West Texas Hunter Checklist and FAQs

Here are a few things to be prepared for and be ready to expect on a Ranch Hunt with us whether guided or unguided. This list is primarily for our Aoudad Hunts but a good reference for all other hunts as well.

The Van Horn, Indio, Terlingua Area, and 4D ranches are considered remote locations and you will need a high clearance SUV or truck that is preferably 4-wheel drive. If you want to bring an ATV or UTV on your hunt you are more than welcome to (self-guided).

Most areas are very rocky high desert terrain so a great pair of boots with no more than 300 or 400 grams of Thinsulate is recommended. Soft soles will not last more than one good hike. Plenty of good socks and foot powder. A pair of gloves can be a big help when climbing steeper terrain and needing to grab onto sharper rocks. A light walking stick can be a big help also. Don't forget plenty of clothes. Bring a few different layers. West Texas weather can change in a minute. A pair of sandals and shorts is nice during warmer weather along with sun screen and bug spray for Ranch Hunts.

A good pack that can hold at least 6 bottles of water, lunch, and your gear is a must. Extra water and personal snacks are always a good thing along with any extra personal vitamins, medications, etc. Don't forget the camera! This is some amazing country that you will want to remember for years to come.

Be prepared for a camping trip in the wilderness. A headlamp and flashlight is an absolute must. Sleeping essentials such as a cot, sleeping bag, and pillow for spike camp hunts. Spike camp set up hunts require a team effort from both the guides and clients. Shaving/ bathing essentials. Baby Wipes to Clean Up. Unless we have organized lodging. Hunts with lodging will often be simple and rustic due to our remote locations. Most ranches have little to no cellular signal.

On big game Ranch Hunts such as Aoudad and Mule Deer a minimum of a .270 caliber or similar rifle is required. Please know and practice your rifles ballistics out to 400 yards and at 10 to 30 degree angles (Aoudad). A Good Pair of 10x or 12x Binoculars is a must.

A cooler with plenty of dry ice or regular ice to transport your trophy. If you are flying in, bring an extralarge duffel bag to transport your horns and cape back with you. We can transport your trophy to our recommended taxidermist if you would like.

Sincerely

Mike McKinny