

ULTIMATE ALASKA



Anchorage • Denali • Mt. McKinley • Hubbard Glacier • Glacier Bay • Skagway • Juneau • Ketchikan • The Coral Princess • Vancouver

HUBBARD GLACIER



A VALID PASSPORT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TOUR

- **Mt. McKinley**, North America's highest mountain at 20,320 feet.
- Enjoy shopping, gold panning, sport fishing, or take an Iditarod Sled Dog Kennel tour during your stay at **Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge**.
- Visit the amazing six million acre **Denali National Park**, home of an array of wildlife, including moose, caribou, dall sheep and grizzly bears.
- Take a scenic train ride on the **Denali Express**.
- Relax and be in awe of the nature around you while cruising on the **Coral Princess**.
- **Hubbard Glacier** is the largest tidewater glacier in North America.
- Cruise among islands that were completely covered by ice just 200 years ago in **Glacier Bay National Park**. Keep an eye open for sea lions and humpback whales.
- Experience the majesty of **White Pass summit and the Yukon Territory** aboard the White Pass & Yukon Route Railway along with other optional excursions.

Day 1 Chicago
Day 2..... En Route to Anchorage
Day 3..... Mt. McKinley
Day 4..... Denali
Day 5..... En Route / Whittier
Day 6..... Hubbard Glacier
Day 7..... Glacier Bay National Park

Day 8..... Skagway
Day 9..... Juneau
Day 10..... Ketchikan
Day 11..... Cruising
Days 11-12 Vancouver /Seattle
Days 13-14 En Route to Chicago

CB CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
 B BREAKFAST
 L LUNCH
 D DINNER

TOUR DATE(S):

Thurs., May 31 to Wed., June 13

TOUR PRICE:

\$4,495 - 14 Days

Per person /double occupancy

Upgrade pricing (per person/double occupancy):

- Bedroom on Amtrak + \$495
- Ocean View Stateroom + \$550
- Balcony Stateroom + \$800

\$8,280 Single (Inside Stateroom)

- Ocean View Stateroom + \$960
- Balcony Stateroom + \$2,000

FLY OPTION - Return from Seattle.

12 Days

Price: \$4,025 p.p./d.o.

Single \$7,450

America by Rail will be happy to arrange your flights.

YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round-trip transportation by air, Amtrak, cruise ship and deluxe motorcoach.
- Private Roomette sleeping accommodations on the train for two nights, seven nights aboard ship.
- First-class hotel accommodations for four nights.
- 29 meals.
- Shore options can be arranged through the cruise line at all cruise destinations for an additional cost.
- Baggage handling, taxes & tips.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

Day 1: Chicago

Ultimate Alaska tour members will meet the Tour Director in Chicago's Union Station. The Willis Tower, one of the world's tallest buildings, is close by. Other attractions like the Miracle Mile, Navy Pier, and the famous museums may require a cab ride. This afternoon we'll board a motorcoach and transfer to the Holiday Inn Express Chicago O'Hare.

Day 2: En Route / Anchorage

This morning we'll transfer to the airport and depart at 9:30 on Alaska Air non-stop to Anchorage. Our arrival is scheduled for 1:23 p.m. Upon arrival we'll transfer to our hotel.

Those travelling to Anchorage on-their-own will arrive throughout the day and transfer to our hotel.

A gala welcome dinner is included to-night. **CB & D**

Day 3: Mt. McKinley

This morning we'll enjoy spectacular scenery as we travel by motorcoach from Anchorage to Denali State Park on the south side of Mt. McKinley. At 20,320 feet, it is the highest mountain in North America.

This afternoon we'll arrive at the Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge. Situated on 146 acres of land inside Denali State Park and bordered by the Chulitna River, the Lodge offers a spectacular view of the Alaska Range, including both Mt. McKinley and Mt. Foraker.

Those interested in shopping can take a shuttle to Talkeetna. Gold panning, sport fishing, jet boat or float trips and an Iditarod Sled Dog Kennel Tour are a few of the optional activities available during our stay.

A variety of dining options are available including fine cuisine and panoramic views in the Mountain View Restaurant, casual fare in the Cub Café, or the newest venue on the south side of Denali, the 20,320 Alaskan Grill, which is named for the height of Mt. McKinley. Or, choose appetizers and your favorite refreshment



in the Grizzly Bar or relax on the outdoor terrace.

Day 4: Denali

Today we'll depart for the amazing six-million-acre Denali National Park (that's the size of the state of Massachusetts). In addition to the highest peaks in North America, the park hosts an array of wildlife: from moose, caribou, dall sheep, and grizzly bears to gray wolves and red foxes. Located only one mile from the Park's entrance, Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge is the premium riverside accommodation in the area. An expansive deck overlooks Denali National Park and the Nenana River; it is the ideal spot to relax, visit with friends and savor the exquisite landscape.

And don't let the term "Wilderness Lodge" fool you! Each guest room is comfortably appointed with two double beds or two queen beds or one king bed and cable TV. Outdoor hot tubs offer stunning views of the Park and Nenana River as you indulge in a soothing soak.

Dining venues vary from a pizza parlor, a dinner theater, and full service restaurants.

Day 5: En Route / Whittier - Embarkation

Today we'll board the Denali Express train for the scenic ride to Whittier where we'll board our beautiful cruise ship, The Coral Princess. This ship is a jewel on the high seas, filled with innovative features and luxurious amenities. Swim in one of the sparkling pools, shop the boutiques, or get a massage in the Lotus Spa. The Coral Princess features Movies Under the Stars® where you can watch first-

run movies outdoors in a plush lounge chair. Dine casually or more elegantly in one of the formal dining rooms and specialty restaurants like the Bayou Café and Steakhouse featuring live jazz music and flavorful New Orleans-inspired cuisine.

Following a luncheon buffet, you can relax or explore our beautiful home for the next eight days. Departure is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. **L & D**

Day 6: Hubbard Glacier

Hubbard Glacier is the one glacier in the world that does not move at a glacial pace. In 1986, Hubbard Glacier, the largest tidewater glacier on the North American continent, moved an average of just under 5.5 feet per hour. It creaks and groans as it moves and is a very actively calving glacier.

Situated at the head of Yakutat Bay, the cliff face we'll sail along is over six miles wide, 300 to 400 feet from the top to sea level and 300 feet from sea level to the bottom. Small icebergs, some commandeered by sea birds and seals, float in the glacial blue water. **B, L & D**

Day 7: Glacier Bay National Park

This spectacular national park displays massive glaciers, snow-capped mountains and deep fjords that stretch from the ice-draped St. Elias and Fairweather mountain ranges to the ends of majestic fjords. We'll cruise among islands that were covered by ice just 200 years ago.

An abundant variety of marine-life, birds, and land animals call the park home. Humpback, minke, and killer whales along with porpoises feed in the near-shore waters. Sea lions congregate on the rocky islands and harbor seals breed and nurture their pups on the floating ice.

Many don't realize that moose and bears are accomplished long-distance swimmers and are frequently seen "dog paddling" their way across the bay. Wolves and coyotes are often spotted traveling the shorelines and other upland. Animals like marmots and mountain goats are also drawn to the water's edge.

Many varieties of seabirds nest on cliffs and rocky shores. Geese and sea ducks find refuge in the calm waters of the bay and bald eagles nest in tall trees and on cliffs along the shoreline. **B, L & D**

Day 8: Skagway

At the northernmost point of the Inside Passage, this town reflects its min-

ing past in the false-front buildings and gold rush relics.

Tourists can experience the majesty of White Pass summit and the Yukon Territory aboard the White Pass & Yukon Route Railway. Other optional excursions include: paddle to Glacier Bay and Chilkoot Bald Eagle Preserve, get a close-up view of the natural beauty on a wilderness safari, soar over glaciers on a helicopter tour or, for those who catch the fever, pan for gold! **B, L & D**

Day 9: Juneau

Named after Joseph Juneau who discovered gold in the 1880's at the mouth of Gold Creek, Alaska's capital city gracefully balances frontier ruggedness with a cosmopolitan flair. Mendenhall Glacier, a river of ice measuring 1.5 miles wide and over six miles long, hugs Juneau's north side and is part of the Juneau Icefield.

Tonight we'll enjoy another great evening. **B, L & D**

Day 10: Ketchikan

Boasting the world's largest collection of Northwest totems and often regarded as the salmon capital of the world, Ketchikan is the ancestral home of the Tlingit people. Take a stroll on the old boardwalk along Ketchikan Creek in search of shops and cafés. **B, L & D**

Day 11: Cruising

Ah, a full day to relax and enjoy this magnificent ship. Take a swim, play a round of mini-golf or try the virtual golf simulator. Indulge yourself with a relaxing massage. Shop in the duty-free Boutique featuring designer clothing and gifts, including Lladro, Swarovski, Calvin Klein, Tommy Bahama, Lancome, Clinique, Estee Lauder, and Fossil – all up to 30% off. Or just cuddle up with a good book as the Pacific Ocean drifts by. **B, L & D**

Day 12: Vancouver / Seattle

We'll disembark this morning and spend some time becoming familiar with Vancouver. It's one of North America's most prosperous cities and one of its most beautiful. Our tour of the city will include Gastown, Chinatown, Stanley Park, English Bay, Marine Drive, the waterfront, and Queen Elizabeth Park.

Following an "on-your-own" lunch we'll continue on to Seattle where we'll board



one of Amtrak's premier trains, The Empire Builder, for the return to Chicago.

Our departure is scheduled for 4:45 p.m. Sleeping accommodations and all dining car meals are included. **B & D**

Day 13: En Route

Enjoy a delicious dining car breakfast and then head for the Sightseer Lounge car. About 8:00 a.m., a dramatic panorama of snow-capped Rocky Mountain peaks will begin to rise above the horizon, becoming increasingly dynamic as we approach Glacier National Park. The scenery is striking as we wind past waterfalls, river gorges and other sights. The rest of the day we'll cross the remote flatlands of eastern Montana and western North Dakota. **B, L & D**

Day 14: En Route to Chicago

Breakfast and lunch on the train are included. We depart from Minneapolis-St. Paul at 8:00 a.m. and head south along the west bank of the Mississippi River. The train winds between the river bank and high bluffs. Later in the morning, we pass through the picturesque Dells Country of Wisconsin. The Empire Builder is scheduled to arrive in Chicago's Union Station late this afternoon.

Many of our tour members will conclude their fabulous America by Rail vacation by transferring to other Amtrak trains bound for home cities. Some will spend the night in Chicago and continue home by air tomorrow morning. **B & L**

GENERAL INFORMATION

MEALS

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$200 per person (\$500 for cruise), of which \$100 per person is non-refundable, is required to finalize registration. The balance is due 75 days prior to departure (90 days for cruise). If payments are not received by the due date(s) specified, reservations may be cancelled without notice.

Cruises: If reservation is made after final payment due date, prevailing rates and availability apply.

TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

If cancellation is received by America by Rail more than 75 days prior to departure (90 days for cruise), \$100 of your deposit will be retained. For cancellations received within 75 days of departure, the following per person cancellation fees apply (90 days for cruise):

- 76-90 days prior to departure: (cruise only)
20% of total tour cost.
- 46-75 days prior to departure:
25% of total tour cost.
- 15-45 days prior to departure:
50% of total tour cost.
- 14 days or less prior to departure through duration of the tour: 100% of total tour cost.

The total tour cost includes tour price, add-ons and upgrades.

Refunds will be made approximately 30 days after the conclusion of the tour.

Payment / cancellation exceptions are noted on tours.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

TRANSPORTATION

Rail transportation over the tour route and motorcoach, van, or other modes of transportation where specified in the tour description.

TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

All tours except those categorized as Coach Class include private Roomette on Amtrak overnight trains and Bedrooms (double occupancy) or Roomettes (single occupancy) on VIA Rail Canada overnight trains. Bedrooms on Amtrak are available at an additional cost. Reclining coach seats are included on U.S. and Canadian trains used only during the daytime except for those categorized as Coach Class. Coach Class tours include reclining coach seats with leg rests on Amtrak trains. Meals on the trains are included for those traveling Coach Class on the North American tours as indicated in the itinerary.

CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Cruise tours include inside staterooms (double occupancy) on cruise ships. Upgraded staterooms may be available at an additional cost.

HOTELS

Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a room with bath. Two-bedded rooms are provided in most instances. However, sometimes their availability is limited. If a two-bedded room is required, please notify America by Rail at time of registration.

America by Rail reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in any tour description, when necessary. Every effort is made to have hotel rooms available for occupancy upon arrival. There may be instances when rooms are not available until later.

SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms at hotels and Amtrak Roomettes on a single basis are available at a supplemental cost.

SIGHTSEEING/ADMISSIONS

Sightseeing, as outlined in the itineraries, will be provided by motorcoaches in most instances. Admission fees are included as specified. Sightseeing tour arrangements may be altered if required.

All included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. Persons requiring a special diet must inform America by Rail at the time of registration. Not all restaurants/trains will be able to honor special requests. Due to events beyond our control, trains are sometimes delayed and supplies may become limited. If you have special dietary requirements, please make sure you have a sufficient supply of nourishment to meet your dietary needs.

In the itineraries, the meals are listed at the end of each day using CB for Continental breakfast, B for breakfast, L for lunch, and D for dinner.

BAGGAGE

For your convenience and to expedite movement, baggage handling is limited to one suitcase per person. Transfer and portage of one suitcase per person is included at overnight stopovers. On most tours the one suitcase per person is handled by America by Rail and is checked through to the next destination. Carry-on luggage is used while en route. America by Rail is not responsible for loss or damage to your baggage or for any lost, stolen or destroyed item. Specified transfers between rail stations and hotels are included.

TOUR DIRECTORS

Services of a qualified America by Rail Tour Director are included for all matters pertaining to the tour. Tour Directors will meet all tour members at the origination city.

TIPS AND TAXES

All gratuities to hotel staff (except to chambermaids), sight-seeing guides and drivers are included. Gratuities for sleeping car attendants and meals aboard the train are included. Gratuities for meals specified in the tour itinerary are included on escorted portions of the tour. Gratuities for cruise ship stateroom stewards and dining waitstaff are included.

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation and tips between your home city and the official origination city; charges for excess baggage; health, accident or baggage insurance; tips to chambermaids and for personal services; items of a personal nature such as laundry; meals, except those specified as included; gratuities for special services; charges for room service, and alcoholic beverages with included meals.

Gratuities to your America by Rail Tour Directors are an industry expectation. They should be extended on an individual basis, not as a group.

RAIL SCHEDULES:

The routing and features described in tour descriptions may be altered to adjust to rail schedules in effect at the time of the tour. America by Rail reserves the right to substitute motorcoach or air travel for unavailable rail schedules, misconnections, delays or other causes.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS :

A valid passport will be required for any trip crossing international borders. i.e. into or out of the United States. At time of reservation we will need your date of birth; gender, passport number, passport expiration date and issuing country.

HEALTH, MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:

Any type of disability requiring special treatment must be reported to America by Rail at the time of registration. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitations those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance. Participants will be asked to submit a confidential medical form for each tour.

SMOKING:

Smoking is not permitted on America by Rail motorcoaches. Those who smoke may do so at any of the frequent

stops we make. All Amtrak and VIA Rail trains are entirely smoke-free. If time is available at station stops, it will be announced by the conductor. Cruise ships policies vary from line to line, but all have designated areas to accommodate smokers.

PLEASE NOTE:

America by Rail reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept or retain any individuals as members of the tour. The acceptance of any service provided as part of an America by Rail tour, or any ticket or voucher, shall be deemed to be acceptance of and consent by the tour member to these conditions.

All rates published herein are in U.S. dollars and based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on the printing date of the tour brochure. Prices and arrangements are subject to change without notice.

No persons, other than a representative of America by Rail, authorized by a document in writing, may vary, add or waive any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions.

A \$50 per person fee will be assessed for each itinerary alteration requested after final arrangements are confirmed.

It is our company policy to issue a tour roster to all tour participants containing all tour participants' names and addresses. If you do not want your address included, you must let us know at time of reservation.

Times, schedules, entertainment and activities are subject to change without notice.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FUEL SUPPLEMENT:

Please be advised America by Rail reserves the right to apply a fuel supplement for all guests should the price of oil warrant it.

RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:

America by Rail acts only in the capacity as an agent for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation, hotel or other services. All tour services, tickets and vouchers are subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transportation, hotel or other services are offered or provided. America by Rail shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way whatsoever, for any loss, injury or damage from acts of God, sickness, theft, weather, strikes, war, or quarantine however caused or arising.

America by Rail reserves the right to cancel a tour in the event tour participation does not meet minimum requirements.

America by Rail shall not be obligated to honor any booking resulting from, nor shall be responsible or liable whatsoever in connection with, misprints or errors of any kind, whether in brochures, advertisements, on the Internet, during the booking process or otherwise, that result in traveler being undercharged for the tour. America by Rail reserves the right, prior to departure, to collect the correct fare or cancel the booking and refund any payment made by traveler.

AMTRAK STATEMENT:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is not to be held responsible for any act, omissions, or event during the time passengers are not on board their trains or conveyance. The passenger contract in use of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and purchaser of these tours and/or passenger. All conditions are subject to the laws of the District of Columbia, U.S.A.

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