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Explore, Discover & Learn

Alaska Inside Passage Explorations Glacier Bay to Juneau Trip Planning

Welcome Aboard! We promise you an adventure of a lifetime exploring Southeast Alaska. Enclosed in this package you will find travel suggestions, a FAQ pdf, packing list, suggested reading list, our booking terms, and your itinerary.

Information on Juneau and Gustavus (Glacier Bay)

For Juneau:

A town worth exploring for a day. Mendenhall Glacier has terrific hikes and a nice interpretive center and the tram up to Mt Roberts offers beautiful views. Our favorite hotels in Juneau are the Baranof downtown or Grandmothers B&B and Travel Lodge in the valley by the airport. Travel Lodge offers airport shuttle service. For food in Juneau: The Twisted Fish features good Alaskan seafood but is very touristy; Salt is an upscale, downtown eatery while the Hanger is a fun local place with good fish tacos, salmon burgers and a variety of local foods. Ask in town as new places open all the time. If you are in the valley Zerelda's has terrific food but requires a reservation. Shopping in Juneau offers everything from local artisan to cruise ship shop trinkets. There is a great local co-op art gallery in the Senate building as well as the Raven bookstore for natural history books. In the valley there is a terrific art gallery of one of Alaska's iconic artists-Rie Munoz

Visit www.traveljuneau.com for more info

For Gustavus:

We recommend you arrive in Gustavus the day prior to your embarkation. Alaska Seaplanes offers great flight seeing charters as well as seat fares between Juneau and Gustavus and other small towns. These flight seeing tours offer an inspiring bird's eye view of the places the Sea Wolf explores. Book by visiting Alaska Seaplanes website:

http://www.flyalaskaseaplanes.com

Or, you might consider staying in Gustavus a day or two tprior o explore this cute, rural Alaskan town.

Gustavus Lodging: The Glacier Bay Lodge is in close proximity to Bartlett Cove where the boat is docked for embarkation, has a nice restaurant and free ground shuttle. The Blue Heron B&B, Cottonwood Lodge and Cabins, Air Bnb stays called Yarrow's Nest and Spruce Tip, both hosted by Karen, are all lovely places to stay. Some lodges will help you with ground transfers but there are 2 taxi services (Strawberry and TLC) or if you wish you can rent a car from Bud's Rent a Car. These and other places to stay are all listed on Gustavus Visitors Association website: www.gustavusak.com .

What to Do: We recommend a few days in Gustavus before your adventure as it's a great place to visit. Gustavus is located nine miles from Glacier Bay National Park. Gustavus offers great hiking trails, flat scenic bicycling, a gallery and tea shop, and a few gift shops that you can bicycle to or your lodge may take you about as well. We have a health food store and a grocery store to purchase snacks, food items or gifts as well as a liquor store (limited hours of operation) . There are several restaurant options close to the center of town.

Transportation:

At the end of your adventure we have you at the dock by the time specified in your itinerary. To depart Juneau arrange your flight out 6pm or later. Or, you may choose to stay a night in Juneau for time to explore.

On Board

Beverages: The MV Sea Wolf has a variety of non-alcoholic beverages on board. However, we do not stock commercial soda pops or mixers. If you wish us to add these items, please request this at least 3 weeks ahead of your departure. We do serve complimentary beer and wine at happy hour and dinner.

Electrical:

We have electrical outlets in each room and guest areas for you to plug in your battery chargers. For Digital cameras we recommend you bring an extra battery so one can be charging during the day as after 10 pm we close down all generator produced electrical systems. We have reading lights above each bunk that operate on a nighttime inverter. We have flashlights in all rooms and deck lighting for ease of movement.

Staterooms:

Hair dryers and eco-friendly soaps shampoos and conditioners are supplied in each stateroom. Please bring bleach free toothpaste and eco-friendly products to preserve our waters. Linens are Not changed during our week long adventures and are changed mid trip on our longer adventures- we believe in conserving water.

Emergency Contacts:

Shore staff is available to answer questions. The best way to reach them is by email at seawolfoffice@gmail.com or by phone at 907-957-1438

If there is an emergency and you need to be contacted, they can call the GBNP Ranger Station. They, in turn, will radio the boat with the information and be our communications go between until we can get into cell or satellite phone range. The Back-country office number is 907-697-2627. Their hours of operation are 8:00 am -4pm, 7 days a week with a 24 -hour emergency coverage.

Travel Insurance:

We recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan to cover your upcoming trip. The time and expense that you have put into planning and paying for your trip warrants protection through the

purchase of a travel protection plan. Travel protection offers you peace of mind for those events that we cannot control or guarantee. Travelguard and Travelex are rated highly among adventurers.

Gratuities:

Our guests often inquire about gratuities to express their appreciation. All tips are given at the total discretion of the guests and are greatly appreciated by the crew. General guideline current standards suggest 15% of the cost of the per person fare. Tips can be given to the Captain, preferably in cash, and is divided equally amongst the crew. An envelope and adventure evaluation will be provided to you at the completion of the adventure. If you prefer to use personal checks to tip - you may choose to write a check to each of the five or six crew members.

Please do not hesitate to ask any questions, as we want this experience to be an adventure of a lifetime. We are looking forward to sharing with you our beautiful wilderness. Thank You for Choosing Sea Wolf Adventures



Sea Wolf Adventures FAQ's

PACKING QUESTIONS:

Q: Your packing list says rain boots are crucial to have but I don't have any! Do I need to buy new boots?

A: No, we have you covered! We have all sizes of NEO's Trekkers over shoes for guests to borrow for wet landings, rainy hikes or exiting kayaks on the shore. NEO's Trekkers is nifty footwear that fit over your Trail shoes/ boots. Check out more info on them here: https://www.overshoesneos.com/page6.html However, if you have rain boots that you are comfortable in feel free to bring them.

Q: The weather looks like it will be nice – do I really need to bring rain gear?

A: Yes! Rain is always a possibility in Southeast Alaska. A good quality rain jacket with a hood and pants is a must.

Q: How should I dress on the Sea Wolf? Do I need to bring anything nice?

A: All you need for clothing on the Sea Wolf are good layers of non-cotton; light wool or poly-pro type of under layers, a fleece jacket and vest or something similar for warmth, and a warm hat and gloves. If the sun comes out it will be warm – or even hot! You will want a lighter layer to be cool and a sun hat and sun glasses. A pair of comfortable shoes for wearing aboard the boat and hiking boots or good trail shoes for adventuring on foot.

Q: Do I need to pack sun screen and/or bug spray?

A: We do stock sun screen and bug spray for guests to use on board the Sea Wolf. Unless you have special products, you love to use, you can leave yours at home. But if you do bring your own, just remember TSA will not allow you to fly with aerosols of any kind.

Q: Do I need to bring soap, shampoo and conditioner?

A: No – eco-friendly soaps, shampoo and conditioners are provided for you.

Q: I really need to use a hair dryer – do I need to bring my own?

A: No – each stateroom has a hair dryer.

STATEROOM QUESTIONS:

Q: Can I choose my own stateroom?

A: You may request a specific stateroom via email. They are assigned on a first request basis. Staterooms on the main deck #2 and #3 will be assigned to those with mobility restrictions.

Q: I'm really tall. Is there a stateroom I should request that will offer a bed I will be more comfortable in?

A: Yes, stateroom #5 has the longest bunk.

Q: What are the bed configurations in the staterooms?

A: All staterooms have single over/under bunks.

DIETARY QUESTIONS:

Q: I have special dietary needs. I'm allergic to dairy, gluten, nuts, coconut, berries and eat a mostly vegan diet. Can you accommodate this?

A: Absolutely! The packet called "Guest Info Forms" that we email you to fill out and return to us is the best place to let us know about your special dietary requests. Please be specific as you can with as much information as possible. Our expert chefs review this- weeks in advance to plan their menus – so getting this info to us early is better!

Q: Will alcohol be served?

A: A variety of beer and wine is served with dinner. If there are any specialty drinks you would like to have feel free to bring them with you.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Q: Can I smoke or vape on the Sea Wolf?

A: No – we are a non-smoking / non-vaping vessel.

Q: Can I use marijuana products on the Sea Wolf?

A: No – the use of cannabis products is illegal in federal waters so please leave them at home.

Q: We are a family with children hoping to book an adventure. Do you allow children on board? A: Children of certain ages and experiences are welcomed as guests on the Sea Wolf. We ask that you contact us first so we can further discuss your family's adventure to be certain it will be a good experience for you and your children.

Q: Will there be Wi-Fi or cell service available on the boat during my adventure?

A: No - sometimes you will go through spotty cell service but don't count on it. There is no Wi-Fi

capability on the boat. Most of our guests are happy to leave it behind!

Q: What if there is an emergency with my family back home while I'm on my adventure? How can they get in contact with me?

A: Leave your family with our office email seawolfoffice@gmail.com which is checked regularly, our home base team in Gustavus can usually get in touch with the boat via our in Reach communication or satellite phone.

Q: I have sleep apnea. Can I use my sleep apnea machine at night?

A: Yes – there is electricity available on the boat for this use at night.

Q: Do you accept credit cards?

A: No. You may pay your invoice either by sending a check to our PO BOX 312 Gustavus, AK 99826 or wire funds directly to our bank. Our bank account information is listed on your invoice.

PACKING LIST

Rain jacket with hood or hat, Good quality! Everyone should bring these!
Rain pants, Good quality! Everyone should bring these!
Hiking shoes or boots that are comfortable and with good grip soles.
Rubber boots (tall - calf covering) Or borrow our NEO Trekkers that we have on board to cover your hikers.
Warm jacket or good heavy Fleece for under rain coat
Clothing: Warm, fast drying and a layering system. (I.e.: Wicking layer, fleece top/comfy pants, raingear)
Socks: Thin liners plus a thicker type over them is best for hiking.
Onboard shoes: comfortable, rubbersoled like tennis shoes, Keens, or Tevas.
Sun hat (one with a rim) waterproof would be good, too!
Warm hat & warm gloves plus glove liners for our rubber kayaking gloves are great.
Day Pack to carry your gear for longer hikes or kayaks.
Water Bottle
Camera, Extra batteries, storage devices and cables. You will take a lot of pictures.
Waterproof camera bag, or plastic zip lock bag, not Velcro, as the noise scares the bears and other wildlife you might be viewing.
Binoculars: Waterproof and fog proof. Nikon Monarchs are a great choice for wildlife watching.
Swim Suit: If you choose to swim in our Glacial waters
Medications & prescriptions, aspirin, motion sickness tablets if needed, allergy pills, Sunscreen
Walking Sticks are great for stability hiking over moraines and other rocky terrains.
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Because you will be traveling and living in small-spaces we suggest you pack lightly using a soft-sided duffle type luggage. You can choose to wear good hiking shoes/boots with waterproof NEOS Trekkers over them for wet beach landings and in case we ford streams if that suits you better than boots. We have NEOS on board that you may borrow. Eco-sensitive shampoo conditioner, and soaps are provided. If you bring your own, please bring products that are good for the earth. Please also do not bring bleach-based toothpaste. The most important clothing you can bring is good rain gear and comfy layers of non-cotton clothes to wear.

There is never bad weather in, Alaska only bad gear, so bring the best you can obtain

Inside Passage and Glacier Bay Reading Suggestions

Natural History

National Geographic Destinations: Treasures of Alaska, Last Great American Wilderness

The Island Within by Richard Nelson. A spiritual Natural History Book

A Naturalists Guide to Southeast Alaska.

The Alaska Travel Journal of Archibald Menzies 1793-1794 by Olsen

Travels in Alaska by John Muir: Printed by the Sierra Club

Glacier Bay, The Land and the Silence by the Sierra Club

Land of the Ocean Mists, the Wild Ocean Coast West of Glacier Bay by Francis Coldwell. About Lituya Area

Spirited Waters by Jennifer Hahn, an inspirational solo kayaking journey through the

inside passage. Jenny guides our Inside Passage Adventures.

The Tlingit: A reference guide to our indigenous people culture and history.

For Bird Lovers we suggest:

Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America by David Allen Sibley Sibley Field Guide to Bird Life & Behavior by David Allen Sibley Audubon Guide to North American Birds.

For Botany enthusiasts we recommend:

Discovering Wild Plants, Alaska, Western Canada, The Northwest by Janice J. Schofield

Plants of Western British Columbia including Washington, Oregon and Alaska by Pojar & Mackinnon

The Bookstore at Glacier Bay National park has wonderful books on Alaska and Glacier Bay. Alaska Geographic is a great resource for all things Alaska. Alaska Geographic book store

Other great websites are:

Glacier Bay National Park http://www.nps.gov/glba/index.htm NOAA Marine Mammals http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/nmml/ Alaska Fish & Game http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=viewing.main

The Sea Wolf has extensive naturalist library that is yours to enjoy once aboard.

SEA WOLF ADVENTURES 10-DAY GLACIER BAY-JUNEAU ITINERARY 9/2-9/11 2024 9/2-9/11 2025

On this adventure you will explore the glacially scoured fjords of Southeast Alaska and Glacier Bay spanning the Glaciers and the lands between them. We will travel through newly revealed landscapes to ancient landscapes formed 20,000 years ago, post glaciation, offering you an amazing visual of this rapidly changing geological landscape and corresponding plant and animal succession. As we make our way out of the lower Glacier Bay and out into Icy Straits, we enter Tongass National Forrest, the largest forest in the US and home to a multitude of plants, trees, mammals, birds, and marine mammals who flourish in this ancient moss laden landscape. These itineraries are subject to change based on park area closures/openings, permits, travel conditions and wildlife movements, weather and our collective whim!

Day 1: Meet 8:30 AM at Bartlett Cove and board the Sea Wolf. We will assemble in the main salon for introductions, an orientation discussing safety, boat layout, amenities and your Alaskan adventure. We will cruise up bay to Geike Inlet for our first paddle. Along the way we will have a kayaking introduction and lunch. After lunch, we are paddling. Geike is a beautiful fjord that may offer a glimpse of black bears, wolverines, mountain goats and a large variety of seabirds and ducks. Once back aboard we will cruise to our evening anchorage a few hours up the bay-a cruise filled with incredible vistas, wildlife on the beaches and possibly acrobatic whales in the waters. Along the way we will learn about the natural history of Glacier Bay, some of the research projects that the park is conducting and of course about the plentiful sea and wildlife. Dinner aboard the Sea Wolf and this is our evening anchorage watching the sunset over Glacier Bay. L D

Day 2: Breakfast at 8:00 am and we are off for a hike to Reid Glacier for an up-close view of this glacially carved landscape. An easy hike up the mountain, down the beach and fording a few glacial streams will bring us to the face of Reid Glacier. Here we will learn about glaciers geology, plant and animal succession and explore among the grounded icebergs. We hunt for ice worms and for those so inclined we scoop up glacial silt for wonderful glacial facials. On the intertidal walk back, we look under rocks to discover what the bears feast on during low tide, brown bears, wolverine, small mammals and harbor seals and other creatures all live in this area. Lunch underway as we head to John Hopkins where we will have an epic glacier paddle. Once we are back on-board, we will cruise through Russell Cut looking for wildlife on our way to our evening anchorage. BLD

Day 3: After an 8 AM breakfast it is off to Gloomy Knob looking for Mountain Goats and other wildlife. If conditions permit, we will have a morning botany hike up Gloomy Knob for incredible views of the bay. Then off to an afternoon paddle at one of our anchorages that bring us close to the East Arm entrance. BLD

Day 4: Breakfast at 8:00 am as the engines are started and we will make our way up Muir Inlet, the East Arm of Glacier Bay. Our activities here depend on wilderness water opening/closing dates. We will go on an amazing hike by McBride Glacier with a paddle either up to Riggs Glacier or from Muir Glacier to Riggs. The shorelines have a great variety of shore birds, vista's and the possibilities of seeing bears, wolves or moose. Then once back to the boat we are off to our evening anchorage and dinner.

Day 5: Breakfast at 8 am. Sometimes we have a morning paddle at N. Sandy if the tides are right and if not, we head down bay to another pristine paddle area. N. Sandy Cove is a very rich ecosystem that supports black bears, moose coyotes, and a plentiful marine environment. We kayak around the shores scanning for Black Bears and Moose then paddle over to Puffin Island for a truly wondrous look at a low tide vertical intertidal zone. This zone is home to hundreds of sponges, periwinkles, whelks, sea stars, sea cucumbers and urchins to just name a few species who literally hang here awaiting the return of the high tide? Back on board the Sea Wolf we will head to S. Marble Island to view a large Stellar Sea Lion Haul Out and a seabird-nesting rookery from the Sea Wolf. Then we cruise onward to Fingers Bay. BLD

Day 6: Breakfast underway as we cruise toward Admiralty Island, home of the largest concentration of Brown Bears in SE Alaska. We will be on the lookout for Humpback whales, Orcas, Sea lions and migrating birds during this morning long cruise. Once we are anchored- we will spend the afternoon exploring the bays and estuaries by kayak and foot looking for fishing bears, spawning salmon and migrating waterfowl. BLD

Day 7: We'll continue down the coast of Admiralty Island, keeping a constant lookout for whales along the route to the Brothers Islands. This group of islands is one of the prime summer feeding grounds for the migratory Humpback and where whales bubble net feeding is frequently observed. We will anchor up where the sounds of whale blows, the bellowing of Stellar Sea Lions hauled out close by, and the chortling of the eagles will be a feast for the senses as we dine on lunch. After lunch we'll kayak around the islands. This is our evening anchorage. BLD

Day 8: We will then make our way to Ford's Terror in Endicott Arm, an incredibly beautiful area where we will kayak through a narrow race into an amazing wilderness to explore. We need to come out on the last of the ebb and will have lunch on the beach with a hike to the top of the Mountain for an incredible view of the standing waves of the race on the flood. This is our evening anchorage. BLD

Day 9: We will be Underway in the very early morning into Endicott Arm. Breakfast will be on the move and soon after you will be on the bow as the Sea Wolf navigates through icebergs as we wind our way into the fjord. It is twenty----seven miles up the Arm to the face of Dawes Glacier where we will pause to observe the monumental calving of the glacier. Seals and their pups abound in these waters. After lunch we will launch our kayaks to paddle across the face of Dawes Glacier and down the fjord to the Sea Wolf. This is a lovely paddle with a break on a beach by the face of Dawes. Our evening anchorage will be at Wood Spit. BLD

Day10: After breakfast we will have a paddle around Wood Spit and once back on board, we will be traveling toward Juneau up Stephens Passage keeping an Eagle eye out for Humpback whales, Orcas and migrating birds. We plan to be in Juneau by 2 pm. BLD

Our itinerary will be Dependent on weather, wildlife and collective whim. We will experience the richness of Lake Eva, Iyoukeen, Basket Bay, Baranoff Warm Springs, Red Bluff Bay, the Bay of Pillars or Tebenkoff Bay, the Kuiu Islands, Pybus Bay, the Brothers Islands and the great glaciers of Thomas Bay and Endicott Arm.