

LOCATION	Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve is located 48 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska, in the southeast panhandle of the state. The nearest community is Gustavus, AK, located 9 miles away.
GETTING HERE	While there is no road access to Glacier Bay National Park (or Gustavus), you can find convenient air connections from Juneau, Skagway or Haines. During the peak summer period, Alaska Airlines Jet service operates daily from Juneau to Gustavus. There are numerous commuter flights from Juneau, Skagway and Haines that depart to Gustavus throughout the day. The Glacier Bay Ferry transports passengers from Bartlett Cove inside Glacier Bay National Park, to Auke Bay, located approximately four miles from the Juneau airport.
PHONE	888- BAY-TOUR (229-8687) / (907) 264-4600
WEBSITE	www.visitglacierbay.com
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OVERVIEW	<p>Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve is located near Gustavus, 48 miles west of Juneau, Alaska, and stretches northward from the state's Inside Passage to the Asek River, encompassing 3.3 million acres. Marine waters make up nearly one-fifth of the park, and no point of land is more than 30 miles from the coast. The patchwork of evolving ecosystems in Glacier Bay includes snow-capped mountain ranges rising to over 15,000 feet, coastal beaches with protected coves, deep fjords, tidewater glaciers, coastal and estuarine waters and freshwater lakes.</p> <p>A remote destination, much removed from the modern world, Glacier Bay provides opportunities to observe the ebb and flow of majestic glaciers – a chance to study life as it returns in the wake of retreating ice</p> <p>Glacier Bay is also a watery paradise for outdoor adventure-seekers, offering everything from whale watching, kayaking and backcountry exploring to flight-seeing tours, and fishing.</p> <p>Open year-round, the park's main visitor season runs from late-May to mid-September, when the only in-park accommodations, Glacier Bay Lodge, and the day boat cruises to the face of the tidewater glaciers are in operation. The Glacier Bay Lodge 2010 dates of operation are from May 31 – September 6.</p>
LODGING	Glacier Bay Lodge

Glacier Bay Lodge is the only commercial overnight accommodation located within Glacier Bay National Park. The 56-room lodge is nestled among Sitka spruce on the shores of Bartlett Cove, a short drive from the Gustavus airport which features connections from Juneau, Haines and Skagway.

The lobby features a fireplace, giant wood beams and cathedral ceilings, with guest rooms separate from the main lodge and accessible by boardwalks. Rooms, each of which features a private bath and/or shower, are available in single, twin and double. Two rooms are handicap-accessible. The lodge features a gift shop with sundries and snacks, along with baggage storage for campers.

PRICING

Guests can enjoy accommodations surrounded by the quiet of the rainforest, views of the water and Fairweather Range on either an a la carte or all inclusive packages. All inclusive packages for double occupancy are \$499 per person for a two night stay. There are also rates for single, triple and quadruple occupancy. Packages include room, a full day boat tour to the face of tidewater glaciers, breakfast buffet, lunch, and dinner, airport transfers, portage and all taxes and fees. Additional nights and upgrades may be purchased for an added fee.

Rates per night for rooms at Glacier Bay Lodge range from \$199 for a Forest view room to \$224 for an Ocean view room. An additional charge applies for more than two persons per room.

DINING

The only full-service restaurant within the park is the Fairweather Dining Room. Dining is also available on the outside deck at the Glacier Bay Lodge. Both the deck and dining room offer spectacular ocean and mountain views and a selection of fresh, creatively prepared meals with an emphasis on local seafood favorites such as Dungeness crab, salmon and halibut.

Box lunches are also available upon request.

TOURS

Glacier Bay Day Cruise

The Park's only day boat cruise takes passengers to see magnificent tidewater glaciers, towering snow capped mountains and search for whales, Stellar sea lions, rare birds, coastal bears, seals, eagles and more. Passengers on this full day cruise are taken to the face of the Margerie and Grand Pacific Glaciers, two of the many tidewater glaciers found in the National Park. A National Park Service Ranger provides information and answers questions throughout the cruise. Lunch, beverage and a souvenir mug are included in the price of each tour.

Guests get an intimate view of marine and coastal wildlife along side massive glaciers and towering mountains on the 79-foot high-speed catamaran "Fairweather Express II (FXII)." The boat disembarks everyday from the dock at Glacier Bay Lodge on Bartlett Cove. Passengers board at 7 a.m., depart at 7:30 a.m. and return around 3:30 p.m. daily.

Prices for the daily cruise, which includes lunch and beverages such as coffee, tea, water and lemonade, are \$185 per person and \$92.50 per child (ages 3 -12 years).

Camper and kayak drop-off service is also available for \$105 per adult one-way and \$52.50 per child one-way (ages 3 -12 years old). Tax and utility pass-through fees are extra.

Whale Watching Dinner Tour

The 72-foot high-speed catamaran “Fairweather Express II (FXII)” hosts the new Whale Watch and Dinner Tour on Monday, Thursday and Saturday evenings to Pt. Adolphus, a nutrient-rich feeding ground for several types of whales, including humpbacks which summer in Alaska to feed before migrating back to Hawaii for the winter. The new three-hour tour departs at 5:30 p.m. and includes a full meal choice of salmon or chicken along with accompaniments. Passengers also have access to unlimited soft drinks, coffee and tea; beer and wine are available for purchase. Tour rate is \$129 (\$99 without dinner) for adults, \$64.50 (\$49.50 without dinner) for children (three- to 12-years old) plus tax.

FERRY SERVICE Glacier Bay Lodge and Tours offers a passenger ferry service between Glacier Bay and Juneau utilizing “FXII.” The catamaran has a 149-passenger capacity for service from Bartlett Cove (Glacier Bay) to Auke Bay (Juneau). It departs at 4:00 p.m. on Fridays and Sundays and turns around in Auke Bay for the return trip at 7:30 p.m., arriving back at Bartlett Cove at 10:30 p.m. Pricing is \$75 per adult one-way and \$37.50 per child one-way (ages 2- to 12-years old) plus tax. (Pricing is doubled for round trip).

Unlike previous ferry services, “FXII” passengers are allowed to bring as much freight on board as they would like, providing that they can carry it themselves (and excluding large freight).

PARK ACTIVITIES

GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTER

The NPS Information Desk and a variety of exhibits that explore the wonders of Glacier Bay are located on the second floor of the Glacier Bay Lodge. A park ranger is available at the Information Desk daily from 12 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. During that time, books and educational materials from the Alaska Natural History Association are available for purchase.

VISITOR INFORMATION STATION (VIS)

Campers and boaters must go to the Visitor Information Station, located at the Bartlett Cove dock, to obtain camping and boating permits from park rangers. Orientations, provided with the permit, are required annually for all campers and skippers. Backcountry campers can also check out bear-resistant food containers to use free of charge during their visit.

CAMPING

A free walk-in campground (14-day limit) with bear-resistant food caches, firewood (when available) and a warming hut is located in Bartlett Cove. No reservations are needed, but a permit is required. Required permits for backcountry campers and overnight kayakers can also be obtained from the Visitor Information Station.

A Glacier Bay Lodge and Tours boat offers drop-off and pick-up services for backcountry campers and kayakers at various designated locations in the bay. It is possible to get dropped off at one site and paddle to another for pickup at a later date. Contact Glacier Bay Lodge for reservations at (888) BAY-TOUR or 888-229-8687. Camper/kayak drop-off is \$210 per person round-trip, \$105 one-way.

ACTIVITIES

Hiking

There are four hiking trails in Bartlett Cove near Glacier Bay Lodge, all fairly easy to moderate walking. There are no other established trails in the park, and most backcountry travel is by kayak. Visitors should be aware that they are hiking in bear and moose country. Park rangers can offer safety information pertaining to bears and moose at the Visitor Center and Visitor Information Station upon request.

Forest Loop Trail - A one-mile long loop trail begins at the Glacier Bay Lodge and ends near the dock. This easy trail winds through a pond-studded spruce/hemlock forest for one half mile (handicap accessible), then descends to the beach. In May and June, when the spring bird migration is at a peak, the trail is full of bird song. June and July are the best times for wildflowers.

Bartlett River Trail - Allow a half day for this five mile round trip (from the Glacier Bay Lodge). The trail is not difficult, but has numerous muddy spots during rainy periods (rubber boots recommended). It meanders along an intertidal lagoon, through the forest, then emerges and ends at the Bartlett River estuary where ducks, geese and other water birds concentrate during migrations and molting in intertidal areas. This trail is minimally maintained near its beginning, and not maintained beyond the first ½ mile.

Bartlett Lake Trail - This trail branches off from the Bartlett River Trail about one quarter mile from the Gustavus Road. About three miles in length (six round-trip), it winds through a temperate rainforest and leads to Bartlett Lake. This trail is not maintained.

Off-trail hikes - An extended hike from the Bartlett Cove dock along the shore to Point Gustavus (six miles, one way) can be completed in a day. The intertidal strip is a natural trail, for wildlife and people. Watch for song birds on the forest's edge and water birds off-shore. Flowers are profuse in mid-summer on the beach meadows.

Backcountry hiking is done along glacial riverbeds or intertidal beaches. Hiking into the alpine is also an option, but be prepared to tangle with steep slopes, massive tree falls and sometimes impenetrable alder. Sitka alder is a successional plant that grows in a mass along beach edges, avalanche chutes and up mountain slopes.

Flight-Seeing Tour

The flight-seeing tour allows visitors scenic views of the glaciers from an aerial perspective.

River Rafting

Most river rafting trips begin on the Tatshenshini at Shawshe (Dalton Post), the last road accessible off the Haines Highway in Yukon Territory, Canada. The Alsek River and its major tributary, the Tatshenshini River, are large-volume, swift glacial rivers, offering boaters uncommon environmental diversity, impressive scenery and an outstanding wilderness experience.

From the Tatshenshini it is 140 river miles to the normal take-out at Dry Bay, Alaska. A six-mile long canyon immediately below Shawshe offers continuous Class III whitewater, Class IV at high water (International Scale, Class I-VI). The remainder of the river is generally Class II with large eddies and folds at normal volumes. The Alsek River above its confluence with the Tatshenshini is Class III above Turnback Canyon. Turnback Canyon must be portaged by rafters during the summer months. Tatshenshini trips are normally ten days on the water, plus additional lay-over days.

River rafting trips can be arranged at the front desk of Glacier Bay Lodge.

Mountaineering

The coastal mountains of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, topped by the 15,300 foot Mt. Fairweather, are among the least-visited mountains of their elevation in North America. Mountaineering is made especially challenging by a stormy weather pattern that includes precipitation in excess of 100 inches of a year. Unpredictable storms frequently cause delays when transporting to a base camp, often causing delays for multiple days or abandoned attempts. Many climbs take as long as one month to accomplish.

Many mountains in the range are unnamed, and only limited information is available on most routes. Most climbing in the park is accessible via charter boat or float plane out of Juneau, Gustavus, or Yakutat. Fixed-wing aircraft landings are allowed in the park, but helicopter landings and airdrops are prohibited.

Kayaking

Choose from a guided kayaking excursion, or simply rent a kayak for individual exploration for an up-close encounter of Alaska's wildlife. Trips can be arranged the front desk of Glacier Bay Lodge.

Guided Kayaking Excursions - A great way to experience the Bay on a much more intimate scale. Learn kayaking basics from an experienced guide, then set out in a stable, two-person boat with your guide and small group to paddle the waters of Bartlett Cove and the Beardslee Islands. Excursions depart daily and last six hours.

Independent Kayak Rental - Experience the area's serenity and beauty as adventure seekers explore secluded inlets surrounded by dramatic coastal mountains. Rental includes basic instruction, safety presentation and hard-shell

double sea kayaks, paddles, spray skirts, floatation bags and life vests. Hourly or full-day rentals available.

Fishing

Fishing equipment is available for full- and half-day rentals. Drop a line from the boat dock, or hike to nearby Bartlett River. Arrangements can be made at the front desk of the Glacier Bay Lodge.

NPS PROGRAMS

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve offers an array of special programs for its visitors and caters to a wide range of travelers.

Ranger's Choice Hike

From June 1 – August 31, park rangers will meet guests in the lobby of the Glacier Bay Lodge at 9:00 a.m. Each morning, a ranger leads a 3 ½ hour hike to a destination of his or her choice. Be sure to come prepared with sturdy boots, water and raingear, if necessary.

Forest Loop Trail Guided Walk

Park Rangers conduct daily 1 ½ hour guided walks at 2:00 p.m. along the Forest Loop Trail. This walk departs from the lobby of the Glacier Bay Lodge.

Visitor Center Films

The National Park Service also shows several films daily in the Visitor Center auditorium located on the second floor of the Glacier Bay Lodge.

- “Treasures of the Great Land: Alaska's National Parks” – 1:15 p.m.
Discover the richness and diversity preserved in Alaska's 16 national parks.
- “Glacier Bay: Forever Wild” – 5:00 p.m.
Learn about Glacier Bay's cultural and natural history.
- “Glacier Bay: Beneath the Reflections” – 7:00 p.m.
This award-winning film takes viewers into the underwater world of Glacier Bay to meet some of the creatures that call this park home.

Park Ranger Programs

At 8:00 p.m. every night, park rangers present a program in the auditorium that explores a different aspect of Glacier Bay. Programs last 30 to 40 minutes and topics change daily. Topics are posted at Visitor Center Information Desk and the bulletin board on the lodge front porch.

PARK/RESORT SERVICES

Glacier Bay Lodge and Tours offers services to meet almost any basic need. A gift shop with postage and shipping service is located in the Lodge and is open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Pay phones are located just outside the main entrance of the lodge, and there are private phones in each guest room that require a phone card to operate.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Green Thread[®]

At ARAMARK, we have a deep respect for and commitment to protecting and improving the environment. We work to reduce our environmental footprint while delivering exceptional operational results. We also offer expertise and practical solutions to our clients to help them reduce their environmental impacts. Throughout our company, we develop and implement long-term environmental stewardship programs and policies within the areas of Food Purchasing; Supply Chain; Building Operations; Energy and Water Conservation; Transportation and Waste Management.

With approximately 300,000 visitors touring Glacier Bay Park and Preserve each year, efforts to maintain the precious landscape are crucial. Consequently, ARAMARK and the National Park Service have made environmental education and awareness a priority.

Some areas of Glacier Bay are closed or restricted because of bears, nesting bird colonies, feeding humpback whales, or other wildlife activity. The Visitor Information Station, located at the head of the Bartlett Cove Dock, has the most up-to-date information on safety, restricted areas, and where to go. Sport fishing requires an Alaska state fishing license, available during the summer months at Glacier Bay Lodge.

MANAGEMENT

Visitor services in Glacier Bay Park and Preserve are provided by ARAMARK/Huna Totem joint venture, d.b.a. Glacier Bay Lodge and Tours, an authorized concessioner for Glacier Bay National Park. Glacier Bay Lodge and Tours has provided overnight accommodations, food services, gift shops and tours at Glacier Bay since 2004.

Glacier Bay Lodge is operated by ARAMARK Parks and Destinations, a division of ARAMARK Sports and Entertainment. ARAMARK Parks and Destinations provides a wide range of professional services, including property management, hospitality services and recreational support to specialty hotels, resorts, national and state parks, national forest service and other tourist destinations throughout the United States. ARAMARK Parks and Destinations seeks to create memorable experiences at destinations by bringing the best in environmental stewardship, sustainable cuisine and interpretive programs to the guests it serves. For more information on ARAMARK Parks and Destinations and each of its properties, visit www.aramarkparksanddestinations.com.

INFORMATION:

More information about Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve can be located at www.visitglacierbay.com and at www.nps.gov/glba.

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