Alaska & Canada Grandeur

13 Days, July 14 - 26, 2011
From $3133*

- Vancouver, British Columbia
- Cruise on Celebrity Millennium
- Inside Passage • Ketchikan
- Icy Strait • Juneau & • Skagway, Alaska • Yukon, Canada
- Hubbard Glacier • Talkeetna
- Denali • Anchorage, Alaska

Join OLLI for an in-depth exploration of Canada and Alaska both in the classroom and on tour with co-hosts, Susan Post and Michael Jeffords. Travel via six modes: airplane, ship, boat, narrow-gauge and ultra-dome trains and motor coaches. Our package includes sightseeing in four ports that is extra on most other cruises.

Day 1, Thursday: Champaign-Chicago-Flight-Vancouver

Board our private motor coach to Chicago where our hosts hire skycaps to help with baggage handling. At 3:00 P.M. fly to one of the most lovely port cities in the world, Vancouver. Arriving at 5:41 P.M., we are transferred by private motor coach to our hotel, Renaissance Harbourside with spectacular views of the harbor. A welcome dinner is included. (D)

Day 2, Friday: Vancouver-Embarkation-Sail

Board motor coach for sightseeing tour of lush Vancouver en route to ship. In addition to a special stop for OLLI members, we will see Stanley Park’s totem poles and Prospect Point plus English Bay and Vancouver Harbour. We embark in time for lunch aboard and for our evening sailing to the Inside Passage. (L, D)

Day 3, Saturday: Inside Passage (Cruising)

Today we have a relaxing cruise through the narrow Inside Passage with views of rain forests, glaciers, fjords and white-capped peaks. Maybe you'll glimpse a whale and sea lions along the way. This morning we have the first of three OLLI informational meetings in a private conference room at 9:30 A.M. (B, L, D)

Day 4, Sunday: Ketchikan

We arrive at our first port-of-call, Ketchikan, staying from 7:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. A custom shore excursion to the Saxman Native Village is included in the package rate. You will have free time to explore or shop Creek Street before re-boarding ship. After setting sail, we will have the second of our OLLI informational meetings at 4:00 P.M. (B, L, D)

Unique features just for OLLI members!
Day 5, Monday: Icy Strait Point
Fifty miles west of Juneau and at the mouth of Glacier Bay, lies historic Icy Strait Point. Travelers have the unique opportunity to experience Tlingit culture and superior wildlife viewing opportunities. Unlike all the other ports where our ship is docked, we are taken by the ship’s tender and can stay from 8:00 A.M.-6:00 P.M. Since no group excursion is provided here, OLLI members can book an excursion online or via the ship’s shore excursion desk. (B, L, D)

Day 6, Tuesday: Juneau, Alaska
Where Earl Grey meets Eddie Bauer® would be a good way to describe the charms of Alaska’s capital city. Here the pioneering spirit lives on in an interesting mix of cosmopolitan chic and frontier ruggedness. Included custom shore excursion features a view of the Mendenhall Glacier and an exciting whale watching cruise. Then during your free time in port you can visit the Red Onion Saloon or the Alaska State Museum and its exquisite collection of Russian Orthodox and Gold Rush relics. In port from 7:00 A.M.-8:30 P.M. (B, L, D)

Day 7, Wednesday: Skagway, Alaska & Yukon, Canada
It’s doubtful you’ll succumb to gold fever, but if any place on earth can summon up the thrill of prospecting, it’s Skagway. By embracing its gold-rush past, Skagway has managed to preserve a frontier spirit complete with saloons and dance-hall revues. Included just for OLLI is a custom excursion where we ride up the pass on the narrow-gauge White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad and then board a mini-bus for ride through the desolately breathtaking Yukon and return to port on the road on the opposite side of the pass (two minibuses if more than 25 travelers; remember your passport today as we re-enter Canada). Free time in town before sailing. In port from 7:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (B, L, D)

Day 8, Thursday: Hubbard Glacier cruising
Cruise to the face of Hubbard Glacier between 7:00-11:00 A.M. Keep watch for the thrill of seeing the glacier “calve”, as its face falls into the sea. The captain will slowly rotate the ship near the glacier so you can see the deep blue ice and listen for the ice popping and cracking-sounding like rifle shots. Hubbard Glacier is the one glacier in the world that does not move at a glacial pace. Quite the opposite. In fact, in 1986, Hubbard Glacier—the largest tidewater glacier on the North American continent—moved an average of just under 5.5 feet per hour. Keep a watchful eye as you sail through the Yakutat Bay, as you may be a witness to geological history. Our third OLLI informational meeting is scheduled for 3:00 P.M. (B, L, D)

Day 9, Friday: Disembark-Seward-Anchorage-Talkeetna
Disembark in Seward, a fishing village, surrounded by the unrivaled beauty of the Kenai Wildlife Refuge, the Alaska Maritime National Refuge, Chugach National Forest and the Kenai Fjords National Park. We board our motor coach to Anchorage where you will meet our tour director who will travel with us until the last day. Continue on to small town of Talkeetna where, weather-permitting, you will see Mt. McKinley. Free evening for optional excursions like jet boating

The White Pass & Yukon Railway is included at Skagway

Talkeetna Lodge

Do not delay! Tell your prospective roommate to call toll free 1-877-388-4777 or see www.TourGroupPro.com/olli
or flightseeing. Note: minor deviations to coach route is possible on tour hosts’ request for spur-of-the-moment nature stops if group size is at coach’s maximum of 52 OLLI passengers. Talkeetna is a gateway to Denali National Park and known as the staging area for climbers to begin their ascent of mighty Mt. McKinley. Three glacier-fed rivers meet in this town - the Susitna, Chulitna and the Talkeetna. Not only will you find some of the best trout and salmon fishing this side of the lower 48, but you can also take in the beauty of nature aboard a relaxing river float trip. (B)

**Day 10, Saturday: Talkeetna-Denali**

Scenic drive by motor coach to Denali. Everything here is big, from scenic vistas, animal inhabitants like grizzlies, moose and caribou to North America’s highest peak, the venerable Mt. McKinley. We include an afternoon drive via school bus (to minimize impact, private cars are prohibited) on a Natural History Tour through Denali National Park. Free evening for optional activities like helicopter flightseeing.

**Day 11, Sunday: Denali-Talkeetna-Anchorage**

Free morning for optional activities like white-water rafting. Motor coach takes us to Talkeetna where we board the Wilderness Express glass-domed train car to Anchorage. Viewing from high up, we expect to see wildlife and scenic views. This is as close to a “big city” as it gets in Alaska. Home to half the population of the state, Anchorage’s high-rises pale in comparison to nature’s towering peaks in the surrounding countryside. Free time in Anchorage tonight.

**Day 12, Monday: Anchorage-Chicago-Flight**

In the morning we have free time in Anchorage for last-minute souvenir shopping or visiting a museums and the Alaska Native Heritage Center. After lunch, we are planning to include one last excursion into nature before being dropped off at the airport for our 11:25 P.M. overnight, non-stop flight to Chicago.

**Day 13, Tuesday: Flight-Champaign**

Our flight arrives this morning at 8:10 A.M. and we board our private motor coach to Champaign with memories of the grandeur of Alaska & Canada presented in a uniquely OLLI style.

**What’s Included:**
- Round trip motor coach transportation from Champaign-Chicago
- Baggage handling
- Round trip flights
- Round trip transportation airport-hotel-ship
- Ketchikan excursion
- Juneau excursion
- Skagway excursion
- Driver tips
- Tour led by Michael Jeffords and Sue Post
- 22 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches and 8 Dinners
- Hotel accommodations
- Cruise state-room

**Accommodations:**
(11) number of nights
- Vancouver (1) Renaissance Vancouver Harbourside Hotel
- Cruising (7) Celebrity Millennium
- Talkeetna (1) Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge
- Denali (1) Denali TBA
- Anchorage (1) Anchorage TBA

**What’s Not Included:**
- Taxes, fees & surcharges (subject to change) of $442
- Travel insurance from TravelGuard group program $233
- Tips to cruise staff & land tour manager, suggested per-traveler total $96
- Meals and optional tours on land portion
- Bar drinks
Inside Stateroom
Stateroom: 170 sq ft
Stateroom layout same size as Ocean View stateroom without the window:
- Sitting area with sofa
- 20” multi-function, interactive television
- Vanity

Deluxe Ocean View Stateroom with Veranda
Stateroom: 170 sq ft
Veranda: 38 sq ft
- Floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors
- Sitting area with sofa
- 20” multi-function, interactive television
- Vanity
- Veranda with lounge seating

Ocean View Stateroom
Stateroom: 170 sq ft
- Window
- Sitting area with sofa
- 20” multi-function, interactive television
- Vanity

Concierge Class
Stateroom: 191 sq ft
Veranda: 42 sq ft
- Special check-in counter
- Complimentary welcome champagne
- Express luggage delivery
- Fresh fruit and flowers
- Nightly delivery of hors d’oeuvres
- Pillow menu to customize your night’s sleep
- Floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors
- Sitting area with sofa
- 32” LCD television
- Vanity
- Hansgrohe® massaging showerhead
- Veranda with lounge seating

Join us from Champaign & Chicago/ O’Hare or call for a quote from other cities. Tour Coordinator is Judy McElfresh, judy@tourgrouppro.com; call 217-422-5002 to charge your credit card for the $900/person deposit including insurance. Or mail check (made out to Franklin Travel) to TourGroupPro, PO Box 711, Decatur IL 62525 (or visit us at 303 S Main St Ste 175).
Alaska Bound!

MOUNTAINS Of the 20 highest peaks in the United States, 17 are in Alaska. Mt. McKinley, the highest peak in North America, is 20,320 ft. above sea level. Denali, the Indian name for the peak, means "The Great One."

WATER BODIES The Yukon River, almost 2,000 miles long, is the third longest river in the U.S. There are more than 3,000 rivers in Alaska and over 3 million lakes. The largest, Lake Iliamna, encompasses over 1,000 square miles.

GLACIERS Alaska has an estimated 100,000 glaciers, ranging from tiny cirque glaciers to huge valley glaciers. There are more active glaciers and ice fields in Alaska than in the rest of the inhabited world. The largest glacier is the Malaspina at 850 square miles. Five percent of the state, or 29,000 square miles, is covered by glaciers. Alaska Over U.S.

COMPASS POINTS Alaska boasts 3 "mosts": northernmost (Point Barrow), the easternmost (Pochnot Point on Semisopochnoi Island in the Aleutians), and the westernmost (Amatignak Island in the Aleutians) points in the United States.

COASTLINE Alaska has 6,640 miles of coastline and, including islands, has 33,904 miles of shoreline.

VOLCANOES There are more than 70 potentially active volcanoes in Alaska. Several have erupted in recent times. The most violent volcanic eruption of the century took place in 1912 when Novarupta Volcano erupted, creating the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes which is now part of Katmai National Park.

EARTHQUAKES On March 27, 1964, North America's strongest recorded earthquake, with a moment magnitude of 9.2, rocked central Alaska. Each year Alaska has approximately 5,000 earthquakes, including 1,000 that measure above 3.5 on the Richter scale. Of the ten strongest earthquakes ever recorded in the world, three have occurred in Alaska.

Biggest MISCONCEPTIONS About Alaska Most visitors have pleasant surprises in store when they come to Alaska. Three common misconceptions concerning Alaska are weather, road conditions, and prices...

Weather is the #1 misconception. Over a third of all vacation/pleasure visitors found the weather better than expected. During the summer, average daytime temperatures throughout the state range from the 60's to the 90's.

Road conditions are usually better than expected. Almost the entire length of the Alaska Highway is asphalt-surfaced, and approximately half of the roads in the state's highway system are paved.

Price. Contrary to popular belief, prices throughout Alaska are generally quite reasonable. Deluxe Hamburger $5.00-9.95, Salmon Dinner $18.00-25.00, Breakfast $3.00-11.00.

Plan with confidence

When you book, enjoy peace of mind with a Group Protection Plan through TravelGuard. If you or a family member become ill the day of departure and cannot travel, you will get a full refund! Likewise, if an illness occurs during the trip, the insurance company will cover doctor's visit, hospitalization, and rerouting expenses. Below are the highlights of coverage. On booking, you will receive a folder of details.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Benefit Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trip Cancellation</td>
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<td>Livetravel, 24-hour hot line</td>
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Insurance premium is nonrefundable. For details, claims or emergency assistance, see Description of Coverage folder or call toll free number thereon (product #7896).

Keish "Skookum" Jim Mason
Discoverer of Klondike Gold

On August 16, 1896, the Skookum party discovered rich placer gold deposits in Bonanza (Rabbit) Creek, Yukon. It is not clear who made the actual discovery, with some accounts saying that it was Kate Carmack, while others credit Skookum Jim. A member of the Tagish First Nations, he made the discovery while looking for his sister Kate.