



SOUTHEAST ALASKA “Super Trip”

SAMPLE Itinerary

Start: Prince Rupert, BC

Finish: Petersburg, AK

13 Days

This opportunity to explore Southeast Alaska with longtime, Bluewater Adventures Captain, Brian Falconer, is an unexpected bonanza for all who know him (and those who do not). This expedition takes us right into prime humpback whale feeding territory of Frederick Sound. We explore fishing grounds of coastal brown bears as salmon arrive to spawn and no trip into Alaska is complete without a visit to towering, tidewater glaciers.

Alaska is a vast, beautiful and truly wild place with the highest coastal mountain range in the world. Over one-half of the world's glaciers cover these mountains and Alaska is one of only three places in the world where tidewater glaciers exist. Most of the glaciers we will see stem from the massive Stikine Ice Field, sitting high in the Coast Mountains, east of Petersburg and Wrangell.

Sail Southeast Alaska (the “Panhandle”) and enjoy its abundant wildlife. Alaska is one of the few refuges left in North America for the brown (grizzly) bear. On Admiralty Island, it is calculated there is one brown bear for every square mile – almost as many bears as there are eagles. Humpback whales migrate north to feed on the herring and tiny krill that bloom when conditions are right. Each summer, several hundred whales gather to feed in these rich northern waters. When food is plentiful, the whales are active. We look forward to witnessing a variety of behavior that include communication and feeding methods including bubble-net feeding – which is a unique and fascinating learned behavior.

As with all Bluewater Adventures, we may take you out of your comfort zone to make the most of an unforgettable journey. As our itinerary will take us to very remote areas, weather and tides may dictate the regions that we navigate. You know you are in great hands and that you will have the trip of a lifetime. All Aboard!

SAMPLE ITINERARY

On all our voyages, we intentionally keep our itineraries flexible to take advantage of wildlife sightings, weather and tides, and the interests of the group. Note that this sample itinerary is subject to change. Once all trip details have been confirmed, guests will receive an Arrivals and Departures Itinerary to help with the remainder of travel planning.

Arrive into Prince Rupert, BC

Arrive in Prince Rupert the day prior to your trip start. This ensures we depart on time as there can be unforeseen weather delays when travelling in coastal regions. Prince Rupert's historic Cow Bay shopping district offers shops, galleries, restaurants and cafes that are worth checking out.

Day 1- Trip Start

Meet at the top of the dock at Cow Bay Marina (209 Cow Bay Rd) AM. A Bluewater Adventures crew member will meet you and escort you to the *Island Roamer*. After meeting the crew, cabin assignments, and a safety orientation, we will depart Prince Rupert harbour for the beauty of Chatham Sound and its myriad of islands. The entrance to Portland Canal marks the border between Alaska and British Columbia. Sailing past Misty Fjords National Monument, we enjoy the beautiful scenery of snow-capped mountains rising majestically out of the ocean.

BLUEWATER ADVENTURES

Each night we will anchor in a new scenic bay. Guided by our naturalist we will spot and identify fascinating wildlife, explore the shoreline and keep a daily record of the various species of birds, plants and marine mammals we observe.

Days 2 - 4

Cruising up Revillagigedo Channel, past the historic Native American settlement of Saxman, our first major stop will be at Ketchikan. In the late 1800's the lucrative cannery industry earned Ketchikan the title of "Salmon Capital of the World". We will have time to walk along the old boardwalk "streets" and the ambitious may proceed further to the Totem Heritage Center to see original totem poles collected from now uninhabited Tlingit and Haida Villages. It is here we must clear US Customs which might include a trip to the customs office.

We continue north among the narrow passages of Etolin and Wrangell Islands to Anan Bay where we will lay anchor. We will spend a day of wildlife viewing at Anan Creek Wildlife Observatory which has the largest run of pink salmon in Southeast Alaska. The sheer number of salmon attracts all sorts of wildlife like bears, eagles and harbour seals. Managed by the US Forest Service, Anan Creek provides some of the best bear viewing in the world and we are very fortunate to have the opportunity to visit. Access to this area is strictly limited in order to protect the wildlife and local habitat where we expect to see black and brown (grizzly) bears fish for salmon in the rushing river – a classic Alaskan experience!

Days 5 - 7

We head west into Sumner Strait to witness several large sea otter colonies. In the 1700s, they were hunted for their luxurious pelts with the arrival of explorers to the North Pacific. Over 150 years of hunting nearly wiped them out completely until the signing of an international treaty to protect northern fur seals and sea otters in 1911. The 60's saw efforts to rebuild the population by reintroducing otters from the Aleutians and a count that took place in 2012 estimated 27,500 animals. We will be sure to explore these areas by zodiac with the hopes of seeing these wary creatures and hopefully some females with their pups of the year.

We continue on to the outer islands – Brian and Crew will keep an eye on the weather to determine the best time to sail to remote Coronation Island located off the Northwest coast of Prince of Wales Island. It is a true Alaskan wilderness with few visitors and cliffs rising 2000 feet above the sea. A haven for nesting sea birds in the early summer, we plan to go ashore and explore. The island's inhabitants also include Sitka black-tailed deer, black bear and wolves. Offshore, keep an eye out for seals and sea lions, humpback whales and more sea otters.

Days 8 - 12

We continue our Alaska exploration by heading north along Chatham Strait to Frederick Sound - the core feeding areas for humpback whales in Southeast Alaska. Journeying through this area, we will see whales on a daily basis. Our onboard naturalist will identify and explain the unique feeding techniques of these giant cetaceans. We just hope to have our cameras pointing in the right direction when a whale breaches out of the water.

Admiralty Island National Monument has the highest concentration of brown bears and eagles in North America and has some beautiful evening anchorages – keep an eye out for brown bears on the shoreline! We are excited to include a visit to Pack Creek, an amazing bear watching opportunity located in a tidewater estuary up Seymour Canal. Pack Creek has been a protected area for bears for the last 40 years, and we are lucky to be amongst the 24 people a day that are allowed to visit.

No trip to Alaska is complete without a visit to tidewater glaciers. This is where those extra clothing layers will come in handy as we explore the glacially carved fiord of Endicott Arm or Tracy Arm. We will witness the calving of the mighty Dawes glacier with its infinite hues of blue and if time and tides allow, a paddle in Fords Terror (if you dare).

BLUEWATER ADVENTURES

We now travel south along the Inside Passage with our eyes trained on whale blows while Captain Brian plots our final evening's anchorage.

Day 13 – Trip Finish

On the last morning, we sail into Petersburg, Alaska to complete our voyage. Petersburg, known as "little Norway", is a delightful town to explore. After clearing customs, passengers catch the late afternoon flight to Seattle to continue their journey home.

CUSTOMS INFORMATION

The Island Roamer will be passing Canada Customs & Immigration inspection upon entry into Canada at Prince Rupert, BC. All passengers must carry proper identification and documentation necessary for international travel and for entry into Canada. Bluewater Adventures is required to provide Canada Customs & Immigration with a list of passengers and crew, in advance of our arrival in Prince Rupert. We require your **Full Legal Name, Passport Number, Date of Birth and Citizenship** as it appears on your identity and travel documents. Please ensure you provide this information on the forms you return to the Bluewater Adventures office.

All international travellers arriving into Canada are now required to apply for an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) prior to their trip. Please visit www.cic.gc.ca/ENGLISH/VISIT/ to apply for your authorization.

For entry into the United States, all international travelers will need to complete the United States Travel Authorization Application (ESTA). Please visit <http://www.esta.us/> to complete the Visa Waiver form. If you hold a passport issued by a country that is not a US Visa Waiver country, please follow the directions on how to obtain a Visitor's Visa.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Our designated Travel Agency is UNIGLOBE DIRECT TRAVEL LTD. If you need further accommodation or help with your airfare and insurance, please call Elaine Ross at 604 538 2111 ext. 6614 or email elaine@uniglobedirect.com.

FLIGHTS

Alaska Airlines provides daily flights from Seattle Tacoma International Airport to Petersburg and all major communities in Southeast Alaska.

Air Canada provides daily flights between Prince Rupert and Vancouver, BC. Air Canada also provides service to Seattle as well as connections to other major cities.

Alaska Airlines	1-800-252-7522	www.alaskaair.com
Air Canada	1-800-247-2262	www.aircanada.ca

Prince Rupert Airport	250-622-2222	www.ypr.ca
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Please note: The Prince Rupert Airport is located on Digby Island accessible only by ferry and shuttle bus between the airport and downtown (Prince Rupert Hotel). The shuttle service and airport ferry take about one hour and is included in your airline ticket price. Please allow plenty of time for airport transfer. Please note that the airport does not have any food services.

BLUEWATER ADVENTURES

FERRIES

The **Alaska State Ferry** system services all of the larger communities in Southeast Alaska, Prince Rupert, BC and south to Bellingham, WA. One can travel as a foot passenger or pay an additional fee for a cabin.

Alaska State Ferry	1-800-642-0066	www.state.ak.us
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BC Ferries offers service from Prince Rupert, BC along the “Inside Passage” route to Port Hardy on Vancouver Island. The “Inside Passage” is very scenic but will add 2 days to your trip in each direction. Reservations are required for both vehicles and passengers.

**Be advised that adverse weather and sea conditions can often create delays and disrupt ferry schedules.*

BC Ferries	1-888-223-3779	www.bcferrries.com
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LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Petersburg, AK

Public transit is not available in Petersburg. Most hotels do offer a shuttle services. Metro Cab (907) 772 2700 and Midnight Rides (907) 772-2222 provide taxi service in Petersburg.

Prince Rupert, BC

Public Transit is available in Prince Rupert for more information visit www.transitbc.com/regions/prr
Taxi's in Prince Rupert are abundant and easy to flag down.

ACCOMMODATION

Petersburg and Prince Rupert have a range of accommodations to serve the needs of visitors. The following selected accommodation contacts may be useful in helping to plan your trip around your Bluewater Adventure.

Accommodations in Petersburg are limited during summer months. Early reservations are recommended.

Petersburg, AK

Tides Inn	(907) 772 4288	www.tidesinnalaska.com tidesinn@alaskan.com	\$170-\$226
Nordic House B&B	(907) 772 3620	www.nordichouse.net/ nordichouse@live.com	\$97-\$215
Scandia House	(907) 772 4281 (800) 722 5006	www.scandiahousehotel.com info@scandiahousehotel.com	\$120-\$210

BLUEWATER ADVENTURES

Prince Rupert

Eagle Bluff B&B	(250) 627 4955 (800) 833 1550	www.eaglebluff.ca eaglebed@citytel.net	\$115 single \$155 double
Pacific Inn	(250) 627 1711 (888) 663 1999	www.pacificinn.bc.ca info@pacificinn.bc.ca	\$109 single \$129 double
Prince Rupert Hotel	(250) 624 6711 (855) 737 8774	http://princerupert hotel.com rooms@princerupert hotel.com	\$114-\$139
Tall Trees B&B	(250) 624 3664 (877) 624 3664	www.talltreesbedbreakfast.com talltreesbedbreakfast@gmail.com	\$135-\$145
Crest Hotel	(250) 624 6771 (800) 663 8150	www.cresthotel.bc.ca info@cresthotel.bc.ca	\$175-\$349

Tourist Information

For information on Prince Rupert visit Tourism Prince Rupert's website www.visitprincerupert.com or call (250) 624 5637, or Toll Free: 1 800 667 1994.

For information on extending your stay in Petersburg, visit www.petersburgak.org or call 907.772.4636 or 866.484.4700 (toll free).

For general information on British Columbia's attractions, travel, restaurants, shopping, transportation and accommodation contact **Destination British Columbia**: 1-800 435 5622 or visit the Destination BC website at www.hellobc.com