



Alaska has called to you for years as the vacation of your dreams! How do you ensure your adventure will discover all the “secrets” of Alaska? Choose from one of our fully escorted wilderness adventures and experience the depth of Alaska’s interior. Far from the coast, our local resident experts will treat you to the history & lore of Alaska.

Seasoned Alaskan guides accompany you through areas resplendent with wild beauty and take you deep into the land of the midnight sun. They serve as guide, historian and personal concierge, ensuring every aspect of your journey is effortless. Our tours combine the frontier spirit of this untamed land, the natural wonders and habitat of bear, moose, caribou and more. Choose from whitewater rafting, flightseeing, glacier hiking, wildlife tours, river jet boats, day cruises and more. From Anchorage to Denali National Park, St. Elias to Valdez stays in unique charming accommodations with all the magnificence of Alaska at your doorstep. Premium service combined with Alaskan hospitality all the way!

Our [luxury private transport service](#) is customized with leather captain’s chairs, full bay picture windows, complete narration and complimentary soft drinks. Our intimate tours are limited to 13 guests for your sightseeing pleasure. Our adventures are set in "Adult-Only" format or "Family-Only" format. Adult Only tours allow guests 16 years and up only. Optional custom itineraries can be designed based on availability.

"FULL CIRCLE ALASKA"

Customized 10-Day / 9 Nite Adventure:

... featuring Denali National Park, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, Wildlife viewing, Flight seeing, Jet boats, Rafting, Gold Panning, Glacier Viewing & Whale Watching Cruise



arriving by air that morning), who will assist with your luggage and boarding process.

DAY ONE

ANCHORAGE: Upon arrival in Anchorage, most guests choose to add a pre-night hotel. Our adventure tour begins at noon on the day of the tour. You will be met by our representative, (either at your hotel lobby at noon, or at the airport at noon if you are



EKLUTNA: Begin this day with a taste of the rich culture that created our great state. Arriving at the Alaska Native Heritage Center, enjoy a place where all people can come to expand their understanding of Alaska’s first people. Share in the rich heritage of Alaska’s eleven cultural groups - drawing upon the life ways of long ago, the wisdom of

elders, and the traditions that endure. This 20 acre facility highlights village communities, dwellings and lifestyles of the local native peoples.

Upon leaving Anchorage, we will travel north to the Matanuska Valley, the farming belt of Alaska. Along the way, we will visit the native village of Eklutna. Enjoy the Russian Orthodox influenced Chapel and native influenced "spirit houses", while sharing in their cultural traditions. Continuing north, we will pass the "Palmer Hay Flats", and the Knik Arm of the Cook Inlet. This tundra-covered lowland is home to wildlife and several species of birds.

Upon arrival in Wasilla, overnight in comfortable accommodations adding a remote feel to your adventure with all the comforts & conveniences of home. Upon check-in, you will have time to freshen up before dinner at one of Wasilla's finest restaurants offering exceptional views. Casual attire recommended.



DAY TWO

WASILLA: Rise & Shine, as the midnight sun never sets! Continental breakfasts will be available for you begin your day. Today experience spectacular views of Hatcher's Pass and the Independence Gold Mine, built in the early 1900's. Here you will share in the history of the mine, as well as flora & fauna of the area. You can choose to hike on your own, try your hand at gold panning, or just enjoy taking pictures of the alpine flowers and scenic mountain views. Keep an eye out for wildlife. Marmots dot the area and fill it with life. A lunch stop will be provided at an

area restaurant.

PALMER: This afternoon's adventure will take you aboard an airboat ride to Lake George, the base of Knik Glacier. Lake George, an ice dammed lake was once responsible for floods of cataclysmic proportions. Knik Glacier, 28 miles long, 6 miles wide, and over 1000 feet thick, is one of Alaska's grandest natural attractions. Knik Glacier, born in the Pleistocene Glaciations period (the beginning of the Ice Age) 600,000 years ago, covered the Anchorage bowl and the entire Cook Inlet. While it remains active, motion imperceptible to the naked eye, this glacier is in a constant state of change. After traveling all over the state of Alaska, the Knik Glacier always turns out to be a trip highlight. Guests love this remote wilderness experience to view icebergs the size of houses! Overnight again at your Wasilla accommodations. **(B)**



DAY THREE

TALKEETNA: Today you will visit the home of the Iditarod. Race Headquarters expose you to the lure of the dog sleds of the past. Meet an Iditarod musher with his dog team and share in the thrill of the race, as you take a mini-ride on a summer dog sled buggy around a quarter acre track. Pet the newly born puppies or enjoy a brief 20-minute film about the race, highlighting the life of a musher, and his relationship with his dogs.

Then traveling on, Talkeetna is a local town sporting the most photographed scenes in our state, the towering peaks of Mt. McKinley & the Alaska mountain range. Only 1 ½ hours north, this town is a hub of international

mountain climbers. A lunch stop is provided here, before or after your choice of the below tours. Enjoy one of the following tours of your choice:

Denali Flight seeing & Glacier Landing: The BEST adventure in Alaska...this magnificent flight takes you within six miles of Mt. McKinley's summit. As your flight departs Talkeetna, you begin to see how the last ice age has shaped the land. Moments later you enter a world of rugged high mountain peaks and wide glacier filled valleys. Listen as your pilot describes the natural wonders of Denali National Park. See the Sheldon Amphitheater, beautiful Ruth Glacier and the Great Gorge (the



world's deepest - almost 2 miles from top to bottom). "No visit is complete without this experience!" Land on the Sheldon Amphitheatre glacier beneath Mt. McKinley. The aircraft are equipped with skis, floats, and voice activated headphones. Passengers, each with comfortable window seats, enjoy narration by an experienced pilot-guide highlighting points of interest including geology, wildlife, and history. Flight time is 1.5 hrs and includes a glacier landing.

2-Hour Riverboat Adventure: If small planes is not for you, then your exciting trip will begin aboard the fifty-one passenger "Talkeetna Queen" as it whisks you into the heart of the wilderness in comfort. This is the most technologically advanced river jetboat in Alaska designed to safely navigate rivers that were previously inaccessible. It is glass-domed, environmentally controlled, and has an onboard restroom for your comfort. You will visit an authentic trapper's cabin and view how trappers lived in "Bush" Alaska at the turn of the century. Your experienced guide will display raw furs from the local area and demonstrate trapping methods. Naturalists will acquaint you with the wildflowers and plants that grow in abundance along the river system and you will learn about the edible plants that were used by the Native Indians for cooking and medicines. As you travel ten miles of river you will have opportunities to view nesting bald eagles, beaver activity, and maybe moose, black bear or grizzly roaming the shore. Wildlife, folklore, artifacts and a panoramic view of Denali in the Alaska Range combine to make this an unforgettable Alaskan river adventure.

This evening, enjoy dinner on your own at one of many restaurants. Overnight at your Talkeetna accommodations. **(B)**



DAY FOUR

TALKEETNA: Refreshed and ready to find more treasures in the Talkeetna wilderness, today offers a half-day fishing excursion, scheduled for you to wet a line. Home to many species of fish, river fishing offers salmon of all types based on your arrival dates. King Salmon and Sockeye Salmon are in June. King Salmon and Chum Salmon are in July with late July bringing in Coho's and Humpy's. Then August is Coho, humpy and Dog Salmon.

Now you can choose to fish or if you are not a fisher person, you can choose to enjoy the above riverboat adventure listed above, or a longer dog sled tour or just relax and shop in the local area.

Later this afternoon, continuing the adventure to Denali National Park, stop at South Denali View for spectacular photo ops and a chance to stretch your legs. Then on to Denali, cross over Hurricane Gulch, a bungee jumping haven, so have cameras ready, vistas are breathtaking.

Upon arrival in Denali National Park, this evening is at your leisure for shopping, dining or sightseeing. Overnight in Denali National Park area.



DAY FIVE

DENALI: Everything about Denali National Park is big: the scenery, the mountains, the incredible beauty, and the animals. Early this morning, you will embark on the Denali Park Tundra Tour, an excellent way to spot the wildlife for which Alaska is so famous: moose, bear, wolves, caribou, dall sheep. It is a fascinating 6 to 8 hour narrated motorcoach tour into the park. A snack and beverage are included. It is the only way to enter the park, as it is a preserve. So bring your camera and binoculars. Mount McKinley National Park was established in 1917 to protect its large mammals, not because of majestic Mt. McKinley. In 1980, the boundary was expanded to include both the Denali caribou herds wintering and calving ground and the entire Mt. McKinley massif. This more than tripled the size of the park, and was renamed Denali National Park and Preserve. It was also designated an International Biosphere Reserve significant for the potential for sub-arctic ecosystem research.

Denali is an Athabascan word meaning The High One. The mountain is officially named Mt. McKinley but is also referred to as Denali. Mt. McKinley is the highest peak in North America at 20,320 feet. It creates its own weather

system and is often covered in clouds. Mt. McKinley is only visible about 1/3 of the time, so visitors to the park only have about a 30% chance of viewing Mt. McKinley.

Denali is one of the greatest wildlife viewing areas in the world. Visitors have a chance to see grizzly bears, caribou, moose, Dall sheep, foxes, and wolves. Many smaller animals also inhabit the park such as arctic ground squirrels, hoary marmots, pikas, snowshoe hares, and beavers. For those interested in bird watching, there are a variety of birds that migrate to the park for the summer. The list includes arctic tern, American golden plover, long tailed jaeger, the surfbird, arctic warbler, the wheatear, willow ptarmigan, golden eagles, and ravens. Approximately 150 species live in and around the Denali area during the summer months. This evening, relax and enjoy surroundings where easy walking trails will add to your enjoyment. Dinner is "group's choice". Consider adding in the optional "Cabin Nite Dinner Theatre". (\$65 pp) Fannie Quigley and her group of unforgettable characters treat you to hilarious stories of the Gold Rush featuring foot-stompin', knee-slapping music. The all-you-can-eat, family style meal is sure to please. Feast on salmon, BBQ ribs, corn on the cob, baked beans, sour dough rolls and tasty dessert. Overnight again in Denali National Park at your lakeside Inn. **(B, L)**



DAY SIX

DENALI: Part of a vacation is actually getting to relax. Today, you will be able to sleep in before beginning the day's activities. After a continental breakfast, enjoy a morning of leisure to visit the National Park headquarters. Films of the Denali region, wildlife and birds are shown daily. Hiking trails from easy to steep, offer all guests the opportunity to enjoy the park in their timing. Finally the new science center peaks the biologist in all of us, to read, learn and discover facts and fiction of this boreal forest. Ranger talks are also available and will offer something for everyone. Just tell your guide where you would like to go.



Or choose to add an additional **(optional)** activity here. From ATV 4-wheelers to golfing or lake kayaking, Alaska offers high activity at every turn. Your Alaska booking agent can help you choose and let you know any additional rates to add an activity here. Most of our guests however choose to enjoy the shopping, hiking, visitor center or some down time. We purpose to place a restful time here at the half-way point of your journey for your pleasure!

WASILLA: Around 2 PM this afternoon, begin your return to Wasilla with an evening dinner stop and an overnight at your Wasilla accommodations. **(B)**



DAY SEVEN

CHICKALOON: This morning brings one of the most scenic drives in the state. As we head north to Chickaloon, the Knik Glacier reveals its full glory. The Matanuska River winds its way north beside us, cutting a cavern of beauty through the Matanuska Valley.

Arriving in Chickaloon, you will have the option of choosing between two types of river rafting, slow float or white water.

The "Glacier Run" slow float trip is great for relaxed sightseeing and photo opportunities. This easily negotiable class II water make it a great way to experience rafting and the great outdoors. It enjoys a bump or two for the fun of the river, but is at a pace that all ages from **5 yrs old and up** can enjoy. This raft excursion lasts 2 ½ hours. Be sure to bring extra socks today as your feet may get wet.

The "Lion's Head" raft trip offers the roar of whitewater. This is an excellent first-timers whitewater trip that is popular with experienced enthusiast as well. Rafters must be **12 years old and up** to participate. The most popular trip for over 28 years, this class III & IV whitewater experience offers you a hand-on adventure. This raft excursion lasts 3 ½ hours. On this raft trip, you will be clothed in a full dry suit, to go over your own "comfy" clothes. Be sure to have long pants and long sleeved shirt for this trip.



Next it's off to the Sheep Mountain Lodge for a bite to eat and where the homemade soups and the triple berry pie are to die for! After lunch, discover the true beauty of glaciers up close & personal. We will experience glacier walking and the natural history of the Matanuska Glacier. This trip is a fun walk for everyone. Enjoy the splendor of the "frozen river" as you trek out to a scenic lake hidden under the face of an ice fall. No experience is necessary to join in the fun! Ice cleats and walking sticks are provided to help everyone feel comfortable walking on the icy glacier.

This afternoon, you will begin the scenic drive to Copper Center, the home of the Copper River Red's (salmon). Pass by Tazlina glacier, the most scenic vantage point in the state, and Eureka Summit, home to the Alaskan hunter of caribou & moose. This evening, upon arrival, you will overnight in the historic Copper Center area. Overnight is provided at either the Historic Copper Center Lodge or Princess Copper River Lodge depending on arrival dates. **(B)**



DAY EIGHT

McCARTHY / KENNICOTT: This morning enjoy an optional home-cooked breakfast in the restaurant. Your day begins with a stop at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Visitors Center. With a unique ranger talk and walk, the area becomes more than just another spruce tree. Learn about the largest national Park in both Alaska and Canada. Then join in on the infamous film "Crown of the Continent" which will shed light on the park you are about to enter.

After a scenic drive to the native village of Chitina, board a small plane for an exciting flightseeing tour over the Wrangell St. Elias National Park. Six times the size of Yellowstone, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park encompasses 20,000 square miles of mountain wilderness. It includes nine of the sixteen highest peaks in the US, the largest concentration of mountains over 14,000 feet in North America. This flight will amaze you with views that rival those in Denali!



Upon arriving in McCarthy, the lore and history of this remote village will envelop you. This afternoon, you can choose to participate in an optional tour of the Kennicott Mine (\$25 pp) and hear of the history of the ore mining operations between 1910-1938. The Kennicott Mine produced and milled 200 million dollars worth of copper ore, copper & silver. The old railroad bed has been graded with gravel and is one of only two gravel roads in this remote area.

Lunch & dinner can be purchased in the dining room of the Kennicott Glacier Lodge. Here you can relax, read, play a family game, walk, take a hike onto a glacier and more. Evenings usually bring a talk or slide show from one of the local companies either on glacier climbing or flight seeing. Overnight in rooms that will take you back in time, an escape into Alaska's past with antiques, clippings of old newspapers and magazines, and relics from days gone by.



DAY NINE

McCARTHY / VALDEZ: This morning is a day at leisure to enjoy one of many activities. You can walk on a gravel roadway out to root glacier at your leisure, and the road parallels a glacier, so you can stop along the way for photo opportunities. This is a distance, so take your time and enjoy a slow pace. Or enjoy a leisure walk around the copper mine area.

Housed in Kennecott's historic train depot, the Kennecott Visitor Center is your information hub for the Kennecott Mines National Historic Landmark in the heart of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. Pick up maps and brochures, join a ranger for a history talk or nature walk or plan your wilderness excursion. The visitor center also hosts a small branch of the Alaska Geographic's bookstore. Guided history tours of the interior of the impressive 14-story Kennecott Mill Building are conducted daily at an optional cost of \$25 pp. If you would like to add another guided glacier walk, this is available for \$60.00 pp to visit Root Glacier.

At noon, enjoy a drive down to the VERY small town of McCarthy. McCarthy bloomed as the service town for Kennicott. Hotels, stores, pool halls and other "entertainment" made



up the bustling Alaskan town. At its peak, McCarthy had around 500 buildings of which a handful still remain. When Kennicott ceased operation and the last train left in 1938, McCarthy slowly died. The area is now home to approximately 25 - 30 year round residents and has become a popular destination for many travelers from around the world. Locals share the flare of living remote and small town shops show off wares from local artists.

Here you can grab a lunch to go from the Kennicott Lodge or stop by "The Potato", an greasy-spoon eatery/espresso stand, with local famous french-fries. Later this afternoon, enjoy another opportunity to flight see on your return to Chitina. Keep your eyes out for bears, moose and Dall sheep.

Our excursion continues through the Copper Basin with a stop to view a segment of the Alyeska Oil Pipeline. Here you learn about the VSM's (Vertical Support Members) and details regarding the building and maintenance of the pipeline.



Next, Worthington Glacier is known as one of the most photographed glaciers due to its stunning surroundings, this glacier stop offers time to hike or sit and take in the surroundings. As we travel over Thompson Pass and then into Keystone Canyon, some of the most beautiful waterfalls in Alaska reveal themselves. Photo stops will offer time for even the novice to capture stunning vistas.

This evening arriving in Valdez, after time to freshen up, "mosey" into the local on-site restaurant for dinner and a night of fun and laughter with a touch of local flare. Overnight in Valdez and sleep a restful Alaskan sleep, as tomorrow brings a day full of wonder and grandeur on the Prince William Sound.



DAY TEN

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND CRUISE: Having said good-bye to your escort, you will transfer and continue on with a fan-fare day cruise of the Princes William Sound. Sailing to Whittier, watch for marine life including several species of whales, sea otters, harbor seals, sea birds including kitty wakes, gulls, turns and more. Eagles soar overhead and occasionally share their nesting habits with us. Pass glaciers and ice burgs feet away from your boat. Pass Columbia Glacier and the waterfalls that the sound is famous for. You will be able to whale watch, as well as take in the pristine wilderness of this vast ocean inlet. With glaciers names after the famous Ivy League East Coast Colleges, you will see why this is so aptly named College Fjord. As you arrive in Whittier, you have some time in the afternoon for sightseeing. This small fishing town is Alaska's newest port. Choose to have some infamous pie, or take in the grandeur of the mountains of this sleepy town.

Your tour ends in Whittier. If you are beginning a 7-day cruise, your cruise will begin here. If you need to return to Anchorage, you may choose one of two options:

1) Rail transfers are \$90 per person. At 6 PM, please be at the Whittier Train Depot. Board the Alaska railroad for your scenic return to Anchorage. Portage Glacier and salmon spawning grounds will be in full view. As you head north, watch for Dall sheep on the cliffs winding their way along the Turnagain Arm of the Cook Inlet. Arriving at the train station at 9:30 PM, you will need to acquire a taxi to transfer you to the airport. Taxi is about \$20 and the airport is about a 15 minute drive.



2) Private Car: \$275 per car or share with other guests heading to Anchorage on this tour. If you travel by private car, you can depart any time after your arrival in Whittier. This allows for an earlier arrival in Anchorage. You can choose to be taken straight to the airport for a flight out or even add a night in Anchorage. If you choose to add on a night in Anchorage, a courtesy hotel shuttle will pick you up from the rail station and take you to your local hotel. This same shuttle will be available to take you to the airport in the morning for departures to your home city.

Also, with option two, you can choose to overnight at the beautiful Alyeska Resort and dine at the famous "Seven Glaciers" Restaurant high atop the mountain via Tramway. This add-on costs approximately \$299 per night hotel & tram ride, \$90 per car for morning transfers to airport. (Dinner costs additional)

\$4599.00 Per Person plus tax

*Rates include all accommodations, transportation, all activities including flightseeing, rafting, jet boats, etc. (unless stated as optional), and complimentary beverages onboard. Rates do not include some meals, gratuities, bed tax \$102 pp, or alcoholic beverages. Itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the escort due to weather, road maintenance & time factors. 50% Deposit is due at time of booking. 100% Final Payment is due Feb 15, 2012. Cancellations will incur a 100% penalty after deposit payment date. Travel insurance is highly recommended and is available for purchase with your package. Ask your agent for details.