



What to Expect on an Upland Game Hunt

Spread Oaks Ranch offers upland bird shooting in a classic prairie and savannah setting through outfitter *Top Flight*, headquartered in Columbus, Texas. *Top Flight* runs upland hunts from about the end of September until the end of March. The upland decisions you need to communicate are: 1) the number of upland guides you need for the hunt, and 2) the number of birds you want to shoot.

Number of Guides: *Top Flight* hunts groups of 3 to 4 hunters at a time. For larger groups, they can run a concurrent hunt with 2 guides at a time, or back-to-back hunts with only one guide. Guides bring all the birds, as well as flushing and pointing dogs.

Volume of Birds: The upland bird choices are pheasant, chukar, and/or quail. We have arranged hunts for as few as 50 upland birds to as many as 200. Our repeat guests tell us they favor pheasant and chukar over quail. Traditionally *Top Flight* puts out only a portion of the total bird count so they can rest dogs periodically.

Costs: *Top Flight's* charges \$1,200 per guide for a four-hour upland hunt at the ranch. Their fee schedule for game birds is \$16.00 per pheasant, \$12.00 per chukar, and \$8.00 per quail. Spread Oaks Lodge provides your transportation, ammunition, cleaned birds iced and in coolers for an additional 15% charge that we add to the *Top Flight* invoice, and a 15% gratuity is added for the *Top Flight* guide or guides.

Guns and Ammo. We provide over-and-under 12-gauge shotguns for those who do not want to transport their own, as well as 12-gauge and 20-gauge 2 ¾" shells. If you are using another gauge, or prefer other shot types (i.e., bismuth, tungsten, etc.) you will need to bring your own ammunition. We also provide water, shooting vests, orange caps, hearing protection, sunscreen, and bug spray.

After the Hunt: We can pick the breasts of chukar but pheasants we have to skin them. We do not pick whole birds.