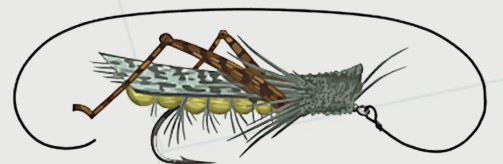




TACKLE & OUTFITTING GUIDE



El Saltamontes
Patagonia Chile



This tackle and equipment planner is a guide to help anglers prepare for their trip to Patagonia. While it's not necessary to purchase everything on this list, having a good cross-section of equipment is important. We believe that properly outfitted and prepared anglers have the best chance of having a successful trip, and we would be happy to help you with any equipment needs you may have.

One important thing to remember when fly fishing in Patagonia is to "ADAPT." Conditions can change quickly, and it's impossible to know what will work best in advance. Bringing a wide selection of tackle and flies is recommended so that you're prepared for any situation. While guides may have some flies available, it's best to come prepared with everything you'll need as equipment is not included in your trip, nor is it available for purchase at the lodge.

If you have any questions about tackle and equipment recommendations, please don't hesitate to contact us at fish@elsaltamonteslodge.com.



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Tackle & Equipment

Fly Rod



Multi-piece, 5 or 6 weight fly rods will cover all of the fishing situations you'll encounter in this part of Chile. We strongly recommend a multi-piece travel rod (3, 4 or 5 piece). Top-quality rods you might consider are: Winston Pure Series 4-piece rods, Sage's X Series or Method 4-piece series, or Scott Radian or Meridian series of travel rods. For great value options, consider Scott's Flex, or The Fly Shop's Signature H2O series.

Fly Reel



Good quality, lightweight fly reels, with simple disk drags or pawl drags, are the best choice. Reels should be filled with fresh 20-pound backing. Reel models to consider might include: The Ross Evolution; The Fly Shop L2A reel; Galvan Torque, Hatch Finatic, or Nautilus Featherweight Plus series of reels. 75 - 125 yards of backing is more than adequate.

Fly Lines



Most experienced El Saltamontes anglers feel the only line necessary is a floating line for all the river situations, although a sinking tip line may be useful when throwing streamers. Color of the line doesn't seem to be important. However, a weight-forward configuration will help transfer the power necessary to turn over bushy grasshoppers and other surface creatures we use. A (10' -15' depending on line size) sink tip fly line, Type III sink rate, can come in handy when fishing streamers.

Leaders & Tippet



For a week's fishing, you will need no less than three tapered leaders - 9 ft. (3X) for your floating line. For tippet, bring fresh spools of (4X), (3X) and (2X). We highly recommend mono leader, as it floats a bit, and almost all your fishing is with dries. Rio makes some of the best mono tippet and leader material available.

Flies for El Saltamontes

Type	Fly Pattern	Size(s)	Quantity
Hoppers/Dries	Rainey's Hopper Grande	8	10-12
	Tan & Copper Underbelly Chernobyl	6	10-12
	Chubby Chernobyl Peacock and Sz 14 Gold	4	10-12
	Tan Gypsy King	4	10
	Black Fat Albert	4	4-6
	Daves' Hopper	4	8-12
	Tan Parachute Hopper	4	-
	Black Cicada	4	-
	Purple Haze	3	14-16
	Double Dutch Bug	4	10
	Parachute Ant	1	16
Other Patterns	Regal Beetle	2	8
	Madam X (Yellow)	2	10
	Fat Albert, Tan	4	10
	Fat Albert, Black	6	6
	Bead Head Copper John (Red)	2	12
	Chernobyl Ant (Orange Bottom)	6	10
	Copper Bead Birds Nest (Tan)	2	12
	Carl's Cicada	2	12-14
	Hi-Vis Beetle	2	14
	Parachute Adams	2	14
	Rainey's Hopper Grande (Tan)	8	10-12



Flies for El Saltamontes

Type	Fly Pattern	Size(s)	Quantity
Nymphs	Incher	2	10-12
	Prince	2	12-14
	Tan & Peacock Fusion Nymph	2	12-14
	Mc Grubber Brown & Peacock	2	12
	Bead Head Prince Nymph	2	14
Streamers	Autumn Splendor w/Legs	2	6-10
	Olive Rusty Trombone	4	6-10
	Chilean Buzzer	2	6-10
	Anything Olive with Copper/Gold Flash	4	6-10
	Wooly Buggers (Anything Olive with Copper/Gold Flash)	4	6-10
	Chewy Chernobyl	4	6-10



Recommended Clothing

Base Layer



Start off with a synthetic fabric next to your skin. This often is a pair of thermal underwear (tops and bottoms) and they usually come in three weights: light, mid and expedition or heavy. According to your individual metabolism, pick what is best for you. Synthetic (non-cotton) materials retain little moisture and "wick" moisture away from your skin. This is very important when you are walking in waders or when outside temperatures heat up. 1 set of midweight Simms "WaderWick" Wading Underwear, or Patagonia "Capilene" (tops and bottoms)

Thermal Layer



Your second layer of insulation should match the weather and conditions you are going to be fishing in. Lightweight insulation for cool weather, mid-weight for colder conditions and heavy weight for really frigid days. Fleece is an outstanding choice here in either tops and bottoms or overalls. Merino Wool is also a good choice as it stays warm when damp, though dries very slowly. 1 set fleece pants-- Simms Power Stretch Guide Bibs or Pants, or Patagonia BaseLayer. 1 Fleece jacket-- Simms Wind Stopper, or Patagonia Synchronilla.

Waterproof Shell



The final layer on your upper body should be a rain jacket. High quality Gore-Tex type products are the best. Your rain jacket should be 100% waterproof and breathable, multi-layered, with sealed seams. Buy the best rain jacket you can afford, as it is one of the most important pieces of equipment you can own. The Simms guide Jacket, and Patagonia's Guidewater are high quality jackets designed specifically for fly fishermen. Various models by North Face, Arcteryx, Columbia, and Marmot are all good crossover choices.



Recommended Clothing

Waders



Stocking foot, breathable chest waders are the only way to go. You will experience little or no moisture build-up inside the waders, even after a long hike; they wear like iron, pack down very well, and are comfortable to be in all day. For safety we strongly recommend wearing a wading belt at all times. The Simms line of waders are the time-tested gold-standard and The Fly Shop's breathable waders are also high-quality, affordable waders.

Socks



For a week's fishing trip, three pairs of heavy socks will be adequate. Wool, polypro or a combination of both are the best choices in sock material. Try on your socks with your waders and wading boots before you go to insure you have plenty of room to move your toes. Being unable to move your toes and cramping your feet in your wading boots are the biggest reasons for numb toes and cold feet. Simms and Patagonia synthetic and Smartwool are the way to go

Wading Boots



Wading at El Saltamontes is very easy and rubber soled boots are highly recommended to prevent spreading invasive species. Patagonia, Simms and Korkers - there are lots of good brands. Metal studs are fine to put into the shoe soles, though are seldom needed.

Wading Staff



If you use a staff at home, bring it along. They can be handy, particularly the collapsible models. While Patagonian rivers are considered easy to moderate wading, there will always be a fish that likes to hang out in swifter, deeper water, tempting you into position.



Recommended Clothing

Gloves



Fingerless insulating gloves are rarely needed, but great for the occasional cold days. We have had the best success with synthetic or wool gloves, rather than neoprene which retain water. Simms WindStopper Half-finger Gloves are perfect. The Fly Shop's fingerless fleece gloves are great and won't break the bank. Sungloves can also be wonderful to wear on hot sunny days, to protect your hands from the intense UV in Patagonia.

Fishing Vest



For vests we like a high quality product, in a shorty model. Choose one that has room for a rain jacket or camera in the back. Patagonia's Hybrid Pack Vest and Simms Freestone Vest are great choices. If you prefer a tackle pack, take a good look at the Patagonia Stealth Hip Pack, or The Fly Shop Waist Pack, or Umpqua Ledge's 650 ZS Waist Pack.

Day Pack



These hold extra gear, clothes, flies, camera, snacks, etc., and keep them safe and dry during floats and boat rides. The Fly Shop recommends Stormfront Great Divider, or the simple and inexpensive Umpqua Tongass Dry Bags.

Hat



Bring a hat with a good brim for sun protection, and a warmer stocking hat for cold days (which can occur anytime during the season.)

Tools



Nippers, flat jaw hemostats, a hook file, fly floatant, and a measuring tape are essential to carry on any fishing trip.



Recommended Clothing

Polarized Sunglasses



Good quality polarized sunglasses are a must, both for seeing fish and for safety. Brown, amber and copper are the best lens colors. Action Optics, Oakley and Costa Del Mar make excellent fly fishing sunglasses, and even offer prescription options. Bring a spare pair!

Camera



Waterproof or splash-proof 35mm pocket cameras are handy. Canon or Nikon digital SLR cameras with a good zoom lens (28 - 80) are the best. Almost all camera battery chargers these days can accommodate a 100 - 240 volt range.

Headlamp



Headlamps are great for late night gear fiddling and trips to the loo. The Petzl "Tikka" is our favorite model.

Sun Protection



Chile Patagonia's summer weather is usually pleasant with average temperatures from the low 50's to mid 80's. However, the sun's UV rays are intense, requiring anglers to wear protective gear such as wide-brimmed hats, long-sleeved shirts, sunblock (SPF 30 UVA/UVB+), and sun gloves.



Catch & Release

By releasing a fish unharmed, survival rates are very high. But to reduce fish mortality, anglers must handle fish carefully and quickly with appropriate techniques. Always be sure to fish using a barbless fly. This not only makes it easier to release the fish but is a safety precaution for both you and the guide. Whenever possible, we like to have the guides assist you in releasing fish. They are extremely efficient at it and thus will ensure the healthiest of releases. If a guide is not available to help you release a fish, please follow these guidelines:

- 1.) Land the fish as quickly as possible; the longer the playing-time, the greater the stress on the fish.
- 2.) If you can, it is best to remove the hook without handling the fish. However, it is often necessary to hold a fish during the hook removal process. Hemostats, or a specialized release tool should be used to remove the hook.
- 3.) When holding a fish, cradle it gently and horizontally in two hands. Turning the fish upside down will often disorient the fish and keep them calm long enough to remove a hook.
- 4.) Keep hands and fingers away from the gills and do not put fingers over the eyes. Do not squeeze the fish in the throat or stomach regions as vital organs can easily be easily injured.



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5.) When photographing the fish, **KEEP THE FISH IN THE WATER** until the photographer is ready.

Then take the photo quickly and put the fish back in the water. To help personalize this experience from the fish's perspective, try holding your own breath whenever the fish is out of the water: try to imagine that you have just run a marathon and that your head is being forced underwater whenever the fish's is above it.

6.) Never throw or kick a fish. Grasp it gently and return it carefully into quiet water deep enough to support it. Face the fish into the current and hold it in place so water can flow through its gills. **DO NOT MOVE THE FISH BACK AND FORTH**, as the backward movement forces water into its gills from behind – akin to having the wind knocked out of you. Revive the fish until it recovers enough to swim out of your hands on its own. (Seeing a fish swim out of your hands might be the moment of C & R's maximum enjoyment!) Be patient, this may take more than a few minutes.

Preventing Didymo Spread

Didymo is an invasive freshwater diatom that can form large mats in rivers and streams, disrupting the habitat and food sources of other organisms such as trout. It is spread via contaminated fishing equipment and boats. To prevent the spread of didymo, sanitation measures should be employed, such as removing obvious clumps of didymo from equipment, soaking fishing gear in bleach or saltwater solutions, heating for prolonged periods, or freezing for several consecutive days. Didymo has been found in various regions, including South America, New Zealand, and North America.



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El Saltamontes Travel Checklist

Valid Passport	
Copy of Passport (packed separately)	
Wallet	
Cash US\$	
credit cards	
Fly Rods	
Fly Reels	
Spare Spools, Spare Lines	
Leaders	
Tippet	
Fly boxes	
Dry Flies	
Streamers	
Terrestrials	
Nymphs	
Pen and Pencil	
Reading Book	

Floatant	
Clippers, Pliers, Scissors	
Fishing Vest/Tackle Pack	
Day Pack, Tackle Bag	
Reel Lubricant	
Hook file or Stone	
Knot Tool	
Hemostats	
Split shot	
Polarized Sunglasses	
Extra pair of Sunglasses	
Reading Glasses	
Waders	
Wading Belt	
Wading Boots (no studs)	
Addresses & phone numbers	
Camera, Lens cleaner, Battery Charger	

El Saltamontes Travel Checklist

Insect Repellent	
Toilet Articles	
Prescription Medications	
Aspirin	
Notebook	
Playing Cards	
Tape measure	
Waterproof Bag for Wading Gear	
AquaSeal Wader Repair	
Bag for Laundry	
Rain Jacket	
Light Socks	
Heavy Socks	
Zip-Lock bags	
Travel Flashlight or Headlamp	
Emergency Telephone Numbers	
Sun Screen SPF 30+	
Lip Balm & hand lotion	

Destination address	
Maps	
Sungloves	
Bandannas/Bufs	
Slacks and Pants	
Belt	
Shirts	
Undershirts, Under shorts	
Under-wader wear	
Light fleece pants	
Fishing Hat or stocking cap	
Fleece or pile jacket/pullover	
Long-sleeved Shirts	
Short-sleeved Shirts	
Fishing Gloves	
Destination address	
English/Spanish Dictionary	
Travel Alarm	



Important Numbers & Contacts

El Saltamontes (lodge direct dialed from the U.S.)

- PH: +569 6669 6753

There is internet service (provided by Starlink) in the lodge's common room, where people are welcome to check their e-mail.

El Saltamontes Lodge E-mail: fish@elsaltamonteslodge.com



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