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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Guide Tipping  
Re: Guide Tipping  
Author: : krayfish  
Date: : 2013/7/24 21:57:03  
URL:

Here's food for thought and I'll use a Delaware River guide as an example since I helped him get squared away when he started...

Drift boat \$4500-8000  
PA guide license  
NY guide license  
CPR certified  
National park permit  
Liability insurance  
Food / drinks / snacks for clients  
Tippet, leaders and flies that he stayed up half the night tying

If the guide is working for an outfitter that charges \$400, the guide takes home \$275-300. Subtract gas, subtract \$35-40 for shuttle service. You then have to consider the pay isn't taxed but reported by the outfitter so there goes around 20% for taxes.

To sum it up, the guide's is a few grand in the hole before the season even starts. Outfitter charges \$400, guide get \$300. Subtract \$35 for shuttle, subtract \$30 for food / supplies and finally subtract \$60 for taxes. That leaves \$175.

If the guide shares history of the area, explains techniques, helps you with casting, teaches you how to identify different insects, helps you understand how to identify holding water, provides 2 dozen flies that you snap off from bad casting, provides tippet, teaches you new knots, rows you down the river while positioning the boat to make sure you have success, tells stories, has a great personality and makes the trip a ton of fun and considering that your biggest fish ever was 16" until he put you on a 22" beauty. He had to talk you through the battle so you didn't lose the biggest trout of your life and took photos of you holding it so you can always remember that day.

When a guy goes above and beyond to make your trio one you will always remember....you should tip. If you're cutting things that tight, maybe you should hold off on getting a guide ununtil you've got a few extra \$\$ to play with. That's one of the reasons I've never hired one...broke azz. 