

## Outdoor Opportunities Guide Service Pre trip information

A fishing license is required for anyone under the age of 16. You need to have this license in hand at the beginning of our trip. If you don't have a fishing license and you would like our help in acquiring some gear, please make sure that you are in camp at a reasonable time the day prior to your trip. Make certain to make contact with our team so that we can help you gear up with the connections that we have in the industry. If you are flying into the Syracuse airport, make sure that you make contact with our staff two days before your trip is scheduled so we can help with arrangements and transportation. Most people choose to stay right at Altmar Outfitters with our crew which makes things much easier for all involved. The amount of gear that you need is directly proportional to the amount of involvement you want to have for your trip that is booked with us. We prefer that we provide you with the rod and reel set up as this is vital to work within the techniques that we use to help ensure your success. If you were doing a river walking trip in the early season you can absolutely get away with shorts and sneakers but some sort of traction aid such as cleats or slip over felt bottoms is recommended. If you are somewhat familiar with salmon fishing and river walking we will take your skills to the next level and put you in position to have a great time. You are welcome to use all of your equipment but if you use our recommended set up with your gear you are much more likely to be successful. Mid to late season river walking trips require chest waders and some sort of traction aid such as cleats or felt bottom boots. Neoprene or breathable waders is the ever-asked question and that is entirely up to you. Each person in our crew has opinions and beliefs for styles of waders and traction aids and they are all valid points and all work for how they choose to fish and get around. This conversation is best had in person and at one of the retail stores that our team prefers to frequent. You will get professional help from people that will size and fit you ensure that you will get the best bang for your buck. Some people choose \$75 rubber boot foot waders and some people choose \$600 breathables and separate wading shoes. This is a personal choice that only you can make. Depending on what we have scheduled the evening before your trip the best experience is for you to get into town around 5 PM the day before your trip. You will be able to get settled into your room and go get necessary licensing and equipment. If our staff is available, you will get some great information about what to expect and most likely a little tour of town and some of our favorite locations. If you were staying for a few days, this is a great time to go to the grocery store and stock your coolers as necessary. We are walking distance to the Altmar Hotel which has some of the best tavern food in the area. We are also driving distance to the Tailwater Lodge which has a much more fancy atmosphere that leans towards three star accommodations.

That evening, if you are staying at Altmar Outfitters you will be surrounded by a wealth of knowledge and great information from all of the lodgers, staff and friends. The conversations that evening will help you prepare for what to expect the next day and some say those are some of the best parts of the entire trip. If you are staying with us, this is when your license will be checked and the pre-trip paperwork and payment arrangements will be gone over. You will pay the full amount for the arranged trip by way of Venmo, Pypal or cash. You will be expected to tip your guide at the conclusion of your trip. That evening you will be given an "in-gear" time or a "feet in the boat" time for your trip. The "in-gear" time is the time that it is absolutely necessary that everything that you needed to do was done and taken care of so that you are in our vehicle riding with us or in your vehicle ready to follow us at that time. "In gear" and ready to go as in the brake lights are off and we are pulling away at that time. The "feet in the boat" time is similar. This is the time that you need to be at the waters edge with everything that you need for your trip. We will have the boat in place and ready for you to step into, but all of your gear needs to be there then so that we can point downstream and get going. These times are very important to ensure that you get the most out of your trip. We will give suggestive updates on

how our schedule is being followed but if you are late it can change the entire plan for the day. Sometimes we have a 30 minute drive to get to a tributary and sometimes we need to be on the river an hour before legal fishing time to ensure that we are in place to beat a crowd. Ultimately this trip is all about you and if you decide that you don't want to join our crew until 10 AM we will make the best of it for you.

Our trips range from doing everything right up to handing you a rod with a fish on it, to taking you to the places that we know where you can use your skills to be successful. We can literally hook and hand you fish or we can merely provide advice and a land or water taxi service from our vehicles and Drift Boat. The arrangements for what you expect from our staff can be somewhat fluid but absolutely cannot go from one extreme to the other as our equipment and staffing planning is based on the initial conversations. It is very unlikely that you will feel like you didn't get the most that our crew has to offer to ensure that you have a great time.

Our full day Drift Boat trips include a stream side meal that typically consists of portable grill food and some drinks. You are expected to bring personal snacks and drinks that can fit in our cooler and in your average size backpack or bag. A full day river-walking trip typically starts with a run to a gas station or drive-through and will consist of us fishing until you say it's time to go grab something to eat. At that point we will hit a variety of fast food and gas station options while going from one location to the next. This is not a provided meal unless this was previously arranged. You are responsible for your food that day. For a full day trip we will go until legally allowed to fish or until you have had enough. If at any point in time, anyone in the guest party becomes unable to function safely in any way do to abilities being impaired buy anything, the trip will be ended at the guides discretion. We want you to have a good time. Moderation is welcome but overindulgence will not be tolerated.

If you are fishing with us and staying at Altmar Outfitters, fish that you catch over a multi-day trip can be stored in the freezer at the fillet station at no cost. Any fish that are processed at the fillet station are subject to a processing fee of \$3.00 per fish.

Overall, the Salmon River offers one of the most amazing fisheries in the Northeast with the opportunity to battle a 25 pound King Salmon that can take you over 30 minutes to land. The area is beautiful with breathtaking views and during the craze of the fishing season offers some hilariously funny situations and environments. The fish will run when they are ready and they will act as expected based on fishing pressure and environmental impacts. That being said, Outdoor Opportunities Guide Service is proud that our guests almost always say that they had fun no matter how terrible the conditions even with everything that mother nature has to throw at us.

Feel free to call text or email Jamie with any questions about your upcoming trip. Keep your eyes peeled to our website, Facebook, TikTok and Instagram pages for the best updates of what is going on.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to do our best to give you a memorable experience.

Regards

Jamie Arnold

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