# like novnere else on earth



 $\bigcirc$  a guide to sport fishing in nunavut



# at the top of the world



**Fly into an untouched, unspoiled landscape for the adventure of a lifetime.** Fish for record-size lake trout and pike in the treeless but colourful barrenlands. Try for arctic grayling in our cold clear waters. And, of course, set your sights on an arctic char on the Tree River, the Coppermine River, or dozens of other rivers across Nunavut that flow to the Arctic seas. Spend a full 24 hours angling for the species of your choice under the rays of the midnight sun.

Pristine, teeming with trophy fish, rare wildlife and nature at its rawest, Nunavut is a cut above any ordinary sport fishing destination. Brave the stark but stunning wilderness of the region. Rise to the unique challenges of Nunavut. And come back with jaw-dropping trophysized catches, as well as memories and stories that you'll never tire of. Read on to explore more about this remarkable place: about the Inuit and their 1000-year history of fishing in one of the toughest climates in the world; about the experienced guides and outfitters ready to make your adventure run smoothly. Read on to discover your next great sport fishing experience!

#### Welcome To Sport Fishing Paradise.





# Arctic Char PRIZE OF THE ARCTIC The arctic char is on every sport fisher's bucket list. A much-prized member of

the salmon family, the char is known for its record-setting appearances along the coasts, islands and in the rivers of the arctic, high above the treeline. But the arctic char is best known for its distinct taste. Considered by many chefs

to be superior to salmon or trout, the moist, firm and uniquely flavoured flesh of the char is rich, unmistakable, and every gourmet's choice.

#### **Fly-fishing? Yes!**

Pristine waters, aggressive trophy-sized fish and unpopulated wilderness for hundreds of miles in every direction: what could be better conditions for the fly-fishing expedition of a lifetime? Though not a method traditional to the region, fly-fishing is increasingly popular in the arctic, offering a thrill for even the most experienced sports fisher. Consider the prize of the arctic, the sea-run arctic char.

It eagerly rises to a variety of flies from streamers/ wet flies to dry flies and/or nymphs. The char fights with a combination of speed, strength and pure determination that will challenge anglers to their limit. With an endless variety of options from day trips to rapids running with trout or grayling, to overnight expeditions that include plenty of opportunities for wildlife observation, this will be a fishing trip you'll always savour. Nunavut is a fly fisher's dream!

#### Day of a lifetime! →

Nunavut is a land where untouched wilderness is often only steps away from any community centre, a land populated by experts who've been fishing with care and respect for their beautiful, challenging environment for hundreds of years. Within minutes you can find yourself whisked from a business meeting or conference setting to pristine waters full of unique species only to

be found here in the high lands of the arctic. Expert guides whose forefathers long harvested the best of these lakes, rivers and coastal waters can guide you through an afternoon of fishing you'll never forget or a series of visits spread out over several days, ensuring that you take in the full variety on offer.



A number of Nunavut communities are near territorial parks, and some of these parks have incredible fishing spots. For more information, visit nunavutparks.com.

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From the famed – and delicious – coast and river-running arctic char to the huge lake trout of the Kivalliq region, Nunavut is loaded with trophy fish to meet any adventurer's tastes.



#### Arctic Char SALVELINUS ALPINUS

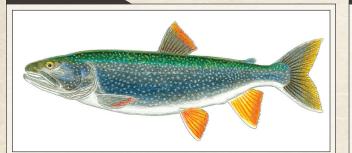
The arctic char has a dark green back which shades to silvery sides and belly, with pinkish spots on the sides. Char can be found across Nunavut. Some are land-locked and live in fresh water year round. Others spend the summer in the ocean, but spawn and over-winter in fresh waters flowing into the Arctic Ocean or Hudson Bay. Char weighing 6.8 kg (15 lbs.) are common in some rivers, but their average is usually 2.3 to 3.2 kg (5 to 7 lbs.). Char belong to the salmon family and are an acclaimed delicacy.





The arctic grayling is a beautiful fish: dark blue on the back and purple grey on the sides. A distinctive characteristic is its large, sail-like dorsal fin, which is coloured a blackish blue with violet spots. Average weights are from 0.4 to 0.9 kg (1 to 3 lbs). The grayling is particularly common in the Coppermine, Thelon and Back drainages. During the summer, they can be caught in cold, swift rivers and in bays of some larger lakes.

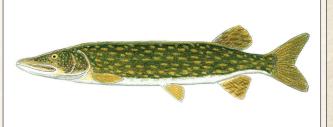






Lake trout are coloured with light spots on a darker background and with a light colour underneath. They are found throughout the Thelon, Back and Coppermine drainage systems. "Lakers" are plentiful and provide spectacular sport fishing in hundreds of fastflowing rivers, streams and lakes. Fish weights of 13.6 to 18.1 kg (30 to 40 lbs.) are common.

# AND CONTRACTOR



## Northern Pike

Pike prefer warm, slow, heavily vegetated rivers or warm, weedy bays of lakes. Pike have a long body with a dark green to brown colour along the dorsal surface. The colour of the sides is lighter and marked with 7 to 9 irregular vertical rows of yellow to white spots. They generally run between 2.3 and 6.8 kg (5 to 15 lbs.), but quite a few pike weighing 13.6 and 18.1 kg (30 to 40 lbs.) have been taken.





## generations. of experience

### For over a thousand years, Inuit have been catching every imaginable variety of marine life in ingenious ways:

Traditionally, they fished using weirs called saputis. These fish traps were created in rivers and streams by using rocks to build a V-shaped funnel into a closed-off pond, where fish could be caught by hand or speared with three-pronged fishing spears known as kakivaks. Spear fishing in winter involved boring holes through the ice and wielding the kakivaks with deadly accuracy.

Fishermen below the treeline used pointed sticks of birch, with a strong double hook, while above the treeline, Inuit often used sharpened bone with a row of barbs or animal teeth attached. Fishing hooks were made of wood, bone, antlers, and claws. Sharpened goose bones or jawbones of large fish were also very effective when baited with minnows.

Inuit have always been prodigious and inventive fishers, sure to show respect to all marine life as well as to the marine deity Sedna. To this day, according to stories told across Nunavut, a huge beluga whale-sized fish of indeterminate age known to elders as Isugajuaq, is said to lurk somewhere in one of the thousands of lakes across the region. It's doubtful that even the most skilful Inuit guide will help you find this mythical beast, but they are certain to aid you in finding some of the massive specimens in their ancient waters.

#### **HIGHS AND LOWS**

Average July temperatures range from 10°C (50°F) on the southern mainland to 2°C (36°F) in the north. Inland temperatures are warmer. Average January temperatures range from -20°C (-4°F) along southern Baffin Island to -37°C (-35°F) along northern Ellesmere Island.

#### **NIGHT AND DAY**

This is the land of the midnight sun and daylight varies wildly depending on season. Between 20 and 24 hours of daylight pour onto the land in June, while there are up to 24 hours of darkness in December.

#### WHAT TO BRING FOR SUMMER EXPEDITIONS

ROD: 6-7 foot medium-heavy action REEL: Medium to med/heavy LINE: Minimum 12lbs

**CHEST WADERS:** on Nunavut's rocky shoreline, these will help you reduce the amount of snag time (Bring warm clothes for under your waders).

**LURES:** bring lots, a minimum of 2.5oz, such as Pixies, Orange Cyclops, Five of Diamonds, Red & White, etc.

**ADDITIONAL:** Bug spray/bug jacket, local tide chart, neoprene gloves, dip net, good sunglasses, hat and camera.

#### FOR WINTER EXPEDITIONS

LINE: A strong nylon line – not a fishing line, which will snap when rubbed against ice. LURES: Large spoons ADDITIONAL: Warm clothes, water-proof gloves.

#### FOR FLY-FISHING

ROD: 9 ft .- 9 wt.
FLY LINE: 9 wt. weight-forward, floating line
9 ft. #12 test tapered leader.
CHEST WADERS: on Nunavut's rocky shoreline, these will help you reduce the amount of snag time (Bring warm clothes for under your waders).
ADDITIONAL: Bug spray/bug jacket, local tide chart, neoprene gloves, dip net, good sunglasses, hat and camera.

#### WINTER FISHING

Most sport fishing takes place during spring, summer and fall, when the fish are at their feistiest and fattest. But Nunavut offers some truly unique experiences year-round: in winter, ice fishing can be combined with other enjoyable, one-of-a-kind experiences such as floe-edge tours, dogsledding and snowmobiling expeditions.

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#### **Fishing Licenses**

A Sport Fishing License is mandatory within Nunavut. The only exception is Inuit residents. Nunavut Sport Fishing Licenses can be purchased from each community that has a Department of the Environment Wildlife office, designated offices of Fisheries and Oceans, most sport fishing lodges, sporting goods and co-op stores and certain offices of the RCMP. Please note that a Nunavut Sport Fishing License is not valid in a national park. A separate National Parks fishing license can be obtained from a Parks Canada office.

# finding the perfect place for you

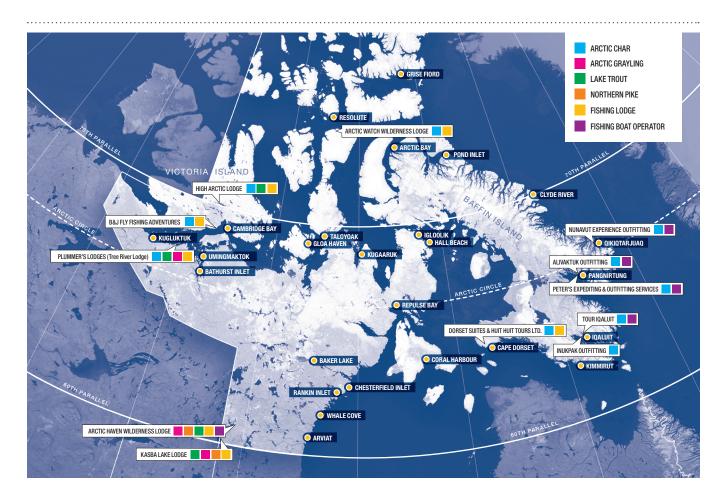
What's your ultimate sport fishing pleasure? Standing hip deep in rapid water, fly-casting as arctic char bound past on their run up Tree River to their annual hatchery? Cruising along the ocean's silent surface amid the floes and glaciers of the arctic islands and coastline, trolling as beluga and narwhal pods pass by? Standing on the edge of a silent, pristine lake north of the Manitoba border, spinning reel ready for combat with trophy-sized lake trout?

Do you prefer a quick afternoon's outing casting lures for voracious northern pike? Or how about a multi-day, multiexperience trip, flying out to remote camps surrounded by teeming wildlife, learning the true meaning of living on the land as you collect experiences few people will ever be lucky enough to share? Do you want rip-roaring, pulsepounding adventure? Or a chance to get away from it all, to contemplate nature at its purest while quietly casting from the edge of a deep, silent arctic lake? You can stay in fully equipped, comfortable cabins, or camp on the land like the fishers of old! The possibilities are endless, and all up to you.

Nunavut offers a vast variety of exciting sport fishing thrills. From arctic char runs near the soaring peaks of Cumberland Sound in the Baffin region to spectacular fly-fishing opportunities on the



Coppermine River in Kugluk/Bloody Falls Territorial Park, to fly-in canoe trips along the Kivalliq region's many bountiful river systems, this vast territory has the sport fishing experience that's perfect for you!



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#### Fishing Lodges and Camp Locations 🔿

From the tree-lined lakes of the Manitoba border region to the stark beauty of remote Arctic Island lodges, Nunavut has the perfect sport fishing spot for you:

Nunavut's experienced outfitters and operators can deliver you exactly the kind of custom-fitted trip you want. Try touring ice floes by dog sled, or experience stunning landscapes and encounters with exotic

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arctic wildlife such as muskoxen and polar bear. By booking a trip with one of our operators, you will be immersed in the culture, allowing you to learn the rich mythology of this amazing land.

#### ARCTIC HAVEN WILDERNESS LODGE

Richard Weber 363 Pritchard Rd, Alcove, QC, JOX 1A0 Tel: (819) 459-1794 Toll Free: 1-855-459-1794 mail@arctichaven.ca http://www.arctichaven.ca Located on Canada's Barrenlands, Arctic Haven offers world class fishing for Arctic grayling, lake trout and northern pike. Wether spin or fly fishing, let our local guides provide you with the first-hand knowledge of lake and river fishing on Ennadai Lake. Combine your adventure with unique wildlife - the experience of a lifetime awaits.

#### ARCTIC WATCH WILDERNESS LODGE

Richard Weber 363 Pritchard Rd, Alcove, QC. JOX 1AO Tel: (819) 459-1794 Toll Free: 1-855-459-1794 mail@arcticwatch.ca http://www.arcticwatch.ca Located on the Northwest Passage, Arctic Watch Wilderness Lodge is Canada's most northerly safari lodge. Arctic char fishing opportunities are offered for the keen angler - fly fishing or spinning, sea-run and landlocked Arctic char make for unique fishing opportunities. Combine your adventure with unique wildlife - the experience of a lifetime awaits

#### B&J FLY FISHING ADVENTURES Bill Lyall

Dill Lyan PO Box 1329, Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B OCO, Tel: (867) 983-2544 Fax: (867) 983-2503 jack: elofsson@arcticflyfishing.com www.arcticflyfishing.com B&J Fly Fishing Adventures is a locally owned and operated enterprise. We are the sole proprietor on the Ekaluk River and surrounding area, catering to small and select groups of fly fishers, naturalists and wildlife enthusiasts. Fishing for sea-run arctic char on Victoria Island's Ekaluk River.

#### HIGH ARCTIC LODGE

Fred Hamilton PO Box 280, Penticton, BC, V2A 6J9 Tel: (250) 497-2000 Toll Free: 1-800-661-3880 Fax: (250) 497-2001 info@higharctic.com www.higharctic.com Operating in July and August, this full service lodge offers week long Arctic char and lake trout fishing packages to Merkley Lake and Victoria Island.

#### KASBA LAKE LODGE LTD.

Robert Hill PO Box 96, Parksville, B.C, V9P 2G3 Tel: (250) 248-3572 Toll Free: 1-800-663-8641 info@kasba.com Www.kasba.com Located in southern Nunavut/NWT, specializing in triple-trophy, as well as catch and release fishing for northern pike, arctic grayling and lake trout. We can accommodate 40 guests comfortably in fully modern cabins. American Plan, guides, boats, motors, fuel and tackle rental. Direct charter from Winnipeg to private airstrip. An outpost camp on Kazan River. Late June to mid-August. Consult website for pricing.

#### PLUMMER'S ENTERPRISES & GREAT BEAR LAKE

LODGE LTD. Chuk Coulter 950 Bradford Street, Winnipeg, MB, R3H ON5 Tel: (204) 774-5775 Toll Free: 1-800-665-0240 Fax: (204) 783-2320 fish@plummerslodges.com www.plummerslodges.com Plummer's Arctic Lodges was rated the number one fishing destination in North America by Field and Stream this year! With All Tackle World Records for Arctic Char, Lake Trout and Grayling, and world-famous service, let us bring you on your Arctic fishing adventure. Professional guides, excellent chefs and first class accommodations

#### ALIVAKTUK OUTFITTING

Joavee Alivaktuk PO Box 3, Pangnirtung, NU, XOA ORO Tel: (867) 473-8721 Fax: (867) 473-8721 Guide and outfitter with more than 20 years experience plus teaching experience. Day and multi-day trips.

#### DORSET SUITES & HUIT HUIT TOURS LTD.

Kristiina Alariaq PO Box 4, Cape Dorset, XOA OCO Tel: (867) 897-8806 Fax: (867) 897-8688 huithuit@magma.ca http://www.dorsetsuites.com Huit Huit Tours offers eco-culture trips and custom tours. Visitors can experience the lnuit culture with local people as guides and learn about the art, culture and natural environment of South Baffin. Floe-edge, snow machine, boat, camping, fishing and hiking trips offered by licensed outfitter.

#### INUKPAK OUTFITTING

3310 Niaqunngusiariaq street PO Box 11392, Iqaluit, NU, XOA OHO Tel: (867) 222-6489 inukpak@gmail.com www.inukpakoutfitting.ca From Iqaluit, after a snowmobile ride, reach that secret spot where you'll be ice fishing for the afternoon. For the most adventurous, try our 3 day snowmobiling / ice fishing journey and discover the hamlet of Kimmirut. Come summer time, try to get that arctic char biting on that tiny fly, while learning the basics of fly fishing in one of our workshops.

#### NUNAVUT EXPERIENCE

*Billy Arnaquq PO Box 96, Qikiqtarjuaq, NU, XOA OBO Tel: 867-927-8518 billy\_arnaquq@qiniq.com* We offer fishing for Arctic char along with 5-6 day sightseeing tours, whale watching, polar bear viewing, bird watching and day trips.

#### PETER'S EXPEDITING & OUTFITTING SERVICES

Peter Kilabuk PO Box 365, Pangnirtung, NU, XOA ORO Tel: (867) 473-4060 peterkilabuk2005@qiniq.com www.kilabukoutfitting.com PEO Services offers day char fishing trips. We'll take you to our favourite fishing spots in the Pangnirtung area or in Cumberland Sound. We provide transportation, advice on locations and will have our guide and boat with you for the duration of your fishing time. We suggest you bring your favourite rods and lures.

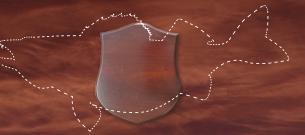
#### **TOUR IQALUIT**

Julie Carrier - Tour Iqaluit Coordinator PO Box 6117, Iqaluit, XOA 1HO Tel: (867) 979-1900 Toll Free: 1-888-737-6818 x867 iqaluit@arctickingdom.com http://www.tourlqaluit.com Based in Iqaluit, we run fishing excursions, provide guides and logistical support should you want a private fishing camp in the Canadian Arctic. We rent equipment, polar clothing and transport such as snowmobiles, Zodiacs and ATVs. Scheduled excursions run February to October.

For a list of operators who offer customized fishing trips upon request, please call 1-866-NUNAVUT or email info@nunavuttourism.com.

#### You May Need A Bigger Plaque

WORLD RECORDS IN NUNAVUT, SO FAR:



#### International Game Fish Association Freshwater and Saltwater All-Tackle **Arctic Char**

Weight: 14.77kg (32lb 9oz), Tree River, July 31, 1981

#### International Game Fish Association Freshwater Line Class Records **Arctic Char**

- ➢ Line Class: 8kg (16 lb), Weight: 12.7kg (28lb), Tree River, August 21, 1985
   ➢ Line Class: 10kg (20lb), Weight: 10.88kg (24lb), Hadley Bay, July 30, 1985 Line Class: 15kg (30lb), Weight: 9.75kg (21lb 8oz), Victoria Island, August 1, 1981

#### International Game Fish Association Freshwater Fly Rod World Arctic Char

ippit 4kg (8lb), Weight: 9.18kg (20lb 4oz), Tree River, August 4, 1993 ● L Lake Trout

● Line Class: Tippit 8kg (16lb), Weight: 12.7kg (28lb), Dubawnt Lake, August 1, 2004

How To Get Here There are no roads to Nunavut. Most visitors arrive by scheduled air service from:

- Ottawa, Ontario
- Montreal, Quebec
- Winnipeg, Manitoba
- Churchill, Manitoba
- Edmonton, Alberta
- Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

The following airlines fly to Nunavut from southern Canada:

- Calm Air
- First Air
- Canadian North

Once here, you will find highly qualified regional and charter airlines serving all of Nunavut's communities.

All photos are property of Nunavut Tourism except for: Front Cover - Main photo: Lee Narraway, Father and son: Shoot  $Straight \, TV- \text{High Arctic Lodge} \ , \text{Woman holding fish: Arctic Haven}$ Wilderness, Man fishing: James Smedley Outdoors, Fish and reel: James Smedley Outdoors, Fisherman and boat: James Smedley Outdoors. Page 2 - Main photo and plane: Plummer's Arctic Lodges. Page 3: Plummer's Arctic Lodges. Page 5: Nunavut Tourism. Page 6: James Smedley Outdoors. Back Cover: Lee Narraway.

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