

Client Gear Checklist

Guided Fly-Fishing Day Trips

Heading out with Immersive Angling? Use this checklist to pack properly for your guided Dullstroom or Vaal River fly-fishing experience. Bring your own gear where possible, or let us know before the trip if you need to borrow anything.

Quick note before your trip

If you are unsure about rods, leaders, flies, wading boots or weather clothing, WhatsApp Shayne before the day. We can advise what to bring and what backup gear may be available.

Essential Gear

- Fly rod - 10ft 4-6 weight rod with a soft to medium action recommended.
- Reel - With a working drag system and matched to your rod.
- Floating fly line - In good condition and suitable for your rod weight.
- Leader for trout - 9ft 3X tapered leader recommended.
- Tippet for trout - 3X to 6X. Fluorocarbon for droppers and mono for dry flies.
- Tippet for the Vaal River - 3X and 4X fluorocarbon.
- Fly box - Your favourite dry flies, nymphs and buzzer patterns. We will also bring backup patterns.
- Forceps or pliers - For hook removal and pinching barbs. Barbless hooks only.
- Floatant - For keeping dry flies high and visible.
- Landing net - For Vaal River trips, attach a thin cord to your net and clip it to your belt to avoid losing it if dropped.

Recommended Clothing

- Hat or cap - For sun protection and better visibility on the water.
- Polarized sunglasses - Essential for spotting fish and protecting your eyes.
- Quick-dry layers - Light fleece, wicking shirts and breathable layers work best.
- Rain jacket - Weather in the Highlands can change quickly.
- Warm socks - Even in summer, early mornings can be chilly.
- Wading boots - Essential for the Vaal River. Sturdy shoes are suitable for most Dullstroom bank-fishing trips.
- Pants, shorts and shirts - Lightweight and UV resistant where possible.
- Warm jacket - Recommended for cold mornings and nippy days.

Personal Essentials

- Water bottle - Bring enough water for the day.
- Snacks and lunch - Pack food that is easy to eat between fishing sessions.
- Sunscreen - The sun can be strong even on cooler days.
- Camera or phone - For fish photos. Your guide can also help capture the moment.
- Any personal medication - Bring what you may need for the day.

Immersive Angling Provides

- Backup rods and reels where available.
- Custom-tied flies selected for the conditions.
- Net, floatant and leader material if needed.
- On-the-water guidance with leader setup, fly selection, presentation and fish handling.

Before You Leave Home

- Check your reel, line and leader before packing.
- Make sure your flies are barbless or can be pinched down easily.
- Pack warm and waterproof clothing, even if the forecast looks mild.
- Charge your phone or camera if you want photos.
- WhatsApp Shayne if you are missing any important gear or need advice before the trip.

Need help before the trip?

WhatsApp Shayne on +27 82 360 1309 for gear questions, weather advice, venue-specific tips or anything you are unsure about before your guided day.