

2008 Alaska CruiseTour 29 13-Day Homer & Kenai Peninsula Exploration



CRUISETOUR 29: HOMER AND KENAI PENINSULA HIGHLIGHTS

A comprehensive Kenai Peninsula CruiseTour from Seward including adventures in Homer and Cooper Landing and a scenic Kenai Fjords cruise!

Daily Itinerary

Day 1 Sail from Vancouver

You have been dreaming of this vacation with anticipation. Your five-star vessel boasts fewer passengers, larger staterooms and more space than any other in Alaska. Today you will notice this refined elegance as you sail under the Lion's Gate Bridge and enter the scenic wonders of the **Inside Passage**.

Day 2 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 3 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 4 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 5 Skagway

This is home to the **Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park** and today we recommend that you board the nostalgic 108-year-old **White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad**. Recount the trials of the gold seekers who packed their outfits over this rugged terrain back in 1898. Your ship will linger until late evening so you'll have ample time to fully explore this living museum of the gold rush.

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 College Fjord scenic cruising

After 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 8 Seward and Kenai Fjords National Park

Disembark your ship in **Seward** where you'll meet your **Tour Director**. Today's adventure is a cruise through spectacular **Kenai Fjords National Park**, often called the "Denali of marine wildlife." You'll sail aboard an intimate day boat that cruises up close to bird rookeries and seal haul-outs. Watch for whales, Dall's porpoise, and sea otters as you cruise through this intricate maze of secluded inlets, bays and island coves. Later, return to picturesque

Seward for your overnight stay.

Day 9 Seward/Homer

Travel through the spectacular scenery of the Kenai Peninsula! Your motor coach takes you along the Sterling Highway that takes in scenes of the lush Kenai Mountains, lots of rustic homesteads and one snow-capped mountain after another. Arrive in **Homer**, located literally at the end of the road, and begin your stay in this remote, yet popular vacation spot.

Day 10 Homer

The **Homer Spit** is widely known for its scenery. Take advantage of your **EXTRA DAY** and stroll along the beach, watch the locals unloading their catch and chat with artisans. Tours feature the celebrated halibut and salmon fishing available in the area. Or, you can journey to **Katmai National Park** where brown bears catch jumping salmon in mid-air and the ancient volcanic peaks are still letting off steam. Overnight in Homer amidst some of Alaska's most breathtaking scenery.

Day 11 Homer/Cooper Landing

The world's most avid fishermen and women come to the **Kenai River** to angle for trophy-sized salmon. History buffs and nature lovers will enjoy the visit to **Cooper Landing** as well — the area is rich with native heritage and tranquil scenery. An overnight stay completes your unforgettable Kenai experience.

Day 12 Portage Lake Cruise/Anchorage

Enjoy a renowned local excursion — our exclusive *mv Ptarmigan* cruise to **Portage Glacier**. On the way to Anchorage, drive the Seward Highway along **Turnagain Arm**, watching for beluga whales and abundant bird life. As you come into Anchorage, marvel at the modern skyline backed by an even more dazzling array of sky-high mountains. Say "good-bye" to your Tour Director. Check into your downtown hotel for a night in Alaska's largest city.

Day 13 Tour ends

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2008 CruiseTour 29 Departure Dates featuring Glacier Bay

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Sunday Departures:

May 18
June 1, 15, 29
July 13, 27
August 10, 24
September 7

Who will enjoy CruiseTour 29 most?

The National Park Collector: Alaska's best marine parks are included on this tour. You'll have extra time for exploring both Kenai Fjords and Glacier Bay national parks plus Klondike National Historical Park in Skagway and the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

The Cruise Enthusiast: 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.

The Marine Wildlife Lover: This cruisetour offers unmatched marine wildlife-viewing opportunities through optional excursions in Juneau and Ketchikan. Take a day cruise and get even closer to many species of whale, seal, porpoise and otter. Don't forget extra film!

Sample Optional Excursions

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

Ketchikan: Ketchikan Explorer by Land & Sea. Drive past historic Creek Street to Saxman Village to view one of the largest gatherings of totem poles in the world. After viewing Libby Cannery, board a comfortable ship to explore the coastline of George Inlet watching for eagles, seals and porpoise.

Juneau: Four Glaciers by Helicopter & Dog Sled Adventure. See four of Alaska's most spectacular glaciers as your expert pilot flies over the ice spires and pinnacles of the Juneau Icefield. Land on a remote glacier and step out to explore the ancient landscape with your guide.

Skagway: Historic Gold Panning Camp By Trolley. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the Gold Rush as your guide takes you to the Liarsville Gold Rush Trail Camp for a snack and gold panning. Take pictures of both the giant Mackenzie River husky and the lively dancehall girls.

Homer: Sports Fishing. This is where the action is. Ask an Alaskan where the best place to fish is and you'll certainly hear about Homer. Today, venture into Kachemak Bay in search of world-record halibut and a variety of salmon. Between the cathedral display of mountains and abundant fish, this is one of the best fishing opportunities anywhere.

Extend your Vacation from Anchorage

Alyeska Resort Post 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.

To Book, Contact: