



Family Adventure:

AUGUST 1-8, 2020

Alaska by Land and Sea



Family Adventure: Alaska by Land and Sea

Dear MIT Alumni and Friends,

Experience the wonders of Alaska on this special family journey this summer. Hike under northernmost rainforest canopies and reach the top of Mt. Alyeska by resort tram for spectacular views. Raft on a turquoise river with naturalist guides, navigate a kayak in a protected lagoon near dazzling glacial ice, and spot abundant wildlife, including moose, whales, sea lions, and bears. Feel the wind in your hair as you experience a customized summer version of dog sledding, and meet puppies which may be future Iditarod champions. Also, travel on board the historic Alaska Railroad for a scenic backcountry rail tour, accessing amazing backcountry areas few ever get to witness.

Leading the way on this authentically Alaskan adventure are local expert naturalists. Create memories with your family to last a lifetime during this program that emphasizes active learning, incorporating

natural and Native Alaskan culture. This program is designed for travelers age eight and older and limited to 22 travelers. If you have any questions, or to make a reservation, please call the MIT Alumni Travel Program at 800-992-6749 or email compass@mit.edu.

Sincerely,



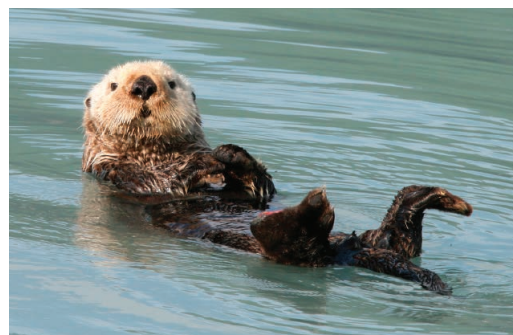
Melissa C. Gresh

Director MIT Alumni Travel Program

P.S. Please visit our website at <http://alum.mit.edu/travel> for details and updates on all of our programs.



Family Adventure: Alaska by Land and Sea



Explore amazing places in the Land of the Midnight Sun

Saturday, August 1: Anchorage

Arrive in Alaska by afternoon today. Meet fellow travelers and the trip leader at 4:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Lakefront Anchorage hotel and head to the heart of downtown Anchorage for an interactive tour at the Anchorage Museum. Following the museum visit, enjoy a private reception and dinner at a well-known local restaurant for Alaskan infused cuisine. After dinner, choose to return to the hotel or enjoy local sights such as art galleries, shops and other Anchorage attractions.

Overnight Lakefront Anchorage. (D)

Sunday, August 2: Girdwood, Cooper Landing

Bid farewell to the city of Anchorage and travel south along the majestic Turnagain Arm to the small mountain community of Girdwood. Today's adventure takes us through the northernmost rainforest areas of Alaska on a guided hike through a protected forest canopy. Upon reaching a local gorge, board a hand-tram for unique transport across Glacier Creek.

At the end of the hike, a special treat awaits as we visit Crow Creek Mine, an active and historic gold mine, where our group will learn about Alaska's amazing gold mining history and have the opportunity to pan. This is a favorite among youth explorers and an overall fun activity for all ages!

Next, gain an eagle's eye view of the local mountains when you take a tram to the top of Mt. Alyeska for spectacular views of the seven surrounding glaciers. During the eight minute tram ride, gain more than 2000 feet of elevation, with a bird's eye view of winter ski routes and flowercovered valleys.

Late afternoon, travel south through spectacular mountain passes until you reach the quaint town of Cooper Landing, on the banks of the famed Kenai River to your home for the next three nights – Kenai Riverside Lodge. Savor a delicious dinner and relax on the banks of the river.

Overnight Kenai Riverside Lodge. (B, L, D)

Monday, August 3: Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

Today's adventure will take us into the backcountry of Chugach National Forest and Kenai National Wildlife Refuge by raft on family-friendly Class II rapids! Guests will be outfitted in comfortable riverready gear, and your raft guide will offer natural history interpretation and stories behind the sights. Scan for eagles and birds, salmon and trout swimming in the turquoise water and possibly moose or bears on the banks of the Kenai River. A delicious picnic lunch will be enjoyed on the banks of the Kenai River. This evening, retire to the main lodge for dinner and relaxing. A family game night in the programs lodge will offer fun and festive bonding followed by s'mores and snacks around the bonfire near the riverbanks.

Overnight Kenai Riverside Lodge. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 4: Seward

This morning, gear up for the thrill of the truly Alaskan sport of dogsledding, with a special visit to the multi-Iditarod-winning Seavey family's dog kennels. Ride a sled pulled by dogs for an exciting 2-mile course, followed by time to meet the dogs and pups which will be future racing stars. Make sure to bring your camera for great photography opportunities!

Next, you'll have the opportunity to stretch your legs on a great hike to Exit Glacier, near the impressive Harding Ice Field. Get up close to the icy blue glacier, and you'll have the chance to learn more about the geological and climate forces changing the current landscape.

Overnight Kenai Riverside Lodge. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 5: Kenai Fjords National Park

Today, transition from interior Alaska to amazing coastal areas. From the departure point in the stunning seacoast town of Seward, board a small ship bound for Kenai Fjords National Park—home to an array of glaciers and marine wildlife such as whales, Steller sea lions, sea otters, puffins and more! A half-day marine wildlife cruise will allow you to explore the rugged coastlines. Enjoy lunch in front of a calving glacier before arriving at our exclusive lodge destination: Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge.

Nestled in a protected tidal lagoon area, the Glacier Lodge offers miles of pristine beachfront for exploring and views of the stunning Pedersen Glacier. This afternoon, meet your guides for a lodge orientation and settle into your private cabins. Enjoy dinner and another fun night of games in the main lodge and lounge. *Overnight Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge. (B, L, D)*

Thursday, August 6: Kenai Fjords National Park

Explore the wild delights of Kenai Fjords National Park. After breakfast in the main lodge, choose from a wide array of activities best suited to your energy level and interest. Guided options include naturalist walks, sea kayaking, group canoe paddles, and more.

Youth travelers will engage in hands-on learning activities centered on glaciers, learning about the tectonic forces which have shaped the landscape surrounding the lodge. All guest cabins are in direct view of Pedersen Glacier, which offers the perfect backdrop for this unique journey.

Upon return to the main lodge, share stories from your day's adventure during an interactive gathering and join an evening natural history presentation. *Overnight Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge. (B, L, D)*

Friday, August 7: Anchorage

This morning allows another opportunity to kayak, canoe, or beachcomb for a half-day before boarding our boat for the return wildlife cruise to Seward. Board the historic Alaska Railroad for a scenic backcountry rail tour back to Anchorage. Enjoy a festive farewell dinner on the train.

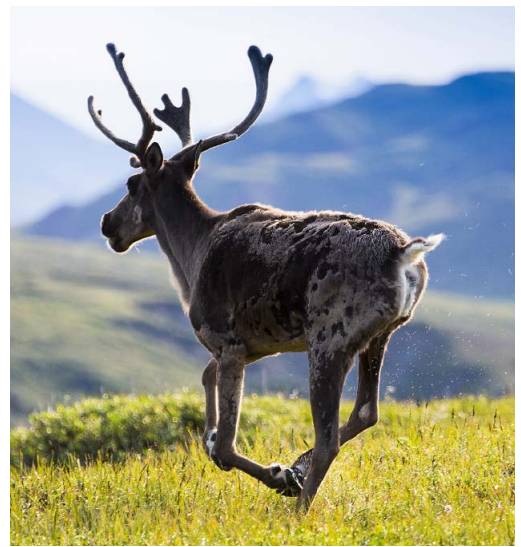
Overnight in Anchorage. (B, L, D)

Saturday, August 8: To Home, or Continue on Extension

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, followed by airport shuttles (B)

Included meals will be noted: B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner; complimentary snacks and non-alcoholic beverages included each day.

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Post-Option to Denali National Park, August 8-12, 2020

Saturday, August 8: Talkeetna

Enjoy breakfast this morning, and afterward, experience the Alaska Native Heritage Center up-close-and-personal; the Center is a renowned cultural gathering place where guests come together to expand understanding of Alaska's indigenous people. The Center features various exhibits, displays and opportunities to engage and interact with visiting artists from Alaska's native villages.

After your visit, travel north to the small mountain town of Talkeetna, the gateway to Denali National Park. Once in Talkeetna, choose from several activities, including a guest favorite—flightseeing. Take to the skies on an optional flightseeing tour of Denali and its adjacent glacial canyons. Experienced pilots will share stories of how the last ice age has shaped the land. Moments later, enter a world of rugged high mountain peaks and wide glacier-filled valleys. (Flightseeing is an optional excursion, weather dependent and available for an additional cost, starting at \$270 per person; advanced reservations are not required).

Another casual activity to enjoy this afternoon is exploring “downtown” Talkeetna. Tour the small-town museum, where artifacts and exhibits showcase native peoples, aviators, gold seekers and trappers from Talkeetna's past and present. *Overnight Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge.* (B, L, D)

Sunday, August 9: Denali National Park

This morning, travel north to the Denali Park entrance area. Bid farewell to the crowds and journey to your home for the next two nights—Denali Backcountry Lodge.

Access to the more than 6 million acres of protected wilderness within Denali National Park and Preserve is accomplished in style and comfort aboard a private bus. For youth travelers, participate in a Junior Ranger activity en route to tonight's lodge.

The Denali Park Road is the only road in the park and extends 92 miles to the old mining community of Kantishna. On this narrated wildlife drive, you'll cross rolling mountainsides, cliffs, scenic vistas and prime wildlife viewing areas. It is not uncommon to encounter wildlife right on the park road, as Denali's “Big Four”—caribou, moose, Dall sheep and grizzlies—use this pathway on natural migrations.

Upon arrival at Denali Backcountry Lodge, enjoy dinner and settle into your cabin accommodations. Located near the banks of Moose Creek, Denali Backcountry Lodge is a perfect mix of creature comforts in a true wilderness setting. Tune into an evening presentation or enjoy a cocktail in the guest lounge. *Overnight Denali Backcountry Lodge.* (B, L, D)

Monday, August 10: Denali National Park

Enjoy exploration and activities of your choosing in the Kantishna region of Denali National Park. Daily activity offerings at Denali Backcountry Lodge include guided hiking (a great array of casual, moderate or challenging trails to choose from); natural history programs and gold panning. For those seeking a more independent approach, unguided mountain biking or casual flyfishing are available; gear is available for use at the lodge.

Hiking is a wonderful way to experience the Park and its amazing wonders. Local trails range from a two mile roundtrip casual stroll along excellent blueberry picking areas (with minimal elevation gain) to challenging hikes from six to eight miles, gaining almost 2300 feet of elevation. Various mid-range hikes and treks are also available for those seeking a half-day activity in the wild.

Return to the main lodge for dinner, conversation and relaxing. *Overnight Denali Backcountry Lodge.* (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 11: Anchorage

Following an early breakfast, embark on a return scenic drive and watch for wildlife while heading for the entrance of the park. Board the Alaska Railroad for passage on a memorable 365-mile route of scenic unspoiled backcountry en route to Anchorage. Traverse breathtaking river gorges via single-span bridges, make old-fashioned whistle stops and arrive in Anchorage at approximately 8:30 p.m. Lunch and dinner will be available on the train, and your Trip Leader will assist in coordinating dining times in the Alaska Railroad's comfortable dining cars.

Your Trip Leader will provide shuttle service back to our hotel for this evening. *Overnight Lakefront Anchorage.* (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 12: To Home

After breakfast, shuttle to airport for independent flights home. (B)

Included meals will be noted: B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner; complimentary snacks and non-alcoholic beverages included each day.

Family Adventure: Alaska by Land and Sea

What to Expect

This program is open to travelers age eight and older. Travelers on this journey should be in average physical shape and comfortable walking at least one mile on uneven terrain (unpaved nature paths), at a casual pace, with ample stops for water breaks.

A typical day will include up to four or five hours of outdoor activity. Trip leaders will guide younger travelers in a variety of youth activities to emphasize time in nature including ample breaks for rest and active learning. Evenings will feature a mix of free time to relax in private guest cabins or main lodges along with educational lectures and presentations on various topics. Activities are led by expert naturalist guides who hold safety certifications and permits, such as the Wilderness First Aid Responder license, and who are also experienced in outdoor youth leadership.

When in “bear country,” guides will provide thorough safety briefings for all travelers.

Class II rapids (August 3 of the itinerary) are described as follows: Medium-quick water with short sections of mild whitewater; clean and open passages between canyon areas. The rafting excursion is fully guided; no previous rafting experience is necessary.

Please be prepared for any type of weather. Often, temperatures are between the 40s and 60s in the summer, but it could be warmer or cooler. Typically the weather during the summer months is surprisingly mild. It rains every month of the summer. For water-based activities, rain gear and rain boots, along with other activity-specific gear, will be supplied for all tour participants.



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Lodging for Main Tour

A mix of authentic Alaskan wilderness lodges and comfortable hotels have been selected for this journey. All guest rooms/cabins will feature a minimum of two double beds, private en suite bathroom/shower and on-demand electricity and heat. For the majority of the tour, meals will be served family-style in the main lodges at each property.

The Lakefront Anchorage is located in Anchorage, on the shores of Lake Hood, a popular destination for float planes. Guest rooms feature two queen beds and private bath, with additional creature comforts like TV and wireless internet. Courtesy shuttles to/from Anchorage airport and local Anchorage destinations provided 24 hours a day.

Kenai Riverside Lodge is set on the idyllic turquoise waters of the Kenai River. Private guest cabins surround the main lodge and expansive riverside deck, where travelers may relax by the bonfire to share stories and relax. Each cabin features a minimum of two queen beds and private bath, along with a private outside deck area. The main lodge boasts two dining areas, a guest lounge and a bar; the lodge grounds offer an array of fun for families, including a wood-fired sauna, beach volleyball court, ping pong tables, a basketball court, and self-guided walking trails.

Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge is the only lodge inside the 700,000 acre Kenai Fjords National Park. Private guest cabins are situated in nature settings with views of Pedersen Glacier and Lagoon. Each cabin features a minimum of two queen beds and private bath, plus a private deck overlooking the lagoon. There are areas in the main lodge for dining and relaxing, including a natural history library and large leather sofas near a wood-fired stove.

Lodging for Optional Denali Extension:

Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge is located in the quaint mountain town of Talkeetna, the gateway of Denali National Park. The guest lodge features spacious private rooms with two double beds and private bath, located near expansive walking paths with mountain views.

Denali Backcountry Lodge is located deep inside Denali National Park. Guest cabins are well-appointed in nature settings near Moose Creek in the Kantishna Valley, with mountain views. Each cabin features two double beds and private bath. The main lodge area features dining and places to relax, including a roomy guest lounge and bar, with a massive deck overlooking the creek.



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Tour Details

Main Tour Cost

- \$5,325 per adult, double occupancy; \$4,425 per youth (8 to 18 years old) based on double occupancy
- \$6,395 for single occupancy
- Triple and quadruple occupancy discount of \$150 off per person
- Kenai Borough Taxes are separate and estimated at approximately \$132 - \$138 per person

Denali Extension Cost

- \$2,900 per adult, double occupancy; \$2,500 per youth (8 to 18 years old) based on double occupancy
- \$3,300 for single occupancy.
- Triple and quadruple occupancy discount of \$100 off per person for extension
- Denali Borough Taxes are separate and estimated at approximately \$75- \$80 per person

Includes

All accommodations, meals as indicated; non-alcoholic drinks including potable or bottled water; all transportation as noted; park user fees; gear and equipment for outdoor activities; all guided activities; services of a professional trip leader; special educational programming by local experts and naturalists; all transfers and luggage handling within the program; basic gratuities to hotel and hospitality/restaurant staff; hotel/airport transfers (provided by the hotel in Anchorage at beginning and end of program).

Not Included

Airfare; alcoholic beverages (available for purchase at all locales); Kenai Borough taxes, additional accommodations, meals, or activities outside of program description; optional gratuities to program staff and trip

cancellation insurance. For Denali extension, costs do not include Denali Borough tax, optional flightseeing activities; spa treatments at Denali Backcountry Lodge; or any other items not noted in itinerary.

Air Arrangements

Guests are responsible for arranging their airfare to and from Alaska. Most travelers prefer to use mileage plans with preferred airlines, although you're also welcome to work with a travel agent if you wish.

Arrival: Travelers should schedule inbound flights to the Anchorage International Airport (ANC) to arrive before 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2020. The formal meeting time for the group tour is on August 1 at The Lakefront Anchorage at 4:00 p.m. If you prefer to arrive prior to the trip's start, you may request pre-night hotel arrangements through Alaska Wildland Adventures.

Departure: Travelers should schedule return flights home departing the Anchorage International Airport on Saturday, August 8, 2020, any time after noon. For those continuing on the optional Denali extension, flights may be arranged departing Anchorage on Wednesday, August 12, any time after 10:00 a.m. AST.

Cancellation Policy

Written cancellations must be sent in writing to Alaska Wildland Adventures' office in order to be valid. Non-appearance for the program will result in no refund. Advance purchase of trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended. Cancellation penalties will be levied as follows:

More than 121+ days prior to departure.....	\$300 per person
120 to 90 days prior to departure	\$600 per person
89 to 46 days prior to departure.....	50% of per person trip cost
Within 45 days prior to departure.....	100% of per person trip cost



Important Disclosures

MIT Alumni Association (MITAA) and Alaska Wildland Adventures (AWA) reserve the right to withdraw any tour described herein at any time and to make changes and alterations as may be found necessary for safety and proper handling of said tours. Safety is a primary goal, however, outdoor activities of this nature are not entirely risk free. MITAA and AWA cannot assume responsibility for injury to participants or personal belongings or for time or expense incurred. **Guests will be required to sign a Participant Agreement Form (which includes a Release of Liability, Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risks).**

Alaska Wildland Adventures does not own or operate any entity that is to provide or does provide goods and services for your trip, including, for example, lodging facilities other than Kenai Riverside Lodge, and Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge, air or other transportation companies, food service providers, equipment suppliers, etc. As a result, AWA and the MITAA are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or any other third party.

Guests are responsible for making Alaska Wildland Adventures aware of any health limitations and any dietary restrictions in writing 60 days prior to departure date. A guest information form will be provided to confirmed guests.

Costs of accommodations and associated services for delays or other alterations en route, caused by weather, flight schedules, and other events beyond our control are the responsibility of the trip participants.

On advancement of deposit to Alaska Wildland Adventures, the depositor agrees to be bound by all the above stated terms, conditions, and cancellation policies, including the Participant Agreement Form (sent to all confirmed guests and available upon request). Trip dates and costs, including taxes and applicable fuel surcharges, are subject to change without notice.



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AUGUST 1-8, 2020

Alaska by Land and Sea

Reservation Form

To reserve space on this program, please call the **MIT Alumni Travel Program** at 800-992-6749 or complete and mail a reservation form along with a deposit. A deposit of \$1000 per person, payable check to **Alaska Wildland Adventures** or payable by credit card (MasterCard, Discover or Visa), is required to reserve space on this program. All trip participants will be required to sign and return a Participant Agreement prior to departure.

- Mail payment and registration form to: MIT Alumni Travel Program, 600 Memorial Drive, W98-2nd Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139
- If using a credit card, call the MIT Alumni Travel Program at 800-992-6749 or fax your reservation to 617-258-6211.
- Final payment is due by **May 3, 2020**.

Please reserve place(s) on Family Adventure: Alaska by Land and Sea tour, August 1 – 8, 2020

Please reserve place(s) on the Denali Extension tour, August 8 – 12, 2020

Name(s) Preferred Name for Namebadge MIT Affiliation

Name(s) Preferred Name for Namebadge MIT Affiliation

Name(s) Preferred Name for Namebadge MIT Affiliation

Name(s) Preferred Name for Namebadge MIT Affiliation

Address Email

City State Zip

Telephone (evening) (day)

Enclosed is a deposit of US\$ (\$1000 per person; check payable to Alaska Wildland Adventures)

Or, charge my deposit on Visa MasterCard Discover Credit card number

Expiration Date 3-Digit Verification No.

Name on card Signature of cardholder

A Participant Agreement Form (which includes a Release of Liability, Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risks) will be forwarded to each applicant upon receipt of deposit and will need to be signed by each participant prior to departure.

I/We have read and agree to the **Important Disclosures** for this tour (included in this brochure).

Signature(s) Date