



Alaska's Inside Passage: Where the Mountains Meet the Sea

MS Roald Amundsen, 13 – 25 July 2026



Legend

— HX Expedition

200 km

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Day 1 - Whittier, Prince William Sound

Guests boarded MS Roald Amundsen in Whittier as the voyage through Alaska's spectacular coastal wilderness began. As they settled into life aboard and found their sea legs, we cast off and pointed south — towards forested islands, mountain vistas, and the sheltered

waters of the Inside Passage. Over the coming days, we would explore a region shaped by glaciers, rich in wildlife, and home to diverse Indigenous cultures. One of the world's most remarkable coastlines lay ahead.



Day 2 - College Fjord, Prince William Sound

During our first full day at sea, we guided guests through the breathtaking landscapes of College Fjord by expedition boat. Surrounded by a stunning collection of tidewater glaciers, we cruised through calm, ice-dotted waters where growlers and small bergs drifted silently from the glacier fronts. Harbour seals hauled out on the ice and curious sea otters floated in the sheltered waters alongside us.

The afternoon brought the Captain's Welcome, where guests were introduced to the officers and the Expedition Team. The onboard Scientific and Educational Programme was presented, and many guests joined the art corner to personalise their HX water bottles. George, our Ornithologist, met guests out on deck for an introduction to binoculars — the first of many sessions that would sharpen eyes throughout the voyage.



Day 3 - Icy Bay

We spent the morning cruising through Icy Bay under a blanket of low cloud, with persistent rain and thick fog limiting visibility. Although the surrounding mountains remained hidden for much of the day, the shifting mist occasionally revealed the surrounding glaciers. Even in subdued weather, Icy Bay offered a memorable glimpse into Alaska's wild and ever-changing glacial landscape. Many

of us spotted harbour seals, sea otters, and eagles. The Expedition Team provided a wide-ranging onboard programme, such as lectures about the seabirds of Alaska by George and an introduction to travel photography by Ted. Dave told us about Happy Whale and Giulia introduced guests to iNaturalist, both citizen science projects. Our guest scientist Christina told us about weather observations.



Day 4 - George Island, Elfin Cove, Point Adolphus

In the morning, our biologist Giulia gave a talk on the secret lives of sea otters before we headed ashore at Elfin Cove — one of Southeast Alaska's most remote and characterful fishing settlements. Home to only a small year-round population, the village felt almost suspended between sea and forest. There were no roads connecting it to the outside world; instead, boardwalks linked the colourful houses, docks, and small harbour at its heart. We walked those boards

ourselves, taking in the stillness and the salt air.

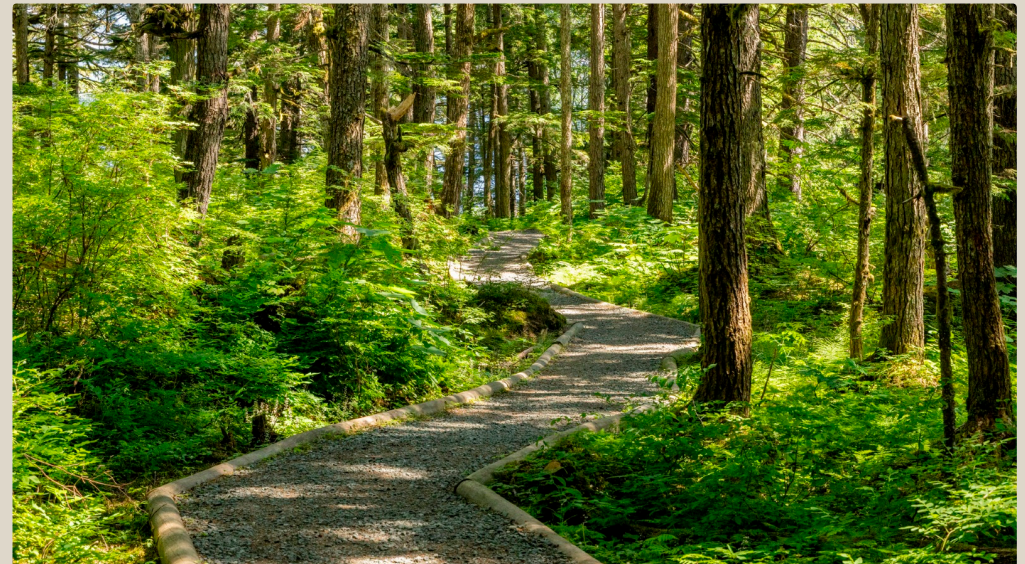
During our expedition boat cruise at George Island, sea otters drifted in the kelp, Steller sea lions hauled out on the rocks, and bald eagles circled overhead. The evening brought a spectacular flourish: a group of humpback whales off the bow, several of them breaching repeatedly in the last of the sunlight. A day of sunny weather, an unhurried village, and a fjord full of life.



Day 5 - Haines

Today we visited sunny Haines, a charming town nestled between towering mountains and the waters of the Lynn Canal, North America's deepest fjord — surrounded by spectacular scenery and steeped in Indigenous and frontier history. For thousands of years, this area has been home to the Tlingit people, who used the nearby Chilkat River as an important trade route through the Coast

Mountains. Many guests chose to explore the town independently; others joined excursions, visited local galleries, or simply took in the mountain scenery. During the late afternoon, some guests joined the art corner session and created watercolour postcards. We heard from James about the Ships of Alaska and our scientists provided an open Science Centre session.



Day 6 - William Henry Bay

Today we stepped ashore in William Henry Bay, where Southeast Alaska's temperate rainforest could be experienced up close. Surrounded by lush forests and sheltered waters, the bay offered an opportunity to immerse ourselves in one of the richest ecosystems on the planet. We wandered beneath towering Sitka spruce and western hemlock, through a landscape carpeted with mosses, ferns, and fallen logs — constantly changing, full of surprises from colourful fungi and

wildflowers to birds calling from deep in the trees. Back on board, our Historian Sandra spoke about the Gold Rush in Alaska, George covered bird eggs in the Science Centre, and Dave gave a lecture about whales and dolphins of the Northeast Pacific. During the evening we listened to Brandon, who shared a storytelling session about the Civil War.



Day 7 - Endicott Arm

Today we ventured into Endicott Arm, one of Southeast Alaska's most dramatic fjords. Carved by immense glaciers, this narrow waterway stretched deep into the Coast Mountains, where sheer granite cliffs rose straight from the sea and countless waterfalls tumbled from hanging valleys. Our expedition boat cruise brought us close to the rock and ice — and from the ship, sharp eyes picked out a few

mountain goats on the cliffs above. Endicott Arm was a place where the forces of geology, ice, and time were on full display. On board, Jake and Brandon spoke about Kelp Forests and Seagrass Meadows, Christina shared weather observation techniques, and George gave a lecture about bald eagles. During the evening, Annabelle spoke about Tidal Patterns.



Day 8 - Kake (AM)

Today we visited Kake, a small ƛingít community set among spruce forests and protected waters. The community's impressive totem pole — one of the tallest in the world — stood as a quiet testament to a way of life deeply connected to the sea and to centuries of Indigenous tradition.

By afternoon, the day had taken a vivid turn. Chum salmon had arrived in force, filling the river in dark, purposeful runs, and the wildlife had followed. From the bridge and the salmon hatchery, we watched bears working the water's edge while bald eagles lined the trees above — one of those moments where nature's rhythms play out so openly you almost forget to breathe.



Day 8 - Hamilton Bay (PM)

In the afternoon, we traded village life for wilderness as we embarked on an expedition boat cruise in Hamilton Bay — a fjord framed by

steep, forested slopes and waterfalls cascading down the mountainsides.



Day 9 - Klawock & Craig, Prince of Wales Island

Today we visited two communities offering a window into the life of Prince of Wales Island. Klawock, one of Alaska's oldest Tlingit settlements, holds one of the largest collections of standing totem poles in the state — carved records of clan histories, ancestors, and legendary events passed down through generations. A short distance away lay Craig, often called the 'Salmon Capital of the World,' a

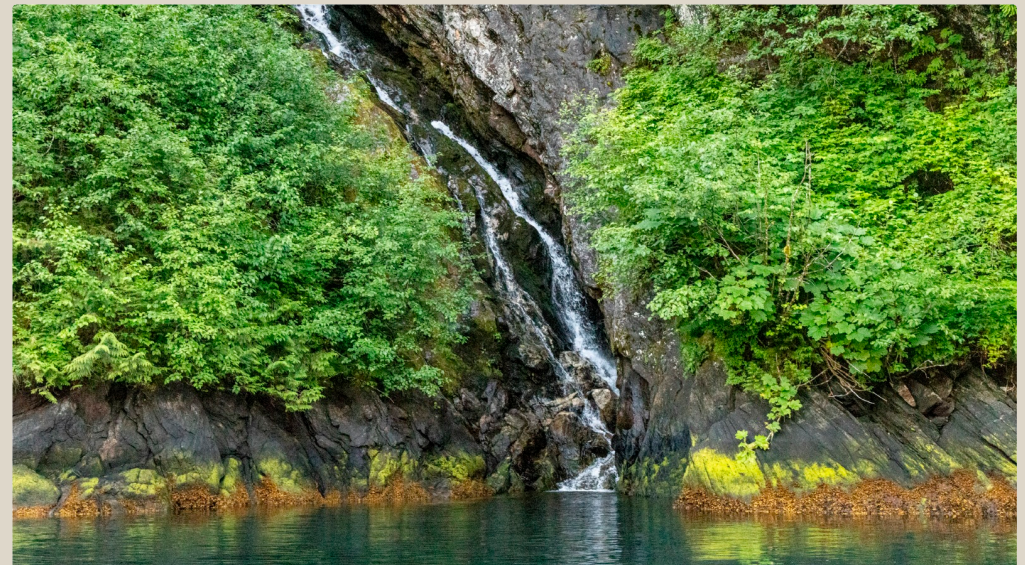
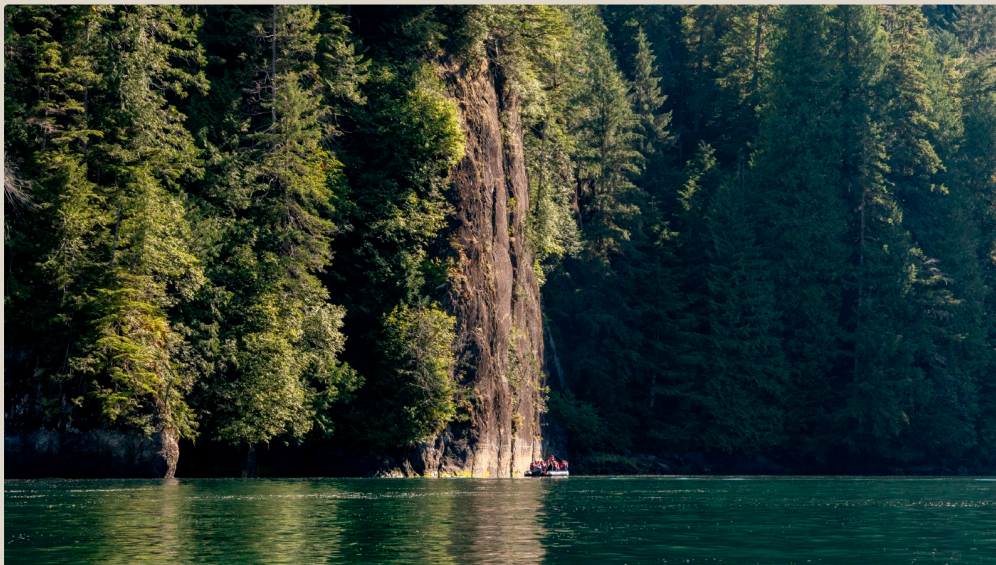
fishing community deeply connected to the surrounding waters. Together they told a story of resilience shaped by the sea, where Indigenous heritage and maritime livelihoods continued to define the island's character. Giulia spoke about salmon, the lifeblood of Alaska's waters; in the afternoon, Rudy covered the basics of charting and we joined a Q&A with the ship's officers.



Day 10 - Misty Fjords National Monument

Today we explored the sun-filled Misty Fjords by expedition boat. Towering granite cliffs, cascading waterfalls, and dense temperate rainforest lined our route — a landscape shaped by glaciers over thousands of years. When the operators brought us close to the shoreline, we picked out cedar, hemlock, and Sitka spruce pushing down to the water's edge. Back on board, some of us joined a

watercolour session with Annabelle and Jake. Many others stayed out on deck for the wildlife watch, making the most of the clear, bright conditions before MS Roald Amundsen left the fjord. Ted spoke about photo editing, and Marina covered Environmental Challenges in Alaska.



Day 11 - Sea Day

Today was spent at sea with a wide-ranging onboard programme from the Expedition Team. A wildlife watch opened the day — and a humpback whale obliged. Dave lectured on killer whales, Sierra ran a NASA GLOBE Cloud observation session, and our young scientists Hannah and Annabelle shared an insight into their academic

journeys. As we sailed towards Alert Bay, we spent much of the afternoon on deck in the sunshine. In the evening, Nick covered Alaska's Commercial Fishing, Bob spoke about life in Vancouver, and the crew band brought the day to a close in the observation lounge.



Day 12 - Alert Bay, British Columbia, Canada

We arrived to a warm welcome from the community of Alert Bay, a place rich in history and living Indigenous culture. Many guests visited the U'mista Cultural Centre, where powerful exhibits shared the stories, traditions, and resilience of the Kwakwaka'wakw people. The day's centrepiece was a cultural performance by local Indigenous

dancers and drummers — through song, dance, and storytelling, traditions passed down through generations and remained very much alive. Other guests explored the island's forest trails beneath towering cedar and spruce. The day closed with a final wildlife watch on deck, the Captain's Farewell, and a slideshow by our photographer Ted.





Day 13 - Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

This morning we arrived in Vancouver, marking the end of our journey through Alaska's Inside Passage. After days among fjords, glaciers, and remote coastal communities, it was time to say farewell to the ship, the Expedition Team, and the travellers who had shared in

it. Guests disembarked and continued their onward journeys, carrying memories of wildlife encounters, glacier- and forest-filled landscapes, and the particular spirit of expedition travel. The voyage was over; Alaska would stay with them considerably longer.





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