

AN EYOS OWNER'S EXPEDITION

COASTAL ALASKA

Sixteen nights aboard M/Y Aqua Lares through the fjords, straits
and island wilderness of Southeast Alaska.

17

NIGHTS ABOARD

16

NIGHTS ABOARD

Juneau

EMBARK

THE COUNTRY YOU ARE ENTERING

WHERE ICE MEETS RAINFOREST

Southeast Alaska is a coast built entirely by ice. Glacial water runs out of the mountains through old-growth rainforest and into fjords cut between granite walls, and the whole of it opens as a gateway into the wild frontier of the continent. This is where you will spend sixteen nights aboard M/Y Aqua Lares, from Juneau out to the edge of the open Pacific and back through the largest islands in the country.

Going by private yacht is the point. A yacht can work into fjords and inlets that larger vessels cannot reach, and it can wait. When a pod of humpbacks settles into bubble-net feeding, you linger. When a tidewater glacier begins to calve, you hold position and watch it from the deck. The itinerary bends to the conditions and to what the wildlife is doing, which in September is a great deal.

September is the shoulder of the Alaskan season. The salmon are still running in the streams, and the brown bears are still on them, fishing the falls before winter. Humpbacks feed hard in the straits before their migration south. The first snow touches the high peaks while the valleys stay green, and the low light of the shortening days sits long and golden across the water for hours at a time. The crowds of high summer are gone.

The route runs from Juneau to the Inian Islands at the ocean's edge, south through Icy Strait and Chatham Strait to Admiralty, Baranof and Chichagof, the ABC Islands, and back up to the tidewater ice of Tracy Arm and the narrow inlet of Fords Terror. Along the way there is Tlingit country and the people who keep its culture, brown bears at the water's edge, orca from the bow, and glaciers that end in the sea. This is a guide to what those days hold.

THE FOUR STRETCHES OF COAST



01

Leg One

14 - 17 SEPTEMBER, DAYS 1 - 4

JUNEAU & THE INIAN ISLANDS

JUNEAU -> INIAN ISLANDS

West from the capital to the northern edge of the Inside Passage, where the open Pacific forces through a narrow strait and feeds one of the densest concentrations of marine life on the coast. Zodiacs and kayaks among sea lions, otters and seabirds, and rainforest hikes ashore.



02

Leg Two

18 - 21 SEPTEMBER, DAYS 5 - 8

ICY STRAIT & CHICHAGOF

HOONAH -> PAVLOF HARBOR

The Tlingit village of Hoonah and the whale-rich waters of Icy Strait, then the quiet anchorage of Pavlof Harbor, where a salmon stream draws brown bears to a waterfall. A short hike puts you within sight of the run, guides reading the bears while the salmon leap.



03

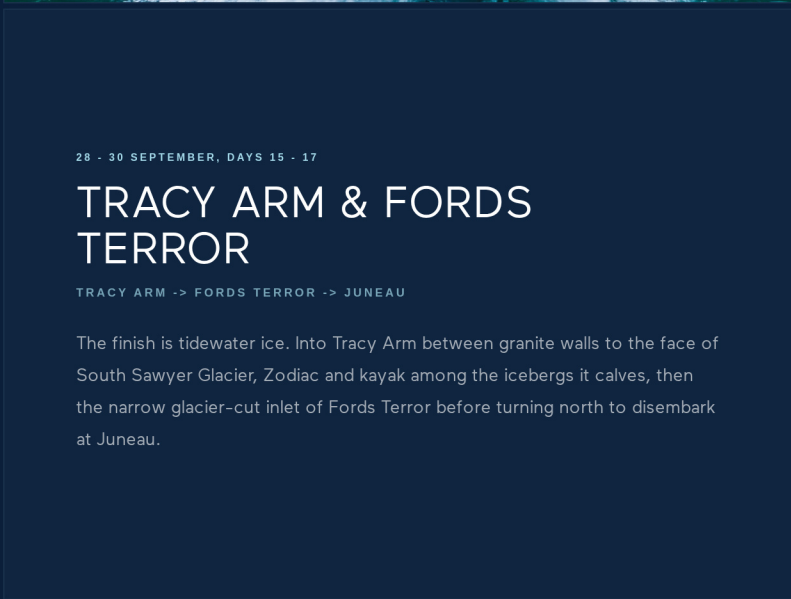
Leg Three

22 - 27 SEPTEMBER, DAYS 9 - 14

THE ABC ISLANDS

CHATHAM STRAIT -> ADMIRALTY -> BARANOF -> CHICHAGOF

Down Chatham Strait to Admiralty, Baranof and Chichagof, among the largest islands in the country and almost empty of people. Admiralty holds the highest density of brown bears on Earth. Wilderness landings, remote trails, kayaking the protected bays, natural hot springs, and whales from the bow.

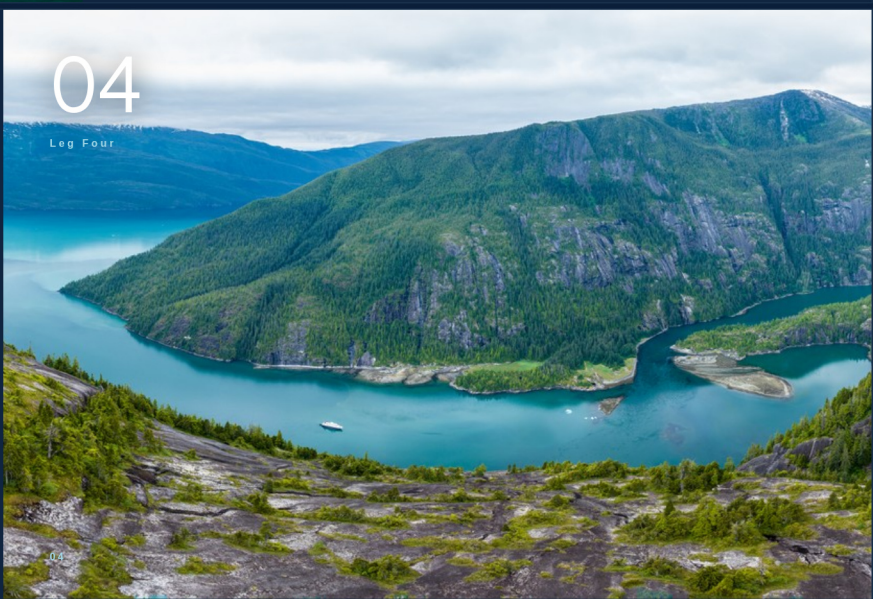


28 - 30 SEPTEMBER, DAYS 15 - 17

TRACY ARM & FORDS TERROR

TRACY ARM -> FORDS TERROR -> JUNEAU

The finish is tidewater ice. Into Tracy Arm between granite walls to the face of South Sawyer Glacier, Zodiac and kayak among the icebergs it calves, then the narrow glacier-cut inlet of Fords Terror before turning north to disembark at Juneau.



04

Leg Four

THE ROUTE

WHERE YOU WILL SAIL

West from Juneau to the Inian Islands at the ocean's edge, south through Icy Strait and Chatham Strait to the ABC Islands, and back to the tidewater ice of Tracy Arm and Fords Terror.



KNOWLEDGE ACROSS THE VOYAGE

FOUR THREADS THROUGH ALASKA

THREAD 01

ICE & FJORD

The coast is a record of ice. Tidewater glaciers, some of the largest in North America, still reach the sea at Tracy Arm and calve into it, and the fjords they cut run between granite walls thousands of feet high. Watching a face break away and hearing it echo down the fjord is the closest you will come to seeing the country being made.

THREAD 02

BEARS & WHALES

September is a feeding month. Brown bears work the salmon streams at Pavlof Harbor and along the shores of Admiralty, which holds the highest density of them anywhere on Earth. In the straits, humpbacks feed cooperatively, sometimes in the bubble-net formations unique to these waters, while orca patrol from the deep channels.

THREAD 03

BY WATER & ON FOOT

This is an active coast. Zodiacs run among the ice and the sea lion haul outs, kayaks slip into narrow inlets and protected bays, and ashore there are rainforest hikes, remote trails and bushwhacking through dense brush. The yacht is the base you return to each evening, not the way you see the place.

THREAD 04

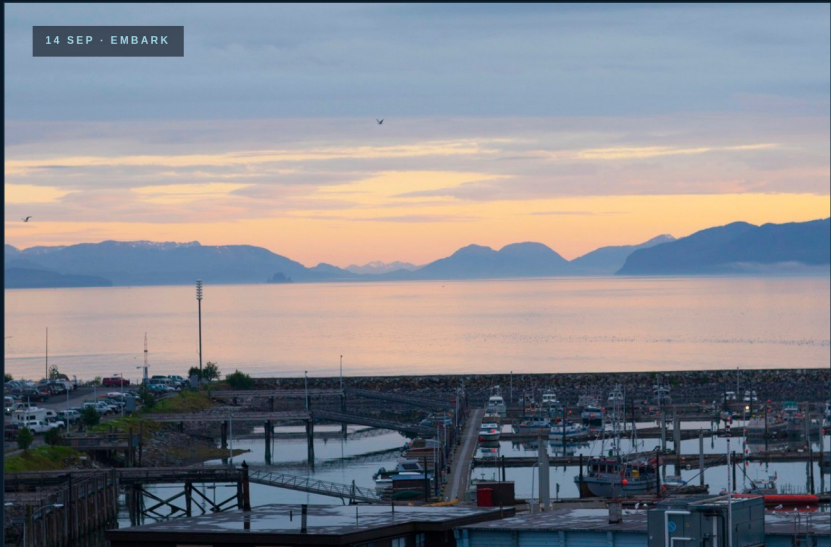
TLINGIT COUNTRY

The people of this coast are the Tlingit, and their culture is living rather than remembered. At Hoonah on Chichagof, and where opportunity allows, there is time to connect with local artisans and hear the heritage of the land from those who hold it. It is context for everything else you will see.

*"To the lover of wilderness, Alaska is one of
the most wonderful places in the world."*

JOHN MUIR

JUNEAU & THE INIAN ISLANDS



JUNEAU



INIAN ISLANDS

