

What to Expect From a Spread Oaks Upland Game Hunt

Spread Oaks Ranch offers a classic upland hunt experience through local, third-party contractors between October 1 and April 15. You'll hunt on the ranch, in a prairie and savannah setting, in fields that we have prepared for your outdoors experience. Your quarry will include pheasant, chukar, and/or quail. Guides will bring all the birds, as well as flushing and pointing dogs.

"Social season" – anytime waterfowl or deer season is closed – is an ideal time to plan an upland shoot. You can also add this as an activity during your hunting season visit by replacing a waterfowl or deer/hog hunt, and we'll adjust the pricing on your invoice. Please note that upland hunts are run only from October 1 until April 15.

What We Need To Know: The upland decisions you need to consider and communicate are: 1) the number of upland guides you need for the hunt, and 2) the number of birds you want to shoot.

What You Need To Know: To help in your planning, it typically takes an hour of prep and transportation time before each upland hunt. Figure on 4 to 5 hours for 8 hunters (in two groups of four) to cycle through a hunt with about 100 birds using a single guide. For larger groups, the contractor can run a concurrent hunt with 2 guides at a time, or back-to-back hunts with only one guide. If yours is a morning hunt, we usually break for lunch between shooting parties. We limit the hunt group size to 3 to 4 hunters at a time for safety.

• *Volume of Birds*: Your 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. Traditionally our vendor puts out only a portion of the total bird count (usually about half) at one time so they can rest dogs periodically.

- 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 ³/₄" 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 skin upland birds, but you are welcome to join us at the cleaning room and pick your own. We can provide you with coolers or you can bring your own.
- *Costs*: Currently, our vendors charge \$1,100 per guide. Their fee schedule for game birds constantly changes with availability (plus or minus a dollar or two), and at this writing is about \$17.00 per pheasant, \$13.00 per chukar, and \$8.00 per quail. Your invoice will include a 15% gratuity added for the vendor's guide or guides, and an additional 15% charge to offset the ranch's costs for your transportation, ammunition, and cleaned birds iced and in coolers.

How to Book: Our third-party vendors book quickly, but typically a 30-day advance committment before your visit will be adequate to book a hunt. Contact Ged Durham at 210-863-1857 or email <u>Ged@spreadoaksranch.com</u>.