

# WILD ALASKA: MARINE TO MOUNTAINS



*View of tidewater glacier in Prince William Sound aboard the Babkin.*



**WILDLAND  
ADVENTURES**

AUTHENTIC WORLDWIDE  
EXPLORATIONS

[www.wildland.com](http://www.wildland.com)

## Itinerary Overview

Combine a private yacht charter exploration of Alaska’s marine habitat in Prince William Sound with an excursion into the interior of Alaska to Denali National Park. Starting at Anchorage, you ride one of the Alaskan Railroad’s most scenic train routes to Whittier whereupon you embark on a voyage into one of the most beautiful and prolific marine environments of The Great State. Aboard the MV Babkin or the FV Alexandra you experience calving glaciers in calm waters, whales and orcas sometimes viewed from your kayak, hikes and easy walks on wild shorelines lined by Sitka Spruce temperate rain forests often teeming with salmon runs which attract bear, bald eagles and other mammals to the beach. Return to Anchorage and then venture inland to Denali. Surrounded by the Alaska Range, dominated by towering Denali, the highest peak in North America, we explore with naturalist guides in Denali National Park based from Camp Denali in the heart of Kantishna. A scenic flight over Mt Denali returns you to Anchorage.

DAY	DATE	OVERNIGHT	HOTEL	MEALS	HIGHLIGHTS
1	Fri	<b>ANCHORAGE</b>	Copper Whale Inn		Fly to Anchorage. Transfer in to hotel.
2	Sat	<b>PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND</b>	MV Babkin	BD	Train to Whittier. Board the MV Babkin or FV Alexandra
3-5	Sun-Tues	<b>PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND</b>	M/V Babkin	BLD	Voyaging in Prince William Sound – hiking, kayaking, watching glaciers
6	Wed	<b>ANCHORAGE</b>	Copper Whale Inn	BL	Return to Whittier and train back to Anchorage
7	Thurs	<b>ANCHORAGE</b>	Copper Whale Inn	B	Free day in Anchorage
8	Fri	<b>DENALI NATIONAL PARK</b>	Camp Denali	BD	Take a bus to the Denali Park entrance and then the Camp Denali bus into the heart of the park
9-10	Sat-Sun	<b>DENALI NATIONAL PARK</b>	Camp Denali	BLD	Biking and guided hiking in Denali National Park
11	Mon	<b>ANCHORAGE</b>	Copper Whale Inn	B	Flight to Anchorage, overnight at the Copper Whale
12	Tues	<b>DEPARTURE</b>		B	Transfer to the airport on your own for departure

# Itinerary in Detail

## DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN ANCHORAGE

Upon arrival in Anchorage transfer on your own to the Copper Whale Inn. Located in the heart of downtown, the Copper Whale Inn is located near the Tony Knowles trail and the Captain Cook Monument, a great place to stretch your legs after a flight. Overnight at the **Copper Whale Inn**.

## DAY 2: ALASKA RAILROAD TO PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Transfer by local taxi on your own to board the historic Alaska Railroad bound for the coastal town of Whittier, one of the most scenic rail journeys in Alaska. Along the way look across the waters of Turnagain Arm, where the mountains of the Chugach Range rise directly from the sea. Keep an eye out for Dall sheep, bald eagles, and occasionally pods of beluga whales. Passing through the tunnel under the Chugach Mountains the train emerges in the picturesque port of Whittier on the shores of Prince William Sound.

Whittier is a year-round, ice-free port built by the US military in WWII as a secret supply depot. You are met by the skipper and crew of the *MV Babkin* or the *MV Alexandra* to begin your exploration of the pristine bays, inlets, glaciers and wildlife habitat of Prince William Sound. On this comfortable motor yacht there are many opportunities to explore secluded coves other vessels cannot reach in this the Alaskan coastal wilderness. Overnight aboard the **MV Babkin** or the **MV Alexandra**. [BLD]



## DAYS 3-5 PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Prince William Sound is surrounded by the 14,000 foot snow-covered peaks of the Chugach National Forest that tower over this coastal wilderness. Shaped over millions of years by hundreds of glacier carved fjords and thousands of secluded inlets, opportunities for exploration are endless. Protected from ocean swells by its fjords and barrier islands, the calm waters of Prince William Sound are ideal for cruising, wildlife observation, photography, and fishing. Based from a zodiac, kayak, or stand up paddle board keep watch for humpback whales, orcas, Dall porpoise, sea lions, seals, and otters. The local salmon attracts bald eagles and the rocks outside the Whittier harbor are a nesting spot for kittiwakes. On hikes and kayaking along the shores of the uninhabited shoreline of Prince William Sound you may see black and brown bear. Running salmon creates opportunities to watch them swarm up streams, and observe commercial seine and gill netters, with good possibilities to buy some fresh fish for grilling on board or for sushi.

Daily shore excursions include guided hikes through the moss and lichen-draped spruce, cedar and hemlock forests, around peatland bogs, crossing streams, and up alpine meadows to vantage points overlooking spectacular glaciers and the snow-covered peaks of the Chugach Range. The Babkin motors up close to calving tidewater glaciers to watch huge chunks



of ice calve into the sea. Kids are especially welcome on the Babkin and are invited to help with almost whatever they wish – driving the boat, helping tie up the Zodiac, learning how to fish for halibut.

There are many opportunities for sea kayaking in calm coves late into the Alaskan evening (no experience necessary) enabling you to explore the beautiful coastline and wildlife up-close. The Babkin itinerary is flexible and always varies according to weather, wildlife sightings, and your special interests. Delicious meals are prepared by the crew including crab, shrimp and fresh fish that you catch.

The highlight of voyaging on the Babkin is the crew. Brother and sister duo, Brad and Alex von Wichman, have been plying the waters in Prince William Sound for over 30 years. They know the area intimately and not only have an in-depth knowledge of the ecosystem and its inhabitants but can speak to the changing environment and wildlife over the years.

Overnights are aboard the **MV Babkin or the MV Alexandra. [BLD]**



#### **DAY 6-7: DISEMBARK BABKIN--ANCHORAGE**

Return to port in Whittier where you'll be transferred by train to Anchorage. The following day is free to explore Anchorage – rent bikes and take a ride on the Tony Knowles Trail, visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center, or take this opportunity to do some laundry before heading up to Denali tomorrow. Overnights at the **Copper Whale Inn. [B]**

*Note: No activities included for this day. Up for some adventure? Ask us about adding a half-day rock climbing adventure in Turnagain Arm, about 20 minutes from Anchorage.*



### **DAY 8: CAMP DENALI NATURALIST BUS TO KANTISHNA**

Today we journey from Anchorage to the heart of Denali National Park. Take a taxi on your own to the Egan Center where a comfortable shuttle takes us 5 hours to the Denali park entrance where we meet the Camp Denali naturalist bus. Resident naturalist guides narrate this 90-mile, 7-hour drive deep into Denali National Park stopping frequently to learn about the park's glaciology and flora, cultural heritage and legends, and its incredible mega-fauna. We have good chances of seeing grizzly and black bear, moose, caribou, loons, beaver, dall sheep, and possibly wolves. We learn how

different species adapt to life in the subarctic and studies of the impacts of climate change in the high latitudes of North America. *Total travel time is 12 hours.*

Overnight in the heart of Denali National Park in your own authentic wilderness cabin at **Camp Denali**. Cabins are heated by a wood-burning stove, lit by propane lamp and each has a water spigot and outhouse just outside the door—flush toilets and hot water showers are in a communal building a short 2-7 minute walk to the main lodge where meals are served. **[BD]**

### **DAYS 9-10: DENALI NATIONAL PARK**

Our days are spent exploring around Kantishna in the heart of Alaska's premier wilderness with resident naturalist guides leading easy to strenuous hikes through alpine and tundra ecosystems. We delve into this rich natural habitat along rivers, lakes and ridge-top trails with magnificent panoramic views of the Alaska Range. The beautiful scenery of Kantishna is also habitat for grizzly and black bear, caribou, Dall sheep, wolves, Arctic fox, and moose. Activities offered include guided hikes, and opportunities to use canoes, mountain bikes, fishing gear, and evening presentations in the lodge. Overnight in your own cabin at **Camp Denali**. **[BLD]**



### **DAY 11: DENALI SCENIC FLIGHT TO ANCHORAGE**

Our morning bush plane back to Anchorage is a spectacular scenic flight passing over vast glaciers, through mountain passes, and around the snow-covered peaks of the Alaska Range including Mt. Denali (20,320 ft), the tallest mountain in North America and the highest mountain from base to summit in the world! Upon arrival in anchorage transfer on your own to the **Copper Whale Inn**. **[B]**

*Note: The flight is weather dependant. If we are unable to fly from Kantishna we will take the Camp Denali bus 5 hours back to the park entrance and either fly from there or take a motorcoach another 5 hours back to Anchorage.*

### **DAY 12: DEPARTURE**

Take a taxi on your own to the Anchorage airport for your departing flight. **[B]**

## **END OF SERVICES**

*Actual routes and activities may vary. Local trip coordinators reserve the right to change accommodations to similar quality alternatives.*

## **PRICING IS [HERE](#)**

**DATES:** this itinerary is offered on a custom basis depending on availability beginning on a Thursday or a Friday. Please call for details.

## **INCLUDED SERVICES**

- All guided tours and excursions
- Round-trip Alaska Railroad tickets
- Land transportation Anchorage-Denali
- Flight Denali-Anchorage (weather dependent)
- 7 nights hotel and lodge
- 4 nights/5 day ship charter
- Meals as indicated [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Wildland Adventures travel consultation and pre-departure services

## **NOT INCLUDED SERVICES**

- Airfare to Alaska
- Tips and gratuities
- Transfers in Anchorage
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Travel insurance for trip cancellation, medical services, or evacuation
- Any other items not mentioned above



## [Accommodations](#)



### **COPPER WHALE INN, ANCHORAGE**

The Copper Whale Inn was voted the best bed and breakfast in Alaska by readers of the Anchorage Daily News. The 14 room B&B is located on the fringe of the heart of historic Anchorage, within convenient walking distance to the city's major attractions. The Copper Whale hillside location offers stunning views of the Cook Inlet, the Alaska Range, and the Mt. Spurr Volcano. Enjoy a great continental breakfast while you look for beluga whales in the Cook Inlet. Talk with resident innkeeper, Glen Hemingson, or any of the staff for recommendations on what to see and do and how to get around in Anchorage.



### **M/V BABKIN, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND**

The Babkin is a comfortable fifty-eight foot motor vessel that is a licensed oceanographic research vessel. The M/V Babkin was constructed in Tacoma, Washington in 1997. Designed for longer length charters she is extremely seaworthy and comfortably outfitted. The interior is teak, fully carpeted and well heated throughout. It has three cabins each with a lower double and upper single bunk. A full shower and toilet (head) as well as plenty of storage space for personal belongings complete the forward layout. The galley/salon area is large and roomy and is laid out European style with 2 settees. A large back deck, flying bridge and full walk around deck provide ample outside space for freight, fishing and wildlife viewing. A large pilot

house with crew and captains' quarters also provides access to upper deck and flying bridge. She carries two kayaks and paddleboards for guest use.



### **FV ALEXANDRA, PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND**

The smaller Alexandra is 42 feet and has one forward cabin with 4 berths, so it's ideal for families of 4 or less. The F/V Alexandra was constructed in Tacoma, Washington in 1981. Designed as a combination fishing / live aboard, she is extremely seaworthy, is fully equipped, and is comfortably outfitted for longer-term trips. The main cabin consists of a large galley / living area with a sliding side door and a large settee which folds down into a double berth. The aft door provides access to the back deck and the flying bridge. *Note: The Alexandra has a head, but not a shower.*



**CAPTAIN BRAD VON WICHMAN**

Born and raised in Anchorage with Prince William Sound in his backyard. He met his wife, Kjersti, a Norwegian and they are busy raising three children! Brad grew up exploring Prince William Sound and Resurrection Bay with his family as a child on the family's 21 foot small open boat. He spent his summers during college commercially fishing in a family business for shrimp, salmon, halibut, black cod. He still commercially fishes for halibut and black cod. He has a biology degree and a voracious appetite for reading!

**CAPTAIN ALEX VON WICHMAN**

Born and raised in Anchorage with Prince William Sound in her backyard. She also spent her early years exploring parts of Prince William Sound and Resurrection Bay with her family on their 21 foot boat. Her summers were spent commercially fishing for shrimp, salmon, halibut, and black cod. She still fishes for halibut and black cod. Alex loves the outdoors, skiing, and people.



**CAMP DENALI, DENALI NATIONAL PARK**

Founded in 1951, this family owned and operated business retains grandfathered rights to take its guests on active and educational explorations deeper into the park and up to higher elevations offering daily excursions beyond the immediate developed area of other lodges in Kanthishna where we gain better wildlife viewing and mountain photographic opportunities. Each day guests choose from a range of naturalist-guided hikes based on your interests and abilities. You can also use the lodge's mountain bikes; go fishing for grayling, or canoe on Wonder Lake.

Evening programs in the lodge are presented by staff naturalists and visiting specialists designed to expand your knowledge of Alaska's natural and cultural heritage. Eighteen log cabins are spaced apart on a ridge, each one strategically placed to offer stunning views of the Denali range. In the true spirit of an Alaskan homestead, each cabin is warmed by a wood stove and lit by propane light. There is no running water in the cabins, but a spigot and private outhouse kept meticulously clean are located right outside your door. Flush toilets and private hot showers with dressing rooms are available in a men's and women's bathhouse near the main lodge just a 2-7 minute walk from the cabins. Enjoy exquisite northwest cuisine and organic vegetables including fresh greens grown in the greenhouse. The bakery is always cooking up fresh breads and tasty treats.



# Booking your Wildland Adventure

## HOW TO RESERVE A TRIP

You can book online using our [Reserve a Trip form](#) or by calling 1-800-345-4453. Your space on a trip is confirmed once we receive your reservation form and initial trip deposit. All travelers must sign and submit a [Release of Liability](#).

Deposit requirements are as follows:\*

- 20% per person for all trips in Alaska.

\*Some trips require additional non-refundable deposits, especially when yachts have been chartered, or if permits to visit archaeological or wildlife sites have been purchased in advance.

## PAYMENTS, CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

Full payment of the trip balance is due 90 days prior to departure. If you must cancel before departure, money will be returned less the cancellation fees charged by WA Inc. plus any additional non-refundable cancellation fees and payments already advanced to airlines, hotels and local operators:

Days Prior to Departure: Fee per person

91 or more:	\$350
61-90 days:	Initial deposit amount
31-60 days:	50% of land cost
30 or less:	100% of land cost

## PRE-DEPARTURE SERVICES

Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will send you a comprehensive Pre-departure Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including trip insurance, packing checklist, reading list, maps, and more. You will receive a final trip packet including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Wildland Adventures, Inc. has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary. It is however possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included. We highly recommend purchasing traveler's insurance for trip delay, trip cancellation, baggage, accident or sickness. Representatives are available for assistance at any time during your trip. If preferred hotels are not available, every attempt will be made to reserve alternative accommodations of similar quality. (If upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply.) All information and services provided are subject to our [Terms and Conditions](#)