



ALASKA DISCOVERY

A Mountain Travel Sobek
Company

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©John Baston (Mountain Travel Sobek guide)

TRIP DETAILS

9 days ~ Alaska

*8 days easy to moderate
sea kayaking and hiking*

*4 nights camping
4 nights inns or hotels*

2009 DATES

Jul 1–Jul 9, '09

Jul 8–Jul 16

Jul 13–Jul 21

Jul 20–Jul 28

Jul 27–Aug 4

Aug 10–Aug 18

2009 LAND COST

*\$3,995 per person + tax
(3-10 members)*

\$335 internal airfare

\$750 single supplement

TRIP LEVEL
MODERATE

ULTIMATE ALASKA EXPEDITION

Sea Kayaking Journeys in the Best of Alaska!

HIGHLIGHTS

- *See whales, bears, glaciers, and icebergs up close—all on one trip!*
- *Paddle to the world-famous Pack Creek Brown Bear Sanctuary for an exciting day of observing bears in the wild*
- *Overnight kayaking and camping expedition in Glacier Bay (we're one of the few companies with permits for overnight kayaking expeditions!)*
- *Kayak at Point Adolphus, Alaska's most active humpback whale feeding area*

Revised September 26, 2008



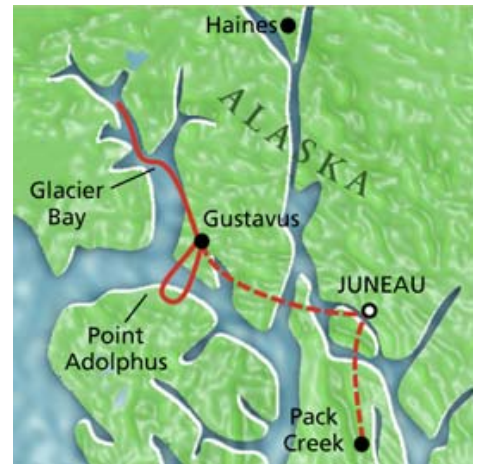
ULTIMATE ALASKA EXPEDITION

Sea Kayaking Journeys in the Best of Alaska!

If you only have one shot at visiting Alaska, this is the trip for you! It's the "triple crown" of sea kayaking, with the most diverse and rewarding experiences in Alaska you'll ever find.

On Admiralty Island, which boasts the highest concentration of brown bears in the world, you'll watch bears fish for salmon at the Stan Price/Pack Creek Brown Bear Sanctuary, one of the few areas in the world where you can view bears in the wild this close.

You'll also paddle sea kayaks in Glacier Bay National Park for an two night kayaking expedition amidst a panorama of sprawling tidewater glaciers, icebergs, and stunning mountain peaks. Finally, you'll kayak Point Adolphus in the Inside Passage, a famous feeding ground attracting countless marine mammals (humpback whales, sea lions, and seals among others). Our comprehensive adventure alternates hotel and inn accommodations with wilderness camping for a real taste of Alaska's legendary wilds.



ITINERARY

☞ **Rendezvous**—This trip begins in Juneau, Alaska on Day 1. We suggest you arrive by 5:00 p.m. or earlier, as there is a mandatory pre-trip orientation meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Note—We try to adhere to the following itinerary as closely as possible. However, it is subject to change due to weather, tides, and government regulations. Some departures may follow a slightly different itinerary than the description below.

DAY 1 ~ Juneau

Arrive in Juneau and transfer on your own to the designated hotel meeting place (TBA). We'll gather in the lobby of the hotel by 6:00 p.m. for a trip briefing—a must-attend event! You will meet your guides and other guests, have an orientation to the trip area, learn about bear-country camping techniques, and receive rain gear and rubber boots. Dinner and lodging are included this evening.

D...Goldbelt Hotel or similar

DAY 2 ~ Stan Price Brown Bear Reserve at Pack Creek

We board floatplanes early in the morning for our short but scenic flight to Admiralty Island National Monument, a lush rainforest wilderness with the largest density of brown bears in the world. The famous virgin old-growth forests are part of the Tongass National Forest, one of the largest protected temperate rainforests in the world. We'll launch kayaks and have a one-mile paddle to Pack Creek, one of the prime bear viewing areas in Alaska. Here we hope to see bald eagles and brown bears congregating at the creek. Following a return paddle, we fly back to Juneau by floatplane in the late afternoon and connect with a flight to the charming community of Gustavus, the gateway to Glacier Bay National Park. Overnight in a cozy Gustavus bed-and-breakfast.

B,L,D...Annie Mae Lodge or similar

DAYS 3-4 ~ Glacier Bay Kayaking Expedition

We meet for breakfast and then board our charter boat for a spectacular scenic cruise into Glacier Bay, a journey through geologic time. Then, switching to sea kayaks, we set off on our two-day paddling expedition. Our pace is leisurely as we paddle and hike along the scenic shores of the bay, with ample time to appreciate and photograph the fantastic surroundings, which include tremendous glaciers, fascinating land forms, icebergs, flowers, seals, birds, and (if the skies are clear) the magnificent mountains that rise above us. We camp both nights.

B,L,D each day...Camp

DAY 5 ~ Glacier Bay – Gustavus

After breakfast and breaking camp, we'll kayak along the shore to meet our charter boat for our trip back to Gustavus. In the late afternoon we can explore the town, and then dine at one of our favorite local restaurants before settling in for a great night's sleep.

B,L,D...Annie Mae Lodge or similar

DAY 6 ~ Point Adolphus

After an early breakfast, a charter boat in Gustavus will be waiting to carry us across Icy Strait to the whale-feeding grounds of Point Adolphus. Here we'll set up camp and then paddle our way leisurely along the shore, taking time to watch for humpback whales and other marine mammals in the area. We can enjoy the spectacular scenery as we prepare and eat our evening meal at the water's edge, and are lulled to sleep by the gentle sounds of whales

breathing as they pass by.

B,L,D...Camp

DAY 7 ~ Point Adolphus

We anticipate humpback whale displays and chances for viewing sea lions, otters, and seals as we kayak along the shore of Chichagof Island. We'll picnic on the beach and return to camp after a full day of exploring.

B,L,D...Camp

DAY 8 ~ Gustavus

We return to Gustavus by boat and head back to the B&B. We'll have a final farewell dinner together, then, after dinner, you can go for a stroll or bike ride, play golf, or just relax.

B,L,D...Annie Mae Lodge or similar

DAY 9 ~ Depart

After breakfast, we will go for a hike in Gustavus. At noon, we board an air taxi to Juneau. The flight from Gustavus to Juneau is about a half hour, and lands at Juneau's main airport where you can connect with your homeward-bound flight. (You can schedule your flight out of Juneau for anytime after 3:00 p.m.) We can drop you at your lodging if you are spending the night in Juneau before flying home.

B...

EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE – DENALI NATIONAL PARK!

Make the most of your visit to the Land of the Midnight Sun! For an incredible wildlife experience, consider a stay at Camp Denali, a beautiful natural haven deep in the heart of Denali National Park. Daily activities include hiking the backcountry with expert naturalist-guides, canoeing, mountain biking, fishing, and flight seeing. Each day you can choose which suits you best! Rustic but beautifully-appointed guest cabins have superlative mountain views of Denali, and are a short walk to the historic hand-hewn lodge and informal dining room where sumptuous meals are served. Evening programs presented by staff naturalists and visiting specialists are designed to further acquaint you with the Far North. Call us for details! *3- to 7-night stays. June-September*

Land Cost: \$1,425-\$3,325; \$1,069-\$2,494 (children 11 and younger) + per night tax (per person, double occupancy)

2009 LAND COST

\$3,995 per person + tax (3-10 members)

\$335 per person charter flights

Rates quoted are per person, based on sharing double accommodations in tents.

Single Supplement—\$750 for “requested” singles; \$375 for “forced” singles. If you prefer single accommodations, you must pay the Single Supplement Fee. If you're traveling alone and wish to share accommodations, we'll try our best to find you a roommate. If that's not possible, we will only charge you half of the single supplement.

Tier Pricing

Adventure travel works best with a small group of people. In order to operate these small groups, our trips are priced according to the number of full-price passengers on the trip. (Alaska Discovery staff, trip doctors, and other

discounted travelers are excluded from the count for this purpose.) We initially invoice you at the highest tier level price (the smallest group size we can operate). If the price drops due to an increase in group size, you will be refunded the difference.

What's Included

- ◆ expert leadership
- ◆ accommodations
- ◆ all arrangements in the field, including camp meals, guides, group gear and equipment (2-person tents)
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ charter flights (see separate cost above)
- ◆ sightseeing and activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ kayaking gear
- ◆ permit fees
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

Airfare to and from Juneau, Alaska; meals not noted in itinerary; daypack for yourself to carry daily items; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance as noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Alaska Discovery, which includes trip cancellation insurance); optional tipping to leader, guides and local staff; airport transfer to Juneau on Day 1; excess baggage charges; airport taxes; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

Air Travel

Airfare to and from Alaska is not included in the land cost of our trips. For air reservations, we recommend you contact the airlines directly. Please refer to the link or document called "Planning Your Trip to Alaska," included in your Trip Packet. **But please check with our staff before purchasing or obtaining your tickets.** We need to verify your arrival and departure schedule and ensure we have enough participants to operate the trip.

How We're Giving Back

Dollar-a-Day: An easy way to contribute to conservation efforts in Alaska is to participate in Alaska Discovery's "Dollar-a-Day" program. Most of our guests donate two dollars for each day of our trips in the Alaskan wilderness. In turn, we distribute these funds among Alaskan organizations that work for conservation of the areas of Alaska in which we operate. If you choose to make an optional contribution, your donation will be included in your invoice and distributed amongst the following organizations:

- ◆ The Alaska Conservation Foundation (www.akcf.org)
- ◆ Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association (www.awrta.org)
- ◆ Discovery Southeast (www.discoverysoutheast.org)
- ◆ Friends of Admiralty Island (www.friendsofadmirty.org)
- ◆ Friends of Glacier Bay (www.fogb.org)
- ◆ Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (www.seacc.org)
- ◆ Alaska Wilderness League (www.alaskawild.org)
- ◆ Audubon Alaska (www.audubonalaska.org)

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

Expert Leadership

Expert leadership is the key to an exciting, unforgettable experience. Our trips feature gifted leaders for whom leading trips is a true vocation. Besides showing you wonders you'd never find on your own, they make sure everything runs smoothly and safely without a hitch. They are knowledgeable about all aspects of your trip, and take great pleasure in sharing their insights with you. More than just guides, they positively elevate your experience by being teachers, companions, and the best of friends. You'll be in good hands with them every step of the way. Leader assignments will be confirmed in the Final Bulletin sent to you three weeks prior to departure.

Activity Level

Alaska Discovery trips are designed for flexible, energetic people who like to be active. This trip operates at a relaxing pace, with paddling of 4-8 miles per day. No prior paddling experience is required, but you may need to paddle against strong currents and/or wind at times. In the field, there are no facilities of any kind (permanent lodging, bathrooms, showers, phone booths!). Good physical condition, an adventurous spirit, a positive attitude and a willingness to deal with possible wet, cold, and windy conditions are a must! You will set up your own tent (after a demonstration by the guide) and everyone is welcome to assist with other tasks of wilderness camping.

Physical conditioning before your trip will increase your enjoyment. This trip is participatory in nature and you must be prepared to help carry personal and group gear as well as your kayak (about 65-80 pounds among four people) up and down the beach. The terrain is uneven and may be slippery. Be sure to hike in the boots you plan to bring with you well in advance of the trip (so you won't get blisters). If you don't normally follow a fitness or exercise regime, we recommend beginning one now! Incorporate any activities that build up arm strength and flexibility. In paddling, it is more important to be able to maintain a steady pace than it is to have a powerful stroke.

Minimum age for participation is 12.

THE NEXT STEP

Ready to go? Signing up is easy!

Just call us at 1-800-586-1911 and reserve your spot! You can also reserve a trip online at our website (www.alaskadiscovery.com). If you prefer to use a travel agent, he or she can book your trip at no extra cost and provide other helpful assistance.

Then Leave the Rest to Us

Before you go, we provide you with extensive pre-departure information, including clothing recommendations, suggested reading lists, and other details.

Why Alaska Discovery is Your First Choice for Adventure

We are Alaska's oldest wilderness guiding company! Alaska Discovery has pioneered trips in Alaska by kayak, raft, and canoe for more than 35 years. We led the first tours to sea kayak Glacier Bay, Icy Bay, Russell Fjord, Tracy Arm, Endicott Arm, and to reopen the cross-Admiralty canoe route. Our permits in Alaska's finest wilderness areas give you greater access than any other company. We are one of the few companies with permits in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Glacier Bay National Park, Wrangell-St. Elias/Tatshenshini-Alsek World Heritage Site, and the Tongass National Forest. We are also a founding member of the Alaska Conservation Foundation and

contribute to numerous Alaskan conservation organizations through our “Dollar-a-Day” program. Among our many awards, we have received the prestigious Outstanding Long-Term Program Award of the Alaska Land Manager’s Forum for excellence in dedication and commitment to ethically and socially aware use of the land.

References

Don’t take our word for how great our trips are. We’ll be happy to provide you with references of satisfied past travelers.

Questions?

Feel free to call us at 1-800-586-1911 if you still have any questions or concerns. We’re here to help you. You can also check out our website at www.alaskadiscovery.com.

Note on Itinerary

Although we will do our best to adhere to the itinerary schedule as listed, it is subject to change. Please read the Limitation of Liability and Booking Conditions in the four-page Participant Information Form. You can find all this information on our website at www.mtsobek.com/faq and the form itself at www.mtsobek.com/pdf/participant_info.pdf.

Terms & Conditions

Once you have made a deposit for a trip, you agree to be bound by all our terms and conditions including the Limitation of Liability Clause. The full Terms and Conditions can be found at www.mtsobek.com/faq/#liability or call 1-888-MTSOBK (687-6235) for a copy. These are partial conditions. Your participation is contingent on your signature on the full list of terms specified in the four-page Participant Information Form (www.mtsobek.com/pdf/participant_info.pdf). Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to the Terms and Conditions, to any literature concerning this trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration in San Francisco, California, according to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive California law (but not procedural law) without regard to the California Arbitration Act.

Note on Services

At Alaska Discovery, we have assembled an outstanding team of guides by taking the greatest care in both recruiting and retaining the fine guides we have. Along with our high standards of qualifications and experience, we conduct our own training. Each spring we hold refresher courses in rescue, gun handling, trip area knowledge, communication, teamwork, and special lectures on the unique natural and social history of Alaska. We also sponsor Wilderness First Responder classes regularly for our guides.

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