

# **Glacier Bay Discovery**

Day 1: Juneau – Mendenhall Glacier Trek by Helicopter

Day 2: Gustavus – Glacier Bay National Park Visitor Center and Sea Kayaking around Pleasant Island

Day 3: Gustavus - Glacier Bay National Park Day Boat Tour and Return Flight to Juneau

#### Day 0: Arrival Day

Upon your arrival into Juneau, your guide will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Once you are settled, you will have free time to enjoy the state capital of Alaska. Your guide will let you know at what time to meet the next day to start your adventure through Alaska and the Yukon.

Meals on your own.

## Day 1: Juneau - Mendenhall Glacier Trek by Helicopter

We will start our journey in the beautiful Mendenhall Glacier Valley! Our adventure begins as we step onto the helicopters waiting to whisk us away onto the glacier ice. We'll gear up with our professional glacier guides for a trek across the ice. We will hear about glaciology, the natural history of the area, and glacier safety as we trek. We will have lunch in downtown. The rest of the day will be at your leisure to explore Alaska's capital city.

Included: B-L.

#### Day 2: Gustavus - Glacier Bay National Park Visitor Center and Sea Kayaking around Pleasant Island

After breakfast we will fly to Gustavus, gateway to Glacier Bay, one of the most popular destinations for those visiting Alaska. Once in Gustavus, we will visit the Glacier Bay National Park Visitor Center, where we will learn about the park, the flora and fauna, and the people that have been inhabiting this area since the dawn of time. Several exhibits explore the park's natural and cultural history. There are several activities to participate in, such as park ranger-led films, a 1-mile walk to Bartlett Cove, and a Healing Totem Talk in the evening in conjunction with the program at Xunaa Shuká Hít (Huna Tribal House). Glacier Bay National Park is the ancestral homeland of the Huna Tlingit clans who sustained themselves for centuries on the abundant resources of the land and sea. After lunch we will hop on our kayaks and cross the Icy Passage. During this excursion to Pleasure Island, keep an eye for sea otters, porpoises, sea lions, minke whales, orcas, seals and bald eagles. We will paddle along the coast to explore the multitude of intertidal creatures before returning to Gustavus for dinner and leisure time. *Included: B-L.* 

### Day 3: Gustavus – Glacier Bay National Park Day Boat Tour and Flight to Juneau

Today, we will have an early start as we board the Glacier Bay day boat and sail 130 miles through the illustrious and jaw-dropping Glacier Bay. This 7-hour tour will take you on a journey through land- and seascapes rich with wildlife, sailing through a waterway that was under a river of ice only 250 years ago. A National Park Ranger will provide informational commentary throughout the tour. We will sail very close to an isolated island to observe seabirds and marine mammals. Tufted and Horned Puffins and the Common Murre nest here, alongside Pelagic Cormorants and Black-legged Kittiwakes. The area is also the best place to see Steller Sea Lions, as their feeding grounds are close! We will enjoy lunch amidst the icebergs from the tidewater glaciers ahead. After lunch, you will be able to get closer to the river of ice



hundreds of feet thick and nearly a mile wide. This will be our chance to see and hear the ice calving into the water – something you will remember for years to come! Upon arrival back to Gustavus, we will board a plane to return to the Juneau airport, where you will be able to connect with a flight home or return to your hotel.

Included: B-L

**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.