



GOODNEWS RIVER LODGE 2023 FISHING PROGRAM

The Goodnews River Lodge is that rare find in the fishing world. Fishing here is like fishing was before the crowds discovered your favorite secret fishing hole. It is the **ONLY** full service lodge located on the Goodnews River, a three branch wilderness river system about 450 miles from Anchorage, at the edge of the Togiak National Wilderness Reserve and flowing into the Bering Sea in southwest Alaska. Being the **ONLY** Lodge on the Goodnews River assures a minimum of fishing pressure. If you've fished some of the more famous Rivers in Alaska, you know you have to compete for the best spots on the river with other Lodges. Not here. The only other anglers you're likely to see are your camp mates! And with no commercial fishery in Goodnews Bay since 2016, the River boasts outstanding runs of all 5 species of Pacific Salmon, sea run Dolly Varden, and resident Leopard Rainbow Trout and Grayling. The Lodge is a fixed camp on the banks of the main branch just above tidewater, and is not a fly out Lodge, so weather is rarely an issue. We access the over 490 miles of fishable water via a fleet of high speed jet boats.



ACCOMMODATIONS

Each pair of Guests will be accommodated in one of our 12 spacious high tech, heated, elevated tent/cabins with porch, door, and windows. Each cabin includes a private bath complete with sink, shower and toilet. (Any request for a single accommodation will be handled in one of our original Weatherports without a bathroom as available.) There is also a bath house with 6 full bathrooms, each with hot shower, sink and toilet, and a heated "Dry Hut" for waders and fishing gear so they are dry and ready for the next day's fishing. Gourmet meals are served in our Dining Hall, and after dinner guests can relax in our Recreation Hall after a long day of fishing. Our capacity is 16-24 guests per week, depending on the week. Due to the remoteness of the river, the Lodge operates on a Wednesday-Wednesday schedule.



THE FISHING DAY

Goodnews Power and Light turns on at 5:30 am each day. Coffee is available for the early riser at 6:00am. A Breakfast Buffet is served family style at 7:00 am. At that time you will also make a sandwich for lunch or decide to come back to the Lodge for lunch. You will also be offered a choice of entrees for dinner that evening, including the option of fresh salmon. Boats leave the Lodge at 8:15 AM and return at 5:30 PM. Appetizers are ready at 6:00pm, followed by dinner at 7:00 PM. Guides are assigned each evening after dinner for the next day's fishing as we like our Guests to fish with a different Guide each day to take advantage of each Guide's knowledge of the river. We do not put more than 2 anglers with a Guide. Both Anglers and Guide then have a chance to discuss what it is they want to fish for the next day, and make sure the proper gear is ready. If you'd like a **Shore Lunch** the next day, this is the time to order it. Then, it's time to relax in our recreation Hall, or sample the outstanding fishing available right out in front of the Lodge. Lights out at 10:30pm for a good night's sleep.



2023 FISHING CALENDAR

As you know, run timing is very important to any successful Alaskan fishing adventure, so here's a look at our 2023 fishing calendar. Our season begins the week of June 21-28, with the arrival of the mighty **King salmon**, along with outstanding fishing for **Rainbow Trout and Grayling**. Kings on the Goodnews typically average 20-25lbs, with many fish caught that weigh upwards of 40 lbs. Fly anglers can expect 5-10 hookups per day, and those pulling plugs will do even better. These fish, like all the salmon we fish for on the River, will be chrome bright and fresh from the Bering Sea, many still sporting sea lice.

In addition to the Kings, thousands of feisty **Chum and Sockeye salmon** move into river in early July, and anglers who target Chums can easily catch 20 or more a day. When the Chums are this thick, they have been known to eat poppers off the surface with gusto, just like Silvers!



Our resident population of **Rainbow Trout** will be hungry after a long winter, and will be following the salmon as they move upriver, and respond well to streamers. When the water temperature hits 48 degrees, they will eat a deer hair mouse skated across the surface.



Rainbows are targeted in the upriver sections of the North Fork, Middle Fork and the South Forks of the River, as well as numerous creeks and braids. Mid July brings the arrival of sea run **Dolly Varden**. Cousin to the brook trout, this is the time when some of the largest Dollys of the year are caught, up to 30". The "**Grand Slam**" season hits its peak the weeks of July 19-July 26, and July 26-Aug 2. It's quite an accomplishment for an angler to land all 5 species of Pacific Salmon on fly in one day, and the Goodnews River is one of the few rivers in Alaska where that is possible.



But perhaps we are best known for our outstanding **Silver** salmon run. The first Silver is usually caught around July 18, and fresh Silvers just keep pouring in until long after the camp closes on September 13. Averaging 10-12lbs, these chrome bright fish will take a streamer or spinner very aggressively, but fishing for them with a fly rod popper or surface plug is the way to go. 40-50 fish days are the norm in late August and September, and if you can handle more, they are there for the catching. Rainbows and Dollys are easy to find upriver as they feast on the banquet of salmon eggs deposited by the spawning Chum and Sockeye. This is "Match-the-Hatch-Alaska Style" time of the year when beads will take the most fish, but they also respond well to a Mouse skated over the spawners. Many of our repeat Guests come back every August for the combination of **Silvers, Rainbows and Dollys**. It's really hard to beat a day of Silvers in the morning, and then Rainbows and Dollys in the afternoon. It's your typical day in August at the Goodnews River Lodge.



THE FISHING PROGRAM

Your Fishing Adventure package at the Goodnews River Lodge for 2023 includes 6 1/2 days of fully guided fishing with only two anglers per guide, deluxe ensuite double occupancy lodging with private bath, all meals, and boat transfers.

Because there is no commercial service to the town of Goodnews Bay, we have arranged for a private charter direct from Anchorage to Goodnews Bay and return. This not only eliminates any hassles in getting to the Lodge, but also allows us to get you out fishing on Wednesday afternoon. As there is really no easy way to get here, all of our guests are required to use the charter flight.

All flies, lures, and terminal tackle are included as well. In addition, we do have a supply of loaner gear available including rods, reels, waders, and boots at no cost should you need them. (Sorry we do not stock any 2 handed Fly rods).

Please be aware that the State of Alaska has banned the use of felt soled boots in all fresh water. If you have a pair of felt soled boots, leave them home. Please feel free to use a pair of our waders and/or boots. Just let us know your size, and we'll have them waiting for you when you arrive. If you do bring your rubber soled boots, be sure to remove the cleats as they are not stable on an aluminum jet boat.



2023 RATES

June 21–28	Kings, Rainbows, Grayling, Chum, Sockeye	\$7995
June 28-July 5	Kings, Chum, Sockeye, Rainbows, Dolly Varden	\$7995
July 5-12	Kings, Chum, Sockeye, Dolly Varden, Rainbows	\$7995
July 12-19	Kings, Chum, Sockeye, Dolly Varden, Rainbows	\$7995
July 19-26	Grand Slam, Kings, Rainbows, Dolly Varden <i>Kids Kast and Katch Week*</i>	\$7995
July 26-Aug 2	Grand Slam, Rainbows, Dolly Varden, Silvers	\$8200
Aug 2-9	Silvers, Rainbows, Dolly Varden, Grand Slam	\$8995
Aug 9-16	Silvers, Rainbows, Dolly Varden	\$8995
Aug 16-23	Silvers, Rainbows, Dolly Varden	\$8995
Aug 23-30	Silvers, Rainbows	SOLD OUT
Aug 30-Sept 6	Silvers, Rainbows <i>Cast and Blast Week**</i>	\$8995
Sept 6-13	Silvers, Rainbows <i>Cast and Blast Week**</i>	\$8200

For all weeks of our season, round trip private Charter air transportation to and from Anchorage and Goodnews Bay will cost **\$1250** per Guest, and a Native Land Use Fee of **\$115** per Guest will be assessed in addition to the weekly pricing above. **We reserve the right to revise the pricing as economic conditions dictate.**



SPECIALS

Kids Kast and Katch Week-July 19-26 We love to welcome future Anglers to the Lodge. Each fully paying Adult this week can bring along one child under 16 for **only \$3500 including Charter fare!** (Native Fee of \$115 additional). Kids can learn to fish, tie flies and participate in lots more activities.

Cast and Blast Aug 30-Sept 6 and Sept 6-13 Limited to 6 participants each week, you can hunt Duck early or late, then fish for Silvers and Rainbows for the rest of the day. This quintessential Alaskan experience is available for an additional **\$1000** per person. Contact us for complete details.

There are no other costs involved except for your **State of Alaska fishing license and King Salmon/Duck Stamps, which MUST be purchased online before you come at www.adfg.alaska.gov** a Native Land Use Fee of **\$115** per Guest that we collect for the Village of Goodnews Bay, and staff gratuities. Many of our Guests ask us about Gratuities. We pool all Guest Gratuities and share them with all of Team Goodnews. We recommend **10-15% of the package cost**. To make it easier for you so you do not have to carry much cash or a check, we can add the recommended Gratuity directly to your invoice. The Staff works hard for you, so please be generous.

Reservations can only be guaranteed upon receipt of a 50% non refundable deposit. The balance is due 90 days before date of departure. Since all monies are non-refundable due to our short season, we highly recommend that you consider purchasing travel insurance. For your convenience, we have provided a link to our travel insurance partner, Travelex, on our web site, www.goodnewsriverlodge.com And, we highly recommend that you consider medical evacuation insurance through Global Rescue. All space is sold on a first come first served basis. **We reserve the right to assess a fuel surcharge should one become necessary.**



YOUR TRIP

Our weeks run Wednesday to Wednesday only, and you will need to be in Anchorage on the Tuesday before your week begins. We gather for the Charter Flight from the Anchorage Airport at 9:00 am every Wednesday, with a weather permitting departure time of 10:00am for the Lodge. Please limit your baggage weight to 50lb plus a 10lb. carry-on. (Baggage over the weight limit may be assessed an additional charge.) After a scenic 2 hour flight over Alaskas's wilderness you'll arrive at Goodnews Bay and be transported to the Lodge via jet boats. A quick lunch, get geared up, and we'll have you out fishing that afternoon.

All good things must come to an end, and your visit to the Lodge is no exception. After 6 1/2 days of outstanding fishing, your return flight gets you back to Anchorage about 3:00 PM the following Wednesday. Flights back to the lower 48 should not be booked before 6:00pm in the case of a weather delay, or you can choose to overnight in Anchorage and depart on Thursday or later if seeing more of Alaska is on your itinerary. Flights to and from your home and Anchorage, and the Anchorage portion of your trip are not included in the package.

There is a lot more information about the Lodge available on our web site, www.goodnewsriverlodge.com including Guest Recommendations, Magazine and Newspaper Articles, a number of Video's of TV shows that were filmed at the Lodge over the past few years, and many photos of the Lodge and the fish. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and You Tube for up to date information about the Lodge.

Tight Lines!

Team Goodnews

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