

Islands & Inlets of the Inside Passage

Day 1 Vancouver, BC, Canada

Vancouver's location at the mouth of the Fraser River and on the waterways of the Strait of Georgia, Howe Sound, Burrard Inlet and all their tributaries makes this busy seaport an easy place for meeting. It is one of Canada's most populated, most ethnically diverse cities that is a popular filming location. Visit the interesting neighborhoods of Gastown, Granville Island and Chinatown. Walk across the Capilano Suspension Bridge and stroll through Stanley Park. See the Vancouver Art Gallery and the Museum of Anthropology. There is an amazing variety of things to see and do here.

Day 2 Scenic Cruising Canadian Inside Passage

Today we cruise the fjords of Canada's Inside Passage boasting centuries-old coastal rainforests, beaches, waterfalls and mountains. Over 25,000 miles of rugged coastline lie in Canada's Inside Passage, joining Alaska's 15,000 miles of inside waters and provides a safe and sheltered West Coast waterway transit. In this isolated wilderness look for coastal First Nations longhouses fronted with proud totems and a variety of marine life, from orcas and porpoises to some of the largest populations of bald eagles in the world.

Day 3 Ketchikan, Alaska

Dubbed the Salmon Capital of the World, Ketchikan is the southeastern-most town in Alaska and is home to the world's largest collection of standing totem poles that are found throughout the city and at four major locations: Saxman Totem Park, Totem Bight State Park, Potlatch Park, and the Totem Heritage Center. Other attractions of Ketchikan are Creek Street, a boardwalk road built on pilings over Ketchikan Creek and the Waterfront Promenade that skirts the bustling shoreline with inviting whale-tail benches to take in the view.

Day 4 Wrangell, Alaska

One of the oldest towns in Alaska, Wrangell is located near the mouth of the Stikine River. Much of its history can be seen in the impressive collection of totems scattered throughout the town. Highlights here are the amazing Petroglyph Beach State Historic Park where you can find primitive rock carvings and just 30 miles away is the Anan Wildlife Observatory with the largest pink salmon runs in the Inside Passage, and a platform from which you can look for eagles, harbor seals and black bears.

Day 5 Scenic Cruising Tracy Arm / Endicott Arm, Alaska

Stunningly beautiful Tracy Arm is a fjord 45 miles south of Juneau that actually consists of two deep and narrow fjords – Tracy Arm and Endicott Arm. Both fjords are over 30 miles long. At the end of Tracy Arm are the impressive twin Sawyer Glaciers. Wildlife in the area includes black and brown bears, deer, wolves, harbor seals and a variety of birds. What you'll be able to see today and how far we can travel up Tracy Arm is weather and ice dependent.

Day 6 Scenic Cruising Inian Islands / Icy Strait Point

Managed by the Forest Service, these scenic Inian Islands are located in Icy Strait near the entrance to Glacier Bay. Several small pieces of land make up these islands, with dense tree growth that provides a restful home to deer. This has become a popular area for sea kayaking. Privately owned Icy Strait Point is a tourist destination and the only privately owned cruise destination in Alaska. It is the property of 1,350 Alaskan natives with aboriginal ties to Hoonah and the Glacier Bay area.

Day 7 Juneau, Alaska

Located on the Gastineau Channel in the Alaskan panhandle, Juneau sits at sea level below steep mountains between 3,500-4,000 feet high. Atop these mountains is the Juneau Icefield, a large ice mass from which about 30 glaciers flow, and two of them – Mendenhall Glacier and Lemon Creek Glacier are visible from the local road. A unique feature of Juneau is that it is the only U.S. capital that has no roads connecting it to the rest of the state.

Day 8 At Sea

Day 9 Scenic Cruising Misty Fjords, Alaska

Misty Fjords, with its gorgeous views of natural formations is a national monument and wilderness area with steep valleys formed by glaciers and lava flows. It is part of the Tongass National Forest and is about 40 miles east of Ketchikan along the Inside Passage. With its icy blue lakes, waterfalls, snowcapped peaks and glacial valleys literally everywhere you point your camera you will get a postcard picture, depending on the weather of course.

Day 10 Metlakatla, Alaska

Located on Annette Island, 15 miles southwest of Ketchikan, and midway in the Inside Passage 600 miles from Seattle, Washington and 600 miles from Skagway, Alaska, Metlakatla is the only settlement of the indigenous Tsimshian people in the U.S. Membership in this community is by lineage, primarily Tsimshian people, but may also include other Alaska Native tribes who wish to join. Visitors to the community can take in the dance and song shows in the longhouse performed by local dancers dressed in full Tsimshian regalia.

Day 11 Prince Rupert, BC, Canada

Picturesque Prince Rupert, located on Kaien Island, just north of the mouth of the Skeena River is rich in culture and heritage. Prince Rupert was founded in 1910 on a site that has been inhabited by First Nations people for over 10,000 years. The area is rich with wildlife like whales, eagles, salmon and grizzly bears. The Khutzeymateen Grizzly Bear Sanctuary features one of the densest remaining bear populations in North America.

Day 11 Scenic Cruising Grenville Channel, Canada

Mountains of 1,500 to 3,500 feet surround Grenville Channel, the most spectacular channel along the Inside Passage located between Pitt Island and the mainland south of Prince Rupert. The narrowest portion is a mere 1,400 feet wide, but depths of up to 1,620 feet allow vessels to travel close to the shore. Relax and enjoy the scenic 43 miles of this waterway, and be on the lookout for the wildlife living here.

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Day 13 Vancouver, BC, Canada

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Cruise dates: July 12, 2018, August 18, 2018

Prices start at \$5099 per person, Taxes \$634 per person

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