



**Big Hole Lodge**  
**Wise River, Montana**  
**Sat - Friday**  
**July 25-31, 2015**

**Fishout Location:**

Big Hole Lodge  
36894 Pioneer Mountains Scenic Byway  
Wise River, Mt 59762  
(406) 832-3252

The lodge is southwest of Butte, MT.

If Driving: Take Highway 43 off of I-15 at the Divide exit. More detailed directions below.

If flying in, use Butte Airport (BTM).

Shuttle to and from the lodge is provided if you are not renting a car. Bozeman airport is another option if you are renting a car, it can be cheaper to fly into, however it is a two and a half hour drive from Bozeman to the lodge.

The recent issue of Northwest Fly Fishing has an article on the Wise River and an article on Maidenrock Canyon of the Big Hole River.

**Accommodations (Three Cabins):**

Big Hole (sleeps 4 -6)  
Beaverhead Duplex (sleeps 4)  
Pattingail Cabin (sleeps up to 4)

12 Guests lodging space maximum, sleeping arrangements can be made when guest list is settled. Cabins have twin and queen size beds in them.

For more information on the accommodations please visit the website: [www.flyfishinglodge.com](http://www.flyfishinglodge.com)

**Cost:**

**Rates-per-Person Based on Double Occupancy (2014 rates):**

6 night/5 day- \$3,500 less 10% = \$3150  
5 night/4 day- \$3,290 less 10% = \$2961

**Based on Single Occupancy:**

6 night/5 day- \$4,220 less 10% = \$3798  
5 night/4 day- \$4,055 less 10% = \$3650

**What's Included:** Price includes round trip transfer from Butte, accommodations based on double occupancy, three meals per day, knowledgeable guide per two anglers, flies for each day, transportation to/from rivers on a daily basis and complimentary wine and beer. -Not included are fishing license, hard alcohol (B.Y.O.), gratuities, Montana accommodation tax, fly shop accessories and telephone calls.

**Deposit/Cancellation/Refund Policy** A deposit is required to secure a fishing reservation. This is refundable if written cancellation is received sixty days prior to departure; thereafter, deposit is non-refundable unless a replacement is found. Receipt of deposit is acknowledgement that registrant has read and accepts the cancellation/refund policy clause. Trip insurance is strongly recommended.

**Deposit of 50% due by the November 2014 club meeting, payment by check payable to Flycasters please. The balance is to be paid to the lodge directly at the end of your stay on Thursday evening before dinner.** Gratuities can be paid to the guides directly each day, or at the end of the week when you settle up your bill and when other gratuities are given to the lodge staff.

**Fishmaster:** Laurie Kirk

**Phone:** (408) 472-8421 (cell)

**Email:** [kirkn8r@gmail.com](mailto:kirkn8r@gmail.com)

<b>Lake/Stream/River:</b> Big Hole River, Wise River, Horse Prairie Creek, Beaverhead Ranch (private), poss overnight to Missouri or Bitterroot Rivers with extra cost (see website)		<b>Max # Attendees:</b> 12 People
<b>Directions:</b> Flights from San Jose to Butte, Montana route through Salt Lake City, Utah, change of planes required. There are two flights per day, you will want the early one to arrive in time for dinner on Saturday night and for the orientation. If you are driving, take Highway 43 towards Wisdom off of I-15. Turn left past the Wise River Club onto the Pioneer Mountains Scenic Byway. Approx 8 miles after you turn left from the town of Wise River, the lodge will be on your left. The sign is small. If you see the Sheep Creek Trailhead marker sign, you passed the lodge entrance. About 2 miles before the lodge entrance you will see a property decorated with a lot of colorfully painted mining equipment and elaborate gates, this is hard to miss! Once at the lodge, please park in the main lot by the barn. There are wagons to move your gear to your cabin. If staying in the Pattengail cabin, there is parking near the cabin, off of the Sheep Creek Trailhead road, take your first left on the dirt track.		
<b>Websites:</b> <a href="http://www.flyfishinglodge.com">www.flyfishinglodge.com</a> : Big Hole Lodge website		
<b>Meals provided:</b> Saturday dinner: Buffet Sunday - Wednesday: Full Breakfast, Lunches packed for you, Dinner Thursday: Full Breakfast, Lunch packed for you, Dinner is a full service steak BBQ down by the river with firepit, not far from your cabins! A special evening not to be missed. Friday: Breakfast, continental is optional for early departures Wine/beer is provided. Hard liquor /spirits– BYOB, stop in Butte to stock up, there are no liquor stores in Wise River.		
<b>Fish:</b> Trout: Browns, Cutthroats, Rainbows, Brookies , Grayling. Whitefish can be found in the Big Hole		<b>Fishing strategy:</b> River – Float trips and walk and wade trips. Delicate dry fly presentations are the highlight of the July season, occasional nymphs below a dry fly can bring fish to the boat, or two dry-fly rigs can work well also.
<b>Suggested Equipment:</b>	<b>Rod Wt(s)</b>	A 9' rod for a 5-6 wt. line will cover most conditions you will experience in Montana. A small 8-8 ½ ' rod in lighter line weights works fine on the numerous mountain streams in the area.
	<b>Line</b>	Presentation is the key word on the Big Hole and Beaverhead; consequently, a double taper floating line is recommended. Floating lines are recommended for all fishing except streamer fishing in the early part of the season when a sink-tip is helpful.
	<b>Leader</b>	A 9-12' tapered leader with a <u>stiff butt section</u> is almost mandatory in Montana in order to handle the conditions. A good all-around leader is a 9-ft. with a 4X tippet. If you are fishing "far n' fine", a 12-ft. with a 5-6X tippet is recommended. For windy days and large hairwing and hopper patterns, a 7-½ ft. 3X leader works well. There is always a good stock of leaders in the fly shop.
	<b>Tippet</b>	2-4 ft 5x to 6x
	<b>Other</b>	Waders, wading staff optional, wading boots (no studs in boots due to guide rafts, felts are fine), Rods, reels, raincoat and clothing layers (afternoon rainstorms/hail are VERY common in this region). <b>NOTE:</b> The mosquitos can be HORRENDOUS in the Big Hole Valley this time of year if they are irrigating the hay fields. BUG DOPE containing DEET is an absolute MUST. Be prepared to use it. Elevation is about 6200 ft. so sunscreen is also very important.
<b>Suggested Flies:</b>	<b>Patterns/Sizes/etc.</b>	<b>July-</b> Pale Morning Dun, Parachute Adams, Royal Wulff, Caddis Patterns, Green Drake, Wrights Royal, Rusty Spinner, Stimulator, Blue Damselfly, Hopper Patterns, PMX Royal, Purple Haze and all nymph and streamer patterns shown above. <b>August-</b> Tricos, Hopper Patterns, Ants, Parachute Adams, Royal Wulff, Terrestrials, Rusty Spinner, Midges, Elk Hair Caddis, Purple Haze, PMX Royal, Prince Nymph, Soft-hackle Beadhead Hare's Ear, Flashback, Pheasant Tail, Copper John.  NOTE: The lodge has a complete selection of patterns in the fly shop, along with a selection of very nice fishing shirts and fleece from Simms and Orvis, as well as hats and other items.

**Other Gear suggestions:**

Please visit the website prior to your visit for complete and accurate gear recommendations. [www.flyfishinglodge.com](http://www.flyfishinglodge.com) Your guides will be very well equipped for the float trips as far as floatation devices, etc.

**Details / Comments:**

In 1984, Craig Fellin drove up the Wise River on a washboard-rutted dirt road and found ten acres of land on the river, surrounded by National Forest. Here he established the Big Hole Lodge. During the early years, the capacity was just two guests, and clients ate and slept in the main house with Craig and his family. Eventually, Craig stripped logs and built the dining lodge and three guest cabins with views of the scenic Wise River Valley and the snow-capped Pioneer Mountains above.

Today, they're an Orvis Endorsed Lodge offering a personal, relaxing and intimate fly fishing vacation experience. With a maximum of just 12 guests, they can offer exceptionally high levels of customer service and cater to a wide range of fly fishing interests and skill levels. From the legendary Big Hole and Beaverhead rivers to small mountain streams, or crystalline alpine lakes to a private spring creek on a working cattle ranch, breathtaking views will surround you as you enjoy some of the finest fly fishing in the country. And whether you're a complete novice or accomplished fly angler, at the Big Hole Lodge the goal is to offer you an uncompromising fly fishing vacation of a lifetime.

**Big Hole River** – From its headwaters near the Idaho border, the Big Hole meanders 150 miles; first north through hay fields along the Bitterroot and Pintler mountain ranges, then east past the lodge and south around the Pioneer range through a series of rocky canyons. In the lower Beaverhead Valley it meets the Ruby and Beaverhead rivers to form the Jefferson. The Big Hole is a river rich not only in historical importance, but also in its ability to produce wild trout - and large ones at that. In certain sections of the river, there are approximately 3,500 trout per mile with a substantial percentage in the 18-20" class. The renowned beauty of the river, with towering peaks and secluded canyons, makes this more than just a blue ribbon trout fishery. The Big Hole is really a special place, and as you float by a stretch like the Ralston Ranch above Wise River, you can almost picture the stagecoach stop the family operated in 1910 and the teams of horses that fed and rested there. Nowhere else will you have the chance to catch a brown, rainbow, cutthroat and brook trout along with a grayling all in one day!

**Other Water** – Please visit the website for complete detail on the waters in the area: [www.flyfishinglodge.com](http://www.flyfishinglodge.com)