

Alaska in its 50th year

In January 1959 Alaska became the 49th State (Hawaii subsequently became a State later in 1959) of the Union. For nearly 100 years it had been a territory following the purchase (Sewards Folly) in 1867.

At 570,380 square miles, Alaska is over twice the size of Texas, the next largest State and has more coastline than the rest of USA. The name Alaska (Alyeska) is derived from the Aleut word for 'The Great Land". The population is only around 700,000 with about 50% in Anchorage. The remaining 50% are in smaller isolated communities including the State Capital Juneau which is inaccessible by road.

There are vast areas which offer tremendous opportunities for wildlife viewing, both on land and at sea. The State has 10 National Parks including Denali, home to Mount McKinley, Glacier Bay in South East Alaska and Wrangell-St Elias which, at 20,000 square miles, is 2½ times the size of Wales. As well as the National Parks there are vast areas of wilderness with breathtaking scenery.

Alaska is an iconic destination on many 'must do' lists and rarely disappoints.



How to book

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50 reasons to visit

Alaska

in its 50th year

1959-2009

The Great Land is a magnificent destination for a holiday at any time, offering magnificent scenery and wonderful wildlife viewing.

North American Highways







1 Alaska's Inside Passage

The highlight of Southeast Alaska, from Ketchikan to Juneau or reverse, glaciers, spectacular scenery and wildlife.

2 Tracy Arm

1,500ft high vertical cliffs to Sawyer Glaciers.

3 Misty Fjords

Narrow waterways.



4 Glacier Bay Nation Park

Rich in history, the highlight of your cruise. Glaciers descending from high snow capped mountains into the bay create spectacular displays of ice and icebergs.

5 Juneau

The State capital inaccessible by road.

6 Anchorage

Alaska's largest city with many attractions.



7 Ketchikan

The Salmon Capital of situated along the shores of Alaska's Inside Passage .

8 Skagway

Famous for the 1898 Gold Rush.

9 Petersburg

A Norwegian heritage fishing village, inaccessible to the many large Cruise Ships, home to Scenery Cove.



10 Haines

Old military town and goldrush port.

11 Sitka

Full of Russian influence, beautiful with much history.

12 Baranof Island

Includes the port of Sitka with its Russian influence.

13 Denali National Park

The Serengeti of the North – Stay inside the park at North Face Lodge or Camp Denali. Watch for wildlife including bears and caribou. Home to Mt McKinley, the tallest in America.

14 Bears

Alaska is all about wildlife, home to many species of bears, either by ship, air or on foot we offer many bear viewing experiences.

15 Admiralty Island

Home to the highest density of brown bears in USA.

16 Bering Sea

Travel aboard the Spirit of Oceanus, explore waters rarely visited by other companies, view wildlife and visit small communities. This is a super cruise!

17 Regent Seven Seas

Aboard the Seven Seas Navigator, experience the untamed wilderness of the Alaskan outback. There are a range of free shore excursions that allow you to discover the unique and natural beauty firsthand.

18 Wrangell St Elias

Largest National Park in USA two and half times the size of Wales.

19 Fairbanks

Gateway to Alaska's north and also serves the Alaska Railroad to Denali.

20 Nome

On the edge of the Bering Sea facing Russia.

21 Talkeetna

Popular with climbers, stunning views of Denali.

22 North Face Lodge

Historic accommodations inside Denali National Park.

23 Mt McKinley

The tallest mountain in North America over 20,000ft.

24 Whittier

The port for small ship cruises close to Anchorage.

25 Seward

South of Anchorage, base for many day excursions to Kenai Fjords National Park and also the Alaska Marine Highways ferry Seward – Valdez across Prince William Sound.

26 Kodiak Island

Famous for bears, working fishing port, great for wildlife.

27 American Safari Cruises

Selection of small boats from 12 to 50 passengers. Please contact us for details and special offers.

28 Prince William Sound

The largest concentration of tidewater Glaciers in the world.

29 Holland America Line

If you prefer a larger cruise line with frequent departures and a lead-in price of less than £700 per person, this is for you, call us for their latest special offers.

30 Pribilof Islands

Prime viewing for fur seals and birds.

31 Radisson Seven Seas

Recommended cruise line with maximum 700 passengers: all inclusive cruising, cabins with balconies.

32 Frederick Sound

Humpback Whales galore.

33 Alaska Marine Highway

Public ferry system designated an All-America Road and Scenic Byway.

34 1898 Gold Rush

Led to the influx of pioneers into the interior and establishment of many communities.

35 Homer

Fishing and Tourist town on Kenai Peninsula.

36 Katmai

National Park with bears and dramatic scenery.

37 Shumagin Islands

Visit on the Bering Sea itinerary – volcanoes. Petrified Forest and tundra.

38 Arctic Circle

An ideal add-on to any of our Alaska itineraries.

39 Magnificent Scenery

Alaska's scale is unmatched.

40 Holland America Cruise

Travel through Alaska's sublime beauty to popular ports of call in unsurpassed luxury and comfort.

41 Alaska Airlines

As you would expect cover the whole of the state and takes you to the gateway city of Seattle.

42 Parks Highways

North from Anchorage to Denali with memorable scenery.

43 Richardson Highway

Fairbanks south to Valdez, 'a drive through history' and some amazing landscapes.

44 Alaska Railroad

Stretching from Fairbanks to Seward via Anchorage, a great way to discover Alaska.

45 Alaska Highway

The road linking Alaska to the Lower 48 through The Yukon and British Columbia.

46 Glennallen

An old mining town, gateway to Wrangell-St Elias National Park.

47 Barrow

Isolated harbour on the Arctic Oce<mark>an in</mark> the Far North.

48 Valdez

Small harbour town at the eastern edge of Prince William Sound.

49 The Great Land

This is what Alaska is referred to – help us to celebrate its anniversary.

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