

14 Day Great Alaskan Explorer - MS Maasdam Shore Excursions

Please note, this list may not include all shore excursions offered on board. You will be able to book shore excursions on board, or when you receive your cruise personaliser logins approximately 120 days prior to departure.

KETCHIKAN

TOTEM BIGHT STATE PARK & KETCHIKAN HIGHLIGHTS - From \$44 USD

Begin your journey with a scenic drive along the Tongass Narrows to Totem Bight State Park, home to one of the world's largest stands of totems.

Stroll the Totem Bight trail under a canopy of majestic hemlock and cedar trees. At the end of the trail, you will find the totems. Through lively stories you will learn about the culture and lifestyles practiced by the Northwest Coastal Natives.

Step inside an authentic Native clan house. After a brief stop at the quaint Alaska Totem Trading Store, an entertaining city tour shows you the industries that have made Ketchikan the Salmon Capital of the World. Returning to the pier, catch a glimpse of Ketchikan's colorful past as you drive past the Creek Street historic red light district.

SAXMAN NATIVE VILLAGE, DANCE PERFORMANCE & TOTEM PARK - From \$59 USD

Don't be fooled by cheap imitations -- this Saxman tour provides exclusive access to the Beaver Clan House, a working Native carving center, and a chance to view the traditional Native dancers first hand. You can't buy this tour elsewhere, so if you're going to Saxman Native Village make sure you are part of this genuine, up-close look at the rich living culture of Southeast Alaska's Native Americans.

The Tlingits welcome you in the traditional style that defines the culture of Southeast Alaska. A short video program introduces you to the culture and history of Saxman. You will then enter the Beaver Clan House where you are welcomed by song and dance. Visitors are encouraged to participate in the final dance.

At the Saxman Totem Park, discover one of the largest gatherings of totems in the world. Your guide will help unravel the mysteries of these towering, majestic poles. At the Village Carving Center, skilled craftsmen pass on their skill to eager apprentices. Fine Alaska Native art and small mementos are for sale at the Village Store.

Notes: Suitable for guests using a wheelchair with a companion to assist. Add the Great Alaskan Lumberjack Show for a great combination.

MISTY FJORDS NATIONAL MONUMENT BY SEAPLANE - From \$309 USD

Discover magnificent Misty Fjords National Monument with a flight aboard an authentic Alaska seaplane -- a de Havilland Beaver or Otter. These two workhorses of the skies are the world's most famous bush planes and offer you a chance to view some of the most spectacular scenery in Alaska from the comfort of a window seat.

Enjoy your pilot's narration with individual headsets on this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Follow your flight route on the provided detailed map and guide. A highlight of your tour will be an exhilarating water landing, where you can step out onto the plane's pontoon with your pilot to enjoy the fresh fjord air, eagle calls, and breathtaking scenery.

KETCHIKAN SALMON FISHING - From \$199 USD

Enjoy a 25- to 30-minute guided bus tour along the Tongass Narrows on your way to the marina. From there you will board a modern fishing boat, and head to the nearby salmon fishing grounds. Keep an eye out for eagles, whales, seals, sea lions or other wildlife. With only 4-6 guests per boat, you're off for a fine 3½- to 4-hour fishing adventure in the sheltered waters of Clover Passage.

THE GREAT ALASKAN LUMBERJACK SHOW & CRAB FEAST - From \$139 USD

Taste and experience what makes Alaska such an awesome place to visit with this Alaska-style crab-crackin' and lumberjackin' day out.

It's a short walk from the ship to the Lumberjack Sports Arena where Ketchikan celebrates its annual logging heritage Timber Carnival. Today it's the venue for the one-hour Great Alaskan Lumberjack Show extravaganza, where professionals battle it out in chopping, sawing, tree-climbing, axe-throwing, history-telling and more. Round up your rowdy friends and join in the Alaskan 'axe-tion' in this amazing competition of skill and strength. Alaska's frontier lumberjacks battle British Columbia's premier woodsmen in a no-holds-barred competition for the 'Bull of the Woods' title. These world-champion athletes wear spiked boots and hard hats, competing in 12 athletic events with seven-pound axes, six-foot razor sharp saws, tree climbing gaffs, and souped-up chainsaws. Your cheers will turn to roars of excitement as axes fly through the air, and men free-fall from tall trees and run atop spinning logs floating in the water. Meet the surviving lumberjacks after the show for photos! Next up, a narrated coach drive takes you through Ketchikan, past some of the iconic landmarks and popular attractions of this charming waterfront town.

Come hungry for the all-you-can-eat crab feast at the rustic-yet-elegant George Inlet Lodge. This magnificent lodge that was once an old cannery and was moved across the ocean to its current location. Dine on fresh Dungeness crab, baby red potatoes, delicious oriental salad and a fabulous cheesecake with blueberry toppings for dessert.

TATOOSH ISLANDS SEA KAYAKING - From \$159 USD

Join this memorable trip into the Tongass Rainforest to the Tatoosh Islands, to paddle with Ketchikan's most experienced local sea kayaking company among magnificent scenery and wildlife sighting opportunities. Take a 25-minute van ride; then, a fast and fun boat ride brings you to a world of ancient cedars, spruce and western hemlock trees.

At the remote and protected Tatoosh Islands, your guides greet you and present a quick but thorough orientation. Get into your double kayak and set off, beginning with some practice strokes as you approach the sheltered islands. Surrender to the peacefulness of the setting as you glide along the wild rocky shoreline. Bald eagles peer down from overhead while seals often pop up to take a peek. The intertidal zone includes mink, river otter, orange and purple starfish, red and white jellyfish, mussels and seaweeds. Further out in the floating bull kelp, watch for harbor seals, who watch back with a shy and curious disposition. Keep an eye out for humpback whales, sea lions and orca. Black bears and wolves have been sighted here as well.

RAINFOREST SANCTUARY WALK, TOTEMS & EAGLES - From \$99 USD

This eco-exploration includes a guided nature hike, bald eagles, a Native totem carver and a historic sawmill at an exclusive reserve located in the forested mountains at rustic Herring Cove. A pristine natural environment, it is home to bald eagles, black bear, seals and a variety of birds and other species attracted by the major salmon runs in the abundant marine estuary.

BACKCOUNTRY ZODIAC EXPEDITION - From \$199 USD

Skipper a custom-built motorized inflatable along the remarkable coastlines of Revillagigado Island and Gravina Island -- proposed home to the now-infamous and politically-charged 'Bridge to Nowhere'.

Listen to a short briefing; then, gear up with top-of-the-line rainwear, hat, gloves, socks, boots and safety glasses. Keep your camera handy, as this seafaring adventure offers photo opportunities from the moment you set out.

You're in charge of your four-passenger boat and will steer yourself into the beauty of Alaska far away from the crowds. Follow your guide to the harbor in front of Saxman Native Village for a chat about the totem poles and Tlingit culture.

MISTY FJORDS CRUISE & FLOATPLANE ADVENTURE - From \$389 USD

This unique tour of the Misty Fjords National Monument combines sea and air for a complete Alaskan experience. Your memorable 3¾-hour journey starts when you board a luxury catamaran and speed off into the heart of the Monument -- one of nature's most majestic creations. Marvel as you glide past towering cliffs and astonishing 1,000-foot waterfalls that plunge dramatically into the fjord's emerald waters. The Misty Fjords are also known as the Yosemite of the North, thanks to its similar geology. The glacial valleys are around 50 to 70 million years old and have been sculpted by rivers of ice that have driven deep U-shaped troughs throughout the landscape.

Along the way, your guide will point out an active eagle's nest, and Punchbowl Cove, home to columnar basalt formations and the colorful Mossy Wall Bird Rookery. You will discover New Eddystone Rock, a volcanic plug rising 237 feet from the water, illustrating the dramatic geologic forces that shaped this area six million years ago.

During this superb trip you will be offered an assortment of snacks and beverages, while a naturalist provides in-depth commentary on the area's natural history. Stay ever-vigilant as

you may see bears, mountain goats, timber wolves, seals, sea lions and killer whales from the comfort of the cabin, or feel the mist on your face on the outside deck.

Once you have arrived at the far reaches of a secluded cove, you will then transfer to an authentic Alaskan floatplane. Only from the air can you truly appreciate the magnitude of this 2.3-million-acre national treasure, so prepare to delight in the sensation of soaring for 25 wonderful minutes over pristine wilderness, enjoying unspoiled forest and lakes. Returning to Ketchikan, your unique aerial view will allow you to enjoy the stunning panoramic views of the city and your ship, before your expert pilot makes a water landing.

HUNTING FOR HALIBUT - From \$369 USD

This is the experience many anglers dream of when planning an Alaskan vacation, fishing for the largest flatfish in the world, the Pacific Halibut. Imagine catching your first wild halibut with your friends or family and the bragging rights that will come with sharing your experience back home. Unlike many other Alaska destinations, Ketchikan fishing is in protected waters a short ride from downtown Ketchikan. No matter your skill level, you'll experience halibut fishing like a local, with a halibut rod and Penn reel in your own two hands, working the sandy flats, drifting with the current, jigging in waters as deep as 300 feet.

Spend the day with an experienced Alaskan fishing guide, in pursuit of the elusive halibut, learning the secrets of fishing circle hooks, working the tides and battling your catch. Fully outfitted and accompanied by an experienced guide, your only job will be to catch the fish -- a job that requires a little patience, a steady jigging arm, and perseverance at the reel.

HAINES (SKAGWAY)

NATURE & WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE - From \$149 USD

Haines is known for its wildlife and stunning natural surroundings. This small group tour is for those that have a "smart phone" and want to learn how to take better pictures as well as for serious photographers. The professional photography guide selects the best locations to find the most dramatic light and wildlife activity. Composition tips, camera settings and how to take advantage of available light are discussed, along with information about how to predict wildlife behavior. The tour departure times, early in the morning or later in the afternoon, are timed to maximum wildlife viewing and low-angle light for getting the best photographs. Bald eagles are common and, depending on the time of year, brown bear can be seen feeding on salmon along the Chilkoot River. The small group nature of the tour allows the guide to spend time with each guest so that they get the most of this unique photo experience.

GLACIER POINT WILDERNESS SAFARI - From \$269 USD

This outstanding wilderness expedition takes you through fjords, rain forests, colorful wildflowers and towering mountain scenery to the spectacular Davidson Glacier. Your adventure begins with a 40-minute journey through North America's deepest fjord aboard a high-speed 26-passenger expedition boat. Watch for whales, seals, sea lions, and cascading waterfalls along the way to a remote beach.

At Glacier Point -- one of the most beautiful places in Alaska -- take a short, adventurous drive along the forested glacial moraines. After a quarter-mile walk, the forest suddenly opens to a breathtaking view of Davidson Glacier. Crystal-blue ice tumbles from the jagged peaks into a pristine lake, where a 31-foot voyager canoe waits to take you to the very face of the glacier. Expert guides share their extensive knowledge of this amazing area. Conditions permitting, your tour may include a walk to touch the glacier. This is an optional ½-mile hike over a sand and pebble beach. A snack at the beach, amid fields of wild strawberries and iris, tops off your Glacier Point adventure before you return to Haines.

EAGLE PRESERVE FLOAT ADVENTURE - From \$149 USD

The world-famous Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve boasts the largest gathering of bald eagles anywhere. It is also home to moose, bears, wolves, and a host of other animals. Your adventure begins with a spectacular drive up a National Scenic Byway, through the awe-inspiring Chilkat Valley to the heart of the preserve.

After a riverside picnic, you will board an 18-foot inflatable raft and enjoy a peaceful float (no white water) down this ever-changing river. 7,000-foot peaks tower above you as you float through the preserve. This is an unforgettable adventure into the grandeur of Alaska.

DELUXE HAINES HIGHLIGHTS - From \$89 USD

Explore the fascinating city of Haines with some intriguing visits to the area's best attractions. Your knowledgeable guide will meet you at the dock and escort you to the bus. Climb aboard and begin your exploration of Haines' Native culture, fascinating history and magnificent mountain and ocean views. A narrated driving tour takes you through historic Fort Seward, one of the first US military bases in Alaska. Make the short drive to Picture Point for an opportunity to admire and photograph the town of Haines and your ship.

GLACIAL FJORD BY BICYCLE - From \$99 USD

Here's your chance to cruise by bicycle along the shores of an ocean inlet and a salmon-filled river, and view a glacial lake. A short, informative van ride takes you to the shore of Lutak Inlet where you begin your bike ride. Where the river meets the sea, you'll cruise the flat paved road, watching for possible wildlife sightings including eagles, salmon, whales, sea lions and bears.

Take in the gorgeous views across the emerald lake and inlet surrounded by glaciers, waterfalls, and jagged mountain peaks. This is a great opportunity to get some mild exercise and breathe some pure Alaskan air.

A STROLL THROUGH HISTORIC HAINES - From \$59 USD

Stretch your legs while you learn about the history, Native culture and present-day lifestyle of the residents of Haines -- an isolated Alaskan town. Your local guide will show you the highlights of historic Fort William H. Seward, founded in the early 20th century to anchor America's border claims during the turbulent Gold Rush era. Sights include the old barracks buildings, the parade grounds, Soap Suds Alley and Officers Row. These buildings overlook the nine-acre parade grounds, Lynn Canal and the Chilkoot Mountains. The area features a number of outdoor art installations, restaurants and shops, and your guide will bring you up to date on the happenings in Haines and 'the Fort'.

WILDERNESS KAYAK EXPERIENCE - From \$119 USD

Explore the stunning scenery of Haines and find out why so many people say there's no better way to see the beauty of Alaska than by kayak. Your guide will choose the area where weather and wildlife trends are most favorable. No experience is necessary; whatever your age or skill level, your expert guide makes this unforgettable experience easy. Mild weather and a variety of wildlife make Haines the ideal location for kayaking.

You'll be outfitted with all the necessary gear and listen to a thorough introduction to kayaking so you are quickly at ease in your stable kayak -- perfect for wildlife viewing and photography. You may see bald eagles, brown bears, mountain goats and waterfowl.

ALASKA WILDERNESS RIVER ADVENTURE - From \$159 USD

Meet your guide and board the bus for a ride along the Haines Scenic Byway. This narrated drive, with plenty of stories about the history of the valley, brings you to a modern dock facility. Where the road ends, the real Alaska begins and so does your adventure.

Board a flat-bottomed riverboat to experience a guided ride along miles of scenic channels in the Chilkat River in the Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve. The vessel is specially designed for navigating this silt-laden river, which is the only access to this remote, roadless portion of the preserve. No other tour ventures into this same territory. The boats are not enclosed, allowing you to view and photograph the majestic scenery and wildlife in an unhindered fashion.

Eagles, moose, and bears are quite often the highlight of the river tour, making for wonderful photo opportunities. The scenery alone is worth the trip with cascading, hanging glaciers and surrounding mountains that soar to 6,000-foot peaks -- this is the real, untouched beauty of Alaska.

WILD AT HEART: THE KROSCHER CENTER FOR ORPHANED ANIMALS - From \$159 USD

Ever wanted to kiss a moose or pet a fox? Of course you have! Your outing begins with a 45-minute narrated bus ride through the Bald Eagle Preserve on your way to the Kroschel Wildlife Center owned by Steve Kroschel. Steve is well known for his experience working with wild animals for movies, such as *Never Cry Wolf* and the PBS *Wild America* series. He is truly the *Doctor Doolittle* of Alaska, interacting with his animals as their best friend and trustworthy caregiver.

Steve will guide you through this 60-acre park as you learn about the animals and see how they thrive in this protected habitat, retaining their independence while learning to trust humans. His center provides a home for numerous orphaned wild animals, including a wolf, Kodiak bear, wolverine, moose, porcupine and reindeer, to name a few.

The behavior of these animals is quite intriguing -- you'll understand and appreciate the time it takes to gain the trust of these wild Alaskan animals. Unsuiited to release back into the wild, they will live out the rest of their natural lives with their best friend and caregiver, Steve Kroschel.

ICY STRAIT POINT

WHALE WATCH & MARINE MAMMAL SAFARI - From \$159 USD

Whale sightings are guaranteed on this high-speed cruise to Point Adolphus. Along the way you will be traveling through waters that support a wide array of marine life, including orca (killer) whales, Steller sea lions, harbor seals, sea otters, porpoises and, of course, magnificent humpback whales. Keep your eyes peeled for bald eagles in the evergreen treetops lining the shore. An on-board naturalist will describe the diversity of marine life that gathers here every summer to feed in the nutrient-rich waters, fueled by Alaska's long summer days.

ATV EXPEDITION - From \$169 USD

Explore Alaska's breathtaking wilderness on this rugged 4x4 expedition along Chichagof Island's stunning mountain trails. This small group tour is designed to give you an intimate experience of the temperate rain forest that surrounds this island paradise.

This adventurous self-drive tour starts at the pier with a scenic bus ride through Hoonah, an authentic Tlingit village that features unpaved roads and no stoplights. An expert guide will provide a narrative of the area's history en route to the trailhead, which sits high in the majestic mountains of Chichagof Island. Listen to a brief orientation before boarding your 4x4 Kawasaki Mule off-road vehicle. Setting off on your ride, you will follow a trail into the Alaska wilderness, enjoying the forests, valleys and stunning mountainous scenery. With stops along the way to allow others to switch into the driver's seat, there will also be plenty of time to take in the breathtaking views of Icy Strait, and take photographs.

HALIBUT FISHING - From \$319 USD

Live your own 'big fish' story. Board a modern cabin cruiser as you embark on the ultimate fishing excursion to the rich waters of Icy Strait. Following a brief orientation, drop your line as your local guide searches for one of the hottest fishing spots known only to locals. The waters of Icy Strait are teeming with halibut, making angling conditions ideal. Icy Strait is known for its abundance of marine life and brilliant photo opportunities.

COOKING IN ALASKA'S WILDEST KITCHEN - From \$79 USD

Sample the best food that Alaska has to offer as an experienced chef demonstrates how to make delicious regional dishes -- great fun for anyone who wants to learn more about the culinary habits of Alaskans. This enjoyable tasting session is hosted by a friendly local chef, who specializes in the preparation of seafood and other local delicacies. He/she will take you through the entire cooking process as you gather around a large grill, absorbing many secrets of the trade. Watch and learn, as the catch-of-the-day is filleted, before preparing your own seafood treat with a hands-on class under the tutelage of your culinary host.

HOONAH SIGHTSEEING & TRIBAL DANCE - From \$69 USD

Explore Hoonah -- an authentic village that is many things to its inhabitants. It is a lively fishing community, an old logging town, and the world's largest Tlingit village. Your guide will describe how this coastal community came to be when the rapid glacial advance of the Little Ice Age forced the clans from their ancestral home in Glacier Bay. Learn about the feats of local fishermen, what it means to 'drive' on the Alaska Marine Highway, and how the people rebuilt when the village was destroyed by fire during World War II.

THE ZIPRIDER ADVENTURE - From \$149 USD

Experience the world's longest zip-line -- it's 5,330 feet of sheer adrenalin, and taller than the Empire State Building. Your adventure begins when you board a coach for the ride to the top of the mountain which is a tour all in itself. Your driver will narrate as you pass through the village of Hoonah and head up the mountainside. Once on top you will unload and take a short walk to the zip-line launch area. At 1,300 feet above sea level you will climb into a special harness seat and await your launch. Since you "sit" in the harness, your hands are free to record your flight (but hold on as you approach the landing). Six guests launch at once, and it's a race to the bottom. You're off, accelerating to up to 60 mph as you pass 300 feet above the treetops. If your eyes are still open you will see sweeping views of Port Frederick, Icy Strait and your cruise ship far below. The ZipRider concludes with a brake-activated landing on the beach back at Icy Strait Point. Your fellow cruisers (not as brave as you) will be at the Drop Zone to welcome you back to earth.

ICY STRAIT POINT KAYAK ADVENTURE - From \$129 USD

No experience is necessary to kayak in the protected waters of Port Frederick. Set off from the beach at Icy Strait Point in a two-person wilderness kayak, led by a safety-certified local guide. Paddle along the Hoonah waterfront en route to quieter waters, where bald eagles are often seen and few humans can follow. Keep your eyes open and your spirit of adventure front and center along the way, as humpback whales have been known to feed along the very same route. A motorized safety boat accompanies the tour, but participants should be fit enough to paddle through small waves and against the current.

ICY STRAIT POINT STREAM FISHING - From \$249 USD

Icy Strait Point is a prime destination for freshwater stream fishing. Today's journey takes you through the town of Hoonah and ten miles out along scenic dirt roads to Game Creek for a memorable stream fishing experience. You will be provided with instruction, hip boots and all the gear needed to spin cast (or fly fish for those with experience) along the banks of Game Creek.

Keep in mind that fish vary seasonally, but you can expect to catch Dolly Varden, char and cutthroat trout all season long. Steelhead are available in May and early June. Pink salmon run from late June through September, and silver salmon from late August through September.

SPASSKI RIVER VALLEY WILDLIFE & BEAR SEARCH - From \$99 USD

Board a bus and travel through the Tlingit village of Hoonah en route to the remote bush of the Spasski River Valley. Watch for bald eagles, woodpeckers, Sitka black-tail deer and Alaska coastal brown bears that could be anywhere along the road.

You're here to explore the wilds in search of the spectacular wildlife that inhabits these forested lands. So, once you arrive at the Spasski River Valley, your guide will lead you down a gravel path, across a boardwalk over the delicate muskeg and viewing platforms to see the river itself. (S)he will describe and illuminate the rain forest ecology that supports the island's 4,000+ massive brown bears. You may be lucky enough to spot some today.

WHALES, WILDLIFE & BEAR SEARCH - From \$249 USD

Icy Strait Point offers visitors the double treat of watching humpback whales feed and frolic in the bountiful waters of Icy Strait, and bears fishing in a local stream for their lunch.

Whale sightings are guaranteed on this high-speed whale cruise towards Point Adolphus. Along the way you will travel through waters that support a wide array of marine life, including orca (killer) whales, Steller sea lions, harbor seals, sea otters, porpoise and, of course, magnificent humpback whales. Keep your eyes peeled for bald eagles in the evergreen treetops lining the shore. An on-board naturalist will describe the diversity of marine life that gathers here every summer to feed in the nutrient-rich waters, fueled by Alaska's long summer days.

ANCHORAGE

ANCHORAGE HIGHLIGHTS & NATIVE CULTURES - From \$69 USD

View the historic points of interest in downtown Anchorage from your motor coach.

The 26-acre Alaska Native Heritage Center shares the rich heritage of Alaska's eleven major cultural groups. Experience Alaska Native culture firsthand through engaging storytelling, authentic Native song and dance, artist demonstrations and Native games.

EXPLORE ANCHORAGE: ANCHORAGE MUSEUM WITH LUNCH AT MUSE - From \$79 USD

Explore Anchorage on a tour that traces the city's rise from a railroad tent city through the incredible 1964 earthquake to the city of today. Your driver-guide will take you to the Anchorage Museum, which is the State's largest museum of art, history and science. Catch a glimpse of Alaska's rich history and admire the work of its renowned artists.

The Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center features 600 rare Alaska Native artifacts, and the Imaginarium Discovery Center offers a hands-on experience with earthquakes, sealife touch tanks and a planetarium. Enjoy lunch at Muse restaurant inside the museum. Visit the Alaska Wildberry Products store for chocolates and Alaska-made souvenirs and gifts. Your driver-guide will take you on a one-hour panoramic city drive to view Anchorage's highlights before you return to the ship.

PORTAGE GLACIER CRUISE & ALASKA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER - From \$124 USD

Enjoy a narrated tour to Portage, an hour south of Anchorage along the Seward Highway. Visit the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center. The Conservation Center is a refuge for orphaned and injured wildlife, such as moose, musk oxen, bears, caribou, bison and birds. The animals are kept in large enclosures resembling their natural habitat.

Explore the large gift shop, located at the center, with a wide selection of handmade Alaskan arts and crafts. Take a cruise on board the mv Ptarmigan to within 300 yards of Portage Glacier for fantastic views of the blue-white icebergs that decorate Portage Lake. The cruise is narrated by a US Forest Service representative.

26-GLACIER CRUISE & ALASKA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CENTER - From \$299 USD

This full-day adventure provides a seamless connection so you can relax right from the pier in Anchorage as you take in a fantastic day of wildlife and glacier viewing.

Enjoy a narrated transfer to Whittier along the scenic Seward Highway, stopping en route at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center in Portage. Here, you can view many large mammals found in Alaska, such as bears, musk ox, caribou, moose, wood bison and more.

In Whittier, board a stable, high-speed catamaran. The catamaran features comfortable, reserved seating at tables accommodating four to six guests. Large picture windows provide a fine view from every seat and spacious outdoor viewing areas are available on all decks.

You'll set out on Prince William Sound to explore a wonderland of massive glaciers, a shoreline of dense spruce forest, and abundant marine wildlife. Your route retraces the path of early explorers Vitus Bering, Georg Wilhelm Steller, Captain James Cook and Captain George Vancouver, who 'discovered' Alaska in 1741. In search of the Northwest Passage, they navigated these waters, identified new animal species (the Steller sea lion, jay, eider and sea eagle), and traded with the indigenous peoples.

SPENCER GLACIER RAIL & TRAIL - From \$229 USD

Leave Anchorage by train and head down along the shoreline of Turnagain Arm, where beluga whales feed on small fish and salmon heading to spawning grounds. This area is part of the Chugach National Forest -- at six million acres it is the second-largest National Forest in the United States. Dall sheep come down from the peaks of the Chugach Mountains and eagles cruise the shoreline looking for an easy meal.

After traveling past Girdwood, 40 miles from Anchorage, the train leaves the main line for the 12-mile trip into the port of Whittier. Watch for salmon in the streams along the way before you enter the first of two tunnels. Whittier is the gateway to Prince William Sound.

The train returns to the main line to continue the trip south down the Placer Valley leaving the highway behind and into the countryside only accessible by train.

You'll stop at Spencer Glacier among wildlife habitat populated by bear, moose, coyotes and wolves. Swans pause here on their migration; yellowlegs and Arctic terns also make their home here. It's hard to believe this is only a few hours out of Anchorage and completely off the road system.

HOMER

HALIBUT FISHING - From \$359 USD

Homer, the Halibut Capital of the World, is the ideal spot to try your hand at great halibut fishing. Enjoy a scenic cruise to the fishing grounds and keep an eye out for sea otters and whales along the way. Your guide will give you instructions for safety and fishing techniques, and bait your hook. Drop your line and get started on a day of great fishing. All fishing gear is provided.

The boat has a heated cabin and restroom, is Coast Guard-approved with a licensed and experienced captain. A one-day fishing license and a sack lunch are included. Your guide will fillet your fish for you. Fish processing and shipping can be arranged at an additional charge.

GUIDED SEA KAYAKING - From \$249 USD

Cruise across Kachemak Bay to Eldred Passage and Otter Cove. This is an adventure you will remember for a lifetime -- an opportunity to see some of the remote beauty of Alaska. Your guide will fit you out with a kayak, spray skirt and life jacket while giving you instructions on paddling and safety techniques. Prior experience is not required.

Leave the beach to paddle in the protected and scenic water of Sadie Cove and the surrounding area. Paddle among sea otters, observe invertebrates in the tide pools and enjoy the serenity and beauty of the area. You will stop along the way to rest, take photos, relax and have lunch.

HOMER HIGHLIGHTS: TOWN & COUNTRY - From \$89 USD

Begin your tour of Homer, the Hamlet by the Sea, with a drive down the Homer Spit for an introduction to the local industries of commercial and sport fishing.

Take in the highlights of downtown Homer en route to the award-winning Pratt Museum, which showcases the culture, history and natural environment of the region through interactive displays.

At the Norman Lowell Gallery, meet the artist himself. View his impressive collection of large-scale paintings, produced throughout the Lowell's 50-year residence in Alaska, and visit his original homestead cabin. Heading back into town, pause at the Baycrest Hill overlook for a breathtaking view of Kachemak Bay. Your final stop will be at the Islands & Oceans Visitor Center, where you will take in the exhibit on the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge before you return to the ship.

GLACIER LAKE INTERPRETIVE HIKE - From \$229 USD

Ride in a water-taxi across Kachemak Bay to Glacier Spit, located in Kachemak Bay State Park. Join your guide for a hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake. This is the most popular hiking trail in Kachemak Bay State Park. The trail crosses flat terrain and passes through tall stands of cottonwoods and spruce and across the dry outwash plain of the Grewingk Glacier. It ends at the broad, open beaches of the glacier lake. The route offers superb views of the glacier and its surrounding peaks, and the icebergs floating in the lake present great photo opportunities.

Your guide will identify the edible vegetation along the way and allow you to taste a few examples. (S)he will also point out the stages of reforestation along the glacial moraine.

BEST OF THE BAY - From \$139 USD

Visit Homer and enjoy the beauty of scenic Kachemak Bay and Kachemak Bay State Park on this 2½-hour cruise to Gull Island. The island is a famous bird rookery with eight species of birds including puffins, cormorants and gulls. Photo opportunities abound. Watch for sea otters and other marine wildlife, and continue across the bay to Eldred Passage, Sadie Cove and Tutka Bay, returning to the harbor in time for some shopping.

Guests who wish to stay in town to shop or explore independently are welcome to do so, but must return to the ship on their own. There is a new walking trail along the harbor for those who wish to walk along the Homer Spit.

RHYTHM OF THE NORTH - From \$24 USD

Take a short ¼-mile bus ride or walk to the Pier One Theatre. Here you will watch a 45-minute, awe-inspiring live musical/video production. Johnny B.'s Rhythm of the North is a fast paced, multimedia musical sensation about life and living in Alaska. The performance is filled with stunning images of scenery, wildlife, hilarious stories and great piano music... sometimes moving, and always a joyride.

Johnny B. has lived in Alaska since 1981. His stories are real and his music is wonderful. The show is a fantastic introduction and homage to Homer and the last frontier. The projected HD images are stunning. Videographer, Daniel Zatz -- another long-time Alaskan -- has won a Grammy (among other awards) for his video work.

FARMING IN THE LAST FRONTIER - From \$69 USD

An entirely different view of Alaska is offered on this outing that is part agrarian lesson and part great conversation with your local guide about the economics of farming in Alaska. It is your chance to learn about and embrace the life of local entrepreneurs.

Begin your day with a guided journey to Anchor Point, about a 30-minute bus ride from Homer. En route, you will see the volcanoes surrounding Kachemak Bay and the backcountry that is all about wildlife and fantastic scenery.

You're headed to Poindexter's farm -- a serious business whose products reach markets both locally and globally. Discover what it means to run a commercial operation in Alaska, and what the principles are behind diversification. You will view the outdoor gardens and wander through numerous high tunnels that make year-round production a possibility. The farm produces a variety of vegetables and raises perennial and annual flowers, including commercially-exported peonies and rhodiola. The latter is processed for medicinal use. The farm also has a thriving peat soil business. As you hear stories of homesteading here, you will have a chance to taste the farm's berries or veggies, or maybe pick a peony in season. Head back to the ship with a stop along the way at the Baycrest Hill viewing area for photos and brilliant vistas.

VALDEZ

THOMPSON PASS & WORTHINGTON GLACIER - From \$119 USD

Board a deluxe motorcoach to explore the spectacular scenery of Thompson Pass and Worthington Glacier.

You will travel through Keystone Canyon -- a narrow break in the Chugach Mountains that is home to spectacular waterfalls, exceptional geology and fascinating history. Capture the stunning sights of Bridal Veil Falls and Horsetail Falls cascading from the canyon walls high above. As you make the ascent to Thompson Pass, glimpse the site where the famous Trans-Alaska pipeline runs below ground.

At the summit of Thompson Pass, you'll be amazed by the beauty of this alpine setting. Just over the pass is Worthington Glacier. The glacier descends from Girls Mountain, passing within a few feet of the parking lot and viewing shelter. View the blue ice of this hanging glacier located near the snowiest place in Alaska. High alpine tundra, glacial landscape and a spectacular view of the grand valley make this an excellent area for photography. On the drive back to Valdez, you'll pass the original town site -- Old Valdez was completely destroyed in the 1964 earthquake.

COLUMBIA GLACIER CRUISE - From \$159 USD

This six-hour journey through Prince William Sound features a visit to the magnificent, mighty Columbia Glacier area.

You have a chance today to view history in the making as Columbia Glacier retreats back into the Chugach Mountains. In addition to the brilliant, colorful ice in Columbia Bay you will see wildlife along the way. Bald eagles, nesting birds, resident harbor seals, sea lions, sea otters, pink, chum and silver salmon, puffins, kittiwakes, whales and many other species call Prince William Sound home. You'll also learn all about the mining, oil shipping, earthquake and fishing history of the area.

PORT VALDEZ HISTORICAL CRUISE - From \$89 USD

Discover the rich history of Port Valdez on this 2½-hour cruise. The captain and crew will share with you stories about this community's past and present, including information about early settlers and gold seekers, Old-Town Valdez and the 1964 earthquake, the commercial fishing industry, and the Trans Alaska Pipeline Terminal. Cruising the shoreline looking for marine wildlife and birdlife, you will travel past waterfalls cascading into the sea. Coffee and tea are served on board.

KEYSTONE CANYON WHITEWATER RAFTING - From \$139 USD

Join your skilled guide for an exciting whitewater adventure down the Lowe River. Valdez's only land-route to the Alaskan interior, the Lowe River through Keystone Canyon offers an exciting rafting ride. The initial Class I-II water offers an opportunity to get used to the raft and practice commands prior to entering the canyon.

As the canyon narrows, the waves and rapids increase into big-water Class III. If the water is really moving, you'll hear boulders turning on the riverbed. It is the magical, musical sound of nature. On a short section of calm water, you will stop at Bridal Veil Falls -- one of the many

massive waterfalls adorning Keystone Canyon's sheer rock walls. Then, it's back in the raft to navigate the rest of this magnificent canyon. You'll take out just as the canyon opens and the river calms.

COASTAL KAYAK ADVENTURE - From \$119 USD

Take an exciting kayak tour through Duck Flats on Prince William Sound. Start out right from the dock in Valdez Harbor. Your guide offers paddles, life jackets and instructions; then, you'll paddle through a small chain of nearby islands well known for their nesting birds and resident harbor seals. Be on the lookout for sea lions, sea otters, pink, chum and silver salmon. Paddle through calm waters surrounded by the beauty and majesty of the Chugach Mountains. This tour is a wonderful introduction to sea kayaking. Your guide will share information about the wildlife and natural history of Valdez.

JUNEAU

MENDENHALL GLACIER, RAINFOREST GARDEN & STATE MUSEUM - From \$89 USD

Juneau, Alaska is known for the surrounding glaciers and lush rainforest that make up the Tongass National Forest. What is it like to live in the forest and how does it shape the lives of its inhabitants? The answers begin with a short drive through downtown Juneau's streets en route to Mendenhall Glacier, located in Tongass National Forest, where you'll spend 90 minutes exploring the surrounding trails and waterfall offering fabulous views of the glacier. Allow time to enter the Visitor Center to check out the various exhibits and short film on the Juneau ice field.

At the Juneau Rainforest Garden, experience an intimate botanical oasis. Take a self-guided stroll among seasonal wildflowers and lush rainforest flora, and learn about Native uses of the endemic plants you see. Enjoy a light snack amid natural science displays. The resident hosts will answer any questions you may have about Alaska's natural environment.

The last part of the outing takes you to the state-of-the-art Alaska State Museum. Here, you will gain an understanding of Alaska's development. Exhibits include topics such as Alaska's indigenous peoples, the Russian era, and growth from a US territory into the 49th state. Additional attractions include a children's learning area, themed art exhibits, and NOAA's 'Science in a Sphere' which shows how our environment impacts our daily lives. From here, it's a short ride back to the ship or you may explore downtown Juneau on your own.

MENDENHALL GLACIER, HATCHERY & SALMON BAKE - From \$99 USD

Travel through Juneau's picturesque downtown to the mighty Mendenhall Glacier, a moving river of ice with rugged crevasses. Visit Macaulay Salmon Hatchery and learn about the importance of Alaska's salmon and the impact these amazing fish have on the environment and economy of the 49th state. Enjoy great eagle viewing and the variety of local marine life in aquariums. Then you'll board your motor coach and head to the traditional Alaskan salmon bake at Salmon Creek. An Alaskan feast, this salmon bake features Alaskan-caught wild salmon grilled over an open alder wood fire. Also enjoy parmesan chicken, cheesy au gratin

potatoes, baked beans with reindeer sausage, wild-rice pilaf, a variety of fresh salads, cornbread and lemonade, coffee or tea. (Beverages are available at an additional charge.)

Dine beside Salmon Creek in Southeast Alaska's rainforest and listen to a local musician. A translucent roof protects you, rain or shine. After dining, toast marshmallows over a crackling campfire and walk to view the beautiful Salmon Creek waterfall. Remnants of the historic Wagner Mine are evident here. Return to the ship by shuttle bus.

GLACIER GARDENS, HATCHERY & MENDENHALL GLACIER - From \$99 USD

Savor the rich beauty of Glacier Gardens, see the largest salmon ladder in Alaska and visit the Mendenhall Glacier.

From downtown Juneau it's a short ride to Glacier Gardens. Meet your tour guide and transfer to a covered shuttle for an intimate look at this natural wonderland of colorful plants, trees and flowers. The brilliant palette creates a dazzling contrast to the lush green forest backdrop. You will be amazed at the diversity of the rainforest as you wind along pathways carved into the mountainside, heading toward the upper regions of the forest. Visit a one-of-a-kind Alaska garden featuring towering 'upside-down trees' covered with planted flowers. From the viewing platform at the 580-foot level, capture images of the Gastineau Channel, Douglas Island and the Chilkat Mountains. Explore deeper into the forest on your return trip.

Continue to Macaulay Salmon Hatchery, where you will see an operational hatchery in action. Young salmon can be seen developing from a bird's-eye view (year round), and you can witness millions of adult salmon returning from the wild to spawn (late June-October), while learning about their fascinating reproductive cycle from experienced guides. Eagles and harbor seals are frequently seen from the spacious viewing decks overlooking the channel. You will also have the opportunity to interact with local marine life in the touch tanks and numerous aquariums.

Visit Juneau's grandest monument -- Mendenhall Glacier. This meandering river of compressed blue ice ranks as the largest glacier accessible by road in Southeast Alaska. It is a half-mile wide, hundreds of feet deep and fed by the 1,500-square-mile Juneau ice field. US Forest Service staff offer a wealth of information on glaciers during your 75-minute visit. The Visitor Center features exhibits, interactive videos and a panoramic view of the glacier -- the perfect vantage point for photos of this world-famous attraction. There are also numerous self-guided walking trails from which to experience the special beauty of Tongass National Forest and ever-changing glimpses of the glacier.

FIVE GLACIER SEAPLANE EXPLORATION - From \$249 USD

The grandeur of Alaska's epic glaciers will thrill and delight you on Juneau's only five-glacier flightseeing tour. Seeing glaciers from the air is an Alaskan must-do, and doing so by authentic Alaskan seaplane is the quintessential Alaskan experience. One of the most important modes of transportation in Alaska is the seaplane (also known as a floatplane), allowing you to escape into the true Alaskan wilderness within minutes of leaving the ship.

Your own seaplane exploration begins as your aircraft gently takes off from the historic downtown Juneau waterfront, carrying you over the remnants of Juneau's mining past.

You will soar over the lush wilderness of the Tongass National Forest to catch your first glimpse of five distinctly different, absolutely majestic glaciers making up a section of the 1,500-square-mile Juneau Ice Field. Glide over the deep crevasses and azure blue meltwater pools of the Norris, Hole-In-The-Wall, East and West Twin Glaciers, plus the famous five-mile-wide Taku Glacier. Of the 36 named glaciers comprising the Juneau Ice Field, the Taku Glacier is the only glacier that is actually advancing -- not retreating -- and indeed is one of only a few advancing glaciers in the world.

TAKU LODGE, FEAST & FIVE GLACIER SEAPLANE DISCOVERY - From \$329 USD

You're in for the journey of a lifetime -- seaplane-only access to Alaska's famous Taku Glacier Lodge; a ride on a classic, powerful aircraft; a true wilderness setting; five massive glaciers; bears; a perspective on Alaska's vivid history with dog sledding roots; a seafood feast; and exclusive glacier-view dining. Fly in a classic de Havilland seaplane (floatplane) over five breathtaking glaciers flowing from the Juneau Ice Field, deep blue crevasses, snow-capped mountains and the lush Tongass National Forest. Seeing glaciers from the air is an Alaskan must-do, and doing so by authentic Alaskan bush plane is the quintessential Alaskan experience.

The Taku River will be your 'runway' as you land at the elegantly rustic and historic Taku Lodge, built in 1923 and located across the river from the five-mile wide Taku Glacier. This is Juneau's largest glacier and one of only a few advancing glaciers in the world.

Savor a feast of fresh, wild Alaska salmon grilled to perfection (chicken alternative available), Taku baked beans, coleslaw, pioneer fruit compote, fresh herb biscuits and sourdough bread, all made from scratch. Drinks are chilled and served with authentic glacier ice and special-recipe ginger cookies to complete the meal.

The aroma of the alderwood grill attracts not only human visitors, but also wild black bears. Take a guided interpretative nature walk, stroll the trails or soak in the serenity of a place barely touched by time before your return flight to Juneau. You can do it all with this exclusive combination tour of the Juneau area's premier attractions.

MENDENHALL GLACIER HELICOPTER & GUIDED WALK - From \$359 USD

Travel back to the Ice Age on this excursion that was featured on Good Morning America as Juneau's top-rated excursion. Board a modern, turbine-powered helicopter to enjoy breathtaking vistas of thriving rain forests, alpine ridges, and mountain peaks.

Your destination is the world-famous Mendenhall Glacier. The flight path takes you over the glacier itself, giving you an eagle's-eye view of its icy spires, deep blue crevasses and meltwater pools. Descending towards the landing site, you may fly past the Mendenhall Towers -- rock sentinels that soar to more than 7,000 feet. A gentle landing brings you to your close encounter with the ice itself. Hop out onto the ice to explore the glacier's surface with an experienced, knowledgeable guide -- a wonderful opportunity to take once-in-a-lifetime photos. Bring your binoculars -- you never know when you'll have a chance to see some of Alaska's famous wildlife.

PILOT'S CHOICE GLACIER EXPLORER BY HELICOPTER - From \$489 USD

Marvel at vistas seen by few -- high alpine lakes, 'icefalls' hanging from sheer cliffs, and some of the most remote peaks and glaciers on the Juneau Icefield. Your pilot will create the best possible flightseeing based on the weather and glacier conditions. You'll land in two different locations, where you will continue the tour on foot. During these two landings, you will learn about the environmental and geological processes at work, creating moraines, crevasses, seracs, and the amazing glaciers themselves.

MENDENHALL GLACIER FLOAT TRIP - From \$159 USD

Your outing begins with a scenic, narrated motor coach ride and tour to beautiful Mendenhall Lake. There, you'll be treated to an excellent view of the glacier -- a half-mile wide and more than one hundred feet tall at the face. Arriving at the lake, gear up, board a raft and take off on an unforgettable adventure where you can get out into nature, learn about the area, and see the glacier, icebergs and some wildlife.

Your experienced guide will steer you across the serene waters of the lake, maneuvering past floating icebergs, to the river beyond. The speed of the water and the level of the rapids vary depending on the weather, but your highly trained guide will ensure you have a safe and fun experience. You will be rafting a five-mile stretch of river from Mendenhall Lake, in the Tongass National Forest, downstream towards Juneau Harbor.

Your guide explains the natural phenomena at work in this scenic valley. Marvel at the spectacular views of the glacier and towering peaks as you float downstream. Watch for the local wildlife, which may include -- Arctic terns, eagles, goats, salmon, otters, bears and more.

Back ashore you'll enjoy an Alaska-style snack with a warm beverage and, if you wish, purchase a photo of your rafting experience before re-boarding your motor coach for the short, relaxing ride back to your ship.

UNDERGROUND MINE EXPLORATION & GOLD PANNING - From \$79 USD

Relive Juneau's mining heritage on a tour of what was once the world's largest gold-producing mill. Hear the story of this great mine that was the heartbeat of Juneau. A short ride from the pier brings you to the site of the mill ruins, where you will venture underground into the conveyor tunnel through which crushed ore was transported to the mill. Don a hard hat and proceed on foot along a boardwalk into the 360-foot-long tunnel. Inside, experienced miners demonstrate hard rock mining techniques and give you a feel for the mining lifestyle. Return to the mill site, constructed in 1913. The Alaska Gastineau Mill was a revolutionary plant that introduced new technologies to the mining industry. A guide will explain why this process was unique, as well as explaining the different kinds of mining used in Alaska. After a brief demonstration, you can pan for gold and garnets from the tailings of the mine. Pay dirt is guaranteed and you can keep what you find. Wander among displays and the ruins. View the first locomotive to come to Alaska for the purpose of mining. Visit the gift shop and museum before you return to town.