



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 but **MUST** have 6 to open a group date. 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. This tour has been custom designed for Adult Photographers Only.

"ALASKA PHOTO SAFARI"

Customized 8-Day / 7-Nite Adventure:

... featuring Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, Katmai National Park, Coastal Brown Bear viewing, Flight seeing w/ Glacier Landing, Jet boat Iceberg Adventure, Prince William Sound & Glacier Calving Cruise, Glacier Trek & Photo Extravaganza, Native Culture.



DAY ONE

ANCHORAGE: Upon arrival in Anchorage, courtesy hotel transfers will take you to your local hotel for an evening of leisure. Located in South-central Alaska on the shores of Cook Inlet, the Municipality of Anchorage is a unique urban environment situated in the heart of the wilderness. There's a special mystique to Alaska. The name conjures up adventure, raw natural beauty -- glaciers, mountains and seas, unmatched the world over -- fascinating wildlife, a unique cultural heritage, and independent, pioneering people. Here you will find four-star restaurants and small cafes, an outstanding Museum of History and Art and a multitude of other fun activities.

Enjoy downtown shopping at any of the artist hot spots or relax and enjoy the nightlife of Anchorage. Infamous restaurants dot the downtown area and offer wonderful opportunities to enjoy everything from fresh salmon to prime rib. Be sure to get to sleep early, as tomorrow is the start of your tour.



DAY TWO

ANCHORAGE: Begin your Alaskan adventure with additional guests and a meet & greet. AAU will provide a picnic lunch today. Travel across town to the spectacular Native Heritage Center, a renowned cultural center and museum, an exciting place where all people can come to expand their understanding of Alaska's first people.



Here, you will share the rich heritage of Alaska's eleven cultural groups drawing upon the life ways of long ago, the wisdom of our elders, and the traditions that endure. The Welcome House is a celebration of contemporary Alaska Native cultures while the outdoor facilities and sites allow the exploration of ancient tradition and the presentation of stories from the past. The Center provides a unique opportunity to experience Alaska's many diverse Native cultures at one location. In facilitating the transmission of Alaska Native knowledge, heritage and tradition, the Center promotes self-esteem and pride among Alaska Natives. The Alaska Native Heritage Center improves understanding among all Alaskans and encourages appreciation of Alaska Native people and their traditions, history, and contributions to Alaska.

On site are a litter of Husky puppies to pet and hold, a dog transport vehicle, a check



Next, experience the rush and power of 18 Alaskan Huskies, pound-for-pound the strongest animals in the world, pulling you in an off-road vehicle on a wooded trail. John Baker Tours hosts dog sled rides. John, a veteran dog musher, took first place in the 2011 Iditarod race and broke the record for fastest finish by four hours. The entire team - John, Jamie and Jake - are all veteran racers in the Iditarod and Yukon Quest, both 1000 miles long races through the frigid wilderness of Northwestern America. Hear firsthand the fascinating stories, the history and evolution of dog mushing and the intriguing experiences of these mushers. Come with questions, because these racers are eager to share their knowledge and are passionate about their dogs as well as the sport of mushing.

point tent and 18 friendly dogs, all experienced racers. Three of the dogs were in the 2011 winning race! John's trophy, dog sled and parka are also on display for photo ops. (This dog tour may be replaced based on the changes with annual winners of the race and their availability)

EKLUTNA: 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. **(Breakfast & Lunch included)**



DAY THREE

WASILLA: Rise & Shine, as the midnight sun never sets! Continental breakfasts will be available for you to 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. A perfect opportunity to photograph water cascades with a beautiful background story as well as enjoying the opportunity to hike on your own, 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, as well as red fox, cross fox and an occasional moose. At noon, 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 Glaciation period (the beginning of the Ice Age) 600,000 years ago, covered the Anchorage bowl and the entire Cook Inlet. While it remains active, with motion imperceptible to the naked eye, this glacier is in a constant state of change. Participants should be able to step in and out of a Jet Boat or Air Boat window, which requires some agility. Participants should also be able to navigate a loose gravel trail with a slight incline. Participants must have the ability to walk unassisted.

After traveling all over the state of Alaska, the Knik Glacier always turns out to be a trip highlight. We consider ourselves very fortunate to live in such a magnificent landscape. It will be our pleasure to share it with you. Overnight again at your Wasilla accommodations. **(Breakfast included)**

DAY FOUR



TALKEETNA: This morning, a real treat has been customized for photographers! Alaska Raptor birds are part of our culture and a beautiful sight to behold. Join us in a "private viewing" of a few of Alaska's birds including the Bald Eagle. This program is designed to increase people's awareness of the wild birds around them and to encourage preservation of their habitat as well as offer personal up-close views and photos of our national symbol.

Later this morning, travel on to Talkeetna, 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. Here you will enjoy a panoramic view of the full Alaska Range and three of the largest mountains in Alaska, Mt. McKinley, Mt. Foraker and Mt. Hunter. A lunch stop is provided here, (meals on your own) before or after your flight seeing adventure.

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 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. Make sure to have lenses for both panoramic and standard shots.



This evening, enjoy an evening in Talkeetna with dinner choices at one of the local eateries and an overnight at Talkeetna accommodations. **(Breakfast included)**



DAY FIVE

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. More panoramic views open up with jagged mountain tops, avalanche slides, green vistas as well as polychrome volcanic mountains featuring multi-colored minerals, creating spectacular photos. Be sure to bring sun glasses and polarizing camera lenses.

Next, it's off to the Long Rifle Lodge for a bite to eat. Taxidermy haven, you will see many of the animals that make up the Alaskan landscape. A local grill, here you can choose from a great burger or fish & chips.

After a hearty lunch, discover the true beauty of glaciers up close. Ice crampons and walking sticks are your first step to enjoying your glacier trek adventure. You'll experience glacier walking as well as the natural history of the Matanuska Glacier. Enjoy the splendor of the "frozen river" as you walk out to a scenic lake hidden under the face of an ice fall. No experience is necessary to join in the fun; however, the terrain presents shale rocks, muddy silt, slippery ice, and small ice fissures. Intermittently placed picnic benches allow guests to choose their own participation level. Great photo ops from all picnic benches.



This afternoon, you will begin the scenic drive to Copper Center, the home of the Copper River Red's (salmon). Pass by Tazlina & Nelchina glaciers, as well as 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 Copper River area accommodations. **(No meals included)**



DAY SIX

VALDEZ: Your excursion continues today with a visit to the Wrangell - St. Elias National Park Visitors Center. View the film the "Crown of the Continent", portraying this vast countryside and how the ancient elements carved out this stunning park. Traveling through the Copper Basin you will enjoy 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.

With an early arrival in Valdez, you can freshen up and enjoy a dinner stop, "mosey" into the local on-site restaurant for a night of fun and laughter with a touch of local flare. With the light still up on an Alaskan day - we have a secret photo excursion to view salmon, sea lions, sea birds and possibly a bear! This is an impromptu jaunt that may not present wildlife opportunities or may offer the best animal shots of the tour! This is also on the road to the Valdez Terminal of the Pipeline so views of the East tank farm are visible from here.



Overnight in Valdez and sleep a restful Alaskan sleep, as tomorrow brings a day full of wonder and grandeur on the Prince William Sound. **(No Meals included)**



DAY SEVEN

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND CRUISE: Having said good-bye to your guide, you will transfer and continue on with a fan-fare day cruise of the Prince 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 icebergs 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.

At 5:30 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 9:15 PM, a courtesy shuttle will take you to your Anchorage hotel for your overnight. **(No Meals included)**



DAY EIGHT

Katmai National Park Bear Viewing. (10-12 hours)

This morning, begin your "crème de la crème" adventure to view coastal brown bear feeding on salmon at Brooks Falls in Katmai National Park.

The federally-protected Katmai National Park and Preserve is world famous for Alaska brown bear viewing. Accessible only by air, this is Alaska wilderness in its rawest form. Our fly-out Katmai bear viewing adventure takes you to Brooks Falls, where three bear viewing platforms connected by elevated boardwalks allow for close, unobstructed and extraordinary bear viewing in Katmai National Park. In July, lured by spawning salmon, as many as fifty bears can be seen at once along the 1.5-mile Brooks River.

Katmai bear viewing at Brooks Falls is self guided, but Katmai National Park Rangers provide an initial briefing upon arrival and are available for questions.

An on-site wait list for the Lower River bear viewing platform may be implemented when visitation reaches capacity, to ensure quality bear viewing for everyone. Departing from Lake Hood, Anchorage, you fly over Cook Inlet, the Alaska Range, remote islands, before landing on either Brooks or Naknek lake in Katmai National Park and Preserve. Katmai is home to the world's largest population of Alaska brown bears and the famed Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes – a forty square mile, 100 to 700 foot deep ash flow deposited by Novarupta Volcano in 1912.

The Katmai Bear Viewing Experience:

- Intimate two to three hour scenic flight seeing tour from Anchorage; flight times vary based on weather and plane type.
- Box lunch provided upon arrival at Katmai National Park
- Katmai bear viewing at Brooks Falls – watch them catch jumping salmon!
- Wildlife watching on return flight for beluga whales, moose and Dall sheep
- A window seat and 2-way headset; ask your pilot questions!
- Detailed knowledge (and personality) of an Alaska bush pilot
- Meticulous attention to comfort and safety
- Courtesy shuttle from the Anchorage airport and many Anchorage hotels

Depart Anchorage 8 a.m. Return Anchorage 6 to 8 p.m. Times are approximate and are for general planning only.

This evening, upon your return, you will transfer to the Anchorage airport for a flight home. Be sure to not make your flight before 11 PM. **(Breakfast & Lunch included)**

\$5699.00 Per Person plus tax (\$280.00 pp)

Rates include all accommodations, transportation, all activities based on package purchased. (unless stated as optional), and complimentary beverages onboard. Rates include **limited meals 4B, 2L but does not include gratuities, tax (\$210), fuel supplement if applicable, alcoholic beverages, or optional activities not listed. Upgrades are not included. Itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the escort due to weather, road maintenance & time factors. Single supplement is \$799 pp. 25% Deposit is due at time of booking. 50% is subsequently due on Nov 15, 2018. 100% Final Payment is due Feb 15, 2019. Bookings after Feb 2019 are due in full at time of booking. **Cancellations will incur full 100% penalty.** Travel insurance is available. AAU reserves rights to alter 2019 rates/itinerary due to extreme changes in economic/weather conditions.*

We choose from a variety of good quality restaurants and allow you order from the menu - entree, non-alcoholic beverage and dessert. Non-market price items only. Plenty of Alaskan seafood choices. Steak options and limited vegetarian. Not all restaurants are able to accommodate Gluten free diets. Travelers are recommended to prepare for any special dietary needs and bring along.

Travel Insurance: If you become ill or injured prior to or during one of our adventures, we will do everything we can to help, but any and all expenses for cancellation, care or evacuation are entirely your responsibility. Trip delays such as road closures, floods, mechanical breakdowns or backcountry injury may cause you to miss your flight home, your hotel reservations or your next activity.

Our tours are non-refundable. Travel insurance is available. It is your choice to accept the risk of not purchasing insurance. We like personal choice! But thanks for understanding our perspective if something happens.

**Accommodations are chosen at time of booking. They can vary from private cabins to hotels or lodges based on availability and block space. They all include private bathrooms.

OPTIONAL PRE-DAY ADD-ON:

\$1099.00 Per Person Optional Add-on for 2nd Day of Bear Viewing to increase sightings (includes connecting hotel night).



BEAR VIEWING: Consider adding-on a pre-night and pre-day bear viewing tour - to ensure good weather at least one of the days you are in Alaska. If you are coming to photograph bears, we have INCLUDED one day of bear viewing at Brooks Falls where the bears eat salmon - catching them mid air. However, if the weather is bad and you can't fly - will you feel your trip was wasted? Ensure a second option to see bears by adding in this pre-day of viewing. These are coastal bears that are in fields, along creeks and are feeding, raising young, and are more landscape field bear views.

Your Silver Salmon Creek Bear Viewing Adventure Begins when you depart Anchorage on one of our aircraft and head south along the Cook Inlet. The flight in itself will be a highlight of your trip; this scenic route takes you by 3 active volcanoes, numerous salmon streams, glaciers, and other Alaskan sights. The flight down takes about 1 hour, once there the aircraft will land on the beach of Silver Salmon Creek at low tide. Your naturalist bear guide will meet the plane on the beach and bring you up to the lodge for a bear

orientation via 4-wheeler.

The Silver Salmon Creek Bear Viewing Begins after a brief bear orientation aimed at group safety. From the lodge you will go out into this ideal bear habitat to watch these creatures interact with each other in the wild. Your guide will take you through the park, adding to your safety and answering any questions you may have about the bears. The area is excellent for viewing the bears because of the layout and geography; it is a 5 mile stretch of prairie grassland beachfront. Watch as they frolic in the grass with their cubs, dig for clams, and take afternoon naps. Silver Salmon Creek is becoming well known as the best bear viewing in Alaska, and for good reason. This area is home mostly to Brown Bears, but it is not uncommon to see a few Black Bears in the area as well.



After Bear Viewing head back to the lodge for a hearty homemade lunch and refreshments. Relax in the comfort of one of the nicest lodges in Alaska for a while before heading back out for the afternoon session with the bears. Return flight to Anchorage that evening. Overnight accommodations included.