



**Please Call TOWER ROCK LODGE**

**When You Arrive in Anchorage**

**(907) 953-2656**

[www.towerrocklodge.com](http://www.towerrocklodge.com)

### ***Destination Kenai Peninsula***

Situated near the town of Soldotna, in south-central Alaska, **TOWER ROCK LODGE**

**(907) 953-2656** is an internationally recognized five star full service lodge located 12 miles upriver on the banks of the world famous Kenai River. **Upon arrival, please check in at the Orvis Dining Hall.**

### ***Arriving in Anchorage***

- Drive from Anchorage airport 147 miles (3-1/2 hours) along the scenic Seward Highway thru the Chugach Mountains to the town of Soldotna and **TOWER ROCK LODGE**
- Fly EVA Aviation 800 478 1947 [www.flyera.com](http://www.flyera.com) to Kenai Airport (flight time 25 minutes), pick up your rental car and drive directly to **TOWER ROCK LODGE** which is only 15 minutes away.
- For assistance with car rental or travel needs, we suggest **[Alaska's Best Travel 1-800 545 0844](http://Alaska's Best Travel 1-800 545 0844)**

If driving at night, be careful of moose and other wildlife on the road.

### ***What is included?***

- All necessary equipment including all tackle, bait, flies, **Orvis** #8 fly rods and spinning gear and **Loomis** salmon rods with **Shimano** Dakota reels.
- **GRUDGEON** rain gear and **Orvis** hip waders
- Secluded bank fishing in front of Tower Rock Lodge for Silvers and Reds. Excellent opportunities.
- One 50 # wet lock box for your catch, for most package plans
- All meals (advance notice for special dietary needs please) and complimentary beverages and wine

### ***Check YOUR Checklist!***

- **You will need to obtain your fishing license and King Salmon stamp** (if applicable) covering the amount of days you plan to fish (1, 3, 7, 14 days and annually). [www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/license/](http://www.admin.adfg.state.ak.us/license/) or at any local convenience store.
- Plan your clothing around a layering system that adjusts to changing temps and conditions. Light weight rain gear will prepare you for all possibilities. Remember it can shift from 50°-70° and be wet or sunny within minutes.
- Bring your favorite hat, sunglasses, camera and sunscreen. We do advise mosquito repellent on fly-out trips.

- Liquor, cigarettes and other personal necessities are available at local stores nearby.
- Overnight laundry services are available

### ***Other Arranged Activities***

- Kayaking (sea, lake, river) and hiking
- Bear viewing, bird, wildlife and whale watching. Bears are abundant during the salmon runs (mid June through August)
- Fly out fishing, clamming, flight seeing and glacier viewing by big boat.

### ***Here's Your Limit!***

- 5 King Salmon per year
- 2 Kenai River King Salmon per year
- 2 Silvers per day (3 after 8/31 on Kenai)
- 2 Halibut per day
- 3-6 Reds per day
- All trout are catch and release

**Echo Lake Meats** (907 283 9457) will vac-pack, flash freeze filet or smoke your entire catch in wet lock boxes. Fish will stay frozen for up to 36 hours and Echo Lake will ship anywhere in the world after processing. You may choose to “check-in” your boxes as airline luggage. You are allowed 2 pieces and each piece cannot exceed 50 lbs.



## **ALASKAN FACTS**

- If you place Alaska, with all of its islands, on top of the “continental” United States, it spans from the Great Lakes to Texas, and from Florida to California.
- At 591,000 square miles, Alaska is larger than Texas, California, and Montana combined.
- The coastline of Alaska is longer than the coastline of the continental USA
- Of Alaska’s 3 million lakes, the largest (Lake Iliamna) is the size of Connecticut.
- Alaska’s mainland is only 51 miles away from Russia.
- Alaska was purchased from Russia in 1867 for under 2 cents per acre or \$ 7 MILLION USD.
- Alaska has 17 of the 20 highest mountains in North America (Mt. McKinley is the highest at 20,320 feet)
- Astronauts say they can see the 800-mile Trans-Alaska Pipeline from outer space.

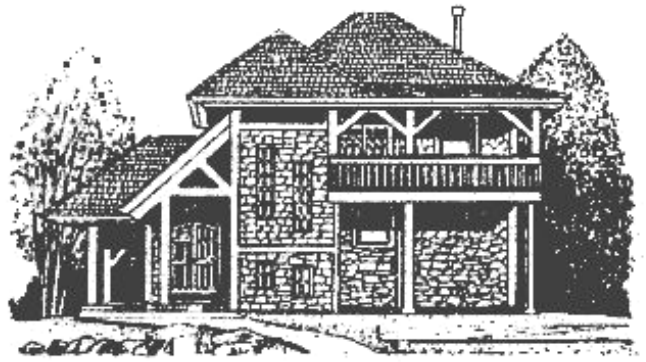
- Due to long summer days in Alaska, giant vegetables are common, such as 98-pound cabbage recorded in 1990.
- Alaska became the 49th US state January 3, 1959, right before Hawaii became the 50th state that same year.
- Alaska's 670,000 people live in modern cities, and many live in small remote villages where their families have lived for thousands of years. The population of Anchorage, Alaska's largest city, is 279,000.
- Dog mushing is the state sport.
- The pheasant-like willow ptarmigan is the state bird. This bird changes color from light brown in summer to snow white in winter.
- The giant Kenai king salmon stays in the saltwater 5-7 years, unlike the west coast King at 3-4 years.
- In 1998, the Governor of Alaska named the moose as the official state land mammal.
- The Forget-Me-Not, which grows well throughout Alaska, is the state flower.
- STATE MOTTO "North to the Future"
- STATE NICK NAME "The Last Frontier" - The name Alaska is derived from the Aleut word "Alyeska," meaning "great land."
- Mosquito is not the state bird! (Actually we have a few near the lodge, but they thrive in the bush)

- The longest day of the year is the 22<sup>ND</sup> of June .....23 hours/ 8 minutes of light and FISHING HOURS
- TRL is located 12 miles from the inlet with fresh fish running on every tide turn.
- Kenai is 82 miles long  
*upper near Cooper Landing (drift boat only),*  
*middle Skilak near the town of Sterling*  
*lower below the Soldotna Bridge which welcomes both motor and drift and boats*
- Kings, Sockeye, Pink, Silver, Rainbow, Steelhead, Dolly Varden, Grayling and Lake Trout all reside in the Kenai drainage.
- Kenai holds 11 of 13 IGFA world salmon records.
- **97 lbs 4 oz WORLD RECORD KING** May 17, 1985 in front of TRL.
- TRL is **IGFA** Official Weigh Station.



# Tower Rock Lodge

---



*The facilities at **TOWER ROCK LODGE** are built on a 7 acre parcel bordering 650 acres of federally protected wetlands, 12 miles up from tidewater. We are the only IGFA representative for South East Alaska.*

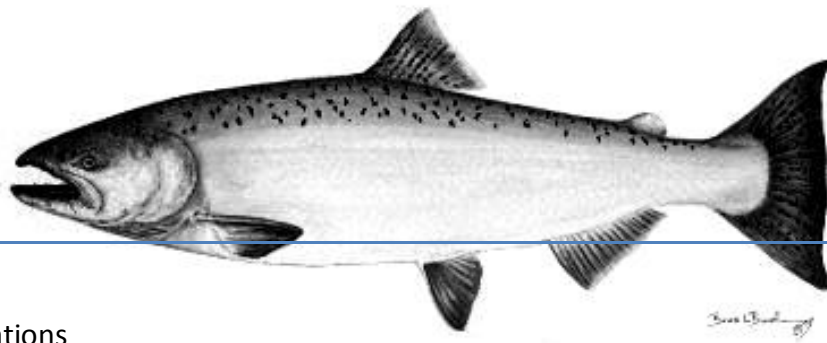
*Not only can you fish right in front of the lodge, our riverfront compound also encompasses the Main Lodge, Orvis Log Dining Hall and the recent addition of 4 private en-suite log cabins. Amidst the surroundings, we offer a 19<sup>th</sup> hole putting green, horseshoes, fire pit and a fly casting practice area.*

**Main Lodge:** Located on the historical “Old Ames Homestead” which belonged to Alaska’s first game warden Warren Ames (before statehood), our main lodge was architecturally designed and constructed in 1992 from reclaimed timber and 40 ton of ocean rock from Prince William Sound. This home away from home features three bedrooms and 2 baths comfortably sleeping up to 10 people. The top floor hosts a common living room area for all guests to gather or simply enjoy wonderful treetop views of the Kenai River. The existing world record King Salmon was caught in front of the lodge!

**Private Log Cabins:** Constructed in 2003, we have three en-suite log cabins that each accommodates 4 people and our last cabin will sleep 5 people. All cabins have a living and sleeping area with its own refrigerator and private bathroom and shower. Complimenting the stylish design are the individual covered porches. These cabins are wonderful for those demanding a little more privacy.

**Orvis Dining Hall:** Nestled next to the Main Lodge, Orvis Dining Hall welcomes you each day for an early morning breakfast while at night, it becomes the scene of an edible adventure of world class culinary delight or where you might say: East meets West! Creative combinations that showcase the talents of our European trained chef Mark Tuhy and his Thai wife Noonie will night after night tantalize your palate whether your are served seafood Pad Thai or “Alaska wild” mixed grill just to name a few. After dinner, don’t forget to check the [daily fishing schedule](#) or other important communication that is posted every evening at 8:00p.m. At any time, guests are welcome at Orvis Hall to use the high speed internet on a “first come- first –serve” basis or enjoy an appropriate Cuban cigar!

**Riverfront Dock:** Boasting two separate docks, **TOWER ROCK LODGE** owns and operates four Willie Guide power boats and three drift boats. All of our guides, skippers and boats are Coast Guard licensed and approved plus registered with Alaska Parks where applicable. For your safety, all watercraft are equipped with life jackets and are routinely maintained.



# Kenai Kings

---

## Regulations

- One fish per day, two per year. No fishing after retention.
- Single Hook, bait (tba)
- Closed to guided fishing on Sundays and Mondays all season.

## **MAY 1-JUNE 30 Early Run**

The first run of King Salmon appears by early May when the Kenai River is low and very clear. The low level of the river during this period tends to concentrate the fish in deep holes in the **Tower Rock Lodge** area, and each tide will bring another group of fish into the river. The river's early King Salmon average between 30 and 40 pounds with occasional catches of fish to 60 or 70 pounds.

## **JULY 1-31 Late Run**

The late run that begins on July 1 averages about 40,000 fish and unlike the early run, **bait is always allowed.** Lower River spawners below the Soldotna Bridge will take eggs or a "pork chop" which is a quick fish with a sardine wrap. Use a #40 main line, #80 leaders, #20 Jet planer and back troll. Wait until the rod totally buries, then double strike with no thumbs and reel like a badger out of hell.

# Kasilof Kings

---

*Kasilof River is a tidal affected river only 17 miles drive from **TOWER ROCK LODGE**. This shallow river begins at the glacier fed Tustumena Lake and flows 22miles northwest to Cook Inlet near the town of Kasilof, which was an original Russian trading post. The early run on the Kenai also coincides with an early run of Kasilof fish both hatchery and wild.*

*4 people per drift boat only. Fishing the Kasilof is a different experience than fishing the Kenai because motors are not allowed on this river during salmon season, making a trip down the Kasilof a very quiet yet exciting journey. Early run Kasilof kings average 20 lbs and late run fish can grow to over 50 lbs. It isn't unusual to catch and release a steelhead or a few Dolly Varden during a drift down the Kasilof and of course the Reds and Silvers are plentiful during the correct season.*

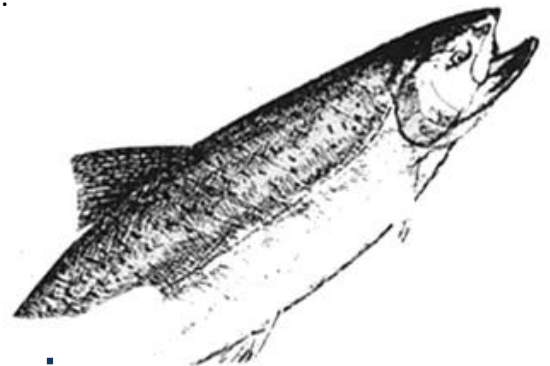
## Regulations **MAY 15-JUNE 30 Early Run**

- Single hook and **Bait is always allowed**
- Retention of hatchery fish (adipose clipped) 7 days a week, retention of wild fish on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays only.
- Limit two fish per day of hatchery fish or one hatchery and one wild king on days when wild retention is allowed. Fishing after retention allowed.

## Regulations **JULY 1-31 Late Run**

Same as above **except:**

- Multiple hook and bait allowed.
- Closed to guided fishing Sundays in July.
- The Kasilof has an entirely wild return of late run native Kings. This late run of Kings in the Kasilof is a big, hard fighting fish often exceeding 40 pounds. Fighting these big Kings with no motor in extremely fast current is a very challenging and memorable experience.
- One king per day.



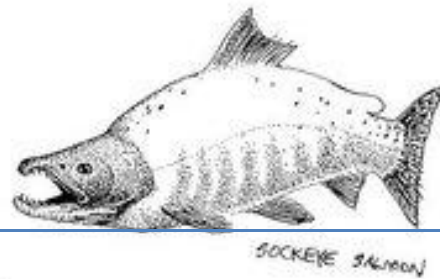
# King Fishing Techniques

---

There's really only two consistent ways to put these fish on the hook; one is back-trolling and the other is back bouncing.

Back-trolling consists of sending out diving baits (plugs, salmon eggs) and holding the boat in the current so that the baits dive down against the river's flows. The boat is positioned above the hole then slowly slides down until the gear gets into the money spot. Wait until the rod buries and the line peels before striking the fish.

Drifting (back bouncing) is totally different. This involves attaching a fair amount of weight to your line and sending a freshly cured (our own secret brine) chunk of king roe, combined with a large spin n' glow down to the river's gravel bottom where it drifts in unison with the river current until an unusual bounce conveys that the King Salmon is bumping the bait. When the fish bites, lower the rod and then **HAMMER** the fish! It is the most widely preferred method used by our boat guides and hangs a lot of huge fish.



## Reds

---

*Known to Alaskans as Reds the Sockeye Salmon is historically the most commercially valuable fish, especially to the Japanese, because of its high oil content and ability to hold its red color in the freezer. Sockeye spawn in streams that have lakes in their watershed. Young Sockeye do not survive unless they spend between nine to twelve months in a lake before migrating to sea. The driving force that brings the Sockeye Salmon to migrate to its spawning bed is legendary. You need only watch them leap waterfalls and speed through fast currents to see the will to survive that the Red Salmon possesses. These richly fleshed, speed demons average about 6-13 lbs and there is a limit of three per day. Later in the season, the limit is six per day. All are perfect size for the "barbie."*

---

## Fishing Locations

---

### Mid June-Early August

From late May to mid August Red Salmon can be found in the Kenai, Kasilof and Russian Rivers. The Kenai River is the home to an enormous run of the "Reds" salmon. Although there is a smaller run that passes through the river in mid June, the much larger run of Sockeye Salmon in mid July is the run that mainstream anglers target. Some years more than 2.5 million Sockeye return to the river to spawn.

Many anglers may choose to go fishing from the river banks at the lodge on their own. Fishing usually begins in the second week of July and run through about the second week of August. **TOWER ROCK LODGE** trips for late-run Sockeye grow more popular every season.

## Fishing Techniques

---

The Red Salmon swims with its mouth in continual open and close motion, so the technique involves getting the attractor as close to the mouth of the fish as possible. In shallow water and particularly over gravel bars with a pair of polarized sunglasses is the very best bet. Whether you spin fish, or use a fly rod, the most effective attractors are a Coho Streamer or Russian River fly or some variation of these patterns with a #3 or #4 hook and just enough weight ahead of the fly to get to the fish depth. When casting, begin at an angle upstream of the spot you are fishing and try to keep the attractor broadside to the fish. When you feel a slight hesitation, or bump, you must set the hook immediately or you will miss. Sockeye generally lightly mouth the fly and let go. Once you begin to perfect this technique and hook one of these beauties, you are in for a wild battle of wild leaps and reel smoking up and downstream runs.

*The Japanese love to eat these fish eggs..... Our guides love these fish eggs as bait!*

# Silver Salmon

---



*Silver Salmon or Coho are also sometimes known as “blue-back” when caught before full maturity. They are the most popular game fish of the salmon family, as well as one of the most valuable commercial species. Most fish run around the same size of around 10lbs. with larger ones at about 20lbs. The limit is 3/day on the rivers. Feisty and acrobatic, Silvers also make great table fare ... offering a firm, mild flesh and are considered by many to be the tastiest salmon species. They are excellent smoked, not oily, and have a pleasant texture. They are perfectly paired with a cold IPA!*

## Kenai and Kasilof Rivers **August thru September**

In late July or early August, the Silvers or Coho’s begin returning to both the Kenai and Kasilof Rivers. Adult Coho migrate up these Alaskan rivers primarily in August thru September with most of the Silver fishing on the Kenai takes place in the lower river near tidewater. The silver limit in both streams through August 31 is TWO silvers per day. The Kenai limit goes to THREE per day on September 1st but Kasilof stays at two. Its confusing but a bonus for late season Kenai anglers.

Many anglers choose to fish the Kenai during this time when the river is a little quieter than the busy King and Sockeye season. This is especially true in even-numbered years when millions of Pink Salmon flood into the Kenai; with both species present, there is loads of action. The fishery on both Kenai and Kasilof Rivers last thru September however every Monday is closed to fishing on the Kenai River only.

## Seward, Alaska

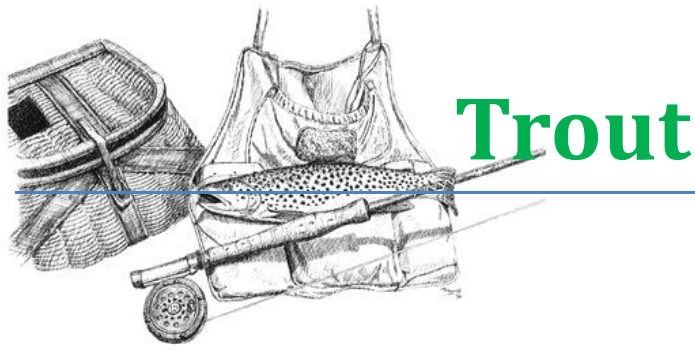
Seward (3 hours driving from the lodge) is famous for its Silver/Coho saltwater salmon fishing. The Seward Silver Salmon Derby takes place the second week in August and is the largest fishing derby in the state! Seward salmon fishing is where multiple hookups are the norm not the exception. The fish limit in the salt range from 3-6 per day, depending on the area. It is usually a slam-dunk during the peak season of August, and can provide non-stop excitement. Here Kings are sometimes caught while mooching for Silver. Not only does this make for quite a battle on the lighter Silver Salmon tackle, it loads the cooler fast!

## Fishing Techniques

---

Prone to leaping, the tenacious Silver Salmon are pound-for-pound the hardest-fighting salmon and best of all they are aggressive and readily strike lures and take baited hooks. Coho fishing on the Kenai is done with power boats on anchor. Using, a salmon egg loop rig filled with some cured roe. Bait bounced on the bottom can produce many Silver Salmon and some great laughs. For the more adventurers we bust out the **Ovris** fly rods and clouser flies. “Hang On”





# Trout



## Locations

**Rainbow Trout** fishing on the Kenai River is among the finest in the world. Kenai rainbows are indeed the most wild and beautiful fish you will ever see. Since rainbow trout are one of the river's year-round inhabitants and not a harvest species, it is catch and release. Every year the Kenai River produces some of the largest rainbows in all of Alaska. Fish over thirty inches are largely unheard of in most waters, but on the Kenai they are caught on a regular basis. The weight varies from 5-20 lbs with the Alaska state record being 42 lbs.3 oz.

**Dolly Varden** or "Dollies" are a native resident and is actually a char and not a true trout. It is plentiful and found year round in Kenai Peninsula streams and lakes. Unlike the early spawning rainbow, the char enter their "spawn colors" in the fall. Males have a hooknose as well as a dark body and orange/white spots. The Dolly serves a useful purpose in maintaining the health of other salmon species as these "footballs" gorge themselves and feed actively on diseased or dead salmon eggs on the river bottom. The majority are from 3/8lbs. in weight. The bigger fish when hooked, typically run to the middle of the river and sit, testing line strength and anglers ability.

**Steelhead** are ocean going rainbows and all steelhead fishing on Kenai Peninsula rivers is catch and release. They enter the river system in late spring and early fall before and after the freeze. These fish are big and bright and very aggressive and will take the bead, spinners and flies.

### Russian River June 11-Sept.15 (Trout fishing)

*Upper Kenai River/Kenai Lake "the Bridge" to Sportsman Landing (takeout)*

- Located 43 miles from **TOWER ROCK LODGE**, headwater is upper Kenai Lake
- 16 miles long and is a tributary of the upper Kenai River where it flows in at Sportsman's Landing. Water runs fast. Walk into the river at Dolly Varden campground at the Russian River State Park
- The Upper Kenai River is the premier trout fishery in south central Alaska near Cooper Landing. As the upper portion of the river allows no motors, the fishery is from drift boats and walk in.
- The USFWS has estimated the upper rainbow population as high as 2000 trout per mile. Fishing is usually very good with the fly rods.
- Fishing is best upstream. Excellent river to sight fish trout. The first two weeks in August for Reds is outstanding.
- Bead fishing for rainbows with 3 split shot weights and long leaders/high stick drift.

### Middle Kenai or Skilak Lake (Trout Fishing)

Skilak Lake is formed from the waters of the Kenai River and the melt off from Skilak Glacier on the eastern most end of the lake. As both main feeder streams into this lake begin from glacial origin, Skilak waters are somewhat cloudy from glacial silt

suspended within the waters. This bluish gray coloring diminishes due to settling as you travel down the lake and by mid lake the water has cleared considerably. Just south of the lower campground, the lake dumps out into a winding waterway that begins what is known as the middle section of the Kenai River. Fish the shallows in early fall for giant rainbow trout and Dolly Varden. Best suited for boats because of its inaccessibility.

### **Quartz Creek Aug.10-Sept. 1 (Trout fishing)**

#### *Above Cooper Landing*

- After you turn away from Kenai Lake on the highway look for a set of powerlines that cross the road. Walk the “powerlines” down to the stream and fish down toward the mouth.
- Small creek with thousands of spawning Sockeyes (bright red body and green head)
- Sockeyes making “REDDS” (digging 1 foot deep in gravel to lay eggs with tail )
- Sight fish Rainbows and Dollies swimming behind Sockeyes. Catch and release trout.
- Use a variety of Sockeye egg patterns.

**The Anchor, Ninilchik, and Deep Creek** are the most popular freshwater sport fisheries on the Lower Kenai Peninsula for “walk in” steelheading and King fishing. These streams provide good fishing throughout the summer and fall with runs of King, Silver and Pink Salmon, Dolly Varden Trout, and Steelhead. These rivers are narrow and only about 15-25 yards at their widest point, which makes them easy to fish from their riverbanks. All rivers are crossed by the Sterling Highway road system. The Anchor River, Deep Creek and Ninilchik River share the honor for the oldest and most traditional King Salmon fishery on the Kenai Peninsula.

### **Anchor River (Steelhead)**

- Located 52 miles from **TOWER ROCK LODGE**
- tide dependent with a peat bottom
- 26 inches deep @ “Slide Hole” with #2 split shot
- perfect for bead fishing or swinging leaches
- Steelhead and Silvers begin arriving in late August and peak in September and October.

### **Deep Creek (Steelhead)**

- Deep Creek with its clear water is located 40 miles from **TOWER ROCK LODGE** near Ninilchik.
- This walk-in is adjacent to the shores of Cook Inlet with excellent scenic views of Mt. Iliamna and Mt. Redoubt.
- The king Salmon runs as well as Silvers and Steelhead at Deep Creek are legendary. Bald eagles are visible year-round. In the summer months Sandhill cranes Dowitcher and other shore birds inhabit the saltwater marsh.
- High bank and slide hole are the best to drift flies.



# Trout Fishing Techniques

---

For Rainbows: long 10-12ft leaders with a 17lb. fluoro-carbon tippet is the trick. #8 Flyrod with dry line, spin cast #10 test monofilament. Alaskan trout are usually focused on salmon fry, bait fish, flesh patterns and salmon eggs i.e. "Da Bead".

#6610 Mustad hooks and plastic beads from 6-12 mm in different shades of red and pink are used to resemble the natural egg in the river water, but different water conditions, clarity and light diffusion, all dictate the "bead" to use.

Mike Tuhy, **TOWER ROCK LODGE** owner, developed "Da Bead" some 25 years ago while working as a fly-fishing guide at an Alaskan fly-out lodge. It was then called the "Tuhy Buoy" and was recognized by the famous author and fly-tier Lee Wulff as being "the most creative and innovative fly he had ever seen". He was awestruck in the simplicity of the design and its effectiveness and efficiency for all Trout, Steelhead and even Silvers. This concept, combined with the effortless technical cast for throwing heavy line called the "Kenai Roll" which was developed by another local guide Kurt Trout.

Make sure you don't leave Alaska without trying "Da Bead" and the "Kenai Roll".



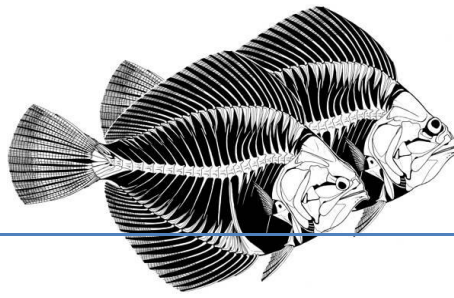
**\*\* SAFETY \*\***

---

In all the deep rivers there is a major current.

Caution is advised.

**DO NOT FISH IF THE WATER IS ABOVE YOUR KNEE**



# Halibut

---

*Halibut is any of large white meat flatfishes of the genus **Hippoglossus**. Middle English termed it **hali** (the fish was eaten on holy days) and **butte** which is Middle Dutch for flatfish. One of the most popular species for fishing in Alaska, Halibut can live up to 150 years and can grow to be quite enormous - Trophy sizes start at 200 lbs. and a 300 lb. Halibut can win tournaments... the IGFA world record is 496 lbs. The average “chicken” Halibut caught is 20-50 lbs. and is typically fished for in 200 ft. deep waters as these fish congregate along the edges of underwater shelves and around rocky outcroppings on the ocean floor. The good news is that these smaller fish are much better eating than their large counterparts which are called “shooters” if over #100 lbs.*

*The most enjoyable and productive Halibut fishing is during the two weeks each month when the slack tides are the smallest. The season is May thru September. In addition, Kings and Halibut can be combo fished until June 15 at Deep Creek and Silvers and Halibuts can be combo fished after August 1. The limit is 2 Halibut fish per person per day and the processing of the fish into filets typically yields 50%.*

## Halibut Locations

---

**Tower Rock Lodge** offers three different 10-12 hour Halibut charters all which require an early morning wake-up. A continental breakfast will be served in **Orvis Dining Hall**. You can pick up your fish tote and prepared lunch in front of the lodge prior to your early departure. We do have Dramamine available.

**Deep Creek** near the community of Ninilchik

Located 45 miles (60 minutes) from the lodge, we will trailer the 28' aluminum boats 2\*200 Yamaha outboards and launch from the beach to fish the saltwater of Cook Inlet. The Deep Creek fishery is also home to a popular **Salmon/Halibut combo** trip in June. You will have a chance to troll “cut plug” for near shore for migrating Kings, that are heading to local streams, and then go outside for Halibut.

Be sure to ask about our saltwater **Drift Boat** excursions. “Small Boat Huge Fish”

**Homer**

Heading south 85 miles (2.5 hours) from the lodge, you will head to the pier and board 29-50' sport fishing boats. **Tower Rock Lodge** partners with **North Country Charters** (907-235 7620), the oldest family owned company in Homer. All of their boats have twin engines and heated cabins with restrooms for your comfort as you cruise the 20 Nautical Mile run to fishing spots named “Jurassic Park or the Toad Hopper! “

**Seward**

Located 101 miles (3 hours) from the lodge, you will experience world-class fishing on the magnificent waters of the Gulf of Alaska and Prince William Sound out of Seward. Beginning August 1, Silver and Halibut combos can really fill the box with “freezer pets!”

Fishing in the Seward area is a special experience. You'll be surrounded by the splendors of Resurrection Bay and Kenai Fjords National Park or Prince William Sound where you will be fishing some of the most productive Halibut grounds in the world not to mention having the opportunity to see glaciers, Steller sea lions,\* Killer and the beautiful Humpback whales.\*\*

## Alaska Halibut Fishing Techniques

---

Normal technique for Halibut fishing is to anchor the boat and fish along the bottom 200 feet with cut bait which consists of herring, cod, salmon scraps (heads, bellies, tails), octopus, or squid baited onto a single 16/0 Mustad circle-hook. At times, 14 oz grub tail jigs are drifted back along the bottom in the scent line created by the baits. Halibut are often attracted to the motion of these jigs as they bounce up and down above the bottom. Another technique used when we fish out of our drift boats (special request) is let the boat drift over rocky bottom structure while jigging grubs 5-10 feet above the bottom. The fight with the light gear and small boat is epic, don't forget the camera on this classic fishery.



### Sea Lions

---

*\*Sea lions differ from hair seals (harbor seals, ringed seals, ribbon seals, bearded seals, and spotted seals) in that sea lions have external ears and rear flippers which turn forward allowing them to "walk" with a gait similar to land mammals. They are called sea lions because they resemble the terrestrial lion of Africa and Asia. Large adult male Steller sea lions have disproportionately large necks and shoulders. This, coupled with longer, coarser hair on the neck and shoulders, gives them the appearance of having manes, as do lions. Steller sea lions were historically a primary source of food for inhabitants of the Aleutian Islands. Clothing, boots, and boat coverings were made from skins. The Chinese once used Steller sea lion whiskers for cleaning opium pipes. Fur farmers used Steller sea lion meat for fox food along the Alaska coast. Between 1964 and 1972, Steller sea lion pups were commercially harvested. The hides were used in manufacture of coats, boots, gloves, and other garments, but since 1972's passage of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, they are now protected.*



### Humpbacks

---

*\*\*Although humpbacks may be seen at any time of year in Alaska, most animals undertake long distance migrations during the autumn to temperate or tropical wintering areas where reproduction occurs and the young are born. During spring, the animals migrate back to Alaska where food is abundant. Humpback whales that summer in the north Pacific are from three separate stocks which winter in Mexico, in Hawaii, and in the western Pacific near the Mariana, Bonin, and Ryukyu islands. Whales that summer in Alaska are primarily from the Hawaii stock. Although the length of time needed to make migrations is not well known, one whale that was identified in Alaska was seen 39 days later in Hawaii 2,800 miles (4,500 km) away.*

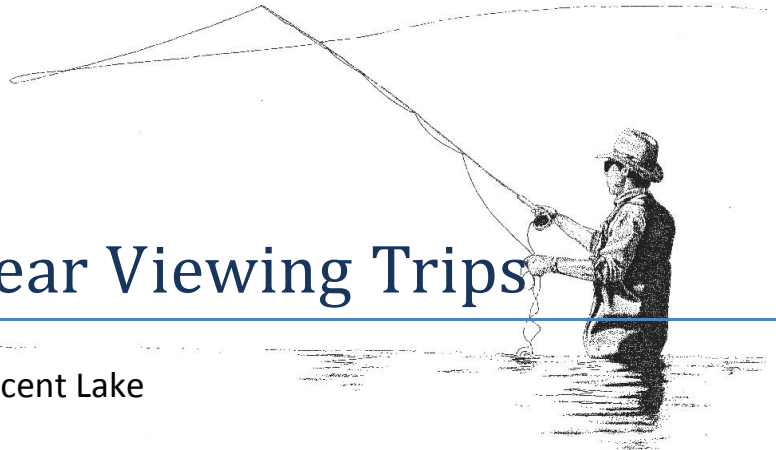


# Fly-Outs and Maps

---

**TOWER ROCK LODGE** is proud to have a winning partnership with **Alaska Air West** who has conducted business on the Kenai Peninsula since the early 1980's. All of our fly-out charters are done thru **Alaska Air West** (907- 776-5147) and they are located a short one hour drive from **TOWER ROCK LODGE**. First and foremost, don't forget your camera!

We feel that **Alaska West Air** provides the very best in Alaskan fly out adventures. They are a fully insured, FAA approved Alaska Air Charter operator. Their fleet of high performance aircraft includes a ten passenger DeHavilland Turbine Otter, a nine passenger DeHavilland Turbo Beaver, two seven passenger DeHavilland DHC-2 Beavers and two Piper Super Cubs. The Bell Ranger helicopter can be arranged for special King trip.



## Fly-In Fishing and Bear Viewing Trips

---

### Kustatan River, Big River Lakes, and Crescent Lake

- **Trip route:** Fly west across Cook Inlet to an area at the base of the Alaska Range. Depending on which location you fish, flight time is 20-25 minutes each way. The season is late July, August and September. Limit is 3 Silver Salmon fish per person, per day. The trip duration will be approximately 8 hours. All rods, reels, bait and hip boots are provided by Alaska Air West and **Tower Rock Lodge** will provide lunch and rain gear.
- **Flight Time:** 20 to 25 Minutes each way.
- **Seasons:** Late July, August, September.
- **Species:** Silver Salmon and Reds

### Wolverine Creek (refer to map)

- **Trip route:** This trip is great for clients. Just a short flight across the Cook Inlet and you will be viewing bears from an 18-foot Jon boat. Your guide will maneuver the boat into areas where you can always view bears safely and at a very close distance. Trip duration approximately 8 hours. Be sure to bring lots of film on this one. All rods, reels, bait and hip boots are provided by Alaska Air West and **Tower Rock Lodge** will provide lunch and rain gear.
- **Flight time:** 30 minutes each way
- **Seasons:** Late July, August, September (Bear Viewing best mid June-September)
- **Species:** Silver Salmon and Reds

# Bear Etiquette

---

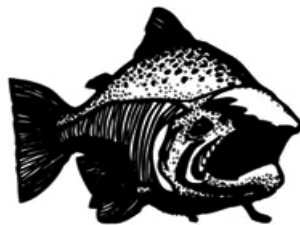


If you encounter a brown bear:

- Try to remain calm, never run, yell, or make sudden movements; slowly, look for best exit.
- Identify yourself as human. Talk to the bear in a low voice and slowly back away; “Whoa Bear”
- Don't make direct eye contact, but keep a close look at the bear as you back away.
- Stay close to others and keep backpacks on, unless there is food in your backpack in which case, give it to your friend.
- Never get between a mom and her cubs.
- If you are carrying bear pepper spray, this is the time to use it; Then RUN faster than the friends you're with!
- If you have a fish on the line, let it go as the bear will hear it “flappin” and the drag zining and soon will come after it, and you! Don't worry about the gear or your fish we can replace all that, and wash any under garments.

In the extreme case that a bear makes contact with you,

- Play dead.
- Lie face down on the ground and place your hands around the back of your neck.
- Stay silent and don't move.
- Try to keep your legs spread apart to prevent the bear from rolling you over.
- If possible, leave your pack on to protect your back.
- Typically a brown bear will break off its attack once it feels the threat has been eliminated.
- Remain quiet and motionless for as long as possible.
- Bears will often watch from a distance and return at the first sign of movement.



ORVIS

TOWER  
ROCK  
LODGE

800-284-FISH

# KENAI PENNINSULA MAP





## DIVING DIRECTIONS

### FROM ANCHORAGE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (ANC) TO TOWER ROCK LODGE (TRL)

**A: TED STEVENS ANCHORAGE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**  
Anchorage, AK 99502 (907) 266-2526

|   |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
|    | 1: Start out going NORTH on N TUG RD toward DE HAVILLAND AVE.   | 0.1 mi |
|    | 2: Turn RIGHT onto DE HAVILLAND AVE.                            | 0.2 mi |
|    | 3: Turn RIGHT onto POSTMARK DR.                                 | 0.9 mi |
|    | 4: Turn LEFT onto W INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RD.                   | 1.7 mi |
|    | 5: Take the MINNESOTA DR SOUTH ramp toward SEWARD HWY SOUTH.    | 0.3 mi |
|    | 6: Merge onto MINNESOTA DR.                                     | 3.8 mi |
|    | 7: MINNESOTA DR becomes OMALLEY RD.                             | 1.0 mi |
|    | 8: Take the SEWARD HWY. SOUTH ramp.                             | 0.2 mi |
|    | 9: Merge onto AK-1 S/SEWARD HWY/INTERSTATE A1 S.                | 82 mi  |
|    | 10: Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto AK-1 S/STERLING HWY/INTERSTATE A1 S. | 58 mi  |
|    | 11: Turn RIGHT onto KALIFORNSKY BEACH RD.                       | 4.7 mi |
|   | 12: Turn SHARP RIGHT onto CIECHANSKI RD.                        | 0.9 mi |
|  | 13: Turn LEFT to stay on CIECHANSKI RD.                         | 0.5 mi |
|  | 14: Turn RIGHT to stay on CIECHANSKI RD.                        | 0.8 mi |
|  | 15: Turn LEFT onto WOODS DR.                                    | 1.4 mi |
|  | 16: End at Tower Rock Lodge (TRL)                               |        |
| Estimated Time: 3.0 hours 15 minutes      Estimated Distance: 157 miles             |   |        |

**B: TOWER ROCK LODGE, Woods Dr, Kenai, AK 99611 (800) 284-3474**

