



**SPARTAN  
PATHWAYS TRAVEL**  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

AUGUST 8-15, 2025

Featuring Faculty Host  
Mike Gottfried

# DISCOVER SOUTHEAST ALASKA BY SMALL SHIP



Orbridge

Dear Spartans,

Take part in this 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 [msu.orbridge.com](http://msu.orbridge.com), call (866) 639-0079 or return the attached reservation form.

Go Green,



Regina Cross  
Director, Spartan Pathways Travel Program  
MSU Alumni Office  
(888) 697-2863

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**Featuring Faculty Host Mike Gottfried**



Mike Gottfried is an Emeritus Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Michigan State University and Curator Emeritus of Paleontology at the MSU Museum. Mike has taught Glacial Geology and Climate Change, Paleontology, Global Change, and the History of Life at MSU, and mentored undergraduate and graduate students. He has been the faculty leader and host for numerous MSU Education Abroad and Alumni programs to Antarctica and Iceland. Mike's paleontology and geology research is heavily field-based and includes expeditions to the Arctic, Antarctica, East Africa,

Madagascar and New Zealand, and currently the Falkland Islands where he is a Senior Research Fellow at the South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute. He has also been a lecturer and guide on ship-based expeditions to Antarctica, the Arctic, and the Bering Sea and Kamchatka, and has been featured in a number of documentary films for the BBC, National Geographic, Discovery Channel and Australian Broadcasting.

A minimum number of participants is required to confirm faculty participation.



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

**Day 1: ARRIVE IN SITKA, AK – EMBARKATION** Arrive in Sitka from your home city or from Anchorage if you joined the optional pre-tour. Meet with a local guide to tour the Alaska Raptor Center—Alaska’s foremost bald eagle hospital and educational center. Next visit Sitka National Historical Park. Later board the *Chichagof Dream* for embarkation.  
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 and 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)

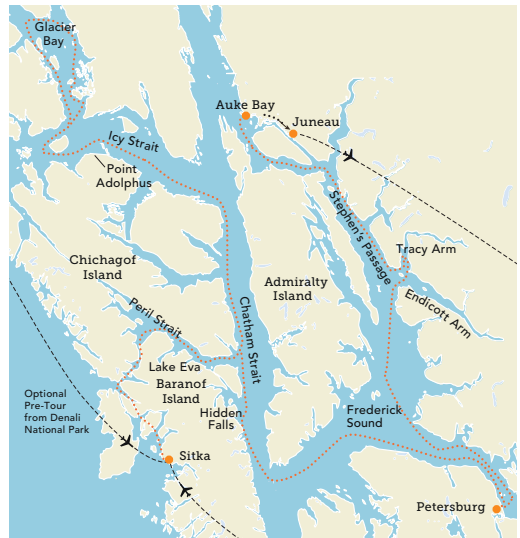
**Day 4: LAKE EVA** Spend the morning cruising through the Peril Strait to Hanus Bay. In the afternoon enjoy free time at Lake Eva to take a guided hike, or join a skiff excursion if conditions permit.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

**Day 5: 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 6: PETERSBURG | FREDERICK SOUND** Visit a charming fishing village followed by a hike along a historical trail.  
Overnight: *Chichagof Dream* (B,L,D)

**Day 7: 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. 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: AUKE BAY | JUNEAU – DISEMBARKATION | DEPART JUNEAU** After breakfast disembark and take the complimentary transfer to the airport for flights home. If you reserved an additional night in Juneau, 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.





# 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 | TALKEETNA | 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 8-15, 2025**

Denali National Park Pre-Tour: August 3-8, 2025

## Reserve by Credit Card:

Online: [msu.orbridge.com](https://msu.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

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your email confirmation from the MSU Alumni Office. For more information, contact Orbridge at (866) 639-0079 or you may call the MSU Alumni Office at (888) 697-2863.

## 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://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.



# DISCOVER SOUTHEAST ALASKA

**FREE EXPEDITION LIBRARY**  
AN EXCLUSIVE EARLY  
RESERVATION BONUS

AUGUST 8-15, 2025

MSU Alumni Office

535 Chestnut Road, Room 300  
East Lansing, MI 48824-2005

Reserve by  
**November 22, 2024\*\***

Special Alumni Rate:

Save more than **\$1,000** per couple

## 30-DAY REFUND GUARANTEE

Michigan State University Alumni Office Spartan Pathways Disclaimer:  
The Michigan State University Alumni Office (the "MSU" Alumni Office or MSUAO) and the Spartan Pathways Travel Program is not the Tour Operator. The MSUAO is not responsible for the changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or motor coach transportation and car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control. The MSUAO acts only as a sponsor with respect to the travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes to flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in providing services to participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the MSUAO shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, pandemic, epidemic, quarantine, acts of God, governmental intervention, or other causes beyond its control. The MSUAO shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the Tour Operator may substitute hotels of similar quality. The Tour Operator may postpone or cancel any tour prior to departure. The MSUAO or the Tour Operator may decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person's physical or mental health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. By embarking upon travel, the participant voluntarily assumes all risk involved in such travel, whether expected or unexpected. Participant is hereby warned of the above risks as well as possible travel industry force majeure, bankruptcies and medical and climatic disruptions, and the possibility participant may be unable to travel as scheduled because of personal emergency. Participant is advised to consider obtaining appropriate insurance coverage against these risks. Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all the conditions set forth above. The MSUAO partners with other universities and alumni from other universities will be on many departures. While some of the Spartan Pathways tours are exclusive to just MSU alumni, on many of the tours we partner with other universities/organizations that have travel programs. Space allotments for these tours are given to each university and after a guaranteed time allotted for reservations, available space is opened to all universities/organizations. Therefore, some departures may have universities with greater numbers of alumni on the tour than MSU.

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