



Alaska

Includes →

Ketchikan	1086
Wrangell.....	1087
Petersburg.....	1088
Sitka.....	1088
Juneau.....	1090
Haines.....	1092
Skagway	1094
Anchorage.....	1095

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Snow City Café (p1097)
- ➔ Ludvig's Bistro (p1089)
- ➔ Tracy's King Crab Shack (p1091)
- ➔ Coastal Cold Storage (p1088)
- ➔ Sack's Café (p1098)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Copper Whale Inn (p1097)
- ➔ Black Bear Inn (p1086)
- ➔ Juneau International Hostel (p1091)
- ➔ Beach Roadhouse (p1093)
- ➔ Alaskan Sojourn Hostel (p1094)

Why Go?

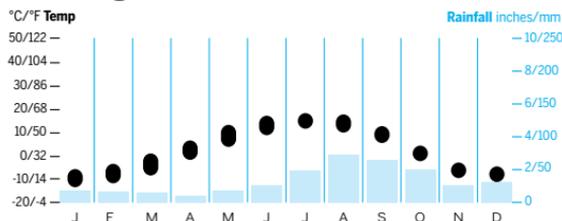
Big, beautiful and wildly bountiful. Far away, rurally isolated and very expensive. Alaska is a traveler's dilemma.

There are few places in the world with such grandeur and breathtaking beauty. Mt McKinley, the highest peak in North America, is a stunning sight when you catch its alpenglow in Wonder Lake. Forty bald eagles perched on a single tree is something seen in Haines, not Iowa.

Alaska is also a remote and costly destination for anybody tripping through the rest of the country, a place where accommodations are expensive and transportation options meager. But, from the Northwest, a slice of Alaska can be an affordable side trip, whether it's a few days cruising Southeast Alaska on the state ferry or a 2½-hour flight to Anchorage for the weekend. Once there you'll marvel at the grandeur of the land and begin plotting your ultimate adventure, a summer in Alaska. This chapter focuses on Southeast Alaska and Anchorage.

When to Go

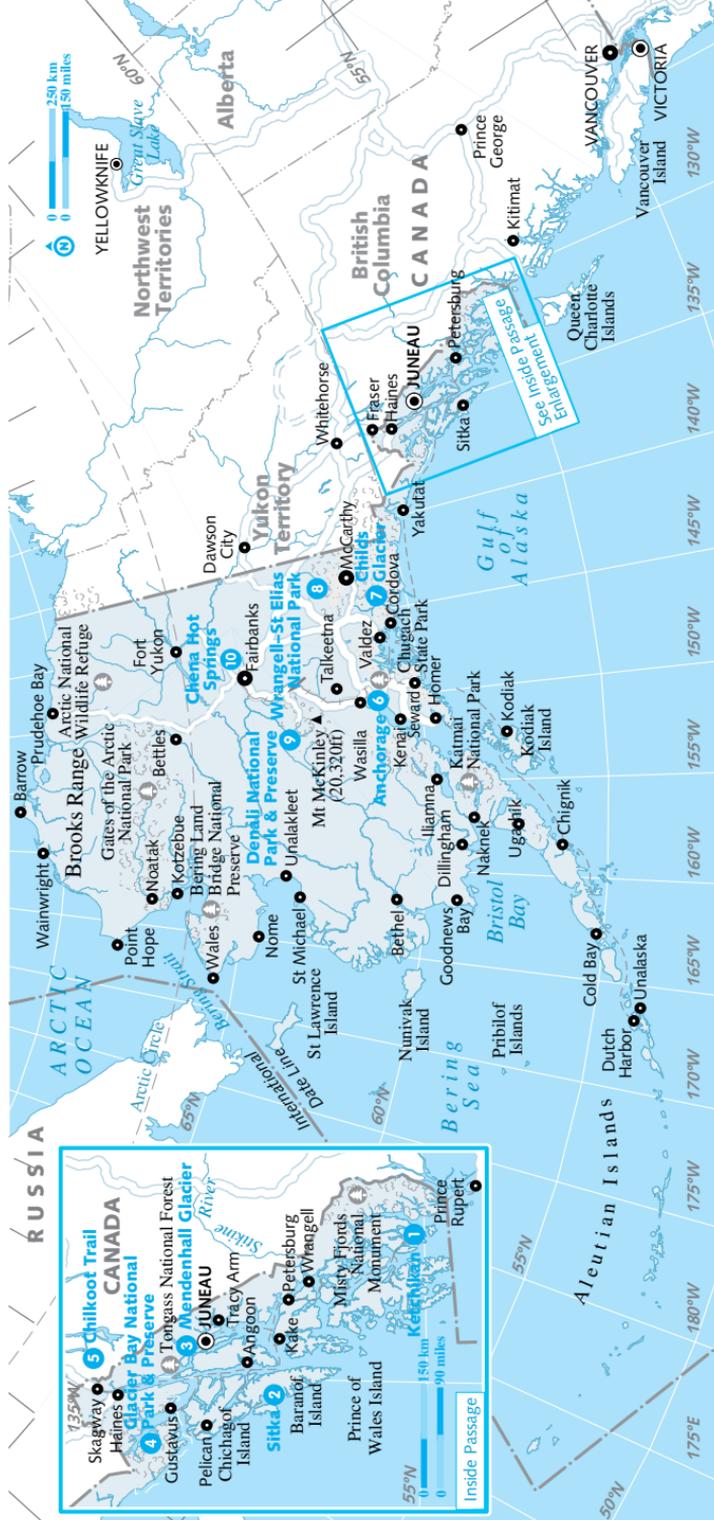
Anchorage



Jun Enjoy summer solstice festivals and 20-hour days. Stay up and play outdoors.

Jul Salmon runs, with millions of spawning fish chocking streams, hit their peak.

Late Sep The mystical northern lights begin to appear in the night skies.



Alaska Highlights

- 1 Zip-lining down to a stream full of bears feasting on salmon in **Ketchikan** (p.1086).
- 2 Uncovering Russia's history in Alaska at **Sitka National Historical Park** (p.1089).
- 3 Hiking alongside Alaska's most popular river of ice, **Mendenhall Glacier** (p.1090).
- 4 Kayaking with seals at **Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve** (p.1091).
- 5 Following the Klondike stampedes of 1898, hiking the **Chilkoot Trail** (p.1094).
- 6 Exploring Alaska's history and culture at the **Anchorage Museum** (p.1095).