



Know Before You Go

HOW MUCH DOES A FULLY GUIDED TROPHY HUNT COST?

While the majority of hunters still spend most of their days in the field hunting public land or private properties within an hour or two of their home, nearly all of them dream about taking an outfitted hunt to chase game not native to their area. It might be a Colorado trophy elk hunt or the chance to see their best bird dog point and retrieve birds on a South Dakota pheasant hunt that inspires them. It might be an Alberta hunt for giant black bears or an exciting adventure for game on the plains of Africa. Whatever it is each hunter longs to experience, the fact is, these dreams are easily turned into reality with a little planning and investment.

Each year, hundreds of thousands of hunters travel across the United States and outside of its borders to experience hunts with trained outfitters who can help them turn a tag into the trophy adventure of a lifetime. Others may travel to join a friend who lives in another area to hunt a species or experience a type of hunt that they won't find at home.

And what about those who simply dream about the chance to travel on a hunt? The reason cited by most for not taking that trip they've always wanted to take is cost. While cost is certainly a legitimate factor, hunting

with outfitters isn't just for the rich. Certainly like many things in our society, money buys the best and most convenient access, but with a little research and saving, virtually everyone can enjoy a quality hunt experience with a good chance at tagging a true trophy animal.

Think of it like going to see your favorite pro baseball team play. You may not be able to afford a luxury box, but you can still swing tickets for a seat in the mezzanine, which still provides a great view and a fun time. Following are the average range of costs for many types of popular hunts by species and even locale. This will help you to begin to understand how much you may need to invest in fulfilling your dream. Keep in mind there are many variables that affect the cost of an outfitted hunt such as the time of season, method of take, hunt location, type of tag, facilities and number of hunters per guide (usually one-on-one or one-on-two).

Whitetail

Avg. Hunt Length: 4-7 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$3,000-\$6,000

Elk

Avg. Hunt Length: 5-8 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$5,000-\$10,000

Mule Deer

Avg. Hunt Length: 5-8 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$3,500-\$7,500

Antelope

Avg. Hunt Length: 2-4 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$2,000-\$4,000

Caribou-Varies by subspecies

Avg. Hunt Length: 5-10 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$4,000-\$8,000

Moose-Varies by subspecies

Avg. Hunt Length: 7-14 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$8,000-\$17,000

Sheep-Varies by subspecies

Avg. Hunt Length: 7-21 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$20,000-\$35,000

Wild Turkey

Avg. Hunt Length: 3 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$750-\$1,500

Mountain Lion

Avg. Hunt Length: 5-7 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$3,000-\$6,000

Black Bear

Avg. Hunt Length: 5-7 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$3,000-\$5,000

Brown Bear

Avg. Hunt Length: 10-14 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$13,000-\$20,000

Grizzly Bear

Avg. Hunt Length: 7-14 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$10,000-\$15,000

Polar Bear

Avg. Hunt Length: 10-14 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$33,000-\$40,000

Africa—Plains Game

Avg. Hunt Length: 7-10 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$6,000-\$12,000

Africa—Dangerous Game

Avg. Hunt Length: 14-28 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$30,000-\$60,000+

South America-Wingshooting

Avg. Hunt Length: 3-7 days
Avg. Hunt Cost: \$1,500-\$3,000