



BROWN BEAR

ALASKA

Wild Alaska: Inside America's Last Frontier

10 DAYS | Choose your dates | Best season to travel: JUN - SEP

Learn about wildlife and ecology firsthand on an overland journey to Alaska's natural treasures of Denali State Park and Prince William Sound. Alaska is a unique and fascinating destination for those wishing to encounter the "Last Frontier" through a variety of activities, such as hiking, rafting, kayaking, and boating. From your start in Anchorage, transfer to Talkeetna, a small outpost town nestled at the base of North America's tallest peak, Denali. Our knowledgeable naturalist guides practice responsible tourism and facilitate your active explorations of the breathtaking scenery, biological wonders, and glacier-carved mountains. Fly over Chugach National Forest to Cordova, a "hidden treasure" coastal town nestled at the head of Orca Inlet in Eastern Prince William Sound. Myriad activities take you into the natural grandeur, and each day you'll enjoy hearty meals—home-cooked with local ingredients and plenty of fresh seafood.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- View the stunning landscapes and watch for abundant wildlife from the glacial waters of Chulitna River on a rafting and hiking excursion.
- Learn about Alaska Audubon's conservation initiatives on a private talk at their Anchorage office.
- Visit the massive Childs Glacier, the Copper River Delta, and the famous Million Dollar Bridge.
- Experience Alaska's incredible beauty at Byers Lake and surrounding mountains in Denali State Park, with a chance to see nesting Trumpeter Swans, loons, eagles, or foraging bears.
- Learn about the flora surrounding Talkeetna and take home a healing salve made from native plants.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Naturalist guides
- Internal flights
- Accommodations
- Activities
- Private transportation
- Meals
- Beverages with meals
- Carbon offsetting



ARCTIC LOON BY US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, ROBERT BERGMAN



KAYAKING IN ALASKA BY CHRIS BENSLEY

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

DAY 1 - ANCHORAGE

Upon arrival in Anchorage, travel on your own by shuttle to the hotel. With most flights arriving late into the evening, your group will meet for orientation the next morning. *Overnight at Quality Suites Historic Downtown or similar.*

DAY 2 - TALKEETNA

After breakfast, begin your Alaska exploration with an orientation at the hotel, followed by a brief walking tour. Next, meet with our friends at the nearby Audubon Alaska office for a talk on Audubon Alaska's conservation initiatives. After an early lunch, you will be met by a driver for the two-hour transfer to the historical outpost town of Talkeetna, your base for the next three nights. Upon arrival in Talkeetna, meet your naturalist guide for a short hike around Talkeetna Lakes. A new scene of beauty unfolds around every turn on this three-mile moderate hike. Look for loons and kingfishers on the lakes, moose and bears in the woods, and Denali on the horizon. This lush old-growth forest is alive with songbirds, wildflowers, berries, and mushrooms. After your hike, check in at your picturesque and comfortable lodge perched on a small hill overlooking the Denali range. After dinner this evening, enjoy a talk on Alaska's natural history by your Talkeetna guide and a briefing on your upcoming activities. *Overnight at Denali Overlook Inn. (BLD)*

DAY 3 - TALKEETNA

Arise for an early breakfast and a full day hike-and-raft wilderness adventure. Start with a scenic drive to Denali

State Park. There, hike from lush boreal forest steadily up to the tree line and beyond for spectacular panoramic views, including the best views of Denali from any trail (weather permitting). Along the way, your experienced naturalist guide will share stories and insights about the area and its wildlife. Enjoy a hearty lunch at the historic McKinley View Lodge, followed by a rafting trip back to Talkeetna. Relax and ride the glacial waters of the free-flowing Chulitna River under the care of your expert river guide. Take in stunning landscapes and scenery as you watch for the area's abundant wildlife all the way back to Talkeetna. Tonight, dinner in Talkeetna is on own, giving you a chance to select your restaurant of choice. *Overnight at Denali Overlook Inn. (BL)*

DAY 4 - TALKEETNA

After breakfast, embark on an excursion to Byers Lake in Denali State Park with a picnic lunch. Experience Alaska's incredible beauty on a two-mile nature walk with magnificent views of Byers Lake and the surrounding



SEA OTTER BY JERRY GOFFE, NATUREPHOTOWORKS.COM

mountains, perhaps even majestic Denali. Learn about the area's animal and plant life, and take home a healing salve made from native plants. Explore a log cabin that once belonged to a pioneering couple. You may see nesting trumpeter swans, loons, eagles, or bears foraging for spawning salmon. Arrive back in Talkeetna in the early afternoon with time for optional activities (not included in price): take in a flight tour around Denali or try other activities on your own. Tonight, enjoy dinner at the historic Talkeetna Roadhouse, followed by an evening talk at the lodge about climbing Mt. Denali. *Overnight at Denali Overlook Inn. (BLD)*

DAY 5 - TALKEETNA TO CORDOVA

After breakfast, take a walking tour of Talkeetna. Visit Susitna Salmon Center, the Historical Society, and the famous Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station. Depart from Talkeetna in the late morning to Anchorage for your mid-afternoon flight to Cordova on Prince William Sound. Upon arrival, meet your guide and transfer to the lodge, enjoying some initial sights along the way, including swan nests on the delta and the Cordova docks and town center. After dinner, engage in an evening talk on plate tectonics and changes in recent decades, with a discussion on global warming. *Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge. (BD)*

DAY 6 - CORDOVA

After breakfast, head to Sheridan Glacier for a kayaking excursion. Sheridan Glacier is one of the most accessible glaciers in Alaska, and after a short hike through the moraine, you will be able to see the dramatic frozen river of ancient ice! After a brief orientation on kayaking, hit the waters to view crystal blue caves and jagged crevasses amid an ever-changing terrain. Have a picnic lunch on shore or on a small island. After lunch, return to town and visit the Cordova Historical Museum and Eyak Museum and Cultural Center. These museums provide a greater sense of the rich history and livelihood of this thriving fishing community. *Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge. (BLD)*

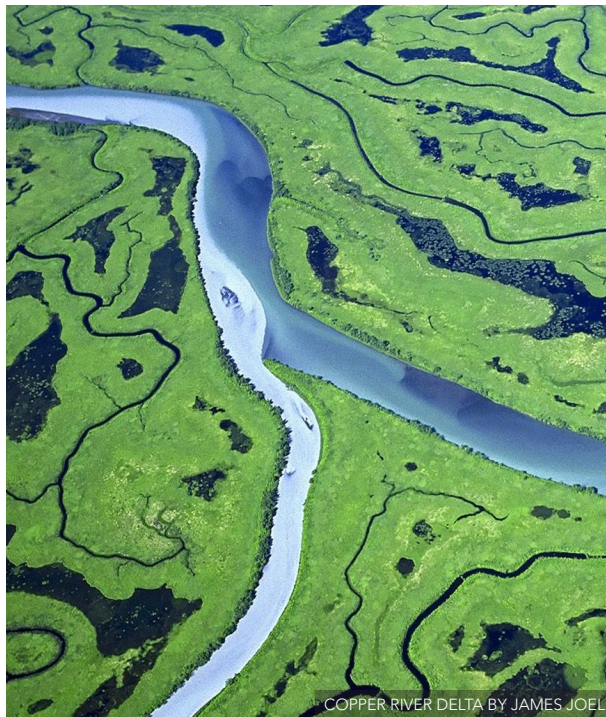
DAY 7 - CORDOVA

After breakfast, take a boat trip to the panoramic Orca Inlet, where you will have the opportunity to see the world's largest population of sea otters and observe

their interaction within the pod. Your guide for the day has been involved in sea otter studies for 15 years. Afterward, stop at a remote beach for a short hike to explore tide pools. Next head to Hinchinbrook Island, where you will enjoy your lunch at another beautiful, remote beach. After lunch, visit a kittiwake colony to observe these nesting sea birds. In the late afternoon, take part in a discussion of the life cycle of salmon and their importance to the economy. *Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 8 - CORDOVA

After breakfast, depart for a full day tour of the Copper River Delta, including the highlight of the day, the massive Childs Glacier. Keep an eye out for moose, eagles, and bear as you travel by bus through the scenic Chugach National Forest to the 27-mile point of the Copper River Delta Highway, and cross the river. Travel by van to the park across from the towering Childs Glacier, then to the famous Million Dollar Bridge. Originally built in 1909 to convey copper to the Port of Cordova, this now-inaccessible bridge is an iconic feature against the backdrop of Wrangell-St. Elias Park and the Miles Glacier. Near the bridge, visit the sonar station manned by three researchers who spend their entire field season living completely cut



off from the outside world. The researchers will explain sonar and demonstrate its use in fishery management before you head to the viewing area of Childs Glacier. Enjoy lunch by the glacier while listening to the powerful sounds of huge ice chunks crashing into the river less than a quarter of a mile away. Tonight enjoy a salmon barbecue for dinner. *Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge. (BLD)*

DAY 9 - CORDOVA TO ANCHORAGE

After breakfast, kayak the tranquil waters of Orca Inlet, surrounded by snow-capped mountains and home to sea otters and seals. The rest of the day is free to explore Cordova or relax at the lodge before your afternoon transfer to the airport for your flight to Anchorage. (B)

DAY 10 - FLIGHT HOME

Late evening (prior day) or early morning departure from Anchorage airport for your flight home.

PROGRAM PRICING

\$3,995 (15 participants + 1 leader)

\$4,195 (10 participants + 1 leader)

Price includes accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, flights within Alaska as mentioned, private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, local guides, and carbon offset.

Airfare to and from Alaska, gratuities, or items of a personal nature are not included.

Valid for travel in 2020.

THE FINE PRINT

A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is due to secure your reservation. This deposit is refundable until 95 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure. Non-refundable final payment is due at 95 days prior to departure.

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants traveling in 2018 or beyond. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

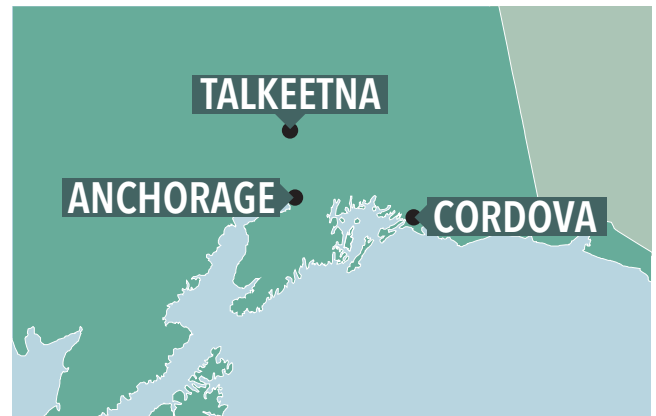
MORE FROM HOLBROOK

Holbrook was founded on the principle that travel fosters a greater understanding of our world's cultural and natural treasures and that these experiences allow individuals to become agents for global change. We hope that your experiences in Alaska will remain with you forever and will challenge you to make a difference in the world we share!

Please join our Facebook page and share photos of your program. Visit us at www.facebook.com/holbrooktravel. We hope to hear from you.



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe



HORNED PUFFIN BY DEBBIE STURDIVANT JORDAN



ORCA ADVENTURE LODGE BY CHRIS BENSLEY