

## BOW RIVER HATCH CHART

There are likely as many typical Bow River hatch charts on the internet as there are insect hatches on the river. Some are very detailed. Most are likely accurate. All are essentially useless. Our guides know the hatches, supply you with all the flies you'll need on your fishing trip and, more importantly, know what's on the current fish menu. While hatch charts may be important to some, we would prefer you book your fishing trip for a time frame that is most likely to meet your desires and expectations. ([See our Fishing Seasons page.](#))

The typical Bow River hatch chart lists some of the insects found on the Bow River and the peak time period when the hatch for each occurs. While the emergence of larvae or nymph to adult varies with environmental conditions, the typical hatch chart outlines a generally accepted time frame of the metamorphosis of each insect even offering, in some cases, imitation patterns. While there is value in knowing what insect activity to expect from day to day on the Bow River, more often than not, the insect hatch on any given day has little to do with fly fishing success.



Anyone who spends any amount of time at all on the Bow River will know that insect hatches are sporadic at best. They may last just a few minutes or several hours with very little predictability or consistency. Those who invest all their fly fishing efforts using imitations that match what the Bow River hatch charts say will get plenty of practice casting but precious little practice fighting and landing fish. Those who hit the water with hatch chart tunnel vision are predisposing themselves to many, many hours of fly fishing with little in the way of results.

Because insect hatches on the Bow River are so sporadic, fly fishermen who fish the hatch chart hatch may spend all day on the river and never see the hatch - there may not be a hatch that day, for whatever reason, regardless of what the hatch charts say. Another day, that same fly fisherman might be smothered in the hatch and not see a single trout coming to the surface. In both cases a Bow River hatch chart is essentially useless.

The key to Bow River fly fishing success is knowing what is on the fish menu. Sometimes what the trout are eating coincides with what the hatch charts say, most times it doesn't. A Bow River Hookers fly fishing guide is on the water over 100 days a year and knows what the fish are eating from day to day independent of any Bow River hatch chart. You will be more satisfied with your Bow River fly fishing experience by booking your fly fishing trip based on the type of fishing you prefer. ([See our Fishing Seasons page.](#))