



Alaska Yukon Discovery Tours

Golden Circle Scenic

7 days from Juneau

Itinerary at a glance:

Day 0: Arrival in Juneau

Day 1: Juneau - Mendenhall Glacier Helicopter Walk, Salmon Hatchery, and Whale Watching

Day 2: Haines - Wildlife Center visit, Klukwan Native Village, Float through Bald Eagle Preserve

Day 3: Haines - Canoe on Chilkoot Lake, Raptor Center visit, and Distillery tasting

Day 4: The Yukon - Scenic Drive to Whitehorse, Kathleen Lake, Million Dollar Falls, and Kluane National Park Visitor Center

Day 5: The Yukon - Emerald Lake, Carcross, Suspension Bridge, World's Smallest Desert, and Skagway

Day 6: Skagway - White Pass Railroad, Ghost Town of Dyea, and Taiya River Scenic float

Day 7: Return to Juneau and Whale Watching

Day 0: Arrival Day

Upon your arrival into Juneau, your guide will be waiting to transfer you to your hotel. Once you are settled, you will have free time to enjoy the state capital of Alaska. Your guide will let you know at what time to meet the next day to start your adventure through Alaska and the Yukon.

Meals on your own.

Day 1: Juneau - Mendenhall Glacier Helicopter Walk, Salmon Hatchery, and Whale Watching

We will start the day with a narrated tour of downtown Juneau and the city's highlights. Then we're off to the Mendenhall Valley, where you will be whisked away on a helicopter to explore the Mendenhall Glacier and stroll across glacial ice. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will amaze you as your guides explain glaciology, natural history, and safety precautions on top of a glacier! Upon our return, you have the option to join a tour of the salmon hatchery, or you can enjoy your free time exploring downtown. In the afternoon, we will board a catamaran to the coastal fishing town of Haines, and whale watch along the journey! We will pass Eldred Rock Lighthouse, one of the most photographed entities in Alaska, as we keep eyes out for sea lions, seals, bald eagles, Dall porpoises, humpback whales, orcas, and more! Upon our arrival in Haines, we will transfer you to your hotel. You will be at your leisure for the rest of the evening.

Included: B-L.

Day 2: Haines – Kroschel Wildlife Center, Native Village of Klukwan Tour, and Float Through Bald Eagle Preserve

We will start our adventure-packed day with a narrated tour of historic Fort Seward. Continuing on to the Kroschel Wildlife Center, we will experience a hands-on visit and face-to-face encounters with Alaskan wildlife. For lunch, we'll stop at the classic 33 Mile Roadhouse for a tasty lunch surrounded by spruce forest. After lunch, we will drive south to the native village of Klukwan, the mother village of the Tlingit nation. We will have opportunities to experience the fascinating cultural history of the Tlingit people firsthand, including a native cultural performance. With a beautiful back drop of towering peaks, we will enjoy a riverside picnic lunch before our afternoon float adventure. We will float down a calm section of



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river aboard 18' inflatable rafts — the best way to observe eagles drawn to feed on the plentiful salmon! Your guide will enthrall you with natural history and river-specific facts. After your float, we will head back to downtown Haines, where you will enjoy free time for the rest of the day.

Included: B-L.

Day 3: Haines - Canoeing at Chilkoot Lake, Raptor Center Visit, Chilkat State Park, and Port Chilkoot Distillery Tasting

Our day will start with a drive to the Lutak Inlet and the Chilkoot River Valley. The Chilkoot River corridor offers incredible wildlife viewing: brown bears, eagles, mountain goats, and spawning salmon are all commons sights. Once at the lake, we will board our outboard canoes and explore the serenity of Chilkoot Lake. We will discover the inlets, coves, salmon spawning streams, and numerous waterfalls that spill from the mountains into this pristine lake. After our canoe adventure, we will return to the town of Haines and enjoy a picnic-style lunch at a private oceanside beach. After lunch, we will visit the American Bald Eagle Foundation's Raptor Center, an interpretive wildlife education center, where we will watch a training session with the beautiful bird that is the symbol of America and learn about other native wildlife. After this educational tour, we will head to Chilkat State Park to view the Rainbow Glacier, the Chilkat River delta, and search for wildlife along the coastline. Before the day ends, we will pay a visit to the Port Chilkoot Distillery! Renowned for their nationally award-winning spirits and local ambiance, the distillery is a favorite spot for locals and visitors alike. We will sample their fine spirits and munch on gourmet local fare. After this, we will return to the hotel, where you will be at your leisure for the remainder of the day.

Included: B-L.

Day 4: The Yukon, en route to Whitehorse - Haines Junction, Kathleen Lake, Kluane National Park

Today we will drive up the Haines Highway towards Canada, through the heart of the Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve and into the alpine. We will stop by the Three Guardsmen, Million Dollar Falls, the Tatshenshini River Overlook, Rock Glacier Trail, and more. We will stop at Kathleen Lake for a picnic-style lunch by the crystal-clear waters rimmed by snow-capped mountains. In the village of Haines Junction, we will visit Kluane National Park Visitors Center for the natural and cultural history of this beautiful land. We will continue our 2-hour picturesque drive to Whitehorse. Along the way, there are fantastic views of glaciers, cascading waterfalls, and wide expanses of alpine tundra. Once we reach the capitol of the Yukon, you will have time to enjoy and explore Whitehorse.

Included: B-L.

Day 5: The Yukon, en route to Skagway - Carcross, Emerald Lake, Carcross Desert, Yukon Suspension Bridge, White Pass, and Skagway

After breakfast, we will begin our beautiful day with a stroll along the Yukon River Boardwalk and through downtown Whitehorse. After stretching our legs, we'll hop in the motor coach and begin our scenic drive to the coastal Alaskan town of Skagway. We will visit Miles Canyon, the spectacular turquoise-hued Emerald Lake, the world's smallest desert — the Carcross Desert, just one square mile in all — and just down the road, we will enter the town of Carcross on the banks of Lake Bennett, where you will have free time to explore! Our next stop will be the Yukon Suspension Bridge, soaring 65 feet above the whitewater rapids of the Tutshi River. Then, we will leave Canada behind as we journey up to White Pass. We will



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make multiple stops throughout the scenic ride down the pass, ensuring ample photo opportunities of beautiful alpine lakes, hanging glaciers, towering snow-capped peaks, and a photo opportunity at the “Welcome to Alaska” sign. Our ride continues through the U.S. Border station, before arriving into Skagway, the Garden City of Alaska. Once we settle in the hotel, you will have free time to wander the charming streets of Skagway.

Included: B-L.

Day 6: Skagway - White Pass Yukon Railroad Ride, Scenic River Float, Gold Rush Ghost Town

Today we will embark on a train ride onboard the historic White Pass Yukon Route Railway narrow-gauge train. We will board vintage passenger coaches to retrace the original route to the White Pass Summit along a 40-mile round trip. The panorama of the mountains is breathtaking with glaciers, gorges, waterfalls, tunnels, trestles, and historic sites – including sights only visible from the railroad tracks! In the afternoon, meet your experienced raft guide for a Scenic Float down the Taiya River. We will enjoy a beautiful 10-mile drive along the rugged coast of the fjord to the Dyea Valley, the Gold Rush ghost town ruins of Dyea, and the starting point of the historic Chilkoot Trail. Stroll along the Dyea flats, see the National Park Service rendering of the ghost town's abandoned streets and building sites, and check out 200-year-old ruins. After the tour, we will return to your hotel, and the rest of the day is at your leisure to explore the town.

Included: B-L.

Day 7: Skagway, en route to Juneau – Return Ferry to Juneau and Whale Watching

Today, we will have an early start as we board the Fjordlands ferry for a very scenic ferry transfer to Juneau. We will have opportunities to whale watch while onboard, as well as enjoy the majestic mountains, waterfalls, and glaciers. You will also get the chance to snap some pictures of Eldred Rock Lighthouse again, the oldest original lighthouse in Alaska! Upon our arrival at the dock in Yankee Cove, your transfer will be waiting to take you to your hotel or the airport.

Included: B.

Note: While not included in the cost, our guides can facilitate group dinners at our favorite spots in town.

Weather delays and associated considerations: Alaska Yukon Discovery Tours may change the scheduled itinerary due to weather, conditions, or operational conflicts. If, for any reason, one of the schedule itinerary elements is unable to operate as planned, we will implement alternate tour programming which may involve alternate locations and/or different activities.