

Destination Guide & StevieTips

Alaska, United States

Overview

Introduction

The Aleut people called it *Alyeska*, the great land. Alaska is one of the world's special places, full of exotic wildlife, magnificent mountains, glacier-carved valleys and steep, rocky coastlines.

Alaska is bigger than life, its sheer mass hard to comprehend. The distance from Barrow, on the northern coast, to Ketchikan, at the southern edge, is more than 1,350 mi/2,174 km—about the same as New York City to Miami. Alaska has six distinct climatic regions, the tallest mountains, the biggest glaciers, the most plentiful fishing and the wildest nature preserves on the North American continent.

Visitors go to Alaska for the fishing, hiking, hunting or camping—Denali National Park is a big attraction. Some go for the northern lights, or to whale-watch while cruising the Inside Passage. Some even go to Alaska for the Iditarod dogsled race.

Even as Alaska vacations become more accessible, distance creates costs. Per-day expenses in remote parts of the state are comparable with those in major urban centers. The abundance of spectacular scenery and wildlife, however, should more than compensate.



Geography

Alaska borders the northwest edge of Canada and is actually closer to Russia (just 39 mi/62 km by air across the Bering Strait) than it is to the rest of the U.S. The landscape is dramatic and, because it covers such a huge territory, quite varied. In the south is temperate rain forest (Tongass), and in the north is Arctic desert.

The state is traversed by 14 major mountain ranges, encompassing 17 of the highest peaks in the U.S., including North America's highest mountain, Mount Denali, as well as most of the country's active volcanoes. It has more coastline than all of the other states combined. The geography ranges from endless miles/kilometers of tundra to sheer mountain walls, from the densely forested temperate coasts of the Inside Passage to the permafrost of the treeless Arctic Circle.

History

The first settlers in Alaska arrived at least 20,000 years ago, when hunters from Asia followed large game over the Bering Strait land bridge into North America. By the time the first Europeans arrived in the mid-1700s, they found several diverse cultures living in Alaska: Whale- and seal-hunting Inupiat and Yupik peoples inhabited the treeless tundra along the Arctic Ocean, Chukchi and Bering sea coasts, and nomadic Athabaskan caribou hunters roamed the forested interior along the Yukon River. Alaska's panhandle was home to members of the Tlingit, Tsimshian and Haida groups, who lived in a lush coastal environment.

Even though Russian explorers had seen the Alaskan coast as early as 1741, Europeans didn't venture into the territory's immense interior until well into the 1800s. Even after the U.S. purchased the area in 1867 for cents an acre/hectare, the region remained largely unexplored.

As was often the case elsewhere in the opening of the American frontier, it took the discovery of gold in Juneau in 1880 to get folks headed for Alaska. During the famous Klondike Gold Rush of 1898-99, thousands of rowdy, ambitious and gutsy prospectors and speculators flooded into Dawson, Skagway, Valdez and other towns.

Alaska was made a U.S. territory in 1912, but statehood wasn't granted until 1959. Then the discovery of oil at Prudhoe Bay in 1968 sparked a new rush to Alaska. The construction of the Alaska Pipeline from the Beaufort Sea to the Gulf of Alaska in the 1970s brought new wealth, new jobs and new environmental concerns.

Even now, the debate continues as to how much of Alaska's pristine wilderness should be developed. Most recently, the focus has been on oil development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, declining populations of marine mammals in the Bering Sea, and the impact from cruise-ship travel and other tourist activity, especially in southeastern Alaska.

Snapshot

Alaska's main attractions include spectacular scenery, wildlife viewing, camping, skiing, the northern lights, volcanoes, Inside Passage cruises, hiking, riverboat rides, fishing, canoeing, river and sea kayaking, friendly people, Alaska Native and Russian cultures, totem poles, glaciers and dogsled rides.

Most people will like Alaska, but the state has special appeal for nature lovers and the adventurous. Those on a strict budget may opt to tour the coasts via Alaska's Marine Highway ferries rather than by cruise ships. Motor homes, recreational vehicles and camper vans are available to rent for those who want to explore the state's interior highways or drive the Alaska Highway through Canada.

Potpourri

Alaska is from an Aleut word meaning "great country" or "what the sea breaks against."

The state of Alaska has 33,904 mi/54,585 km of coastline, more than the rest of the U.S. combined.

All Alaskans (who apply and qualify for it) receive an annual Permanent Fund Dividend check that averages around US\$1,100 per person (including children). The dividend is funded by North Slope oil taxes and profits from investments.

In the unique history of Alaska, the male-to-female ratio across the state has often been quite imbalanced. As a result, a saying began among Alaskan women that in Alaska "the odds are good, but the goods are odd." This joke has failed to wither with time or the balancing of the odds.

Juneau is the only U.S. state capital that cannot be reached by highway. It is located 573 mi/916 km by air from Anchorage, the state's largest city and populated area. With as many roads as a New England state but a landmass triple the size of Texas (only 12 major highways are open year-round), Alaska is a place where flight is commonplace and pilots are many.

Geologically, Alaska is an amazingly active location. Small earthquakes are common in many parts of Alaska, and midsized ones frequently shake the thinly populated Aleutian Islands. The devastating 1964 Good Friday Earthquake registered 9.2 on the Richter scale, making it the most powerful temblor ever recorded in North America. In addition, 80% of the active volcanoes in the U.S. are in Alaska, and major eruptions in the Aleutian Islands occur almost every year.

Dog mushing is the official state sport of Alaska.

Former Secretary of State William H. Seward bought Alaska from Russia for US\$7.2 million in 1867. At approximately US\$0.02 per acre/half-hectare, it was a bargain that some called Seward's Folly.

Anchorage, Alaska

Overview

Introduction

Anchorage, Alaska, is big-city living. It is home to more than a quarter-million people—nearly half the state's population. The city has shopping malls, national discount stores, movie theaters, fast-food restaurants, fine dining, high-rise hotels and a busy international airport. That makes Anchorage an anomaly in a state where the featured attraction is wilderness—specifically Denali National Park, the Kenai Peninsula and Katmai National Park. Alaska's residents joke that visitors can't really claim to have seen the state until they leave Anchorage.

But, as with most places in Alaska, the wilderness is never far away. The snowcapped Chugach Mountains rise just behind the city, and some of the state's premier natural attractions are within a day's travel. If you visit in summer, you'll have extra time to see the sights—there are 17-21 hours of daylight per day then.



Highlights

Sights—Browsing at the Anchorage Market and Festival; views from the tram to the top of Mount Alyeska in Girdwood and from the Glen Alps Trailhead within Chugach State Park; beluga whales and Dall sheep along Turnagain Arm; watching floatplanes land and take off at Lake Hood; fishing for salmon in Ship Creek in the heart of downtown.

Museums—The Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center, which houses art galleries, the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center, the Imaginarium Discovery Center and the Thomas Planetarium; the vast collection of Alaska Native exhibits and arts demonstrations at the Alaska Native Heritage Center; Alaska's aviation legacy at the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum; moose and whale skeletons at the Alaska Museum of Science and Nature.

Memorable Meals—The Glacier Brewhouse for herb-encrusted halibut or Alaskan king crab legs; freshly caught Alaska wild salmon or Dungeness crab at Simon & Seafort's; pizza at Moose's Tooth Pub and Pizzeria; the filet mignon at Club Paris; the seafood fusilli or lamb osso buco at Orso; macadamia-nut halibut at Marx Brothers' Cafe; blueberry-patch truffle at Modern Dwellers Chocolate Lounge.

Late Night—A concert at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts; a nightcap at the Crow's Nest; live music at McGinley's Irish Pub; martinis at Bernie's Bungalow Lounge; partying in the maze of bars at Chilkoot Charlie's.

Walks—Strolling the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail in the almost-midnight sun of midsummer; hiking Flattop Mountain or nature trails in Chugach State Park; the free 45-minute Alaska Public Lands Information Center walking tour in downtown Anchorage; searching for moose, beavers and birds at Kincaid Park or Potter Marsh; biking through the forests and along the salmon stream of the Chester Creek Trail.

Denali National Park, Alaska

Overview

Introduction

For many people, the vast Denali National Park, covering 9,375 sq mi/24,280 sq km between Anchorage and Fairbanks, is the highlight of a trip to Alaska. It's a truly spectacular area, featuring the majestic 20,310-ft/6,190-m Mount McKinley (many Alaskans prefer the Tanaina name, Denali), the tallest mountain in North America. More than 155 species of birds and 37 species of mammals, including Dall sheep, caribou, grizzly bears, moose and wolves, inhabit the park. The landscape is at its most verdant during July and August. There are beautiful fall colors (and fewer travelers) in early September.

The park is best seen as a three-night stop, especially if you are taking the train between Fairbanks and Anchorage. Mid-May to mid-September, the park offers interpretive talks and walks with guides, and all-day bus tours take visitors deep into the park. Be aware that the park road is restricted to tour- and shuttle-bus traffic for most of its 90-mi/145-km length. Book bus tours in advance: They fill up fast. Other park activities and facilities include fishing, river rafting, horseback riding and dogsledding demonstrations. Backcountry permits are available.

Lodging in the park is restricted to a few privately-owned wilderness lodges and campsites. There are six National Park Service run campsites in the park. Other lodging is available just outside the park's entrance, where you will also find restaurants and private parks for recreational vehicles.



Seattle, Washington

Overview

Introduction

The combination of water, hills and lush greenery in a mountain setting on the shores of Puget Sound make Seattle, Washington, one of the most beautiful urban areas in the U.S. With its efficient bus system and compact downtown district, Seattle is also user-friendly.

Seattleites have plenty to brag about: There's the Space Needle and Pike Place Market, plus the Mariners, Seahawks and Sounders FC sports teams. There are fine restaurants, good museums and a vigorous arts scene.

Even Seattle's infamous rainy winter weather has a good side. All that rain helps make Seattle the evergreen "Emerald City" and produces wonderful flowers. And Seattle is where Starbucks got its start, in 1971, at Pike Place Market.



Highlights

Sights—The spectacular variety of Pike Place Market; the view from the Space Needle; the view of Puget Sound from the decks of Washington State Ferries; the Volkswagen-crushing troll and other public art in Fremont; the historic buildings and galleries of Pioneer Square Historic District; the city skyline from Gas Works Park; the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks in Ballard.

Museums—The interactive music exhibits at the Experience Music Project and the adjoining Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame; Native American and African art at the Seattle Art Museum; the stunning beauty of the Olympic Sculpture Park on the waterfront; the impressive holdings of the Seattle Asian Art Museum; cutting-edge contemporary art at the University of Washington's Henry Gallery; aviation and aerospace artifacts at the Museum of Flight; gorgeous glassworks at Chihuly Garden and Glass.

Memorable Meals—The fresh seafood and beautiful views at Anthony's Pier 66 and Chinook's at Salmon Bay; creative Pacific Northwest dishes at the legendary Dahlia Lounge; unique Italian-American entrees and cabaret-style entertainment at The Pink Door; the inspired dishes and table-side service at El Gaucho; espresso everywhere.

Late Night—Dessert at Dilettante Mocha Cafe; jazz at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley; the best bands in town at Tractor Tavern, Neumos or The Showbox; salsa and swing dancing at Century Ballroom; viewing city lights from Salty's on Alki Beach; hanging out in Belltown; bar-hopping on Capitol Hill; late-night breakfast at 13 Coins Restaurant.

Walks—Along Elliott Bay and through the Olympic Sculpture Park; the Washington Park Arboretum and its Japanese Garden; Volunteer Park Arboretum on Capitol Hill; Alki Beach Park for a California-esque stroll; walking, biking or skating through the city on the Burke-Gilman Trail.

Geography

Seattle borders Puget Sound, the salty inland waterway that flows through the Strait of Juan de Fuca into the Pacific Ocean. Several freshwater lakes also shape the city. Lake Union is home to the houseboat community spotlighted in the movie *Sleepless in Seattle*, and more recently has been home to massive redevelopment projects, including the site of Amazon's headquarters. Gigantic Lake Washington, spanned by two bridges, separates Seattle from Bellevue, Redmond (home to Microsoft), Kirkland and other suburban cities on the Eastside.

Seattle's waterfront hugs the curve of Elliott Bay. Pioneer Square, the oldest part of the city, is to the south, just up from the Alaskan Way waterfront, and comprises the southwest corner of downtown Seattle. Two massive sports stadiums stand just south of the neighborhood: CenturyLink Field houses the Seahawks football team and the Sounders FC soccer team; Safeco Field is home to the Seattle Mariners baseball team. Directly southeast of Pioneer Square lies the multiethnic International District, filled with Asian grocery stores and gift shops.

Pike Place Market enjoys a central location in downtown Seattle above the Seattle Aquarium and waterfront. North of the Market is trendy Belltown. Seattle Center lies even farther north, about a mile/kilometer from the downtown core, at the foot of elegant Queen Anne Hill. Hip Capitol Hill rises to the east, on the other side of Interstate 5. North of the Ship Canal and Lake Union, the funky neighborhoods of Ballard, Fremont, Wallingford and the University District run west to east.

History

Seattle got its start in 1851, when a small group of courageous pioneers dropped anchor at windy, inhospitable Alki Point in what's now West Seattle. Soon the settlers moved to a better location across the water on Elliott Bay. They built a town in present-day Pioneer Square and called it Seattle after a friendly Native American, Chief Sealth of the Duwamish tribe.

The first business, a lumber mill at the foot of Yesler Avenue, fed the demand for timber created by the California gold rush. The town survived the Great Seattle Fire of 1889, which nearly gutted the wooden business district. Optimistic residents built over the ashes, creating the handsome redbrick structures that still grace Pioneer Square.

Seattle boomed in the late 1890s, when prospectors struck gold in the Alaska-Yukon fields. The city became a major transit point for fortune hunters heading north. Merchants grew rich outfitting the gold rushers, and shipbuilders raced to create boats for the Seattle-Alaska route.

The city became an important shipping and industrial center in the early 20th century. World War II strengthened the logging industry and sparked shipbuilding, aviation and other war-related activities. The Boeing Corporation fueled the city's economy in the postwar decades. Seattle hosted the 1962 World's Fair on what is now Seattle Center, home of the Space Needle.

In 1971, the world's first Starbucks opened in Pike Place Market, and Seattle soon became the espresso capital of the country. The city became a major player in the tech industry when Microsoft, Amazon.com and other companies set up shop in the 1980s and 1990s. Although Boeing, once a major employer, has moved its headquarters to Chicago, the Seattle metropolitan area remains home base for such big names as Nordstrom, Costco and REI. Seattle is also a major port for foreign trade.

Potpourri

The ubiquitous Starbucks moniker arose from an old mining camp on Mount Rainier called Starbo. This name reminded an original Starbucks partner of a character named "Starbucks" in one of his favorite books, *Moby Dick*.

The term "Skid Row" originated in Seattle's Pioneer Square. Today, it's known as Yesler Way.

Ballard, the old Scandinavian fishing district, was once an independent city. A water shortage—exacerbated by a suspicious dead horse in the reservoir—forced the community to join Seattle in 1907. Embittered locals hung the flag at half-mast and draped City Hall in black crepe.

The Seattle Police Department was the first in the U.S. to put police on bicycles.

Harbor Island, which is a part of the Port of Seattle, is the nation's largest man-made island.

The Space Needle sways approximately 1 in/2.5 cm for every 10 mph/16 kph of wind, but 30-ft/9-m bolts keep it firmly anchored at the base of Queen Anne Hill. The tower's original name was Space Cage. The nation's first revolving restaurant opened in the top dome of the Space Needle; still open for business today, it's known as SkyCity.

The Seattle Public Library system has the highest per-capita percentage of library-card holders in the U.S.

Standing nearly 3 mi/5 km tall, Mount Rainier is the highest point in Washington. One of the world's most massive volcanoes, it first erupted about a half-million years ago. If it erupts again, it will cause catastrophic damage to the Seattle region.

Keep your eyes peeled for familiar faces when dining or grabbing coffee around town: Bill Gates, Paul Allen, Dave Matthews, Eddie Vedder and authors Neal Stephenson, Terry Brooks, Jonathan Raban, Timothy Egan and Dan Savage call the Emerald City home. Bruce Lee and Jimi Hendrix were also Seattleites.

Destination Guide Especially Prepared for: Golden Princess Alaska Group



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Travel Guard staff provides Travel Medical Assistance, Worldwide Travel Assistance and LiveTravel® Emergency Assistance. For non-insurance help, call Stevie Jay 217-840-9913 or Bill Owen at 217-619-0202. For Insurance Description of Coverage see: steviejaytravel.com/alaska.

StevieTips

Important Note

We have provided lots of informatio. he key parts to read before departing are:

1. **StevieTips**—with useful passport, packing, and local travel tips. **Desintation Guide**—we suggest you at least skim through its 8 pages.
2. **Travel Summary**—It is good idea to leave a copy or scan its page 2 for those at home. This includes the **Tour Membership List** (back page) and detailed **Itinerary**.
3. Also included in your Documents Package is: a **Bag Tag** for your checked bag, and **E-Ticket**. On the back of United E-Ticket is the Princess Boarding Pass.

Passport, in hand? Make sure you get your Passport in hand right away. We have seen people think they know where it is and then go there on the morning of travel and cannot find it. Make sure it is good through June 29, 2019.

Replacing a lost passport in a hurry can be quite expensive. There are no other visas or other tourist cards required for this tour itinerary. Keep your passport with you and only surrender it if a hotel or government official requires you to. *Make a copy of your passport* and see if you can use that if anyone else wants to see it.

Do you wear a watch? If you count on your cell phone for the time, it may not work overseas if you have no data plan. We recommend that you get an inexpensive watch to wear and be on time. And get a small travel alarm clock. Being a few minutes is multiplied by those who must wait for you. We will all appreciate getting to leave on time.

Last Minute News? If there are any news that would affect our tour, please go to steviejaytravel.com/news-terms.

Accident, illness, delay or interruptions? If you have issues, that you need help with or a claim to make, if you bought the Deluxe Group Plan from AIG Travel Guard, they have staff standing by to help, call toll free 1-866-401-8955 within the U.S. (or internationally by calling collect to this US phone +1-715-295-9365) and reference **Policy number: 3424004**.

Difficulties en route? If you have difficulties while on tour, don't suffer in silence—let us know. We want to do what we can to help. Ask your tour manager or tour host.

Weather will likely be mild with occasional extremes of temperatures. Rather than heavy clothing, we recommend that you *wear layers*. You might start the day with a light rain jacket, sweater and shirt then peel layers as the day warms up. *WeatherBase.com* gives the following average from low to high of 55-65° with 8" days of rain in June. After the heat of Illinois' typical June, Alaska's weather may feel quite "fresh". So wearing layers of clothing are a good idea—no parkas are needed! When it's a sunny day (20.5 hours long), you may not need many layers then.

A special comment about the glacier cruising days. It can be chilly then especially if cloudy but most people are fine with all their layers and some bring gloves and a hat for those.



Maximum Checked Bag Size: 62" total dimensions of Length + Width + Height and weight 50 pounds. Here's the link for United www.united.com/ual/en/us/fly/travel/baggage.html

Your baggage handling fees and tips are covered for one checked bag per person. Mary Beth will pay United for the \$30 per-flight fee for the first checked bag.

If you want to take a *second* checked bag, United's fee for that bag is \$40 per-flight, payable on check-in. And likewise, we must collect \$54 for all the coach drivers, skycaps, porters and stevedores that we tip on your behalf.

Maximum Carry-on Bags Size Maximum: Height 21.5", Width 15.5" & Length 9.5" and 22 pounds. You can *also* bring one small personal item, e.g. small handbag, laptop, duty free or baby changing bag with a maximum size Height 10", Width: 13" & Length 8".

Note that maximum-sized carry-on bags might have to placed in the coach's luggage compartment. So a

smaller carry-on bag with wheels *plus* a small to medium sized back pack could be a better combination.

What not to pack in your checked bag: passport, medications or valuable items. If you have medications, bring several days extra in case you are delayed on the return. *Carry these items with you.*

What to Pack We already suggested layers, here are more suggestions:

Wrinkle free, drip-dry and comfortable. Getting laundry done on tour is usually impractical (but see the next column for laundry on board the ship).

No dressy clothes are required for the *tour* portion; casual clothes are best. But for the *cruise* portion there are two formal nights and the rest are considered smart casual.

Following are Princess' Clothing Recommendations

You should dress for a cruise with Princess the same way you would for any stylish land-based resort.

Casual sportswear, including shorts, lightweight pants and jogging suits, is the order of the day both at sea and ashore in hotter climates.

We recommend you bring a sweater, a jacket or an all-weather coat for cool evenings, and for shore excursions, depending on your destination. Due to unpredictable weather, don't forget a hat or visor and a collapsible umbrella. You'll also want low-heeled, rubber-soled shoes for strolling on deck, as well as comfortable walking shoes or sandals to wear.

Princess makes it easy to know what to pack and what to wear when you're dining on board our spectacular ships. There are two designations for dress codes: Smart Casual and Formal.

Smart Casual Guest attire should be in keeping with what they would wear to a nice restaurant at home.

- Skirts/dresses, slacks, blouses and sweaters for women
- Pants and open-neck shirts for men

Inappropriate dinner wear, such as pool or beach attire, shorts, ball caps and casual jeans (with fraying and/or holes) are not permitted in the dining rooms. Shoes must be worn.

Formal When formal nights are held, please observe the dress code in the Traditional Dining and Anytime Dining venues for the enjoyment of all our guests.

- Evening gown, cocktail dress, or elegant pant suit for women
- Tuxedo, dark suit or dinner jacket and slacks for men

Laundry Services Take advantage of our onboard laundry and professional cleaning service for a nominal fee. All laundry is returned within 48 hours or on the same day with our express service. We also offer self-service coin- or token-operated laundrettes.

Full suite guests and Elite Captain's Circle members also enjoy complimentary laundry and professional cleaning service, except for Presto (same day) service, which carries a charge.

For your convenience, Princess vessels have self-service laundrettes where washers, dryers and laundry products are available for a nominal charge. Please note that irons/ironing boards are available in the self-service laundry rooms. Ironing and using personal clothes steamers are not permitted in any stateroom. Although rare, on certain itineraries, environmental regulations relating to the consumption of water may impact the operating hours of the laundrettes. These restrictions, when applicable, will be posted in the Princess Patter, or Princess@Sea (where applicable).

Cashless Cruising One of the best things about cruising with Princess is the convenience of being able to sign for all your expenses and have them charged to your stateroom. When you check-in for your cruise, you'll receive a Cruise Card (a personal identification card). The Cruise Card is used to access your personal shipboard account to which all purchases are charged.

An itemized statement will be delivered to your stateroom prior to disembarkation. By providing your credit card in advance, you are automatically registered for Express Check-Out. There is no need to visit the Guest Services/ Purser's Desk to settle your account.



TSA's 3-1-1 rule requires all carry-on liquids be in containers no larger than 3.4 ounces (100 milliliters) and all of them placed in a *quart-sized zip-lock bag*, one zip bag per passenger. More or larger liquid containers can go in a *checked bag* without limitation. Here is the web address for this: www.tsa.gov/videos/travel-tips-3-1-1-liquids-rule.

Lost Luggage If luggage is lost or damaged, file a claim *immediately* with the airline. Show them the page of hotels so they know how to get the bag to you. If not found within 24 hours (depending on policy's terms) of arrival, travel insurance will reimburse for certain purchased items under its Baggage Delay coverage.

Travel Money ATM & Credit Cards are a great way to pay for most larger expenses. Visa and Master Card are the mostly commonly accepted.

To avoid having your card(s) shut down on first use, call your card (some allow you to do this on line) telling them where and when you are going, and returning. Otherwise charges may appear to be fraudulent because the charge originates from a distant state. Getting the card working again may require calls, time and trouble. If you have two cards, carry both to have a back-up. A debit card is also a great source of funds when you have ATMs available.

Travelers Cheques are of limited value any more. Most businesses do not take them and they can be difficult to get cashed.

Hotels may request a credit card imprint or your passport on check in to set up an account for incidental charges. The hotel staff makes room assignments; location, view and size may vary accordingly.

Smoking Some hotels or certain rooms are non-smoking, so the hotel may charge a penalty if they find that you smoked in a room. Inspect your hotel room before checking out. Hotels may not forward forgotten items, or may charge extra to do so.

Note: no smoking is allowed on the motor coach. Rest stops will be made regularly when you can smoke while touring.

Safety & Security notes: check for emergency exits. Put your room key on the bedside table while you are in the room. Don't leave valuables in your room when you go out. Keep your room locked. Some European hotel doors do not lock automatically on leaving the room, try the door. You may have to lock the door manually with the key. Tap water should be safe, most drink bottled water.



Remember the time difference! Alaska is 3 hours behind of the Central US time zone. If calling home, be careful about when you call! And if your family or friends might call, tell them about the time difference. If you call at 9 P.M., it will be midnight at home.

Tipping We cover tips for included features. Here are recommendations for others who serve you:

- Optional tours' guides \$2-10 each. The range is large because it's partly related to how long you are with the guide and how many people are on tour with you.
- Bar and Spa staff aboard ship will have a 15% tip added automatically to the bill.
- Tipping is *not* expected for the tour hosts from Central Illinois

Lost? Carry your hotel address when leaving the premises—found on page 2 of the Travel Summary booklet. You can show it to a taxi driver to get you back. Or call Mary Beth for help at 217-840-8724.

Have fun! According to Mark Twain, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

Stevie Jay
TRAVEL

Want more information? Rather than bury you in paper, we have uploaded the following electronic documents which you can skim through. You can download and read them on a computer, smart phone or tablet like an iPad : steviejaytravel.com/alaska.

- Cruise Answer Book
- Travel Insurance Description of Coverage
- Embarkation Port Info
- Security Guide
- Passage Contract