



## WHERE CAN I GO SHOOT

What's the fun of having guns and you don't know where to practice and shoot them? Below are a few options and suggestions from cheap to expensive....

1. Crown-land. You can shoot in crown or public land, BUT it's not that simple. If you will shoot on crown land, be sure of your surroundings, keep ricochets in mind, and ensure you are not close to a campground or shooting close or across any known trails (must be at least 400 yards away). Most importantly, shoot somewhere where you have a solid and safe backstop. Visit the Alberta PLUZ Firearms section for more information - <https://www.alberta.ca/non-motorized-recreation-on-public-land>
2. Private land - one of my favourites... it's almost time for gopher shooting, and many ranchers and farmers are almost willing to pay you to help with gopher problems. Yes, helping them with pest control enables you to become a better marksman. Just 30 minutes outside of Calgary, you can knock on a landowner's door and ask if you can shoot gophers on their land. Many will welcome you, but it's still up to you to be respectful and make sure you practice best firearm safety, as the last thing you want to do is wound or kill livestock or domestic animals on the land. Over time, I've built relations with private land owners, and now I am allowed to go target shoot or hunt on their property.
3. Outdoor range - I know... there are just a few, and they all have waiting lists ... BUT which ones to go for? All of them! If you want to get into a range, ask a buddy, visit their website, and get on the waiting list. The sooner you get on a waiting list, the sooner you can become a member. There is no fee for getting on a waiting list, but you have to wait. It certainly will be quicker to get on a waiting list for a range that's 2 hours drive out of town, but why not go to one of them till you get invited to the closer ones? Member fees for these ranges can range from \$200 to \$400 annually.
4. Indoor ranges—now it's getting expensive. There are only three in Calgary that I know of, and they are not cheap. They support both shooting for a few hours and/or full membership, which could be very costly.

So here is a list of some shooting ranges: (If anyone on this recipient list knows of other clubs within a few hour's drive, please let me know, and I will share it with everyone)

## List of Ranges

Outdoors:

1. Calgary District Target Shooting Association
2. Buffalo Target Shooters
3. Swiss Rifle Club
4. Buffalo Target Shooters
5. Drumheller District Shooting Association
6. Kananaskis Gun & Archery Club
7. Fullbore. Alberta Provincial Rifle Association

Indoors:

1. Shooting edge
2. Shooting center
3. Straight shooter

Shotgun Specific:

1. Silver Willow
2. AHEIA De Winton
3. Mossleigh gun club

## Whats happening

I know some of you guys attended the Calgary gun show, and I got some excellent feedback from individuals—thank you! Also, the past weekend, Nardus Swanevelde and I went down to Kalispell, Montana, to attend their gun show, and it was a great trip! As for this coming weekend, I will be away to attend two certification courses myself—Certified Range Officer and Shotgun Instructor.

Upcoming course from MyGuns with available seats

1. Introduction to Rifle Scope - Wednesday, 24th April, from 6 PM to 7 PM
2. Introduction to Hunting in Alberta - Wednesday 1st May from 6 PM- 7:30 PM
3. PAL and RPAL (see website - <https://myguns.ca/calendar>)

To close off, I would like to thank two of our patrons, Nardus Swanevelde and Heinrich Liebenberg, who suggested and helped me with a new training course I'm putting together: "Introduction to Hunting in Alberta". This course will guide you through applying for draws, getting the correct tags, learning more about regulations, and where to go hunt—just in time before draws open next month.

Lastly, if you have any topics or questions, please let me know, and I will answer them to the best of my knowledge in future newsletters.

Here are some questions I have been asked already that I will respond to in coming newsletters:

- What will I need to start long-range shooting?
- If there was one calibre I could choose, what would it be?