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Pheasant Hunting at Tumbleweed Lodge Harrold, South Dakota

Thank you for choosing Trek Safaris for your South Dakota pheasant hunt. On the following pages we have outlined the basic trip that you will follow. Our standard trip that is outlined in our newsletter is for five days and four nights with three full days of hunting. Please review this planner and feel free to take it with you on your trip.

The Trip

Your trip originates when you are met at the airport in the capitol city of Pierre, as this is the closest airport with commercial air service (Northwest via Minneapolis or Great Lakes Air via Denver) to Tumbleweed Lodge and this transfer is included in your package. Other airports to consider are Sioux Falls (3 hours), Rapid City (3 hours) or Aberdeen (2 hours). Mike Bollweg or a member of Tumbleweed's staff will meet you and your group at the baggage claim in Pierre as the airport only has one. You should not have a problem meeting them as the airport is small and they will have a Tumbleweed logo shirt and hat on.

Your group will then be transferred to the lodge in a comfortable SUV, which is about a 40 minute drive due east from the airport. Once at the lodge your hosts the Bollweg Family will get you situated in your room and go over the hunting program for the next few days. There is a nice locker room at Tumbleweed to store your waders and boots. Feel free to wander around and get yourself acquainted; including a round or two on the 50 target clay and skeet ranges, some billiards, or just rest up from the flight. This is also a good time to make sure your shotgun is in good shape or reserve one of Tumbleweed's fine inventory of shotguns at no charge.

Typical Hunting Day

The next morning you will receive a wake up call around 8:00 a.m. A full breakfast is served at 8:30 a.m. and we normally leave for the hunt at 9:30 a.m. Each group normally has their own vehicle and guides usually on a 2-1 or 3-1 basis (hunter to guide). You will hunt on 10,000 acres of dedicated, permanent and exclusive habitat managed for wild life. You'll never be in the same place twice. Our predominant hunting style is with Lab's using the Walker and Blocker technique. Depending on the number of hunters in your group, one or more persons are assigned to act as blockers that stand strategically at one of the field while the remaining line of guns at the opposite end start walking with the dogs towards the blockers. The idea is to sort of drive the pheasant towards the blockers ending in a fast and furious eruption of pheasant. Please roosters

only!!! Along with pheasant, you will have the opportunity to shoot Hungarian Partridge, Prairie Chickens and Sharp-tail Grouse (small license fee needed) Get ready to see hundreds of wild birds every day boiling out of the food plots. The dog work and availability of quality fields make this an exciting hunt and usually most everyone has their 5 bird limit by lunch, if not you will head back to the fields until you reach your limit. Your options after that are to agree to hunt extra birds at the current Tumbleweed price or to go after some Huns, Sharpies or chickens. There is some walking involved with these upland birds but what fun.

The hunting day usually draws to a close by 4:30- 5:00 PM when the sun is setting and the muscles are looking for a break After a shower and some rest, hors'd'oeuvres and your favorite spirits are available until your incredible dinner is served at 7:30 PM.

It's all about the Dogs

A true South Dakota pheasant hunt is not a hunt without the dogs. There's a special relationship that exists between a bird hunter and his gun dog. Gun dogs are always ready to go, always striving to please, and the magical moments they create in the field surpass any 'bragging rights' shot you've ever made (or may ever make!). Yours or ours, good gun dogs add another important dimension to the overall experience and if you would like to bring your dog, no problem.

They have just built a new fully-enclosed kennel and have on staff at least 20 well trained dogs to choose from every day. Tumbleweed has cultivated thousands of birds on thousands of acres. Oceans of CRP type grasses, sloughs and wetlands, and just enough food plots to make it all very interesting for your partner with the great nose. Labs, Shorthairs, Spaniels and Setters are all display there's plenty of breed specific habitat to keep both dog and owner entertained for days.

While Tumbleweed welcomes your dogs, they suggest you spend the resources needed to familiarize your dog with upland hunting. It must be noted that pheasant would rather run than allow itself to be held on point!!

What to Bring and Expect

South Dakota's motto is, "The Land of Infinite Variety", and we just know they had to be talking about the weather. Your group should experience perfect pheasant weather as the mornings should be brisk warming up to a cool comfortable day for walking through the fields. When packing for your trip keep in mind that 'layering' works best for pheasant hunting – cooler mornings give way to warming temperatures throughout the day. For this trip it is better to go prepared for the worst and hope for the best. Depending on when you go the temperatures will range widely so be sure to check the forecasts before you go. While we are pheasant hunting you will be moving and walking so if it is cold, it shouldn't be too bad.

First and foremost bring comfortable walking/hunting boots. Be prepared for both dry and wet weather (remember that if they are new boots – be sure to break 'em in before you come), 2 pair of Long John's - tops & bottoms that wick water are best, 2 pair of Upland Pants or Chaps if you are wearing jeans (2 pr Jeans) - remember you will be walking in brush that has sand burrs and cockle burrs and need the chaps if you hunt in jeans, Upper body layers Min. of 3 tops, chamois,

wool, fleece – all work for layering, Baseball cap or Hot Top something you would wear in case of 70+ degrees weather, Throw in a Blaze Orange vest as safety is always of utmost importance on any upland hunt. Make sure it is roomy enough to go over your hunting jacket or outer shell - something that is wind & water repellant like a Quad Shell. Bring gloves (two pairs) you need a pair for dry and wet conditions as well as for the cool temperature. A hat or something for cold and windy days that has coverage of the ears is recommended. Socks (4 pair min)- mid-weight moister-wicking type that will keep your feet dry and warm. Rain Pants - something you can pull over for wet or ‘dewy’ mornings, Fleece/Sweatshirt - light to middle-weight for crisp and windy days – blaze is good. And for casual lodge wear - after the hunt, something comfy to slip into to relax and lounge, Both shooting and sun Glasses - If you forget your shooting glasses we will provide them, Swim Trunks - The hot tub feels great after a day in the field, Personal Items - toiletries, a great new book and try and leave the cell phone home.

The Lodge and your Hosts

Tumbleweed as mentioned is owned and managed by the Bollweg family. Father Donnie and son Michael have over 40 years of family experience in the farming and agricultural business, this experience has paid handsomely with providing the sort of upland habitat that sustains a very healthy population of birds and incredibly consistent shooting. The lodge covers 18,000 square feet and you can get lost if you want to. It has 12 rooms that accommodate 24 guests and while that may sound like a lot, you will only notice it at dinner when everyone is in the dining room. They have a well stocked cherry wood bar in the main house that is available most all day as well as a separate 2200 square foot gazebo and another well stocked bar. The gazebo also has a cigar room for those who care to smoke. For the weary there is a hot tub available and those who feel inclined to stay in touch the lodge has twin satellite TV’s as well as wireless internet technology.

The food at Tumbleweed is outstanding and you will not definitely pack on a few pounds even after walking a few miles. Chef Joe Fossett is a legend at Tumbleweed and the fact that he can cook for as many as 24 guests at one time and maintain a level of quality and quantity is an art indeed. You are warned, diet before you come!! Most everything you should not eat back home will be on display here in one fashion or another, however if you have a special dietary need it will be addressed and prior notice is best. The staff at Tumbleweed is very efficient and friendly.

What is Included and What is Not

Your upland package includes all rooms (double occupancy), meals, pheasant hunting (5 per day), pheasant license, a combination of three Sharp-tail or Prairie Chickens a day and two Huns, ammunition, use of lodge shotguns, open bar, and airport transportation from Pierre.

Your package **does not** include gratuities, extra upland license for Sharpies, Huns and Chickens, waterfowl options, shipping of game or items of a personal nature. Trek as always recognizes that tipping is a voluntary gesture and that most hunters do wish to tip their guide and lodge staff. A guideline for this is from 7% to 12% of your base package price and how it is to be distributed will be gratefully discussed with Michael or Donnie after your hunt.

Tumbleweed lodge and the Bollweg's have over 25 years of outfitting experience and have a 90% rebooking rate. You should experience unbelievable bird counts, spectacular scenery, first-rate accommodations, more great food than you can eat, and a staff that makes your stay down right fun... You'll understand why a formidable list of clients who have 'tried the other guys', now only hunt with Tumbleweed.

Emergency Phone Numbers:

(605) 875-3422 Tumbleweed Lodge

(605) 875-3440 Office (Harrold)

Trek Safaris maintains a 24 hour answering service in case of emergency:

Phone: (904)-273-7800

MOST IMPORTANT- RELAX AND HAVE A GOOD TIME!!!!