

# ALASKA'S FJORDS & GLACIER BAY CRUISE — ULTIMATE EXPEDITION

14 NIGHTS KETCHIKAN TO JUNEAU (OR REVERSE)

  
UnCruise  
ADVENTURES

New 2023 - 2024  
Activities

## INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

- TWO full days in Glacier Bay National Park
- Margerie, Grand Pacific, Dawes, and the twin Sawyer Glaciers
- Navigate winding Wrangell Narrows, Behm Canal, and Tracy Arm
- Adventure exploration in old-growth forest and glacial outwash fields
- Kayak, paddle board, skiff, hike, and bushwhack in Tongass backcountry
- Whale watching in Stephens Passage, Icy Strait, and Frederick Sound
- Birding at South Marble Island—puffins, oystercatchers, cormorants, and kittiwakes
- Search for wildlife—bears, sea lions, seals, porpoises, and eagles
- Natural history narration from expert onboard guides



## DAY 1 KETCHIKAN - EMBARKATION

Arriving in Ketchikan, you will be transferred from the airport to our check-in area. Upon boarding, your crew greets you with champagne and smiles. Set sail for a week of scenic channels and secluded wilderness. (D)

## DAY 2 MISTY FJORDS

There are places on the planet that completely overcome you. This is one of them. The beauty. The peace. The sense of place you feel. Misty Fjords National Monument represents nearly every ecosystem found in Southeast Alaska. And that alone is a lot to consider. Glacial valleys filled with sea water. Sheer 3,000-foot cliffs. Sea birds, brown and black bears, mountain goats, Sitka black-tailed deer, all find safe haven here. Kayak in Walker Cove or Rudyerd Bay and you find it's just as easy to paddle and go, as it is to sit and float and take it all in. Or skiff to the base of a waterfall for fjord-released shower. Its affectionate nickname, "The Yosemite of the North," is deserved. (BLD)

## DAY 3 BEHM CANAL

Wildlife abounds. Black bears, mink, eagles. In Behm Canal, it's all remote waterways and the isolated Tongass National Forest coves, streams, and bays. On Cleveland Peninsula, your expedition team leads a low-elevation hike near clear, rushing streams. Good opportunities for enticing forested shots of Southeast. In the water orca, porpoises, seals, and otters go about their business. Go about yours on a guided paddle in tiny, deserted waterways that feed into Behm Canal. (BLD)

## DAY 4 BLASHKEE ISLANDS

The Blashkee Islands are your playground today. A full day of choose-your-own-adventure fun. Hiking, Kayaking, skiff tours, snorkeling, and full day yak-n-whack excursions. Get ready for a full day! (BLD)

## DAY 5 WRANGELL NARROWS & THOMAS BAY

Early morning we will wind into the Wrangell Narrows. Abundant bright red and green navigation lights guide the way. It's nicknamed "Christmas Tree Lane," of course. When you come this far, you might as well go all in. This is way back backcountry of Alaska's wilderness. Glacial landscapes marked by moraines, muskegs, and mud. In this playground, it's all an option today. Kayak and skiff in water almost clear as glass. The mirror image of fjord walls plays on the surface. Hike through the outwash of Baird Glacier. Or keep it green on an interpretive walk through a grassy meadow into the forest. (BLD)

## DAY 6 FREDERICK SOUND

Humpback whales are frequent visitors of this Southeast passage. A misty spout is a sure sign they're in the neighborhood. Your captain navigates Stephens Passage to Port Houghton. And you're in for a boot-sucking, paddle-smacking day of adventure with your guide team. The routes are all picked out. Make your choice and make your move. Slip off the kayak launch and take it slow spotting sea stars and shore birds. Hard chargers take a long wild paddle to the salt chuck at the back of the inlet. Or, hike into the Tongass. (BLD)

## DAY 7 TRACY ARM / FORDS TERROR WILDERNESS

Jutting off Stephens Passage with two deep, glacially carved fjords, this designated wilderness area contains over 600,000 acres. Cruise past chunks and chunks of floating ice. It's a harbor seal's delight lazing away the day atop a floating bergie. If conditions are right, skiffs are the ticket to getting in close. (BLD)

## DAY 8 JUNEAU

You might choose to purchase a tramway ticket that provides a ride up the Mt. Roberts Tram, where views unfold as you ascend 1,800 feet through the forest. At the top, explore the trails and Nature Center; back at the bottom, explore Alaska's heritage at the Alaska State Museum. Both options also include a lunch voucher for a local restaurant. Complimentary laundry service is provided today. (BLD)

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner



Vaccination including booster required.

Itineraries are guidelines; variations in itinerary and the order of days may occur to maximize your experience. Passport required (non USA citizens).

## DAY 9 CHICHAGOF ISLAND & NEKA BAY

Remote passages offer more opportunities for you to search for the mighty humpback whale. Keep your binoculars at hand and watch for the misty spout of these gentle giants as they feed in the waters around you. Anchor in a remote Chichagof Island inlet. Backpacks loaded and adventure toys lowered (skiffs, paddle boards, kayaks), it's time to go play. Stick to the water in a kayak excursion. A nosy seal could be watching your every stroke while you spy tiny creatures clinging to rock, or beachcomb the rocky shores. (BLD)

## DAY 10 GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK

South Marble Island is abuzz with activity. View the sea lions at play. They add a distinct aroma to the air, too. Watch rare sea birds, black oystercatchers, and orange-beaked tufted puffins can't be missed. Tucking into silent Tidal Inlet—the stomping grounds for bears, wolves, mountain goats, eagles—the backdrop is spectacular. At the end of the western-most arm of the bay sits Margerie and Grand Pacific Glaciers. And possible views of glacial calving. (BLD)

## DAY 11 LISIANSKI RIVER / PELICAN TOWN

Known for an abundance of brown bears, this area offers the opportunity for hikes, kayaking, and skiffing. And a special treat - meet up with a local select-cut logger and learn the trade of a backwoods Alaskan and how they make an ecologically safe living off the land. Keep your eyes out for those bears - they frequent the stream bed. (BLD)

## DAY 12 ICY STRAIT / GEORGE ISLAND

Before you do anything, look out the window. From kelp-lined channels to hemlock and spruce forests, every inch of this far northwest corner is worth exploring. And if the tides are right, head out in the skiff with one of the guides for a closer exploration of the rugged shore. Seals and sea lions haul out on rocky outcroppings, resting before they disappear in the water. On the famed "George Island", hike with a close-up opportunity for sea otters. Whatever you do—wilderness trekking, skiffing, or paddling—our experienced crew is with you. (BLD)

## DAY 13 HAINES, ALASKA

The center of adventure. Tucked beneath snowcapped peaks, Haines has it all. Hiking, biking, kayaking, and history. One thing's for sure—the trails are irresistible. Go easy, or feel the burn—whatever your speed, the views reward in spades. Your expedition team shares the city's captivating history. A trading outlet for Chilkat Tlingit, they called it "Dtehshuh"—the end of the trail. What holds your interest? Follow your curiosity on a self-led tour. (BLD)

## DAY 14 SAINT JAMES BAY PARK

Just what you need, morning stretches on deck with your guide. Warm those hard-at-play muscles. You know firsthand conditions in Southeast change one inlet to the next. Your captain is at the helm and picks just the right spot. The adventures are as big as the water is deep! So many hidden pockets in the Tongass National Forest. Give your paddle board skills a glide. Watch for big-eyed harbor seals from a kayak. Bushwhack into the forest of giants. Your guides know the area's history and keep it lively. Tonight, it's a festive Farewell Dinner. A "photo journal" of your trip by your expedition team is the cherry on top. (BLD)

## DAY 15 JUNEAU, ALASKA - DISEMBARKATION

Linger over breakfast this morning cruising into Juneau. Wish your crew and new friends goodbye. Then it's off to the airport or begin your UnCruise hotel stay or land tour. (B)

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# CHOOSE ADVENTURE

14 Nights Ketchikan to Juneau, Alaska (or reverse)

