

**EXPLORERS**  
ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 1-8, 2025

with optional pre-tour  
Denali National Park

# DISCOVER SOUTHEAST ALASKA BY SMALL SHIP

Orbridge



# EXPLORERS

ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Dear EXPLORERS and Friends,

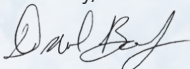
Join us on a unique summertime expedition through the remote waterways of Alaska's Inside Passage aboard the 76-guest *Chichagof Dream*. While exploring some of nature's more secluded landscapes, encounter Alaska's abundant wildlife, breathtaking scenery, and ice-blue glaciers of unfathomable proportions.

Alongside expert naturalists and knowledgeable on-board crew, navigate narrow channels and remote coves inaccessible by larger vessels. Witness enormous whales breaching next to your boat, bears hunting along the shoreline, and eagles soaring overhead—all thrilling performances of nature's amazing show.

This program also offers an optional pre-tour to Denali National Park—home to Denali, the highest mountain in North America. Ride the Alaska Railroad, stay at a hilltop lodge just north of the park entrance, and explore this vast and stunningly beautiful wilderness, recognizing why it's become one of our nation's most breathtaking conservation areas.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than \$1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly. To reserve, visit [uillinois.orbridge.com](https://uillinois.orbridge.com), call (866) 639-0079 or return the attached reservation form.

Sincerely,

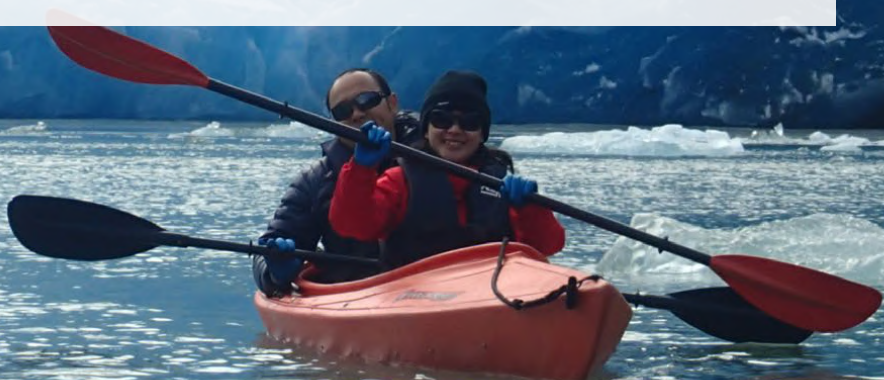


David Bambrey

President

University of Illinois Alumni Association

<https://uiaa.org/explorers/>



## Itinerary and Highlights *(subject to change)*

### Day 1: ARRIVE IN JUNEAU, AK – EMBARKATION

Arrive in Juneau from your home city or from Anchorage if you joined the optional pre-tour. For those arriving by the suggested time, visit the Alaska State Museum. Take a short bus ride to the port to board the *Chichagof Dream*. Later gather for your first dinner on board.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (D)

### Day 2: ICY STRAIT

Enjoy prime viewing on deck while spotting for wildlife including orcas, Steller sea lions, seals, porpoises and magnificent humpback whales. There will be opportunities for skiff rides or hiking (weather permitting).  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

### Day 3: GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK

Explore awe-inspiring Glacier Bay National Park and Bartlett Cove, watching for puffins, bears and eagles.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

### Day 4: TRACY ARM FJORD

Witness the incredible sight of glaciers calving as gigantic ice chunks break off and crash into the water. This afternoon, conditions permitting, set off on a skiff ride to further explore the area's bays and coves.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

### Day 5: PETERSBURG | FREDERICK SOUND

Visit a charming fishing village followed by a hike along a historical trail.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

### Day 6: EASTERN BARANOF ISLAND | HIDDEN FALLS

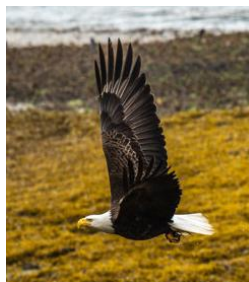
Experience a rare tour of Hidden Falls Hatchery and learn about the release of Chinook, coho, and chum salmon fry and smolts, and the vital role fishing has played in Alaska for centuries.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

### Day 7: LAKE EVA

Spend the morning cruising to Lake Eva for a final day of outdoor activities, conditions permitting. Join a skiff tour or explore the shoreline during a hike. Tonight gather together for a special Captain's Farewell Dinner to celebrate your adventures touring the Alaskan wilderness.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

### Day 8: SITKA – DISEMBARKATION | DEPART SITKA

After breakfast disembark and take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. If you reserved an additional night in Sitka, take a complimentary shuttle to your accommodations. (B)



*The itinerary and daily activities (including skiff rides, kayaking and hiking) are subject to change based on weather, wildlife viewing and navigation conditions.*

**Activity Level:** This program offers a variety of activities, typically not strenuous for guests with average mobility, including skiff rides, hiking and kayaking. Walks and hikes are at a leisurely pace in order to see and learn as much as possible about the region. It's our expectation that guests are able to walk with good balance, and go up and down stairs easily without assistance. NOTE: The *Chichagof Dream* does not have an elevator.

(B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)





## What's Included

- 7 nights aboard the *Chichagof Dream*
- All onboard hand-crafted meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners—including a special Captain's Farewell Dinner, and complimentary wine and beer at dinner
- An onboard lecture program and educational guidance of two naturalists plus an Orbridge Expedition Leader
- Guided kayaking, hiking, walking, skiff excursions and wildlife viewing where humpback whales, orcas, brown bears, Steller sea lions, harbor seals, sea otters, arctic terns, bald eagles and other populations are frequently spotted
- All port fees and entry fees to parks, preserves, museums, attractions and special excursions as described in the itinerary
- Gratuities for Orbridge Expedition Leader, airport transfer drivers and drivers/guides on included land excursions
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

**Orbridge**

### Your Expedition Leader:

Enriched from the wealth of expertise provided by your

Orbridge Expedition Leader, you'll bring home a deeper understanding of the flora, fauna, natural history and cultural narrative of the rugged Alaskan wilderness.

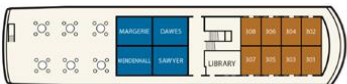
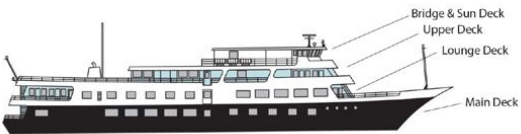




## Accommodations (subject to change)

Aboard the agile *Chichagof Dream*, you'll gain exclusive access to channels and bays inaccessible to larger vessels. The ship's unassuming style allows guests to experience the true heart and soul of Alaska.

The *Chichagof Dream* features expansive viewing areas on the bow and aft outdoor promenade decks, a hull design optimized for supreme comfort in Alaskan waters, and forward-facing windows in the spacious lounge that extend from the deck to the ceiling, offering panoramic views off the bow.



Upper deck



Lounge deck



Main deck



### A

Two twin beds, two porthole windows, spacious wardrobe, private bathroom with shower.  
Approx. 105 sq. ft.



### AA

Two twin beds, one or two picture windows, spacious wardrobe, private bathroom with shower.  
Approx. 109 sq. ft.



### Deluxe

One queen or two twin beds, one large picture window, spacious wardrobe, private bathroom with shower.  
Approx. 155 sq. ft.



### AAA

One queen or two twin beds, one large picture window, spacious wardrobe, private bathroom with shower.  
Approx. 109 sq. ft.



### Deluxe Suite (upper)

One queen bed, two large picture windows, spacious wardrobe, vanity, sitting area, private bathroom with shower. Approx. 208 sq. ft.



# Optional Pre-Tour Denali National Park

Journey into the scenic wilds of America's most northern state, through Alaska's rugged forests and wildlife. A highlight of this adventure includes an afternoon traveling aboard the historic Alaska Railroad with superior viewing from your upgraded glass-dome seat.



**Day +1: ARRIVE IN FAIRBANKS, AK** Meet your Orbridge Expedition Leader and fellow travel companions at a welcome dinner, and prepare for your upcoming Denali activities and excursions.  
Overnight: Pike's Waterfront Lodge (D)

**Day +2: FAIRBANKS | ALASKA RAILROAD | DENALI NATIONAL PARK** Board the train to Denali National Park. At the park gather for a brief orientation, and register for available activities and excursions.  
Overnight: Grande Denali Lodge (B,D)

**Day +3: DENALI NATIONAL PARK WILDERNESS EXCURSION** Take a guided walking tour through Denali's wilderness to learn about its landscapes, wildlife and history. Redeem your Alpenglow Restaurant dinner voucher either tonight or tomorrow evening.  
Overnight: Grande Denali Lodge (B,L,D)

**Day +4: DENALI NATIONAL PARK** After breakfast participate in one of the pre-purchased optional excursions or enjoy free time to explore Denali. Later, reconvene for a reception with Alaskan homesteader, Jimmie Hendricks, and hear his journey and lifelong dream to explore Alaska and make it his home.  
Overnight: Grande Denali Lodge (B,R)

**Day +5: DENALI NATIONAL PARK | TALLEKETNA | ANCHORAGE** Continue to Anchorage by motor coach stopping for free time in Talkeetna. Visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage.  
Overnight: Hotel Captain Cook (B)

**Day +6: DEPART ANCHORAGE** Take the complimentary transfer to Anchorage International Airport for the group flight to join guests on the main program.

## What's Included

- 5 nights hotel accommodations
- 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners (including a dinner voucher for Grande Denali Lodge's Alpenglow Restaurant) and 1 reception
- Rail transport to Denali National Park aboard the distinguished Alaska Railroad with reserved seating in the upper-level glass-dome car and priority seating in the dining room for breakfast and two complimentary alcoholic beverages (and unlimited non-alcoholic beverages)
- Hotel courtesy shuttle between the rail depot, Grande Denali Lodge, the Denali Park Visitor Center and town
- A full-day guided wilderness tour into Denali National Park
- Deluxe motor coach transport to Talkeetna and Anchorage
- Services of an Orbridge Expedition Leader
- Gratuities for Orbridge Expedition Leader, local guides, drivers, porters, housekeeping and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times

## Optional Excursions

DogGonelt Dog Sled Tour  
Denali Glacier Landing Flight  
Arctic Circle Flight Tour  
Wilderness Wave Raft Tour  
Canyon Wave Raft Tour  
Denali Wilderness ATV Adventure

DISCOVER SOUTHEAST ALASKA

AUGUST 1-8, 2025

Denali National Park Pre-Tour: July 27 - August 1, 2025

Reserve by Credit Card:

Online: [uillinois.orbridge.com](https://uillinois.orbridge.com)

Phone: (866) 639-0079

Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:

Made payable to Orbridge, LLC

Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 1376

Poulsbo, WA 98370

The EXPLORERS program is open to alumni of the University of Illinois, their families, and friends.

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

☐ Check    ☐ ACH (Automated Clearing House)    ☐ MasterCard/Visa    ☐ American Express    ☐ Discover

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as printed on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY SELECTION & DEPOSIT:

Category Preference: 1st choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining pre-tour (\$500/person) +  
# \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining program (\$850/person) = **TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$** \_\_\_\_\_


DENALI PRE-TOUR OPTIONALS (added to your final invoice):

- # \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining DogGonelt Dog Sled Tour (\$65/person; \$55/youth 12 and under)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining Denali Glacier Landing Flight (\$685/person; \$635/youth 9 and under)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining Arctic Circle Flight Tour (\$565/person)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining Wilderness Wave Raft Tour (\$120/person; \$70/youth 5-11 years old)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining Canyon Wave Raft Tour (\$120/person; \$70/youth 5-11 years old)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining Denali Wilderness ATV Adventure (\$130/single-rider ATV)
- # \_\_\_\_\_ guests joining Denali Wilderness ATV Adventure (\$225/2-person side-by-side ATV)

Participants' dressed weight: Guest #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Guest #2 \_\_\_\_\_ (for flights only; to balance the aircraft)

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at [terms.orbridge.com](https://terms.orbridge.com); and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

 Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. [Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green](https://learn.more.at.orbridge.com/going-green).

Cabin	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Category A	<del>\$6,199</del>	\$5,695
Category AA	<del>\$7,099</del>	\$6,595
Category AAA	<del>\$7,499</del>	\$6,995
Deluxe	<del>\$9,999</del>	\$9,495
Deluxe Suite (upper)	<del>\$11,499</del>	\$10,995
Single (Cat. AA)	<del>\$11,499</del>	\$10,995
Single (Cat. AAA)	<del>\$11,899</del>	\$11,395
Denali Pre-Tour	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Double	<del>\$4,049</del>	\$3,845
Single	<del>\$5,349</del>	\$5,145
—includes \$350/person internal airfare—		

Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars.

\*Special group rate; limited offer. Single availability limited. Internal airfare from Anchorage (Denali Pre-Tour) to Main Program is included. Airfare otherwise not included. \*\*A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.

CUT HERE

University of Illinois Alumni Association  
EXPLORERS Travel Program  
Alice Campbell Alumni Center  
601 S. Lincoln Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801

AUGUST 1-8, 2025

**Special Alumni Rate:**  
**Save more than \$1,000** per couple

**30-DAY REFUND GUARANTEE**

Reserve by  
**November 29, 2024\*\***

**What Guests Are Saying...**

*You can always count on U of I EXPLORERS  
trips for interesting sites, quality tours, and  
fun companions!*  
~UIAA EXPLORERS Traveler

*I always enjoy being with fellow alumni and  
making new friends when visiting a new  
location.*  
~UIAA EXPLORERS Traveler

*Orbridge is an amazing company, I really  
appreciate and enjoy their approach to the  
details and comfort of our trip.*  
~UIAA EXPLORERS Traveler

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