

The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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ALASKA'S INSIDE PASSAGE & SAN JUANS CRUISE (WILDERNESS DISCOVERER)

Cloud failure or liquid sunshine, our Alaska small ship adventure cruises are perfect for exploration--paddling, hiking, hot tub under the stars, "polar bear plunges," even playing in the mud with your expert expedition team. Glacier Bay National Park; Native totems; breaching whales; soaring eagles; rainforests; northern lights. Do as much or as little as you like on an unforgettable journey. Fares Include: Onboard meals Onboard spirits, wine, beer, non-alcoholic beverages Transfers and baggage handling between airport/vessel on embark/disembark days Entry fees to parks/preserves From-the-vessel activities and equipment Wellness amenities: hot tub, fitness equipment and yoga mats



ITINERARY

DAY 1 Seattle, Washington - Embarkation

Ah, the Emerald City! Check-in at the hospitality center and later, board your ship and settle in. Depending on your vessel, depart from downtown Seattle, cruising along the along the city's picturesque waterfront. Or from Fisherman's Terminal and transit historic Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, where it's a 20 foot drop into the Salish Sea. Adieu, Seattle.

DAY 2 Olympic National Park

Wake up in Hood Canal, one of the quietest reaches of Puget Sound. About 65 miles long, this fjord separates the Olympic

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and Kitsap Peninsulas. Your expedition team has big plans for the day. Daypacks packed, boots on your feet. Hit the trail for a hike into the Olympic Mountains, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Giant old-growth trees, ferns, wild rhododendron--the flora is dense and diverse. Tonight holds a special treat. It's a tasting of local oysters and clams. Paired with a locally-brewed beer--delicious!

[DAY 3 San Juan Islands, Washington](#)

Each island in the San Juan archipelago has unique character. Orcas and harbor seals haven't picked favorites. You could spot them in any passage. Give your arms a stretch. Kayak or paddle board along a tucked away cove. Sea stars dot rocky outcroppings orange and purple. Curious harbor seals watch your moves. Get in more mileage on a skiff ride to further inlets. There will be time to hike too. A high point gives views of the Olympic and Cascade Mountains. Look low and nose around pools for creatures left behind by the outgoing tide.

[DAY 4 Salish Sea / Canada's Inside Passage](#)

Mountains rise higher. Fjords get deeper. It's a day of intricate waterways and cruising for critters. The Strait of Georgia narrows into Seymour Narrows. Civilization slips away as you enter Johnstone Strait, where you may spot a pod of orcas. Surf-happy dolphins and porpoise like to catch a ride on the bow wave. Your captain and crew are on the lookout and give the call of a sighting. Islands of green. The Coast Range. Small communities dotting the beaches and fjords. Aiming to entertain and educate over the next days, your expedition team is at the

ready. Natural history, Native influences, and their favorite trivia games, too.

[DAY 5 Canada's Inside Passage](#)

Take your cup of joe to the bow. The world wakes up with you. Bald eagles watch the ship along its course from tree tops. Islands to the west, inlet-etched mainland etched to the east. Fitz Hugh Sound was first explored by Europeans in the 1720s. Today, it's favored by sail boats. Your captain and mates navigate the twisting passage. Harbor seals spend their days on rocky islets. Breathe in the fresh air and take in the views. In the lounge, your bartender mixes up the daily special. Take the challenge and play a few friendly hands of cards with your shipmates.

[DAY 6 Canada's Inside Passage](#)

Start the morning with guided stretches on the sun deck. Red roofs of Boat Bluff Lighthouse greet you as you pass into Tolmie Channel. The Great Bear Rainforest, known for the white "spirit" bear, stretches all around you. Princess Royal Island marks the southern border of the bear's territory. Spunky sea otters off the starboard. And a waterfall and old abandoned cannery come into view. That's Butedale. Once a fishing hub, now a ghost town. Pass Dixon Entrance and postcard-perfect Dundas Island Lighthouse. Leave behind British Columbia waters and continue on--to Alaska.

[DAY 7 Ketchikan, Alaska](#)

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Take a town day in Alaska's southernmost city, the "salmon capital of the world." Ketchikan's claim-to-fame--the world's largest collection of standing totem poles. Connect with the Tlingit Culture. Tribal leader and local legend Joe Williams, known as Ka Xesh X'e in his native language, guides you on a walking tour. With a rich oral tradition, the Tlingit passed stories from generation to generation--and Joe's storytelling is captivating!

[DAY 8 Misty Fjords National Monument / Behm Canal](#)

It does get misty here. In fact, down right mystical. Calm settles over these parts and all you can hear is nature. Deep glacial fjords filled with seawater. Wetlands, estuaries, dense forests, and sweeping granite cliffs. Misty Fjords is the largest Wilderness Area in the Tongass National Forest. Behm Canal separates the western edge of the monument from the mainland. It's a haven for wildlife--grizzly and black bears, salmon, whales, mountain goats, and deer. Paddle through a bay, silty from the outwash of a mountain river. On shore, your guide points out intertidal curios along the beach. The gaze of watchful eagles keeps you on point.

[DAY 9 Ernest Sound](#)

Between Cleveland Peninsula and Etolin Island sits Ernest Sound--first charted in 1793. In some of its least-explored reaches, drop anchor. Your expedition team has a full list of activities in queue. Boots, paddles, skiff? Pull on your rubber

boots. They were made for the deep forest you're hiking into. Paddle around tiny islets that dot the edges of Deer Island. Or scoot further away with the speed of a skiff to serene pockets carved into the rugged coastline. This evening, relax on deck to the call of the wild.

[DAY 10 Petersburg / Frederick Sound](#)

Sailing into Petersburg, the views of Devil's Thumb and snow-topped peaks are motivation enough to put one foot in front of the other. Hard-charge up Petersburg Mountain or choose a mellower hike along Petersburg Creek. Take time to stroll through town. Or visit the museum for a dose of Tlingit and Norwegian history before lunch back on board. Go slow in Frederick Sound. It's a favored summer home for humpback whales. Let the search begin. Take a jaunt by kayak or paddleboard before calling it a day for happy hour.

[DAY 11 Chatham Strait / Chichagof Island](#)

North into glacially-carved Chatham Strait. Captain picks the anchorage. Your top-notch expedition team plans the fun. And rain or shine, anything is possible. Paddling. Skiffing. Beachcombing. Bears like it too--Chichagof Island has one of the highest brown bear populations in the world.

[DAY 12 Glacier Bay National Park](#)

There's a cool factor, and it's not just coming off the face of the glaciers! This 3.3 million-acre park was covered by ice as

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recently as 1795. Since then, the park's receding glacier activity has made it a lot easier to access those inner reaches. Pick up a park ranger at Bartlett Cove in the early hours. Glacial history, retreats, advances, moraines. They come with expert insight, so bring on the questions. Pigeon guillemots, puffins, and cormorants colonize and nest at South Marble Island. One good whiff and a few loud barks give away one of its mammalian residents. It's a full day in the bay exploring Muir's legacy--all the way to Grand Pacific and Margerie Glaciers. Celebrate with a toast to Ma' Nature's handiwork.

DAY 13 Icy Strait

Bull whip kelp threads through nearby channels like a jungle mangrove. And you know better, but orange and purple starfish and jellyfish make it hard to believe you're not in the tropics. Follow the currents out to where the sea lions flock to remote rock formations. Your captain is on the bridge, the expedition team on deck, and all eyes are on the water and the shore. Everyone is on-watch for the telltale blow of humpbacks. Dall's porpoise feast in the nutrient-rich water too. And bears lumber about for an afternoon nosh. Try getting a little closer to the shoreline by skiff, kayak, or on foot. Sometimes the smallest things are the biggest wonders. Take in the evening solitude from the bow, or the hot tub. Or both--why choose just one?

DAY 14 Haines, Alaska

Haines is adventure-central--hiking, biking, and rafting. The trails are the cream of the crop, but all options lead to views of rivers, inlets, and snowcapped mountains. Haines has been occupied

for thousands of years. The Chilkat Tlingit lived and traded here. European explorers arrived in the late 1880s. Of course, there's the Gold Rush. Turn the pages of history with a presentation on the past. And there's free time to explore on your own. Tonight, join your captain for the Farewell Dinner. As a special treat, your expedition team shares a slideshow of your journey.

DAY 15 Juneau, Alaska - Disembarkation

Disembark after breakfast. Transfer to the Juneau airport.

Please Note:

Itineraries are guidelines; variations in itinerary and the order of days may occur to maximize your experience.

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YOUR SHIP: WILDERNESS DISCOVERER

YOUR SHIP:

Wilderness Discoverer

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

The 76-guest Wilderness Discoverer gets rave reviews from her guests. Expedition is top-of-mind with this vessel; and adventure and discovery lay at its heart. The interior complements the outside and public and private spaces are loaded with amenities. Enjoy a main lounge that evokes the feel of a National Park Lodge or neighborhood pub and relax on deck or keep watch for wildlife. Three accessible decks are fully equipped for comfort and action. The sun deck has a sauna and fitness equipment; viewing is over-the-top from the bow and under-the-stars from two hot tubs on the observation deck; and the EZ Dock launch platform on the main deck makes getting in the water a cinch. Onboard are kayaks; stand-up paddle boards; inflatable skiffs; hiking poles; yoga mats; hydrophone for listening below-surface; and a bow-mounted underwater camera pipes the action to the lounge and to your cabin TV. The four cabin categories aboard the Wilderness Discoverer are: Navigator; Trailblazer; Pathfinder; and Explorer. Depending on your cabin, singles, doubles or triples can be accommodated. Common to all Wilderness Discoverer cabins are: Memory foam mattresses; Flat-screen TV/DVD; and iPod docking station. All staterooms come with a view window (no portholes).



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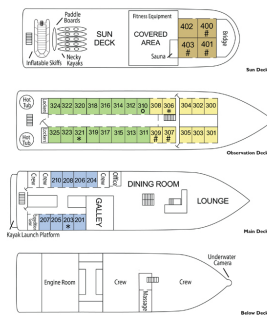
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP



All Cabins are Above Deck with View Windows
 * Double or Triple Accommodation * Single or Double Accommodation * Fixed Seat Bath

- Explorer Cabin (EXPL)**
 40-403
 Single stateroom or twin beds, large picture window/private bath with shower.
- Halfmaster Cabin (MATH)**
 304-309
 Double stateroom, double bed or double bed with bunk bed, view window/private bath with shower.
- Trailblazer Cabin (TRBL)**
 200-209
 Queen or twin beds, view window/private bath with shower.
- Navigator Cabin (NAVY)**
 101-103/108-110
 Queen or twin beds, view window/private bath with shower.



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PRICING

ADDITIONAL CHARGES:

Port taxes/fees 750 USD pp



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