

Backpacking The Arrigetch Peaks

10 Day Backpacking Adventure

*Gates of the Arctic
National Park & Preserve*



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Thank you for considering a trip with Alaska Alpine Adventures! We have spent the past 25 years perfecting the art of guiding expeditions throughout the most remote wilderness regions of Alaska with folks just like you. Included below is much of the information you'll need to prepare & plan for your trip. Of course, never hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

Before booking a trip with Alaska Alpine Adventures, we encourage you to thoroughly read our Reservation & Cancellation Policies below AND make sure you read and understand your personal responsibilities delineated on the [Safety & Responsibility page on our website](#).

Our policies are intended to be fair, both to our guests and to our small business. Ultimately, we are a small adventure travel company operating on public lands in some of the world's most remote and challenging environments. Our groups are intentionally small, our operating season each year is incredibly short, and each spot on a trip represents an irreplaceable opportunity. The closer to a trip's start date that a guest cancels, the more difficult it becomes to fill that spot, and that is what informs our cancellation policy.

It's also the reason that we **STRONGLY RECOMMEND PURCHASING TRIP CANCELLATION & INTERRUPTION INSURANCE.**

Both [TRAVEL GUARD](#) & [RIPCORN](#) are good options. We're excited to share Alaska with you, in the most authentic way we believe possible! Thanks so much for understanding, and for choosing Alaska Alpine Adventures. We'll see you in Alaska soon!



Camp set up beneath the Arrigetch Peaks

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Backpacking Arrigetch Peaks

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The Curated Experience

The Arrigetch, meaning “fingers of the outstretched hands”, are a cluster of peaks within the mighty Brooks Range. The Arrigetch Peaks are known for their sheer walls, vertical spires, and spectacular relief. Join us for a 10-day exploratory backpacking adventure into the heart of this amazing hiking paradise, deep within the wilderness of Gates of the Arctic National Park!

Our backpacking trip into the Arrigetch Peaks, in the heart of Alaska’s Brooks Range, will allow you the opportunity to explore the best of Gates of the Arctic National Park. From the lowland spruce country of the Alatna River Valley to the amazing tundra country below the spectacular Arrigetch spires, Gates of the Arctic is worthy of priority on every explorer’s bucket list!

We’ll start the trip in Fairbanks, Alaska - our launching point for all of our adventures above the Arctic Circle! After an evening pouring over maps and discussing our route, we’ll board the first of 2 bush flights necessary to get us into the wilderness. We’ll fly from Fairbanks to Bettles, a true bush community accessible only by air and the town where many Brooks Range expeditions launch. After loading our gear and ourselves into a floatplane, we’ll leave the lake and watch miles of untouched wilderness drift below us, as the Arrigetch Peaks grow larger on the approaching horizon. With the precision Alaska bush pilots are known for, we’ll touch down on Circle Lake and unload our gear on the shore. As soon as the plane leaves the water, we’ll suddenly & silently find ourselves alone in the epicenter of true wilderness.

As we shoulder our packs and begin the difficult uphill climb out of the Alatna River Valley, we’ll all be anxious for our first glimpse of the Arrigetch Peaks and the country that we’ll explore for the next 8 days! Experience one of Alaska’s best kept secrets with Alaska Alpine Adventures!

In the document below you’ll find information on the following:

- Trip Levels and Description of Physical Abilities
- Sample Day by Day Itinerary
- What is Included & What is Not
- Why Travel with Alaska Alpine Adventures
- Travel Info & Getting To and From Alaska
- Reservation and Cancellation Policies
- Gear Lists, Equipment Lists, Rental information
- FAQs

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Backpacking The Arrigetch Peaks is rated a **LEVEL 3 Backpacking** trip

Physical conditioning and consistent exercise prior to these trips IS mandatory.

This is an expedition-style backpacking trip and you will be expected to carry a backpack weighing roughly one third of your body weight over steep, mountainous, and inconsistent terrain for many days. You may hike up to 10-miles in a day with up to 3000' of elevation gain/ loss. You will likely encounter longer stretches of thick vegetation and may also experience Alaska's diverse selection of insect species. You will be camping in a very remote wilderness, sleeping in tents, relieving yourself in places with a stunning view, and sometimes enjoying all of that in the rain. You will be expected to load and unload your own gear, carry a portion of the group gear, and manage your own physical comfort and well-being. Previous backpacking experience may be required and is certainly recommended for these trips. Pre-trip physical conditioning should begin no later than 3 months prior to departure and must include hiking or walking with at least 45 lbs. in your backpack.



Taking in the view with the Alatna River below

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DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY *(*Sample)*

Day 1: Today you are free to arrive in Fairbanks on your own. From the airport, grab the complimentary airport shuttle to Pike's Waterfront Lodge, which is located near the airport on the banks of the Chena River. After checking into the lodge, you'll meet your guide by late afternoon for orientation and gear check, followed by a group dinner featuring gourmet pizza and local craft brews. The orientation will include a discussion of the route, an introduction to our unique style of Alaska wilderness travel, a familiarization of the principles of Leave No Trace, and a conversation about traveling safely in bear country. Dinner & accommodations included.

Day 2: After breakfast at the hotel, we'll make our way back to the airport for our bush flight from Fairbanks to Bettles, the gateway community to Gates of the Arctic NP. Once in Bettles, we'll transfer our gear to an awaiting floatplane for the 1-hour flight to Circle Lake, a small oxbow lake near the banks of the Alatna River. As we bid our pilot goodbye, thoughts will quickly turn to the expedition ahead. We'll make camp near the lake, savor our first night in the wilderness, and prepare for our Alaska backpacking adventure into the Arrigetch Peaks.

All meals included.

Distance: 1-2 miles, Elevation Gain 300'

Days 3-8: We'll hoist our packs and begin the steep and strenuous climb out of the Alatna River valley and into the alpine high country that will be our home for the next 6 nights. The arduous climb out of the Alatna will reward with spectacular tundra hiking along ridges, unparalleled views of deep glacially carved valleys, incredible camp locations, and stupendous vistas of the magnificent Arrigetch Peaks. Whether ascending a high mountain pass, walking along a tundra-clad ridge, or hiking alongside a high alpine lake, exploring this area will provide you the essence of Gates of the Arctic National Park, and the vastness of an incomparable wilderness.

All meals included.

Average Daily Distance: 6-8 miles Elevation Gain: 1500-3500'

Days 9: By the afternoon of day 9 we'll descend from the high alpine and return to the Alatna River valley. With a sense of humility and accomplishment, we'll await our bush flight. We'll then make our way back to Bettles, where we will set up camp. We'll enjoy a celebratory meal at a local restaurant.

All meals included.

Distance: 4-5 miles, Elevation Gain 1000'-1500'

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Day 10: After breakfast in Bettles, we'll return to Fairbanks and the conclusion of our trip. If you are leaving Alaska on this day, please schedule flights home from Fairbanks for after 8pm. Better yet, plan to spend another night at Pikes. Breakfast and lunch included.

*While Alaska Alpine Adventures endeavors to follow our itineraries as written, odds are in fact slim that you actually will during the camping portion of this trip. The expeditionary factors at play quite often compel our guides to deviate from the written itinerary. Guide considerations could include weather conditions, group preference, individual ability, specific safety considerations, or unforeseeable circumstances; collectively what many have called "The Alaska Factor." Flight times into and out of the wilderness may also vary based on any number of similar factors. Therefore, we strongly suggest that you approach any adventure in Alaska with an open mind.



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What is Included

- **All Group Gear:** Expedition quality tents, group tarp, all cooking equipment & eating vessels and utensils.
- **All Safety Equipment:** Satellite phone, Garmin In-Reach, maps, and medical kit.
- **Water Treatment:** Aquamira (a 2-part) liquid chlorine dioxide system.
- **Trekking Poles**
- **Toilet Supplies:** Toilet paper, trowel, and hand sanitizer.
- **Roundtrip Air Transportation:** Between Fairbanks and Bettles Alaska.
- **Roundtrip Air Transportation:** From Bettles into the Wilderness.
- **Lodging:** Night one in Fairbanks.
- **All Meals:** From dinner on night one through lunch on day 10 (final day of itinerary).
- **Professional Guide Service:** Maximum of a 4:1 guest to guide ratio.

What is Not Included

- **Airfare to Fairbanks, Alaska:** From your home city.
- **Pre or Post Lodging:** In Fairbanks prior to & after your adventure.
- **Personal Gear:** Sleeping bag, sleeping pad, backpacks, rain gear, etc.
See equipment Lists and available rental items below.
- **Trip Cancellation/Interruption Insurance:** HIGHLY SUGGESTED!
- **Additional Lodging:** Any additional lodging in Fairbanks or Bettles due to weather delays.
- **Alcoholic Beverages**
- **Guide Gratuities:** See below.

"I just wanted to take some time and really thank you for that Gates of the Arctic Trip. The word I keep coming back to is "pivotal." There was something about the physical exertion, the mental challenge, the mind-blowing Alaska landscape, the natural serenity - it all just combined to have a very positive and trans-formative effect on me."

-Nicholas Vanbuskirk



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Traveling with Alaska Alpine Adventures

GUIDES: It takes a talented individual to be able to lead an Alaska expedition, and our Alaska guides are true outdoor multi-sport professionals. We hand-select each guide based on their ability to deliver an unparalleled level of customer service, a strong wilderness skill set and background and an insatiable passion for Alaska's wild spaces. Each guide is medically certified as a Wilderness First Responder and carries the necessary qualifications to competently backpack, hike, kayak, canoe and climb throughout Alaska's vast wilderness. When you choose to travel with us, you can rest assured that your trip has been meticulously planned and executed by real Alaskans with authentic Alaska know-how, skill, and ability.

FOOD: Our food is excellent – in fact it is something that clearly differentiates us from our competition. We have spent the past twenty-five years fine-tuning our backcountry menu. Breakfasts on our trips could include steel cut oats, egg scrambles, house-made granola and cereal, locally roasted coffee, assorted tea, and cocoa. In order to keep our food as light and compact as possible on our backpacking-specific itineraries, we don't pack full lunches. Instead, we take frequent breaks and snack throughout the day. Our "snack pack lunches" include a combination of energy bars, chocolate, meat, and cheese, and total just over 1000 calories. Dinners could include pasta carbonara, Alaska reindeer rotini, chicken and chipotle enchilada bowls, and more. And a delicious desert experience is always included after dinner.

CAMPING: Alaska Alpine Adventures has camped in some of Alaska's most remote and wild places; from the remote beaches of the Alaska Peninsula, the rugged glaciers of the Neacola Mountains, to the open tundra expanses of the Brooks Range. With literally thousands of nights camped in the Alaska wilderness in all seasons, we have refined camp craft to a science. Expedition quality tents, included trekking poles, group-size tarp shelters, and only the best cooking equipment accompany each and every one of our wilderness trips. Not only does including the finest equipment make camp life more comfortable, but it also adds a level of safety to trips that could otherwise be relentlessly unforgiving to the unprepared. In other words, we take our camping very seriously!



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SMALL GROUPS: Small groups are the best way to witness the Last Frontier! This wilderness trip is limited to 8 guests. And with a guest to guide ratio of 4:1 you are assured of our commitment to risk management and safe operations. Furthermore, it is a best practice to keep groups exceptionally small to minimize our impact on the Alaskan backcountry by following Leave No Trace principles.

GRATUITIES: Tips to guides are left entirely to your discretion. While any amount is greatly appreciated, tips often range from 5-10% of the trip cost per person and are split among the guides.



Carefully working our way along the Alatna Riverbanks

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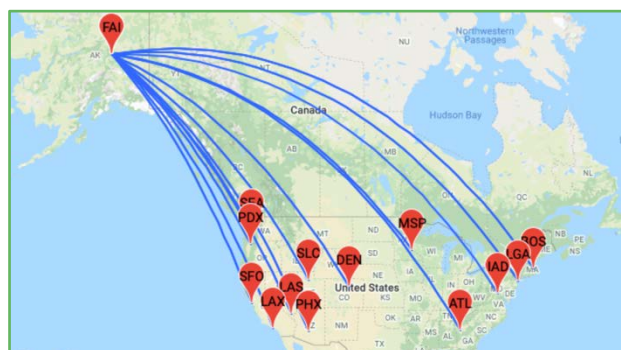
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Travel Information

GETTING TO ALASKA

This trip begins and ends in Fairbanks, Alaska. Getting to Fairbanks is easy. Alaska Airlines, your travel agent, online travel sources, or the carrier of your choice are options to easily arrange roundtrip airfare from international cities or the lower 48.



takes approximately an hour and a half. After landing in Bettles, you will then be taken to the float plane lake used by our air taxi. Here you and your guide(s) will board Brook's Range Aviation's floatplane for the hour-long flight into the wilderness.

BUSH FLIGHTS

Access to Gates of the Arctic National Park is limited to air travel in a small airplane flown by an experienced bush pilot. This adventure includes the bush flight between Fairbanks and Bettles, Alaska, and floatplane flights into Gates of the Arctic. Have your camera at the ready because your trip begins here. For most, this will be a first experience in a small aircraft – a memorable one to be sure. The flight to Bettles takes you across open tundra as you make your way towards the mighty Brooks Range and

ACCOMMODATIONS

Lodging on night one in Fairbanks is included in your package (See our Roommate Policy below). You'll be staying in at Pike's Waterfront Lodge in Fairbanks. We use Pike's because of its comfortable rooms, included breakfast and convenient location near the airport. The remaining nights will be spent camping in the wilderness.



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LUGGAGE

If you chose to pack and check your backpack, make sure all the straps are cinched and buckled. The baggage conveyors have been known to eat these things! Please keep your luggage tagged, with your name easy to read. Due to limited weight restrictions for the bush flights, we suggest you pack as lightly as possible. If you follow the gear list, you'll be spot-on!

ROOMMATE POLICY

Our trip rates are based on double occupancy in each room. If you request your own room or we are unable to find a roommate of the same gender, a single supplement of \$275 will be applied to your trip rate before your final balance is due (45 days prior to your trip start date). If we find you a roommate prior to your final payment being due, the single supplement will be removed from your balance due.

- Due to limited inventory with our accommodation vendors, a single room cannot always be guaranteed.
- If we find you a roommate after you have submitted your final payment, your single supplement will be refunded.
- If you register 45 days or fewer prior to your trip start date, your single supplement will be due at the time of your registration unless a roommate is available. If a roommate is found prior to your trip, your single supplement will be refunded.
- Please be sure to confirm your rooming arrangements by emailing us or calling 1-907-351-4193



RESERVATION POLICY

The trip prices listed on our website and in our literature are per person, based on double occupancy and subject to a 3% Land & Water Access Fee. A deposit of \$1000.00 per person is required to reserve a trip with Alaska Alpine Adventures. The remaining balance is due 45 days prior to the start of the trip. Reservations made within 45 days of the trip starting date require payment in full. Alaska Alpine Adventures strongly recommends Trip Cancellation & Interruption insurance

available through [Ripcord](#) or [Travel Guard](#).

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CANCELLATION POLICY – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Before booking a trip with Alaska Alpine Adventures, we encourage you to thoroughly read our Reservation & Cancellation Policies below AND make sure you read and understand your personal responsibilities delineated on the [Safety & Responsibility](#) page on our website.

Our policies are intended to be fair, both to our guests and to our small business. Ultimately, we are a small adventure travel company operating on public lands in some of the world's most remote and challenging environments. Our groups are intentionally small, our operating season each year is incredibly short, and each spot on a trip represents an irreplaceable opportunity. The closer to a trip's start date that a guest cancels, the more difficult it becomes to fill that spot, and that is what informs our cancellation policy. It's also the reason that we STRONGLY RECOMMEND PURCHASING TRIP CANCELLATION & INTERRUPTION INSURANCE. Both [TRAVEL GUARD](#) & [RIPCORDER](#) are good options

We're excited to share Alaska with you, in the most authentic way we believe possible! Thanks so much for understanding, and for choosing Alaska Alpine Adventures. We'll see you in Alaska soon!

IF WE CANCEL – Alaska Alpine Adventures reserves the right to cancel any trip because of internal reasons including but not limited to inadequate signups (see Trip Minimums below), loss of staff due to injury or illness and significant damage/loss of inventory. If Alaska Alpine Adventures cancels a trip due to internal reasons, a refund of the total amount paid will be given. Refunds are limited to the amount actually paid to Alaska Alpine Adventures.

IF GOD CANCELS – Should your trip departure have to be cancelled or postponed by a force majeure (including but not limited to: weather causing delays or cancelled charter flights, fire, flood, volcanic eruption, pandemic, ongoing or newly introduced travel ban or government statement) Alaska Alpine Adventures and its partner operators are not obligated to provide a refund or offer alternative travel services. Thus, we strongly encourage you to purchase Trip Cancellation & Interruption Insurance so that you are covered in the event of an unexpected change of plans.



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CANCELLATION POLICY continued

IF YOU CANCEL – If the participant cancels a reservation earlier than 45 days prior to the starting date, the deposit will be refunded, minus a \$500.00/participant administration fee **OR** the participant can elect to keep the entire deposit on account to be used on a future trip prior to **September 20, 2025**. If the participant cancels within 45-30 days of the trip starting date, there will be no refund of any costs **OR** the participant can elect to keep 75% of any payments on account to be used on a future trip prior to **September 20, 2025**. If the participant cancels within 30-days, there will be no refund of any costs.

ITINERARY CHANGES OR DELAYS

Alaska Alpine Adventures reserves the right to change the itinerary of a trip. Occasionally, weather or other factors may cause delays, destination changes, or make completing a trip impossible. In these circumstances, there will be no refund of fees. Alaska Alpine Adventures is not responsible for any additional costs (e.g., airline flight changes, additional hotel nights, etc.) associated with trip delays or itinerary changes due to weather or other factors.

TRIP MINIMUMS

To assure any Alaska Alpine Adventures departure, a minimum number of participants must sign up. This trip requires a minimum of 4 guests to guarantee departure. However, in the event your departure doesn't meet the minimum we will still operate the trip at below the minimum required for a modest surcharge. Please see our Reservations Page for more information regarding trip minimums.



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EQUIPMENT INFORMATION – BACKPACKING THE ARRIGETCH PEAKS

This document lists ALL clothing, equipment and other gear needed for your Alaska Alpine Adventure.

Please note that some items will be supplied by Alaska Alpine Adventures; other items you will need to provide yourself. The checklist below contains all of the clothing and gear required for this trip offered by Alaska Alpine Adventures. By following them, you should find yourself well equipped for your adventure. We are always happy to discuss equipment needs with you, so please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

TRUST YOURSELF, NOT THE WEATHER!

We travel light, yet spare few comforts, and the following checklists reflect this dogma. Our lists are based on typical seasonal and environmental conditions you are likely to encounter. Please refer to your particular adventure's itinerary for specific weather conditions you can expect at your destination. Living by the tenant of "hope for the best, plan for worst, and probably get something right in between" has served us quite well and often seems to sum up the Alaska experience. Environmental comfort levels will vary from

person to person, so please select your clothing and equipment accordingly and use the following checklists as a guide. It must be stressed that the items listed (or your own favorite substitution) are **MANDATORY** and must be in your possession when you head into the field.

OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

Over the course of many years spent in the most rugged environments, your Alaska Alpine Adventures guides have had the opportunity to put their gear and clothing to the ultimate test - daily use. Our guides have repeatedly found that certain companies produce consistently tough, durable products that stand up to both time and the elements. You can find most of these brands at your local outdoor retailer or online. The Alaska Alpine Adventures website also contains links to suppliers, printable gear lists, and helpful videos. We've also included the gear list below.

AVAILABLE RENTAL ITEMS

Alaska Alpine Adventures rents quality down and synthetic sleeping bags, inflatable air mattresses and Crazy Creek chairs for this trip. Please visit our rental page on our website by clicking [THIS LINK](#) for more info.



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Packing & Gear Lists

- **Backpack - Men's minimum size is 70L / Women's minimum size is 60L**

The group gear that Alaska Alpine Adventures provides (bear barrel, food, tent pieces, etc.) will occupy a minimum of 18L of your pack! Keep that in mind when purchasing a backpack. If in doubt, err on the side of a larger pack; it will make packing and unpacking much easier each day. We also recommend a professional pack fitting if you are purchasing a new backpack for your trip.

Guides Choice: The one that fits your body best!

- **Waterproof pack cover:** Large enough to fit your pack when it's full
- **1L water bottle:** Hydration bladders are acceptable in addition to one wide-mouth, hard-sided bottle.

Guides Choice: Wide-mouth Nalgene water bottle

- **Hiking boots for backpacking: Quality medium/heavy-duty hiking boots**

It is very critical that you break in your boots BEFORE you arrive, as traveling with blisters is a painful way to enjoy Alaska!

Guides Choice: Salomon Quest 4D 3 GTX

- **Waterproof/breathable rain jacket AND rain pants - *BOTH Pieces are mandatory***
Gore-Tex or similar quality waterproof/breathable GOOD rain gear is essential on any wilderness outing and is probably the most important piece of gear that you have on your trip.

Guides Choice: Outdoor Research Foray Jacket AND Pants

Hiking Layers - Synthetic or wool, no cotton

- **Lightweight wind shirt**

Guides Choice: Patagonia Houdini Jacket

- **1 mid-weight long sleeve synthetic/Merino top:** Daily use as a base layer shirt that you'll wear all day.

Guides Choice: Patagonia Capilene Lightweight Crew

- **1 mid-weight synthetic/Merino bottom:** To be worn under your hiking pant or rain pant on a cold/wet days

Guides Choice: Patagonia Capilene Lightweight Bottoms

- **1 pair synthetic hiking pants:** Daily use hiking pant that you'll wear all day
- **1 pair lightweight synthetic shorts:** Convertible hiking pant/shorts are OK

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- **1 lightweight T-shirt:** Synthetic
- **4 pair of hiking socks:** Synthetic or wool mid-weight hiking socks.
- **1 warm beanie hat:** Synthetic or wool
- **1 billed hat:** Keeps your face protected from the sun
- **1 mosquito head net**
- **1 pair of gloves:** Synthetic or wool.

Camp Life

- **Sleeping bag:** Synthetic or down sleeping bag rated to a minimum of 30 F°
 - Available for rent, includes a waterproof compression stuff sack
- **2 waterproof compression stuff sacks:** One large enough to fit your sleeping bag & One large enough to fit your extra layers.
Guides Choice: Sea to Summit eVent Compression Dry Sacks
- **Sleeping pad:** Closed-cell foam pad or inflatable air mattress
 - Inflatable air mattress available for rent
- **Headlamp:** For trips departing after August 1st
- **Camp chair:** Crazy-Creek style, soft, folding camp chair or Therm-a-Rest conversion chair kit to fit inflatable mattress.
Guides Choice: Crazy Creek Hex 2.0 Original chair
 - Crazy-Creeks is available for rent.
- **Insulated mug:** Save weight and the bulk & use your wide mouth water bottle for both hot and cold drinks. We recommend wide mouth, as it's easier to pour hot water into for hot drinks.
- **Synthetic underwear:** 3 to 4 pair should suffice
- **1 heavyweight synthetic top**
Guides Choice: Patagonia Capilene Thermal Weight Crew
- **1 heavyweight synthetic or fleece bottoms**
Guides Choice: Patagonia Capilene Thermal Weight Bottoms
- **1 synthetic or down lightweight puffy jacket**
Guides Choice: Outdoor Research Transcendent Down Pullover
- **Camp shoes:** Light-weight Crocs or sport sandals. Used for getting out of your hiking/paddling shoes around camp and crossing streams and rivers.
Guides choice: Crocs Original Classic Clogs

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- **Sacred socks:** Heavy, warm pair of socks to put on at night.
The name says it all – they're sacred –we keep ours IN our sleeping bag until bedtime. Different than what you'll wear while in camp in your camp shoes, we usually wear a neoprene sock with the crocs or something that can still get wet while walking around camp, if the tundra/ground is wet, or its raining.

PERSONAL EFFECTS

- Sunglasses with case
- Toiletries
- Personal medications
- Sunscreen/lip protection
- Pack towel
- Book/reading materials
- Camera
- Journal and pen
- Binoculars
- Insect repellent



Fall colors and blue skies in the Brooks Range

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED ITEMS

- Bandana
- 2 accessory carabiners
- 2 pair synthetic liner socks
- Waterproof gaiters
Guides Choice: Outdoor Research Verglas Gaiter
- Small personal drybag to protect your camera and electronics

PACKING AND GEAR VIDEOS

For more information on gear, clothing & packing for your trip. click [THIS LINK](#) to check out Alaska Alpine Adventure's YouTube channel for helpful and informative packing and gear videos.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will I be kept safe on the trip?

Because our trips take place in remote & wild environments, there are inherent risk factors that can't be entirely avoided without compromising the unique character of the activities associated with adventure travel. Obviously, it's not our intention to reduce your enthusiasm for outdoor adventure activities, but we believe it is important for everyone to know in advance that real adventure involves real risk, much of which simply cannot be controlled Alaska Alpine Adventures or Alaska Alpine Adventures' employees. By joining one of our trips, you are representing that you understand, and are accepting of, the risks described in the acknowledgment/release document that all participants are required to sign. You are also representing that you will accept the degree of personal responsibility necessary to participate in adventure travel activities.

What about the mosquitoes?

In case you've heard horror stories... the number of mosquitoes is greatly dependent on hatching season, annual weather conditions, specific locations, and time of year. While you are bound to encounter some mosquitoes during the course of your summer adventure, their numbers rarely present major problems. That said, please arrive prepared with insect repellent and a head net to fend off any bugs that are present.

Will bears be a problem?

Alaska is bear country! There are both grizzly and black bears in most of the wilderness areas of Alaska we visit. We love seeing bears in the wild and consider bear sightings one of the most thrilling privileges common in Alaska's backcountry. That said, traveling safely and taking precautions to minimize a negative encounter are considerations we take very seriously. In addition to conducting a thorough pre-trip bear safety orientation, your guides also take many precautions on all of our trips including: 1) all of our food is packaged to minimize odors – we vacuum seal most of our fresh ingredients and sauces, we pack our food in bear resistant food canisters, and we store our food well away from camp. 2) We make noise when we're hiking in thick brush or when we're hiking in windy

conditions to minimize surprise encounters. 3) We keep an exceptionally clean camp and 4) as a last resort guides travel armed carrying pepper spray.



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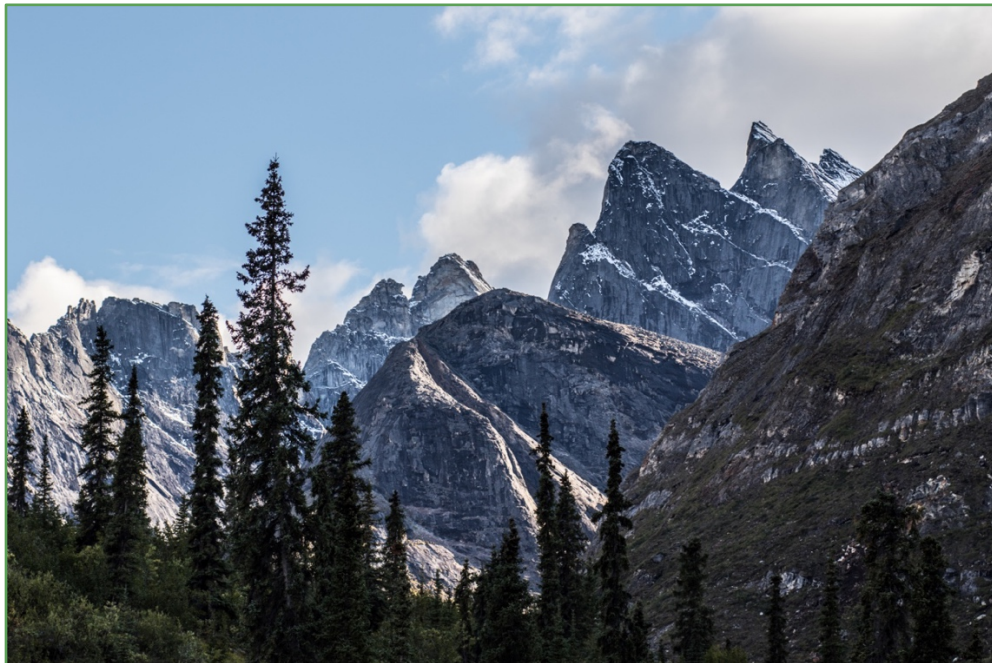
Will I see wildlife on my trip?

It's important to keep in mind that while we do have abundant wildlife populations in Alaska, animals are often obscured by the vastness of the landscape, subject to imprecise migration routes and often affected by Alaska's dynamic weather patterns.

While wildlife viewing on our trips has been historically reliable, and we schedule our trips to maximize the chances of seeing wildlife, there are simply too many factors to make any guarantees.

What will the weather be like on my trip?

Alaska has some of the most dynamic and dramatic weather on the planet. During the summer months in Alaska, average daytime temperatures range from 60° to 80°F. Nighttime and morning temperatures are cooler, but rarely dip below 40°F. Fall arrives early at these latitudes and you'll experience cooler temperatures and fewer hours of daylight in late August and early September. Throughout the summer season, you may experience rain, sun, wind, clouds, and fog on your adventure. We live by the adage "prepare for the worst, hope for the best, and you'll likely end up with some of both".



The Arrigetch, meaning "fingers of the outstretched hands"

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