



# UNITED STATES

## Alaska | Prince William Sound to the Kenai Peninsula

*with Dickinson College Alumni*

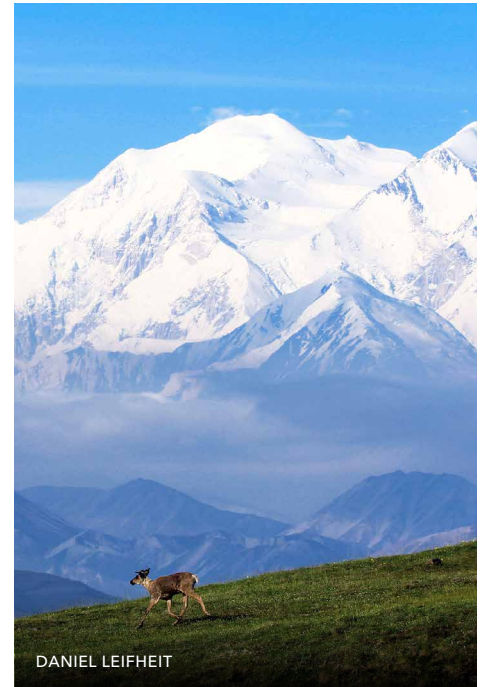
**JULY 18, 2024 – JULY 27, 2024**

Set foot in the remote wilderness of Alaska, America's last frontier – the perfect setting to learn about wildlife and ecology, and the balance between humans and natural resources. This overland journey immerses you in the stunning scenery of the Kenai Peninsula and Prince William Sound, and enlightens the relationship between man and land, from early native communities to pioneering settlers, to today's modern inhabitants. As you kayak, canoe, and hike through magnificent landscapes amid forests and glaciers, you'll glimpse sea otters and kittiwakes, search for moose, bears, and eagles, learn about salmon farming and commercial fishing, and discuss past and future effects of tectonic and climate events.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Take in stunning up-close views of Sheridan Glacier on a hike-and-kayak wilderness excursion.
- Learn about conservation initiatives in private talks with the Alaska SeaLife Center.
- Embark on a float excursion on the Alaganik Slough to observe birds and wildlife in the Copper River Delta.
- Look for seals, whales, and puffins in Kenai Fjords National Park while exploring coastal rainforests, glaciers, and remote islands.
- Witness the effect of climate change on a hike to Exit Glacier and learn about the geology and biology of beautiful Resurrection Valley.





## ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

### DAY 1 | THU | 18 JUL | ANCHORAGE

Upon arrival in Anchorage, travel on your own by shuttle to the hotel. With most flights arriving late into the evening, your group will meet for orientation the next morning.

**HOTEL CAPTAIN COOK**

### DAY 2 | FRI | 19 JUL | CORDOVA

After breakfast and orientation, begin your Alaska exploration with a visit to the Alaska Native Heritage Center. The center features art, tools, clothing and other items from each of the five major culture groups. After an early lunch on own, shuttle transfer to the airport in time for your afternoon flight to Cordova. Upon arrival, meet your guide and transfer to the lodge, enjoying some initial sights along the way, including swan nests on the delta and the Cordova docks and town center. After dinner and program, engage in an evening talk on plate tectonics and changes in recent decades, with a discussion on global warming.

**BREAKFAST-DINNER**

**ORCA ADVENTURE LODGE**

### DAY 3 | SAT | 20 JUL | CORDOVA

After breakfast, head to Sheridan Glacier for a kayaking excursion. Sheridan Glacier is one of the most accessible glaciers in Alaska, and after a short hike through the moraine, you will be able to see the dramatic frozen river of ancient ice! After a brief orientation on kayaking, hit the waters to view crystal blue caves and jagged crevasses amid an ever-changing terrain. Have a picnic lunch on shore or on a small island. After lunch, return

to town and visit the Cordova Historical Museum and Eyak Museum and Cultural Center. These museums provide a greater sense of the rich history and livelihood of this thriving fishing community.

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

**ORCA ADVENTURE LODGE**



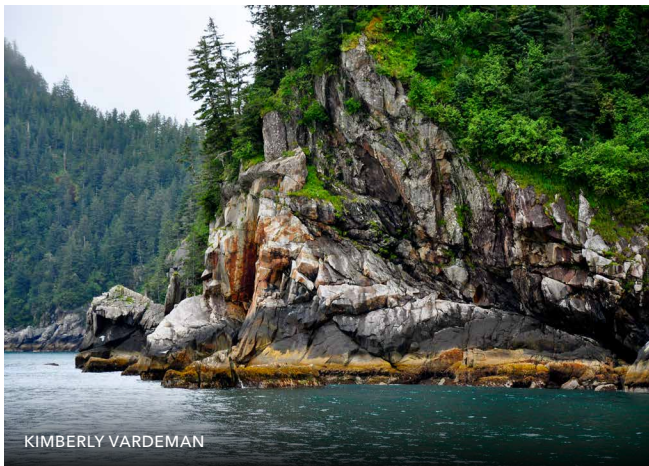
### DAY 4 | SUN | 21 JUL | CORDOVA

After breakfast, take a boat trip to the panoramic Orca Inlet, where you will have the opportunity to see the world's largest population of sea otters and observe their interaction within the pod. Your guide for the day has been involved in sea otter studies for 15 years. Afterward, stop at a remote beach for a short hike to explore tide pools. Next head to Hinchinbrook Island, where you will enjoy your lunch at another beautiful, remote beach. After

lunch, visit a kittiwake colony to observe these nesting sea birds. In the late afternoon, take part in a discussion of the life cycle of salmon and their importance to the economy.

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

**ORCA ADVENTURE LODGE**



## DAY 5 | MON | 22 JUL | CORDOVA

After breakfast you will depart for a full day tour of the Copper River Delta. Keep an eye out for moose, eagles, beaver, and the occasional bear as you travel the historic Copper River Highway. You are transported on the old railroad bed for the Copper River & Northwestern Railroad as you take in the expansive views of marsh and wetland. See the wooded Haystacks jutting from the delta as your guide shows you examples of uplift and subsidence from the 1964 earthquake and how it affected this area. Search for wildlife on your trek "out the Road" to view the Mighty Copper River. We'll explore the dunes of the Copper River and learn about the salmon habitat and commercial fishing seasons. Afterwards visit the Sacred Eyak Village site of Alaganik where you can almost hear the activity around the old trading post, longhouses and Shaman's Cave that used to exist at this spot. Gain insight into medicinal uses from local plants with handouts provided to identify plants. Our highlight this afternoon is a float tour by canoe on the Alaganik Slough where birding and wildlife viewing experiences abound. See areas where the USFS attempted to help restore the Dusky Canada Goose and Tundra Swan populations by anchoring nest islands in the ponds.

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

**ORCA ADVENTURE LODGE**

## DAY 6 | TUE | 23 JUL | SEWARD

After breakfast, kayak the tranquil waters of Orca Inlet, surrounded by snow-capped mountains and home to sea otters and seals. This afternoon transfer to the airport for the flight to Anchorage where you will be met by a new guide & driver. Transfer to Seward on the Kenai Peninsula. Time permitting, enjoy a brief hike on a nearby trail with majestic views.

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

**HARBOR 360 OR SIMILAR**

## DAY 7 | WED | 24 JUL | SEWARD

Today take a 6 hour boat journey into the Kenai National Park to explore the classic Alaskan sights including wildlife, mountain peaks and tidewater glaciers. Keep an eye out for puffins, otters, whales and seals who are thriving in this ecosystem. Lunch is included on board, dinner will be on own this evening.

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH**

**HARBOR 360 OR SIMILAR**

## DAY 8 | THU | 25 JUL | SEWARD

Today visit Exit Glacier, one of the most accessible glaciers in all of Alaska and the only part of Kenai Fjords National Park that is accessible by road. Learn about the geology and biology of beautiful Resurrection Valley and see how Exit Glacier has receded in the last century. This afternoon head out to the Seward Brewing Company to learn about local beermaking with lunch. Later enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH-DINNER**

**HARBOR 360 OR SIMILAR**

## DAY 9 | FRI | 26 JUL | ANCHORAGE



After breakfast, depart for the Alaska Sealife Center, the state's premier public aquarium and only permanent marine mammal rehabilitation facility. Enjoy a private talk with a museum staff member to learn about efforts to rescue, treat, and release stranded animals back into the wild. Travel back to Anchorage stopping for lunch before being dropped off at the airport in time for your flight home.

**BREAKFAST-LUNCH**

## DAY 10 | SAT | 27 JUL | HOME

Arrive Home

## A LETTER FROM YOUR LEADER

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Dear Dickinson alumni,  
parents and friends,

The mountains of the Chugach and Alaska Ranges were the first mountains I ever saw, and—wow!—they did not disappoint. I distinctly remember how magnificent the mountains looked as they became painted purple

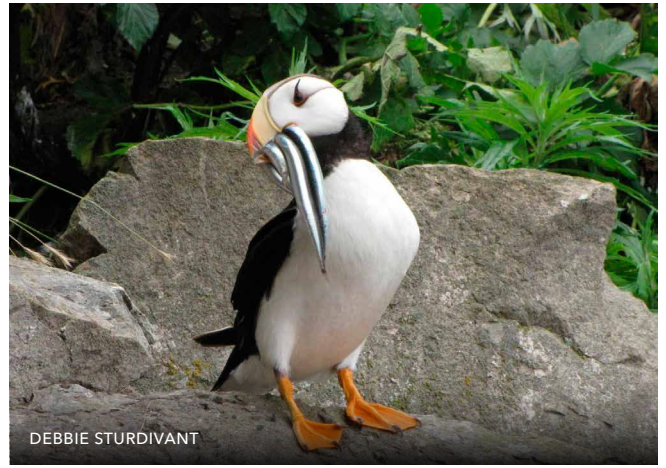
by sunset. That scene inspired so many questions in my 8-year-old brain—questions about our planet Earth that I have never grown tired of asking. I've dedicated my career to unfolding the mysteries of the rocks beneath our feet and better understanding the connections between rocks and life. I am grateful to have found a career that allows me to pursue these questions and share my love of geosciences with Dickinson students.

And now I am so excited to return to Alaska and share this spectacular corner of Earth with you! From ancient mountains to alpine glaciers and pristine coastal ecosystems, you will see firsthand the awesome forces shaping this dramatic landscape. Those on this trip will learn about how tectonic and glacial forces help make our planet habitable—all while viewing incredible forests of hemlock and spruce clinging to sedimentary strata. We will discuss the impacts of climate change on Alaskan ecosystems and consider other impacts of human interaction. You can also expect to spot some of the landscape's most intrepid inhabitants (think: moose, bears, salmon and, my personal favorite, puffins)!

I've been very fortunate to visit Alaska many times—most recently in 2019 with my young daughter, who had the same wide-eyed first looks at mountains and glaciers that I remember experiencing. That trip was also a sobering reminder of how rapidly these landscapes are changing. Her view of Exit Glacier was very different from my childhood memory. Even in just five years, I expect this trip will also offer a new and unique view of Exit.

Consider joining us on this spectacular tour of Prince William Sound and the Kenai Peninsula. Whether you come for the wonder of a first encounter or to foster new appreciation for the subarctic landscape, Alaska has something to offer everyone.

Happy adventuring!  
Jorden Hayes  
Assistant Professor of Geosciences



## PRICING DETAILS

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**From \$6,999**

*Price includes:*

- Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
- Private vehicle transportation and driver
- Full time guide for duration of the program
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- All tips and gratuities
- Carbon offset
- Internal flights relevant to itinerary
- Accommodations with private bathrooms
- Airport transfer provided on group basis (not individual flight basis)

*Price does not include:* Round-trip airfare to and from destination, trip cancellation insurance, alcoholic drinks purchased on own, items of a personal nature, travel insurance

## THE FINE PRINT

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Cost is based on a minimum of 10 participants in double occupancy. A \$500 per person deposit and enrollment form is due to hold your space on this trip. This deposit is refundable 120 days prior to departure excluding a \$300 cancellation fee. Cancellations after this date are non refundable. Holbrook Travel strongly recommends the purchase of travel protection for medical emergencies while traveling and to protect your investment. Please note the purchase of Cancel for Any Reason Coverage or to exclude pre-existing conditions with Trip Cancellation coverage may require policy purchase within 10-14 days of your initial deposit, depending upon the provider. Single room supplement \$795 Final payment due date: April 14, 2024



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO ENROLL:**

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