

discover ALASKA

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DISCOVER ALASKA



Anchorage & Around (p51) Boutiques and bistros meld with urban moose and hiking trails in the state's largest city.



Juneau & Southeast Alaska (p79) A foggy emerald maze of fishing towns and ferry routes, plus the state's capital.



Prince William Sound (p137) A kayaker's delight, the Sound abounds with islands, glaciers and hidden coves.



Kenai Peninsula, Katmai & Kodiak Island (p159) Enjoy an accessible wilderness playground on the Kenai Peninsula or watch bears in Katmai National Park.



Denali & the Interior (p201) It's not just the tallest mountain in North America, but also the backcountry surrounding it.



Fairbanks & the Bush (p233) Chug along the Chena River, soak in hot springs, or spot your first polar bear.

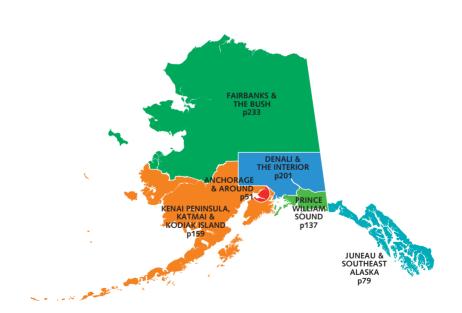
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> THIS IS ALASKA



Alaska is where human beings stand on an equal footing with nature. Nowhere else in the USA is there such an undeveloped, unpopulated and untrampled place. There are mountains, glaciers and rivers in other parts of North America, but few are on the same scale as those in Alaska.

This state has 17 of the country's 20 highest peaks, and 5000 glaciers, including one larger than Switzerland. In Alaska, there are king crabs that measure 3ft from claw to claw, brown bears that stand more than 12ft tall, farmers who grow 125lb cabbages and glaciers that discharge icebergs the size of small houses.

Because of its size – Alaska is more than twice the size of the next-largest state, Texas – it's better to pick one or two regions to visit on a shorter vacation than try to fly around the entire state in two weeks. In the Interior, you'll find massive glacial rivers and North America's highest mountain, while in Southeast Alaska things feel a bit



more snug. Here, the US's largest national forest, the Tongass, cradles fishing towns and stretches across islands and fjords, with the Alaska Marine Highway weaving through it all. Anchorage provides museums, excellent restaurants and good local hiking, while the Kenai Peninsula and Prince William Sound offer kayaking and opportunities to spot both marine and land animals. In the Bush and the Southwest you'll learn what 'wide open spaces' really means, as the mostly

'Alaska offers more outdoor activities than most people do in a lifetime'

what 'wide open spaces' really means, as the mostly roadless regions are impossibly remote and wild.

Alaska offers more outdoor activities than most people can do in a lifetime, from climbing mountains to rafting rivers. And if spotting a grizzly bear, catching a wild salmon, kayaking a fjord, walking on a glacier, or simply spinning down a scenic highway is your thing, you've chosen the right destination.