



adventure
TREKS

ALASKA EXPEDITION

SUMMER 2020



Step into the Last Frontier, a wild region surrounded by turquoise fjords and blanketed in lush forests and massive glaciers. Explore the Chugach Mountains' mossy alpine meadows and spruce and birch forests. Learn to ice climb on the Matanuska Glacier's sparkling blue walls. Discover where the Lions Head River got its name as you negotiate its continuous whitewater. Navigate rounded green ridges and ancient volcanic flows in the Talkeetna Mountains, and then paddle through the bluest-green water you've ever laid eyes on while sea kayaking in the Prince William Sound. Finish your trip with a backpack in Denali National Park, home to North America's highest peak and one of the most diverse landscapes in the world.



CURRENT GRADES

10TH-12TH

LENGTH

30 DAYS

“AT was truly an amazing experience that we as parents could not give him on that level. Of course, he loved every minute of it; it was worth every penny.” *Jasenska Antunez, parent from Schertz, TX*

ACTIVITIES



Backpacking



Ice climbing

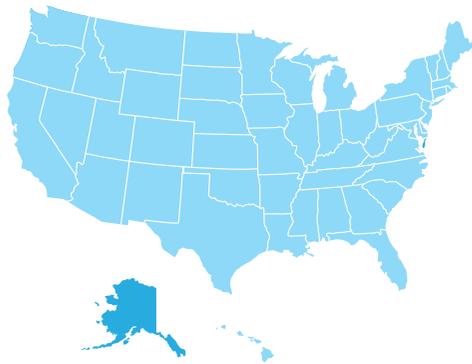


Sea kayaking



Whitewater rafting

ITINERARY



DAYS 1-2 **ARRIVAL**

Fly into Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport (ANC) and meet your group and instructors! Once all students and their luggage have arrived, we'll begin refreshing our knowledge of tent, camp, and tarp setup and learn new skills like river crossings and other Alaska-specific protocols. Then we'll have our delicious "Yahoo!" dinner (chicken, steak, salmon, reindeer sausage, veggie burgers, cheesy mashed potatoes, and fruit salad) and spend our first night catching up with old friends and making new ones.

DAY 3 **DAY HIKE**

Students will split up into smaller groups to hike to the 4,271-foot Mt. Eklutna in Chugach State Park. A steep yet rewarding hike, you'll pass over tundra and atop green ridges to reach a summit with miles-long views of the surrounding peaks and rivers.

DAYS 4-7 **BACKPACK IN CHUGACH STATE PARK**

For four days, set out on perhaps the most scenic hike in the entire range: Crow Pass (which follows the original Iditarod Trail). You and your group will pass over glaciers, through mine ruins and wildflower fields, and beside waterfalls. You may see moose, caribou, goats, and other wildlife native only to this subarctic region. Prepare to glissade down a snowfield!





DAYS 8–10

ICE CLIMB ON MATANUSKA GLACIER

One of our students' favorite activities: Spend three days ice climbing on this massive glacier. Learn how to ascend steep walls with ice tools and crampons, and pose for a photo op at the top of each climb. You may even get up close and personal with a crevasse! On the third day, descend through the valley on a 200-foot-high, quarter-mile-long zipline.

DAY 11

LOGISTICS AND WHITEWATER RAFT THE LIONSHEAD RIVER

Explore another side of the Matanuska Glacier, this time from moving water! Steady class III and IV rapids keep you and your crew working together for about five miles. Keep your eyes open for the river's namesake, a huge basalt column formation. That afternoon, we'll clean out our vans, refresh our food supply, and do laundry.

DAYS 12–17

BACKPACK IN THE TALKEETNA MOUNTAINS

Take on more leadership responsibilities as you walk through this range of long-extinct volcanoes for six days. You and your friends will stand beneath and marvel at the surrounding sawtooth peaks and hang on to each other for support while you learn how to ford rivers and creeks. Make memories that last a lifetime on this incredibly varied terrain: You'll cross remnant ice fields, traverse ridges, stomp through bogs, and travel across tundra. Keep your eyes peeled for herds of caribou passing through.





DAYS 18–23

SEA KAYAK IN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

A logistics and travel day will follow our Talkeetna backpack. Then it's off to Prince William Sound, where five days on these turquoise waters will heighten your appreciation for Alaska's wild nature even more. Glide through calm waters in the Harriman Fjord, right next to waterfalls, calving glaciers, and peaks soaring up to 9,000 feet. The wildlife is abundant; you may see bald eagles, otters, porpoises, and maybe even an Orca! At night, surround yourself with your best friends while camping on black sand beaches.

DAYS 24–28

BACKPACK IN DENALI STATE PARK

Finish your trip with four days in the rugged territory that houses North America's tallest and most awe-inspiring mountain. Hike along the Kesugi Ridge through lush forests, vast tundra, and past an alpine lake. You'll definitely want to do a "clear day dance," as the view of the 20,308-foot Denali is jaw-dropping on a bluebird day!

DAYS 29–30

DEPARTURE

We promise you this: You won't want to leave! But it'll be time for our adventure to come to an end. Relive every memory the night before with a celebratory dinner, and exchange contact info with all of your new best friends so you can stay in touch.

“Adventure Treks was the best program we have done. It was nice for Ingrid to do an outdoor adventure that was challenging, but the focus was more about the group than the individual. Unlike other programs she has done, she was ‘off the grid’ but was still able to check in with us periodically. I have heard nothing but great things about the instructors, and she loved the camaraderie and leadership opportunities. From the first phone call from the instructors to the follow-up phone call from the office, it was just perfect.” *Amy Johnson, first-year parent from Atlanta, GA*

TRAVEL INFO

**Arrive and depart
from
Anchorage, AK**



ANC

*Please do not book flights until your child has been officially accepted and enrolled on the Alaska Expedition. However, if you'd like to look up flight options, please call us for specific arrival and departure windows.

“Adventure Treks is life-changing in so many ways. It’s helped build my daughter’s confidence on so many levels and provided her a once-in-a-lifetime experience in Alaska. She’s had the opportunity to see and be a part of something that very few teenagers get to experience.” *Kate Mills, second-year parent from Newark, OH*



TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE ADVENTURE IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FAMILY.

Our instructors will be eagerly awaiting each of our students’ arrivals in Anchorage. Students call home as soon as they meet with our instructors and gather their baggage.



WEATHER INFO

Alaska weather can change in an instant. You’ll likely experience sunny weather and warm temps, chilly rain, and everything in between. One ill-prepared person can negatively affect the safety and fun of the whole group, so please come prepared. We are preparing for a worst-case weather scenario with **this clothing list!**

LOGISTICS



DATES

6/25/20 – 7/24/20

7/9/20 – 8/7/20

PRICE

\$5,995

INCLUDED IN TUITION:

- » All food and lodging
- » All group and technical equipment (tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, backpacking pack, mess kit, etc.)
- » Guided activities

NOT INCLUDED IN TUITION:

- » Trip insurance
- » Airfare to and from
- » Personal clothing and items (see the [Alaska Expedition packing list](#))

“There’s no greater gift for teenagers today than sending them to Adventure Treks. Being unplugged from social media and society’s pressures is good for the soul. Simultaneously being immersed in the incredible outdoors with amazing people from around the country is even better. Add amazing instructors and... boom! ‘Intentional’ is the word I usually find myself using to describe AT. Just about anyone can make a nice website and throw in some quotations about current research that sound smart, but you guys walk the talk. The work you do is real and deep and important on so many levels.” *Abby Pensky, sixth-year parent from Knoxville, TN*



READY TO SIGN UP? THERE ARE THREE WAYS:

- » APPLY ONLINE AT [ADVENTURETREKS.COM/ENROLL](https://adventuretreks.com/enroll)
- » CALL US AT 888-954-5555
- » OR EMAIL AMANDA FOX-MCGLASHAN, OUR MARKETING DIRECTOR, AT AMANDA@ADVENTURETREKS.COM



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PO Box 1321
Flat Rock, NC 28731
info@adventuretreks.com