

Maine Black Bear Hunt 2026 Information:

Date of the season listed – August 31 – Sept 26

and dates to choose from will be: Arriving before the earliest date that week and departing the day after the last (Friday)

9/14 – 9/17

9/21 – 9/24

SUNKHAZE OUTFITTERS

“Memories that Last a Lifetime”

Rob Gould - 207-356-8787

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www.sunkhazeoutfitters.com

Sunkhaze Outfitters was founded in 2001 by Maine Guide’s Jeff Fahey and Rob Gould both of Bangor. Combined, the two have over 80 years of hunting and fishing experience and over 20 years of actual guiding sports from all over the world.

Our Maine Black Bears hunts are generally based out of “Camp Finally,” a traditional 1-room Maine hunting camp that was established in 1974. People continue to come back to the Camp due to the fact they love Camp Finally as it encompasses the new with the old tradition of hunting in Maine. The camp sleeps 6 comfortably and is located just off the Stud Mill Road in TWP 32, more specifically known as Myra, Maine.

Over the years, the camp has merged the old with the new. Gas lights are operational, but generator power now runs the lights and all of the outlets to power and or recharge anything needed. We have an outdoor pavilion and fire pit to cook many meals or just to sit and relax after a long day’s hunt.

The bear baits are spread over a 1500-acre parcel of land that is surrounded by thousands of acres of woods. It’s what we refer to as the “Big Woods”. We are also nestled around and have access to some of Maine’s pristine lakes and waterways.

We have a full-time cook on staff, and we call him “Cookie.” Come to think of it, we’ve never seen him prepare a meal, we’ve done all that! All meals and snacks will be provided to the hunter(s) and maybe Cookie will eventually surprise us!

Season dates are – August 31 – September 26

Actual hunt possible dates are:

9/14 – 9/17

9/21 – 9/24

Once the winner is determined, they can choose from the possible dates listed above

Method of hunting:

Sitting in a tree stand (with a blind) overlooking bait.

Can the hunt be upgraded to deer or Turkey?

No, those species are not in season!

Pick-up:

Party will be met at BIA and transported to the hunt area and transported back to BIA after the hunt.

Lodging:

Camp Finally, A traditional 1 large room hunting camp that will sleep 6. A total of 4 day hunt and a 5 night stay (unless otherwise agreed upon) Party should arrive a day before (Sunday) and plan on leaving Friday morning after the Thursday night hunt.

What is the anticipated weather for this time of year in Maine?

It can range anywhere from the mid to high 50's during the night and it can range into the 80's during the day! Usually there is a night of showers so raingear and good layers for warmth are key to have.

What type of clothing is recommended?

Usually, it is relatively warm this time of year but nights can and will drop into the 50's. Lightweight clothing is best to start out with and having layers to apply if needed. Realtree Darker leafy wear works really well and head nets are good to have as the mosquitos and "no see-ums" can get pretty bad at times. Camo clothing is recommended and we do **not** need blaze orange this time of year for bear hunts.

Is there any gear needed besides the firearms and ammunition?

Gear that all hunters should have is a compass (usually 2 is best) A GPS if they want and a couple of head lamps for getting out of the woods in the dark. Again, specific clothing they want for the hunt and raingear. If the hunter(s) do not want to bring their firearm, we could provide one to them. Regardless which firearm they use, their own or our, they will shoot at the range prior to any hunt. Firearms should be of a higher caliber than a 30-30. Preferably examples like: .270, .308, .30-06, 7mm, 450 Bushmaster, etc. All firearms should be sighted in for 35 yards and closer as the shot will not be longer than 35 yards.

We would prefer no shotguns!

If a bear is shot, what is the process for preparing the game for transportation home/butcher/taxidermy?

Once a bear is harvested, the recovery takes place. Depending on when it was shot and how long it takes to recover it, we really have one option. We have a cooler on sight to get the bear in once field dressed and let it cool down overnight preserving the bear the way it should be. Once the next morning arrives, we take the bear to the tagging station and then to the butcher we use. If the hunter has a different request of a butcher, we will try to honor that as long as it is not too far to travel. We can help with arrangements to get the bear shipped to the hunter's location after the hunt and the same goes for any taxidermy that may be required. The cost of the butchering and any taxidermy will be the sole responsibility of the hunter(s). We also have a great taxidermist here in Maine that we use that also could be an option if the hunter(s) desired.

If the tag(s) are filled early on the hunt (Before the 4 days are concluded) Can the hunters return on an earlier flight if they can get one?

Of Course!

What will be the first day of the hunt?

Monday

Is there a phone number at the lodge in case of emergencies?

Yes, both guides have cell phones which will work at the lodge and are available in case of emergencies

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All hunters are required to have proof of a Hunter Safety Course. Maine honors most states. Hunters should be directed to Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife website for more information or call the helpline at 207 287-8000.