge is located in the Heart of Bristol Bay's watershed, approximately 325 air miles Southwest of Anchorage. We are a 45 minute vehicle ride from Dillingham which is the final destination for clients coming to Mission via airlines. In Dillingham, clients are picked up by our Mission camp staff who will continue them on the journey to the lodge.

### Getting Here: The Itinerary

To reach our lodge is pretty straight forward. Fly from your nearest airport to Anchorage, Alaska. Then fly from Anchorage to Dillingham (DLG), approximately one hour in flight time. In Dillingham you will be greeted by our staff who will transport you and your luggage to Lake Aleknagik by our own private shuttle vans. Once you reach the lodge, the staff will whisk your gear to your room, while you shake hands with the host and then pick up your fishing license and sample the yummy appetizers. All trips start and end on Friday, therefore, we request that when arriving- **ARRIVE** in Dillingham after 12:00 PM and **DEPART** Dillingham before 12:00 PM on your departure day.

## Getting Here: Notes About Airline

Because of flight schedules for various points in the lower forty-eight, it may be necessary to overnight in Anchorage either on your way in, way out, or both. Alaska Airlines ([www.alaskaair.com](http://www.alaskaair.com)) and Peninsula Airlines ([www.penair.com](http://www.penair.com)) provide several different daily flight options both **IN** and **OUT** of Dillingham (DLG). If you need hotel recommendations or any assistance with pre and post trip planning, please give us a call or visit our website ([www.missionlodge.com](http://www.missionlodge.com)).

### Helpful Trip Planning Links

**Alaska Airlines** ([www.alaskaair.com](http://www.alaskaair.com))

**Peninsular Airlines** ([www.penair.com](http://www.penair.com)) **1-800-448-4226** - Ask for the "Lodge Fare" and mention you are staying at Mission Lodge

**Mission Lodge** ([www.missionlodge.com](http://www.missionlodge.com))

**Travel Guard** ([www.travelguard.com](http://www.travelguard.com)) Trip Insurance - Very Important

## The Schedule: A Day At Mission

### - Morning Departures -

The aroma of coffee will begin to surface around 6:00 AM after coffee trays are placed onto each floor of the lodge. The kitchen staff will also have coffee available at 5:00 AM for those early risers. Breakfast is served promptly at 7:00 AM where guests can enjoy entrees from our hot buffet line and self-serve cereal, fruit, and yogurt. After breakfast, our aircrafts and boats are ready for departure by 8:00 Am. All departures are subject to change dependent upon weather conditions.

### - Arriving At Your Destination -

Depending on your destination, the guides assigned to you that day will either accompany you on the flight or be waiting at one of our outpost camps. Outpost camps are outfitted to provide all the necessary provisions and equipment including boats and gear. Lunches will be served stream side, and depending on the nature of the location or fly-out, will either be a fresh catch option cooked up by your guide or sandwiches with all the good stuff including chips, cookies, fruit, and the option of hot/cold beverages.

### - Dining At Mission -

On a typical day you will return to the lodge between 5:00-6:00 PM. After a quick shower and change, you and other guests are welcome to join us for an appetizer and cocktail hour in the lounge. During that time, the Head Guide will be available to discuss your desires for the next days fishing and will work with you to accommodate any special fishing requests. Dinner starts approximately 7:00 PM and consists of wonderful homemade soups, salads, fresh baked bread, deserts, and gourmet entrees. The lodge serves wine with meals and also an open bar before and after dinner.

### - Late Evening Lineup -

After dinner, enjoy a relaxing massage from our on-site therapist, take a walk, enjoy our sauna and hot tub amenities, play basketball, horseshoes, ping pong, corn hole, or pull up a chair on our beautiful wood deck and watch the views as the midnight sun makes it decent.



## A Note on Beverage Options

The lodge has a variety of beers and liquors, however we recommend that if you have a favorite beverage of choice you might want to consider bringing it along. Remember we are in the bush, and once you get there it may not be possible to get those "extras" you may have forgotten.

## Exercise Option

While most people feel an 8 hour day of fishing is plenty of physical exercise, there are those of you that might also prefer to workout pre or post fishing. Our facility has limited equipment - given we are out in the bush - but we do provide.

## Payment Option

We run a tab for you throughout the week for gift shop, massage, or any specialty liquors. At weeks end we can accept VISA/MasterCard/AMEX, travelers checks, cash, or personal checks to settle your bill.

## Business/ Office Needs: Work While You Play

-Telephone Options -

Cell phones **do not work** once you are in Dillingham and at the lodge. We understand that there are some you that require phone access during your stay, so for your convenience we provide a telephone for use in one of our common areas - *Major credit cards and calling cards are accepted.*

-Internet and WiFi -

we have WiFi connections throughout the lodge, our internet connection is a satellite and can be a bit temperamental and slow.

-In Case Of Emergency -

A number to leave at home in case of an emergency is **907.842.2250**. Please inform loved ones and business colleagues there are not individual rooms with phones and that we are in Alaska and 4 HOURS BEHIND EST. -AND THIS NUMBER WILL RING STRAIGHT TO THE OFFICE. If it is an emergency the line is available 24 hours- otherwise we ask that you call during normal business hours of 7AM-9PM Alaska standard time. *Lodge Managers get grumpy if called in the middle of the night just to say HI!*



## What IS Included:

We Provide It	
Transportation	We provide transportation to and from the lodge and Dillingham
Float Plane Flights	Our fishing packages include daily guided fly outs via float plane or the option of a boating excursion for closer destinations.
Personal Fishing Guides	We prefer a 2:1 angler/guide ratio. but are flexible dependent upon group size and special requests.
Fishing Gear and Tackle	We take care of everything for you! We stock a complete line of premium fishing equipment for your use- including fly and conventional rods and reels, flies, lures, plugs, lines, and leaders. You just show up and your guide will take care of the rest.
Waders and Wading Boots	We provide gortex chest waders (S-XXL) and wading boots (SZ: 5-16). If you feel you may need special accommodations regarding gear, please contact us ahead of time to seek further instructions regarding your concern.
Fine Cuisine	Our kitchen staff takes Alaska cuisine to a whole other level. We provide 3 meals a day including breakfast buffet style, packed lunches and/or fresh catch shore lunch on the water in order to maximize your fishing time, and in the evening a 3-course fine dining experience.
Complimentary Beverages	We have an assortment of complimentary beverages including: beer, wine, and some liquor. Some premium liqueurs are available with extra charge.
Hot Tub & Sauna	You have full use and access to our hot tub and sauna which are open 24 hours.
Private Accommodations	All our rooms are designed for single or "couple" occupancy and are located within the main lodge. All bathrooms are either private or semi-private. This 11,000sq/ft facility is designed with all the luxury of being in the comfort of your own home which is exactly how we want you to feel during your stay.

## What is NOT Included:

We DO NOT Provide It	
Round-Trip Air	We do not provide the air fare to Dillingham from your point of origin, and from Dillingham to your final destination.
Fishing License	Fishing license can be purchased at the lodge or online \$55/7day
King Salmon Stamp	King stamps can be purchased at the lodge, to pre-purchase go to ( <a href="http://www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/buyonline">www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/buyonline</a> ) King stamps are \$30/7days
Gratuities	Our on-site management team would be happy to provide you with a guideline for leaving gratuity, the average gratuity left by our clients is 15-20% of your per person package price. Of course, gratuities are optional and of personal nature.
Incidentals	This would include massage, smoking of fish, purchasing gravlax or caviar, gift shop expenses, specialty liquors, wines, or cigars.



## Staff

The Mission staff is dedicated to making your experience here with is the most memorable one. We have highly trained professionals in all areas - from pilots, guide, chef, camp hands to housekeepers. The staff is there to ensure your safety, enhance your experience, and provide all the comforts of home while being on vacation. We truly feel that the people make the place - and this is definitely true when considering staff for the lodge. Our clients deserve to have the best service in the industry.

## Gratuities: Rate Your Experience

Gratuities are appreciated and accepted at the end of the week in cash, personal checks, travelers checks, and although not preferred, credit cards.

## Gift Shop

Our gift shop is located at the heart of the lodge and has a full line of Mission Lodge logo apparel. We are a dealer for both Patagonia & Simms and are stocked with many items from their fishing/adventure lines. Our gift shop provides a wide variety of items for purchase - fishing jackets, base layers, pants bottoms, vests, bug spray, etc. We can also special order items directly off our dealers websites - Patagonia and Simms - and have it ready and waiting for you once you arrive. If you would like an order sent directly to your home please allow 4-6 weeks to fulfill your order.

## Massage

After a long day of fishing, enjoy a calm and relaxing massage experience from our on-site massage therapist. Massages are available before and after dinner with a variety of different styles for you to choose ranging from deep tissue to relaxing. Prices are anywhere from \$165-240 depending on the length of your session. Longer massages can be made available upon request. A sign-up book is available behind the bar in the main lobby or you may contact us ahead of time to reserve a spot.

## What To Pack:: Plan For The Weather

We want you to enjoy your trip and be as comfortable as possible. Since we use small aircrafts and boats to travel, water resistant, soft sided duffle bags are the best way to pack for your trip.

Dressing in NON-COTTON moisture wicking layers is the most recommended and sensible way to dress and pack for remote Alaska. The weather at the lodge may be one way and completely different at your final destination. In your room you will have a checklist for your daily fishing destination and we provide each angler with a waterproof bag, ear plugs for the airplane, re-usable water bottle, and personal coffee thermos for your use during your stay. We ask that you limit the items you take with you daily to what can fit in your dry bag because of weight and balance issues on our aircraft.

\* REMEMBER LAUNDRY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AND INCLUDED \*

## Checklist

### At The Lodge

- Casual Clothing
- Long Sleeved Shirts
- Jeans
- Warm Socks
- Tennis or Walking Shoes
- Light Weight (Wind Resistant) Jacket
- Swimming Suit For Hot Tub or Sauna
- Toiletries
- Medication (BRING ALL MEDICATION IN CARRY ON)

### For Fishing

- Fishing Vest (Optional)
- Fleece Tops and Bottoms
- Capilene/Polypropelene Long Underwear
- Warm Socks
- Polarized Sunglasses
- Insect Repellent
- Sun Block
- Rain Coat (High Quality)
- Gore-tex Chest Waders (Optional) \*\* NOTE: NO FELT SOLES. AS OF JANUARY 1, 2012, THEY WILL BE ILLEGAL IN ALASKA.
- Camera and Batteries
- Water-Resistant Day Pack (Optional: The Lodge Provides a Dry Bag)

## **FAQ: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **Q: HOW FAR DO YOU TRAVEL TO DAILY DESTINATION?**

**A:** We will have so many destinations it is hard to answer this questions. Your destination travel time will be anywhere from 10 minutes to one and a half hours. Much of this depends on winds and weather. In a normal week you will generally only travel 20-40 minutes a day by plane each way. Some of our destinations are close and only a 10-40 minute boat ride from the lodge.

### **Q: WHAT ABOUT THE WEATHER: IF WE CAN'T FLY?**

**A:** We have several opportunities within easy boat access from the lodge. On a seasonal average, we have approximately three days in which the planes cannot fly at all. We will NEVER compromise the safety-EVER. If it is not safe we DO NOT fly.

### **Q: HOW WILL WE TRAVEL ONCE WE REACH OUR DESTINATION?**

**A:** Mission Lodge has over 40 boats stashed throughout the Bristol Bay region. Many of the destinations you will fly in and meet your guide who will be waiting for you with a boat. Other destinations you will fly with your guide and will have a boat at your destination. Some destinations will be accessible only by foot. All of this will be pre-planned the evening before and will be fully orchestrated by your professional guide.

### **Q: HOW BAD ARE THE BUGS?**

**A:** It depends on the month and the season - Wet seasons are worse than dry seasons. Normally unless you are hiking in the tundra the bugs are not bad at all. They can be pesky at times in the evening on the deck if the wind is still. A good bug repellent with deep is highly recommended. Mosquito netting is normally not recommended but if you plan on doing a lot of hiking it may be a good idea. The lodge has bug repellent but you are always encouraged to bring your own.

### **Q: WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO COME?**

**A:** Mission Lodge is only open during the prime fishing months and the prime weather months. Any time from June to September is excellent, it just depends on your desires. If you are specifically seeking certain species of fish or to view a particular animal then sometimes are better than others. Please refer to the fish and animal viewing chart.

### **Q: CAN YOU ACCOMMODATE SPECIAL DIETS?**

**A:** Yes, within reason. Because of our extremely remote location, certain items may be hard to come by - please make sure to fill out the questionnaire and return ASAP to forward our chef of your special needs. If we cannot accommodate your needs, we will advise you in advance.

### **Q: HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN THE LODGE ACCOMMODATE?**

**A:** 24 guests is our maximum, most weeks we host no more than 20 guests.

### **Q: DO ALL ROOMS HAVE PRIVATE BATHS?**

**A:** No, we have 19 private guest rooms, 6 rooms with completely private baths and 13 with a shared bath in between rooms. We have found that majority of our male clients do not mind sharing bathrooms but enjoy having a private bedroom.

### **Q: DO WE HAVE TO PAY EXTRA FOR A PRIVATE BATH?**

**A:** No (unless it is the "owners suite") private bathrooms are given to couples first and then to returning clients. If you would prefer a private bath please make sure to make a not upon booking. Requests will be handled on a first come, first serve basis given the above priorities.