# SPLENDORS OF ALASKA SEWARD, ALASKA to VANCOUVER, CANADA



From searching for the tiny hummingbird to the mighty Bald Eagle, a wide and varied program is promised. Expert lecturers take you on thrilling excursions to show you the remarkable wildlife, indigenous cultures and magnificent landscapes of these remote lands. As mighty glaciers rise up from the frigid waters and Orcas breach for your camera, experience an Alaskan adventure as never before.



DATES: June 30 - July 12, 2019 DURATION: 13 DAYS/12 NIGHTS EMBARK: SEWARD, ALASKA DISEMBARK: VANCOUVER, BC SHIP: Silver Explorer

**FROM:** \$9,900

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1 — Arrive Anchorage, Alaska

Arrive Anchorage and transfer to your hotel. Remainder of day is free.

#### Day 2 – Transfer Anchorage to Seward, Alaska

Transfer to Seward where you will embark *Silver Explorer* and depart on your exciting 12-day Silversea Expedition — "Splendors of Alaska".



## Day 3 — College Fjord and cruising Esther Passage, Alaska

During the morning *Silver Explorer* will enter Prince William Sound and will be heading for an area first visited by the Harriman Expedition in 1899 -and named by the participants for prominent East Coast Colleges. Although the expedition was predominantly male it had been decided to name the tidewater and valley glaciers in a specific way: men's colleges on the eastern side, women's colleges on the western side.

## Day 4 — Cape St. Elias, Kayak Island, and Icy Bay, Alaska

After cruising the Gulf of Alaska, *Silver Explorer* will approach Kayak Island, a historical landmark -as this was the only island in Alaska where Georg Steller landed during the Bering Expedition of 1740. Cape Elias, on its southern tip, not only has an automated lighthouse and a log-strewn shore, but during a Zodiac cruise a few haul-outs of Steller sea lions on the flat rocks might be spotted. Some of the island's haul-outs are quite large, containing several huge males and their harems of



females. On the water, rafts of Short-tailed Shearwaters and Red-necked Phalaropes are not uncommon.

#### Day 5 — Hubbard Glacier, Alaska

Shortly after breakfast we will be in front of Hubbard Glacier –and depending on conditions will either cruise with our Zodiacs or *Silver Explorer* will be taken along the front of the Hubbard Glacier and while cruising we hope to see some glacier calving.

#### Day 6 — Elfin Cove and Point Adolphus, Alaska

This morning we visit the small community of Elfin Cove where you will have good opportunities to go for a walk on wooden boardwalks, exploring the unusual set-up of the village.

During the evening *Silver Explorer* will be near Point Adolphus, a well-known area for whale watching.

#### Day 7 — Sergius Narrows and Sitka, Alaska

Today be prepared for a very early wake-up call if you want to see the Sergius Narrows which separate Chichagof and Catherine Islands.

In the late morning *Silver Explorer* will arrive in Sitka, one of Alaska's major fishing ports. Tlingit natives settled the area thousands of years ago. Russians came to trade in the late 18th century, making Sitka the capitol of Russian America. Apart from exploring the town itself,



there are trails within the Sitka National Historic Park/Totem Park that will permit you to see some of the emblematic totem poles, and the Russian Bishop's House, a National Historic Landmark.

#### Day 8 — Sail Island and Endicott Arm, Alaska

*Silver Explorer* will be at Sail Island before breakfast and we will scan the area surrounding the island for whales. Humpback whales like this area and we will try to see them from our Zodiacs. Our Marine Biologist and other experts will be looking for these leviathans during the morning and therefore be prepared to join all those interested on a Zodiac cruise at a moment's notice.

Endicott Arm is a long fjord branching off Stephen's Passage, the major inner passage heading southeast from Juneau. The easternmost tip of Endicott Arm nearly reaches the Canadian border. Like all the fords in this region, it was carved by glaciers during the last Ice Age which ended about 11,000 years ago. One either side of the fjord the steep, nearly vertical walls, rise to a height of about 370 meters or 1,200 feet. Sitka spruce and western hemlock trees manage to cling onto the rock faces, adding to the breath-taking beauty of the landscape.

#### Day 9 – Petersburg and Wrangell Narrows, Alaska



Petersburg lies on the northern end of Mitkof Island, in the Inside Passage, on the banks of Frederick Sound where it joins the Wrangell Narrows. It is halfway between Juneau, 120 mi to the north, and Ketchikan 110 mi to the south. Remnants of fish traps and ancient petroglyphs indicate that this area was used by the Tlingit people as a summer fish camp. In 1897 Peter Buschmann, a Norwegian immigrant, settled here. The place was named Petersburg after him, and was incorporated as a town in 1910. It flourished as a fishing port, and even today, it remains an island community that makes its living from the sea. It is the largest homebased halibut fleet in Alaska, and is ranked the 15thmost lucrative fisheries port in the United States by volume.

#### Day 10 — Metlakatla, Alaska

During the morning *Silver Explorer* will be at anchor in front of Annette Island, Alaska. The Tsimshian of Metlakatla are famous for their totem poles. During the visit of the town we will get to see at least 12 of these emblematic pieces of art and we will experience a dance performance at their longhouse. Apart from the ceremony we will be led to the William Duncan Memorial Museum to understand their culture and history, specifically why and when they moved to Annette Island.

#### Day 11 — Cruise the Inside Passage

*Silver Explorer* sails south through Hecate Strait and Queen Charlotte Sound. If it is drama that you are after, then you certainly need look no further that the dramatic beauty of the Inside Passage. With isolated communities



nestling in shoreside villages, mountains rising from the tidal waters, seals basking on ice floes and massive glaciers calving with a thunderous snap in the distance, this stretch of water is quite unique. Named after early explorers who were looking for the Northwest Passage (found much further north), cruising the Inside Passage has become a must for any sailing aficionado. Perhaps it is the massive – and advancing – glaciers that look like they have been sculpted by Mother Nature herself that is the draw; or maybe it is the calm waters that are protected from the otherwise enervated Pacific. Or it could be it is the plethora of wildlife that can be spotted above and below the water that will stay with you forever.

#### Day 12 — Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada

Nanaimo is located on the east coast of Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada, about 70.2 miles (113 kilometers) northwest of Victoria and 34.1 miles (55 kilometers) west of Vancouver. The 'Harbor City' of Nanaimo is separated by the Strait of Georgia, and linked to Vancouver via the Horseshoe Bay BC Ferries terminal in West Vancouver. As the site of the main ferry terminal, Nanaimo is the gateway to many other destinations both on the northern part of the island, such as Tofino, Comox Valley, Parksville, Campbell River, Port Alberni, and Rathtrevor Beach Provincial Park. Offshore islands accessible via Nanaimo include Newcastle Island, Protection Island, Gabriola Island, Valdes Island, and many other Gulf Islands, Nanaimo is also the headquarters of the Regional District of Nanaimo.

#### Day 13 — Vancouver, Canada

After breakfast, disembark Silver Explorer.





#### 2019 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.

SUITE	2019
Adventure – Deck 3	\$9,900
Explorer – Deck 4	\$10,200
View – Deck 3	\$11,100
Vista – Deck 4	WAITLIST
Veranda – Deck 5	WAITLIST
Medallion – Deck 7	WAITLIST
Silver – Deck 5	WAITLIST
Grand – Deck 7	WAITLIST
Owner's – Deck 7	WAITLIST



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