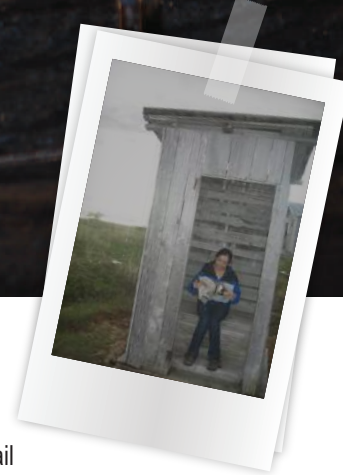


WHAT TO PACK FOR EKUK?

A few words from Trish



Here is a list of items I have found helpful to bring over the years for myself and from friends who did the awesome summer salmon gig.

WARM Work clothes (such as sweatpants, pants, t-shirts, sweatshirts, and warm hats. Bring extra socks so you can change into a dry pair during long shifts!) enough to last 8 days (laundry is done on a weekly schedule)

WARM Long johns, or thermal base layers to wear under your clothes. Get these at Walmart. Super cheap, but they work, and you'll be happy you have them.

Polyester/Wool/Synthetic socks and wool/felt/Dr. Scholl's boot insoles. Seriously, insoles are amazing even if you don't have fancy boots!!! We will provide the basic insoles.

Baseball cap, or a beanie/knit cap

Shower shoes/flip-flops. Because who wants their Alaska souvenir to be foot funk? Unless you're into that sort of thing, then live & let live I guess. But for the rest of you? Get them at Walmart, they're super cheap, and will do you a world of good. Also, personally, I like to bring my own towel and bedding, but we will provide one for you in Ekuk.

Some comfy lounge clothes to wear when you're not on shift.

Battery operated travel alarm clock. If you get one, or have one that plugs in, that's great. Just make sure it has a place for batteries for backup power as we sometimes lose power for a few minutes at a time. And missing work or being late because your alarm didn't go off is a no-go.

Toiletries: shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap/bodywash. Enough to last you 4-6 weeks. Don't be the stinky kid, ok?

Some way of taking pictures, be it an actual camera, or your phone. You're going to want to take pictures of the sunsets, sunrises and of all of the new friends you'll make, both real and imagined!

Books to read during downtime, for when you don't feel like hanging out. Because sometimes, people...ugh.

Playing cards, for when you feel like hanging out & being social, just enough to stand or walk while doing so.

Some cash to pay for your luggage fees, to and from Ekuk, and in case you want to buy anything at the little store run by a local fisherman's wife. But I'll warn you, it's pretty spendy, but despite that, sometimes you just REALLY want a soda, and promising the soul of your best friend's kid doesn't spend like it used to. Believe me...I've tried. :-)

Prescription medications sufficient for entire stay in Ekuk, at least (4-6 weeks). Don't have someone mail it to you because it takes a while to get our mail sometimes, and waiting for real honest to goodness prescribed medications is not gonna earn you any smart points. So plan ahead, shoot for the gold star!!

Spare glasses / contact lenses, and plenty of lens solution if you do wear contacts. One regular sized bottle should be good. I usually bring two...

Cheap phone cards. There is a payphone on the premises; the reception isn't too hot though. There is a cell service that works in Ekuk, it's called GCI and it's an Alaska based company. Call them and see about cheap month to month plans. They can send you a SIM card in most cases before you leave for Alaska. Make sure they know that either the phone, or the SIM card must work in Dillingham, AK.

Cigarettes. Bring plenty for yourself. Trust me; you DO NOT want to pay Alaska prices for these! We'll be pretty isolated, and it's Alaska so everything is more expensive there. That being said, please don't think to yourself that Ekuk is where you will turn over a new leaf and get those fancy pink lungs everyone in health class talked about! While I think the effort is cute, you will fail. Everyone does. And yeah, while tears are what might make me smile, they won't make you smile when you're fishing for cigarette butts out of the trash can or bumming yet again, another cigarette from people who know themselves well enough to bring plenty to get through the summer. Again buying them in Alaska is crazy expensive!

Dayquil. Store brand is the way to go for those things. You'll get a cough or cold probably. It's the nature of the business I'm afraid, so plan to keep yourself cozy while STILL AT WORK until it passes.

In case you're wondering, yes you may receive mail at the company PO BOX while in Ekuk. If you get care packages sent, make sure folks know that Flat Rate mail from the United States Postal Service is the way to go. Express mail prices are a total waste of money. But if you have people who want to spend needlessly, go ahead. I just don't know how you monsters can sleep at night is all.

Here's how to have mail addressed: Let's use our imaginary friend, Bess Smith as an example:

Bess Smith
C/O
Ekuk Fisheries
P.O. Box 1150
Dillingham, AK 99576