

MITALUMNI

Travel Program

Exploring Alaska's Coastal Wilderness

MAY 25 - JUNE 1, 2025

ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC QUEST

TRAVEL WITH ANDREW BABBIN

Cecil & Ida Green Career Development Associate Professor of
Chemical Oceanography and Marine Microbiology at MIT





Professor Andrew Babbin is a field-going oceanographer, biogeochemist, and climate scientist. He joined the MIT faculty in 2017 in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences. His research exploring how microorganisms shape global climate has taken him across the world, sampling lakes in Antarctica, coral reefs in Cuba, anoxic waters in the Pacific, and air in the Galápagos. He is the recipient of numerous accolades, including an NSF CAREER award and a recent MIT Bose research grant to study shark migrations as a tracer of ocean chemistry. On this trip through Alaskan waters,

Professor Babbin looks forward to spotting marine life and sharing information on the complexities of ecosystems and global climate dynamics.

Dear MIT Alumni and Friends,

Travel in the camaraderie of fellow alumni and friends of MIT, along with guests of Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic, and cruise on board the 50-cabin *National Geographic Quest*, discovering Alaska's wilderness in a way few others do. Walk through the towering forest; explore by Zodiac; visit a typical Alaskan town; or kayak along wildlife-rich shorelines, keeping watch for swooping bald eagles and gregarious sea lions. Each day, there will be a range of activities that allow you to explore your interests.

National Geographic Quest is a nimble, shallow draft expedition ship that allows us to access secluded areas larger vessels simply cannot reach. The ship is equipped with a complete suite of exploration tools: Zodiacs, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboards that allow you to get out there for up-close, personal discoveries.

During the trip, **MIT Professor Andrew Babb** will share his expertise through presentations and informal commentary. And, the expedition team is unrivaled in their knowledge of Alaska, and will ensure that you see, do, and learn more than you ever imagined possible. Share the adventure with an experienced team of naturalists who will not only accompany you on Zodiac cruises and forest hikes, but will also introduce you to Alaska's surprising and colorful life under the sea.

Please contact Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic directly with all trip inquiries and to make a reservation. Their travel consultants are eager to take your call and answer your questions. Email groups@expeditions.com, or call Lindblad Expeditions at 833-985-1261.

Sincerely,



Melissa Chapman Gresh
MIT Alumni Travel Program

The Alumni Travel Program provides further information about the Program and the relationship between the Alumni Association and the tour operator at <http://alum.mit.edu/travel/about>. The tour participant's financial commitments are directly with the tour operator. Trip insurance is highly recommended.

A Legacy of Wild Exploration

Experience Alaska From a New Perspective

Drawing from decades of experience exploring Alaska, plus a network of knowledgeable insiders, our voyage will connect you to the region in a way you never thought possible. A perfectly sized ship takes you deeper into the Inside Passage, where you'll discover authentic Alaska—the majestic bears, breaching humpbacks, old-growth forests, calving glaciers, and true Alaska towns. Along the way, veteran naturalists will illuminate every facet of your expedition, providing expert commentary and spotting wildlife so you don't miss a thing. And not being tied to port times means we have the flexibility to stop and linger should we happen upon a pod of humpbacks or orcas—giving you a front-row seat to the powerful, often unexpected, moments only nature can provide.



Close Encounters With Incredible Creatures

National Geographic Quest's experienced captain and expedition staff know where to find iconic wildlife. Their connections to local experts, such as members of the Alaska Whale Foundation, mean we have insider tracking of whale whereabouts—creating amazing observation and photo ops. Schedules permitting, researchers from the Alaska Whale Foundation come aboard to share their knowledge and latest findings, and to provide insight into humpback behavior. The naturalists may even drop a hydrophone to reveal whale communication. You can also observe the wild ocean below, as the undersea specialist dives to shoot video of the otherworldly creatures or deploys the remotely operated vehicle (ROV), which feeds footage to TV screens in the ship lounge.

This page: Guests explore icebergs up close. Opposite page (clockwise from top): Steller sea lions; brown bear; breaching humpback whale.





Small Ships, Big Discoveries

Your Basecamp for Adventure

The 50-cabin *National Geographic Quest* was purpose-built to explore the wildest corners of Southeast Alaska. A nimble design allows you to sail into spectacular winding fjords and shallow, fast-moving channels where whales feed. Share the thrill of spotting diving humpbacks and foraging bears from the expansive bow—and use onboard tools like ROVs and spotting scopes for deeper exploration.



Actively Explore Every Day

Every day brings new adventure and an array of active options. Start your morning with a stretch on the sundeck with the wellness instructor, then hike or walk through the towering forest, with time for your naturalists to share the unique wonders of the native flora. Observe a calving glacier by Zodiac; try your hand at stand-up paddleboarding; visit a typical Alaskan town; or kayak along wildlife-rich shorelines, keeping watch for swooping bald eagles and gregarious sea lions. Each day, there will be a range of activities that allow you to explore your interests at your own pace.



Opposite page (clockwise from top): Hiking a forest trail; bald eagle fishing; enjoy a Zodiac Cruise amidst electric blue icebergs; guests take advantage of Alaska's unrivaled photo ops. This page: National Geographic Quest; Alaska's protected waters are perfect for kayaking.

Travel With Inspiring Experts

A World-Class Expedition Team

Learn, see, and do more by exploring with experts who know the region best. Share the adventure with a team of naturalists, an undersea specialist, a certified photo instructor, and an expedition leader. Since personal attention is important, you explore with one staff member for every ten guests, the best naturalists to guest ratio in Alaska. And you're able to gravitate toward individuals whose interests mirror your own—photography, the marine world, botany, or something different daily. Benefit from a variety of expertise, perfectly sized groups, diverse perspectives, and engaging personalities.



Take Great Photos With the Pros

A certified photo instructor travels with you throughout your voyage. They are on board and in the field to assist with your camera settings, the basics of composition, and much more. Not only is the instructor an excellent photographer—more importantly, they are also a naturalist who can teach you how to observe and understand animal behavior so you can capture perfect shots of Alaska's iconic wildlife. Every guest—from smartphone camera users to advanced hobbyists—can pick up tips in the field and return home with extraordinary images that you can revisit for years to come.



This page (from top): Photo instructor points out wildlife; guest aims camera for the perfect shot. Opposite page (clockwise from top): A pod of orcas; a naturalist measures bear tracks on the forest floor; get up close with natural splendors.



Voyage Itinerary

Experience the remarkable beauty of Southeast Alaska on a voyage aboard the 50-cabin *National Geographic Quest*, sailing into a land of mist-shrouded fjords, tidewater glaciers, and islands teeming with wildlife. Kayak amid glacial ice, spend a full day exploring Glacier Bay National Park, learn about Alaska's rich Tlingit heritage, and more.

DAY 1 • Sitka, Alaska/Embark

Arrive in Sitka, Alaska, situated on the western coast of Baranof Island and overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Schedules permitting, walk among Tlingit and Haida totem poles at Sitka National Historic Park and visit the Alaska Raptor Center for an up-close look at Alaska's birds of prey. Embark this evening in time for cocktails and an introduction to the staff and crew. Please note: Itinerary stops and sequence subject to modification. (D)



DAY 2 • Southeast Alaska's Islands, Bays & Fjords

Our Forest Service Special Use Permit for Tongass National Forest enables guests to hike and kayak in wild and remote areas of Southeast Alaska. Today, nature is our guide as we set forth with the flexibility to take advantage of wildlife and weather conditions. We may stop at an isolated beach to take a closer look at tide pools, beachcomb, and hike stunning forest trails. Keep an eye out for old bear tracks worn into the soil as you move from forest to meadow. Sightings of bald eagles are common. If conditions permit, we will do some kayaking, always watching for marine and terrestrial life. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 • Icy Strait and the Inian Islands

Explore among the Inian Islands, a busy feeding ground for myriad wildlife species including Steller sea lions and sea otters. We will search for marine mammals in the nutrient-rich waters of Icy Strait and choose the perfect spot around Chichagof Island to hike where sightings of bald eagles are common. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 • Glacier Bay National Park

We spend the entire day amid the coves, fjords, tidewater glaciers and majestic mountains of Glacier Bay National Park. Witness glaciers that end abruptly at the water's edge and observe them calving, when tons of ice separate and crash into the water accompanied by a thunderous sound. Mountain goats scaling the peaks as well as harbor seals, Steller sea lions and puffins are some of the creatures we may observe. A visit to Tidal Inlet may bring the sight of brown bears lumbering up the hillside. (B,L,D)

DAY 5 • Frederick Sound and Chatham Strait

These waters are prime areas for both orca and humpback whales. With luck, guests may observe their fascinating behavior—breaching, tail-slapping and variations on feeding—as we fill the deck and listen to the play-by-play from our



Guests walking the Sitka National Historic Park coastal trail.

expert naturalists. We will explore spectacular bays and inlets, following bear trails and salmon streams. Once ashore, we have the opportunity to walk along a quiet forest trail. The still waters are excellent for kayaking, offering another option for up-close exploration. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 • Petersburg

Visit the small, true Alaska fishing town of Petersburg on Mitkof Island, which still retains much of its Norwegian heritage. Explore a unique Southeast Alaska ecosystem, the muskeg, with stunted trees and carnivorous plants. There is an opportunity to stretch your legs with an optional bike ride around town. This evening, enjoy a crab feast. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 • Tracy Arm-Fords Terror Wilderness

Voyage into Tracy or Endicott Arm, both spectacular fjords, with waterfalls cascading from glacially carved walls. See the soaring Dawes or South Sawyer Glacier up close and take a cruise in a Zodiac for an unbeatable view among sculpted icebergs. Keep an eye out for harbor seals, harbor porpoises and arctic terns. (B,L,D)

DAY 8 • Juneau, Alaska/Disembark

After breakfast we disembark in Juneau. Take time to visit the local shops before exploring the newly constructed Alaska State Museum, with its sprawling collection of natural history and cultural artifacts. Transfer to the airport for connecting flights home. (B)

Please note: All day-by-day descriptions are a sampling of the places we intend to visit, conditions permitting. Your expedition leader and captain will share your handcrafted itinerary once on board.



Bald eagle.

National Geographic Quest



Purpose-built to explore North American coastlines, *National Geographic Quest* has decks designed for exceptional wildlife viewing and shallow drafts for navigating the innermost reaches of carved coastlines. She is U.S.-flagged, eliminating domestic customs stops and allowing more time to explore.

Capacity

50 cabins and suites accommodating 100 guests.

Registry	Overall Length
United States.	238 feet.

Public Areas

Global Gallery; fitness center; LEXspa; lounge with full service bar and facilities for films and presentations; OM System Photo Gear Locker; observation deck; elevator; mudroom with lockers for expedition gear, and a partially covered sundeck with chairs and tables. The open Bridge provides guests an opportunity to meet the officers and captain and learn about navigation.

Meals

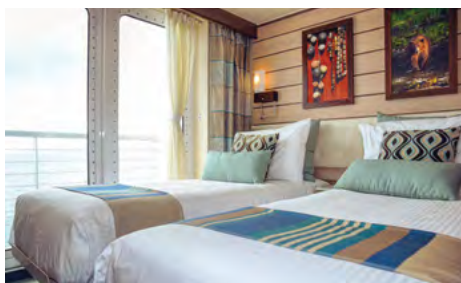
Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere. Cuisine is fresh, sustainable, accented with regional flair, and served plated.



The casual dining room with its expansive windows.

Accommodations

All cabins and suites face outside with windows or portholes, private facilities, climate controls, and Wi-Fi connections and USB ports for mobile devices. Category 4 cabins have step-out balconies.



Category 4 cabin with single beds (which can be converted to a Queen) and a private step-out balcony.

Expedition Equipment

A fleet of 8 Zodiacs and 24 kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, ROV (remotely operated vehicle); hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, and video microscope.

Staff & Crew

Every member of our staff is committed to ensuring our guests have an unforgettable experience. Many of our veteran guides and naturalists are locally based in your destination and have worked with us for decades. A full-time medical professional, undersea specialist, and Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor are on board, and with a low staff-to-guest ratio, you can hear different perspectives and gain new insights every day.

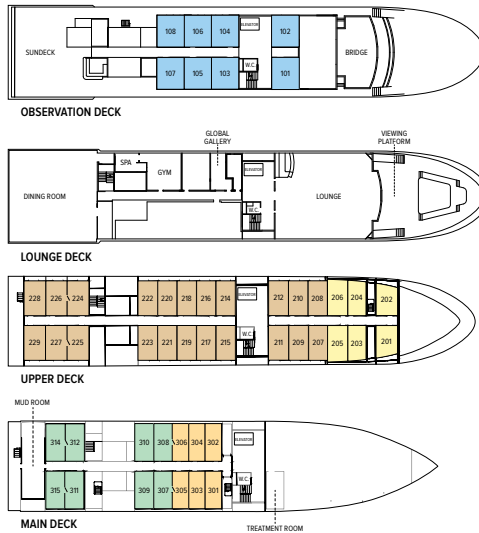
Wellness

The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features a gym with an elliptical machine, treadmill, exercycles, handweights, and resistance bands. Massages in the LEXspa are available by appointment.

Sustainability

From our carbon neutrality initiatives to the locally sourced food we serve on board, our expeditions are designed around the well-being of our world. Travel with peace of mind, knowing that green practices are embedded in our operations and that each voyage gives back to the places we explore.

Ship Deck Plan & Pricing



Voyage Dates

May 25 - June 1, 2025

Advance Payment Details

15% of the cabin fare, per person

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo

Category 1	\$6,286
Main Deck #301-306 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, and two portholes	
Category 2	\$7,050
Main Deck #307-315 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, and two portholes.	
Category 3	\$7,467
Upper Deck #201-206 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, and two large windows.	
Category 4	\$8,294
Upper Deck #207-229 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, sliding glass door, and small, private balcony.	
Category 5*	\$9,171
Observation Deck #101-108 – Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, large windows, an expanded bathroom, writing desk, ample storage space, and a convertible sofa bed to accommodate a third person.	
Category 1 Solo	\$9,447
Main Deck #301-306	
Category 2 Solo	\$10,607
Main Deck #307-315	

***Suite Exclusives:** The suites on our ships are your elegant retreat at sea, featuring spacious living areas and incredible ocean views. Now, booking one of these beautifully appointed accommodations comes with even more benefits. Our new Suite Exclusives package gives guests staying in eligible cabins access to an array of amenities designed to enhance your on-board experience, including priority booking for spa treatments, complimentary laundry, and other exclusive perks.

Note: Solo Occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third person rates are available in Category 5 cabins at one half the double occupancy rate.

Connecting Cabins via internal doorway access: Main Deck: #312-314, #311-315, #306-308, #305-307; Upper Deck: #224-226, #225-227

INCLUSIVE PRICING

- All accommodations aboard ship
- Excursions and airport transfers, as indicated in the itinerary
- All meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and on shore. Meals and hors d'oeuvres are inspired by regional cuisine and locally sourced
- Beer, wine, cocktails and spirits with super premium wines and liquors available for purchase
- 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, and filtered water
- Selection of exploration tools such as Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, and other state-of-the-art gear
- The guidance and company of our leading expedition team
- Presentations by our expedition team
- Morning stretch class and 24-hour access to the fitness center
- Assistance of the certified photo instructor
- Access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker with the latest gear to try out on loan
- 24-hour access to the lounge, observation deck, library, and other shared spaces
- Complimentary reusable water bottle
- Services of a medical professional
- Gratuities to local guides
- Park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes
- Basic Wi-Fi, with the option to upgrade

SPECIAL OFFERS

CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES: Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, \$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, not applicable on airfare or extensions, and may not be combined with other offers. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies. Call for details.

BRING THE KIDS: Sharing the expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$500 off the double occupancy price for each person under the age of 18. Not applicable on extensions or airfare.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Prices quoted in this brochure are per person based on double occupancy in USD. Prices shown are subject to change and availability at time of booking. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time advanced payment is made. However, our expedition pricing is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event of increases in those costs, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, we reserve the right to adjust the price of your expedition or add a surcharge to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide an explanation of the reason for increase in costs.

COST INCLUDES: All amenities listed in inclusive pricing above. Unused services or items included in this program are non-refundable.

NOT INCLUDED: Air transportation; REAL ID, passport, visa or immigration fees; meals not indicated; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature such as: super premium wines and liquors, enhanced and premium Wi-Fi plans, spa treatments, and laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew are at your discretion.

AIRFARE: Airfare is an additional cost. Lindblad Expeditions will assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, an advance payment of 15% of the cabin fare per person is payable by check, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover.

FINAL PAYMENT: Due 120 days prior to departure. Lindblad Expeditions reserves the right to cancel your reservation if payment has not been received by final payment due date.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Travel protection and medical insurance are available at extra cost. Information will be sent upon registration.

ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country(s) through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country's requirement.

RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and National Geographic Expeditions' (a division of National Geographic Partners, LLC) liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

CANCELLATION FEE POLICY (PER PERSON)

120 or more days prior to expedition start: **No penalty:** Advance Payment will be credited toward your next expedition**

119-90 days prior to expedition start: **50% of trip cost*****

89-0 days prior to expedition start: **100% of trip cost*****

**Advance payments will be credited in the form of a Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate, valid for 12 months from the date of cancellation, and which may only be applied towards final payment on any future booking.

***Trip cost is total price paid including extensions, charter airfare and other additional services.

We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.

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Reservation Form



Exploring Alaska's Coastal Wilderness

**ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC QUEST
MAY 25 - JUNE 1, 2025**

Contact Information

Please send reservation to:

Lindblad Expeditions
96 Morton Street
New York, NY 10014

Or contact:

Ph: (833) 985-1261

Fax: (646) 390-2050

E-mail: groups@expeditions.com

Passenger Information

Please reserve _____ place(s).

Guest 1: _____
(Name as it appears on official I.D.)

M/F: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Guest 2: _____
(Name as it appears on official I.D.)

M/F: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Accommodations: Double Single Twin share with a friend
 Share with roommate assigned by tour operator.

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:

1st choice: _____ 2nd choice: _____

Advance Payment Information: 15% of the cabin fare, per person.

If paying by check, please make payable to: **Lindblad Expeditions**

Enclosed is my advance payment of \$ _____

If paying by credit card, we will contact you to finalize your booking and collect payment information.

Tour participants must fully review the tour operator's cancellation and refund policies, as the tour participant's financial commitments are directly with the tour operator, with all tour funds being paid to the operator. The purchase of a comprehensive travel insurance policy is highly recommended. The MIT Alumni Travel Program provides further information about the Travel Program and the relationship between the Alumni Association and the tour operator online at: <http://alum.mit.edu/travel/about>


Explore Alaska's Coastal Wilderness

Expedition Highlights

- Travel with Andrew Babbín, Cecil & Ida Green Career Development Associate Professor of Chemical Oceanography and Marine Microbiology at MIT.
- Hike through lush forests and muskegs, kayak into secluded inlets, and cruise by Zodiac among electric blue icebergs and curious wildlife.
- Encounter iconic Alaska wildlife, such as humpback whales, bears, otters, and bald eagles.
- By special permit, spend a full day cruising Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve.
- Meet our conservation partners from the Alaska Whale Foundation (schedules permitting) and learn how you can contribute to their research throughout your voyage.

100% CARBON NEUTRAL AND COMMITTED TO BEING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC FREE

We have chosen Lindblad Expeditions because they care deeply about the planet and see travel as a powerful force for good.

 Printed on 100% recycled content paper with soy-based inks. We recommend that you pass this along for others to enjoy or recycle.



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