

nunavut

like
nowhere else
on earth



➔ a guide to **sport fishing** in nunavut





an
unforgettable.
experience
at the top of the world

PLUMMER'S ARCTIC LODGES



PLUMMER'S ARCTIC LODGES

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 trophy-sized 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

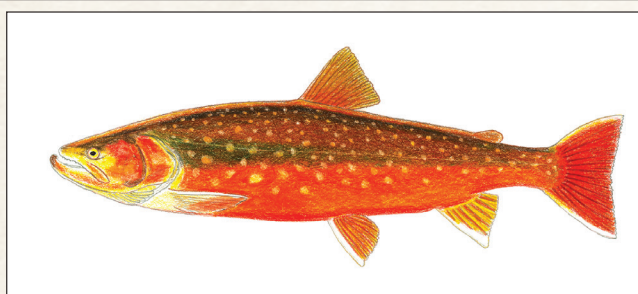
be found here in the high lands of the arctic. Expert guides whose forefathers long harvested the best of these lakes, rivers and coastal waters can guide you through an afternoon of fishing you'll never forget or a series of visits spread out over several days, ensuring that you take in the full variety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

meet the cast

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

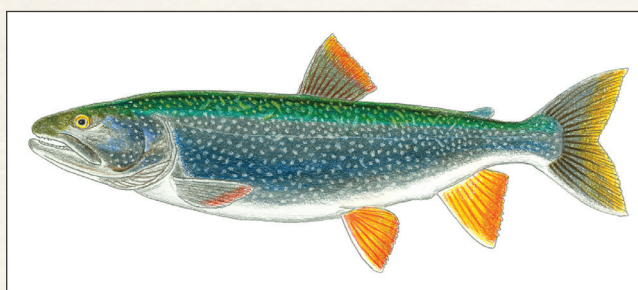
The arctic char has a dark green back which shades to silvery sides and belly, with pinkish spots on the sides. Char can be found across Nunavut. Some are land-locked and live in fresh water year round. Others spend the summer in the ocean, but spawn and over-winter in fresh waters flowing into the Arctic 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.



Arctic Grayling

THYMALLUS ARCTICUS

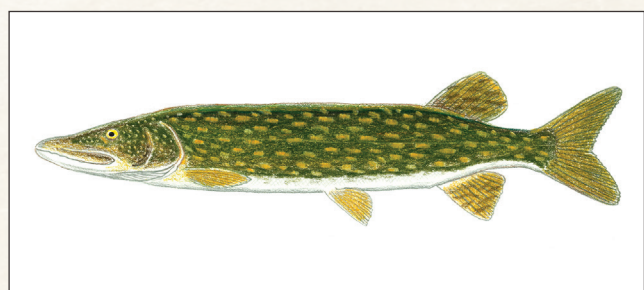
The arctic grayling is a beautiful fish: dark blue on the back and purple grey on the sides. A distinctive characteristic is its large, sail-like dorsal fin, which is coloured a blackish blue with violet spots. Average weights are from 0.4 to 0.9 kg (1 to 3 lbs). The grayling is particularly common in 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

SALVELINUS NAMAYCUSH

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 fast-flowing rivers, streams and lakes. Fish weights of 13.6 to 18.1 kg (30 to 40 lbs.) are common.



Northern Pike

EXOCHLOA LUCIUS

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.



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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.

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.

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.

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?

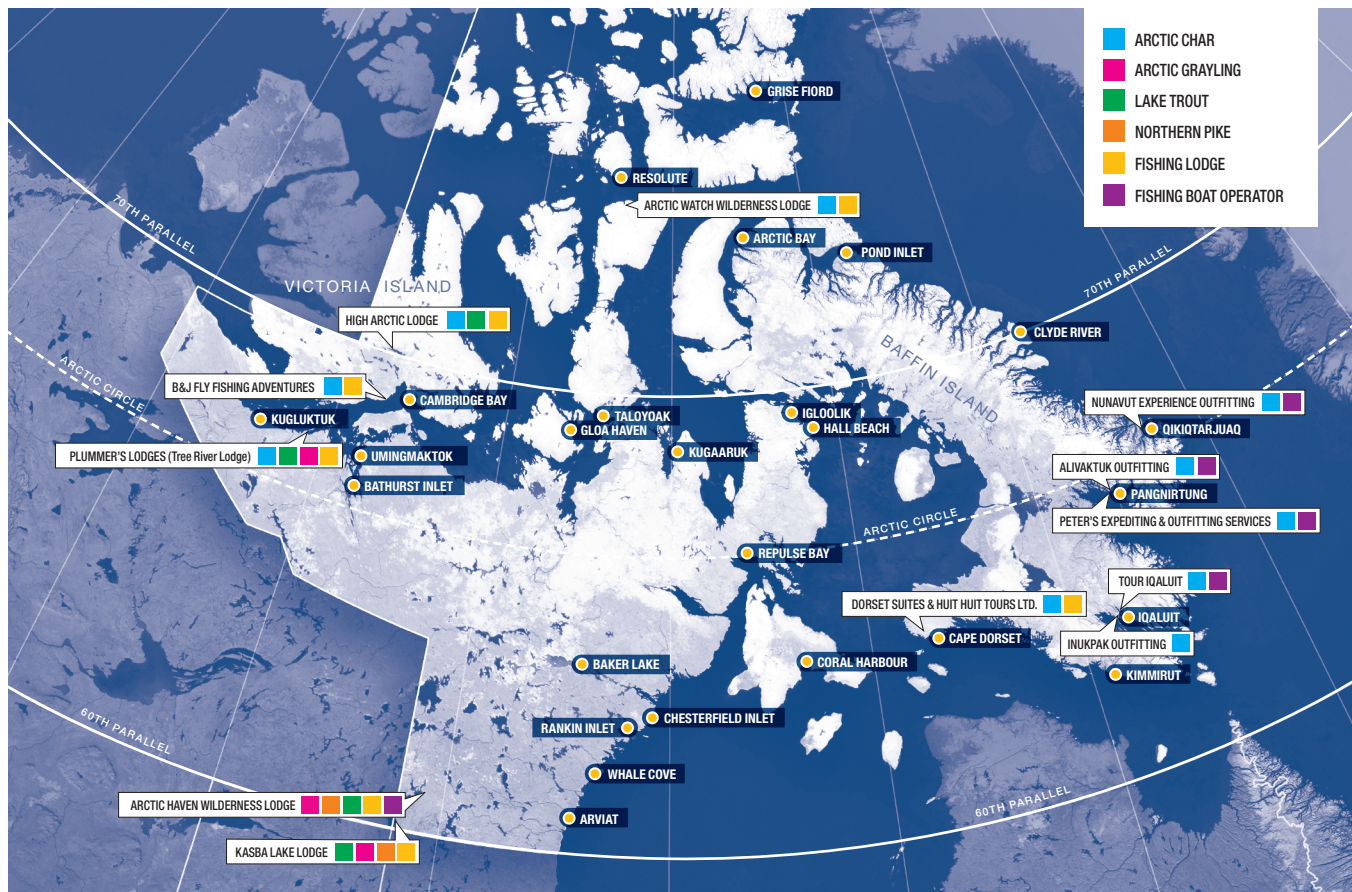
Do you prefer a quick afternoon's outing casting lures for voracious northern pike? Or how about a multi-day, multi-experience trip, flying out to remote camps surrounded by teeming wildlife,

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, pulse-pounding 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

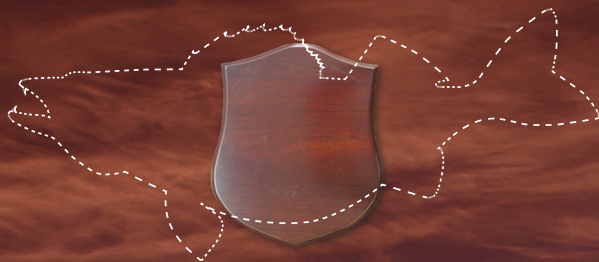


Coppermine River in Kugluk/Bloody Falls Territorial Park, to fly-in canoe trips along the Kivalliq region's many bountiful river systems, this vast territory has the sport fishing experience that's perfect for you!



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

⊕ Line Class: Tippet 4kg (8lb), Weight: 9.18kg (20lb 4oz), Tree River, August 4, 1993

Lake Trout

⊕ Line Class: Tippet 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 – High Arctic Lodge, 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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