

## **Chris Batha's British Driven Game Shooting Academy**

Driven Game shooting is referred to as the "Sport of Kings" and there can be no arguments that it is the most exciting and challenging of all wingshooting!

A trip to enjoy the "Famous Shoots" is, without a doubt, on most passionate wing shooters' "Bucket List".

But we have found that many who have never done this before can be deterred by the following:

1. Travelling to another country to join a line of guns you have never met
2. Travelling with guns where licenses, permits and insurances are required
3. The challenge of shooting at a bird as high as 40 yards overhead, having never had the opportunity or practice to do so
4. The bewildering traditions, etiquette and terminology associated with driven game shooting
5. Transport within the United Kingdom, driving on the "wrong" side of the road, navigating roundabouts and more.
6. Then the expense....international flights, hotels and, of course, the cost of the shooting itself

The prospect of these unknowns can cause many to pause for thought!

It is not surprising that so many sports men and women would love to experience Driven Game Shooting but, faced with the above issues, have never quite gotten around to it.

In March of 2015, I am organizing a series of Two-Day Driven Game Shooting Schools near Savannah, Georgia. The first School is March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, the second School is March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

I will be joined by Elizabeth Lanier, the well-known Shooting Instructor and founder of "G.R.I.T.S."( Girls Really In To Shooting ).

Also joining us will be Roger Hill, the very respected and experienced British Shooting Instructor who will be flying in to coach for this event,

Utilizing the expertise of myself, Chris Batha, Elizabeth Lanier and Roger Hill, the school will be an informal, but intensive introduction to "British Driven Game Shooting". At the conclusion of these two days, you will have the confidence that you can go overseas and experience the excitement, atmosphere and pleasure of a real Driven Game Shoot with all its tradition and camaraderie. Each Two Day School is limited to a total of 12 students in order to maximize the amount of individual time spent with each Instructor.

### **Day One:**

Introduction and classroom session beginning with the essential safety briefing, followed by an in-depth description of the logistics of a Driven Pheasant Shoot

Instruction on the correct footwork, stance, posture and the all-important gunmount

The best techniques for tackling high pheasant and partridge at 40 yards and more

The differences between the Stansbury and Churchill shooting techniques

How to choose the right shotgun and gauge with the best choke and cartridge combinations for Driven Shooting

Explanations of the minutiae and mysterious terms in Driven Shooting; pegs, keepers, loaders, picker ups, beaters, flankers and more

The best choice of clothing for Game Shooting in the British Fall

Tipping for keepers and loaders

Using a single gun with a “Stuffer” and the “Two gun Tango” with a Loader and a pair of guns

### **A break to enjoy a catered lunch**

The afternoon will be spent on the shooting grounds and the group will be divided into three teams of four.

There will be three training areas, each presenting a true-to-life presentation of a Driven Game bird in flight. Each team will work with one of the instructors for an hour and a quarter, then move to the next instructor and training area, rotating throughout the afternoon. This will give everyone the opportunity to put into practice the lessons from the morning classroom session.

The day will end with a classroom wrap-up with a question and answer session, and finally, a “stirrup cup” and a few choice nibbles.

### **Day Two:**

A brief re-cap of the lessons from Day One, followed by a full day of simulated Driven Game Shooting, run as a real Driven Game Shoot in Great Britain.

The class will divide into pairs teaming up with a fellow Gun, taking turns to shoot and load for each other. Pegs will be drawn and the six teams will take their places on their pegs for the first drive.

One Gun will shoot while the other loads, and there will be a whistle blown half way through each drive to indicate when to change from Loader to Gun. At the end of the drive, the Guns will move to their next peg.

There will be two drives in the morning- the first will be simulated Driven Partridge, the second, simulated Driven Grouse.

The morning drives will start at a gentle pace to allow the Guns and Loaders to warmup and get into the swing of double-gunning. The instructors will be making the rounds critiquing and offering helpful advice on each drive.

Refreshments will be served between the drives, in the traditional manner.

### **A catered lunch will be served after the morning drives**

In the afternoon, there will be two drives of simulated Driven Pheasant. The same rotations will apply as in the morning, with Guns and Loaders taking turns mid-drive and the teams moving pegs after the drive.

The instructors will be circulating to offer assistance and coaching throughout the drives.

At the end of the day there will be a question and answer session followed by wine and hors d'oeuvres.

Note: You will shoot between 350 and 500 shells during the day. While shooting, loading or observing, shooting glasses, earing protection, hats and gloves must be worn and long sleeved shirts are recommended.

### **Cost of British Driven Game Shooting Academy: \$1,995.00 per person**

Cost includes: All instruction, classroom sessions, video-taping, clays, cartridges, refreshments and catered lunches.

Cost does not include: Transport to or from the Driven Shooting Venue, accommodations, or other meals. **50 % Deposit of \$997.50 per person is due upon registration.** Send to Chris Batha, 43 Pinckney Colony Road, Okatie, SC 29909-4100

### **Driven Game Shooting in Scotland- November, 2015**

In November of 2015 we are organising a Three Day Driven Pheasant and Partridge Shoot in Scotland and all of the Driven Game Shooting Academy participants are invited to join us to put their newly acquired skills into practice. In addition, your course instructors will be in the field in Scotland to help you get in the swing! Kilts are optional!

**To Join the School Contact: Chris Batha – [chrisbatha@aol.com](mailto:chrisbatha@aol.com) or call 866-254-2406**