

# Alaska Kenai Peninsula Multisport Tour

An Inn-to-Inn Hiking, Rafting, Wildlife Viewing, and Sea Kayaking Adventure

*The Kenai is Alaska distilled. Tundra clad mountains, towering tidewater glaciers, mist-shrouded coastlines, and enough wildlife to fill a dozen rolls of film. Come with us as we hike, raft and kayak this wilderness paradise, including a chance to explore Alaska's "Kingdom of the Grizzlies", awesome Katmai National Park.*

**Day 1. Hike Harding Icefield, Windsong Lodge, Seward** (877-777-2805/ private baths)  
<http://www.sewardwindsong.com/>

Our group meets in Anchorage at 9:00 a.m. in the lobby of Extended Stay Deluxe Anchorage—Downtown at 108 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. After a brief orientation, we're off to Kenai Fjords National Park and our introduction to Alaska on the exhilarating Exit Glacier-Harding Icefield trail.

The first quarter mile of the hike brings us to the foot of Exit Glacier, one of 35 glaciers that stream like frozen tree roots from the immense Harding Icefield. This is a great place to explore the glacial blue ice as it spills from the glacier's mouth. We then start the steep but spectacular 3.5-mile climb up to the Icefield itself. At the top, only the rocky outcrops called *nunataks*, "lonely peaks" in Inuit, relieve this 700-hundred square mile expanse of ice and snow.

Our home for the next two nights is lovely Windsong Lodge set near the banks of the rushing Resurrection River. Built in 1997, the lodge features rooms with mountain or river views, queen beds, private baths, and cable TV. The friendly Roadhouse restaurant and lounge adjoins the lodge.

- Transfer Anchorage to the Exit Glacier-Harding Icefield trail [approximately 2 hours]
- Exit Glacier-Harding Icefield Hike [4.5 to 7.5 miles, 2000' to 3000' elevation gain/ loss]

## Day 2. Kayak Resurrection Bay, Windsong Lodge

This morning we will be fit into our sea kayaks for a full day experiencing the wonders of Resurrection Bay. We explore its secluded coves, bold sea stack formations and waters teeming with wildlife. Stay alert for whales, seals, porpoises, sea otters, eagles and much more. Kayaking experience is not necessary; we supply all the gear and our expert guides make learning the basics of kayaking fun and safe.

After our paddle, time permitting, we will stop at the Alaska Sealife Center. A non-profit marine science museum and research center it is dedicated to the marine ecosystems of Alaska. The Center's exhibits immerse us

in the dynamic marine world of Alaska and make a great finish to a day on the water.

- Resurrection Bay Sea Kayaking (full day)
- Alaska Sealife Center (2 hours, time permitting)

**Day 3. Hike Chugach National Forest, Alaska Heavenly Lodge** (866-595-2012 / private baths)  
<http://www.alaskaheavenly.com/>

Today we hike on the Carter Lake Trail to secluded Crescent Lake in the alpine wilderness of Chugach National Forest. A gradual climb takes us through birch-aspen forest and open wildflower meadows and rolling tundra to turquoise Crescent Lake. A primitive foot trail winds around part of the lake and there's great fishing for trophy-size grayling. Moose, wolves, black and grizzly bears and Dall sheep all make their home in this splendid mountain country.

Tonight we stay at the Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge set on the banks of the world famous fishing Mecca of the Kenai River. Each cabin style room features natural wood finishes, a cozy sitting area, private porch and luscious views of the Kenai Valley.

- Crescent Lake Trail [7 miles roundtrip, 1500' elevation gain/loss]

**Day 4. Raft Kenai River, Lands End Resort, Homer** (800-478-0400/ 907-235-0400 / <http://lands-end-resort.com> private baths)

This morning we take a scenic float trip down the salmon-filled Kenai River through the snow-capped mountains of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Our guides tell us the stories behind the sights – the wildlife, native people, early settlers, and the natural forces that shaped the Kenai Valley. Have your camera ready for moose, eagles, Dall sheep and salmon.

After lunch we hike to the Russian River Falls. This short hike is a great opportunity to see the struggle of Alaskan's salmon as they try to jump the falls and return to their spawning grounds. Wildflowers are abundant and it's a good area for spotting bear and moose.

After our hike, it's on to the charming seaside town of Homer and waterfront Lands End Resort. Land's End has a spectacular location at the tip of the Homer Spit on the

shores of Kachemak Bay. Each room has a private deck where you can watch otters, seals, whales, and eagles play right outside your door. The lodge also has a byside spa and outdoor hot tub.

- Kenai River Float Trip [3 hours, no rapids]
- Russian River Falls Hike [4 miles, gentle grade]
- Transfer to Homer [approximately 2.5 hours]

#### **Day 5. Cruise & Hike Kachemak Bay State Park or Bear Viewing in Katmai National Park, Lands End Resort , Homer**

This morning we cruise across gorgeous Kachemak Bay to Kachemak Bay State Park, a remote, roadless preserve only accessible by boat or float plane. Here we hike the rugged Grewingk Glacier Trail, traveling through mature spruce and cottonwood forest and alder covered glacial flats to the face of Grewingk Glacier and its eponymous lake. The lake is often covered with chunks of floating glacial ice.

After the hike we cruise back across Kachemak Bay with a stop at Gull Island, a remarkable seabird colony that in summer is home to 20,000 nesting seabirds - kittiwakes, murre, gulls, cormorants, puffins and guillemots.

As an optional activity (additional cost), you can fly to magnificent Katmai National Park and Preserve, to experience Alaska's giant coastal grizzlies (called brown bears in Alaska) in the wild. Following a stunning flight across Cook Inlet, we explore this sprawling landscape of snow covered volcanoes and green glacial valleys on the watch for these awesome predators as they prowl Katmai's coasts and streams in search of its massive runs of spawning salmon.

- Cruise to Kachemak Bay State Park [approximately 30 minutes each way]

- Grewingk Glacier Trail [6.5 miles, 500 feet elevation gain/loss]
- Katmai Bear viewing \$750 per person - *Limited availability, 9 guest maximum. Space on first come, first served basis. Must book at least 2 weeks before departure.* Full day guided tour (approx. 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) includes scenic 75 minute small plane flight. No children under 6. Includes off trail hikes up to 4 miles. Hip boots provided, must bring own rain gear, insect repellent, daypack.

#### **Day 6. Hike Historic Crow Pass Trail, Return to Anchorage**

Today we head back to Anchorage with a stop along the way to hike the Historic Crow Pass trail and explore the northernmost temperate rain forest in North America. Part of the Historic Iditarod Trail route, the Crow Pass trail is all about variety - waterfalls, glacial valleys, and snow covered peaks. The trail climbs through wooded foothills into a steep, glacier-carved valley above tree line. Continuing uphill we find mine ruins beneath a picturesque cascade, and time permitting, continue on to an excellent viewpoint of the heavily crevassed Raven Glacier.

After our hike we continue on to Anchorage where our adventure ends at approximately 6:00 p.m.

- Transfer to Girdwood for hike [approximately 3 hours]
- Crow Pass Hike [6 miles, 2000 feet elevation gain]
- Transfer to Anchorage [45 min.]

### **Tour Details—Kenai-Katmai Multi-Sport**

**Trip Type:** Inn

**Trip Length:** 6 days / 5 nights

**2012 Departure Dates:** June 17-22, July 8-13

**2013 Departure Dates:** June 16-21, July 21-26

**Price:** \$2998 per person (double occupancy)

**Single Supplement:** \$800

**Katmai Bear Viewing Tour option:** \$750 per person, limited to 9 people. Must select tour at least two weeks prior to departure. Space allocated on first come, first served basis. Full day guided tour (approx. 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.) includes scenic 75 minute small plane flight. No children under 6. Includes off-trail hikes up to 4 miles. Hip boots provided, must bring own rain gear, insect repellent, daypack.

**Trip Rating:** Moderate

**Activities:** hike (4-1/2 days), raft (1/2 day), kayak (1 day), optional bear viewing and scenic flight (1 day)

**Gateway City:** Anchorage, AK

**For Reservations and Information call 800-488-8483 or Reserve 24 hours a day at [www.TheWorldOutdoors.com](http://www.TheWorldOutdoors.com)**

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**Address: 2840 Wilderness Place, Suite D Boulder, CO 80301 Fax: 303-413-0926 Email: [fun@TheWorldOutdoors.com](mailto:fun@TheWorldOutdoors.com)**

**Gateway City Transfer:** Extended Stay Deluxe Anchorage--Downtown, 108 East 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue provides a courtesy shuttle to and from the airport. On arrival, call the hotel at 907-868-1605 to make arrangements. Airport shuttles are also available from Borealis Shuttle at 907-276-3600 or Alaska Tour Quest at 907 344-6667.

**Meeting Time & Place:** 9:00 a.m. in Anchorage in the lobby of the Extended Stay Deluxe Anchorage—Downtown, 108 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue (907-868-1605). We recommend that you have breakfast before our meeting and come ready to bike.

**Trip Conclusion:** 6:00 p.m. in Anchorage at Extended Stay Deluxe Anchorage—Downtown.

**Trip Fees Include:** Accommodations, meals (starting with lunch day 1 through lunch day 7), T-shirt, water bottle, park fees, support vehicle, professional guides, activities as described in the above itinerary, equipment and instruction for activities.

**Trip Fees Exclude:** Airfare, travel insurance, personal hotel expenses (phone, fax, laundry, etc.), optional activities, services not specified in the above itinerary, and guide gratuities (An appropriate gratuity to *each* trip leader is \$75-\$100 per guest).

## Denali Extension

Extend your Alaska adventure with a 5-day/4-night or 4-day/3-night adventure into the heart of Denali National Park at Camp Denali or North Face Lodge. For a complete description, see the detailed itinerary at <http://theworldoutdoors.com/details/denx12.pdf>

**Type of Trip:** Cabin- or lodge-based tour. Guests are not accompanied by a The World Outdoors guide but naturalist guides from Camp Denali and North Face Lodge will be leading activities daily.

**Trip Length:** 5 days/4 nights or 4 days/3 nights

**2012 Departure Dates for the 5 day/4 night tour:** June 4-8, June 11-15, June 18-22, June 25-29, July 2-6, July 9-13, July 16-20, July 23-27, July 30-August 3, August 6-10, August 13-17, August 20-24, August 27-31, September 3-7

**2012 Departure Dates for the 4 day/3 night tour:** June 8-11, June 15-18, June 22-25, June 29-July 2, July 6-9, July 13-16, July 20-23, July 27-30, August 3-6, August 10-13, August 17-20, August 24-27, August 31-September 3, September 7-10

**Price:** \$2625/ person for the 5 day/4 night tour; \$2100/ person for the 4 day/3 night tour

**Single Supplement:** \$500 for the 5 day/4 night tour; \$375/ person for the 4 day/3 night tour

**GoldStar Train Service Supplement:** \$100

**Trip Rating:** Moderately Easy

**Meeting/Departure Time and Place:** The motor coach by Alaska Park Connection Denali Express leaves promptly at 7:00 a.m. on Day 1 from the Anchorage Egan Center at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and "E" Street. Please be there no later than 6:45 a.m. with your vouchers.

**Conclusion Time and Place:** The Alaska Railroad's Denali Star train arrives at the Anchorage train station at 8:00 p.m. on the last day.

**Trip Fees Include:** One-way van fare from Anchorage to Denali, round-trip bus transport from Denali Park Station to Camp Denali/North Face Lodge, four nights lodging (double occupancy), all meals from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 5, guided outings, natural and cultural history interpretation, evening programs, use of recreational equipment, park entry fee and standard class of service on the Alaska Railroad Denali Star from Denali to Anchorage. Towels, soap, shampoo, conditioner, and lotion are all provided by the accommodations.

**Trip Fees Exclude:** Personal insurance, miscellaneous hotel expenses (phone, fax, laundry, etc.), transfers to Anchorage's Egan Center and from the Anchorage train station, meal on the train, tips, activities not included in package, and expenses of a personal nature.

### The Next Step...

**References** Don't take our word for it that The World Outdoors trips are the finest in the adventure travel industry. Ask our past guests. *Call about any of our trips and we'll be happy to refer you to someone who's been there with us.*

**The Best Value in Active Travel Guarantee:** *We commit to you that all of our trips are of the highest quality at the best value.* If you find a trip of equal quality that matches our itinerary and inclusions at a lower fare within 30 days of booking your trip with us, we will gladly refund the difference. A simple guarantee that assures you of the best trip at the best fare!

**How do I join this trip?** Call The World Outdoors at (800) 488-8483 and a Trip Consultant will reserve your space(s) or register online at [www.TheWorldOutdoors.com](http://www.TheWorldOutdoors.com). Your travel agent can also book your trip at no extra cost and provide other helpful assistance.

**Special Requests:** If you have any special dietary needs or any special request that will make your trip more enjoyable, please be sure to notify your Trip Consultant or travel agent upon booking.

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Then Leave the Rest to Us... Before you go, we provide you with extensive pre-departure information, including your reservation payment receipt and confirmation, travel insurance application, suggestions for preparing for your trip, a packing list, information on pre- and post-trip arrangements, a guest questionnaire and a liability release agreement.

Travel Protection: To make your trip with The World Outdoors even more carefree, we strongly recommend the purchase of our travel insurance plan. Offering comprehensive coverage and peace of mind, our travel insurance plan is designed to protect you in case of lost or damaged luggage, a sudden illness or death in the family, emergency medical expenses and transportation costs, and flight delays. We'd be happy to arrange travel insurance coverage for you, so contact us at (800) 488-8483 with any questions.

How do I book airfare for this trip? Call our in-house travel agent, Sherry Marriner, at 800-488-8483 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time Monday through Friday or you can email her at [sherrym@theworldoutdoors.com](mailto:sherrym@theworldoutdoors.com). Sherry is also available to assist you with pre- and post-lodging needs. If Sherry is unavailable and your needs are urgent, please call Frosch Travel, a local travel agency, at 800-538-7461 and ask for Georgia (ext 251) or email her at [Georgia.Terry@frosch.com](mailto:Georgia.Terry@frosch.com). Be sure to tell her you are traveling with The World Outdoors. Alternatively, you are welcome to book your airfare online, directly with the airline or through your personal travel agent.

## **General Information, Questions & Answers**

What weather conditions can I expect? Summer is a miraculous time in Alaska, when the sun refuses to set and people are filled with seemingly limitless energy. June is typically the driest of the three summer months and July the warmest. Average daytime highs are in the mid 60s to mid 70's, nighttime lows in the 40's and 50's. But be prepared for anything... from mild sunny days in the 80's to windy, rainy outings in the 30's. A warm jacket, long pants, long sleeve shirt, hat, gloves and sturdy rain gear (jacket and pants) are a must.

How difficult is this trip? ... Really: This trip is Moderately challenging. It is intended for the active adult who feels comfortable being active outdoors 4-6 hours a day and with hikes with up to 3000 feet of elevation gain.

Emergency Contact Information: Our office in Boulder, Colorado is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time 1-800-488-8483. For emergencies outside of our normal business hours call Bill Marriner at 720-289-0460, Sherry Marriner at 303-915-9660, Darcie Carr at 303-595-8561 or Eric Wagner at 303-324-7795.

Pre/Post Trip Lodging: If you arrive in Anchorage the evening before a trip, or stay over after the trip, we recommend the following hotels:

- Extended Stay Deluxe 907-868-1605 <http://www.extendedstayhotels.com/hotels/anchorage-downtown-esd.html> [rate: \$169-189]
- Parkside Guest House 907-683-2290 [www.campdenali.com](http://www.campdenali.com) [rate: \$150-\$175]
- Historic Anchorage Hotel 800-544-0988 [www.historicanchoragehotel.com](http://www.historicanchoragehotel.com) [rate: \$199-\$219] ask for The World Outdoors discounted price
- Coast International Inn 907-243-2233 [www.intlinnanchorage.com](http://www.intlinnanchorage.com) [rate: \$150-\$220]
- Courtyard by Marriott 800- 321-2211 [www.marriott.com/courtyard/default.mi](http://www.marriott.com/courtyard/default.mi) [rate: \$165-\$225]
- Millennium Hotel 907-243-2300 <http://www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumanchorage/index.html> [rate: \$200-\$300]
- Best Western 907-561-1522 <http://www.bestwesternalaska.com/anchorage-hotels/> [rate: \$150-199]
- Holiday Inn Express 907-248-8848 <http://www.ihotelsgroup.com/h/d/ex/1/en/hotel/ancsp> [rate: \$190-\$269]

We're Always Improving! While the information presented here details this trip's planned activities, routes, accommodations, departure and conclusion times, we are consistently seeking new opportunities to enhance this itinerary and your experience. Our actual activities and sites may vary due to season, special events, or weather. As a result, we reserve the right to alter the itinerary since unforeseen circumstances that mandate change may arise. Naturally, we will keep you up-to-date on any changes that may affect your arrival or departure times.

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