

ALASKA and the Yukon

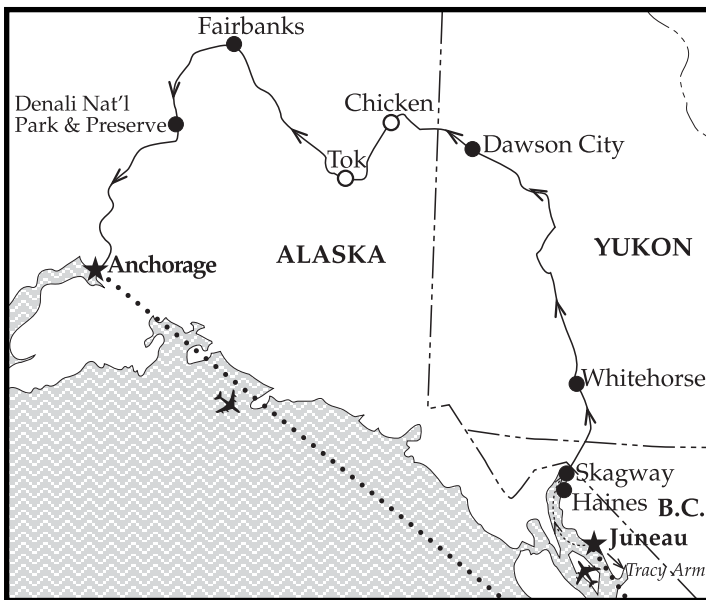
The question isn't whether to go to Alaska ... but how to make it special. This comprehensive tour makes Alaska and the Yukon special, by meeting the people who live there and who feel passionate about it. We visit out-of-the-way places like Haines and Dawson City and meet people like famous musher Mary Shields. We ride the "Top of the World" highway, see Alaska's animals up close at Kroschel Wildlife Center, and watch for wildlife on the Tundra Wilderness Tour into Denali Park.

Alaska is a state of mind, a dream of the last frontier, where a person can live free. As we visit the last frontier, we share the awe, wonder, excitement, and passion of those who went before.

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PER PERSON PRICE:

\$3,850.00 Double Occupancy
\$4,695.00 Single Occupancy



DAY 1 HOME / JUNEAU

We fly to Juneau, Alaska's capital city. We check into our hotel, located in the heart of the city near the waterfront, to lodge two nights.



PASSPORT REQUIRED

June 6 - 18, 2012

13 Days



DAY 2 TRACY ARM FJORD GLACIER CRUISE D

We walk to the dock, where we board a small ship for our all-day cruise up the narrow Tracy Arm Fjord, one of the most dramatic sites in the world. We glide through iceberg-laden waters below dramatic cliffs and cascading waterfalls. Then the twin tidewater Sawyer Glaciers come into view. The captain navigates our small ship as close to the glacier walls as safety allows, while we listen for "white thunder," the calving of the glacial ice. We also watch for seals, bald eagles, and other wildlife. Meanwhile, the captain tells us about the fjord and its wildlife. Salmon Bake tonight!



DAY 3 JUNEAU / FERRY RIDE

On our morning, guided sightseeing tour we learn the history of Juneau's gold rush, visit Mendenhall Glacier, and see incubating salmon eggs at the salmon hatchery. There is free time after the tour to explore the attractions of downtown Juneau. We take the ferry from Juneau through some of the prettiest scenery of the Inside Passage to Haines, a small town of 2,500 people that has the feel of "old time" Alaska where we lodge two nights.

DAY 4 WILDLIFE TOUR / WILDLIFE CENTER L

On our Valley of the Eagles Nature Tour we visit diverse habitats to observe as much wildlife as possible. We walk along a beach, in the rainforest, and along the Chilkat River in the Bald Eagle Preserve. Our guides will lead us to the best spots to see and photograph wildlife. Spotting telescopes and a picnic lunch are provided. Our afternoon visit to the Kroschel Wildlife Center features opportunities for up-close and personal experiences with 15 species of Alaskan wildlife. Steve Kroschel introduces us to grizzly bear, wolf, moose, lynx, fox, reindeer, snowy owl, wolverine, and more.



Mary Shields with one of her dogs.

DAY 5 HAINES / SKAGWAY

We board the fast ferry to Skagway, the "Gateway to the Klondike," which retains the flavor of the gold rush days of 1898. It is now preserved as a national historic park. We enjoy a free afternoon of exploring and shopping, then lodge one night in Skagway.

DAY 6 SKAGWAY / WHITEHORSE, YUKON

We follow the Trail of '98 up the White Horse Pass into Yukon Territory. There's a dramatic new vista around every turn. We reach Whitehorse, Yukon's capital city, and tour the S.S. *Klondike II*, a prime example of a sternwheel steamboat. Then a local guide shows us Whitehorse and tells us its history. We lodge one night in Whitehorse.

DAY 7 WHITEHORSE / DAWSON CITY

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We head north to the Klondike, following the Yukon River and its tributaries. Along the way we see lakes and stunted stands of spruce whose roots cannot penetrate the permafrost. We lodge two nights in downtown Dawson City. The saloons and dancing girls await!

DAY 8 DAWSON CITY

Dawson was the goal of 100,000 stampedeers, of whom only one third reached Dawson City, and only a handful made a fortune. The rush lasted only two years, and the peak population of 30,000 dwindled quickly. Dawson turns back the pages of time with rich living history and the many restored original buildings. Our city tour includes Bonanza Creek Discovery Claim (which started it all) and a tour of historic goldmining Dredge #4. The afternoon is free time to shop, explore, and to visit museums and attractions. Later, we drive to the top of Midnight Dome for a panoramic view of the Yukon River valley.

DAY 9 "TOP OF THE WORLD" HWY. / FAIRBANKS

We ferry across the Yukon River and follow the "Top of the World" Highway along mountain ridges to the Alaskan border. First stop is in Chicken, Alaska. Yes, that's "Chicken." When we reach Tok, a town of 1,000 people, it seems like we are back in civilization. At Rika's Roadhouse we tour the 95-year-old log roadhouse, now in a park-like setting on the Tanana River. We continue to Fairbanks, Alaska's northern hub of tourism and industry, where we lodge two nights.

DAY 10 RIVERBOAT RIDE / MARY SHIELDS B

We ride an authentic sternwheeler on a narrated cruise on the Chena and Tanana rivers. Along the way we see a bush pilot's demonstration and visit an Athabaskan village with native Alaskan guides. This afternoon we enjoy a personal visit with Mary Shields, celebrated author and Iditarod musher, at her log cabin home. We hear Mary's stories of 30 years of dog mushing and meet her big, waggly huskies!

DAY 11 DENALI PARK WILDERNESS TOUR B

We drive south on the Parks Highway into the majesty of the Alaska Range and Denali National Park. Our 6 - 8 hour Tundra Wilderness tour takes us deep into the park to maximize our chances of seeing wildlife. Our driver narrates, as we watch for caribou, moose, bear, Dall sheep, eagles, and other wildlife. If the weather cooperates we see Mt. McKinley, North America's tallest mountain. We lodge one night outside Denali Park.



DAY 12 DENALI / ANCHORAGE

We continue south, past the mountains of the Alaska Range. We reach Anchorage this afternoon, then enjoy an orientation tour and free time. Our hotel (for one night) is in the heart of downtown Anchorage, where there is big-city energy and late-night shopping!

DAY 13 ANCHORAGE / HOME

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Our great adventure in the "Great Land" comes to an end, as we transfer to the airport for our flight home.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- Airfare Albuquerque to Juneau, Anchorage to Albuquerque (Not including airline baggage and in-flight charges)
- Transportation by Deluxe Motorcoach and Transfer Vehicles
- Ferry Rides from Juneau to Haines & Haines to Skagway
- 12 Nights' Lodging at Excellent Hotels
- 3 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner
- Admission to all Listed Attractions
- Baggage Handling at Hotels (for one piece)
- \$100,000.00 Flight Insurance
- Your Professional SUN TOURS Tour Director
- All Taxes and Tips for Included Items

DEPOSIT: \$500.00 Per Person NOW Holds Your Place

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: February 3, 2012

CANCELLATION FEES:

- NoneThrough February 3, 2012
- \$500.00February 4 - April 18, 2012
- \$2,000.00After April 18, 2012

Cancellation Insurance is Recommended