

Prince William Sound

Visitor Guide

2019-'20



◆ CORDOVA

◆ VALDEZ

◆ WHITTIER

◆ AND BEYOND

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

The Cordova Times

*Prince William Sound's oldest newspaper.
Established in 1914. Tribally owned.*



CITY OF Cordova

INCORPORATED 1909



Situated in the southeastern end of Prince William Sound,
the City of Cordova is quickly emerging as one of America's best places to
live, work, play, and visit.

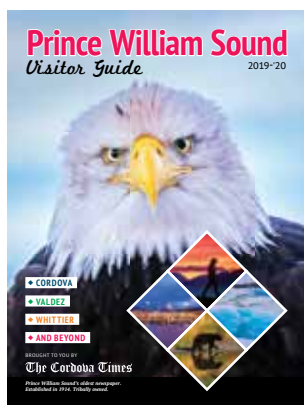


CITYOFCORDOVA.NET • THECORDOVACENTER.COM

Table of Contents

CORDOVA2 VALDEZ 24 WHITTER 38

Fast facts.....	5	Fast facts.....	27	Fast facts.....	41
History.....	6	History.....	28	History.....	44
Getting here.....	11	Getting here.....	29	Getting here.....	43
Explore.....	8	Explore.....	28	Explore.....	46
Events.....	12	Events.....	30	Events.....	47
Important numbers.....	17	Important numbers.....	35	Important numbers.....	44
Hike.....	14	Hike.....	36	Hike.....	48
Eat.....	18	Eat.....	34	Eat.....	46
Sleep.....	20	Sleep.....	32	Sleep.....	47



COVER PHOTOS BY:
Emily Mesner

Contributing photographers:
Emily Mesner
David Little
Andy Pfeiffer

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Visitor Guide 2019-'20

IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY

The Cordova Times

An enterprise of
Native Village of Eyak

110 Nicholoff Way
P.O. Box 1388
Cordova, AK 99574
(907) 424-7738

Managing Editor
Annette Potter

apotter@thecordovatimes.com

**Administrative Assistant
& Advertising Sales**

Vivian Kennedy

advertising@thecordovatimes.com

**Staff Reporter/
Photographer**
Emily Mesner

emesner@thecordovatimes.com

Copyright 2019 The Cordova Times.
All rights reserved.

VSHelicopters.com
Located at the Valdez Airport
907-831-0643
info@VSHelicopters.com

HELICOPTER TOURS AND FLIGHTSEEING ADVENTURES
PREPARE TO BE AMAZED

CORDOVA

Cordova

*Off the beaten path,
worth the journey*



PHOTOS: Emily Mesner



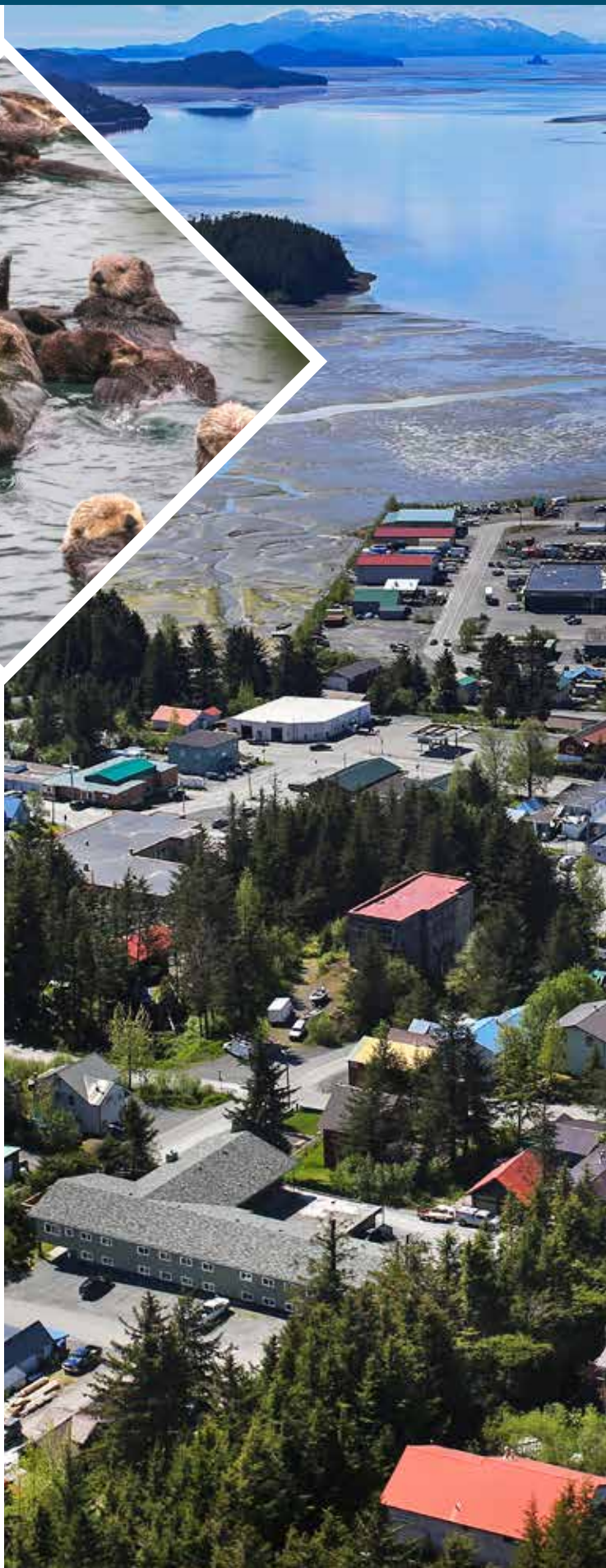
Cordova

lies near the mouth of the Copper River, and at the head of Orca Inlet in Prince William Sound, surrounded by rugged mountains sculpted by blue glaciers, fresh waterways, wildlife-rich wetlands, abundant bird life, and the Chugach National Forest, off the main road system.

Access is via Alaska Airlines or one of the Alaska Marine Highway's ferries. Cordova's longest road is the Copper River Highway, which begins in Cordova and extends 56 miles to the 52-mile bridge, which offers access to hiking trails, off-road recreation sites, hunting and fishing, and the U.S. Forest Service's Childs Glacier Campground. The first 13 miles of road, east of Cordova, are paved and the rest is gravel.

Access via the Copper River Highway is limited to approximately 36 miles, as changes of the flow in the Copper River took out Alaska Department of Transportation's Bridge 339 in 2011 and the bridge was closed. The remaining 20 miles can still be reached via river crossing by boat. Local tour companies provide service, as the river has swift-moving water and unpredictable currents. It is not recommended to attempt this crossing without an experienced guide who knows this waterway. Adventure and recreation are accessible closer to town as well with Mt. Eyak and Ski Hill towering northeast, home to the oldest working single chair lift in North America.

See Page 7, **CORDOVA**





◆ *Fast Facts*

2,205
Population

1909
Year established

150
Air miles southeast of
Anchorage

61.4
Square miles of land

14.3
Square miles of water

29
Size of graduating class

Economy
Commercial fishing and fish
processing

Origin
Cordova was given its present
name in 1906 by Michael
Heney, builder of the Copper
River and Northwestern
Railroad. The Copper River
and Northwestern Railroad
ran from Cordova to
Kennecott from 1911 to 1938.

Slogan
Off the beaten path, worth
the journey

Fun fact
The first airplane landed in
Cordova in 1929 and a small
airstrip was created in 1934.



Cordova Historical Society photo

◆ Over 100 Years of Fish, Copper, and More Fish

BY CATHY SHERMAN

Cordova Historical Society Local Historian

Nestled between the Chugach Mountains and Orca Inlet, Cordova is built upon a rich and diverse foundation of bounties from both the sea and land. The Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound regions have been a melting pot for Native cultures and those to follow later. Add together the traditions of a myriad of many cultures of people and you have a novel Alaskan community with a rich and fascinating story to tell.

Eyak and Chugach Natives lived near the shores of Eyak Lake and lined the coastal areas of Prince William Sound. Their traditions led them to respect the gifts the land and sea provided and to appreciate the value of the seasons. The Eyak occupied the Copper River Delta and west to what is today – Cordova. The Chugachmiut inhabited the coastal areas and islands of Prince William Sound.

Exploration of this region began in July 1741 when Vitus Bering, command-

ing the vessel *St. Peter*, made the first recorded Russian landing in Alaska arriving on Kayak Island southeast of Prince William Sound. Thirty-seven years later, Captain James Cook entered Prince William Sound on a voyage seeking the Northwest Passage.

French explorers arrived in 1786, followed by Spanish explorer Navy Lieutenant Salvador Fidalgo who sailed the *San Carlos* in 1790 into Prince William Sound. Fidalgo named a bay of water after himself but also named the bay of water in front of present day Cordova in honor of his patron, Don Luis Cordoba de Cordoba. The United States' purchase of Russian America in 1867 opened Alaska to American traders and military expeditions. In 1885, Lieutenant Henry S. Allen led a successful American expedition up the Copper River Valley and was the first to make note of the extensive use of copper tools by the Natives in the upriver region. The American-led Harriman expedition in 1889 sailed extensively through Prince William Sound and named many

of the glaciers and bays after American Colleges – Columbia, Harvard, and Yale.

Salmon continued to be the draw and by 1887 two canneries were operating in the Odiak Slough area adjacent to Eyak Lake; by the mid-1920s the Copper River Delta and Prince William Sound region was dotted with over 50 canneries. In addition, Cordova had become known as the Clam Capital of the World and at its peak produced over half of the United States' clam products. Salmon has, for the most part, formed the bulk of the catch, but halibut, black cod, shrimp, crab, and other seafood has also been harvested. Today, Copper River salmon are world renown and reigned in restaurants and fish markets from coast to coast.

The natural resources in the land were being discovered and the new lands of Alaska were considered fair game and ripe for picking. Gold seekers who weren't having any luck, found their way to the region to search for a new ore – copper. This discovery turned out to be the highest grade commercial copper deposit ever found and the single most valuable mineral deposit discovered in Alaska. The Kennecott Mine became the source, but the copper needed a railroad to get to Cordova.

The construction of the Copper Riv-

er and Northwest Railway backed by wealthy East Coast financiers took place between 1906 and 1911 with some of the most difficult engineering challenges known to man. The 196-mile railway was completed on March 29, 1911 with a copper spike driven before the first load of nearly pure copper ore worth \$250,000 made its way to the steamship docks. The railroad and fishing industries led to an era of prosperity and growth for the now booming town of Cordova.

As the population grew so did the community, with the addition of a school, hospital, dairy and residences. Cordova was the first year-round port of call by steamship lines west of the Gulf of Alaska. The first airplane landed in Cordova in 1929 and a small city strip was created in 1934. Cordova has since survived the loss of the railroad, devastating fires, severe earthquakes, and the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill disaster.

The mainstay of Cordova's economy for over 100 years is the salmon that return year after year to spawn in the streams where they were born. While fishing equipment and production methods have changed, the fish continue to be the one constant providing sustenance for the residents and thanks to air transportation – the world over.

CORDOVA

From Page 4

The decommissioned chair lift was brought to town in 1971 from Sun Valley, Idaho by train to Seattle and then via ferry to Cordova. It still operates today!

The hike to the top of Ski Hill provides views of Orca Inlet's deep blue and turquoise water, which is often filled in the summer months with bowpickers returning and leaving during the commercial salmon fishing season.

Forage for mushrooms throughout the numerous U.S. Forest Service trails as towering canopies provide slight shelter from rain. If glaciers are a "must see" on your Alaska list, take the short drive down Sheridan Glacier Road, roughly one mile from the Merle K. (Mudhole) Smith Airport, to see up close and personal views of the bright blue walls of Sheridan Glacier.

From wildlife and landscapes to festivals and fishing, whatever your reason for visiting, enjoy your journey in Cordova off the beaten path.

**Information on chairlift provided by Cathy Sherman at the Cordova Historical Museum.*

Cordova Community Medical Center is located in the middle of a sportsman's paradise in stunning Cordova, Alaska.

As a partner in our community, Cordova Community Medical Center provides personalized service to support the health and well-being of residents and visitors alike. Our Primary Care Clinic offers expert care by board certified family medicine physicians.

CCMC offers services such as Acute Care, Emergency, Lab, Radiology, Physical Therapy, Behavioral Health, Preventative and Long Term Care. CCMC also offers help in times of crisis through formal support programs as well as providing intervention assistance for family and friends seeking options to help others.

For more information on Cordova Community Medical Center and the services that we provide go to our website

www.cdvcmc.com



Join us in making a
DIFFERENCE

www.cdvcmc.com/careers



◆ Explore

There's plenty of indoor and outdoor activities to keep you busy during your visit to Cordova, no matter the weather! Options include sightseeing on glaciers, hiking short to longer overland trails, aerobics and Zumba classes, swimming in the indoor heated pool, downhill skiing or snowboarding down the slopes of Mt. Eyak, or reading a book by the roaring fireplace in the local library.

PUBLIC FACILITIES

Bidarki Recreation Center

Need to get in your regular workout while you're here? The Bidarki Recreation Center is a city owned and operated recreational facility, and home to the Cordova Parks and Recreation Department offices. The amenities include three

cardio areas complete with elliptical machines, treadmills and exercise bikes, and a fully stocked weight room. Weekly activities include adult volleyball, basketball, tot times, open gym, and fitness classes. Locker rooms are equipped with saunas, showers, and lockers are available. Rent towels at the front desk for a dollar. (907-424-7282)

Bob Korn Memorial Pool

The Bob Korn Memorial Pool, operated and maintained by the city of Cordova, is the home of the Cordova Wolverine's High School Swim Team, and the Cordova Iceworm Swim Team. Schedules are online at the cityofcordova.net, or by calling the pool, for open swim, tot swim, lap swim, and exercise classes. (907-424-7200)

Cordova Historical Museum

The Cordova Historical Museum houses a diverse collection of Cordova-area

history. View displays about early explorers to the area, Native culture, the Copper River Northwestern Railway, the Kennecott Mine era, and the growth of the commercial fishing industry. A gift shop operated by the Cordova Historical Society features books by local and other Alaskan authors, plus Alaska-themed, one-of-a-kind gift items. Hours are Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 12-5 p.m. (907-424-6665)

Cordova Public Library

The Cordova Public Library, inside the Cordova Center, offers a plethora of hard copy, paperback and audiobooks. Wireless internet is available. Sit in cozy chairs in the fireplace nook to read, or just enjoy the view of the Cordova Boat Harbor, Orca Inlet and its surrounding islands. Hours are Tuesday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 12-5 p.m. (907-424-6667)



Emily Mesner photo

Mt. Eyak Ski Area

Mt. Eyak Ski Area operates 1 of 2 remaining single chairlifts in North America. This historic lift was first installed in 1936 at Sun Valley, Idaho on Mt. Baldy's Christmas Ridge. In 1974, this lift was moved to Cordova and installed above town on the southern slopes of Mt. Eyak. With a vertical rise of 960 feet the lift serves 3 main runs with countless shots through trees and glades encompassing an area of over 600+ acres. The lift also accesses backcountry on the upper slopes of Mt. Eyak. A rope tow serves a beginner slope with a length of 300-feet and a vertical rise of 50-feet. Mt. Eyak has a full-service rental shop and food service is available. Mt. Eyak operates from November to April on weekends, holidays and powder days, snow permitting. There is also a hiking trail starting at the base area, utilized by locals and visitors alike.

The Ski Hill is operated and maintained by Sheridan Alpine Association, a local non-profit group of volunteers and a small seasonal staff. (907-424-7766)



Alaskan Wilderness Outfitting Company

Incredible fishing, remote wilderness & specular beauty all in total comfort!

- Guided & unguided trips
- Full service lodge
- Do-it-yourself & combo packages
- Discounts for large groups
- Care of your prized catch
- Gourmet meals

907-424-5552

ALASKAWILDERNESS.COM • info@alaskawilderness.com

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND | WRANGELL MOUNTAINS | NORTH GULF COAST

Located in the heart of Cordova

Within walking distance of downtown and stores



The Eyak Inn



HARBOR & MOUNTAIN VIEW ROOMS

- One or two queen beds
- Suite with kitchen
- Free WiFi
- In-room fridge, microwave and coffee station

RESERVATIONS

EyakInn.com 907-424-2299



110 Nicholoff Way
P.O. Box 1388
Cordova, AK 99574

907-424-7738
NVEYAK.COM



Emily Mesner photo



**CHARTER FISHING, WILDLIFE TOURS
& ADVENTURE TRANSPORTATION**

FISHSTIXCORDOVA.COM

Cordova Historical Society's Walking Tour

The Cordova Historical Society provides a printed map and walking tour. Copies are available at the Cordova Historical Museum, located in the Cordova Center, or at the Cordova Chamber of Commerce on Main Street. (907-424-6665)

Ilnaka Cultural Center and Museum

The Ilnaka Cultural Center honors the heritage and culture of the Eyak, Alutiiq, Ahtna, and Tlingit peoples who have inhabited this region for more than 10,000 years. The museum preserves and exhibits a collection of prehistoric, historic, and contemporary tribal artifacts from the Prince William Sound and Copper River Delta. The center also hosts annual traveling exhibits, and classes for members. The center is dedicated to the revival and preservation of Native crafts and skills for future generations. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (907-424-7903)

Glacier Viewing

Many people come to Alaska to see glaciers. A sunny day at Sheridan or Saddlebag Glaciers provides a stunning back drop for a picnic among wildflowers. Take a the 3.1-mile hike to Saddlebag Lake where Saddlebag Glacier resides at the far end, or for a shorter outing, head to Sheridan Glacier, a 10-minute walk just past the Sheridan Mountain trailhead.

While the Copper River Highway is impassible beyond bridge 339 near 36 Mile due to a bridge washout, you can still spend the day at Childs Glacier.

Several tour companies with special use permits with the U.S. Forest Service, offer

for-fee services for transport to Child's Glacier. Be prepared to ride in a boat, ride an ATV and go walking or hiking. View the glacier as it sheds massive icebergs, and have a picnic lunch. Layered clothing is recommended to keep you from getting chilled.

Prince William Sound Science Center

The Prince William Sound Science Center provides practical, relevant information about this critical global bioregion to managers and decision-makers, so true resilience can be practiced here and modeled everywhere.

This region is one of the world's most remote and greatest living laboratories, a stronghold critical to a thriving planet, and one of the last, best places to research how an intact ecosystem functions. Studies by PWSSC researchers provide answers to many challenges, including: climate change, resource use and sustainability, food webs and ecosystem management. The center also hosts Tuesday Night Talks, a program which brings in a range of presenters from the community and outside who speak on varying educational topics every Tuesday at 7 p.m. on the third floor of the U.S. Forest Service Building. The program runs from September through April. Hours for the Science Center are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (907-424-5800)

Copper River Watershed Project

The Copper River Watershed Project] works to foster the health of the Copper River watershed's communities, economies, and cultures with a variety of programs, including fish habitat monitoring and restoration. Hours of operation vary; contact the office for more information. (907-424-3334)



424-3730

131 HARBOR LOOP ROAD
LOCATED BEHIND AC

[facebook.com/harborsidepizza](https://www.facebook.com/harborsidepizza)

WWW.HARBORSIDEPIZZA.COM

Tour Childs Glacier



CHILDS GLACIER LODGE
Adventures and Shuttle

907-429-7394

◆ Getting Here

Cordova is a landlocked community, with two options to get you here: via the Alaska Marine Highway's ferry boats or Alaska Airlines' 737 jets.

Ferry

Leaving Anchorage and taking the scenic route in a car or truck via the Seward Highway will take just a little over an hour to drive down Turnagain Arm to Portage.

Leaving Portage, drive through the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel, passing under Maynard Mountain, part of the Chugach Mountain Range, and arrive in the town of Whittier on the other side.

Drive to the Alaska Marine Highway Ferry Terminal (follow the signposts), where you can check in for ferry passage with your vehicle, by bicycle, or on foot, to board for cruise to Cordova. Have your camera out and at the ready for scenic and wildlife photos.

Do check the Alaska Marine Highway's website well in advance of your trip, to make reservations, as these ferries book up fast in summer months.

The ferry travels across pristine and wild Prince William Sound, home to pods of Orca whales, porpoises who play in the wake of the ferry, seals hauled out on rocks and basking in the sunshine, pods of sea otters, sea birds, and a commercial fishing fleet at work.

A trip aboard the fast ferry takes about three hours and 15 minutes, while taking one of the older ferries will put you into Cordova about six hours after departure.

dot.state.ak.us/amhs
800-642-0066

Plane

Alaska Airlines' 737 jets fly into Cordova twice daily. Flight 61 travels northbound from Seattle by way of Juneau, Yakutat, and Cordova, then on to Anchorage. Flight 66 arrives southbound from Anchorage, stops in Cordova, and then flies on to Yakutat, Juneau, and Seattle. Check Alaska Airlines' website well in advance for reservations, schedules and best fares.

alaskaair.com
800-252-7522

Bear Country Lodge CORDOVA, ALASKA

**You may NEVER
want to go home ...**

Bob and Joanie Behrends • 763-242-6535

www.bearcountrylodge.net

ILANKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Providing personalized,
quality healthcare to the
community of Cordova!**

*Discounts may be available based on family size
and income, even if you already have insurance.*

Stop by at 705 Second Street or give us a call at

907-424-3622



SERVICES WE PROVIDE

Medication Assisted
Treatment Program
Limited Allergy Testing
Lab work drawn in house
FREE blood pressure checks
Steroid injections

Preventative care
Womens Health
Prenatal care
FREE nail care for seniors
and diabetics
IUD's
Immunizations

Laceration Repairs
Diabetic counseling
Behavioral Health
CDL/DOT Physicals
School and Sports Physicals
Ultrasound



Emily Mesner photo

◆ Events

May 2-5: Copper River Delta Shorebird Festival

copperriverdeltashorebirdfestival.com

Come and experience the Avian Aurora! Nearly three quarters of all North American Shorebirds summer in Alaska and the Arctic tundra, and most of them come through here by way of the Pacific Flyway. The tidal flats of the Copper River Delta shimmer with the activity of hundreds of thousands of shorebirds every year in early May. Nearly five million shorebirds will make the tremendous journey from as far as South America to the Copper River Delta, the largest undisturbed wetland in North America, where they stage and feed before moving on to breeding grounds west and northward in Alaska.

The Copper River Delta Shorebird Festival provides the ideal opportunity for bird watchers to see this spectacle of migration. Many activities, workshops and community events are offered throughout the festival.

June 7-8: Copper River Nouveau with the Prince William Sound Science Center

pwssc.org/support/copper-river-nouveau

Copper River Nouveau is our region's premier dining experience and fundraiser, a celebration of regional resilience, science, education, community, and wild salmon. The gala offers gourmet food with opportunities to meet important federal and regional elected leaders, scientists, educators, fishermen and others dedicated to maintaining renewable natural systems through science and education. Corporate and individual sponsorships, a silent and live auction, and dinner ticket sales help raise funds for our research and education. The Fisheries Achievement Award reception, prior to the dinner, will be located at the Prince William Sound Science Center and honors an individual or group for making a significant contribution toward the sustainable use of fishery resources in Prince William Sound or the Copper River regions. The dinner and auction will be at the Cordova Center. This year's guest chef is Nancy Alip, executive chef and owner of Jens' Restaurant.

July 4: Old Time Downtown 4th of July Celebration

cordovachamber.com/old-time-downtown-fourth-of-july

Old Time Fourth of July Celebration is a free event on Main Street in Cordova, beginning at 10 a.m. with the Kelp Box Derby, followed by children's games, including a dunk tank, egg toss competition and three-legged races. Then comes a community potluck-style meal, featuring fresh Copper River salmon on the grill, provided by all our local seafood processors.

Work off that picnic potluck meal at the square dance, accompanied by live blue grass tunes, and then filler' up again at the Pioneers of Alaska Pie Social.

July 12-13: Copper River Salmon Jam

salmonjam.org

The Salmon Jam is a weekend full of fun for the entire family, with live music, wild salmon, good food, arts and crafts, road races, dancing and fun activities for the kids. Visit their website for complete



Emily Mesner photo

details and forms to enter the road races, set up arts and crafts tables, and to sign up to perform at Salmon Jam.

Aug. 30-Sept. 1:

Cordova Fungus Festival

cordovachamber.com/events/cordova-fungus-festival

Fungus Festival attendees will have opportunities to learn about local mushrooms, participate in mushroom related arts and crafts, and celebrate mushrooms and other wild-harvested foods with a Wild Foods Dinner. Daily guided forays in the surrounding Chugach National Forest, an identification table, and an expert keynote speaker are provided. Bring your cameras and rain gear, and join in the fun. To register or volunteer, call 907-424-7260.

Nov. 15-17: Native Village of Eyak's Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch

nveyak.com

The annual Native Village of Eyak's Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch is a time of sharing food, fellowship, and substance abuse awareness. Year after year, people from all corners of Alaska, and the Lower 48 states, come together to celebrate and talk about sobriety, and how to live lives drug and alcohol free. Alaska Native Dancers perform throughout the weekend, including the Cordova Ikumat Dancers. Traditional foods are served at the community-wide potlatch. Keynote speakers include tribal members, sobriety mentors, state government officials and military veterans.

Dec. 6-7: Holiday Kick-off & Bidarki Bazaar

cordovachamber.com/holiday-kickoff

Join the Cordova Chamber of Commerce in kicking off the holiday season with hot cocoa and cookies, and carols with the student choir. Santa will arrive on his sleigh and light the huge community Christmas tree, marking the start of the holiday season while Main Street light posts shine brightly with decorations! Followed immediately after, shop around for holiday gifts during the Bidarki Bazaar held at Mt. Eccles Elementary School, where local vendors sell handmade items ranging from driftwood decorations and paintings to homemade dolls, clothing and earrings. Local stores around town stay open later and offer holiday discounts during Moonlight Madness Dec. 6, 13, and 20.

Jan. 25-Feb. 1, 2020: Cordova Iceworm Festival

icewormfestival.com

The Cordova Iceworm Festival was created in 1961 by a few great Cordovans who were itching to lift the spirits of those down with the winter blues. Little did they know that the festival would grow to attract people from all across the world! What was once a two or three-day party has transformed into a week-long gathering, put on by the Iceworm Board and the entire community of Cordova. Events during the festival include the Iceworm Variety Show featuring local performers, the Miss Iceworm pageant coronation, survival suit races in the icy waters of Cordova's boat harbor, free seafood appetizers, games and events for children, a fireworks display, and, of course, the famous Iceworm Parade!

 /groups/cdvtrapgun



1 Mile Sheridan Glacier Road

CDVTRAPGUN@GMAIL.COM

907-424-SHOT

SKEET & TRAP
1 PM SUN, 6 PM THRS

OPEN PISTOL, 100 YD,
300 YD, ARCHERY RANGES

THE LOON SONG INN



The Loon Song Inn has accommodations for up to 4 people in a cozy, updated 1 bedroom apartment with all the comforts of home, ideally located in downtown Cordova, Alaska.

(907) 202-6942

THELOONSONGINNALASKA.COM



Emily Mesner photo

◆ *Hike*

Chugach National Forest

**U.S. Dept. Of Agriculture
Cordova Ranger District
612 Second Street
907-424-7661**

The Chugach National Forest is a hiker's paradise. The district is nestled between the Copper River Delta and the southeastern end of Prince William Sound, and covers approximately 2.3 million acres. Enjoy a hike through this temperate rain forest.

Nearly all of the U.S. Forest Service's trails are maintained annually.

Before taking off for a day of hiking, check with the Cordova Ranger District for current trail conditions.

Backpacking in the Chugach National Forest requires forethought. Pack carefully, planning for all eventualities, including the possibility of your trip being a little longer than anticipated. Always let someone else know where you're going and what time you plan to return. Don't assume that the cabin you are headed to is vacant – make



Andy Pfeiffer photo

reservations to rent a cabin ahead of time. Remember your camera, as vistas abound.

Trail maps are available at the Cordova Ranger District for the following Chugach National Forest and Copper River Delta Trails: Crater Lake Trail, Eyak River Trail,

Haystack Trail, Heney Ridge Trail, McKinley Trail, Pipeline Lakes Trail, Power Creek Cabin-Power Creek Trail, Saddlebag Glacier Trail, and Sheridan Mountain Trail.

Visit fs.usda.gov/chugach/ for more information.

◆ TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS:

Crater Lake Trail:

2.4 miles

This trail climbs a steep grade, passing through mature spruce-hemlock forests to a picturesque alpine bowl where Crater Lake sits. The first half of the trail climbs over rough, rocky sections, with numerous switchbacks and muddy areas, as well as wooden bridges. The second half of the trail continues to climb, but at a gentler grade, through hillsides that are abundant with wildflowers during the summer months. A bench is provided midway up the trail for a great view of Eyak Lake.

At 1.2 miles, an intertie provides access to Eyak Ski Hill Trail. At the lake, the hiker has the option to access the Alice Smith Intertie or to climb Mt. Eyak. The entire loop from Crater Lake trailhead to Power Creek trailhead is 12 miles and takes approximately 10-12 hours.

Eyak River Trail:

3.3 miles

This trail follows the west bank of the

Eyak River for one quarter mile through mature Sitka spruce forest before opening into rolling muskeg meadows. At mile 1.5, the trail reunites with Eyak River for the remainder of the distance before reaching Mountain Slough.

At the end of the trail, the flora composition changes to typical delta habitat of dense alder and grasses. The trail is muddy and wet in places, especially after heavy rain.

Haystack Trail:

3.3 miles

This short, mostly boardwalk trail, winds through spruce-hemlock forests to a knoll overlooking the Copper River Delta. From this spectacular vantage point, one may view the Gulf of Alaska, Kayak Island, and many species of wildlife, especially trumpeter swans and moose. The trail has several places to rest and relax.

Heney Ridge Trail:

3.7 miles

The first section of trail follows the contour of Hartney Bay and offers excellent

bird watching and wildlife spotting opportunities. Spawning salmon may also be viewed from mid-July to August. The next two miles moderately climb through spruce-hemlock forest and muskeg areas scattered with wildflowers. The last mile is a steep climb onto Heney Ridge following rock cairns above the tree line.

Once on the ridge you are treated to spectacular views of the Copper River Delta, Prince William Sound, and Kayak Island (on clear days). There are many unique wood structures to assist hikers with traversing the varied terrain. The trail is muddy and wet in places, especially after heavy rain.

McKinley Trail:

2.4 miles

This well-maintained trail winds its way through mature spruce-hemlock forest and ends at the north end of McKinley Lake. Several bridges allow hikers easy crossings over small streams. This trail also provides access to two public-use recreation cabins.

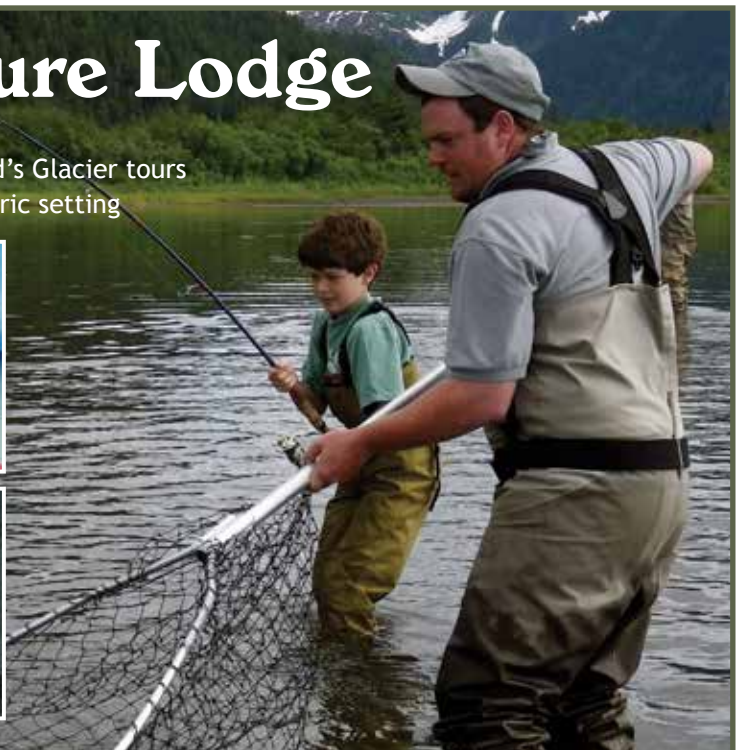
McKinley Trail Cabin is approximately 100-yards beyond the trailhead sign, and McKinley Lake Cabin, at the end of the trail.

Orca Adventure Lodge

Guided fresh & salt water fishing

Kayaking, guided hikes, wildlife trips, Child's Glacier tours

Waterfront rooms & family suites in a historic setting



907-424-7249 • 866-424-ORCA (6722) • orcaadventurelodge@gmail.com

www.orcaadventurelodge.com

CHINOOK AUTO RENTALS

*Quit Fishing Around.
We'll Hook You Up!*

GOOD CORDOVA CARS

1.907.424.CARS (2277)

Convenient Location at the Airport
In Town & Ferry Delivery Available



Cordova, Alaska • chinookautorental@gmail.com

CHINOOKAUTORENTALS.COM

LONESOME DOVE OUTFITTERS

ALASKA'S PREMIER HUNTING TOURS

Dennis Zadra — Master Guide #182
PO Box 1398 Cordova, Alaska 99574
dennis@idohuntak.com

www.idohuntak.com

1-888-388-3683



BROWN BEAR | MOUNTAIN GOAT | COMBO HUNTS
OVER 20 YEARS OF SUCCESS IN THE CHUGACH

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH & The Red Dragon



100 Lake Avenue, Cordova, AK 99574
Rev. Belle Mickelson
(907) 424-5143

www.cordovaepiscopal.org
www.dancingwiththespirit.org
www.reddragoncordova.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30AM

We invite you to join us for worship and visit our historical district. Contributions are welcomed as we prepare the church for its next 100 years of service.

A rough, unmaintained trail continues for 1/4 mile past the lake cabin and accesses the remains of the Lucky Strike Mine. Interpretive signs guide visitors through the history and remains of the abandoned mine and mining camp. Midway, Pipeline Lakes Trail joins McKinley Trail for an optional loop.

Pipeline Lakes Trail:

1.8 miles

Most of this trail is boardwalk. The first 3/4 mile passes through dense spruce-hemlock forest before opening into muskeg meadows that offer impressive views of the Chugach Mountains. Short spur trails provide fishing access to five small lakes with populations of cutthroat trout. At the junction with the McKinley Lake trail there is an option of returning to the highway or continuing north to McKinley Lake cabin.

Power Creek Trail:

4.2 miles

This trail follows the river through Power Creek drainage, then leads the hiker up several switchbacks. Midway, at the beginning of Surprise Valley, the recently built Cordova Electric Cooperative hydropower dam can be seen.

The last half of the trail follows the creek up the Power Creek Basin, passing by several beaver ponds and hanging glaciers to the Power Creek Cabin. The cabin site has wonderful panoramic views of the valley and surrounding mountains. At mile 3.0, the Alice Smith Intertie accesses the Crater Lake Trail. The entire loop from Power Creek trailhead to Crater Lake trailhead is 12 miles.

Saddlebag Glacier Trail:

3.1 miles

This well-drained, level trail winds its way through stands of cottonwood and spruce trees, and guides the hiker through a small, glaciated valley to the outlet of Saddlebag Lake. Split-log bridges at several small stream crossings aid the hiker during highwater periods. From the lake outlet, Saddlebag Glacier can be viewed at the far end of the lake. Mountain goats can often be spotted on the cliffs on either side. The lake usually has icebergs near the outlet.

Camping available at THE EYAK CORPORATION'S Hartney Bay Recreational Area & Cabin Lake Campgrounds

\$10 Camping

PERMITS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE CORDOVA OFFICE

(907) 424-7161

Cordova, Alaska 99574
info@eyakcorp.com

Important Numbers

Emergency

911

Police/Fire/EMS (Non emergent)

907-424-6100

Alaska State Troopers

907-424-3184

U.S. Coast Guard District Command

800-478-5555 or VHF Channel 16

Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game

907-424-3212

U.S.F.S. Cordova Ranger District

907-424-7661

Cordova Community Medical Center

907-424-8000

CCMC Pharmacy

907-424-8017

Ilanka Community Health Center

907-424-3622

Outpatient Physicians Clinic

907-424-8200

Veterinarian

907-772-3191

Cordova Chamber of Commerce

& Visitors Center

907-424-7260

City Hall

907-424-6200

City Library

907-424-6667

City Museum

907-424-6665

Ilanka Cultural Center

907-424-7903

Parks & Recreation

907-424-7282

Swimming Pool

907-424-7200

Sheridan Glacier

Outdoor Shooting Range

907-424-7468

Baler

907-424-5600

Department of Motor Vehicles

907-424-6125

Harbor/Port/Harbormaster

907-424-6400 or VHF Channel 68

Alaska Marine Highway/Ferry Terminal

907-424-7333

Alaska Airlines

907-424-3278

CTAF

122.50 (Eyak Lake) 123.60 (13-mile)

Cordova Weather

907-424-7614

ASOS

134.80 or 907-424-5900 (recording)

Current Time & Temp

907-424-5526 (recording)

DOT

907-424-3202

Airport Shuttle & Car Rental

907-424-5356 or 907-424-5279

The Ride

907-429-3111

Taxi

907-253-5151

NEWS:

The Cordova Times

907-424-2236

RADIO:

KLAM 1450 AM

KCDV 100.9 FM

or call 907-424-3796

VISIT THE NEW CORDOVA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR CORDOVA'S FUTURE SINCE 1967



All new exhibits in the main gallery and changing art exhibits in the Copper River Gallery and Ziegler Galleries!

MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR DAY:

Monday through Saturday
10 a.m. until 5 p.m.
Closed Sundays

LABOR DAY TO MEMORIAL DAY:

Tuesday through Saturday
10 a.m. until 5 p.m.
Closed Sundays and Mondays

**Retro-style Coffee Shop
at Orca Adventure Lodge**

2500 New England Cannery Road
907-429-ORCA (6722)
f@ORCACOFFEESHOPPE

Prince William Motel CORDOVA

The Sportsman's Paradise

*Easy walk to harbor
Kitchenettes available
Harbor views
Great fishing close by!*



(907) 424-3201

Reservations only: 1-888-PW-MOTEL

(1-888-796-6835)

501 Second Street, Cordova, Alaska

Peterson Welding & Machine



Whatever floats your Boat

907-424-7790

6 Mile Copper River Highway

PO Box 101

Cordova, AK 99574

facebook.com/petersonwelding

**WELDING
FABRICATION
REPAIRS**

◆ Eat

AC Value Center

106 Nicholoff Way

907-424-7141

Grocery, deli, burgers, fryer food, hot & cold self-serve, bakery, liquor store

Takeout

Open year-round, 7 days a week

acvaluecenter.com

Alaskan Hotel & Bar

600 1st Street

907-424-3288

Appetizers, full bar, liquor store

Dine-in

Open year-round, 7 days a week

facebook.com/alaskanbarcordova

Anchor Bar & Grill

207 Breakwater Avenue

907-424-3262

Burgers, sandwiches, salads, full bar

Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating

Open year-round, 7 days a week

cordovaanchor.com

Baja Taco

137 Harbor Loop Road

907-424-5599

Mexican, espresso, beer & wine

Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating

April thru September

bajatacoak.com

Cordova Moose Lodge 1266

514 2nd Street

907-424-3688

Social club, steaks, full-bar

Dine-in, takeout

Open year-round *Member restrictions apply

Fork & Spoon

140 Adams Avenue

907-424-FORK (3675)

Filipino inspired, sandwiches, burgers, rice bowls, catering services

Takeout, outdoor seating

May thru September, closed Saturday & Sunday

facebook.com/forkandspoonCDV

Harborside Pizza

131 Harbor Loop Road

907-424-3730

Wood fire pizza, homemade ice-cream, beer & wine

Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating

Open year-round

facebook.com/harborsidepizza

Homegrown

Breakwater Fill Lot

907-429-8811

Family caught fish, wraps, sandwiches & daily specials.

Takeout, outdoor seating

Mid-April thru mid-September

https://www.facebook.com/

Homegrown-2109744229305090/

How Brewed!

Harbor Loop Road

907-424-5282

Espresso, heat & eat, willywaws

Drive-through

Open year-round, 7 days a week

facebook.com/howbrewed

The Jump!

Breakwater Avenue Lot 1

928-910-1311 (text)

Espresso, daily breakfast & lunch specials

Drive-through, delivery, outdoor seating

March thru November, 7 days a week

facebook.com/thejumpthruesspresso

Baja Taco

Voted Best Taco in Alaska
by FOOD NETWORK MAGAZINE



South Harbor, Cordova, Alaska
Open 7 a.m.-9 p.m. April-Sept. 30

ESPRESSO • BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER • BEER AND WINE

bajatacoak.com • 907-424-5599

Kayak Cafe

524 Second Street

907-370-3534

Coffee, espresso, tea, baked goods, bagels, bagel sandwiches, soup

Takeout, dine-in

Open year-round, 7 days a week

**Opening May 2019

Laura's on Main Street

608 1st Street

907-424-3144

Espresso, tea, candy, heat & eat, spirits

Takeout

Open year-round, closed Sundays

facebook.com/LaurasCdv

The Little Cordova (TLC) Bakery

203 Breakwater Avenue

907-424-LOAF (5623)

Espresso, fresh bread, pastries

Dine-in, takeout

Open year-round, Wednesday thru Sunday

tlcbakerycdv.com

Northern Delights

526 1st Street

907-424-4328

Pizza, sandwiches, Pelmenis, ice-cream, milkshakes

Dine-in, takeout

Open year-round, 7 days a week

facebook.com/northerdelights907

Nichol's Front Door Store

512 1st Street

907-424-5219

Grocery, deli, rotisserie, burgers, fryer food, hot & cold self-serve, bulk goods

Takeout

Open year-round, 7 days a week

OK Restaurant

616 1st Street

907-424-3433 or 907-424-3432

Chinese, American, Korean, Japanese, beer & wine

Dine-in, takeout

Open year-round, 7 days a week, closed

Sundays during winter

The Powder House Bar & Grill

1.5 Mile Copper River Highway

907-424-3529

Seafood, steaks, cook-your-catch, burgers, hot sandwiches, soup, full bar

Dine in, outdoor seating, takeout

Open year-round, 7 days a week

facebook.com/igotblasted

The Reluctant Fisherman Inn

407 Railroad Avenue

907-424-7445

Seafood, steaks, burgers, salads, desserts, full bar, signature cocktails

Dine in, takeout, outdoor seating

Open year-round, 7 days a week

reluctantfisherman.com

The Whale's Tale

2500 New England Cannery Road

907-424-ORCA (6722)

Coffee, espresso, tea, bagels, cookies, soup, bread

Dine in, takeout, kid's play area, outdoor seating in summer

March thru October, 7 days a week, closed

Sundays & Mondays March thru mid-May

facebook.com/orcacoffeeshoppe



THE RELUCTANT FISHERMAN INN

CORDOVA, ALASKA



HOTEL & RESTAURANT

Onsite restaurant with large deck overlooking the Cordova Boat Harbor

Harbor view rooms with sliding doors overlooking the harbor

King bed, 2 queens or one queen bed options

Wireless internet

Guest Laundry

Local owners

CALL FOR RESERVATIONS (907) 424-3272

ReluctantFisherman@AK.net

www.ReluctantFisherman.com

Facebook @ReluctantFisherman

Ilanka Cultural Center

OPEN
Monday-Friday
10 a.m.-5 p.m.

A Native gift gallery, tribal repository and museum in Cordova, one of Alaska's ancient crossroads. Experience our culture: See totems, a full Orca whale skeleton, Native exhibits including a traditional Seal gut parka, and an Eyak dugout canoe.

TO SHOP OUR
ONLINE GIFT STORE
PLEASE VISIT

IlankaCulturalCenter.com

the little shop
in a great big wild



Beautiful Yarns & Fibers
Art, Paper, & Handcraft Supplies
Fine Gifts & Jewelry

The Net Loft

Handcraft Mercantile
140 Adams Avenue Cordova, Alaska
907 424.7337

thenetloftak.com

◆ Sleep

◆ CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

Bidarki Rec Center

103 Council Avenue
907-424-7282
Open seasonal, office closed Saturday & Sunday
parksadmin@cityofcordova.net

Eyak Corporation Camp Grounds

901 LeFevre Street
907-424-7161
Open year-round, office closed Saturday & Sunday
eyakcorporation.com

USFS Cordova Ranger District

612 2nd Street
907-424-7661
Open year-round, office closed Saturday & Sunday
www.recreation.gov

◆ HOTELS, MOTELS & INNS

Alaskan Hotel & Bar

600 1st Street
907-424-3299
Open year-round
www.facebook.com/alaskanbarcordova

Eyak Inn

112 Nicholoff Way
907-424-2299
March thru Oct
www.eyakinn.com

Prince William Motel

501 2nd Street
907-424-3201
Open year-round
princewilliammotel.com

The Reluctant Fisherman Inn

407 Railroad Avenue
907-424-3272
Open year-round
reluctantfisherman.com

◆ BED & BREAKFASTS

1st Street Hideout

325 1st Street #4
907-424-7147/907-429-5539
Open year-round
1sthideout.com

Cordova Gardens B&B

608 Spruce Street
907-424-5488/907-232-4189
May thru September

Dragonfly Inn

1025 Whitshed Road
907-424-7293
Mid-March thru Mid-October
dragonflyinnalaska.com

The HarborView

201 Breakwater Avenue
907-424-5356
Open year-round
northernnightsinn@hotmail.com

Indian Hill Suites

708 5th Street
907-424-5356
Open year-round
northernnightsinn@hotmail.com

Isabel's Inn

305 Railroad Row
907-253-3950
Open year-round

Laura's Suites

608 1st Street
907-424-3144
Open year-round
lauras-suites.com

Northern Nights Inn

500 3rd Street
907-424-5356
Open year-round
northernnightsinn@hotmail.com

Seaview Condo

109 Council Avenue
907-253-5269
Open year-round
Airbnb.com/rooms/19458070

The King's Chamber

600 4th Street
907-253-5402
May thru September
kingschamber.org

The Loon Song Inn

107 West Davis Avenue
907-202-6942
Open year-round
theloonsonginnalaska.com

The Whistling Fish

401 1st Street
907-424-5356
Open year-round
northernnightsinn@hotmail.com

Riverside Inn

6 1/4 Mile Copper River Highway
907-424-7135/907-491-1424
Open year-round
riversideinncordova.com

Weathered Inn

1405 Power Creek Road
907-253-8748
Open year-round
weatheredinn.com

◆ CABINS & LODGES

Alaskan Wilderness Outfitting Company

2102 Copper River Highway
907-424-5552
Open June thru September
Alaskawilderness.com

Andersen Island Lodge

Sheep Bay, 22 miles NW of Cordova
612-581-4476
Open June thru September
andersenislandlodge.com

Bear Country Lodge

5 Mile Loop Road
763-242-6535/339-225-0749
Open year-round
bearcountrylodge.net

Bear's Den Cabins

6.5 Mile Copper River Highway
907-424-7168 / 907-831-6719
Mid-April thru October
alaskabearsdencabins.com

Childs Glacier Lodge, Adventures & Shuttle

Mile 49 Copper River Highway
907-429-7394
June thru September
childsglacierlodge.com

Cordova Rose Lodge

1315 Whitshed Road
907-424-7673
Last week in June thru September
cordovarose.com

Orca Adventure Lodge

2500 Orca Road
907-424-7249
Open year-around
orcaadventurelodge.com

CORDOVA PUBLIC LIBRARY



We have Wi-Fi.

AND BOOKS!

10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tues-Thurs
Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Noon-5 p.m. weekends



THE LITTLE CORDOVA BAKERY

**DAILY FRESH
PASTRIES
& BREAD**

*Proudly serving
Raven's Brew Coffee*

OPEN AT 5:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY



203 BREAKWATER AVENUE
907-424-5623 • TLCBAKERYCDV.COM

Prince William Sound Marina Cordova, Alaska

OUTSIDE BOAT STORAGE & EQUIPMENT LOCKERS



Call for information (907) 253-4332

The Cordova Times

*Your source for
Prince William Sound
news and information*



THECORDOVATIMES.COM



LUNCH & DINNER YEAR ROUND - 7 DAYS A WEEK

www.facebook.com/igotblasted



WE'LL COOK YOUR CATCH!

Copper River Salmon, king crab, razor clams, steaks, burgers, hot sandwiches, homemade pies, soup, and daily specials ready by noon. Full bar, cold beer on tap and refreshing mocktails!



FAMILY FRIENDLY

Horseshoes, darts, fireplace, FREE WiFi. Multiple TVs for the best sports, outdoor adventure and news coverage.



EYAK LAKE & MT. ECCLES

Largest menu in Cordova. Something for every appetite! Great for groups. Covered tents available for events.

LARGE PARKING LOT

Perfect for boat trailers and RVs

JOIN US

Cordova FNRA Fall Banquet: Saturday, Sept. 7
Oyster Shuck & Suck: Iceworm Festival in February

907-424-3529

**1.5 mile Copper River Highway
Cordova, AK**

Off the beaten path.
Worth the journey.

Cordova



THERE'S FUN FOR ALL SEASONS IN CORDOVA!
Request a free Trip Planner at CordovaChamber.com



JULY 12-13  SALMONJAM.ORG





BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Brought to you by the **Cordova Chamber of Commerce** PO Box 99, Cordova, Alaska 99574 • 907-424-7260 • WWW.CORDOVACHAMBER.COM

LODGING

1st Street Hideout, 907-429-5539
Alaskan Hotel & Bar, 907-424-3288
Bear Country Lodge, 763-242-6535
Childs Glacier Lodge, 907-429-7394
Dragonfly Inn, 907-424-7293
Eyak Inn, 907-424-2299
Isabel's Inn, 907-253-3950
King's Chamber, 907-253-5402
Laura's Suites, 907-424-3144
Orca Adventure Lodge, 907-424-7249
Prince William Motel, 907-424-3201
Reluctant Fisherman, 907-424-3272
Riverside Inn, 907-424-7135
Seaview Condo, 907-253-5269

CAMPGROUNDS & CABINS

Odiak Camper Park/Bidarki, 907-424-7282
Skater's Cabin/Bidarki, 907-424-7282
US Forest Service, 907-424-7661

MUSEUMS, HISTORY, CULTURE

Cordova Historical Museum, 907-424-6665
Ilanka Cultural Center, 907-424-7903

RESTAURANTS & CATERERS

Alaskan Hotel & Bar, 907-424-3288
Baja Taco, 907-424-5599
Fork & Spoon, 907-424-3675
Harborside Pizza, 907-424-3730
Homegrown, 907-370-3243
How Brewed, 907-424-5282
Powder House Bar & Grill 907-424-3529
Reluctant Fisherman, 907-424-7445
The Jump, 907-429-7703
The Little Cordova Bakery 907-424-5623
The Whale's Tale @ Orca, 907-429-6688

OUTFITTERS, TOURS, GUIDES

Alaskan Wilderness Outfitting, 907-424-5552
Childs Glacier Lodge, 907-429-7394
Lonesome Dove, 907-424-3718
Orca Adventure Lodge, 907-424-7249
Points North Heli Adventures, 907-424-7991
Ridgeline Aviation, Inc, 907-429-6966
Riverside Inn & Glacier Tours, 907-424-7135
Stan Stephens Cruises, 907-835-4731
Tsiu River Outfitters, 907-424-5607

MEDIA

Bayview Communications, 907-424-3796
The Cordova Times, 907-424-2236

SEAFOOD SALES & PROCESSORS

Alaska Wild Seafoods LLC, 907-424-3124
Trident Seafoods Corporation, 907-424-7111
Ocean Beauty Seafoods, 907-424-7171
Silver Bay Seafoods, 907-738-7202

TRANSPORTATION

Alaska Airlines, 1-800-654-5669
Alaska State Ferry Cordova Terminal, 907-424-7333
Alaskan Wilderness Outfitting, 907-424-5552
Chinook Auto Rental, 907-424-5279
Cordova Air Service, 907-424-7611
Ravn Alaska, 907-248-4422
Ridgeline Aviation, Inc, 907-429-6966

BOAT CHARTER SERVICES

Auklet Charter Services, 907-253-3428
Calidris Charters, 907-424-5266, 907-253-5266
Fishstix Charters LLC, 907-429-7798

RECREATION

Bob Korn Swimming Pool, 907-424-7200
Bidarki Recreation Center, 907-424-7282

RETAIL

AC Value Center, 907-424-7141
Ace Hardware Cordova, 907-424-7500
Camtu Center, 907-424-3124
Copper River Fleece, 907-424-4304
Cordova Gear, 907-424-5590
Cordova Outboard, 907-424-3220
Kale 'n Thyme, 503-975-4423
Laura's Liquor Shoppe, 907-424-3144
Pet Projects Unlimited, 907-424-5225
Sue's Knives & More, 907-424-7066,
907-253-3015

SERVICES & OTHER

Acupuncture & Wellness 907-429-7797
Alpine Diesel, 907-424-7664
Bayside Storage, 907-424-3109
Cordova Computers, 907-351-9447
Goodrich Accounting LLC, 907-424-7231
Knot Crazy!, 907-429-7673
Maiden Cordova, 512-924-1341
Peterson's Welding, 907-424-7790
Teal Barmore Photography, 907-253-8325
Chugach Alaska Corporation, 907-563-8866
City of Cordova, 907-424-6200
Copper Valley Wireless, 907-835-2231
Cordova Arts & Pageants, 907-424-3486
GCI, 907-424-7317
Karl Becker Watercolors, 907-424-7466
Senator Gary Stevens, 1-800-821-4925
Prince William Sound Science Center, 907-424-5800
Little Chapel, 907-424-3629
Wells Fargo Bank NA, 907-424-3248
St. Joseph Catholic Church, 907-424-3637
Cordova Community Medical Center, 907-424-8000
Cordova Electric Cooperative, 907-424-5555
Cordova Telecom Cooperative, 907-424-2345
Cordova Wireless, 907-424-2300
Ilanka Community Health Center, 907-424-3622





Valdez

*Opportunities
in every season*



Valdez,

surrounded by scenic Prince William Sound on one side and heavily glaciated Chugach Mountains on the other side, lies at the head of a deep fjord. This northernmost year-round ice-free port in North America was founded just prior to the turn of the 20th century as a gateway to the “All-American Route” to interior gold and copper fields.

Incorporated since 1901, the community’s first 100 years have been marked by significant events, the most notable of which are the 1964 Alaska Earthquake, being chosen as the terminus of the Trans Alaska Pipeline, and the 1989 Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

Summer activities include hiking to cascading waterfalls, kayaking, cruising the fjords of Prince William Sound, and competing in Alaska’s oldest fishing derby, with over \$80,000 in cash and prizes awarded annually. A drive through Keystone Canyon provides stunning views of waterfalls towering on every side while closer to town, bald eagles line the river and trees. Valdez is also a renowned winter playground for snowboarding, skiing, snowmachining, snowshoeing, and ice climbing.

The area attracts a number of both commercial and sport fishing harvesters, visitors attracted by marine life, glaciers, deep sea fishing and heli-skiing. Valdez is connected to the Alaska Interior via the Richardson Highway and is a port of call for the Alaska Marine Highway ferries.





◆ *Fast Facts*

3,976

Population:

1901

Established:

299

Highway miles east of
Anchorage

222

Square miles of land

55.1

Square miles of water

31

Size of graduating class

Economy

Oil, tourism, commercial
fishing

Origin

Spanish explorer and
cartographer Don Salvador
Fidalgo named the Port of
Valdez in 1790 after the
celebrated Spanish naval
officer Antonio Valdes y Basan.

Slogan

Opportunities in every season

Fun fact

Valdez has a city vision which
reads, "Capitalizing on the
intrinsic qualities of our area
and its people; create a place
our grandchildren will be
proud to call home."

PHOTOS: Emily Mesner



◆ *The History of Valdez, Alaska*

In 1790, Don Salvador Fidalgo named the Port of Valdez after the celebrated Spanish naval officer Antonio Valdes y Basan.

A town developed in 1898 as a debarkation point for men seeking a route to the Eagle Mining District and the Klondike goldfields. Valdez soon became the supply center of its own gold mining region and incorporated as a city in 1901.

The original town site of Valdez was destroyed on Good Friday 1964 by the strongest recorded earthquake ever to strike the North American continent, which registered at 9.2 on the Richter scale.

Tsunamis generated by the earthquake also ravaged the town. Five percent of the population of Valdez was killed in this disaster. The town site was condemned as unsafe and the city was relocated four miles to the west.

During the 1970s, the Trans Alaska Pipeline System was constructed to transport North Slope crude oil. This pipeline stretches 800 miles from Prudhoe Bay on the North Slope to Valdez in Prince William Sound.

As the southern terminus of the Trans Alaska Pipeline, Valdez became the largest crude oil port in North America. The oil is stored in Valdez and from there it is transported via supertankers to locations in the continental United States.

On Good Friday (March 24) 1989, the supertanker Exxon Valdez ran aground on Bligh Reef in Prince William Sound. The resulting oil spill resulted in one of the greatest man-made environmental disasters ever in North America. Al-

though the oil fouled hundreds of miles of Prince William Sound shoreline, the spill did not contaminate the shores of the Port of Valdez. Valdez became the operational center for the massive cleanup of the oil spill.

Because of the 1989 spill, oil spill response preparedness and oversight became a regional industry and significant economic sector of Valdez. The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council (RCAC) was established as a watchdog organization to oversee safety and spill response issues for oil transportation in Prince William Sound.

The RCAC's membership includes many communities, Native Alaskans, and interested organizations around Prince William Sound. Ship Escort and Response Vessel Service (SERVES), was established with a fleet of modern vessels, home ported in Valdez, to escort oil tankers through Prince William Sound.

To immediately respond to oil spills, these vessels are equipped with state-of-the-art oil spill response equipment and technology, and are supported by a sophisticated ready response industry.



◆ *Explore*

Valdez has outdoor activities to suit many tastes, lifestyles and budgets. Depending on the time of year, there are activities including hiking, walking, and sightseeing to skiing, snowboarding and snow machining in winter, plus photo opportunities year round.

Visit the Valdez Visitors Center

Find half day, full day and extended tours of Prince William Sound to fit your stay in summer months.

Orca and humpback whales, sea otter, sea lions, birds, porpoise, and many other animals make their homes in Prince William Sound. Excursion vessels depart from the Valdez Small Boat Harbor for sightseeing and wildlife viewing.

Kayaking is another way to explore the Sound up close. Fly-outs and drop-offs are possible to remote locations in the Sound and Chugach Mountains, via



David Little photo

helicopter or small planes. Tours accommodate all ages and skill levels.

Wintertime brings tons of snow and creates a perfect playground for winter sport enthusiasts who are avid skiers, snowboarders, are into heli-adventure sports, snowshoeing, ice climbing, snowmachining and more.

valdezalaska.org

Sightseeing highlights

Check out Worthington Glacier, Columbia Glacier, Keystone Canyon, Solomon Gulch Hatchery, the Valdez Museum and Historical Archive, and the Maxine and Jesse Whitney Museum.

Take a hike, partake in wildlife and photography tours, go camping, river rafting, canoeing, ride on a boat charter, or see Valdez via helicopter.

Valdez is well-known for salmon and halibut sport fishing, and fishing derbies.

fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5194910.pdf

The Solomon Gulch Hatchery

The Valdez Fisheries Development Association built the Solomon Gulch Hatchery in 1981, and released its first pink salmon fry in 1982. It has operated consistently since then. The water for the hatchery is provided by the Solomon Gulch Hydroelectric Plant, owned by the Copper Valley Electric Association through a cooperative agreement.

SGH has a permitted green egg capacity to incubate 230 million pink salmon and 2 million Coho salmon each year. The state of Alaska strictly controls these egg capacities. With this capacity, VFDA achieves annual releases of approximately 218 million pink salmon fry, and 1.75 million Coho salmon smolt.

Egg take or spawning happens in late summer. Hatchery staff may spawn as many as 16,000 adult brood stock each day. These fish return to the hatchery spawning building by entering the facility using a fish ladder, which carry the fish from salt water to raceways on shore.

Over the winter, the hatchery staff tends to the eggs as they hatch into alevin and settle into simulated gravel to subsist from their yolk sacs. In early spring, the fry emerge and are ready to go to sea. VFDA pumps the fry to net pens offshore where they are fed using commercial salmon feeds until they reach a target weight of at least 0.5 grams. From there, smolt are released to complete their life cycle in the open sea. This process is known as ocean ranching. The adults, which average about 3.5 pounds each, return the following summer, and the process starts all over.

Average adult returns to the hatchery are approximately 13 million adult pink, and 160,000 Coho salmon. After harvesting a small percentage of the return for cost recovery and brood stock, the remainder is harvested primarily by the commercial purse seine fishermen.

The hatchery is easily accessible and is open daily throughout the summer, offering unguided walking tours.

valdezfisheries.org/the-hatchery

Trans Alaska Pipeline System

Valdez is home to the terminus of the Trans Alaska Pipeline and Terminal.

The terminal is located just across the inlet from town, and while visitors were once welcome, strict security protocols have closed the terminal to the public since September 2011.

alyeska-pipeline.com/TAPS/PipelineFacts

Getting Here

Drive:

Driving time from Anchorage: About 5.5 hours, depending upon traffic

Valdez is 299 highway miles from Anchorage. The drive offers scenic turn outs featuring views of Matanuska Glacier, spruce trees and eventually the Wrangell Range, as well as excellent Dall Sheep and waterfall viewing.

Directions: Leaving Anchorage by car, take Alaska Highway 1 North until you reach Glennallen. At Glennallen, follow Alaska Highway 4 North to Valdez.

Fly:

Valdez is 115 air miles from Anchorage. The Valdez airport, which was renamed Valdez Pioneer Field in May 2000, in honor of Alaska's pioneer aviators, is served by one commuter airline.

Call Ravn Alaska Air for reservations at 907-835-2636 or 1-800-866-8394, or visit www.flyravn.com for flight schedules and current fares.

Ferry:

The Alaska Marine Highway System provides ferry service from Valdez to neighboring Prince William Sound communities six days per week in the summer, and three to four days per week in the winter. By ferry, Valdez is two hours and forty-five minutes from Tatitlek, five hours from Chenega Bay, five hours and forty-five minutes from Whittier and seven hours from Cordova.

dot.state.ak.us/amhs/comm/valdez.shtml



OPENS
MAY 1

907-835-3058

255 N. Harbor Dr. Valdez

THEROADSIDEPOTATOHEAD.COM

◆ Events

May 10-12: Valdez Fly-In & Airshow

valdezflyin.com

The premier bush plane competition in the Western United States.

May 18: Halibut Derby Opens

valdezfishderbies.com

Fish for halibut, get the biggest one and win big money.

May 25-26: Military Appreciation Weekend

ci.valdez.ak.us/Calendar.aspx

Come celebrate and honor those in military service. Free food, fun events.

June 1: Relay for Life

main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY17GW?pg=entry&fr_id=80294

Run or walk as you relay for life. All proceeds raised go to cancer research.

June 7-16: Halibut Hullabaloo

valdezfishderbies.com

Catch the largest halibut during this 10-day period and you will win \$1,000 cash, in addition to weekly prizes.

June 8-15: Last Frontier Theater Conference

theatreconference.org

Each year submissions from playwrights are solicited and the writers of the top scripts are invited to present their work for reading. Numerous classes are offered, panel discussions, and live performances.

June 14-15: "The Opener", Valdez Music Festival

Enjoy the two-day music festival in Valdez at the beginning of summer, hosted by the City of Valdez Economic Department.

July 4th Celebration

ci.valdez.ak.us

A city-wide celebration with street vendors, food, games, live music, the parade and more.

July 11-13: Fireweed 400 Bike Race

fireweed400.com

Bike racing from Sheep Mountain to Valdez.

July 20: Silver Derby Opens

valdezfishderbies.com

Featuring a \$15,000 cash grand prize for the largest silver salmon, \$5,000 cash for the second-place winner and \$2,000 for the third-place winner. In addition to daily first and second place prizes, all anglers who purchase a derby ticket have a chance to win \$10,000 in cash, in a drawing at the end of the season.

July 20: Kids Pink Salmon Derby Day

valdezfishderbies.com

Open to kids ages 5-16. BBQ, prizes and more.

July 31- Aug. 4: Gold Rush Days

valdezgldrushdays.org

A five-day, city-wide celebration honoring Valdez's past, present and future. Raffle, street vendors, music, kid's events, games and more.

Remember when getting there was half the fun?

ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY

With the ferry the fun doesn't stop at the end of the road. We can connect you to dozens of special places along our scenic coast you don't want to miss.

FerryAlaska.com | 1-800-642-0066    #akferry #exploremoreofak

**Aug. 10: Women's
Silver Salmon Derby**

valdezfishderbies.com

Women that have a derby tag win big prizes and big money!

**Aug. 24: Richardson Highway
Rendezvous Music Festival**

rhmusicfest.com

Music, dancing, food, and fun for all ages.

Aug. 25: Valdez Seafood Festival

<https://www.valdezak.gov/index.aspx?NID=422>

Enter in a seafood cook-off for "Best Seafood Breakfast "Alaskan Style", "Best Seafood Chowder", "Best Seafood Main Dish", and "People's Choice Award" and/or enjoy public seafood tastings, live music and food markets.

**Sept. 1: Valdez Fish Derby
End of Year Awards**

valdezfishderbies.com

Awards ceremony wrapping up the summer fishing season.

**Oct. 5: Valdez Museum
Road House Dinner**

The annual fundraiser dinner for the Valdez Historical Museum and Archive at the Civic Center.

**Oct. 19: Annual Women
of Distinction Dinner**

Hosted by the Advocates for Victims of Violence

Nov. 2: Library Book Basket Auction

Hosted by the Valdez Consortium Library.

**Nov. 24: Annual Christmas
Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Hosted by the Parks & Rec. Department, the annual tree lighting ceremony is a Valdez tradition. Festivities, ornament decorating, caroling, refreshments, and Santa Claus!

Dec. 31: New Year's Fireworks

valdezalaska.org/valdez-annual-events

An explosion of glorious fireworks to celebrate the New Year.

Auklet Charter Services

*Custom multi-day cruises throughout
Prince William Sound*

- Natural History Tours
- Glaciers, Wildlife, Photography, Hiking
- Research, media and work trip support

www.auklet.com

THE NEXT GENERATION A CHANGING WORLD

What happens here in the world's richest waters influences the globe.

We're the region's nonprofit with boots on the ground, boats in the water, and students in the field 12 months per year.

JOIN US

Support our kids
and a resilient future.

pwssc.org/support



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
**SCIENCE
CENTER**

T 907-424-5800 | F 907-424-5820

pwssc@pwssc.org

300 Breakwater Ave., PO Box 705 Cordova, AK 99574

◆ Sleep

◆ CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

Bayside RV Park & Campground

230 Egan Drive
888-835-4425/907-835-4425
May thru Mid-September
baysiderv.com

Bear Paw RV Park

101 North Harbor Drive
907-835-2530
May thru September
bearpawrvpark.com

Chena RV Park

101 Chena Street
907-378-6165
May thru September
chenarv.com

Eagle's Rest RV Park & Cabins

139 E. Pioneer Drive
907-835-2373
May thru September
eaglesrestrv.com

Valdez Glacier Campground - US Army MWR

1200 Airport Road
907-873-4795
Memorial Weekend thru Labor Day
greely.armymwr.com/programs/valdez-campground

Valdez KOA

3181 Richardson Highway
907-835-2723
Mid-May thru Mid-September
koa.com/campgrounds/valdez

◆ HOTELS, MOTELS, INNS

Best Western Valdez Harbor Inn

100 N. Harbor Drive
907-835-3434
Open year-round
bestwestern.com



Emily Mesner photo

Downtown B&B Inn

113 Galena Drive
800-478-2791/907-835-2791
Open year-round
valdezdowntowninn.com

Keystone Hotel

400 Egan Street
907-835-3851
May thru September
keystonehotel.com

Mountain Sky Hotel & Suites

100 Meals Avenue
907-835-4445
Open year-round
mountainskyhotel.com

Totem Hotel & Suites

144 E. Egan Drive
888-808-4431/907-835-4443
Open year-round
totemhotelandsuites.com

◆ BED & BREAKFASTS

A Place on Coho B&B

1222 Coho Place
907-835-2106/907-831-1077
Open year-round
aplaceoncohoandb.com

House on the Rock B&B

613 S Moraine Drive
907-831-9027
Open year-round
houseontherockbandb.com

L&L's Bed & Breakfast

533 West Hanagita Street
907-835-4447
Open year-round
lnlaska.com

The Timber House

100 Meals Hill Road
907-835-2903
June thru September
thetimberhousevaldez.com

◆ CABINS & LODGES

Ravencroft Lodge

Irish Cove, Port Fidalgo
907-200-4665
Mid-May thru Mid-September
ravencroftlodge.com

Robe Lake Lodge & Cabins

5325 Lake View Drive
907-831-2339
Open year-round
robekalodge.com



PHOTO: Emily Mesner

Great Gear!



LFS
LFS MARINE
SUPPLIES

302 Jim Poor Lane, Cordova
907-424-5495

Open 8-5 Weekdays, 9-2 Saturdays
Closed Sundays

◆ Eat

A Rogue's Garden

354 Fairbanks Drive
907-835-5880
Health food store, café, espresso, smoothies, deli, soup, salads, pastries
Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating
Open year-round, closed Sunday
roguesgarden.com

Alaska Halibut House

208 Meals Avenue
907-835-2788
Seafood, burgers, salad bar, chowder, milkshakes
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round, closed Sundays in the winter

Aunty Yum Yum's Real Thai Food Truck

239 Harbor Drive
907-255-THAI (8424)
Thai food
Takeout, outdoor seating
May – September, 7 days a week
facebook.com/auntyyumyumtruck

Fu Kung Chinese Restaurant

207 Kobuk Drive
907-835-5255
Chinese, seafood, sushi
Dine-in, takeout, delivery
Open year-round, 7 days a week
Facebook.com/Fu-Kung-190000517678391

Latte Dah

130 Meals Avenue
907-835-3720
Espresso, breakfast sandwiches, pastries
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round, 7 days a week
facebook.com/coffeeshopvaldez

Mike's Palace Ristorante

205 North Harbor Drive
907-835-2365
Italian, Mexican, seafood, pizza, paninis, burgers, salads, beer & wine
Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating
Open year-round, 7 days a week
mikespalace.com

Nat Shack

238 N Harbor Drive
907-831-6521
Mexican, American, vegan options, vegetarian friendly
Outdoor seating, takeout
May thru September
facebook.com/thenatshack

No Name Pizza

121 Egan Street
907-835-4419
Pizza, salads, bread sticks
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round

Northern Treats

505 E Bremner
907-835-4272
Ice cream, shakes, floats, parfaits, sundaes, espresso
Takeout, outdoor seating
Mid-May thru September
www.facebook.com/NorthernTreat

Oldtown Burgers

139 East Pioneer Drive
907-461-8335
Breakfast, burgers, seafood, barbecue
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round, 7 days a week

The Stampmill

328 Egan Drive
907-835-1913
Pizza, sandwiches, salads
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round, 7 days a week
Facebook.com/stampmill

TraDa's Breakfast Diner

310 Pioneer Drive
907-461-0461
Omelets, breakfast skillet, lunch, pizza, sandwiches, salads
Dine-in, takeout, delivery
Open year-round, 7 days a week
facebook.com/tradasbreakfast

Sacred Grounds Espresso

139 East Pioneer Drive
907-835-2663
Espresso, tea, ice cream, smoothies, breakfast
Drive-through, take out
Open year-round, 7 days a week
facebook.com/Sacred-Grounds-Espresso-171253966409907

Subway

126 Pioneer Drive
907-835-3103
Sandwiches, salad, pizza, soup, wraps
Dine-in, take out
Open year-round, 7 days a week
subway.com

The Roadside Potatohead

255 North Harbor Drive
907-835-3058
Breakfast, burgers, fresh cut fries
Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating
May thru mid-September, 7 days a week
theroadsidepotatohead.com

The Fat Mermaid

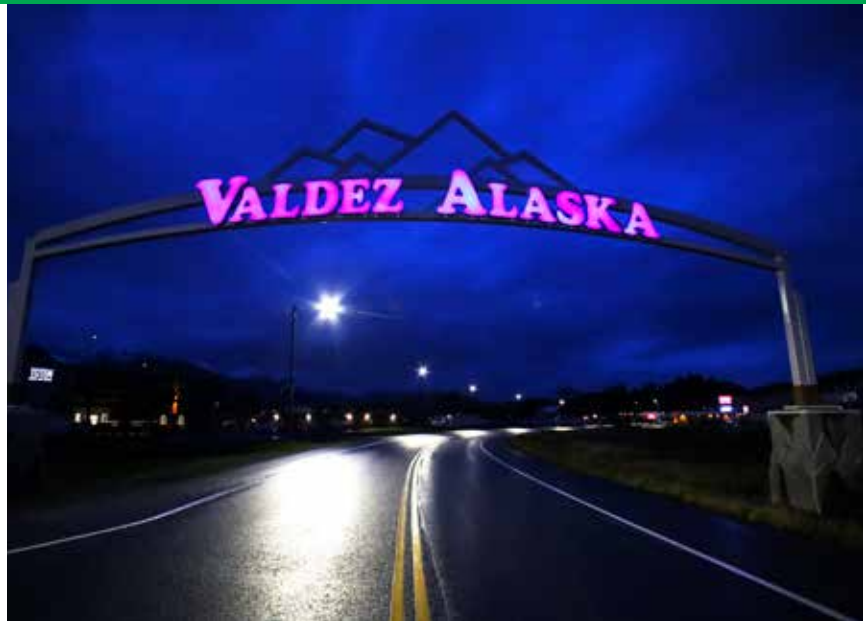
143 North Harbor Drive
907-835-3000
Breakfast, seafood, pizza, burgers, sandwiches, soups, salads, full bar
Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating
Open year-round, 7 days a week
thefatmermaid.com

Valdez Bistro

100 Meals Avenue
907-835-4445
Seafood, steaks, salads, full bar, breakfast
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round, 7 days a week
www.facebook.com/valdezrestaurant

Wheelhouse Lounge & Restaurant

100 North Harbor Drive (inside the Best Western)
907-835-9111
Steaks, seafood, burgers, salad, lunch, dinner, full bar
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round, 7 days a week
valdezhaborinn.com



Emily Mesner photo

◆ Important Numbers

Emergency 911

Police/Fire/EMS (Non emergent)
907-835-4560

Alaska Wildlife Troopers Office
907-835-4307

**U.S. Coast Guard
District Command**
800-478-5555 or
VHF Channel 16

**Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
(Anchorage)**
Hunt/trap 907-267-2257
Sport Fishing 907-267-2218
**U.S.F.S. Crooked Creek Info Site
(summer only)**
907-424-7661

Providence Medical Center
907-835-2249

Providence Counseling Center
907-835-2838

Valdez Medical Clinic
907-835-4811

Veterinarian
907-835-5280

Valdez Convention & Visitors Bureau
907-835-2984

Valdez Civic & Convention Center
907-835-4440

City Hall
907-835-4313

City Library
907-835-4632

Valdez Museum & Historical Archives
907-835-2764

Maxine & Jesse Whitney Museum
907-834-1690

Parks & Recreation
907-835-2531

Parks & Rec Recorded Schedules/Events
907-835-3200

Swimming Pool
907-835-5429

Baler
907-835-2356

Department of Motor Vehicles
907-835-2443

Harbormaster
907-835-4981

Port of Valdez
907-835-4564

VHF Channel 16

Alaska Marine Highway/Ferry Terminal
907-835-4436

Ravn Alaska/Valdez Airport
907-835-2636

CTAF
122.9

AWOS
118.80 or call 907-835-5578 (recording)

DOT
907-834-1099

Valdez Airport Car Rental U-Drive
907-835-4402

Yellow Cab
907-835-2500

NEWSPAPER:
Valdez Star
907-835-2405

RADIO:
KCHU 770 AM
KVAK 93.3 FM & 1230 AM

◆ Hike

Dock Point Trail:

0.83 miles, round trip

Level: Easy, 30 minutes round trip

The Dock Point Trail, although rather short, is one of the prettiest for its size. Hikers can enjoy close up views of a grass and wildflower meadow from the comfort of a dry boardwalk. The West and East overlooks provide views of Harbor Cover and the Port of Valdez. An eagle's nest located on one of the Mineral Creek Islands can be seen from the north side of the trail. This trail begins at the end of a large parking and picnic area located off Kennicott Ave across the road from the Small Boat Harbor's boat launch ramp. Bring the whole family and the dog, this trail is a must!

Overlook Trail:

0.4 miles, round trip

Level: Easy, 25 minutes round trip

This short, recently improved hiking trail is a quick, easy way to experience breathtaking views of Town and the Port of Valdez. Wooden steps and railings make the steep sections of this trail easier to navigate. Between the panoramic views, hikers walk through a fireweed and salmonberry field and a willow-alder scrub forest. There is a picnic pavilion at the top of the hill, excellent for a picnic lunch or to rest and take in the fresh ocean air. The trail begins at the northwest corner of the Northern Parking lot of the Civic Center. If you hike only one trail in Valdez, choose this one.

Mineral Creek Trail: 12.2 miles, round trip (from bridge)

Level: Easy, 6 hours round trip

Mineral Creek Valley is one of the most scenic valleys in all of Valdez. A rough gravel road begins at the upper end of Mineral Creek Drive and runs for a distance of approximately 5.5 miles before ending at a gate, after which the trail becomes a dirt footpath. From the gate, the trail leads up the valley for approximately eight tenths of a mile before reaching the W.L. Smith Stamp Mill. With mountains rising more than 5,000 feet and cascading waterfalls on each side, the scenic vistas are spectacular even on a cloudy day. It is a beautiful walk or bicycle ride – just be aware that motorized traffic is allowed and many locals enjoy driving their 4-wheelers down the gravel road portion of the trail.

John Hunter Memorial Trail:

3.8 miles, round trip

Level: Moderate, 2-2.5 hours round trip

This trail was formerly known as the Solomon Gulch Trail. It begins in a beautiful

coastal spruce forest and climbs steadily upward before it merges with the Trans Alaska Pipeline Service (TAPS) road (the actual pipeline is buried beneath the ground in this section). After crossing Solomon Gulch Creek, it departs from TAPS and continues on up to Solomon Gulch. The trail begins 4.6 miles down Dayville Road just before Allison Point (parking is on the left). The trail starts up a steep hill before joining the Alyeska Pipeline Maintenance Road. There is a sign-in sheet at the gate. Interpretive signs are located along the way.

Shoup Bay Trail, Section A:

6.5 miles, round trip

Level: Moderate, 4 hours round trip

Section A of the Shoup Bay Trail runs from the trail head to Gold Creek Bridge. This scenic tract traverses the West Mineral Creek flats along the base of the Chugach Mountains, and down to Gold Creek. The trail starts from the parking area located at the end of West Egan Drive. Twisting through a thick alder forest, the trail opens out onto the grasslands after eight tenths of a mile, with a patchy boardwalk built around the edges to help with trail flooding. After crossing two small streams (caution: water levels change with weather conditions), the trail offers views of Valdez town to the east and Port Valdez to the south and west. A steep descent brings hikers to Gold Creek camping area. NOTE: The Gold Creek riverbed is prone to flooding and the stream channel changes often. At times, the Valdez-side entrance to the Gold Creek Bridge can be difficult to reach.

Shoup Bay Trail, Section B:

12.6 miles, round trip

Level: Difficult, 10 hours round trip

Section B of the Shoup Bay Trail runs from the Gold Creek Bridge to the north end of Shoup Bay. Starting from the bridge, the trail runs through a grove of spruce trees. The trail is both gradual and steep, gaining 1,100 feet in elevation, as it climbs to the divide overlooking Shoup Bay. Be aware that sections may be very muddy and difficult to follow at times due to overgrowth. Spectacular views of Shoup Bay and Shoup Glacier can be seen from the divide. The trail continues along the east side of Shoup Bay until an inner bay is reached. At this point, there are views of the Kittiwake Rookery and State Park Cabins. To reserve the State Park Cabins in Shoup Bay call 907-269-8400.

Keystone Canyon Pack Trail:

2.6 miles, one way

Level: Easy to moderate, 2 hours one way

The Southern Trailhead is halfway along the Old Richardson Highway Loop, which begins approximately 12 miles from downtown Valdez. The trail head is on the

north side of the road, set back in the trees. The trail begins with an ascension through a lovely Spruce and Hemlock forest. At 0.5 miles, the path reaches a set of switchbacks which were built to maintain a suitable grade for pack horses and sled dogs. Views of Lowe River Valley can be observed from this location. Continuing through the forest, the trail opens to the right with a view across Keystone Canyon. A guide rope assists hikers climbing up and down a short, very steep section of the trail destroyed by multiple avalanches. There is parking alongside the road by the trailhead or there is a wide flat area that can be used for parking where the Old Richardson Highway Loop and the Richardson Highway intersect.

Goat Trail:

3.2 miles, round trip

Level: Moderate, 2 hours round trip

From the west end of the parking area at Bridal Veil Falls, walk about 200 yards toward Valdez and veer right to enter the Goat Trail. Walk 0.3 miles to the intersection of the Goat Trail and Pack Trail. Turn right. Interesting flowers are often found on the rock cliff just past this point. The Goat Trail continues on through Alder and Spruce. There are two rather exposed trail sections high above the Lowe River which offer excellent views of Keystone Canyon, although care is advised when on these sections. The southern Snowslide Gulch viewing area is reached at 1.6 miles. The 2006 flood destroyed the DOT footbridge, crossing at this point is prohibited.

Wagon Trail:

6.6 miles, round trip

Level: Easy, 4 hours round trip

A small sign marks the entrance to the Wagon Road at the mile 18 turnout on the Richardson Highway. At the entrance, the small path weaves for 0.2 miles through a forested area until it intersects the Wagon Road. Turn left at the "Trail" sign. 1.5 miles later, a small 10-minute side trail branches off to the left and down to the Bear Creek Dike. The main trail continues over the Bear Creek Bridge and begins to climb steadily upward. Look for the ruins of the old Lowe River Bridge; two concrete piers should be visible. Although at one time a bridge connected both sections of the Goat Trail and Wagon Trail, crossing at this point is now prohibited. Turn around here and return to the trailhead at Mile 18 on the Richardson Highway.

*Information courtesy of the City of Valdez Parks and Recreation.
Website: www.ci.valdez.ak.us/parks
Phone: 907-835-2531*

PHOTO: Emily Mesner

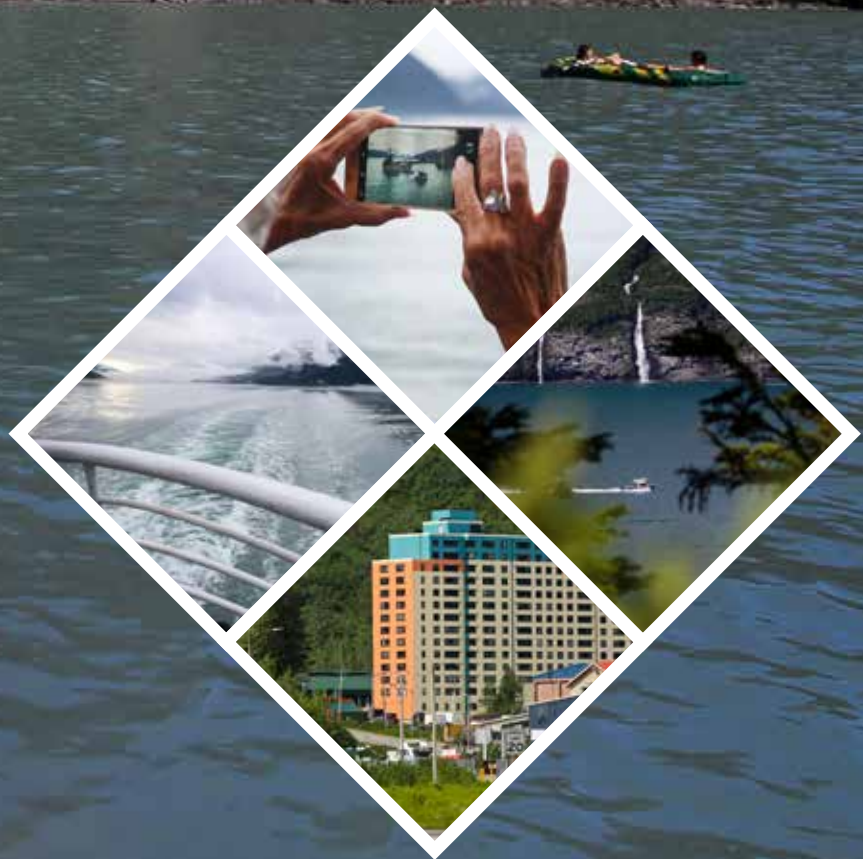


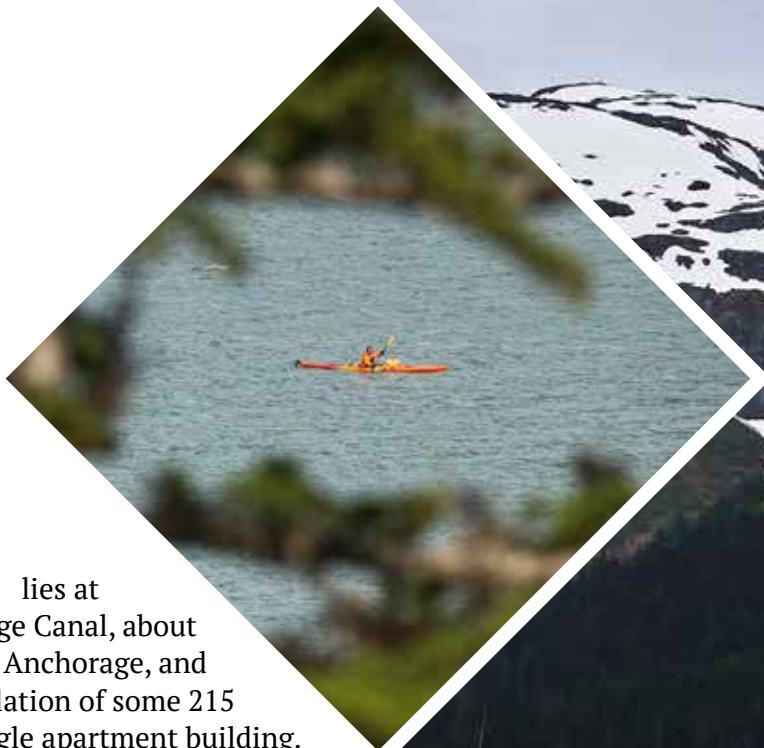
WHITTIER

Whittier

*Gateway to Western
Prince William Sound*

PHOTOS: Emily Mesner





Whittier lies at the head of the Passage Canal, about 60 miles southeast of Anchorage, and almost all of its population of some 215 residents live in a single apartment building. Whittier is known as “the strangest little town in Alaska,” by residents and visitors alike. Watch wildlife and birdlife, go beachcombing, walk along the harbor front, hike along Portage Pass and pick berries in season. Eagles and seabirds abound. Book day cruises, fishing charters, kayak tours and scuba diving.

Sport fishing is popular, and many anglers come in late August and early September to catch the annual run of silver salmon. The Whittier Chamber of Commerce also hosts salmon and halibut derbies during the summer. Winter activities include snowshoeing, cross country skiing and snow machining. While Whittier is known to have a mild, maritime climate, dress in warm layers and remember, it’s easy to remove a layer or two if you’re too warm, but it can be dangerous to come unprepared for inclement weather. Don’t forget your rain gear!

Access Whittier via the 2.5-mile Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel, North America’s longest railroad-highway tunnel.

Travel times can be located at dot.state.ak.us/creg/whittiertunnel/schedule.shtml or on Page 42 of this visitor guide.

Whittier is also linked to the Alaska Marine Highway Service: dot.state.ak.us/amhs.





♦ *Fast Facts*

220

Population

1969

Year established

60

Highway miles southeast
of Anchorage

12.5

Square miles of land

7.2

Square miles of water

0

Size of graduating class

Economy

Tourism, commercial fishing
and fish processing

Origin

The City of Whittier was
named after John Greenleaf
Whittier, an American poet
known for his anti-slavery
writings and the 1866
publication of his long poem,
Snow-Bound.

Slogan

Gateway to Western Prince
William Sound

Fun fact

Whittier has an annual
visiting population of more
than 700,000.

Anton Anderson Memorial

◆ Tunnel Schedule

Arrive at the staging area ten minutes before the scheduled opening.

Motorcycle helmets must be worn in the tunnel and convertible vehicles must have the top in place.

Summer Tunnel Schedule:

May 1-September 30; open daily 5:30 a.m. to 11:15 p.m.

TIME	DIRECTION
5:30 - 5:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
6:00 - 6:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
6:30 - 6:45 a.m. *	Bear Valley to Whittier
7:00 - 7:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
7:30 - 7:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
8:00 - 8:15 a.m. *	Whittier to Bear Valley
8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
9:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
9:30 - 9:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
10:00 - 10:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
10:30 - 10:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
11:00 - 11:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
11:30 - 11:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
12:00 - 12:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
12:30 - 12:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
1:00 - 1:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
2:00 - 2:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
2:30 - 2:45 p.m. *	Bear Valley to Whittier
3:00 - 3:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
3:30 - 3:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
4:00 - 4:15 p.m. *	Whittier to Bear Valley
4:30 - 4:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
5:00 - 5:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
5:30 - 5:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
6:00 - 6:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
6:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
7:00 - 7:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
7:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
8:00 - 8:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
8:30 - 8:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
9:00 - 9:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
9:30 - 9:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
10:00 - 10:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
10:30 - 10:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
11:00 - 11:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley

Winter Tunnel Schedule:

October 1-April 30; open daily from 7 a.m. to 10:45 p.m.

TIME	DIRECTION
7:00 - 7:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
7:30 - 7:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
8:00 - 8:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
9:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
9:30 - 9:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
10:00 - 10:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
10:30 - 10:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
11:00 - 11:15 a.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
11:30 - 11:45 a.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
12:00 - 12:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
12:30 - 12:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
1:00 - 1:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
2:00 - 2:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
2:30 - 2:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
3:00 - 3:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
3:30 - 3:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
4:00 - 4:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
4:30 - 4:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
5:00 - 5:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
5:30 - 5:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
6:00 - 6:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
6:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
7:00 - 7:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
7:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
8:00 - 8:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
8:30 - 8:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
9:00 - 9:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
9:30 - 9:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier
10:00 - 10:15 p.m.	Whittier to Bear Valley
10:30 - 10:45 p.m.	Bear Valley to Whittier

*Oversize vehicles are allowed only on Monday through Thursday at these times.



Emily Mesner photo

◆ Getting Here

Travel to and from Whittier is by road, railroad or water. Drive your own vehicle, ride the bus (generally a comfortable motor coach), ride aboard the Alaska Railroad, or travel via one of the Alaska Marine Highway ferries. There is no airport in Whittier.

Car

Driving time: About 1.5 hours, depending upon traffic.

This is an easy trip by car and you'll have an adventure going through the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel—the longest (2.5 miles) highway tunnel in North America, and the first designed for -40-below temperatures and 150 mph winds! One-way traffic and the occasional train can mean significant waiting times; research in advance when the tunnel will be open. This is a scenic drive with pull out areas for photo and picnic stops.

Directions: From Anchorage, turn onto the Seward Highway, (Alaska 1) head south along Turnagain Arm, past Girdwood, and look for signs directing you to Whittier. Turn left onto Portage Glacier Highway and follow it to the tollbooth for the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel. Toll fees vary; an average size car or SUV without a trailer costs \$13 for a round trip ticket through the tunnel, even if you're only traveling one-way. Continue through the tunnel, following posted traffic signs and the posted speed limit. Whittier is just a five-minute drive from the tunnel's exit, at the end of the road.

Be sure to check the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel for scheduled times for vehicle passage at <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/creg/whittiertunnel/index.shtml>.

Bus

Bus journey: 2 hours, depending upon traffic.

Traveling by a bus or motor coach eliminates the headache of having to plan for the Whittier tunnel and potential delays. Buses are timed to synchronize with tunnel openings. Leaving the driving to someone else allows travelers to fully enjoy the scenery. Some of the coaches have an onboard bathroom, but check on this one when booking.

Several bus companies make the drive from Anchorage to Whittier.

For current schedules and information, contact the Greater Whittier Alaska Chamber of Commerce at whittieralaskachamber.org, or alaska.org.

Train

Train journey: Approximately 2 hours.

Like the buses, the Alaska Railroad train will sync-up with Whittier tunnel openings, and at most, you'll wait a few minutes to pass through. Still, the train is the most expensive option, and it takes the longest to get here because it travels slowly, at about 35 miles per hour, along scenic Turnagain Arm. The upside is plenty of time to take photos of beautiful scenery and surrounding wildlife, often from domed rail cars.

Departures are offered daily from Anchorage; visit alaskatrain.com/book for reservations or to check train schedules.

Ferry

Cruise duration: Varies by destination

Ferry service from Whittier to neighboring Prince William Sound communities is provided seven days a week in the summer and two to three days a week in the winter. By ferry, Whittier is five hours and forty-five minutes to Valdez, and six hours and forty-five minutes to Cordova. The cross-gulf route, serviced by the M/V Kennicott, connects Whittier to Southeast Alaska twice per month in the summer, and with access to surface highways once you arrive in Whittier, the possibilities for exploration are endless.

Visit <https://www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs/> for current sailing schedules and to make reservations for ferries serving Whittier and Prince William Sound. Whittier route travel information courtesy www.alaska.org.

CALM WATERS WILD SIGHTS PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND



GLACIERS

- Smooth cruising on stable catamarans
- See glaciers, birds, otters, sea lions, whales
- Full service bar, snacks, reserved seating
- Cruising from Whittier May – October



5 hrs

See the beauty of Esther Passage, Surprise Glacier, and Harriman Fjord.



3.75 hrs

View the impressive waterfalls and glaciers of Blackstone Bay.



U.S. Forest Service Ranger Narration



• COMPLIMENTARY •
HOT MEAL, COFFEE & TEA



INDUSTRY EXCLUSIVE
NO SEASICKNESS GUARANTEED!



CHARGING STATIONS
ON M/V KLONDIKE EXPRESS

CONNECT WITH US!
#26GLACIERS






www.26glaciers.com
907-276-8023 • 800-544-0529
100 West Camp Rd, Whittier AK



Emily Mesner photo

◆ *The History of Whittier, Alaska*

Whittier lies at the head of the Passage Canal, about 60 miles southeast of Anchorage, and is within the Valdez-Cordova Census Area. Nearly all of the 220 residents live in a single building. Whittier is also a port for the Alaska Marine Highway.

The region now occupied by Whittier was once part of the portage route of the Chugach people native to Prince William Sound. Later, the passage was used by Russian and American explorers, and by prospecting miners during the gold rush. The nearby Whittier glacier was named after American poet John Greenleaf Whittier in 1915, and the town eventually took the name as well.

During World War II, the United States Army constructed a military facility, complete with a port and a railroad near Whittier Glacier, and named the facility Camp Sullivan. The spur of the Alaska Railroad to Camp Sullivan was completed in 1943, and the port became the entrance for United States soldiers into Alaska.

The two huge buildings that dominate Whittier were built after World War II.

The 14-story Hodge Building (now Begich Towers) was completed in 1957, and contains 150, two- and three-bedroom apartments, plus bachelor efficiency units. Dependent families and Civil Service employees were moved into this efficient high rise. The new Whittier School was connected by a tunnel at the base of the west Begich Tower, so students could more easily and safely access school on bad weather days. The school serves some 38 students in all grades.

The building was named in honor of Colonel Walter William Hodge, a civil engineer and the commanding officer of 93rd Engineer Regiment on the Alcan Highway.

The other main structure in town, the Buckner Building, was completed in 1953, and was called the “city under one roof.” The Buckner Building was eventually abandoned and remains empty today. Buckner and Begich Towers were at one time the largest buildings in Alaska. The Begich Building is now a condominium, and along with the two-story private residence known as Whittier Manor, houses most of the town’s residents.

The port at Whittier was an active Army facility until 1960. In 1962, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed a petroleum products terminal, a pumping station, and a 62-mile long, 8-inch pipeline to Anchorage in Whittier.

On March 28, 1964, Whittier suffered over \$10 million worth of damage in the Good Friday earthquake. The earthquake remains the largest U.S. earthquake, measuring 9.2 on the Richter scale and caused tsunamis along the West Coast of the U.S. The tsunami that hit Whittier reached a height of 43-feet, and killed 13 people.

Whittier was incorporated in 1969. Today, it is an increasingly popular port of call for cruise ships. It is utilized by local operations and about 100-passenger, mid-sized cruise ships. When the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel opened to public access in 2000, it became the first highway to connect Whittier to Anchorage and connecting road systems. Previously, the town was only accessible by rail, boat, and floatplane. The Portage Glacier Highway, or Portage Glacier Road, is made up of a series of roads, bridges, and tunnels that connect the Portage Glacier area of the Chugach

◆ *Important Numbers*

Emergency

911

Police/Fire/EMS (Non emergent)

907-472-2340

Alaska State Troopers Regional Post (Anchorage)

907-269-5511

U.S. Coast Guard District Command

800-478-5555 VHF Channel 16

Alaska Dept. Fish & Game

(Anchorage)

Hunt/trap

907-267-2257

Sport Fishing

907-267-2218

U.S.F.S. Glacier Ranger District

(Girdwood)

907-783-3242

Whittier Health Clinic

907-472-2303

City of Whittier

907-472-2327 Ext: 0 or 907-336-1490

Whittier Museum

907-472-2354

Harbor

907-472-2330 ext. 6 VHF Channel 68

Alaska Marine Highway/

Ferry Terminal

907-472-2378

Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel

Operations & Times

907-472-2640

Alaska Railroad

907-265-2300

National Forest and the city of Whittier, to the Seward Highway. Most of the highway travels through mainly rural areas just north of the Kenai Peninsula, with the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel passing under Maynard Mountain, part of the Chugach Mountain Range. Parts of the route were first constructed in the early 1900s, and the entire highway was completed on June 7, 2000, as part of the Whittier Access Project. Since 2012, the highway has not been extended or rerouted. The main portion of the highway traveling from the western terminus to the Begich-Boggs Visitors Center is designated as National Forest Highway 35, by the U.S. Forest Service. Once the tunnel expanded access to Whittier, larger cruise lines began showing up. It is the embarkation/debarkation point of one-way cruises from Anchorage to Vancouver by Princess Tours.



◆ Explore

Whittier offers year-around activities for thrill-seekers and families, including guided wilderness trips on ATVs and quads, kayaking tours and sea kayak rentals, wildlife rehabilitation education, birdwatching, wildlife photography and helicopter flightseeing trips.

Also available for purchase are glacier tours by dogsled, do-it-yourself charters, hiking on established trails, jet-skiing, sightseeing cruises, fishing charters, and more!

Spend a few hours just wandering around town, finding good places to eat and shops to buy unique treasures or stop by the Whittier museum. Join the U.S. Forest Service at Williwaw Campground for their Camp Fire Stories led by rangers from the Begich, Boggs Visitor Center. For more information on these talks call the Center at 907-783-2326.

Located at Mile 4 of Portage Highway, stop to view spawning salmon from July through August at the Williwaw fish viewing platform. Gain more information from interpretive signs located at the platform. Join the locals in Whittier, grab a cup of coffee and listen to our story!



907-440-9510

or **907-232-2783**

FISHWHITTIER.COM

ALASKA-BOAT-RENTALS.COM

**SINGLE OR MULTI-DAY TRIPS,
UNGUIDED HUNTS, DROP-OFFS,
SIGHTSEEING & CUSTOM CHARTERS!**

**+ RENTALS: High-Quality Boats, Tackle and
Shrimp Pots, Gear, Bait and Ice also Available**

Eat

Anchor Inn

957 Whittier Street
907-472-2354
Breakfast, seafood, steaks, burgers,
sandwiches, salads, soup, full bar
Dine-in, takeout
Open year-round, 7 days a week
anchorinnwhittier.com

Café Orca & Gallery

Harbor Triangle, ocean side next to
pavilion
520-204-7464
Espresso, coffee, tea, pastries, and gifts
Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating
May thru September
facebook.com/Alaskacafeorca

China Sea Restaurant

6 & 7 Harbor Triangle
907-472-3663
Chinese, seafood, open late
Dine-in, takeout
May thru Mid-September, 7 days a week
facebook.com/chinaseawhittieralaska

Donut Depot – FOR SALE

Right next to the ferry terminal building
520-335-7722 (purchase inquiry)
Fresh donuts, breakfast burritos, brunch,
hotdogs, sandwiches, Frito pies, espresso
Takeout, outdoor seating
May thru September, pending new
ownership
facebook.com/donutdepotatwhittier

Fee's Custom Seafoods

12 Harbor Triangle
907-472-5055
Seafood processing, fresh fish market,
smoked salmon, bait, ice, snacks
Takeout
May thru September
feescustomseafoods.com

Inn at Whittier

5A Harbor Loop Road
907-472-3200/907-472-1003
Seafood, oceanfront, pizza, desserts,
full bar
Dine-in, takeout, delivery
(pizza in summer)
Open April thru October
innatwhittier.com

Lazy Otter Café

Harborview Drive - Green roof, left of east
launch ramp
800-587-6887/907-694-6887
Seafood, sandwiches, soup, baked goods,
soft serve ice cream, espresso
Dine-in, takeout, delivery, outdoor seating
May thru September, 7 days a week
lazyottercharters.com/boxed-lunches/

Swiftwater Seafood Café

8 Harbor Triangle
907-472-2550
Seafood, cheeseburgers, salads, desserts,
beer & wine
Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating
May thru Labor Day, 7 days a week
swiftwaterseafoodcafe.com

Varly's Ice Cream and Pizza Parlor

Harbor Triangle – top of east launch ramp
907-472-2547
Ice cream, shakes, pizza, quesadillas,
sandwiches
Takeout, outdoor seating
May thru Labor Day, 7 days a week
swiftwaterseafoodcafe.com

Whittier Fudge – Sound Ideas Gallery & Gifts

Lot 1 Harborview Drive
435-690-0186
Homemade fudge
Takeout, outdoor seating
May thru September
whittierfudge.com

Wild Catch Café

12 Harbor Loop Road
907-472-2252
Seafood, fish and chips, chowder, burgers,
breakfast, espresso
Dine-in, takeout, outdoor seating
Mid-April thru Mid-October, 7 days a week
facebook.com/WildCatchCafe

◆ Sleep

◆ CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARKS

Whittier Parking & Camping

101 Whittier Street
907-472-2670/907-382-0276
May thru October
Whittierparking.com

◆ HOTELS, MOTELS, INNS

Anchor Inn

957 Whittier Street
877-870-8787/907-472-2354
Open year-round, 7 days a week
anchorinnwhittier.com

Glacier View Condo Suites

100 Kenai Street
877-870-8787/907-472-2354
Open year-round, 7 days a week
glacierviewsuites.com

Inn at Whittier

5A Harbor Loop Road
907-472-3200/907-472-1003
April thru October
innatwhittier.com

◆ BED & BREAKFASTS

June's Whittier Condo Suites & Rentals

100 Kenai Street #1506
888-472-6001/907-841-5102
Open year-round, 7 days a week
juneswhittiercondosuites.com

◆ Events

July 3-4: Old-Fashioned, Family Fourth of July Celebration

Spend Fourth of July in Whittier and enjoy fireworks at midnight, the night of July 3, and the Halibut in the Harbor Parade through town and the harbor area on July 4. The event includes free games for the kids and a free community barbecue, everyone is welcome! Visit the Greater Whittier Chamber of Commerce for more information: whittieralaskachamber.org



Emily Mesner photo

©Bill Home

THE GATEWAY TO PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

WHITTIER

ALASKA

WhittierAlaskaChamber.org

July 3 | Fireworks at midnight
July 4 | Celebration FREE!

Hiking, Glaciers, Fishing, Kayaking, Museum, Shops, Dining

YOUR KAYAKING CONNECTION IN WHITTIER

alaska
sea kayakers
Prince William Sound

DAY TRIPS • CUSTOM TRIPS • INSTRUCTION • RENTALS

www.alaskaseakayakers.com

TOLL FREE: **1-877-472-2534**



Emily Mesner photo

◆ Hike

Portage Pass Trail: 4 miles, round trip

Portage Pass has been historically used by Alaska Natives, Russian fur traders, and early settlers. Currently it is used as a migratory route for birds and as a recreational opportunity by hikers like you! The hike is approximately two miles in length, one way (four miles roundtrip). The trail begins with 750 feet in elevation gain over fairly strenuous terrain and levels out at the top of the pass.

From there, the trail descends down past Divide Lake and ends at Portage Lake. Hikers will need to retrace their steps back to the trailhead. It is a great hike that rewards you with a view of Portage Glacier; in fact, it is the only established trail with a view of Portage Glacier! The gravel beach on Portage Lake would be a great place for a picnic lunch.

To access the trailhead, you must drive through the Whittier tunnel. Once you are through, follow the signs and take the first right past the bathrooms, cross over the railroad tracks on the gravel road, and the trailhead is on the right.

Information courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service. For more information, visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/chugach/home?cid=stelprdb5251250>

Byron Glacier Trail: 1.4 miles, round trip

This 1.4-mile trail offers an easy walk for all ages. It allows a close-up view of a glacier with rugged mountains in all directions; a good family outing with a variety of things to do for the whole family.

The alder/cottonwood forest is lush with ferns for a serene beginning to the hike. Byron Creek is a cascading, whitewater, glacial creek.

The many stones along its bank offer many imaginative activities for children and adults (rock skipping, fort building).

Snowfields left from the previous winter's avalanches supply many snowballs for those inclined to a friendly contest. The trail branches in many directions as it nears the snowfields below Byron Glacier. Bouldering on the rocks of the side and terminal moraines can be a challenge. Portage Lake and Valley can be seen looking north from the trail. If you are interested in a guided activity, Forest Service rangers will conduct ranger-led hikes on Byron Glacier Trail throughout most of the summer.

Please note: A significant cornice remains on the ridge for the early part of the summer, posing a risk for avalanche.

All guided hikes are dependent on staffing levels and are subject to cancellation.

For more information about the Byron Glacier Trail including special conditions call the Begich, Boggs Visitor Center at

907-783-2326 from Memorial Day weekend through Mid-September.

The weather in Portage Valley can be wet. Please bring the appropriate gear and shoes to participate in this hike.

Information courtesy of U.S. Forest Service. For more information visit, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/chugach/recarea/?recid=6606&actid=50>

Trail of Blue Ice: 10 miles, round trip

The newest trail in the valley is complete and being used by many people; and the positive feedback has been tremendous! The Trail of Blue Ice stays on the valley floor and links all the developed recreation sites in Portage Valley. Most of the 5-mile (one way) trail is a wide gravel path with boardwalks and bridges. You will experience very little elevation gain with the exception of a 700' section at the lake end, where it climbs about 30 feet via a small section of stairs. An alternate, fully accessible route follows along the shoulder of the road to avoid this grade. This trail is great for hiking or biking. You can pick up the Trail of Blue Ice at Moose Flats Day Use Area, Explorer Glacier Pullout, Five Fingers Hike-in Camping Area, Williwaw Fish Viewing Platform, or the lakefront parking lot at the Begich, Boggs Visitor Center.

Information courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service. For more information, visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/chugach/learning?cid=stelprdb5058790>

*Reserve your
ad spot early!*

Prince William Sound

Visitor Guide 2020



Free digital upgrade!

When you book by Sept. 2, 2019

Don't let the sun set on this deal.

907-424-2236

advertising@thecordovetimes.com

The Cordova Times

*Prince William Sound's Oldest Newspaper.
Established 1914. Tribally owned.*

THECORDOVATIMES.COM

COVERAGE WHERE YOU NEED IT.

**Stay connected on
all your adventures.**

- Prince William Sound
- Copper River Highway
- Copper River Delta
- Martin River Hunting Grounds
- Port Wells
- Beyond 27 Mile



**CORDOVA TELECOM
COOPERATIVE**

MORE COVERAGE IN YOUR FAVORITE PLACES. MAKE THE SWITCH.