



# ALASKA EXPEDITION

8th – 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## Expedition Outline

Alaska is one of the last true wildernesses in the World. We will spend 9 days and 8 nights out in the majestic Prince William Sound. The area is well known for its amazing marine life and calving Glaciers. Taking everything we need to survive with us in our fibreglass sea kayaks we will first explore the Sound looking out for Killer Whales, Humpback Whales, Dolphins, Sea Lions and possibly even Bears, we will most certainly see many Bald Eagles as we paddle past waterfalls cascading into the sea from the many glaciated hanging valleys. At the end of each days paddling we shall be setting up camp in a true wilderness setting.

## Experience needed

What ever option the group and expedition guide decides upon, it needs to be realised that the expedition is pitched at the intermediate level of sea kayaker, daily distances covered, will vary between days and although will be dependant on energy levels within the group and the prevailing weather conditions, we would expect members of the expedition to be able to comfortably manage somewhere between 15 & 20 nautical miles per day, with occasional days possibly exceeding this slightly. If you are familiar with the ISKGA, EPP or BCU systems, then you should be at or around the level 3 standard of skill.

To get the most out of the expedition you should be physically fit and have experience of camping from your sea kayak. One of the biggest challenges apart from the daily distances is the remote camping and so you should have experience and be comfortable camping in the wild. Bears are an indigenous species and strict campsite discipline is required where food is concerned. If you

have any questions regarding the required ability please feel free to get in touch. We would recommend that if you have no previous expedition experience that you attend one of our expedition training courses or contact SKC staff to create a programme to get you at the required level.

## What it includes

The expedition fee includes Kayaks, paddles, PFD/BA and spray deck, as well as instruction where necessary. We can also supply tents, sleeping bags and stoves should you need them, but this will be an added expense extra. The price does not include accommodation on the first and last night but this has been reserved for you so please bring \$200USD to pay for this.

The plan is not to have to use the boat shuttle service at the end of the expedition, if we need to employ the use of a boat shuttle for any reason there will be a surcharge for this service. This is not included in the price. The price does not include your flights out to Anchorage. You should make sure you have adequate travel insurance for your travel and for your time in the USA. There are on line visa requirements for non US residents through the ESTA programme so please ensure you have fulfilled immigration requirements.

## Location and times

We will all meet on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> June at about 9AM, this will be outside of the [REI retail store](#) in Downtown Anchorage (Address:1200 W Northern Lights Blvd Ste A Anchorage, AK 99503, Phone:(907) 272-4565). Here the expedition

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members will be able to make any last minute purchases of food and equipment prior to departing for Log cabin accommodation in the small Gold mining town of Hope.

There will also be the opportunity to visit a food store to stock up on other provisions such as food and drink etc. We shall then travel to the launch site on the morning of the 9th of June, and paddle out shortly after our arrival at the put in. We will be out on expedition until the afternoon of the 17<sup>th</sup> of June. You will then return to Hope where you can sort out equipment, unwind and then celebrate prior to returning to Anchorage on the morning of the 18th to continue with your Alaskan adventure or to meet your other travel arrangements home.

## What to bring

- Tent
- Sleeping bag and mat
- Camping stove,
- Paddling Equipment
- Mug, bowl and cutlery
- Warm clothes
- A big bag for carrying kit up the beach to camp
- Water containers/hydration packs
- Dry bags,
- Water proof jacket & trousers
- Passport (don't forget this!)
- Sun cream & insect repellent
- Camera and all the other bits you normally need when camping!
- The weather can be changeable in Alaska and although last years expedition experienced a 14 day heat wave this is not the norm, you may wish to include pogies and storm cags for extra warmth if needed.

If the UK pound is strong against the Dollar, you may wish to purchase some items of gear in the US. The REI can with prior notice get into store merchandise on order for you, which can then be picked up prior to leaving Anchorage. The outfitter we use for our Alaska

Expedition can also hire out tents, tarps and cookers etc, please let us know when booking just what you require so that we can avoid confusion and disappointment upon arrival.

Please, when booking onto the Alaskan Expedition you inform us of your height and weight so that we can reserve a sea kayak that will be suitable for your physique.