# ALASKA DISCOVERY NOME TO VANCOUVER



A treasure trove of biodiversity and stunning volcanic landscapes, Alaska has many different faces. On one hand, it is America's 49th state so Uncle Sam's influence runs through the region like an undercurrent. On the other, it is chequered with English, Spanish and Russian history. These shores are a stunning hive of natural activity that offers cultural experiences and exhilarating trips time after time. Just don't forget your camera.



DATES: Sept 17-Oct 01, 2021

DURATION: 15 DAYS

EMBARK: NOME, ALASKA DISEMBARK: VANCOUVER, BC

SHIP: Silver Cloud

**FROM:** \$10,980\* \*After 10% Early Payment Savings All inclusiove

### **ITINERARY - 2021**

#### DAY 1 – FRI – SEP 17 – NOME, AK - EMBARK

Nome is located on the edge of the Bering Sea, on the southwest side of the Seward Peninsula. The area has an amazing history dating back 10,000 years of Inupiaq Eskimo use for subsistence living. Modern history started in 1898 when "Three Lucky Swedes", Jafet Lindberg, Erik Lindblom and John Brynteson, discovered gold in Anvil Creek...the rush was on! In 1899 the population of Nome swelled from a handful to 28,000. Today the population is just over 3,500. **Plan to arrive in Anchorage a day early. Hotel included.** 

#### DAY 2 - SAT - SEP 18 - DAY AT SEA

#### DAY 3 – SUN— SEP 19 – ST. PAUL – PRIBILOF ISLANDS, ALASKA

The city of Saint Paul is located on a narrow peninsula on the southern tip of St. Paul Island, the largest of five islands in the Pribilof Islands. These islands are located in the middle of the Bering Sea between the United States and Russia. St. Paul lies 240 miles north of the Aleutian Islands, 300 miles west of mainland Alaska, and 750 air miles west of Anchorage. The first non-natives to 'discover' St. Paul were Russian fur-traders in the late 1780s, led by the navigator, Gavriil Pribylov. Today, this small city has one school (K-12), one post office, one bar, one small general store, and one church, a Russian Orthodox Church that is registered as a National Historic building. In summer, this island is teeming with wildlife, including about 500,000 northern fur seals and millions of seabirds, including Tufted Puffins.

#### DAY 4 – MON – SEP 20 – DUTCH HARBOR, ALASKA

With Bald Eagles soaring overhead, emerald-green volcanic peaks chafing the clouds, and raw ocean scenery as far as the eye can see, this far-flung destination is the definition of remote and wild. Part of the outlying Aleutian Islands archipelago, which spirals out across the Bering Sea into the wilds of the Pacific, Dutch Harbor offers a dramatic backdrop and rich military history. Enjoy hikes along coastal trails to birdwatch among more than 100 different species – and look on as huge clouds of cawing seabirds float on gusts of wind, filling the air with their raucous calls.

#### DAY 5 – TUE – SEP 21 – UNGA ISLAND, ALASKA

The Aleutian island of Unga holds an ancient petrified forest and a more recent ghost town that was the site of a small gold rush in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Great Horned Owls nest near the church and in the bay kittiwakes, Double-crested and Pelagic Cormorants, Common Murres and Tufted Puffins can be seen.

#### DAY 6 – WED – SEP 22 – DAY AT SEA

#### DAY 7 – THU – SEP 23 – KODIAK, ALASKA

The domain of brown and black bears, Kodiak Island is a raw, wild, and utterly authentic Alaskan wilderness. The Emerald Isle is the USA's secondlargest island, and with a wilderness stretching out over 3,670 square miles, it's a thrilling voyage into the Alaskan unknown.

DAY 8 - FRI - SEP 24 - DAY AT SEA

#### DAY 9 – SAT — SEP 25 – HUBBARD GLACIER, ALASKA

Hubbard Glacier is the largest glacier in North America, with a calving front that is more than six miles wide. One of the main sources for Hubbard Glacier originates 76 mi inland. It has been a very active glacier, experiencing two major surges in the past 30 years. This glacier was named after Gardiner Greene Hubbard, a U.S. lawyer, financier, and philanthropist. He was the first president of the National Geographic Society.

#### DAY 10 – SUN – SEP 26 – ELFIN COVE – POINT ADOLFUS

Elfin Cove sits snugly on the southern shore of Cross Sound, which leads in eastwards to the Inside Passage. Northwards and across the Sound from the small community lies Glacier Bay National Park and the Fairweather Mountain range. Elfin Cove is a quaint little harbor clustered with attractive timber houses built into the wooded hillsides on stilts. The population swells to about 200 during the summer months, from a rather meager 6 or so during the snowy and isolated winters. Its commercial hub consists of a Post Office, mini-Museum, a General Store, the Coho Bar and numerous sports fishing businesses. In the summer months Rufous-backed Hummingbirds visit feeders scattered around the community.

On the northern tip of Chichagof Island Point Adolphus, is a well-known area for humpback whale watching.

#### DAY 11 – MON — SEP 27 – SITKA, ALASKA

A land of bears, wild landscapes and icy adventures, sail between glorious islands and witness the diverse wildlife of the Inside Passage. Eagles watch over the scenery overhead, while whales and sea lions add glorious weight to the animal life that thrives and thrashes in these icy seas. With a quintet of Pacific salmon species filling the rich rivers and waterways with life, settle back to enjoy the show. You might notice the onionshaped dome atop St. Michael's Church – a relic of the area's Russian history. Sitka was the capital of of Russian America until a deal was struck in 1867, and the territory was sold to the United States, with the handover ceremony taking place here in Sitka. The native Tlingit culture is an important presence, and elaborate totem poles adorn Sitka National Historical Park.

#### DAY 12 - MON - SEP 28 - WRANGELL, ALASKA

Having experienced three gold rushes in its history, the immense scenery and thrilling wildlife is an enduring treasure for visitors. The mighty Stikine River has been the lifeblood to this region for centuries, cutting through pine-cloaked valleys for 400 miles before unloading into the frigid ocean. Explore via jet-boat and head out to the abundant waters of Anan Creek, an ancient fishing site of the Tlingit people. Visit waters thick with lithe salmon a bounty that tempts black and brown bears from the confines of their forest shelters.

## DAY 13 – TUE – SEP 29 – BEHM CANAL – MISTY FJORDS, ALASKA

Painstakingly sculpted by the slow grind of colossal glaciers, the fjords of Rudyerd Bay are some of the Inside Passage's most spectacular and humbling. Just 40 miles from Ketchikan, hordes of salmon splash in the region's streams, while basalt pillars left behind by ancient volcanoes - puncture the slow flow of the waters. A litany of plunging waterfalls gives sheer, monolithic cliff faces added life and vitality. With crowds of pine trees and snow-tipped mountains surrounding you everywhere you look, Rudyerd Bay is one of the Misty Fjords' most precious and inspiring locations.

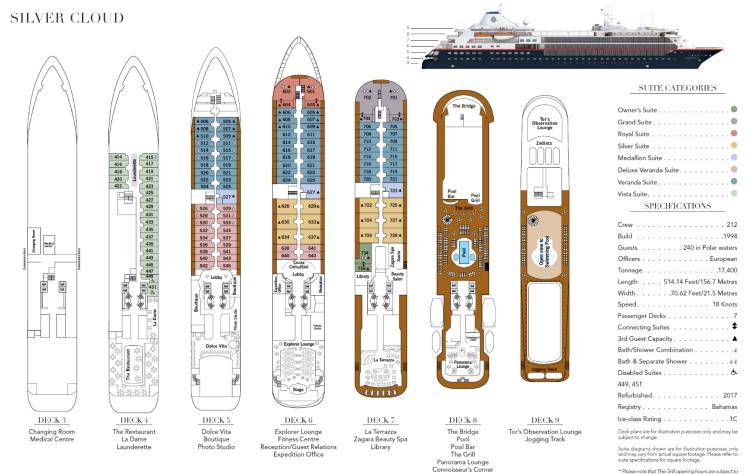
# DAY 14 - WED – SEP 30 – CRUISE THE INSIDE PASSAGE

Navigate through the intricate outlays of staggering scenery, threading a needle between craggy, snowdusted islands. To cruise this 500-mile stretch of Alaskan beauty is to sail through a living work of natural art - with perfectly sculpted mountains soaring from the shoreline, and clutches of islands scattered across the dark waters with delicate attention to detail. A common sailing route due to its calm sheltered waters, gorgeous natural set pieces constantly play out here - whether it's killer whales accompanying you through the breathtaking icy passages, harbor seals catching a break on floating hunks of ice, or wisps of cloud clinging to distant mountain peaks.

# DAY 15 – THU – OCT 01 – ARRIVE VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA

Boasting mountains, sea, culture, art and so much more, many cities claim to have it all, but few can back it up like Vancouver. Offering all of the creature comforts of an ultra-modern, worldly metropolis - even downtown has a hint of mountain-freshness to its air - and part of Vancouver's appeal is how easily you can swap the skyscrapers for whale-filled oceans and mountainpunctured skies.





#### FROM \$10,980

2021 RATES: PER PERSON - DOUBLE - ALL INCLUSIVE - Port fees and taxes; gratuities to crew; open bar throughout ship; all excursions; team of Expedition leaders and guides.

SAVE 10% - FREE AIR; ONE NIGHT ANCHORAGE HOTEL PRIOR TO CRUISE, AND TRANSFERS.



\* Please note that The Grill opening hours are subject to

**Reservations & Information** 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671) Email - info@explorcruises.com