

# SE Alaska Extreme Adventure

11 days from Juneau

## Itinerary at a glance:

Day 0: Arrival in Juneau Day 1: Juneau - Glacier Ice Climbing by Helicopter Day 2: Juneau - Mount Roberts Trail Hike and Whale Watching Day 3: Skagway - Carcross Visit and Montana Single-Track Mountain Biking Day 4: Skagway - Rock Climbing & Ziplining on Porcupine Hill, Chilkoot Trail Hiking and Taiya River Scenic Float Day 5: Skagway - White Pass Off-Trail Alpine Hiking Day 6: Haines - Rock Climbing and River Float through Bald Eagle Preserve Day 7: Haines - Hiking Flower Mountain with ATV Access Day 8: Haines - Blanchard Whitewater Rafting Day 9: Haines - Davidson Glacier Hiking with Zodiac Support Day 10: Haines – Full-Day Sea Kayaking on the Fjord Day 11: Departure from Haines

## Day 0: Arrival Day

Upon your arrival in Juneau, your guide will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Once you are settled, you will have free time to get your bearings in this charming Southeast Alaska town. Your guide will let you know at what time to meet the next day to start your adventure through Southeast Alaska. *Meals on your own* 

## Day 1: Juneau - Glacier Ice Climbing by Helicopter

After breakfast, we will gear up for ice climbing on Alaska's most natural wonder – glaciers! We will meet our professional glacier climbing guides for a brief safety orientation and the plans for the day. A helicopter will take us flightseeing over the old-growth trees of the Tongass National Forest, nunataks, and a massive river of ice that changes from white to radiant shades of blue at every turn. Once we land on the glacier and outfit ourselves with an ice axe, crampons, and a helmet, we will hike across the rugged terrain past moulins, deep crevasses, and crystal blue rivers, as you make your way to our climbing destination. On a 300-foot ice wall, you will have the opportunity to learn ice climbing techniques and practice your skills with the assistance of your guides.

As a part of this incredible experience on top of the glacier, we will reserve time to explore the stunning glacial ice features and take ample photos of the ice- and mountain-scapes surrounding us. We will return to Juneau on a short but scenic helicopter flight. The rest of the day will be at your leisure to explore Alaska's capital city.

Included: B-L



## Day 2: Juneau - Mount Roberts Trail Hiking and Whale Watching

Today we will hike a classic Alaskan trail 4.5 miles to the summit of Mount Roberts. Featuring a series of switchbacks through boreal forest, this trail provides increasingly phenomenal views and wildlife spotting. At 1,760 feet, we will reach the Mount Roberts Mountain House, the upper station for the Goldbelt Mount Roberts Tramway. We will continue to the summit where we will be rewarded with an incredible view of downtown Juneau and the surrounding landscapes. We will descend to the tramway for a unique return to our trailhead. We will enjoy lunch downtown before boarding a catamaran ferry to sail to the gold rush boomtown of Skagway, and whale watch along the way! We will pass Eldred Rock Lighthouse, one of the most photographed entities in Alaska, as we keep eyes out for sea lions, seals, bald eagles, Dall porpoises, humpback whales, orcas, and more! Upon our arrival in Skagway, we will transfer you to your hotel. You will be at your leisure for the rest of the evening to explore. *Included: B-L* 

# Day 3: Skagway - Carcross Visit and Montana Mountain Single-Track Mountain Biking

Today we will start by driving north up the Klondike Highway toward the summit of the White Pass. On the way we will pass through lush rainforest and by multiple waterfalls. There are many photo opportunities of beautiful alpine lakes, hanging glaciers, and towering snow-capped peaks on this excursion. We will enter Canada and continue with our scenic drive until we will reach the town of the First Nations town Carcross in the Yukon Territory. Next, we will have a once-in-a-lifetime mountain biking adventure on the world-famous Montana Mountain trail network. Montana Mountain (towering at 7,200 feet above Carcross) is a mountain biker's dream: beautiful single-track along a rolling mountainside with unbeatable views of Lake Bennett and the interior of the Yukon Territory. As we wind our way through these professionally built trails, we will finish at the edge of the lake. We will enjoy lunch at the world-class Carcross Bistro. Grab a pint of Yukon Brewing beer, relax on the large patio overlooking Carcross and a historic steamship, and dig into a plate of poutine! We will start our journey back south toward Skagway after having enjoyed a great day in Canada. *Included: B-L* 

# Day 4: Skagway - Rock Climbing & Ziplining on Porcupine Hill, Chilkoot Trail Hiking and Taiya River Scenic Float

We will begin our scenic drive up to Porcupine Hills where our rock-climbing and ziplining adventure will await us. Porcupine Hill is known for Jack London's summit attempt, where his panoramic views inspired many of the descriptions in his famous novel, *Call of the Wild*. This adventure tour is perfect for those looking for their first climbing experience, or for experienced climbers looking for a challenge. No climbing is required. Next up on your journey is a series of five exhilarating zip lines through the lush Alaska forest canopy. Our double cable system has a hands-free guide-controlled braking system which allows you to focus on having fun and not on braking yourself! As you zip from platform to platform, you will be able to enjoy magnificent views of coastal temperate rainforest on this Alaska adventure.

After our climb, we will continue down to lunch, where we will be treated to barbecue goodies and allaround vistas of the Skagway River Valley, Mt. Heart, Mt. Harding, and the Harding Glacier. Once we finish lunch, we will drive 10 miles along the coastline on Dyea Road to the Chilkoot Trailhead. On this



adventure, we will follow the footsteps of the 1898 gold rush stampeders as we hike the first two scenic miles of the historic Chilkoot Trail and experience Alaska's majesty with a panoramic float down the Taiya River.

Included: B-L

# Day 5: Skagway - White Pass Off-Trail Alpine Hiking

Today we will have a full day adventure into an off-trail, alpine area above treeline on White Pass. The route conditions vary with the time of year and weather, so our exact route will depend on our guide's discretion. In May and June, the conditions on the route are likely covered in snow and will require a combination of snowshoeing and stream crossing. Later in the season, we'll still encounter snow up high on the peaks, but the access route will likely be snow free and involve off-trail hiking through alpine grasses and wildflowers, scrambling on rocks and the occasional stream crossing. Our route will cover about 6 miles and gain up to 3,000 feet in elevation. Typically, our objective is to climb to the summit of Feather Peak or Mt. Cleveland, both of which stand at around 5,500 feet. Both high points offer incredible views of the surrounding jagged peaks and wilderness of White Pass. However, there are a series of high points and routes that your guide may choose from. We may use crampons, ice axes, ropes, and other technical equipment to access the summit; however, there are also moderate routes to the summit that can be done without ropes. The exact route will depend on conditions, group ability, and guide choice. Even if the summit isn't possible for the day, there are incredible waterfalls, and scenic views to enjoy on this alpine hiking adventure. Our mountain guides are skilled at instruction and are excited to help teach snowshoe technique and basic mountaineering skills along the way. Included: B-L

## Day 6: Haines - Rock Climbing and Float through Bald Eagle Preserve

After a continental breakfast at the hotel, we will hop aboard a high-speed catamaran to ferry over to the neighboring adventure town of Haines. Once we settle into our hotel, we will board the van for a short interpretative drive through the town and along the Chilkat River Valley. From the highway, we hike uphill for about 15 minutes to the base of majestic rock cliffs overlooking the scenic Chilkat Valley and surrounding peaks. We will don rock climbing shoes, helmets, and harnesses. After a safety briefing and climbing introduction from our professional climbing guides, we will rope up and start climbing. There are a series of rock routes to choose from, all of them finishing with stunning aerial view of the Chilkat River and the surrounding wilderness. Professional mountain guides will share their knowledge and skill in all aspects of climbing. Many of them have guided on peak ascents in Alaska and around the world and enjoy sharing their stories of adventures in the mountains. We will enjoy a river-side lunch before adventuring into the Bald Eagle Preserve, where we will enjoy a scenic float trip (no whitewater) through the Chilkat Valley with great photo opportunities for eagles and other wildlife amidst the grandeur of glaciated snow-capped peaks. *Included: B-L* 



# Day 7: Haines - Hiking Flower Mountain with ATV access

Today we are up for a full day of adventure! We will travel along the Klehini River, ascend steep 4x4 terrain, and explore the alpine wonderland of Flower Mountain on this UTV-accessed hike. A scenic 26-mile drive along the National Scenic Byway and through the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve brings you to our remote staging area. We will hop on our UTV's and start the ascent towards Flower Mountain. As we drive along the Klehini River and mountain meadows you may spot swans, salmon, eagles, bears, or moose along the way. From our high point, we will enjoy a picnic lunch while we bask in the surrounding mountain views. Then we will start our hike to snowfields or a glacier, offering a one-of-a-kind Alaskan experience. After lunch, we will descend the mountain and make our way back to our private staging area before returning by bus back to Haines. The rest of the day will be at your leisure. *Included: B-L* 

# Day 8: Haines - Blanchard Whitewater Rafting

After breakfast, we will take a 1.5-hour drive through the Bald Eagle Preserve and over the Chilkat Pass before venturing into Canada. After donning wetsuits and life jackets, our experienced whitewater guides will offer instruction on paddling and river safety. Soon we'll be paddling our way downstream. We utilize either paddle-boats or oar-powered rafts depending on water levels and group preference. (No previous paddling experience necessary.) The Blanchard River starts with a series of nice drops that allow paddlers time to practice before the confluence with the Tatshenshini. The Blanchard portion of the trip consists of about an hour of Class II/III rapids in emerald green water. We will stop at the confluence of the Blanchard and Tatshenshini rivers for a riverside picnic lunch. The Tatshenshini is a classic whitewater run that eventually empties into the Pacific Ocean 160 miles downstream. The Tatshenshini is a larger volume river and has 3 named rapids: Boulder Garden, C to C, and Twin Holes. This Class III-IV whitewater trip offers paddlers a chance to enjoy fun rapids while experiencing the beauty of the Yukon. The final section of the Tatshenshini is fun class II rapids to our takeout at Dalton Post. We will return to the USA after an exciting and fun day! *Included: B-L* 

## Day 9: Haines - Davidson Glacier Day Hike with Zodiac Support

Get ready for the ultimate outdoor expedition! With Zodiac motorized raft transportation across the Lynn Fjord to a 3.75-mile round-trip hike on a remote trail at Glacier Point, today is the active explorer's dream come true. We will head across the Chilkat Peninsula to Letnikof Cove. We will don rubber boots and set out on Zodiac boats. Towering peaks loom above the water while you zoom across the Chilkat Inlet of the Lynn Fjord. In the distance, a pebble beach on the northern shores of Glacier Point will appear. You will disembark on this beach and have an opportunity to change back into your hiking shoes. Few visitors to the Haines area can access the Glacier Point wilderness trail, so we will enjoy the seclusion of our hike. Our destination is the spectacular Davidson Glacier, which spills out of the boundary mountains separating Haines from Glacier Bay National Park. As we get closer to the glacier the terrain gets rockier and steeper and can be strenuous. The hike will culminate with a glacier side perch on the moraine overlooking the rugged glacier. We will enjoy lunch at this great spot, then hike back and board onto the Zodiacs to return to Haines. *Included: B-L* 



# Day 10: Haines – Full Day Sea Kayaking on the Fjord

After a continental breakfast at the hotel, we will drive to the Port of Chilkoot for the ocean kayak trip of a lifetime. We will enjoy a full day paddle onboard tandem kayaks. Your professional sea kayak guides will instruct you on paddling techniques as we cruise along the Lynn Canal, keeping an eye out for marine wildlife and enjoying the incredible scenery. We will stop off at a remote beach to enjoy a waterside picnic-style lunch and stretch our legs. (If the weather is not suitable for sea kayaking, we will utilize our backup location at Chilkoot Lake. This beautiful lake is ringed by jagged peaks and cascading waterfalls and is known for its wildlife viewing opportunities!) Keep an eye out for whales, seals, sea lions, bald eagles, moose, bears, and more! *Included: B-L* 

#### Day 11: Return to Juneau

Today, we will have an early start as we board the Fjordlands ferry for a very scenic ferry transfer to Juneau. We will have opportunities to whale watch while onboard, as well as enjoy the majestic mountains, waterfalls, and glaciers. You will also get the chance to snap some pictures of Eldred Rock Lighthouse again, the oldest original lighthouse in Alaska! Upon our arrival at the dock in Yankee Cove, your transfer will be waiting to take you to your hotel or the airport. *Included: B* 

**Note:** While not included in the cost, our guides can facilitate group dinners at our favorite spots in town.

Weather delays and associated considerations: Alaska Yukon Discovery Tours may change the scheduled itinerary due to weather, conditions, or operational conflicts. If, for any reason, one of the schedule itinerary elements is unable to operate as planned, we will implement alternate tour programming which may involve alternate locations and/or different activities.