

Alaska's Glacier Cruise—Ultimate Expedition

(Alaska's Glacier Cruise—Ultimate Expedition = Alaska's Glaciers & Whales + Whales, Wildlife & Glaciers)

Vessels: *Safari Endeavour*; *S.S. Legacy*

Nights: 14

Fares from \$8,295

Departs: Sundays, May - Aug

Roundtrip Juneau

Exploring

- Juneau • Tracy Arm or Endicott Arm • Stephens Passage • Thomas Bay • Baird Glacier • LeConte Glacier • Ideal Cove • Kake • Frederick Sound • Baranof Island • Peril Strait • Sergius Narrows • Neva Strait • Sitka • Krestof Sound • Nakwasina Sound • Icy Strait • Glacier Bay National Park • Chichagof Island • Lynn Canal • Haines • Juneau •

INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

- Ultimate glaciers: Margerie, Grand Pacific, LeConte, Baird, and Dawes or Sawyer and South Sawyer
- Full day in Glacier Bay National Park, joined by a park ranger
- Haines history and adventure—hike, bike, or river float trip
- Tlingit native culture in Haines and on a private village tour of Kake
- Whale watch in Frederick Sound
- Marine life searches—Dall's porpoise, sea lions, harbor seals, sea otters
- Look for wildlife—black and brown bears, mountain goats, and moose
- Birdwatching—eagles, arctic terns, puffins, black oystercatchers, and other sea birds
- Skiff through iceberg waters of Tracy or Endicott Arm
- Hike on the terminal moraine of Baird Glacier
- Boardwalk and trail hikes in Tongass National Forest
- Kayak, paddle board and skiff in hidden coves and narrow fjords
- Captain's choice exploration



DAY 1 Juneau, Alaska – Embarkation

Welcome to Alaska's capital, where your home on the water awaits. Come aboard, meet your crew, and unpack your adventurous spirit. Your course is set for glaciers, and the Tongass—the largest national forest in the U.S.

(D)

DAY 2 Tracy Arm or Endicott Arm / Stephens Passage

Your captain eyes the day's conditions and makes a choice. Whether Tracy or Endicott is the Arm du jour, wake in a fjord flanked by sheer granite walls. Grab a hot cup of joe and take it all in from the bow. Cascading waterfalls. Drifting icebergs. A lazy harbor seal or two. Layer up with gloves and a warm hat, and hop in a skiff for a better look at the glacier—the temps drop the closer you get. Your expedition guide clues you in to signs of the ice ages that carved this landscape. The geology is fascinating and so is the wildlife. Keep an eye out for mountain goats, bears, and eagles. Make waves for Stephens Passage. It's all hands on deck watching for signs of humpbacks. It's a big first day!

(BLD)

DAY 3 Thomas Bay / Baird Glacier

Have your rubber boots handy. You're in for muskeg and mud in Alaska's backcountry. Hiking along Baird's moraine, look for shimmers of gold and quartz—this area is known for it. The glacial outwash plains look almost lunar, but you're not alone in this moonscape. The glacial valley is a nesting hot-spot for arctic terns. Splash away the mud before a paddle along the bay's mossy cliff walls. Back on board, it's time for a cocktail and a soak in the hot tub.

(BLD)

DAY 4 LeConte Glacier / Ideal Cove

LeConte is the southernmost tidewater glacier in North America. If tides are low, take a boot-sucking walk to check out icebergs resting on the mudflats. If it's high tide, a skiff ride brings you up-close to its iceberg gardens. Surrounded by national forest, Ideal Cove's boardwalk trails wind through meadows of ferns and grasses. Or test your balance paddle boarding in this quiet cove. It's just you and the vast wilderness.

(BLD)

DAY 5 Kake / Frederick Sound

"Kake" comes from a Tlingit word meaning "opening of daylight." Apropos, start your day in this native village with traditional storytelling and dancing. Count the many totems on their 132-foot pole. Drop the kayaks in Saginaw Bay or some other hidden cove along the Keku Islands. Black bears are common sights along shore. But so are eagles in the treetops and orange-billed surf scoters paddling nearby. For hikers, your guides have a route in mind. Make for the forest, far off the map. Cruising Frederick Sound, chances are high you'll see humpbacks. The up-welling of nutrients in the water make it an irresistible feeding ground.

(BLD)

DAY 6 Baranof Island / Peril Strait

Leave it to the captain to steer you through Chatham and Peril Straits. At Baranof Island, your top-notch expedition team has the game plan dialed. Tap some of the most untouched wilderness in the Tongass. Head to the woods for an adventuresome bushwhack. Or slide into a kayak for an easygoing shoreline paddle. Find a perch on deck in Peril Strait—it's a twisting drama of currents and history.

(BLD)

DAY 7 Sergius Narrows / Neva Strait

There aren't many straight lines along Baranof Island. Its western side is dotted with hundreds of coves and uninhabited islands. This is a prime area for spotting sea otters. It's no surprise to round a corner in your kayak and find one looking at you and you looking at him. The protected beaches are made for exploring the intertidal zones, and spotting bears. So, boot up for a guided hike. End your day with celebration and a toast at dinner with your captain. Your expedition team treats you to a photo recap of the week's adventures.

(BLD)

DAY 8 Sitka

While others end their adventure and new guests join later in the day, you'll spend the day off the boat. It's a quick ride to Fortress of the Bear. Tour this home for orphaned bears and observe their unique personality. With access to the Tongass National Forest all around you, take the hint and take a hike—your guides know the way. Or get to know Russian-influenced Sitka as you please—shuttles will run from your ship into town. Reboard in time for happy hour and get to know newly arrived travel mates. Set sail into Sitka Sound with unmistakable views of Mt. Edgecumbe—a volcanic wonder in its own right. Laundry service is provided today.

(BLD)

DAY 9 Krestof Sound / Nakwasina Sound

Shhh. If you don't say a word, you can hear the sounds of these Sounds. Dense Baranof Island forest to one side. Small, wild, lesser-known islands on the other. You might even spot black bears loping on shore although they're likely to catch a whiff of you first. And keep watch for neighboring sea lions and eagles, too. Drop anchor and find adventure. Slip into a kayak. Nose along shore in a skiff. Or head into the Tongass National Forest on foot with your expedition team. The possibilities, endless. Reward yourself when you get back to the boat, the crew will have a treat waiting.

(BLD)

DAY 10 Icy Strait

Nothing like kick starting the morning with on-deck yoga stretches and a chaser of exploration mode d'jour—motor, paddle, boots. It might be your toughest transition of the day. In and around Icy Strait, glide through giant bullwhip kelp (it can grow to over 100 feet long). Skiff to a rocky outcropping and watch sea lions play. Mud boots serve their purpose on a forest hike with your top-notch guides, who are sharp and have plenty to share about everything Alaska—animals, plants, and even geology. At the end of this unforgettable day, you've earned a soak in the hot tub.

(BLD)

DAY 11 Glacier Bay National Park

Enter, the granddaddy of national parks—Glacier Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Biosphere Reserve. Once you round Point Gustavus, a park ranger joins you on board with a font of knowledge. The specialness of this place starts to sink in, as one of its truly privileged visitors. Sea lions jockey for position among puffins, black oystercatchers, and other sea birds at South Marble Island.

Mountain goats climb and bears scrounge for food along the park’s inland shores. Motor deeper into the park to Margerie and Grand Pacific, two tidewater glaciers on their downward march into the bay.
(BLD)

DAY 12 Chichagof Island

Your course is set—wildlife-rich Alaskan wilderness. Head to the bridge or bow, and watch for whales and other creatures before tucking into Port Frederick or some other wild inlet. You’re about to get a close up look. Muskeg under foot, head out on a bushwhacking hike in the Tongass National Forest. Kayak along an inky-dark fjord, or board a skiff, eyes wide for bears on shore.
(BLD)

DAY 13 Lynn Canal / Captain’s Choice

Not so much a canal, as a fjord—in fact, North America’s deepest at over 2,000 feet. This once-major route of Klondike gold rushers is now a busy inlet for humpbacks, orcas, Dall’s porpoise, Steller sea lions, salmon, halibut, and mischievous river otters. And that’s at water level. Look up, and you see bald eagles. Looking like golf balls in the tree tops when they’re not soaring overhead. But it’s not all looking and seeing today, your captain is on task to pick the prime spot for adventure. Feel the burn on a long paddling excursion. Search tide pools for microscopic life. Or, hike a shadow-filled forest.
(BLD)

DAY 14 Haines, Alaska

The unofficial adventure capital of Alaska. Hard-charging or smell the flowers, pick your speed. In this bald eagle hotspot, you have choices to make. Hit the trailhead with your guides to the top of Chilkat Peninsula or the shores of Chilkat Inlet. Some of the best trails with the best views. Or, raft along the Chilkat River on a float trip through the bald eagle preserve. The local history—native culture, influence from European explorers, as a US Army outpost, and its gold rush past. Chilkat Tlingit members come aboard and share their tribe’s cultural history and thousands-of-years-old legacy. Soak it up. Then see the sites on foot or by bike with free time in town. It’s a big day. Tonight, celebrate your voyage with a Farewell Dinner and special photo recap from your expedition team.
(BLD)

DAY 15 Juneau – Disembarkation

It’s your last morn of freshly baked pastries. Eat ‘em up and get in your farewells as you cruise into Juneau to transfer to the airport or begin your UnCruise hotel stay or land tour.
(B)

Passport required (non USA citizens). Itineraries are guidelines; variations in itinerary and the order of days may occur to maximize your experience.

Updated 3/17/17

ALASKA GLACIER CRUISE—ULTIMATE EXPEDITION
14 NIGHTS, ROUNDTRIP JUNEAU
 (Alaska’s Glaciers & Whales + Whales, Wildlife & Glaciers)

Sunday Departures

<i>Safari Endeavour</i>	MST	CMN	CPT	ADM	COM	SGL
Aug 19	\$9,495	\$10,395	\$11,395	\$12,995	\$18,095	\$12,345
May 27	\$10,095	\$11,045	\$11,995	\$13,695	\$18,845	\$13,125
Jun 10, 24; Jul 8, 22 Aug 5	\$11,395	\$12,345	\$13,295	\$15,045	\$20,645	\$14,815

<i>S.S. Legacy</i>	MST	CMN	CPT	ADM	JCO	OWN	SGL
May 6	\$8,295	\$9,245	\$10,295	\$11,595	\$12,945	\$18,145	\$10,785
May 20	\$9,495	\$10,395	\$11,395	\$12,995	\$14,445	\$20,245	\$12,345
Jun 3	\$10,745	\$11,695	\$12,645	\$14,345	\$15,995	\$22,345	\$13,970
Jun 17; Jul 1, 15	\$11,395	\$12,345	\$13,295	\$15,045	\$16,745	\$23,395	\$14,815