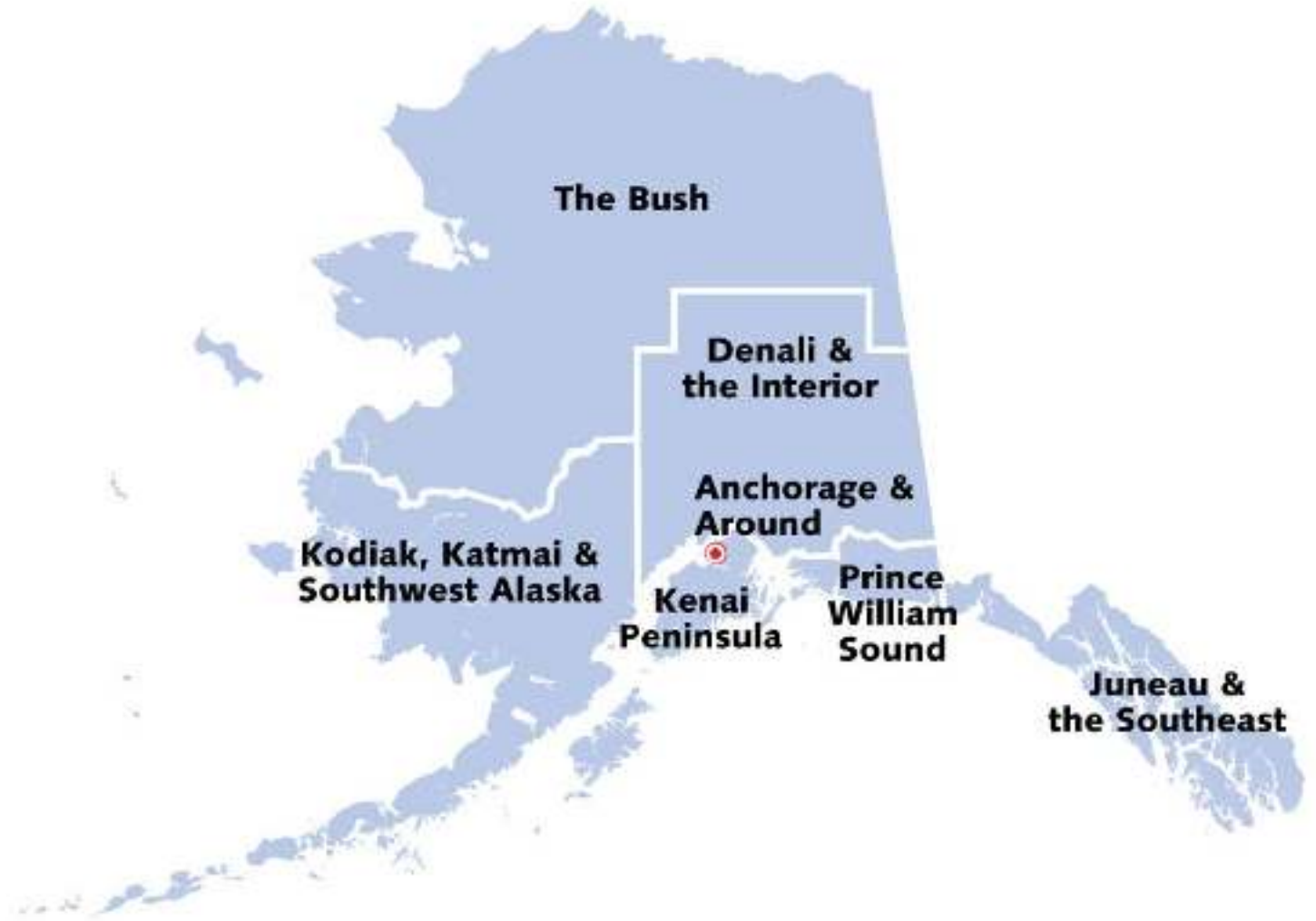


lonely planet

Alaska



Alaska



How to Use This eBook

4 easy-to-use sections

1

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Your planning tool kit
Photos & suggestions
to help you create the
perfect trip.

2

ON THE ROAD

Your complete guide
Expert reviews,
easy-to-use maps
and insider tips.

3

UNDERSTAND

Get more from your trip
Learn about the big
picture, to make sense
of what you see.

4

SURVIVAL GUIDE

Your at-a-glance guide
Vital practical
information to help you
have a smooth trip.

Look for these symbols to quickly identify listings:

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Sights |  Eating |
|  Activities |  Drinking |
|  Courses |  Entertainment |
|  Tours |  Shopping |
|  Festivals & Events |  Information & Transport |
|  Sleeping | |

All reviews are ordered in our authors' preference, starting with their most preferred option. Additionally:

Sights are arranged in the geographic order that we suggest you visit them, and within this order, by author preference.

Eating and Sleeping reviews are ordered by price range (budget, midrange, top end) and within these ranges, by author preference.

These symbols give vital information for each listing:

- ★ Must-visit recommendation
- 🌿 Sustainable or green recommendation

FREE No payment required

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Telephone number |  Vegetarian selection |
|  Opening hours |  Family-friendly |
|  Parking |  Pet-friendly |
|  Nonsmoking |  Bus |
|  Air-conditioning |  Ferry |
|  Internet access |  Tram |
|  Wi-fi access |  Train |
|  Swimming pool | |

For symbols used on maps, see the Map Legend at the end of this eBook.

The key to the perfect trip

Lonely Planet eBooks make trip planning and on-the-road travelling easier than ever

1. Discover amazing experiences

Gorgeous photos of top sights with links to author recommendations help you plan where to go.

Montenegro's Top 16

Sveti Stefan



1 The postcard-perfect walled island village of Sveti Stefan is a wonder to behold. It's a tiny slice of Mediterranean beauty, with its waters, pine and olive trees peering between the whitewash walls of one stone dwelling. Content yourself with the view, or walk to the island's island to gaze at the exclusive hotel that sits on the beach. Take a boat through the woods to Petrovo, and go early taking photographs - it's hard to get a good shot.

Sveti Stefan

Sights

Sveti Stefan Beach

The main point of coming time horizontal as possible

2. Content when you need it

Downloading eBooks on the road is simple, and you can carry as many guides as you need.



3. Plan your perfect trip

Search for destinations, bookmark favourites and add notes to customise your guide.

4. Essential online travel info

Links to the best business and travel websites bring all the info you need into one place.

Features you'll love while on the road...



Map links to reviews mean you can find info quickly.



Zoom-in maps make it easy to navigate in a new place.



Offline maps mean no data-roaming charges.

To get the most out of the maps in this guide, use the zoom function on your device, or visit <http://media.lonelyplanet.com/ebookmaps> to grab a PDF of the maps.

Alaska

Scale: 0 to 100 miles



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Behind the Scenes

Our Writers

Welcome to Alaska

Bears larger than bison, national parks the size of nations, and glaciers bigger than other US states. The word 'epic' barely does Alaska justice.

The Call of the Wild

Pure, raw, unforgiving, and humongous in scale, Alaska is a place that arouses basic instincts and ignites what Jack London termed the 'call of the wild'. Yet, unlike London and his gutsy, gold-rush companions, visitors today will have a far easier time penetrating the region's vast, feral wilderness. Indeed, one of the beauties of the 49th state is its accessibility. Nowhere else in North America is it so easy to climb an unclimbed mountain, walk where – quite possibly – no human foot has trodden before, or sally forth into a national park that gets fewer annual visitors than the International Space Station.

Into the Outdoors

Alaska is, without a doubt, America's grittiest outdoor playground where skilled bush pilots land with pinpoint accuracy on crevasse-riddled glaciers, and backcountry guiding companies take bravehearts on bracing paddles down almost virgin rivers. With scant phone coverage and a dearth of hipster-friendly coffee bars to plug in your iPad, this is a region for 'doing' rather than observing. Whether you go it alone with bear-spray and a backpack, or place yourself in the hands of an experienced 'sourdough' (Alaskan old-timer), the rewards are immeasurable.

Animal Magic

People-watching takes second place to wildlife-spotting in a state where brown bears snatch leaping salmon out of angry waterfalls and curious moose pose majestically on national park roadsides. But the real thrill for wilderness purists is to go off in search of fauna in its natural habitat. Fly out into unguarded backcountry and you'll quickly get the sense of swapping your seat on a bush plane for one in the food chain. The landscapes of the far north might be the domain of musk oxen, gray wolves and bears, but, keep your wits about you, and they'll quietly accept you as a guest.

Meet the People

Isolation fosters peculiarities. A trip into the Alaskan wilderness can be as much about the off-beat people as the off-the-beaten-track location. Take tiny Chitina with its handful of subsistence-hunting locals, or the crusty boom-and-bust town of Nome, or the jokey gold-mining punch line that is Chicken. Ever since the US bought Alaska for 2 cents an acre in 1867, the land that styles itself as America's last frontier has attracted contrarians, rat-race escapees, wanderers, dreamers, back-to-the-landers and people imbued with the spirit of the Wild West. In a land of immense natural beauty, the Alaskan people are an oft-forgotten part of the brew.



Northern lights, Fairbank
PIRIYA PHOTOGRAPHY / GETTY IMAGES ©

Why I Love Alaska

By Brendan Sainsbury, Author

Like many travelers, I am drawn to roads less traveled, isolated frontier regions where spontaneity and excitement rule over certainty and home comforts. Alaska, for me, fits all of these requirements. Challenging, unpolished and, on occasions, a hard nut to crack, it is, in many ways, the antithesis of the country where I grew up (the UK). Like a stranger in a strange land, I never fail to be astonished by the state's extremes and gaping lack of people. And though travel here isn't always easy, it's a constant education.

Alaska's Top 21

Mt McKinley

The Athabascans call it the Great One, and few who have seen this 20,237ft bulk of ice and granite would disagree. Seen from the Park Rd of Denali National Park, [McKinley](#) chews up the skyline, dominating an already stunning landscape of tundra fields and polychromatic ridgelines. The mountain inspires a take-no-prisoners kind of awe, and climbers know that feeling well. As the highest peak in North America, McKinley attracts over a thousand alpinists every summer, but less than 50% make it to the summit.



GLEB TARRO / GETTY IMAGES ©

Riding the Alaska Ferry to the Aleutian Islands

There's no experience like it: three nights on a ferry that services remote Alaskan communities far along the tundra of the [Aleutian chain](#). Commercial fishers with plastic bins full of gear, tourists lugging giant camera lenses with the hope of scoping a few birds, and even a family or two returning from a visit to the doctor in Homer are all likely to be your new friends by the time you disembark in Unalaska. In port folks pile on these ships just to take off stacks of hamburgers; often the ship cafeterias are the only restaurants in town.



Bear-Viewing at Brooks Camp

Nowhere in the world are the bears more abundant, well-fed and blissfully happy as they are in [Katmai National Park & Preserve](#) where, under the watchful eye of the National Park Service, a pristine, well-protected ecosystem flourishes, providing a rich supply of salmon – the bear’s favorite food source. To see these brilliant ursine beasts pluck spawning salmon straight out of turbulent Brooks Falls, hire a float plane in July and proceed to Brooks Camp. Granted, it isn’t cheap, but, as 99% of previous Katmai visitors will testify, it’s worth every penny.



Spotting Whales in Southeast Alaska

An announcement followed by a rush of passengers in the forward observation lounge of an Alaska Marine Highway ferry (see boxed text, [Click here](#)) is a sure sign that humpback whales have been spotted. Join the crowd outside to gawp in awe at a pair of black humps and spouts less than a quarter mile away. When one of the whales breaches, heaving its nearly 50ft-long body almost completely out of the water, it's such an incredible sight that it has everybody buzzing until the ferry arrives in Wrangell.



Anchorage Nightlife

You've already taken in the Anchorage Museum and climbed Flattop Mountain but who can go to bed? It's still light at 11pm and there is a bolt of energy surging through downtown Anchorage. There are pushcart vendors hawking sausages on 4th Ave, horse-drawn carriages picking up passengers at Hotel Captain Cook, frisbees in the air at Delaney Park and a line out the door at [Chilkoot Charlie's](#), where a band is certain to be rocking tonight.



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