# ALASKA

# Glaciers and Whales



LIKE A BOILING GEYSER, THE WATER ROILS AT THE SURFACE JUST BEYOND OUR SKIFF... The water erupts with a massive burst. Bubble-net feeding humpbacks! My skin prickles with goosebumps—and I catch my breath. Compared to the size of these whales, we are tiny. You can see their pink tongues and feathery baleen. A dark eye of one looks right at me.



# DATES - (2020):

May 24 | Jun 07 , 21 | Jul 05, 19 | Aug 02, 16

**DURATION** – 8 days/7 nights

**EMBARKATION** – JUNEAU **DISEMBARKATION** – SITKA

**SHIP** - M/V Safari Endeavour

FROM - \$6,295 (Double)+ \$375 PC

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The glacier adventure: LeConte, Baird, and Sawyer and South Sawyer
- Tlingit native culture on a private village tour of Kake
- Whale watching in Frederick Sound
- Look for wildlife—eagles, arctic terns, black and brown bears, sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions
- Skiff through iceberg waters of Tracy Arm
- Boardwalk, bushwhack, and trail hikes in Tongass National Forest
- Kayak, paddle board and skiff in hidden coves and narrow fjords
- Hike on the terminal moraine of Baird Glacier

#### **ITINERARY:**

### DAY 1 - Juneau, Alaska – Embarkation

Welcome to Alaska's capital, where your home on the water awaits. Come aboard, meet your crew, and unpack your adventurous spirit. Your course is set for glaciers, and the Tongass—the largest national forest in the U.S.

#### DAY 2 - Tracy Arm / Stephens Passage

Wake in a fjord flanked by sheer granite walls. Grab a hot cup of joe and take it all in from the bow. Cascading waterfalls. Drifting icebergs. A lazy harbor seal or two. Layer up with gloves and a warm hat, and hop in a skiff for a better look at the glacier—the temps drop the closer you get. Your expedition guide clues you in to signs of the ice



ages that carved this landscape. The geology is fascinating and so is the wildlife. Keep an eye out for mountain goats, bears, and eagles. Make waves for Stephens Passage. It's all hands on deck watching for signs of humpbacks. It's a big first day!

## DAY 3 - Thomas Bay / Baird Glacier

Have your rubber boots handy. You're in for muskeg and mud in Alaska's backcountry. Hiking along Baird's moraine, look for shimmers of gold and quartz—this area is known for it. The glacial outwash plains look almost lunar, but you're not alone in this moonscape. The glacial valley is a nesting hot-spot for arctic terns. Splash away the mud before a paddle along the bay's mossy cliff walls. Back on board, it's time for a cocktail and a soak in the hot tub.



#### DAY 4 - LeConte Glacier / Ideal Cove

LeConte is the southernmost tidewater glacier in North America. If tides are low, take a boot-sucking walk to check out icebergs resting on the mudflats. If it's high tide, a skiff ride brings you up-close to its iceberg gardens. Surrounded by national forest, Ideal Cove's boardwalk trails wind through meadows of ferns and grasses. Or test your balance paddle boarding in this quiet cove. It's just you and the vast wilderness.

DAY 5 - Kake / Frederick Sound"Kake" comes from a Tlingit word meaning "opening of daylight." Apropos, start your day in this native village with traditional storytelling and dancing. Count the many totems on their 132-foot pole. Drop the kayaks in Saginaw Bay or some other hidden cove along the Keku Islands. Black bears are common sights along shore. But so are eagles in the treetops and orange-billed surf scoters paddling nearby. For hikers, your guides have a route in mind. Make for the forest, far off the map. Cruising Frederick Sound, chances are high you'll see humpbacks. The up-welling of nutrients in the water make it an irresistible feeding ground.



#### DAY 6 - Baranof Island / Peril Strait

Leave it to the captain to steer you through Chatham and Peril Straits. At Baranof Island, your top-notch expedition team has the game plan dialed. Tap some of the most untouched wilderness in the Tongass. Head to the woods for an ad venturesome bushwhack. Or slide into a kayak for an easygoing shoreline paddle. Find a perch on deck in Peril Strait—it's a twisting drama of currents and history.



# **DAY 7 - Sergius Narrows / Neva Strait**

There aren't many straight lines along Baranof Island. Its western side is dotted with hundreds of



coves and uninhabited islands. This is a prime area for spotting sea otters. It's no surprise to round a corner in your kayak and find one looking at you and you looking at him. The protected beaches are made for exploring the intertidal zones, and spotting bears. So, boot up for a guided hike. End your day with celebration and a toast at a heartfelt Farewell Dinner. Your expedition team treats you to a photo recap of the week's adventures.

#### **DAY 8 - Sitka - Disembarkation**

A last breakfast with new friends, then disembark in Sitka for your transfer to the airport or to your hotel stay or land tour.



# Safari Endeavour

Aboard the Safari Endeavour, elegant ambience is combined with a full menu of comfortable amenities. This 84-guest expedition vessel is equipped for exploration with three decks for viewing and onboard, at-the-ready adventure equipment.



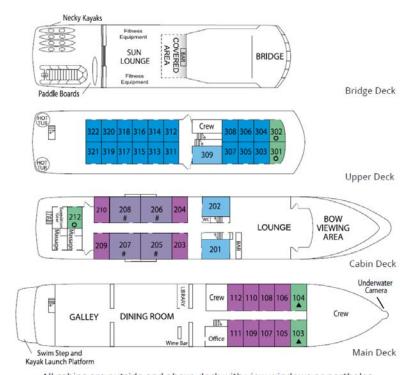
Easy kayak boarding - means everyone can do it!



Dining room



# M/V ENDEAVOUR



All cabins are outside and above deck with view windows or portholes

# Double or Triple Accommodation Fixed Queen Bed O Fixed Twin Beds

Departures	Master	Commander	Captain	Admiral	Commodore	Single
<b>2020</b> - May 24 to	\$6,295	\$6,895	\$7,395	\$8,395	\$11,395	\$8,185
August 16						. ,

**RATES INCLUDE:** All onboard meals; premium spirits, wine, microbrews; non-alcoholic beverages; exclusive transfers and baggage handling between airport/vessel on embark/disembark days; entry fees to national parks/preserves; all from-the-boat adventure activities and equipment; wellness program: hot tub, fitness equipment, yoga mats.

**RATES DO NOT INCLUDE:** Port charges of \$375 per person; Visa and passport fees (if applicable); Airfare; Luggage, trip cancellation and Emergency Evacuation Insurance; Personal expenses such as laundry and telecommunication charges; Staff gratuities; fuel surcharge may be applied for all bookings; Pre- or post-cruise travel expenses.



Reservations & Information 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)

Email - info@explorcruises.com www.explorcruises.com