

Alaska's Inside Passage

WHALES AND SEA KAYAKING IN A GLACIER-CARVED WORLD



Wilderness Travel



TRIP DATES

2024

May 17-24, 2024 *
 May 26-June 2, 2024
 June 4-11, 2024 *
 July 1-8, 2024
 July 10-17, 2024 *
 July 19-26, 2024
 July 28-August 4, 2024 *
 August 6-13, 2024
 August 15-22, 2024 *
 August 24-31, 2024

2025

Apr 29-May 6, 2025 *
 May 8-15, 2025
 May 17-24, 2025 *
 May 26-June 2, 2025
 June 4-11, 2025 *
 June 13-20, 2025
 June 22-29, 2025 *
 July 19-26, 2025
 July 28-Aug 4, 2025 *
 Aug 6-13, 2025
 Aug 15-22, 2025 *
 Aug 24-31, 2025

Glaciers crackle, bald eagles soar, and the sea is filled with whales, orcas, and porpoises. Explore this northern wonderland the ideal way, on a historic 12-guest wooden vessel that can maneuver around icebergs, follow whales, get close to glaciers, and tuck into tiny coves that bigger vessels wouldn't even dream of approaching.

Enjoy days filled with sea kayaking, hiking, and exploring tide pools, all in the company of a naturalist who is an expert on the local botany, natural history, and native culture. Back on board, savor delightful sea-to-table meals prepared by the talented on-board chef. This is the way to experience the Inside Passage!



*Petersburg to Juneau departures

Departures are available throughout the summer, but we strongly recommend you reserve your trip well in advance in order to get your preferred dates and cabin category. Cabins 1, 2, 3, and 6 feature private bathrooms, the other cabins have shared facilities. Cabin 6 is accessible only by climbing ship ladder. Contact us early to request your dates!

What Makes WT's Alaska Cruise Special?



SMALL SHIPS

12 guests aboard the *Catalyst* means you are able to go ashore in areas designated as Wilderness by the Forest Service, where group sizes are limited to 12 persons. The boats can anchor in inlets and coves that larger ships just can't access.

ITINERARY DESIGN

This journey has been carefully refined over decades of local experience to give you a true insider's access to the rugged wilderness of Alaska. Our days allow for flexibility, so you don't have to rush past the whales, bears, and glaciers we come across, and can take your time on our kayaking and hiking excursions. We make sure you feel like you have all of Alaska to yourself!



CUISINE

Meals onboard are delicious, locally sourced, and artfully presented. The chef performs their culinary magic with ingredients from local providers, including organic farmers and local fishermen. Our guests frequently comment that the cuisine is an unexpected highlight of their trip.



ONE OF A KIND WOODEN VESSELS

The *Catalyst* was built in 1932 as the University of Washington's first research vessel and has since been retrofitted for guests to sail in modern comfort while retaining rich history and charm—it's still powered by its original engine!

CONSERVATION

The traditional engine is efficient, using as much fuel in an entire season as some competitors consume in a week. The built-in electrical system allows hours at anchor without running a generator, which means there is less noise disruption toward wildlife and more opportunities for guests to enjoy the sounds of the forest and open water.



TRIP LEADERS

The experienced crew offer a great diversity of talents and skills with backgrounds as naturalists, kayak guides, researchers, and even authors. They look forward to sharing their experience and exploring Alaska with new guests each year.





Itinerary (Juneau to Petersburg)

TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

- Length:** 8 days
- Arrive:** Juneau, Alaska (or reverse)
- Depart:** Petersburg, Alaska (or reverse)
- Lodging:** 7 nights aboard a 75-foot historic boat with 6 cabins, some with private bath
- Meals:** All meals included (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Activity:** Sea Kayaking, Small Boat and Yacht Cruising, Small Ship Cruising, Walking, Whale Watching, Wildlife and Natural History
- Trip Level:** ② 3 4 5 6
Easy to moderate hiking and sea kayaking (no previous kayaking experience necessary)

DAY 1 JUNEAU, ALASKA / LIMESTONE INLET

Arrive in Juneau, Alaska's capital. Transfer by taxi (on your own) to the expedition vessel, docked in downtown Juneau. Trip members are welcomed on board at 12:00 pm to stow gear and become familiar with the vessel. The ship gets underway at 12:30 pm, headed south down Gastineau Channel and out into Stephens Passage, and you'll keep an eye out for bald eagles and orcas. As the ship makes its way southward, enjoy a buffet lunch and have an orientation and safety meeting, and you're likely to spot the first icebergs while entering the inlet of Endicott Arm. The first night is spent anchored at Limestone Inlet. This evening or tomorrow you'll enjoy an introduction to kayaking. There are six doubles and three single kayaks available for guests to use. No prior experience is necessary. The guide is a trained instructor and kayaking will be done in protected waters. The doubles are very stable for the beginner and the singles allow experienced kayakers to exercise their skills. You may also take a skiff ride up the river to look for bear, jumping salmon, and nesting waterfowl. Overnight aboard the ship...LD

Exploring the Inside Passage: Southeast Alaska is one of the few places in North America largely untouched since the first explorers trod through its ancient forests 200 years ago. Following in the wake of the naturalist John Muir, who was deeply inspired by Alaska's wild grandeur, you'll cruise a glorious stretch of wilderness where glaciers crackle in lovely fjords and the sea is filled with whales, orcas, porpoises, and sea lions. Along the way, pass countless miles of old-growth forests of spruce, hemlock, and cedar, home to bears and bald eagles. With just a few hours of cruising each day, there is plenty of time for walking, wildlife watching, or sea



kayaking all in the company of an on-board naturalist who shares insights into the local botany, natural history, and native culture.

DAY 2 ENDICOTT ARM / FORD'S TERROR

Awake to the heartbeat rhythm of the Washington diesel as the ship dodges icebergs and winds its way into the fjord. It is 27 miles up fjord-like Endicott Arm amid glacier-carved cirques to the face of Dawes Glacier, where you can linger for awhile to witness the calving and booming of the bergs and view harbor seals and their pups. The ship then heads to a seldom-visited anchorage called Ford's Terror, which has been called "a flooded Yosemite Valley." At Ford's Terror, navigate between 5,000-foot granite faces, the mists clinging to their precipices, with the vessel is suspended in crystal-clear water. You'll have the chance to explore on foot, and later kayak through the tidal rapids (at slack water) into the majestic inner fjord—this is a spectacular and little-visited realm. Overnight aboard the ship...BLD

Please Note: These adventures are not exclusive Wilderness Travel departures and it's possible you may be joined by other passengers. However, the small size of the vessel makes for an intimate and convivial journey among like-minded travelers.

DAY 3 FORD'S TERROR / PACK CREEK ZOOLOGICAL RESERVE, ADMIRALTY ISLAND

Hike the highlands of Ford's Terror, a unique glacial-born ecosystem of alpine, bog and forest, and view the raging tidal rapids from above. You then head out to Endicott Arm, watching for bear, moose, wolves, and whales. Tides

permitting, you may stop to hike in meadow and woods along the way. Crossing Stephen's Passage and rounding Point Hugh, enter Seymour Canal. This 25-mile-long inlet is home to the highest concentration of bald eagles in southeast Alaska, and its rich waters support a large population of energetic Dall's porpoise. Your destination today is the Pack Creek Zoological Reserve, where brown bears and humans have lived in close

proximity for over 60 years; the bears have had generations to become accustomed to the presence of people. This is by far the best brown bear viewing opportunity in southeast Alaska. Arriving in the afternoon, go ashore until the Rangers go off duty in the early evening. If this activity is not available, you will explore another area of Admiralty Island to search for

brown bear and experience their habitat. Overnight aboard the ship...BLD

Brown Bears: This famous mammal is very much a part of the natural world in Alaska. Brown bears and grizzly bears are technically the same species, *Ursos arctos* (although the brown bears on Alaska's Kodiak Island are classified as a distinct subspecies from those on the mainland).

Brown bears resemble their close relative, the black bear, *Ursos americanus*, but are generally larger, with a more prominent shoulder hump and longer claws. Color is not helpful in differentiating brown bears from black bears because both species have many color phases. They weigh the least in the spring or early summer, gaining weight rapidly during late summer and fall and at their fattest just prior to denning. At this time, most mature males weigh between 500 and 900 pounds. Males may reach 22 years and females may live to 26. Brown bears consume a wide variety of foods. Common foods include berries, grasses, horsetails, cow parsnips, fish, ground squirrels, and plant roots. Except for females with offspring and breeding animals, bears are typically solitary, avoiding other bears except where food sources are concentrated, such as streams where salmon swim upstream to spawn.

"This small boat adventure was outstanding! Amazing food, very knowledgeable naturalist, great captain and engineer. The small number of passengers made it really fun and we received very personalized service and interactions."

Cindy S., Woodside, CA

DAY 4 STEPHENS PASSAGE / ADMIRALTY ISLAND

Heading into Frederick Sound en route to Admiralty Island, keep a sharp lookout for whales. This is prime salmon spawning habitat, along with the brown bears that come down to the rivers this time of year to feed on them. Here you enjoy an estuary paddle, allowing the tide to take you into bear territory. At low tide, walk into their habitat and learn about their amazing contribution to the forests of Southeast Alaska. Overnight aboard the ship...BLD

DAYS 5-7 THE BROTHERS / THOMAS BAY

Today, you are bound for The Brothers, a group of small islands positioned in the middle of Frederick Sound. Along the way, be on the lookout for humpback or orca whales. This is one of the prime summer feeding grounds for the migratory humpback and it is a rare transit if a few are not encountered.

The ship's captain may shut down the engine and just drift, watching them feed or breach, and listening to their songs with the hydrophone. The tides being right, explore the tidepools and then head out to view the Stellar sea lions. If the humpbacks are in view, spend some time shadowing their movements. Later, head south down the sound for Thomas Bay and watch for black bear on the beaches, anchoring at Scenery Cove. Take the skiff along the glacial river and hike



on the extensive glacial moraine that lies at the foot of Baird Glacier, standing on its ice. On Day 7, celebrate your shared experiences at a festive Farewell Dinner. Overnight aboard the ship...BLD each day

Humpback Whales: Now on the endangered species list, humpbacks (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) are baleen whales distinguished by their extremely long flippers, sometimes almost a third of the length of the entire animal. They have a small dorsal fin often seen when the animal is beginning to dive. Adults reach up to 55 feet in length. Like other baleen whales, adult females at any given age are usually larger than males. Humpbacks undertake epic long-distance migrations to temperate or tropical wintering areas. There they spend the winter breeding and bearing their young after a gestation of 11 or 12 months. During spring, the animals migrate back to Alaska where food is abundant. Humpback whales that summer in the north Pacific are from three separate stocks that winter in Mexico, Hawaii, and the western Pacific. Whales that summer in Alaska are primarily from the Hawaii group. Although the actual time it takes whales to migrate is not well known, one whale identified in Alaska was seen 39 days later in Hawaii, having traveled a distance of 2,800 miles.

DAY 8 PETERSBURG / DEPART

With a relaxing morning, tie up at the dock in scenic Petersburg at about 10:00 am. In the event that a pod of whales is seen on our way to Petersburg, disembarkation time may vary. Set between mountains and glaciers on the north end of Mitkof Island in Frederick Sound, Petersburg was originally a summer home of the Tlingit tribes. In the early 1900s, it was homesteaded by Norwegian fishermen, earning

it the name "Little Norway." That heritage is still celebrated in the town, and fishing is the mainstay of the economy. The town is only accessible by boat or by air...B

Note: The goal is to enjoy the most remote wilderness experience possible. While there is a planned itinerary, each trip differs slightly depending upon the time of the tidal currents, the weather conditions, and wildlife viewing opportunities. The expedition vessel averages three to four hours of running per day, allowing plenty of opportunity for exploring on foot and by kayak.

"The crew was professional, knowledgeable, and fun! We enjoyed breathtaking scenery and many spontaneous wildlife experiences."

Dan and Brigid M., Salinas, CA





Itinerary (Petersburg to Juneau)

DAY 1 PETERSBURG, ALASKA / THOMAS BAY

Arrive in Petersburg, Alaska, a working fishing town with a strong Norwegian heritage. Transfer by taxi (on your own) to the ship, docked near downtown Petersburg. Trip members are welcomed on board at 12:30 pm to stow their gear and get familiar with the vessel. The ship gets underway at 1:15 pm, headed north out Wrangell Narrows and into Frederick Sound. Enjoy a buffet lunch on board and an orientation and safety meeting.

Your first night is spent anchored at Scenery Cove in Thomas Bay. Tides permitting, a boat ride and a hike provide a unique opportunity to explore Baird Glacier's cobbled outwash plain and a chance to touch the glacier's icy foot. This evening, enjoy an introduction to kayaking. There are six doubles and three single kayaks available for guests to use. The guide is a trained instructor

and kayaking will be in protected waters. The doubles are very stable for the beginner, and the singles allow experienced kayakers to exercise their skills.

Overnight aboard the ship...LD

"This was by far one of the best things I've done in my life. The itinerary made the most of the stunning wildlife and landscapes in Alaska and it was supported by a passionate crew whose enthusiasm was infectious. I'd recommend this trip to anyone and everyone!"

-Blair W., London, England

Exploring the Inside Passage: Southeast Alaska is one of the few places in North America largely untouched since the first explorers trod through its ancient forests 200 years ago. Following in the wake of the naturalist John Muir, who was deeply inspired by Alaska's wild grandeur, you'll cruise a glorious stretch of wilderness where glaciers crackle in lovely fjords and the sea is filled with whales, orcas, porpoises, and sea lions.

Along the way, pass countless miles of old-growth forests of spruce, hemlock, and cedar, home to bears and bald eagles. With just a few hours of cruising each day, there is plenty of time for walking, wildlife watching, or sea kayaking all in the company of an on-board naturalist who



shares insights into the local botany, natural history, and native culture.

DAY 2 FREDERIC SOUND / THE BROTHERS

Get underway in the early morning hours to make the slack tide across the spit and back into Frederick Sound. The ship is bound for The Brothers, a group of small islands positioned in the middle of Frederick Sound. Along the way, be on the alert for humpback or orca whale sightings. This is one of the prime summer feeding grounds for the migratory humpback and it is a rare transit if a pod is not encountered. The captain may shut down the engine and just drift, watching them feeding or breaching, and listening to their songs with the hydrophone. Later, drop the hook in an idyllic anchorage where the sounds of breathing whales, Steller sea lions hauled out close by, or the screech of an eagle drift across the water. Here you can explore a temperate rainforest and test your kayak skills. Overnight aboard the ship...BLD

Humpback Whales: Now on the endangered species list, humpbacks (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) are baleen whales distinguished by their extremely long flippers, sometimes

almost a third of the length of the entire animal. They have a small dorsal fin often seen when the animal is beginning to dive. Adults reach up to 55 feet in length. Like other baleen whales, adult females at any given age are usually larger than males. Humpbacks undertake epic long-distance migrations to temperate or tropical wintering areas. There they spend the winter breeding and bearing their young after a gestation of 11 or 12 months. During spring, the animals migrate back to Alaska where food is abundant. Humpback whales that summer in the north Pacific are from three separate stocks that winter in Mexico, Hawaii, and the western Pacific. Whales that summer in Alaska are primarily from the Hawaii group. Although the actual time it takes whales to migrate is not well known, one whale identified in Alaska was seen 39 days later in Hawaii, having traveled a distance of 2,800 miles.

DAY 3 THE BROTHERS / PACK CREEK ZOOLOGICAL RESERVE, ADMIRALTY ISLAND

Leaving Brother's Cove, head north along Admiralty Island's eastern shoreline. Passing Point Hugh, enter Seymour Canal. This 23-mile-long inlet is home to the highest concentration of bald eagles in southeast Alaska, and its rich waters support a



large population of energetic Dall's porpoise. Your destination today is the Pack Creek Zoological Reserve, where brown bears and humans have lived in close proximity for over 60 years; the bears have had generations to become accustomed to the presence of people. This is by far the best brown bear viewing opportunity in southeast Alaska. Arriving in the afternoon, go ashore until the Rangers go off duty in the early evening. If the reserve is not available to visit, you will explore another area of Admiral Bay in search of brown bears. Overnight aboard the ship...BLD

Brown Bears: This famous mammal is very much a part of the natural world in Alaska. Brown bears and grizzly bears are technically the same species, *Ursos arctos* (although the brown bears on Alaska's Kodiak Island are classified as a distinct subspecies from those on the mainland). Brown bears resemble their close relative, the black bear, *Ursos americanus*, but are generally larger, with a more prominent shoulder hump and longer claws. Color is not helpful in differentiating brown bears from black bears because both species have many color phases. They weigh the least in the spring or early summer, gaining weight rapidly during late summer and fall and at

their fattest just prior to denning. At this time, most mature males weigh between 500 and 900 pounds. Males may reach 22 years and females may live to 26. Brown bears consume a wide variety of foods. Common foods include berries, grasses, horsetails, cow parsnips, fish, ground squirrels, and plant roots. Except for females with offspring and breeding animals, bears are typically solitary, avoiding other bears except where food sources are concentrated, such as streams where salmon swim upstream to spawn.

DAY 4 WOOD SPIT / ENDICOTT ARM

Getting underway in the early morning hours, travel up Stephens Passage toward Wood Spit and Endicott Arm. Watch for whales along the way, stopping to listen to them breathe as they prepare to dive for krill or bubble net for herring. Reaching Wood Spit, the terminal moraine of Dawes Glacier, take a hike for an introduction to the fascinating geology of this glacial area, its Tlingit culture, and Gold Rush history. The spit is frequented by deer, wolf, nesting bald eagles, and an array of water birds. The crew will drop a few crab pots to pick up on the way out in a few days. Overnight aboard the ship...BLD



DAYS 5-7 FORD'S TERROR / ENDICOTT ARM

Awake to the heartbeat rhythm of the Washington diesel as the expedition vessel dodges icebergs and winds its way into the fjord. Along the way, watch for bear and moose. It is 27 miles up Endicott Arm to the face of Dawes Glacier, where you can linger for awhile to witness the calving and booming of the bergs. The ship makes its way to a seldom-visited anchorage called Ford's Terror, which has been called "a flooded Yosemite Valley," to enjoy the late light of Alaska's summer from the perspective of a sea kayak, surrounded by 5,000-foot granite faces, the mists clinging to the precipices, with the vessel suspended in crystal-clear water. Kayak through the tidal rapids (at slack water, of course) and paddle into the majestic inner fjord.

On one morning, hike the highlands of Ford's Terror, a unique glacier-born ecosystem of alpine, bog, and forest, and view the raging tidal rapids from above. You'll then head

out of Endicott Arm, watching for bear, moose, wolves, and whales. The group may stop for a walk through a meadow frequented by brown bears before continuing north. Tonight, celebrate your shared experiences at a festive Farewell Dinner.

Overnight aboard the ship...BLD each day

"The ship was so comfortable. The owners (captain and wife-naturalist) were super professional and so responsive to individuals in a low-key way. They are pros! And the cook was phenomenal."

-Meredith C., Washington, DC

Spend time in Alaska's capital or extend your adventure to Denali National Park...B

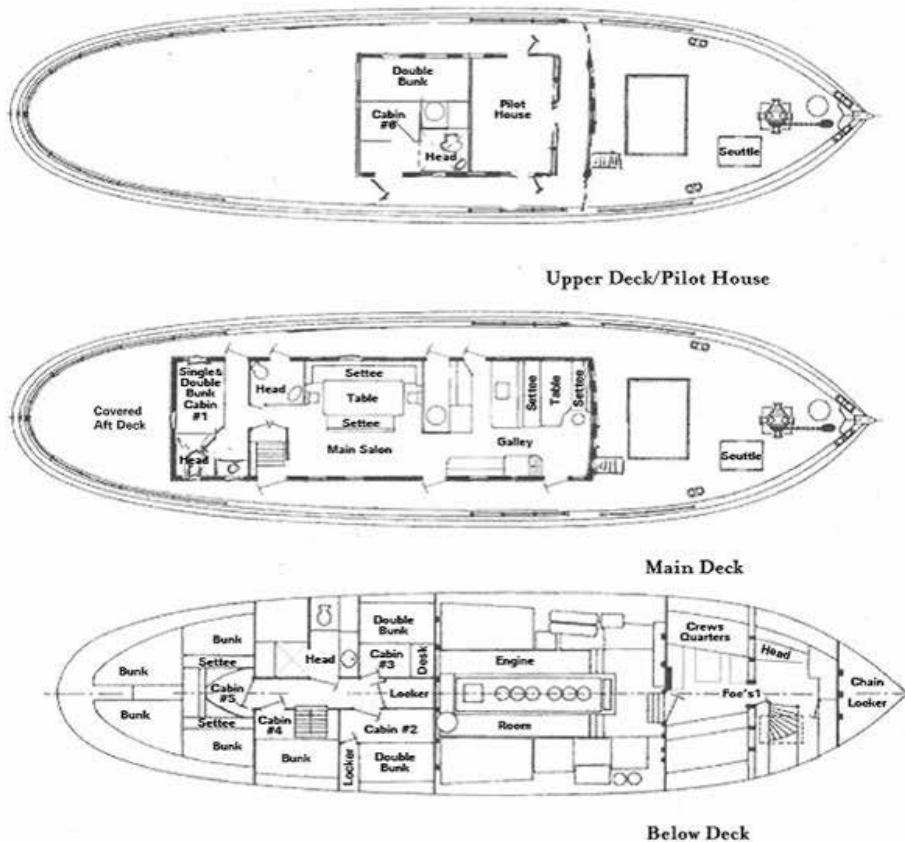
DAY 8 STEPHENS PASSAGE / JUNEAU

After a relaxing morning, get underway and enjoy a delicious brunch on deck as the ship heads north through Stephens Passage. Alaska's state capital, Juneau, is reached around 10:00 am. In the event that a pod of whales is seen on the way to Juneau, disembarkation time may vary.

Catalyst



The 75-foot research vessel is a historic wooden boat that accommodates up to 12 guests. Constructed in 1932 as a marine research boat, she can maneuver around icebergs, follow whales, get close to glaciers, and tuck into tiny coves that most passenger vessels wouldn't even dream of approaching. Delicious meals, including freshly-caught seafood, are served by the chef in the warm, wood-paneled salon, and a fleet of kayaks (six doubles and three singles) on board add to the spirit of exploration and discovery.



To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Alaska's Inside Passage* webpage and click on the "Lodging" tab.

Cabin 1

Upper deck, private bathroom with shower. Double bunk (49" x 80"), single pull-down upper bunk (32" x 74"), with door to the deck, one opening porthole. Sleeps two to three.

Cabin 2

Lower deck, forward starboard side, private bathroom with shower. 6'10" x 7'0". Double bunk (50" x 78"). Four drawers under bed, hanging closet, storage closet, bookshelf, two non-opening portholes. Sleeps two.

Cabin 3

Lower deck, forward port side, private bathroom with shower. 6'10" x 6'6". Double bunk (50" x 78"), two drawers, storage locker, two non-opening portholes. Sleeps two.

Cabin 4

Lower deck, aft starboard side. 6'10 x 7'0", less 4' x 2'6" companionway. Single bunk (43" x 84"). Storage under gear hammock, one non-opening porthole. Sleeps one. Shared bath.

Cabin 5

Lower deck, aft cabin. 13'0 x 13'0". Two single bunks, one double bunk. Two bench seats with storage underneath, six opening portholes, four non-opening portholes. Sleeps two to four. Good for families. Shared bath.

Cabin 6

Behind pilot house. Double bunk (50" x 78"). Private entry from outside of pilot house, private head and shower, drawers and storage space, bookshelf, opening porthole and windows. Sleeps two. Accessible only by ship ladder.

Note: *Note: Cabins 4 and 5 share one washroom with shower. There is a second head on the upper deck next to the main salon. The Crew has their own head and shower deck below.

Departures are available throughout the summer, but we strongly recommend you reserve your trip well in advance in order to get your preferred dates and cabin category. Contact us early to request your dates!

HISTORY

The *Catalyst* was the University of Washington's first oceanographic research vessel. In 1932, Thomas G. Thompson, then Professor of Chemistry, began a personal crusade to establish a school of oceanography at the University. With the help of a \$60,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, he started both the school and the construction of the boat. The vessel was designed by Roland and Strickland, prominent Seattle naval architects. Every aspect of her construction, from the location of the engine to the size of the vessel, was centered around the needs of the laboratory scientists. As a result of her careful design, the ship was the most state-of-the-art research vessel of her time. She took her maiden cruise through the Inside Passage and across the Gulf of Alaska, then spent the next 11 years collecting data, primarily in Puget Sound. The information collected from her decks in the 1930s forms the foundation for today's understanding of the region's water quality.

The bombs that fell on Pearl Harbor during WWII soon had effect on the ship. In 1942, Dr. Thompson offered her to the Navy to help in the war effort. The Navy conscripted the vessel and mounted a machine gun on top of her pilot house and racks of depth charges on her stern. She spent the war years patrolling the Aleutian Islands for Japanese submarines.

After the war, the Navy sold the ship and she was purchased by an Alaskan mining company and was handsomely refit. The main house was moved forward and the wheelhouse was placed atop it. Hatches, fore and aft, were created to access new holds for carrying tungsten ore. She hauled ore south to Seattle, but also carried supplies and, perhaps more importantly, guests north through the Inside Passage. After all that effort, the company had the boat for only two years, but every owner since has benefitted from the beautiful work they did.

Over the next 40 years, the vessel was owned by a few lucky mariners. The waters of Alaska, Baja California, and Hawaii have all passed beneath her keel. Now she has been restored to her original purpose, learning about the oceanic world. Only this time, it is adventurous travelers, not research scientists, who benefit from her mission.

Trip Details

PRICING INFORMATION

TRIP COST

April 29 to June 4, 2024

Cabins 1 & 6* with private bath: \$7,250 per person
Cabins 2&3 with private bath: \$7,000 per person
Cabin 4** with shared bath: \$7,000
Cabin 5 with shared bath: \$6,750 per person

July 1 to July 19, 2024

Cabins 1 & 6* with private bath: \$7,750 per person
Cabins 2&3 with private bath: \$7,500 per person
Cabin 4** with shared bath: \$7,500
Cabin 5 with shared bath: \$7,250 per person

July 28 to Aug 24, 2024 Departures

Cabins 1 & 6* with private bath: \$7900 per person
Cabins 2-3 with private bath: \$7750 per person
Cabin 4** with shared bath: \$7750
Cabin 5 with shared bath: \$7500 per person
Boat Chart: \$85,350

*Cabin 6 is accessible only by climbing ship ladder

**Cabin 4 is a single occupancy cabin, no single supplement

The ship has six cabins for guests. Choice of cabins is on a first-come, first-served basis. Most cabins accommodate couples or two companion travelers (see cabin descriptions on page 12). The crew has its own head and shower below deck in quarters.

Note: This is a family-friendly trip but we recommend a minimum age of 13.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Trip Naturalist and Captain
- Accommodations aboard a 75-foot research vessel
- All meals included
- Beer and wine
- Kayaks, paddles, radios, PFDs (life jackets), and boat safety gear

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

Airfare to/from points of embarkation and debarkation of the boat, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, accommodations in Juneau or Petersburg, travel insurance, optional gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights made necessary by airline schedule changes or other factors, expenses such as immunizations (if any), and other expenses of a personal nature.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation	20%% of trip cost
100 days prior to departure	Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Minimum fee: 50% of deposit
91-150 days prior to departure: 100% of deposit
90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/travel-insurance

Note: These cruises are not exclusive Wilderness Travel departures

What the Trip is Like

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is Level 1+, easy to moderate, according to our trip grading system. The expedition vessel serves as a mobile base camp. You'll explore remote coastlines and fjords by day, then enjoy the comfort of the ship in the evening for good food, fine company, and a comfortable bunk. With just a few hours of cruising each day, there is plenty of time for walking, wildlife watching, or sea kayaking all in the company of an on-board naturalist who shares insights into the local botany, natural history, and native culture.

You should be ready for a variety of weather conditions. Layered clothing works best in the changing weather conditions typical of the Pacific Northwest Coast and Southeast Alaska. Layers are easier to pack and more versatile than a single heavy coat. Don't bring down jackets or ski clothes (they don't dry well in the damp climate). Good rain gear is essential; it will enable you to remain comfortable in the wind or rain. Bring your high rubber boots (or use the ones provided on board) for wading and for use in the kayaks and small boats (you will wear these everywhere you go).

No previous kayaking experience is required. Unlike whitewater kayaking, sea kayaking skills can be learned quickly and easily. The waters of the Inside Passage are protected from the open ocean and are generally calm. It is not the intention to kayak on stormy days or when sea conditions are truly "rough" with high winds and waves (such occasions are infrequent in these waters during the summer). Nevertheless, unpredictability is the rule for the weather in Alaska, and good kayaking weather throughout cannot be guaranteed. And with such a comfortable "mother ship," you can always opt out of any kayaking or hiking to enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and the great views from on board. Please note: Climbing a ship's ladder to access skiff and kayaks during excursions is required.

Complimentary beer and wine is offered on board. You are welcome to bring any special wines, liquors, and mixers you enjoy. Soft drinks, coffee, and tea are always available.

Average Daily Max/Min °F					
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Southeast Alaska	50/36	56/43	59/47	60/46	55/41
Rainfall - Inches					
Southeast Alaska	9	6	8	11	18

WEATHER

Be prepared for temperatures ranging from the low 30sF to a high of 70F. Southern Alaska has a marine climate, which means rain is to be expected at some point on every trip. The rain itself is often a gentle mist, casting an aura of magic and mystery over the land. We hope for sunshine but recommend that you plan for wet, cool weather. You will be comfortable as long as your rain gear is adequate! Calf-high rubber boots are a necessity.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the North America Manager or email us at northamerica@wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

Arrival & Departure

JUNEAU TO PETERSBURG

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

The expedition vessel
Juneau, Alaska

Date: Day 1

Suggested arrival time: anytime prior to Day 1

Suggested Airport for Arrival
Juneau, Alaska (airport code JNU)

You may board the boat at 12:00 pm on Day 1, and **MUST** be on board by 12:30 pm as the boat will depart the dock at this time. The vessel will be docked at the Intermediate Vessel Float. It is south of the downtown area off S. Franklin Street. Look for the Taku Smokery, a large forest green building on the water side of the street. Access to the dock is past the tramway between the water and the Smokery building. We highly recommend arriving a day early in Juneau to avoid the possibility of missing the boat (an “on your own” expense).

DEPARTURE

Petersburg, Alaska

Date: Day 8

Suggested departure time: anytime after Day 8

Suggested Airport for Departure
Petersburg, Alaska (airport code PSG)

You will arrive into the dock near downtown Petersburg by 10:00 am on Day 8 for disembarkation.

PETERSBURG TO JUNEAU

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

The expedition vessel
Petersburg, Alaska

Date: Day 1

Suggested arrival time: anytime prior to Day 1

Suggested Airport for Arrival
Petersburg, Alaska (airport code PSG)

You may board between 12:30 pm and 1:00 pm on Day 1. You **MUST** be on board before 1:15 pm as the boat will depart the dock at this time. The vessel will be docked in either the South Harbor, just beyond the Sons of Norway Hall, a conspicuous white meeting hall on Sing Lee Alley, or the North Harbor, which is more central to town. The ramp for the North Harbor is adjacent to the Harbor Master’s office.

DEPARTURE

Juneau, Alaska

Date: Day 8

Suggested departure time: anytime after Day 8

Suggested Airport for Departure
Juneau, Alaska (airport code JNU)

You will arrive into the dock near Juneau by 10:00 am on Day 8 for disembarkation.

AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to Juneau or Petersburg and return. Air service into Juneau and Petersburg is available on Alaska Airlines, with multiple flight arrivals every day.

Alaska Airlines

www.alaskaair.com

1-800-252-7522

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at www.exitotravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it may be necessary to depart from your hometown a day prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must exactly match the name on the government-issued photo ID you plan to use while traveling.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

EXTRA HOTEL NIGHTS IN JUNEAU

For extra hotel nights in Juneau, you have many options including the following:

Alaska Capital Inn. 888-588-6507,

www.alaskacapitalinn.com

The Westmark Baranof. 800-544-0970,

www.westmarkhotels.com

Silver Bow Inn B&B. 800-586-4146,

www.silverbowinn.com

EXTRA HOTEL NIGHTS IN PETERSBURG

For extra hotel nights in Petersburg, we suggest the following:

Scandia House. 907-772-4281,

www.petersburg.org/listings/scandia-house

Tides Inn. 800-665-8433, www.tidesinnalaska.net

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

Here's how it works:

YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

- World's Best Tour Operators:** *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner
- Best Travel Specialists in the World:** *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row
- Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips:** *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row
- Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *USA Today*
- Trip of the Year:** *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner
- 50 Tours of a Lifetime:** *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row
- Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

Revised: February 5, 2024 3:22 PM



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