



Hunting gear checklist

New Zealand's climate is temperate but also very variable. During our hunting season, temperatures can fluctuate from zero degrees up to 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Usually we have cold mornings with the day warming till mid-afternoon and cool/cold evenings. We are an island nation and the weather is subject to rapid and often unpredictable change. We often have a combination of cold and wet conditions (not unlike South East Alaska in fall). Heavily insulated clothing and boots are not recommended, as they are hard to dry out in damp conditions.

Avoid cotton clothing, in favor of wool or quick-drying modern outdoor fabrics. Demin jeans are generally not well suited to hunting in our conditions, they become wet, cold and heavy quickly. We prefer that you invest in some technical hunting clothing.

To cater for variable conditions, we suggest a "layered" clothing system, so that you can easily dress up/down as conditions change i.e. base layer (thermal), mid layer (insulating) and outer layer (waterproof/windproof). Check out how to do this here: <https://www.hunterselement.co.nz/pages/how-to-layer>

Several companies manufacture excellent hunting clothing that is well suited to our conditions. Our preferred clothing company for New Zealand conditions is Hunters Element - <https://www.hunterselement.co.nz/>

Optics

- 1 x set of good quality Binoculars, 10x is recommended.
- Spotting scope not required, will be provided by BCNZ.

Footwear

- 1x pair of stiff soled Hiking or mountain hunting boots, especially if you are hunting Tahr or Chamois (make sure they are broken in before use). Such as:
Element Boot by Hunters Element
<https://www.hunterselement.co.nz/collections/hunting-hiking-boots-footwear-stalking/products/element-hunting-boot>
Alaskan Hiker boot by Meindl at Cabelas
Hardsrabble Hiker by Keneterk
- 1x pair of warm comfortable boots/shoes for non-hunting.
- 1x pair of shoes for travelling.
- Ensure these are all thoroughly cleaned to enter NZ

Clothes

Base layer:

- Thermal underwear – Top & leggings.

Socks:

- 5 pair – Wool or wool mix.

2 pairs of gloves:

- 1 pair thin polypropylene, wool, or possum/wool mix.
- 1 pair thick insulated leather or gortex.

Hats:

- 1 insulated hat/beanie. – Wool or fleece.
- 1 hunting baseball style cap.

Mid Layer

- 2x lightweight breathable hunting trousers – light/medium weight
- 2x fleece or wool shirts – medium weight
- 1x lightweight jacket
- 1x warm hunting jacket – Windstopper fabric is recommended

Outer Layer

- 1x Waterproof rain shell Jacket (must be windproof also)
- 1x Waterproof overpants

- 1x pair of gaiters (preferably silent type).

Hunting Gear

- 1x Headlamp, we require these as they leave our arms free when we are hiking in the dark if we need to. (LED for extended battery life)
- 1x Hiking poles (not essential)
- 1x Sunglasses
- 1x small day hunting pack (no bigger than 40liters or 2400 cu inches), with hydration system if you wish.

Camera:

- 1x Digital & Charger

After Hunting

- Toilet gear, such as toothbrush, razor etc
- Reading book
- Personal Medication
- comfortable clothes to wear when clean

Rifle / Bow

Foreigners are allowed to bring rifles into New Zealand provided they have a licence or permit in their country of origin. Most New Zealanders use a standard .270 but any caliber between .25 and 8mm magnum is OK. Do not bring semi-automatics or pistols. Case your rifle well. Check your airlines website regarding rifles in luggage. The company can supply a rifle for no extra charge.

90 rounds of Ammunition is the maximum amount allowed to bring with you, 50 should be more than enough for most hunts. Good quality bullets are essential e.g. Nosler Partition or Barnes Triple Shocks. Ensure you have spent some time familiarizing yourself with your rifle before you arrive. Zero at 200 yards. Most of the shots taken in New Zealand conditions are 100-250 yards. Ability to shoot accurately at longer ranges is an advantage.

We will check sight in all rifles once you arrive in the country

Medication/personal items

It is recommended that you bring at least 2 times the required stay days for prescriptions and daily-required medicines for the duration of your trip to New Zealand. These should also NOT be packed in your luggage, but taken as carry-on to avoid problems if baggage is lost or delayed. Also, it is a good idea to bring an extra pair of glasses, contacts and daily cleaner, and other 'essential' items for your trip.

Laundry facilities will be available throughout your trip.





LAYER 3: BARRIER LAYER (SHELL)

The Barrier Layer provides protection from wind, rain and snow while allowing layers below to function.

QUALITIES: Windproof, waterproof, breathable, durable, quick drying, packable, DWR treated.



LAYER 2: FURNACE LAYER (MID)

The Furnace Layer provides insulation and continued moisture transfer.

QUALITIES: Warm, breathable, quick drying, high loft, low odour, durable.



LAYER 1: PRIME LAYER (BASE)

The Prime Layer provides moisture control through wicking and body temperature maintenance.

QUALITIES: Comfortable next to skin, dries fast, warm in winter/cool in summer, wicks moisture away from your skin, breathable, low odour.

Below is an example of a day hunt and how to use your layers to maintain a comfortable body temperature.

- Barrier Layer
- Furnace Layer
- Prime Layer

