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Alaska: Glaciers, Wildlife Encounters, and Multi-Adventures

DURATION | 9 Days

TRIP LEVEL | High Energy

Trip Overview

Get ready for an unforgettable Alaskan adventure! Known for its stunning natural beauty, vast wilderness, and breathtaking wildlife, Alaska is a bucket-list location. You'll kick off the trip by exploring Chugach State Park before arriving at the boat-only Kenai Riverside Lodge. Other highlights include rafting through the breathtaking Kenai National Wildlife Refuge and a dip in glacier-fed waters. You'll hike in the Chugach National Forest, travel to the beautiful seaside town of Seward, and explore Kenai Fjords National Park with activities like kayaking and naturalist walks. A scenic train ride back to Anchorage and a visit to the Alaska Native Heritage Center wrap up this epic journey!

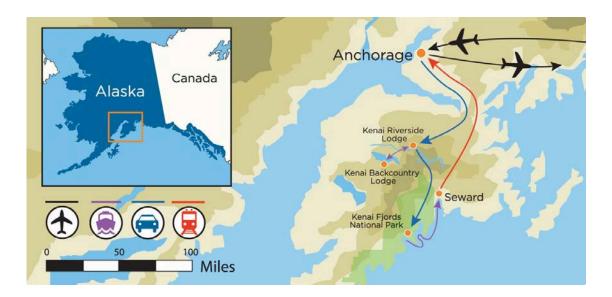
Trip Highlights

• Immerse yourself in the remote wilderness of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Enjoy scenic raft trips, hiking, and the untouched beauty of glacier-fed lakes. This adventure offers a unique opportunity to connect with nature in one of Alaska's most pristine environments.

• Stay in exclusive lodges nestled amidst the wilderness, providing unparalleled access to nature. These lodges offer comfort and seclusion, making them the perfect base for your Alaskan adventure. Don't miss the chance to relax and rejuvenate in these serene settings.

• Embark on a memorable journey aboard the historic Alaska Railroad's GoldStar cars while enjoying spectacular views of the Alaskan wilderness.

Map View







Day 1

Welcome to Anchorage

Arrive at Anchorage International Airport (ANC) no later than 2 pm today and make your way to the Lakefront Anchorage hotel. Courtesy shuttles from the airport are provided. Meet your guide and fellow travelers in the hotel lobby around 4 p.m. for introductions, followed by a special visit to Oomingmak, a local Anchorage crafting cooperative of more than 250 Native Alaskan women from remote villages. Enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant and connect with your fellow travelers.

Meals: dinner | Overnight: Lakefront Anchorage Hotel (or similar)



Lakefront Anchorage Hotel (or similar)

Set against the tranquil shores of Lake Spenard and neighboring Lake Hood, The Lakefront Anchorage invites you to experience a unique blend of Alaskan wilderness and modern comfort. As Anchorage's sole lakeside hotel, it offers breathtaking views of floatplanes gliding against the backdrop of the majestic Chugach Mountains.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, flatscreen TV, safe, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi





Day 2

Adventure Awaits

Start your day with a guided hike in Girdwood, exploring North America's northernmost rainforest and spotting glaciers. After lunch, enjoy a scenic drive through the Chugach National Forest to Kenai Riverside Lodge. At dinner, learn about the lodge and upcoming activities. This adventure is the perfect introduction to Alaska's natural beauty and a warm-up for the rest of your journey. Today's hike covers approximately 4 miles, 800 feet of elevation gain, around 2.5 hours

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kenai Riverside Lodge



Kenai Riverside Lodge

Experience the charm of Kenai Riverside Lodge, nestled amidst the breathtaking beauty of the turquoise Kenai River and surrounded by snow-capped mountains. Situated near the nation's second-largest national forest, Chugach National Forest, and the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, this lodge is the perfect base for exploring the wilderness.

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, heat, electricity, private baths (there are no TVs, phones or internet connection in the cabins)





Day 3

Scenic Kenai Adventure

Prepare for a scenic raft trip into the heart of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Enjoy breathtaking backcountry vistas and spot wildlife like moose, bald eagles, and salmon. A delicious picnic lunch will be served along the river or on Skilak Lake's shore. In the late afternoon, arrive at the boat-in only Kenai Backcountry Lodge, which uses hydroelectric power. After settling in, enjoy appetizers and dinner in the main lodge, followed by evening activities like relaxing in the outdoor gazebo or strolling along nature paths.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kenai Backcountry Lodge



Kenai Backcountry Lodge

Kenai Backcountry Lodge is a remote wilderness retreat accessible only by boat. The cozy cabins are steps away from the main lodge which uses a custom hydroelectric system harnessing the power of a nearby creek to lessen dependence on generators. This property is off the grid (electrical outlets for charging electronics available in the main lodge) and can support CPAP machines in certain cabins. Amenities: complimentary toiletries, linens, comforters, propane heaters and lights, private en suite bathroom, shower and porch





Day 4

Explore Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

Spend a full day exploring the remote Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, nearly two million acres in size, and considered to represent Alaska in miniature. Hike a secluded trail through diverse ecological communities, including riparian and hemlock forests. In the afternoon, unwind at the lodge with a hot sauna or take a plunge into the glacier-fed waters of Skilak Lake. Depending on the weather, evening options include kayaking on the lake or enjoying a fireside natural history presentation by a lodge guide. Today's hike covers approximately 5 miles with 2,027 feet of elevation gain, taking 2.5-3 hours.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kenai Backcountry Lodge





Day 5

Return to Cooper Landing

After a hearty breakfast in the main lodge, bid farewell to your backcountry setting and cross the lake on a scenic watercraft transfer. Your driver will meet you at the boat landing. Take a short van shuttle back to Kenai Riverside Lodge. Enjoy a casual afternoon hike on a trail in the Chugach National Forest or Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kenai Riverside Lodge



Kenai Riverside Lodge

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Day 6

Discover Kenai Fjords

After breakfast, travel to Seward and board a small ship for a half-day cruise in Kenai Fjords National Park. Spot glaciers and marine wildlife like whales, sea lions, and puffins. Enjoy lunch with a view of a tidewater glacier before arriving at Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge. Nestled in a tidal lagoon, the lodge offers stunning views of Pedersen Glacier and pristine beachfront. In the evening, meet a prominent female environmental advocate who will share insights on climate issues affecting glaciers.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge



Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge

Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge is nestled within an Alaska Native-owned wildlife sanctuary and enjoys stunning views of Pedersen Glacier. Features include a beautiful dining room and lounge area, as well as a staffed bar. An expansive deck with views of the Glacier is just steps out from the main lodge. This property is off the grid (no internet or cell service).

Amenities: complimentary toiletries, linens, blankets, on demand heat and electricit, private en-suite bathroom and porch.





Day 7

Adventure Activities in Kenai Fjords

After breakfast, choose from a variety of activities tailored to your interests and energy level. Options include naturalist walks, sea kayaking, and group cance paddles, all suitable for beginners. For a more tranquil experience, relax at the main lodge with views of nature, where you might spot sea otters, seals, and bears. Enjoy the natural history library or simply unwind. In the evening, share stories with fellow guests and attend a natural history presentation by local experts.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge





Day 8

Journey from Kenai to Anchorage

Start your day in Kenai Fjords National Park with kayaking, canoeing, hiking, or beachcombing. After a morning of exploration, board a boat for a wildlife cruise to Seward. Capture stunning images of cliff walls and marine wildlife. In Seward, transfer to the Alaska Railroad's GoldStar cars for a scenic journey to Anchorage. Enjoy reserved seats in dome cars, dinner, and exceptional views. Arrive in Anchorage by 10:15 pm, with taxis and complimentary hotel shuttles available at the rail terminal.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: Lakefront Anchorage Hotel (or similar)



Lakefront Anchorage Hotel (or similar)

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Amenities: complimentary toiletries, flatscreen TV, safe, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi





Day 9

Farewell to Alaska

Enjoy your last morning in Alaska with a visit to the Alaska Native Heritage Center. Discover fascinating exhibits and meet talented local artisans. Then, say goodbye to the incredible guides and fellow travelers who have shared this memorable journey with you. Depart from Anchorage International Airport (ANC) any time after 12 PM. A group shuttle to the airport will be provided by 12 PM; if your flight departs later, the hotel's 24/7 shuttle service can be arranged.



What's Included

What's Included

- · Accommodations as per itinerary based on single occupancy
- · All meals as listed in the itinerary
- All ground transportation (unless otherwise specified)
- · Activities as indicated in the itinerary
- Tea/coffee/juice at all meals
- · Professional, Alaska-based guides
- All park fees

Not Included

- · Airfare to and from Anchorage
- Optional activities
- · Meals not specified in the itinerary
- · Alcoholic beverages (unless otherwise specified)
- Fees for travel insurance
- · Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
- · Items of a personal nature
- Gratuities

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.

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