

2008 Alaska CruiseTour 26 11-Day Double Denali Quest & Glacier Bay



CRUISETOUR 26: DOUBLE DENALI VIA ALASKAN SCENIC BYWAYS

McKinley Explorer luxury rail to Double Denali, Explorer Coach to Seward and 7-day Glacier Bay Discovery cruise — a distinctive mix of adventures.

Daily Itinerary

Day 1 Anchorage

Fly into Alaska's largest city to begin your Alaska adventure. Check into your downtown hotel in Anchorage and spend the day at leisure.

Day 2 Anchorage/Denali National Park

Today you'll board the **McKinley Explorer**, the largest domed railcars on the historic Alaska Railroad route, an Alaska Scenic Byway. Sit back and relax in the observation lounge and watch magnificent scenery glide by. Watch for waterfalls, search for wildlife in forests of birch, aspen and fir, and marvel at mountains stretching out in all directions. Upon arrival at **Denali National Park**, transfer to the finest lodge where your comfortable room awaits. Unpack and set off to explore. There's so much to see and do. Grab a take-out sandwich at the Sugarloaf Coffee Corner and head off on a rental bike for a ride to Horseshoe Lake. Organized flightseeing, horseback riding and golfing tours are another option. And don't miss the rollicking musical at the Cabin Nite Dinner Theatre.

Day 3 Denali National Park

Enjoy an **EXTRA DAY** to explore Denali National Park on an informative **Tundra Wilderness Tour**. Traveling by bus to mile 53

of the park road offers opportunities to view abundant wildlife from **caribou and moose to Dall sheep, wolves and grizzly bears**. A viewpoint at Stony Hill Overlook provides fabulous views of Mt. McKinley, weather permitting. After touring this unspoiled ecosystem — one of the earth's last great wildernesses, you will return to your lodge where you can take advantage of a number of optional tour activities — everything from flightseeing, fly fishing and river rafting to exploring via horse, jeep, or jet boat.

Day 4 Explorer Coach to Seward

This morning, board your Explorer Coach for the drive along the Parks Highway watching for dazzling mountain views and wildlife — sightings of moose, squirrels, porcupines, eagles, hoary marmot and more are frequently reported. Then continue along the **Seward Highway** to picturesque **Seward**, a harbor town surrounded by mountains on the edge of Resurrection Bay. Embark your ship and set sail.

Day 5 College Fjord cruising

While spending a relaxing morning at sea, enter **Prince William Sound** to the only place in Alaska that surrounds you on three sides with flowing rivers of ice, named after the leading Ivy League colleges.

Day 6 Glacier Bay National Park scenic cruising

This is Alaska's number-one glacier experience. Cruise from the Reid and Lamplugh glaciers to the mighty Johns Hopkins — surrounded by rugged peaks and sheltering a seal pupping ground. Linger for a full hour at the Grand Pacific and Margerie glaciers while a **National Park Service ranger** shares insights into the park's history and

wildlife. And a **Huna Totem native speaker** will join the ship to impart the legend and lore of this sacred place.

Day 7 Haines/Skagway

This is the bald-eagle capital of Alaska. Tour the **Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve**, walk the historic fort or take a high-speed catamaran to nearby Skagway to ride the **White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad**. This frontier port is full of options.

Day 8 Juneau

Today, explore the lush **Tongass National Forest** or visit the rustic shops in town. History buffs can browse the Alaska State Museum. You'll have the day to explore **Mendenhall Glacier** or go whale watching, fishing or even dogsledding on a glacier!

Day 9 Ketchikan

Besides the main attractions — Creek Street, the Tongass Historical Museum, Totem Bight State Park and Saxman Village — there's one other thing we highly recommend you do. A flightseeing trip to breathtaking **Misty Fjords National Monument** is essential.

Day 10 Inside Passage scenic cruising

Steep coastal mountains and marine wildlife will be the backdrop to a relaxing day at sea. Whether with a massage in the Greenhouse Spa, a cooking lesson in the Culinary Arts Center or a game of chance in the casino, you'll discover exciting daily activities and elegant service.

Day 11 Disembark in Vancouver

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2008 CruiseTour 26 Departure Dates featuring Glacier Bay National Park

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Additional Tuesday departures are available featuring Sitka and Hubbard Glacier instead of Glacier Bay, Skagway and College Fjord.

Thursday Departures:

May 15, 22, 29
June 5, 12, 19, 26
July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
August 7, 14, 21, 28
September 4, 11

Sample Optional Excursions

For complete listings and purchase details, see our website at www.hollandamerica.com

Denali National Park: Denali Helicopter Excursion. Fly along the spine of the Alaska Range through the unexplored mountain backcountry of towering peaks and ancient glaciers in search of majestic Mt. McKinley.

Haines: Haines Historical Walking Tour. History, native culture, local plants and present-day life are well understood after this ideal waking tour. Explore Fort Seward and peer into local gardens as you walk to the town center where you may choose to stop at the local museum or shop.

Juneau: Juneau Fly-Out Fly Fishing Adventure. Combine the challenge of fly-fishing with a breathtaking floatplane flight to the heart of the Tongass National Forest. Your guide will provide instruction and depending on the season, fish for wild salmon, Dolly Varden, cutthroat trout or steelhead.

Ketchikan: Saxman Native Village. The Tlingits welcome guests to the Beaver Clan House with a song and dance. At the Saxman Totem Park, one of the largest gatherings of totem poles in the world, your guide will help unravel their towering mysteries. At the Village Carving Center, craftsmen pass on their skills to eager apprentices.

Who will enjoy CruiseTour 26 most?

The Value-Conscious Traveler: Better than just a cruise, this itinerary gives an introduction to Alaska's vast interior — all at a great price.

The Glacier Chaser: Between Glacier Bay National Park's spectacular scenery, College Fjord's intimate setting and additional options like Mendenhall Glacier from Juneau, you will see more glaciers than on any other cruisetour.

The Cruise Lover: A Glacier Discovery Cruise with Holland America Line offers the best frontier ports and finest onboard experience in one memorable week. You'll appreciate our spacious, elegant ships where unobtrusive service and sophisticated five-star dining are delivered flawlessly.

Extend your Vacation from Anchorage

Alyeska Resort Pre-CruiseTour Option: The only Alaska hotel to be included on Condé Nast's Gold List, Alyeska Resort is nestled in the Chugach National Forest. Including a four-diamond restaurant with a view of seven nearby glaciers, extending your CruiseTour here will be a most relaxing journey.

Anchorage & Portage Glacier: Add an extra night in Anchorage plus a 7-hour tour including a cruise to Portage Glacier aboard Holland America Line's *ms Ptarmigan*. Traveling by deluxe motor coach, you will also see the wilderness of the Chugach and Kenai Mountains, as you look for beluga whales in the scenic Turnagain Arm of Cook Inlet.

To Book, Contact: