



CRUISE PORTS ALASKA

A GUIDE TO PERFECT DAYS ON SHORE

Brendan Sainsbury, Catherine Bodry,
Adam Karlin, John Lee, Becky Ohlsen

Welcome to Alaska

Bears larger than bison, national parks the size of nations, and glaciers bigger than other US states. The word 'epic' barely does Alaska justice.

Pure, raw, unforgiving and humongous in scale, Alaska is a place that arouses basic instincts and ignites what Jack London termed the 'call of the wild.' Yet, unlike London and his gutsy, gold-rush companions, visitors today will have a far easier time penetrating the region's vast, feral wilderness. Indeed, one of the beauties of the 49th state is its accessibility. Few other places in the US allow you to scale an unclimbed mountain, walk where – quite possibly – no human foot has trodden before, or sally forth into a national park that gets fewer annual visitors than the International Space Station.

One of the best gateways to this vast wilderness is the sea. Alaska has 6640 miles of coastline, five times more than any other US state, much of it rugged, unexplored, roadless and patrolled by large, majestic fauna. In recent decades, cruising has opened up Alaska's once-impenetrable wilderness to millions – and you don't need to remortgage your house or undergo military-style fitness training to see it. Instead, simply book passage on one of three-dozen cruise ships that ply the Inside Passage, claim a comfortable cabin with an ever-changing view, and hop from port to port letting the misty, frosty, timeless landscapes work their magic.

“Cruising has opened up Alaska's once-impenetrable wilderness to millions”

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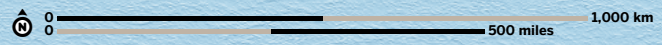
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Behind the Scenes

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This Book

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Symbols & Map Key
















Look for these symbols to quickly identify listings:

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Sights |  Eating |
|  Activities |  Drinking |
|  Courses |  Entertainment |
|  Tours |  Shopping |
|  Festivals & Events |  Information & Transport |
















These symbols and abbreviations give vital information for each listing:

 Sustainable or green recommendation




















FREE No payment required

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Telephone number |  Bus |
|  Opening hours |  Ferry |
|  Parking |  Tram |
|  Nonsmoking |  Train |
|  Air-conditioning |  English-language menu |
|  Internet access |  Vegetarian selection |
|  Wi-fi access |  Family-friendly |
|  Swimming pool | |




















Find your best experiences with these Great For... icons.

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Art & Culture |  History |
|  Beaches |  Local Life |
|  Budget |  Nature & Wildlife |
|  Cafe/Coffee |  Photo Op |
|  Cycling |  Scenery |
|  Detour |  Shopping |
|  Drinking |  Short Trip |
|  Entertainment |  Sport |
|  Events |  Walking |
|  Family Travel |  Winter Travel |
|  Food & Drink | |





Sights

-  Beach
-  Bird Sanctuary
-  Buddhist
-  Castle/Palace
-  Christian
-  Confucian
-  Hindu
-  Islamic
-  Jain
-  Jewish
-  Monument
-  Museum/Gallery/
Historic Building
-  Ruin
-  Shinto
-  Sikh
-  Taoist
-  Winery/Vineyard
-  Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
-  Other Sight












Points of Interest

-  Bodysurfing
-  Camping
-  Cafe
-  Canoeing/Kayaking
-  Course/Tour
-  Diving
-  Drinking & Nightlife
-  Eating
-  Entertainment
-  Sento Hot Baths/
Onsen
-  Shopping
-  Skiing
-  Sleeping
-  Snorkelling
-  Surfing
-  Swimming/Pool
-  Walking
-  Windsurfing
-  Other Activity




















Information

-  Bank
-  Embassy/Consulate
-  Hospital/Medical
-  Internet
-  Police
-  Post Office
-  Telephone
-  Toilet
-  Tourist Information
-  Other Information

Geographic

-  Beach
-  Gate
-  Hut/Shelter
-  Lighthouse
-  Lookout
-  Mountain/Volcano
-  Oasis
-  Park
-  Pass
-  Picnic Area
-  Waterfall

Transport

-  Airport
-  BART station
-  Border crossing
-  Boston T station
-  Bus
-  Cable car/Funicular
-  Cycling
-  Ferry
-  Metro/MRT station
-  Monorail
-  Parking
-  Petrol station
-  Subway/S-Bahn/
Skytrain station
-  Taxi
-  Train station/Railway
-  Tram
-  Tube Station
-  Underground/
U-Bahn station
-  Other Transport

John Lee

Born and raised in the UK, John grew up in the lengthy shadow of London, then succumbed to the lure of Canada's West Coast in 1993 to begin an MA in Political Science at the University of Victoria. Regular trips home to Britain ensued, along with stints living in Tokyo and Montreal, before he returned to British Columbia to become a full-time freelance writer in 1999. Now living in Vancouver, John specializes in travel writing and has contributed to more than 150 different publications around the world. You can read some of his stories (and see some of his videos) online at www.johnleewriter.com. John has worked on around 25 Lonely Planet books, including *Canada*, *British Columbia*, *Western Europe*, *Vancouver* and *Europe on a Shoestring*.

Becky Ohlsen

Becky is a freelance writer, editor and critic based in Portland, Oregon. She writes guidebooks and travel stories about Scandinavia, Portland and elsewhere for Lonely Planet. After a few years of studying her adopted hometown of Portland from the copy desk at an alternative weekly newspaper, Becky spent the requisite year bumming around Europe on the mega-cheap. This did nothing to quell her urge to run off exploring new places every couple of months; quite the opposite. Aside from Scandinavia, she has spent time roaming around the UK, Panama, Mexico, Hong Kong, Beijing and most of the US.

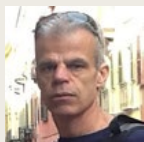


Our Story

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

Our Writers



Brendan Sainsbury

Originally from Hampshire, England, Brendan has traveled all over Alaska from Ketchikan in the south to Deadhorse in the north by bus, train, kayak, bicycle, ferry, airplane and his own two feet. Memorable moments have included taking a bus up the Dalton Highway from Fairbanks to the Arctic Ocean, catching a ferry through the off-the-grid Alaskan peninsula to the Aleutian Islands, and running the Chilkoot trail in the footsteps of the Klondike 'stampeder' in a day. Now based in Vancouver, Canada, Brendan has contributed to more than 50 Lonely Planet guides including six editions of *Cuba*.

Catherine Bodry

Catherine is based in Anchorage, Alaska, but spends much of her time in Southeast Asia. As a writer, she's covered Alaska, Thailand and China, among other destinations. A lover of mountains, she spends as much time as possible in or near hills, whether it's running, hiking, camping, berry picking, rafting or just gazing at them. For Lonely Planet, she's contributed to about a dozen guide and trade books including several editions of *Alaska*, as well as *Canada*, *Thailand* and *Pacific Northwest Trips*.

Adam Karlin

Adam has contributed to dozens of Lonely Planet guidebooks, covering an alphabetical spread that ranges from the Andaman Islands to the Zimbabwe border. As a journalist, he has written on travel, crime, politics, archaeology, and the Sri Lankan Civil War, among other topics. He has sent dispatches from every continent barring Antarctica (one day!) and his essays and articles have featured in the BBC, NPR, and multiple non-fiction anthologies. Adam is based out of New Orleans, which explains his love of wetlands, food and good music. Learn more at <http://walkonfine.com> or Instagram @adamwalkonfine.

More Writers

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