

# Hunting High Country Mule Deer: A Comprehensive Guide to Pursuing these Elusive Mountain Giants

Mule deer are one of the most popular big game animals in North America, and hunting them in the high country can be an incredibly rewarding experience. These animals are known for their toughness, agility, and intelligence, and they can provide a challenging and exciting hunt for even the most experienced hunter.

This comprehensive guide will provide you with all the information you need to know to plan and execute a successful high country mule deer hunt. We will cover topics such as:

- Habitat and behavior of high country mule deer
- Hunting strategies and techniques
- Gear and equipment recommendations
- Safety considerations

Mule deer are found in a variety of habitats, from deserts to forests to mountains. However, they are most commonly associated with the high country, where they can find the food and cover they need to survive.

## **Hunting High Country Mule Deer** by Mike Eastman

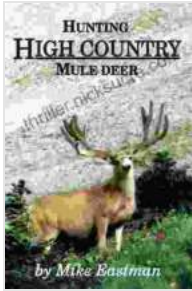
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In the summer, mule deer typically live at higher elevations, where they can feed on lush vegetation. In the fall, they will move to lower elevations to escape the snow and find food.

Mule deer are social animals that live in herds. The size of a herd can vary depending on the time of year and the availability of food. Herds are typically led by a dominant buck.

Mule deer are known for their keen senses of sight, hearing, and smell. They are also very agile and can quickly escape from danger.

There are a variety of hunting strategies that can be used to pursue high country mule deer. The most common methods include:

- **Spot and stalk:** This technique involves finding a herd of mule deer and then slowly and carefully stalking them until you are close enough to take a shot.
- **Ambush:** This technique involves setting up an ambush in an area where you believe mule deer are likely to travel.

- **Calling:** This technique involves using a call to attract mule deer to you.
- **Decoying:** This technique involves using a decoy to attract mule deer to you.

The best hunting strategy for you will depend on the terrain, the weather, and the behavior of the mule deer in the area you are hunting.

When hunting high country mule deer, it is important to have the right gear and equipment. This includes:

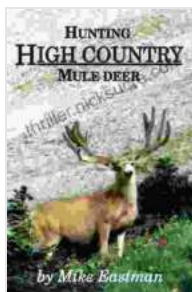
- **Clothing:** Wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather conditions and that will allow you to move quietly and comfortably.
- **Footwear:** Wear sturdy boots that will provide you with good traction and support.
- **Optics:** A good pair of binoculars and a spotting scope are essential for finding and identifying mule deer.
- **Weapon:** Choose a weapon that is appropriate for the terrain and the size of the mule deer you are hunting.
- **Ammunition:** Use high-quality ammunition that is designed for the weapon you are using.
- **Other gear:** Other gear that may be helpful includes a backpack, a rangefinder, a knife, and a first-aid kit.

Hunting high country mule deer can be a dangerous activity. It is important to take the following safety precautions:

- **Always be aware of your surroundings.** Pay attention to the terrain, the weather, and the other hunters in the area.
- **Hunt with a partner.** This is especially important in the high country, where the terrain can be difficult and the weather can change quickly.
- **Wear bright clothing.** This will help you to be visible to other hunters and reduce the risk of being mistaken for game.
- **Obey all hunting laws and regulations.** This includes obtaining the proper hunting license and tags, and following all the safety regulations.

Hunting high country mule deer can be a challenging and rewarding experience. By following the tips in this guide, you can increase your chances of success and have a safe and enjoyable hunt.

Good luck!

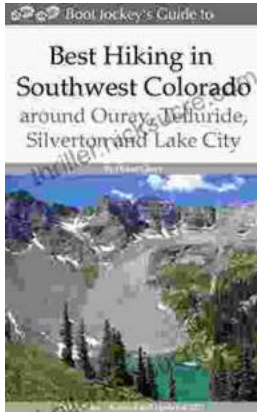


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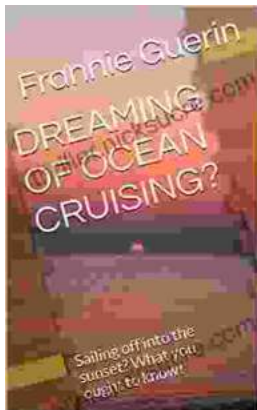
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