



## **Itinerary:**

Day 1: Our Chilkoot Adventure begins in the town of Skagway, AK, located 110 miles north of Juneau. We will arrive here via a spectacular flight by small aircraft up the Lynn Canal, where b&b accommodations will be arranged

Day 2: There will be an orientation about the Historic Chilkoot Trail, a gear check, and a bit of time to explore this unique and historic town. In the afternoon we will check in at the Park Service, and receive a shuttle to the trail head where we will begin the first leg of this magnificent trail. The first day we will be hiking the forested trail 4.9 miles to Finnegan's point located just past Irene Glacier, and on the Taiya River. This is nice "warm-up" leg of the trail, and a good chance for people to get used to their packs.

Day 3: We leave Finnegan's and make our way to Canyon City, where we will cross a suspension bridge and discover one of the most incredible remnants of the Gold Rush. A huge boiler that was used in a failed attempt to build a tramway up the Chilkoot Pass. It now sits rusted in the forest as a relic of the magnificent history of this trail. The trail then begins to climb along waterfalls, blueberry bushes, and across an 83' suspension bridge, we stay our second night at Sheep Camp, on mile 12.4

Day 4: After an early breakfast, we will break camp and continue on the trail as it begins to climb above the tree line, and into the alpine. Here the views are nothing short of spectacular. We will see many artifacts left behind by the miners as they made their way to the summit, and soon that summit will come into view at the Scales. This is where the miners had to weight their goods before crossing into Canada. Each miner was required by the Canadian Royal Mounted Police to carry 1 ton of goods into the Yukon to survive the long and harsh winter. The only thing standing between us and the summit of Chilkoot Pass is this "golden staircase". The route is marked by a consistent grade and large boulders. At mile 16.5, we reach the summit and cross into Canada. From here, the view is astonishing. We begin our descent into Canada, making our way past deep aqua-marine lakes, fields of wildflowers, and numerous waterfalls to Happy Camp.

Day 5: We leave Happy Camp with the most difficult part of the trail behind us. We descend following a series of streams and lakes to the beautiful Deep Lake that marks the transition from the alpine region to the boreal forest. We will continue on to the historic Lake Lindeman's, where the miners began their boat building projects to continue on down the Yukon. We continue to make our way down to Bare Loon Lake where we will spend our final night in a beautiful wilderness setting.

Day 6: We make our final approach to historical Lake Bennett. After exploring the artifacts, we will board the White Pass and Yukon Route Railway, considered to be one of the 15 top engineering marvels of the world. The 3.5 hour trip back to Skagway is narrated, and rife with incredible views. Here the Chilkoot adventure ends. We will have a needed rest day before continuing on to Glacier Bay on Day 7.

Day 7-9: We board our aircraft again, this time bound for Gustavus, where we will pick up our kayaks and, after an orientation with the Parks Service, and a gear check, we embark on our expedition into Glacier Bay and the Beardsley Islands. We spend the next three nights paddling through some of the most pristine, breathtakingly beautiful and serene water in Alaska. Here the wildlife is abundant, and Humpback and Orca sightings are the norm.

Day 10: After we complete our kayaking excursion, and return to Gustavus for a well deserved night in the Glacier Bay lodge, we will then take a cruise up Glacier Bay aboard the Spirit of Adventure, view the Tidal

Glaciers, marveling at their enormity and their magnificence. This is the perfect relaxing and awe-inspiring end to a trip full of activity and endless rewards.