

KAMCHATKA





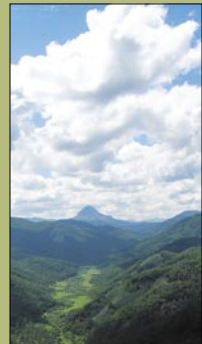
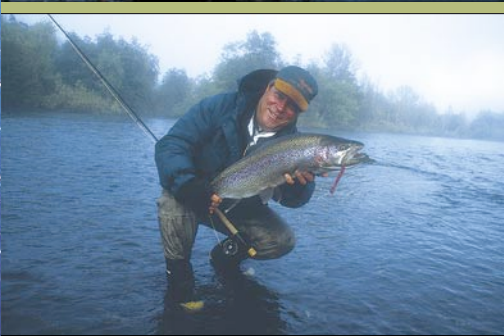


An aerial photograph of a vast, green landscape in Kamchatka. A wide, winding river flows through the center, surrounded by lush vegetation. Patches of snow are scattered across the terrain, particularly on the left side. In the foreground, large, moss-covered rocks are visible, suggesting a high vantage point. The sky is overcast and hazy, with distant mountains visible on the horizon.

WELCOME TO KAMCHATKA

NO BOUNDARIES





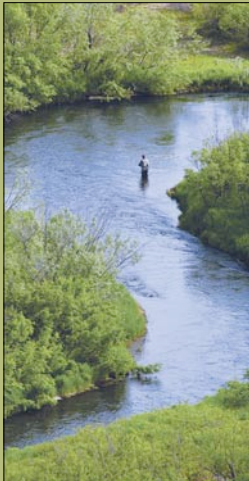
## YOUR FISHING

Our goal is to bring you an unparalleled fishing experience for large, wild, surface feeding, native Rainbow Trout. We offer access to the finest Rainbow Trout rivers in the world. In addition to Bows, the Kamchatka Peninsula hosts six species of Pacific Salmon, trophy Grayling and multiple species of Char. Starting in early June, King, Chum, Sockeye Salmon and sea-run Dolly Varden flood into the rivers.

# SECOND TO NONE

## MILES OF RIVER

With The Best of Kamchatka you will enjoy mile after mile of river during your stay. Each day on the Ozernaya River you and your guide have over twenty-five jet-boat-able miles of Rainbow infested water to enjoy. Floating the Two Yurt River between stationary camps you will fish arguably some of the world's most beautiful river miles. Our fishing program is designed to make the most of these amazing resources with conservation for the future in mind. We practice strict catch and release for all Rainbow Trout.





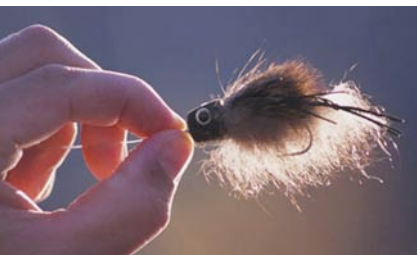


## TECHNIQUES

The styles of fishing we use vary as greatly as the types of fish we catch. At times swinging a streamer is the most productive method, but often a mouse pattern will out-produce all other techniques. One thing is certain; there is no need for heavy sink tips or leaded flies. Consider that both of our rivers see less angling pressure in a season than virtually any quality Rainbow stream in Alaska will see on a normal weekend. You will not catch fish missing facial parts nor will fish behave as if they were caught earlier in the day. The Rainbows of Kamchatka are aggressive, often chasing your mouse patterns right to your feet. There is absolutely no need to fish plastic beads like so many of the Bristol Bay lodges. Our entire season we fish with real flies, mice, streamers and dries on floating lines with heavy leaders.

## RAINBOWS

Scientists know that Rainbow Trout developed on this peninsula before migrating eastward to Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. The Rainbows of Kamchatka are fortunate compared with their Alaskan brethren. Being further south with warmer weather patterns allows for a significantly larger biomass. This food-rich aquatic environment has created a fishing mecca. A stream sample was conducted and we realized that daily insect hatches of mayflies, caddis and innumerable types of stoneflies keep these plump fish looking to the surface for food. Golden and black Stone Flies, a Mayfly population that is diverse and extraordinarily dense, spring and fall Beatis, Green Drakes and Pale Morning Duns name just a few. This bug factor in conjunction with a huge salmon population accounts for the absurd numbers of Rainbows.



# HOW BIG ARE THE FISH?

DOLLY VARDIN  
*Salvelinus articus*

CHUM SALMON  
*Oncorhynchus keta*

PINK SALMON  
*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*

ARCTIC GRAYLING  
*Thymalls arcticus*

RAINBOW TROUT  
*Oncorhynchus mykiss*

KUNDZHA  
*Salvelinus leucomaenis*

KING SALMON  
*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*

SOCKEYE SALMON  
*Oncorhynchus nerka*

SILVER SALMON  
*Oncorhynchus kisutch*

THE AVERAGE RAINBOW ON THE OZERNAYA COMES IN AT 21 INCHES AND 5 POUNDS, WITH MANY EXCEEDING 24 INCHES AND 7 POUNDS. IN RECENT SEASONS SEVERAL RAINBOWS OVER THE 30 INCH MARK WERE LANDED.



NO LIMIT

26,000 MILES OF WATER





## YOUR RIVERS

The river of your dreams winds through the soft fertile valleys of Kamchatka's interior; they are unspoiled, untouched and exclusively ours. Unlike Alaska, there is no need to get out at dawn as there is no competition for the prime spots; it is just you and the fish. You will not hear or see other boats or be forced to move as an airplane lines up for an approach on *your* fishing area. Imagine wading into a calm back channel surrounded by whispering birch trees while pods of Rainbows loudly slurp hatching mayflies. This is what your fly fishing adventure is meant to be, a true wilderness experience. The Oz and Two Yurt offer a myriad of braids as well as main channel runs begging to be explored.

# EXPLORATION IS REWARDED

Having fished all of the other rivers now in operation on the Kamchatka Peninsula, we are sure these are the two finest. Neither of these rivers is affected by rain and the fishing is every bit as wonderful and diverse on the first day of the season as it is on the last.

Both the Ozernaya and the Two Yurt have modest populations of Dolly Varden compared to many of the rivers on the west coast of Kamchatka. Our rivers have populations of trophy Grayling rivaling any in Alaska, or the world. Grayling are wonderful fish for the dry fly enthusiast; they come readily to the surface for any skated caddis during the innumerable seasonal hatches.



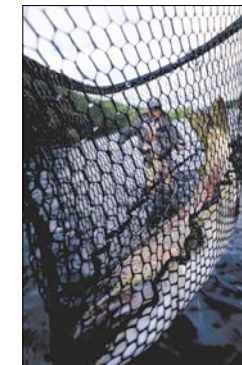
## TWO YURT RIVER

The Two Yurt River is set in perhaps the most beautiful valley on the Peninsula. Flowing east, the Two Yurt River drains the lake by the same name. Similar in size to Brooks Lake in Alaska, one clear distinction exists—no other people can be seen. With a huge run of Sockeye and King Salmon, Rainbows gorge on eggs and flesh growing to large proportions. Two Yurt combines many streams and offers every imaginable type of water, from freestone pocket water to long spring creek glides. By early June the mighty King Salmon enter the river pulling Rainbow Trout up stream from both the Yelovka and Kamchatka river drainages. From early July to early October, the 50 miles of river below the lake become thick with Rainbows.

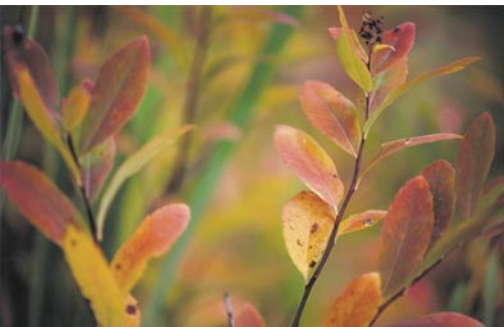
## OZERNAYA RIVER

The Ozernaya has been called the greatest trout stream of all time. We believe the Ozernaya is the crown jewel of Kamchatka; a spring creek boasting an unbelievable number of large Rainbows averaging well over 20 inches. Easy to wade and gin clear, much of the fishing is visual. The Ozernaya has every single ingredient for large Rainbow Trout—bugs, salmon, and a large sculpin population.

The Oz is also blessed with fabulous runs of Silver Salmon ready to explode on wogs or poppers. These chrome bright battlers, available from early August until the end of the season, are sure to test your will.







## YOUR CAMP

Never forgetting our mission, we have created a safe, welcoming environment for your stay overlooking a pristine river surrounded by mountain views. Mornings greet you with the silence of wilderness and you know the day is yours for the taking. The Ozeraya jet boat lodge is designed for intimacy, with a maximum of 8 guests per week. Each two-person cabin is spacious, comfortable, dry, bug-free and includes electricity and heat. Our many amenities include spotless flush toilets, streamside benches, picnic tables, hammocks, and evening campfires. Upon returning after a successful day of fishing, you can hang your wet clothes in our drying room and jump into a steaming hot shower. Clean and relaxed, dinner is soon to follow. Our facility is designed to be your haven for non-fishing hours. At The Best of Kamchatka we tailor each week to exceed the expectations of our individual guests.



# YOUR HOME IN THE WILDERNESS

**AMENITIES** In our central and comfortable dining room you will enjoy delicious food to your heart's content. This common area is also where you can relax and tie flies in the evenings. Despite the remote setting, conveniences have not been lost. Hot coffee is always available or if you prefer the Russian version, "chai" (*tea*). Our menu is American-style with a touch of Russian. Your cooks are available 24-7, as is the rest of the staff. Each morning an American-style breakfast of bacon and eggs, oatmeal or cereal is served. At your request, our guides will prepare fresh fish for lunch

on the river shore. To satisfy all tastes, we offer a wide variety of breakfast, lunch and dinner menus.

Our Two Yurt float trips offer the same high standard of comfort and service. A small group of four anglers per week will travel between stationary cabins located perfectly along the river. With hot showers, a large dining facility, electricity and heat, nothing is forgotten except the hustle and bustle of the outside world. Fewer anglers fish Two Yurt in a season than many famous Alaska rivers see in a day.





NO EQUAL

UNSPOILED, UNTOUCHED, AND EXCLUSIVELY YOURS





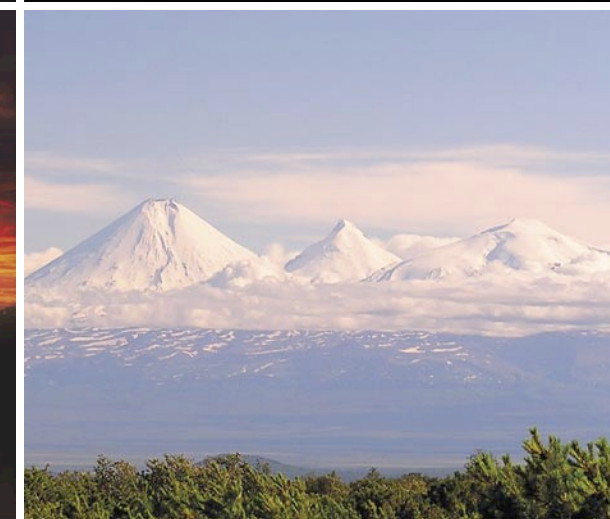
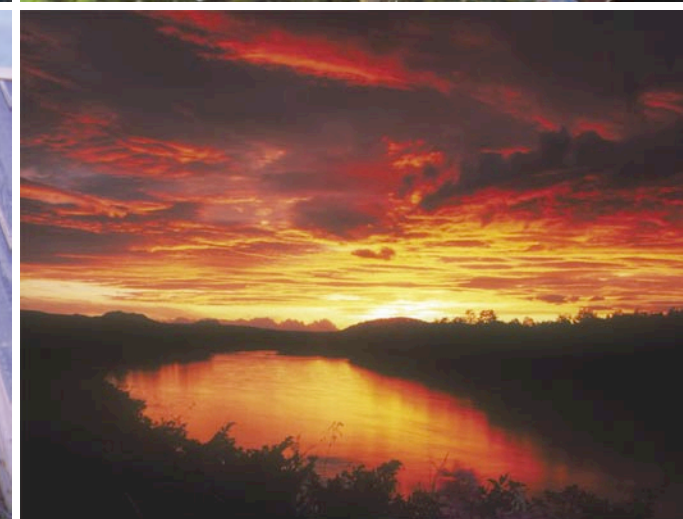
## THE PENINSULA

Russia claimed the Kamchatka Peninsula in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Ivan Kamchaty, Simon Dezhnev, Cossack Ivan Rubetz, and other Russian explorers made expeditions to the area in the mid 1600's returning with tales of a land of fire, rich with fish and fur.

In early 1741, Admiral Vitus Bering left from Avacha Bay, Kamchatka to discover a land known as Alaska. Now some 250 years later, Alaska has been exploited while Kamchatka exists much the way Admiral Bering left it. Rightly so, Kamchatka is often called "one of the last great unspoiled natural wonders of our world." The Soviet Union kept Kamchatka a closely guarded military zone for most the twentieth century. It was not until after Perestroika that Russia threw the iron curtain wide open for outside exploration. This volcano and river-filled region has always been regarded as a land of wonder. The peninsula has more landmass than California, yet only one passable road into the interior. The west coast and all of the northern regions remain unroaded and inaccessible except by helicopter.

With the opening of Russia, many Kamchatka residents left for a less expensive and easier life on the mainland. The population now is 30% what it was at the beginning of Perestroika. With no roads to Kamchatka everything must come to the peninsula by ship or air, driving up the cost of living. The entire peninsula has a population under 400,000 people and about 300,000 of them live in the capital Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky (Petro). By comparison, in northern Kamchatka the density of population is .08/km while Alaska is .4/km. This means Alaska is 5 times more populated than Kamchatka, Wyoming 23 times, Montana 30 times and Colorado 200 times. Kamchatka continues to be a wilderness outpost and should remain so well into the future.

The Kamchatka Peninsula is split into two different states, Kamchatka and Koryakia. The Koryakia district, near our fishing areas, has the second smallest population in all of Russia but is the 19<sup>th</sup> largest in size.



# A NATURAL WONDER



# FLORA



WILLOW  
*Salix*



DAHURIAN LARCH  
*larix gmelini*



AROMATIC POPLAR  
*populus suaveolens*



ASPEN  
*populus tremula*



MONARCH BIRCH  
*betula maximovitschii*



JAPANESE STONE PINE  
*pinus pumila*



KAMCHATKA BIG HORN  
*nivicola nivicola*



HARELQUIN DUCK  
*bistrionicus bistrionicus*

COMMON LOCAL SPECIES		
land animals	birds	trees
BROWN BEAR	STELLER SEA EAGLE	WILLOWS
MOOSE	PEREGRINE FALCON	AROMATIC POPLAR
CARIBOU	GYRFALCON	ASPEN
FOX	ALEUTIAN TURN	DAHURIAN LARCH
WOLVERINE	HARLEQUIN DUCKS	AYAH SPRUCE
LYNX	MERGANSERS	JAPANESE STONE PINE
SABLE	BEWICK SWANS	SPARSE STONE BIRCH
KAMCHATKA	RABERS	
BIG HORN	COO COO	
RIVER OTTER	OSPREY	
GREY WOLF		



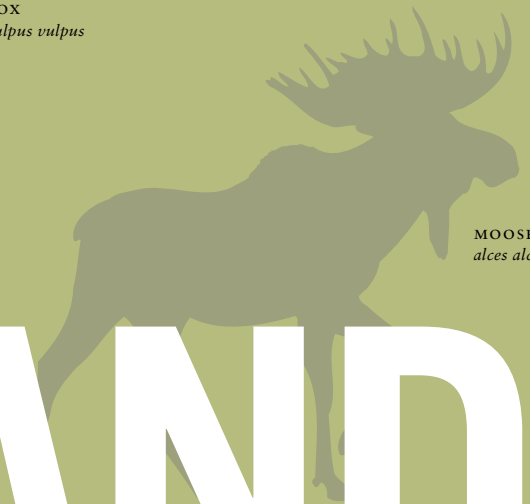
FOX  
*vulpus vulpus*



WOLVERINE  
*gulo gulo*



SABLE  
*martes zibellina*



MOOSE  
*alces alces*



STELLER SEA EAGLE  
*haliaeetus pelagicus*



BROWN BEAR  
*ursus arctos*



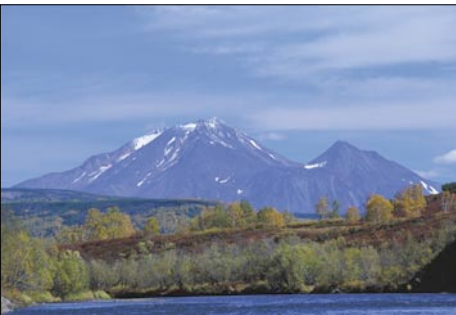
PEREGRINE FALCON  
*falco peregrinus*



CARIBOU  
*rangifer tarandus*

# AND FAUNA





## THE PENINSULA

Kamchatka juts out into the northern Pacific directly in the path of the warm Japanese current. This fortunate positioning helps to provide relatively mild winters compared to nearby Siberia. Along with these warm currents comes the wealth of the Pacific Ocean including salmon, whales and a wonderful array of coastal wildlife. Brown bear, otter, bighorn sheep, caribou and moose all flourish amongst the backdrop of a pristine wilderness.

Warmly embracing operations like ours, the peninsula has been open to foreign outdoor enthusiasts for over ten years. Neither we, nor any other operator, have had problems relating to instability or lack of cooperation from the Russians. Located over 6,000 miles away from the big city problems of Moscow, Kamchatka offers a safe, stable environment for the discriminating angler.

# THE PERFECT LOCATION



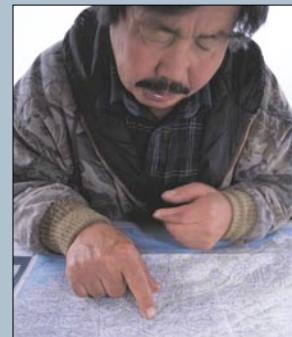


## YOUR GUIDES AND STAFF

At The Best of Kamchatka we believe great fishing experiences are created through diligence and hard work. The most important ingredients to this end are the guides and camp staff. Each day your experienced guide will take you and one other person on the fishing adventure of a lifetime. Having extensive lifelong experience in remote settings, you can rely on him to provide safe, enjoyable days on the river.

Our style of fishing is wading-oriented, although other types can be easily accommodated. If you do not feel comfortable wade fishing, you can successfully enjoy angling from the boat. If casting lessons are needed or desired we will assist you at your level. Your guide will show you the secrets and patterns that will lead to fantastic on-stream success. For those just entering the sport, more forgiving Rainbow Trout rivers could not be designed.

At The Best of Kamchatka your fishing experience will be designed around your wants and desires. The camp staff is a select group of local Russians that have worked with us for many years. With help from our camp interpreters, relationships often develop between guests and these warm friendly people. Kamchatkans tend to be highly educated and often speak quite a bit of English. These men and women are supreme outdoors people with skills most Americans lost generations ago.



# DECADES OF EXPERIENCE

## THE PARTNERS

The Best of Kamchatka is a joint venture between two highly knowledgeable men. The American partner is William Blair (*bottom, right*). Will has spent ten years working in the fly fishing industry and eight years guiding, managing, owning and developing fishing camps on both coasts of the Kamchatka Peninsula. It has been said that no one knows more about fly fishing in Kamchatka than Will.

Victor Rebrikov (*right*), the Russian partner, has spent the last fifteen years outfitting wilderness camps on the peninsula. A retired veterinarian, Victor brings Russian insight and is a master of local logistics.

Will and Victor have been friends and partners in many projects over the last six years and know that working together they will show you The Best of Kamchatka. We look forward to meeting you and having you become a part of our future stories.



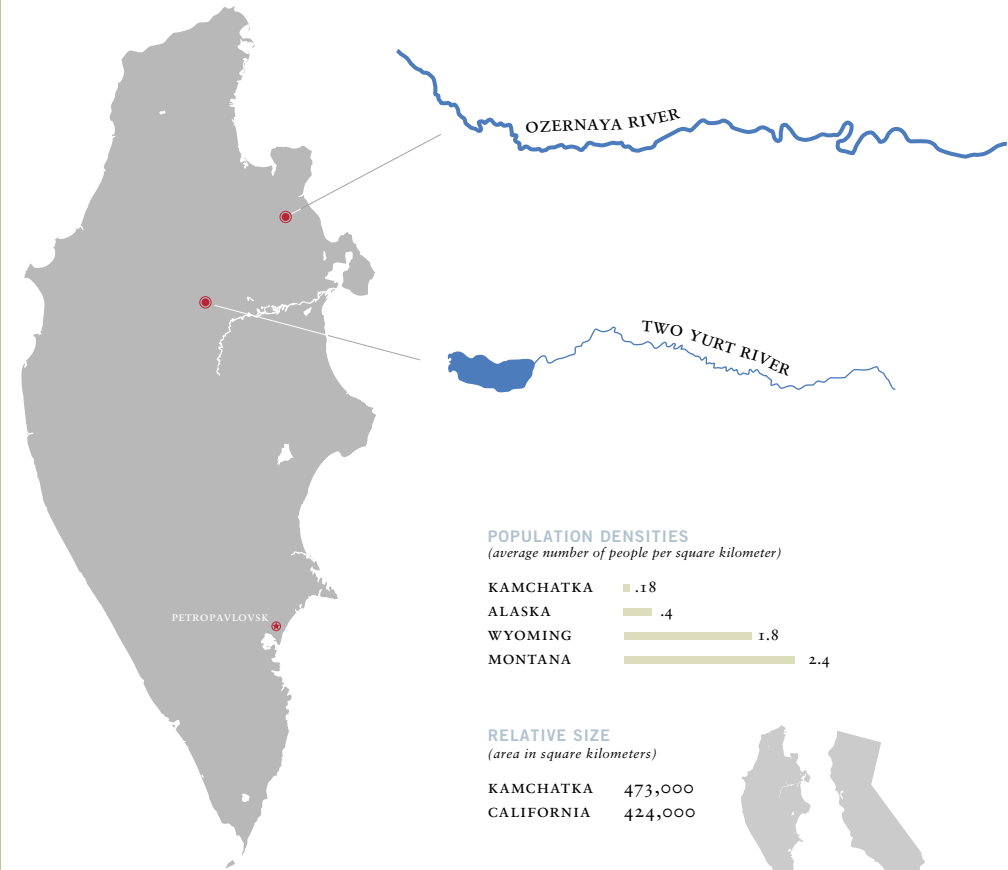


# PENINSULA FACTS



**GENERAL STATISTICS**  
POPULATION: 384,000  
TOTAL AREA: 473,000 km<sup>2</sup> 182,600 mi<sup>2</sup>  
CAPITAL CITY: Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky

**GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE**  
NORTHERN LATITUDE: 65° N  
SOUTHERN LATITUDE: 50° 57' NW  
HIGHEST POINT: 4,575 m 15,584 ft  
AV. TEMP. MAY - OCT.: 50° - 72° F  
ACTIVE VOLCANOS: 9  
TOTAL RIVERS 1,852  
FLOWING WATER 42,585 km 26,467 mi

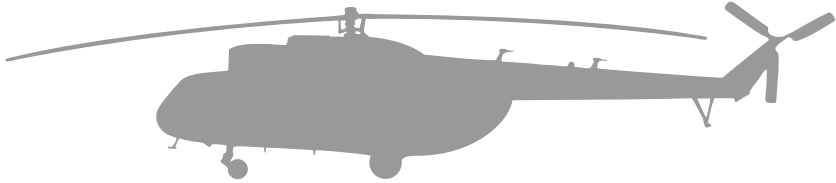


**POPULATION DENSITIES**  
(average number of people per square kilometer)

KAMCHATKA	.18
ALASKA	.4
WYOMING	1.8
MONTANA	2.4

**RELATIVE SIZE**  
(area in square kilometers)

KAMCHATKA	473,000
CALIFORNIA	424,000



MI-8 SPECIFICATIONS			
HEIGHT	5.65 m	18'6"	
WIDTH	2.5 m	8'2"	
WEIGHT	6,990 kg	15,410 lbs	
ROTOR SPAN	21.3 m	69'10"	
PAYLOAD	4,000 kg	8,820 lbs	
CAPACITY	24 anglers + gear		
ENGINE	Twin Turbine 1,482 hp per engine		
MAX. SPEED	275 km/h	170 mph	
CRUISING SPEED	205 km/h	127 mph	
RANGE	580 km	360 mi	
CEILING	4,800 m	16,000 ft	

## TRANSPORTATION

The Mi-8 was first put into production in late 1965 and is considered the most reliable and safe commercial helicopter ever made. With twin turbine engines designed for a capacity of 24 anglers and gear, there is no better view of the peninsula. Boasting an impressive 8,820 pound payload, a cruising speed of over 100 mph, and a ceiling of more than 16,000 feet, all of Kamchatka relies on this dependable aircraft. The Aviation Board issues flight clearances and keeps a strict watch on all of the commercial aviation companies ensuring you a safe flight schedule. With a considerable operational

range of 360 miles, the MI-8 is designed to take you to areas completely inaccessible by road. Like any remote wilderness area, weather delays are possible although they are rare.

At the jet boat camp we run top of the line Lowe jet boats with Mercury and Yamaha engines. On our float trips we offer Mineyav self bailing rafts and individual Bucks Bags catarafts; you decide how you wish to enjoy this fantastic river.









# KAMCHATKA

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