

2008

# Mesquite Country Outfitters

2009



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Mesquite Country Outfitters offers fully guided hunts for Bobwhite quail, whitetail deer, mule deer, turkey, dove, wild hogs and varmints on the legendary 165,000-acre Pitchfork Ranch in Dickens and King counties of the Rolling Plains of **Texas**. The Pitchfork Ranch is a working cattle ranch with terrain including mesquite pastures, scrub oak thickets, rugged canyon and cedar country, and a few crop fields and food plots. Lodging and meals are provided on location for all hunts. While this area is best known for its outstanding wild quail hunting, we are rapidly gaining a reputation for producing tremendous mature whitetail and mule deer bucks. The turkey and dove populations in this area are impressive. Wild boar and varmints are abundant on the 260 square miles of hunting territory.



The Pitchfork Ranch and Mesquite Country Outfitters have implemented a game management program on the property. The 1998-99 season was the first season that hunting had been formally offered over the entire ranch. The wildlife has had virtually no hunting pressure since the ranch was founded in 1883. All hunts are fair chase and absolutely no high fencing is used. Hunting is reduced during drought years but the upcoming season looks promising with good quail carryover and a healthy deer herd. Hunters should expect a great western outdoors experience. We are now booking hunts for all game animals for the 2008-2009 season and beyond. If your passion is real wild quail hunting or stalking trophy bucks or playing cat-and-mouse with long-bearded gobblers then call today to book your adventure.

**Fees:** All fees are subject to change without notice. The recent fuel price increases (and associated increase in goods and commodities) have forced an increase in hunt fees. Please visit our web site [www.mcohunts.com](http://www.mcohunts.com) for current pricing and hunt availability. Season dates are set each August by Texas Parks & Wildlife.

## Wild Quail -- 15 birds per hunter per day limit

Type	Included Features	Cost
3 hunters per guide	Guide, dogs, hunting vehicle, lodging, meals, game cleaning and refrigeration	\$800 per hunter per day
2 hunters per guide	Guide, dogs, hunting vehicle, lodging, meals, game cleaning and refrigeration	\$1000 per hunter per day

Two or three hunters per guide. Single hunters can visit our web site [www.mcohunts.com/singles.htm](http://www.mcohunts.com/singles.htm) to help locate hunting partners.

Hunt large coveys of wild quail in brushy pastures with our best guides and dogs. You are welcome to bring your dogs if you like. Our custom hunting vehicles are typically late model 4x4 crew cab diesels or Kawasaki Mules fully rigged with dog boxes and external seating. Our quail numbers are excellent due to the outstanding habitat available in our area. Intensive management and timely rainfall have produced a very good population of bobwhites the past few years. The Pitchfork Ranch has the right mixture of weed growth, insects, cover, and quality range management necessary to

consistently produce wild quail. We provide our quail with year round supplemental milo and wheat feeding. We are studying methods to further improve our habitat. These are 100% wild birds! We do limit hunting and restrict bag limits during drought years. We will never over hunt our quail population. Quail are found over the entire ranch. Each group of hunters and their guide will have exclusive access to pastures that are typically 5000+ acres in size. You will not hunt "old" ground and will probably never see another hunter on the hunting property (except back at the lodge). We rotate hunting locations regularly to preserve the unpressured nature of our habitat. Most of our clients are repeat customers.

**Season: Late October through February**

### **Whitetail Deer-- \$4500 per hunter per 4 day hunt (1 buck limit)**

**One hunter per guide. There are no additional guide or trophy fees.**

Pursue the elusive trophy whitetail buck in terrain including dense scrub oak thickets, river bottoms, rugged canyons, crop fields, and food plots. You and your guide will have exclusive access to several thousand acres of trophy buck territory. We do require that all bucks taken gross at least 130 B&C points. This means we are after bucks at least 4.5 years old with true 20" inside spreads and at least 8 high quality points. The Pitchfork Ranch has an excellent buck-to-doe ratio. The rut normally runs from mid November through mid December. Any buck that is wounded counts as your harvest and you may not continue to hunt a different buck. Our 2-day management buck hunts are priced at \$2500. Most of our hunts will involve glassing drainages and oak thickets while stalking your trophy. Lodging and meals are included.

**Archery season: October      General season: November through early January**

### **Mule Deer-- \$4500 per hunter per 4 day hunt (1 buck limit)**

**One hunter per guide. There are no additional guide or trophy fees.**

Pursue the trophy mule deer buck in rugged canyon and cedar country. Several of the state's top mule deer are taken in this region. We will spot and stalk these monster mulies on foot or via horseback. You and your guide will have exclusive access to several thousand acres of rugged mule deer country. We strongly encourage our hunters to be physically fit for these hunts. Lodging and meals are included. We will also provide containers for you to carry your quartered venison home. Any buck that is wounded counts as your harvest and you may not continue to hunt a different buck.

**Archery season: October**

**General season: Mid-November through early December**

### **Turkey--- \$1200 per hunter per 2 day hunt (2 turkey limit per hunt/4 turkeys per year)**

**Two hunters per guide. Additional guides are available at the rate of \$200 per guide per day.**

Hunt large flocks of Rio Grande turkeys in food plots, pastures, and around river bottoms. Our birds have experienced little or no hunting pressure. Each group and guide will have exclusive access to large sections of terrain. Normally, your guide will handle the calling, decoys, and ground blinds. If you choose to do the calling then your guide will make sure that you and your partner are in productive areas. Either sex may be harvested during the fall and winter season but only gobblers may be harvested during the spring season. Lodging and meals are included. Nonresidents may purchase a special spring turkey only license type 118.

**Fall archery season: October      Fall general season: November through early January      Spring season: April through mid-May**

### **Wild Boar/Varmint-- \$700 per hunter per 2 day hunt (No bag limit)**

**Guide required. There is an additional guide fee of \$200 per guide per day. Most groups prefer 1 guide per 2 hunters.**

Hunt the elusive feral hog in rugged pastures, food plots, and river bottoms. Some of the hogs have strong genetic ties to the Russian boar. Our hogs are big, mean, and difficult to hunt. We have several groups of hogs spread over the entire ranch. Coyotes are also abundant and generally respond quickly to a variety of distress calls. Lodging and meals are provided.

**No closed season.** You may book your hunt for any time during the year.

## *What else is included in these hunts?*

We provide transportation while on the hunting property. We do not provide transportation to and from any airport **except** Childress for private plane landings. An additional fee of \$300 per vehicle will apply for Childress airport pickup. Southwest, Delta, and Continental offer flights into Lubbock, TX. Rental car facilities are near the airport with free shuttle service. The drive from Lubbock to the Pitchfork Ranch headquarters takes about 1½ hours.

## *What is required to book a hunt with Mesquite Country Outfitters?*

We require a deposit equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the total amount due for the hunt. This deposit may be made by check and is due when the hunt is booked. This deposit is non-refundable within 90 days of the hunt. The remainder of the total amount due must be paid on or before the date indicated by the hunting contract. We will do our best to work with you if something unexpected happens causing you not to be able to make a scheduled hunt. We want you to be happy with your decision to choose Mesquite Country Outfitters.

All hunters are required to sign a written contract/waiver. A copy of this written contract is available upon request. Smoking is not permitted on any hunting property or in any vehicle owned by Mesquite Country Outfitters. Smoking and smokeless tobacco are permitted outside of the hunting lodge in the lodge area but not during the hunt. Alcoholic beverages are permitted at the hunting lodge (at the end of each daily hunt) but not on hunting property or in any vehicle owned by Mesquite Country Outfitters.

All hunters are required to possess a valid Texas hunting license including any required stamps (upland, archery, turkey, migratory waterfowl, etc.). All hunters born after **September 1, 1971** must have successfully completed a Hunter's Education Training Course. Exception: Hunters age 16 and under can legally hunt without HETC if they are accompanied by a licensed hunter age 17 or older. There are not many places to purchase licenses in our service area. For this reason we strongly suggest that you make arrangements for a license and HETC well in advance of your arrival. You may purchase the license using VISA or MasterCard by contacting Texas Parks and Wildlife at (800) 895-4248. You may also purchase licenses at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department web site at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>.



## *Why should you book your hunt with Mesquite Country Outfitters?*

First, our hunting property is among the best in Texas. The Pitchfork Ranch and surrounding area holds good numbers of mature animals that have had little or no hunting pressure. We have implemented an intensive game management program on the property.

Our guides spend hundreds of hours in the field each year. They are skilled in upland bird hunting, dog handling, bow hunting and rifle hunting. They will make your hunt one to remember. You will be impressed with their professionalism. They will structure your hunt to fit your request. Be sure to bring your camera!

Finally, we are totally committed to providing you with an outstanding outdoors experience. Our well-equipped hunting lodge is located on the ranch and includes a satellite TV, central heating and air conditioning, six bedrooms with private baths, comfortable furniture and beds and a full size refrigerator. Ranch-style, all-you-can-eat family style meals are served in a separate cookhouse near the lodge. Dieters beware, lots of homemade snacks, pies, and cookies.

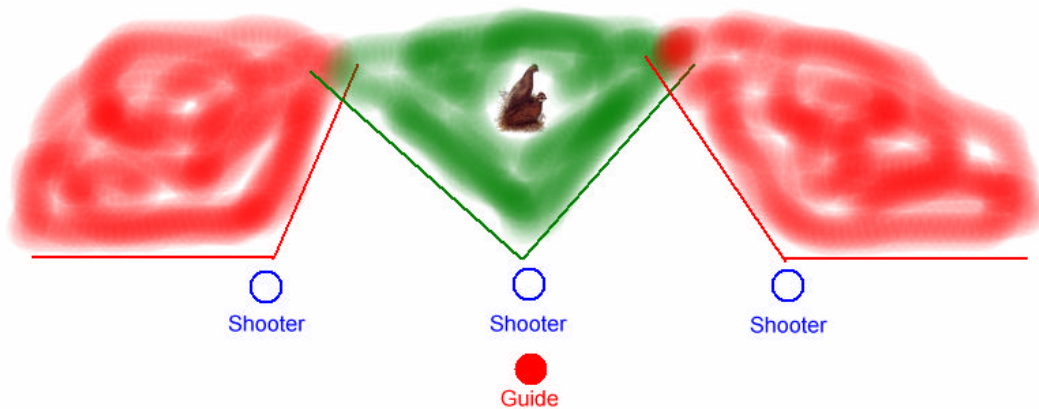
We are a family oriented business and we will gladly do our best to accommodate your friends or family should they come along. Non-hunting guests may stay at the lodge and enjoy meals at the cookhouse for \$100 per person per day. We welcome handicapped hunters and, although we have no handicapped facilities yet, we will do our darndest to make their hunt enjoyable. Our hunters are happy with the warm and courteous atmosphere provided. We listen to what our guests say and make changes to assure the best possible hunting experience. We will gladly provide references if you desire

Please contact us for more information on a specific hunt or leasing hunting acreage. Be sure to check out our Internet site for photos and hunt availability.

## Hunting Safety Rules:

1. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages are allowed except back at the lodge at the end of each day's hunt.
2. No loaded firearms are allowed at lodge area.
3. No loaded firearms are allowed when traveling in vehicles provided by Mesquite Country Outfitters.
4. Do not cross a fence with a loaded firearm.
5. Keep your gun pointed in a safe direction at all times. Know the location of your hunting partners, guide, hunting dogs and hunting vehicle at all times.
6. Keep your finger off of the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
7. Be sure of your target and the area behind your target. If in doubt, do NOT shoot.
8. Hunter orange is required for all bird hunting (except turkey hunting).
9. Safety glasses and hearing protection are strongly recommended. We provide shooting glasses and soft, foam earplugs. Please ask your guide for these items.
10. No more than three (3) quail hunters per group. Maintain a straight line while approaching the pointed covey. The guide will normally position himself behind the middle shooter. Restrict your shooting area to the zones indicated in the following diagram. Do NOT swing and shoot behind your line.

### Safe Shooting Zones



11. Bird hunters should be constantly aware of the location of the bird dogs since the dogs will likely be in the safe shooting zones. Avoid low shots that could potentially kill or injure a bird dog. Hunters are financially liable for any injury to a hunting dog that is a result of hunter negligence.
12. Rifle and handgun hunters must NOT chamber a round until directed to do so by their hunting guide.
13. Pick up ALL spent hulls and cartridges and other litter even if it is not yours.
14. For deer hunters, any deer shot, wounded and not retrieved counts as your harvest. You may continue to hunt that animal for the duration of your hunt but you may not attempt to harvest a different deer in its place.