



215 Walter Circle, Buda, TX 78610  
(512) 461-7015  
www.lj blessings ranch texas.com

Dear Whitetail Hunter,

Thank you for choosing L J Blessings as your outfitter for your whitetail hunt you have scheduled. We intend to provide you with a safe and enjoyable experience which begins with proper pre-hunt planning. Enclosed is our thorough Prep Packet. This form is also provided on our website for any additional hunters that will also be attending the hunt. To find it on our website go to [www.lj blessings ranch texas.com](http://www.lj blessings ranch texas.com), and on the top navigation bar, click on the “Contact Us” tab. Then click on the “Hunting Packet” link that is on that page. Read through the entirety of this information as a general guideline in preparing for your hunt.

1. Please fill out and send in “**Hunter Profile**,” even if you have sent one in from a previous trip. You can follow the instructions labeled “Hunting License” in prep packet on page 3 to process your license and if possible please send license info in with your profile.
2. Very important—if you want L J Blessings to provide airport shuttle, you must schedule your arrival and departure times during our recommended windows of time; otherwise, you will need to rent a vehicle and we will provide directions to camp. Renting a vehicle will allow you extra flexibility if you decide to do some sightseeing or leave camp early. **See page 5 for arrival times and shuttle fees.**
3. **All hunts will be officially booked and confirmed once we receive your 50% deposit of the base price of your hunt. All remaining fees are due 30 days prior to hunt. You will not receive another notice, so please mark it on your calendar.**
4. Please remember that our rebooking policy dictates that we must have a \$500 Reservation Fee in within 30 days after completion of hunt, if indeed you would like to rebook for the following season on the “same” hunt. See “Payment Policy” in Prep Packet on page 2.
5. Don’t forget to practice with your firearm or archery equipment.
6. There may be an opportunity to combine some Russian boar hunting while you are down, but we need to discuss ahead of time so that we can make arrangements. Inquire for further assistance on additional cost.

Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance. We look forward to serving as your host on a great hunt. Thanks once again for your interest in our service.

To a good hunt,

Jim Foulkrod

*Family, Friends and Making Memories*

**WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS**

Thank you for choosing to be our customer and for the confidence you have placed in us. The staff of L J Blessings Ranch, from our office to our camp, will do everything within our means to earn your continued trust and goodwill. Your hunting success and personal satisfaction are very important to us.

We have been serving hunters from around the globe since 1987. For the year 2014 – 2015 Jim Foulkrod and the L J Blessings ranch was awarded the Rancher of the year award. Celebrating Muy Grande's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this is the oldest deer contest in Texas and to show our appreciation we will enter you in this Contest. Many of our hunters have won caps, jackets and other awards and prizes. Our customers' loyalty and continued participation within our hunting programs is what has fueled the growth of L J Blessings Ranch.

Just as you have certain expectations of us, we have certain expectations of you. Here are a few ideas that will help insure a successful hunt:

- Read through this packet to familiarize yourself with various aspects regarding your hunt.
- Know what is included with your package. Refer to your contract if you are uncertain.
- Attend your hunt with an open frame of mind. There are many variables we deal with in conducting hunts, thus, we ask you to be understanding of various situations that are inherent to a hunting trip.

Once again, thank you for being our customer. We look forward to seeing you in camp. You have my personal promise that we will do the best we can to ensure an enjoyable hunting experience for you.

## **HUNT COST AND PAYMENT POLICY**

All of our Texas whitetail hunts are set up as all-inclusive, package type hunts. Guides, meals, lodging, and game care are all included with price of hunt. Three meals daily are provided and our cooks specialize in Southern style dishes that will satisfy most any taste preferences, and we assure you, you will not go hungry. A guide will be with you for your trophy buck hunt so no mistakes are made. Airport shuttle may be included from the nearest airport for an additional fee, but arrival and departure times are conditional, so you need to check on this if you want us to provide shuttle service.

- **YOUR WHITETAIL DEER HUNT WILL COST:**
  - Base Hunt includes up to a 150 Class whitetail Buck and a spike or a Doe – \$5000.00 Base price.
  - Additional charge of **\$75.00 for each inch over 150 inches** and **\$150.00 for each inch over 160 inches.**
  - Upgrade to a 165 Class whitetail deer for an additional – \$1100.00
  - Upgrade to a 180 Class whitetail deer for an additional – \$2500.00
  - Upgrade to above a 180 Class whitetail deer - Please ask for additional Fee.
  - We will enter you in the Muy Grande Deer Contest.
  - You can hunt Coyote and Bobcat at no additional cost a Turkey is \$250.00 additional.
  - Non-hunting guest fee is \$225.00 per day
- Deposits may be paid with personal or business check, so long as this payment precedes hunt by 60 days.
- Balance is due 30 days prior to start day of hunt. You **will not** receive a 30-day notice, so let this serve as your reminder. Failure to pay balance by 30-day period may result in cancellation of your hunt and forfeiture of any previously paid fees.
- If for any reason there are fees due at time of hunt (i.e., trophy fees on additional animals), these fees must be paid at time of hunt with either cash or credit card (no exceptions).
- All credit card payments will be accessed a 3% processing fee on the amount being charged. We accept Visa and Master Card.

**Cancellation Policy** – No payments will be refunded unless canceller can be replaced at the standard hunt cost. We will make every effort possible to replace canceller at full hunt value, but L J Blessings Ranch is not responsible for replacing canceller, and no refunds will be granted unless canceller is replaced at full price.

**Rebooking Policy** – L J Blessings Ranch generally offers our clients "first right of refusal" in rebooking their hunt for the following year, but to ensure this, a \$500 Reservation Fee must be paid within 30 days of completion of hunt. Once dates and prices have been established for next year's hunts, client will have option of either confirming with remainder of first 50%, or Reservation Fee will be refunded. Once hunt is confirmed, Cancellation Policy does apply.

# **WHAT TO BRING**

Having the proper equipment, clothing, and travel items can make for a much more comfortable and enjoyable hunting trip. It is better to be over prepared than under stocked, but remember there are certain weight and baggage restrictions when traveling by airplane. The following checklist should cover some of the essentials.

## **Primary Checklist**

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| - gun(s) or Bows             | - flight tickets  |
| - ammo (40 rounds) or arrows | - camera  |
| - binoculars                 | - gloves  |
| - flashlight                 | - pajamas or warm-up's                                      |
| - hunting clothes*           | - water bottle  |
| - hunting boots              | - knife   |
| - hunting cap                | - day or fanny pack   |
| - rain parka                 | - camp shoes Crocks or slip ons work best No boots in House |

## **You May Also Want To Bring**

- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| - sunglasses         | - video camera (recommended) |
| - book for reading   | - sun screen                 |
| - ice chest          | - bug spray                  |
| - spotting scope     | - bit of string and tape     |
| - special medication | - liquor or alcohol*         |
| - preferred snacks   | - shooting bipod             |

- ❖ Clothing should be suited for temperatures ranging from 20 degrees to 80 degrees - normally. Check internet weather forecast prior to hunt. Clothing that allows you to layer up is best. Camo is recommended but not essential.
- ❖ We do not provide alcoholic beverages in camp. We will allow you to BYOB, but we will enforce certain drinking/hunting policies.

# **HUNTING LICENSE**

- **General Nonresident Hunting license (#105) is \$315.** For nonresidents who are more than 17 years of age.
- For nonresidents who are less than 17 years of age, **Youth Hunting license (#169) is \$7.00** and covers anything they may take, except waterfowl.
- All Texas hunters who were born on or after September 2, 1971 must have successfully completed a "Hunter Education Training Course." However, if you have not taken this course and were born after this date, you can purchase a **(Deferred Hunter Education Option (#166))** for an additional \$10 **(this can only be used once in your lifetime!!!)**.
- To process your hunting license, you can do so by going online at [Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#) or call (800) 895-4248. It will take up to 6 weeks to receive your license so make sure you go online and purchase with enough time for them to send you the license.

# **TRAVEL TIPS**

A hunter's journey to and from their hunting destination is a major part of the trip. Because of great distances between point of origin and hunt location, many hunters choose to fly to eliminate road time. There are a few regulations that hunters need to keep in mind that will make their trip more smooth and enjoyable. Additionally, there are certain procedures that if followed, make your airport transition much easier.

## **Helpful Hints:**

- Try to never over pack suitcase any more than what is necessary. Duffel bags work well for most hunters' needs.
- When possible, lock all luggage.
- Whether its carry-on or checked luggage, be sure to attach your name, address, and phone number on each item.
- Pack your highly valuable items, if possible, in a carry-on, particularly those items that are fragile.
- Always check in approximately 1.5 hours prior to scheduled departure. At that time, your firearm or archery equipment will be subject to inspection.

## **Requirements and Restrictions:**

- On most airlines, each person is allowed to have one carryon bag, free of charge. You can also check your luggage, with the most common charges being: first checked bag fee: \$25; second checked bag fee: \$35; additional bags fee: \$150 per bag. Thus, you might consider bringing a large duffel bag, gun case, and carryon's (i.e., camera bag). Check with your airline to make sure of their specific charges.
- Most airlines will charge additional fees for overweight and oversized bags. The most common charges being: Overweight bags: \$100 for 50 – 70 lbs. and \$200 for 70 – 100 lbs. Oversize bags generally run around \$200. Check with your airline to make sure of their specific charges.
- All firearms must be transported in a hard-sided container capable of being locked.
- While ammunition can be carried in the gun case in a separate container, shells cannot be in the chamber. You are allowed up to ten pounds of ammo, which must be shipped in checked baggage. We recommend transporting ammo in a duffel bag. Ammo must be in some type of ammo container.
- All archery equipment should be transported in a hard-sided container capable of being locked.
- Law prohibits the transportation of hazardous materials such as compressed gasses, flammable solids and liquids, poisons, and corrosives, which includes lighters.
- You are not allowed to carry on knives of any sort, but you can put them in your checked baggage.
- Check with your airline or travel agent to see their specific rules, limitations and any fees that they charge.

## **Shipment of meat, hides, and antlers:**

- For those hunters interested in keeping their meat, you must take it back with you, either on airplane in ice chest or in vehicle if you drive. **We do not ship meat.** You can purchase a plastic ice cooler in the town of Freer, or you can bring one with you.
- If hunter would prefer to have animal fully processed and packaged, we can sometimes arrange for such, but meat will probably be shipped by meat processor to hunter "over-night delivery" at hunter's expense which will include processing fees, shipping expenses, and occasionally a service charge (see "Miscellaneous Expense" Sheet).
- All trophies are caped and frozen. If hunter prefers to have a taxidermist of his own do the work, we either ship the cape and antlers back with the hunter in a container (i.e., ice chest, box, duffel bag, etc.), or we can ship at a later date to them or their taxidermist, and hunter will incur shipping and service charge fees.
- If hunter wishes to leave their trophy to be mounted at our taxidermist, we will put taxidermist in touch with hunter to discuss pose and payment, and taxidermist will ship mount to hunter upon completion of work.

**One other matter:**

Always keep in mind that certain unexpected occurrences can and do happen from time to time when traveling by air. Such things as delayed or canceled flights, and luggage not arriving with hunter, are but a few things that are possible. When this happens, it is recommended that you understand that throwing a tantrum is not going to do you a bit of good. For missing luggage, when you arrive, we will file necessary claims, and luggage will generally arrive on the next flight. If worse comes to worse, we will do what we have to do to outfit you with necessary gear so that you lose no hunting time. Just try to take all this in stride, and your trip will be much more enjoyable.

**If you drive:**

Let us know if you decide to drive to our camp, and we will send a map or directions to you. If driving, arrive between 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. this is a good target time. Please don't surprise us by showing up early because it takes away from the previous hunters farewells.

**Airport Shuttle:**

For those hunters flying, we can generally offer airport shuttle, but only if hunters schedule flight in and out of our recommended windows of time. Otherwise, you will need to rent a vehicle, and we will provide directions to camp.

**Flight Windows/Shuttle:**

<u>Airport</u>	<u>Shuttle Time</u>	<u>Shuttle Fee</u>
San Antonio	Between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm	\$75.00 or (\$150.00 round trip)

- For those hunters who cannot schedule their flights in and out of these recommended windows of time, you may need to rent a vehicle, and we will send directions to camp.
- Please remember that due to logistics and synchronizing schedules, we may have to have you wait at the airport for a short period before a L J Blessings representative picks you up, or we may need to drop you off a few hours early at the end of your hunt.

# MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

It is generally understood that nobody likes hidden expenses when on a hunting trip. Services included in your hunting package are outlined in your contract. As with most hunting excursions, there are a few miscellaneous expenses that may or may not be incurred during your L J Blessings hunting trip. The following is a summary of various costs, in addition to your package, that you should bear in mind.

1. **Airfare** – L J Blessings hunt packages do not include airfare. We do provide shuttle to and from the nearest airport on most hunts, but this is subject to arrival and departure times. Check with us about details.
2. **Shipping of meat, capes, and antlers** – Many of our hunters take their meat and trophy back with them on the airplane. However, we do sometimes ship cape/antlers to hunter or their taxidermist. We do not ship meat. If you are interested in the meat, you need to take it back with you. All shipping charges will be reversed and some form of crating/handling fee will be charged to the hunter. The following price structure will generally prevail on crating/handling fees:

- White-tailed Deer                 \$30
- Boar                                     \$40

These fees include boxing/crating of both the cape and antlers/horns. Price on a per animal basis may be reduced when multiple animals are shipped in a single container. **The above prices do not include shipping costs or material costs for boxes or crates which are extra.**

3. **Taxidermy** – L J Blessings can arrange for providing taxidermy services at hunter's expense payable to the taxidermist. We only work with reputable, award-winning taxidermists.
4. **License and Tags** – All hunting/fishing licenses are at hunter's expense. Make sure you have the hunter profile with license info to us at least 10 days prior to hunt.
5. **Gratuities** – Though gratuities are certainly not required on L J Blessings hunts, it is indeed customary for hunters to tip both their guide and the cook. Use your discretion in determining what you feel is a fair amount. Tips are always appreciated by camp staff. Here is a suggested "rule of thumb" on tipping amounts:

Hunt Price  
\$5,000+

Gratuity Amount Per Hunter  
7% - 10% Hunt (Guide) \$75-\$125 (Cook)

6. **Other** – It is always wise to carry some extra cash with you for incidental travel expenses (gifts, airport meals, parking fees, etc.). It is also a good idea to have several \$1.00 and \$5.00 bills for airport gratuities.

It is our intention to provide you with a comfortable, fun hunt with no unwanted surprises. Make sure you are familiar with what is included with your hunt package to ensure that no hassles are encountered.

# HUNTING/CAMP POLICIES & RULES

1. No drinking of alcoholic beverages is allowed in the field. If drinking of alcohol is done during daylight hours, it is up to an L J Blessings Ranch staff member to decide whether or not that particular hunter will be allowed to hunt that day. **Safety first!**
2. If hunter is dropped off at a blind, hunter shall not leave that blind to hunt on foot. Walk hunting is allowed only when accompanied by a guide. In the event that a game animal is wounded, but not killed, hunter is to stay in blind until guide arrives to assist in trailing.
3. Any wounded animal will be treated as a kill. If blood, bone, or meat is found, animal will be considered wounded, and we will make a reasonable effort to recover such animals. Even if no blood, bone, or meat is found, if it is obvious that the animal was hit, this will be treated as a wounded animal; guide will make this call. We will make every attempt to track your deer and find your deer. If we have to use a tracking dog there will be a \$500.00 fee whether the animal is found or not. Hunter may or may not be allowed to continue to hunt if they wound a buck, depending upon L J Blessings ability to harvest extra bucks from that particular property and depending upon the specific situation. An L J Blessings Ranch staff member will make the final decision on whether the hunter will have an option to hunt for another buck, and hunter will pay a predetermined harvest fee if another buck is taken.
4. When being transported in a guide's vehicle, no shells are allowed in the chamber or archery equipment loaded, and barrels should be pointed toward the floor of the vehicle. No loaded guns or archery equipment are allowed in or around the camp area.
5. Hunters are forbidden to shoot any animals that are not specified in their contract, unless given permission by guide. In the event that a hunter kills game in excess of his allowed limit, hunter will be charged a harvest fee comparable to the standard hunt price for that animal.
6. Hunters are expected to not leave trash in the field or in the blinds.
7. If hunters should open any gates while on the premises, gates should be locked or latched the same way they were found.
8. Should any hunter's action become an unreasonable risk factor to other individuals attending the hunt, hunter may be immediately dismissed from the premises, and no money will be refunded.
9. Should any hunter's behavior become unruly, hunter may be dismissed from premises with no money refunded.
10. No pets allowed.

***Let's all have a safe and enjoyable hunt.***

# FIREARMS & SHOOTING

Your firearm and your ability to adequately handle and use this piece of equipment with proficiency play a critical role in the ultimate outcome of your hunting trip. ***Please remember these are guidelines only make sure you check the Texas regulations for your equipment!***

## **Whitetail deer Calibers and loads:**

Texas whitetails are not as big-boned and thick-skinned as many other big game animals. We recommend a caliber of 6mm or larger. Calibers such as .25-06, .270, 7mm, .30-06, and all other similar size calibers are good choices. Be sure to do enough practicing to establish which loads shoot the best for your choice of caliber.

## **Archery equipment should consist of:**

### **Longbows, Compound Bows, or Recurved Bows:**

There is no minimum draw requirement for longbows, compound bows or recurved bows.

Devices that allow a bow to be locked at full or partial draw are lawful during any season when lawful archery equipment may be used.

### **Crossbow:**

A crossbow is lawful for game animals and game birds, provided:

- the crossbow has a minimum pull of 125 pounds;
- the crossbow has a mechanical safety; and
- the crossbow stock is not less than 25 inches in length.
- Telescopic sights are lawful.

### **Shooting Practice**

We Have an Archery and Rifle range on our facility. It cannot be overemphasized how important it is for you to put some time in at the range. We recommend you visit the range a minimum of two times during the six-week period preceding your hunt, firing a minimum of ten rounds or arrows per trip. Make sure you practice from shooting positions that are realistic field situations, such as prone, elbows on knees, leaning against a tree, etc. If you plan on using a gun-mounted bipod, be sure to practice with one.

**We recommend that your gun be sighted in for 100 yards dead on. If you decide to sight your gun high at 100 yards, it should not be more than 1.5 inches high at that distance.**

**The most common mistake we see hunters make is having gun sighted in 2" - 3" high at 100 yards.**

**Archery equipment should be sighted in for 20 and out to 30 Yards most shots will be 20 to 25 Yards. *Be prepared to shoot in a seated position and practice this shot.***

# HUNTER PROFILE FORM

We need to receive a Hunter Profile on all of our hunting clients. Even if you have previously filled one out on a previous hunt, please fill one out for your upcoming hunt with L J Blessings Ranch. The Hunter's profile is the last page of this packet. You can either print the form out and mail, or you can scan and email back to us at [jim@foulkrodbusiness.com](mailto:jim@foulkrodbusiness.com).



# HUNTER PROFILE

(Whitetail Hunt)

**Please complete and return either by mail, email or fax to (512) 268-5607**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (WK) \_\_\_\_\_ (Hm) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ **(SS# required if LJB obtains license)**

Drivers License # \_\_\_\_\_ Hunter Safety # \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required in TX if born on or after 9/2/71)

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ (you can pay a one-time \$10.00 waiver fee)

- Have you obtained your Hunting License? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ **Nonresident Deer #105 (\$315), Youth #169 (\$7), Purchase license online at: [Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#).**
- Person/Company responsible for payment (if other than yourself): \_\_\_\_\_
- Please list members of your hunting party: \_\_\_\_\_
- Please list Taxidermy and/or shipping info: \_\_\_\_\_

## Medical Information

- Do you have any Special Dietary Needs or Request: \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you have any physical impairment that we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you have any allergy problems that we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are the most common problems or dislikes you observed on your hunting trips: \_\_\_\_\_
- What hunting trips (game animals and birds) do you plan on trying to attend over the next five years? \_\_\_\_\_
- Can we use your name and telephone number on a reference list? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
If yes, please indicate what number would be best to use. \_\_\_\_\_
- Unless specified otherwise by the customer, we will use your photo in future brochures or advertisements.
- Please let us know your travel arrangements. If flying, please list flight details. If driving, please list arrival and departure times. Arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If flying, will you need shuttle service to/from the ranch? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Fee is \$75.00 per vehicle per trip.\*

**Do you have a Facebook page? If so, Like our Facebook page at L J Blessings Ranch**