Alaska Overland
JULY 20–28, 2015
Dear Princetonian,

At the tail end of the 2013 season, I had the opportunity to travel to Alaska—leaving the beeps and buzzes of my modern life behind to reconnect with friends, family, and the natural world. I can now say that one of the best ways to experience the splendor of Alaska is to approach it quietly and thoughtfully on a small, group, land-based program. In the summer of 2014, we collaborated on an Alaskan land journey with Alaska Wildland Adventures, the leader in lodge-based programs for the last three decades. Based on its popularity and success, we are pleased to offer another departure in 2015, slightly adjusted from last year’s itinerary to incorporates the recommendations of our travelers.

On this exclusive program, explore rolling tundra, northernmost rainforests, massive tidewater glaciers, and more. As days at the lodges are planned to accommodate a variety of activity levels, choose to explore your surroundings the way you want—hiking, sea kayaking, canoeing, or just listening to the breeze while enjoying a good book. Space is limited to a small group of Princeton travelers to ensure an intimate, personalized experience in The Land of the Midnight Sun! Contact the Princeton Journeys team at (609) 258-8686 or journeys@princeton.edu to reserve your space today.

With kind regards,

Leslie J. Rowley S95
Executive Director, Princeton Journeys
Office of Alumni Affairs
Princeton University
Monday, July 20
Arrivals to Fairbanks
Arrive independently into Alaska’s largest interior city, Fairbanks. Today, explore the Museum of the North, as well as the famed Alaska Pipeline. This evening after a full-trip orientation, enjoy dinner together as a group, and get an overview of the exciting activities and destinations that lie ahead. Pike’s Waterfront Lodge. (D)

Tuesday, July 21
Alaska Railroad to Denali
Travel aboard the historic Alaska Railroad to Denali National Park and embark on a narrated Denali wildlife drive. After a stop for lunch, leave the crowds at the park entrance behind and travel deep into the park by a comfortable, private bus (five to six hour drive). Watch for caribou, moose, Dall sheep, grizzly bears, resident and migratory birds, and – if weather permits – gaze upon the splendor of Denali (Mt. McKinley)! Evening lectures on Alaskan natural and native history will be featured nightly. Denali Backcountry Lodge. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, July 22
Denali
Enjoy a full day of exploration, including a guided morning hike and afternoon gold panning. Many guests find flakes of gold in Moose Creek! Optional add-on flightseeing tours will be offered during your stay at the lodge. Denali Backcountry Lodge. (B, L, D)

Thursday, July 23
Denali to Talkeetna
Following an early breakfast, embark on a scenic drive through Denali and watch for wildlife while heading for the entrance of the park. Once at the park entrance, continue the journey south to Talkeetna, for special evening programs. Experience the local flavor of a small mountain town. Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge. (B, L, D)

Friday, July 24
Talkeetna to Seward
Journey from interior Alaska to the stunning coastal port of Seward. Gain an up-close-and-personal vantage point of the massive Exit Glacier on a special hike. Seward Windsong Lodge. (B, L, D)

Saturday, July 25
Kenai Fjords National Park
This morning, board a small private boat bound for Kenai Fjords National Park – home to an array of glaciers and marine wildlife including whales, Steller sea lions, sea otters, puffins, and more! A scenic and spectacular half-day marine wildlife cruise will allow for an exploration of the rugged coastlines. Home for the next two nights is the award-winning Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge. This exclusive property is surrounded by a 1700-acre wildlife sanctuary, and you will enjoy special access as this is the only lodge located inside the 700,000 acre Kenai Fjords National Park! This afternoon, take a group canoe trip to acclimate yourself to the property. Enjoy dinner and evening presentations on coastal Alaskan issues, such as global climate change. Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge. (B, L, D)

Sunday, July 26
Kenai Fjords National Park
Explore the wild delights of Kenai Fjords National Park for a full day. Amazing kayaking, canoeing, and nature walks fill the day—with options to satisfy all, from the rank beginner to the outdoors expert. Free time late this afternoon will allow you to enjoy the private deck views from your cabin before dinner together in the lodge. Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge. (B, L, D)

Monday, July 27
Kenai Fjords National Park to Anchorage
This morning allows another opportunity to kayak, canoe, or beach comb for a half day before the return wildlife cruise to Seward. Board the historic Alaska Railroad for a scenic backcountry rail tour, and enjoy a festive farewell dinner on the train. Arrive Anchorage in the evening. Millennium Alaskan Hotel. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, July 28
Departures
This morning, visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center, featuring amazing exhibits and local artisans, followed by airport shuttles. (B)

Included meals: (B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch, (D) Dinner
What to Expect

Travelers on this journey should be in average physical shape and comfortable walking at least one mile on uneven terrain (unpaved nature paths), at a casual pace, with ample stops for water breaks.

A typical day will include up to four or five hours of outdoor activity. Evenings will feature free time to relax in private guest cabins or enjoy educational lectures and presentations on various topics such as Alaskan natural and cultural history. Activities on this trip are led by expert naturalist guides who hold safety certifications and permits, such as the Wilderness First Aid Responder license. When in “bear country,” guides will provide thorough safety briefings for all travelers.

Please be prepared for any type of weather. Often, temperatures are between the 40s and 60s in the summer, but it could be warmer or cooler. Typically the weather during the summer months is surprisingly mild. It rains in every month of the summer. For this week-long program, guests should plan for at least one day of rain.

Lodging

A mix of authentic Alaskan wilderness lodges and comfortable hotels have been selected for this journey. All guest rooms/cabins will feature a minimum of two double beds, private en suite bathroom/shower and on-demand electricity and heat.

Pikes Waterfront Lodge is located on the banks of the Chena River in Fairbanks. Guest rooms feature two double beds, private bath, free cable and wi-fi, hairdryer and heat/air conditioning. There is a large riverside deck for relaxing and two restaurants on the premises. Courtesy shuttles to/from the Fairbanks Airport are provided 24 hours a day.

Denali Backcountry Lodge is located deep inside Denali National Park. Guest cabins are well-appointed in nature settings near Moose Creek in the Kantishna Valley, with mountain views. Each cabin features two double-beds and private bath. The main lodge area features dining and places to relax, including a roomy guest lounge and bar, with a massive deck overlooking the creek.

Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge is located in the quaint mountain town of Talkeetna, the gateway of Denali National Park. The guest lodge features spacious private rooms with two double-beds and private bath, located near expansive walking paths with mountain views.

Seward Windsong Lodge is located near downtown Seward, in close proximity to the stunning Exit Glacier. Guest rooms are located in a natural setting, with two double-beds and private bath.

Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge is the only lodge inside the 700,000 acre Kenai Fjords National Park. Private guest cabins are situated in nature settings with views of Pedersen Glacier and Lagoon. Each cabin features a minimum of two double beds and private bath. There are areas in the main lodge for dining and relaxing, including a large deck overlooking the lagoon.

Millennium Alaskan Hotel is located in Anchorage, near Lake Hood, a popular destination for float planes. Guest rooms feature two double beds and private bath, with additional creature comforts like TV, wireless internet and more. Courtesy shuttles to/from Anchorage airport and local Anchorage destinations provided 24 hours a day.
Air Arrangements – Travelers are responsible for arranging their airfare to and from Alaska. For assistance in arranging flights, feel free to contact your travel agent or Alaska Travel Source at 907-562-2213 or info@alaskatravelsource.com. Alaska Travel Source is a recommended travel agency of our tour operator, Alaska Wildland Adventures (AWA).

Arrival: Travelers should schedule inbound flights to the Fairbanks International Airport to arrive before 2:30 pm on July 20, 2015.

Departure: Travelers should schedule return flights home departing the Anchorage International Airport on July 28, 2015, after noontime.

Cancellation Policy – Written cancellations must be received in writing by the Princeton Journeys office in order to be valid. Non-appearance for the program will result in no refund. Advance purchase of trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended. Cancellation penalties will be levied as follows:

More than 90 days prior to departure.................................................. $600 per person
89 to 45 days prior to departure.................................................. 50% of per person trip cost
Within 45 days prior to departure.................................................. 100% of per person trip cost

University Disclaimer

Princeton University, through its Office of Alumni Affairs and Princeton Journeys, is pleased to provide this service of facilitating travel opportunities for its Alumni and Friends. The Office of Alumni Affairs strives to work with the best tour operators to make available interesting and enriching travel opportunities for the Princeton family.

Please note that the University does not conduct tours, nor does it act as an agent for guests interested in tours. Princeton Journeys acts as a facilitator with tour operators, with whom tour participants make arrangements for completing travel, and is pleased to act as a liaison with tour operators should you have any questions or concerns that may arise before, during, or after your tour. Princeton Journeys encourages you to familiarize yourself thoroughly with the tour operator’s cancellation and refund policies, and also to investigate available services such as trip cancellation insurance. The University is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements, or for losses or additional expenses resulting from travel.
Reservation Form

To reserve a space on this tour, please send your registration form and deposit check for $1000 per person, payable to Alaska Wildland Adventures, to The Office of the Alumni Association of Princeton University, John Maclean House, P.O. Box 291, Princeton, New Jersey 0854-0291. Reservation forms may be faxed to (609) 258-5561, or you may register by phone by calling Princeton Journeys at (609) 258-8686. Final Payment is due by 90 days prior to departure, payable by personal check, Visa, MasterCard, or Discover.

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Please reserve .......... place(s) on Alaska Overland, July 20 - 28, 2015

Name(s) .........................................................................................................................................................  Princeton Affiliation ................................................

Name(s) .........................................................................................................................................................  Princeton Affiliation ...............................................

Address ..........................................................................................................................................................      Email .....................................................................

City ................................................................................................     State .......................................................     Zip ......................................................................

Telephone (evening) .....................................................................     (day) .......................................................................................................................................

Enclosed is a deposit of US$ ........................................................     ($1000 per person; check payable to Alaska Wildland Adventures)

Or, charge my deposit on □ Visa □ MasterCard □ Discover Credit card number ........................................................................................................................................

Expiration Date ...................................      3-Digit Verification No. ......................

Name on card ......................................................................................................     Signature of cardholder .........................................................................................

A Participant Agreement Form (which includes a Release of Liability, Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risks) will be forwarded to each applicant upon receipt of deposit (or upon request) and will need to be signed by each participant prior to departure.

I/We have read and agree to the University Disclaimer for this tour (included in this brochure).

Signature(s) ..........................................................................................................................................................   Date ...........................................................................