

THE WEST - SOME SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER IDEAS

Some would argue that September can be the finest fly fishing month in many areas throughout the West. October can share that reputation if the weather holds. Crowds are gone and the waters offer the opportunity for more solitude than the summer crush. Some spots worth considering:

British Columbia - Fernie and the Blackwater River: September may be the best month for settled weather in B.C. (October can be a little "iffy") In eastern B.C., on the Elk River drainage (Fernie), the cutthroat are still rising to the surface and the Bull Trout are in their spawning mode. Although some waters are closed to protect the Bull Trout, others are available. In western B.C., this can be a wonderful time for the float trip on the Blackwater River with its prolific native rainbow trout fishery.

Independent Guides, Colorado: this is a new operation started by a group of guides who worked for years at Elk Creek Lodge. Elk Creek used to be the finest private waters fishery in the west before becoming totally private this year. These are quality guides who know this spectacular White River Valley area of Colorado well and use their long term relationships to access private waters in many locations. Using an informal B & B for their base of operations, this is a program where the fishing can be outstanding and the costs more reasonable than a high end lodge. Great spot for a long weekend type getaway – Four nights with three days fishing is their specialty.

On the high end of the scale, if you like first class service and the best private waters fishing in the U.S., Three Forks Ranch in Northern Colorado has two open slots for five night trips in September still open. This has been described by one of our best clients as "decadent fly fishing" and it has received rave reviews from everyone we've sent there.

TRIP REPORT
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