



# WILDS OF ALASKA & WESTERN CANADA, (ZAL)

Anchorage to Banff 24 Days, departing 4th August 2021



## TRIP OVERVIEW

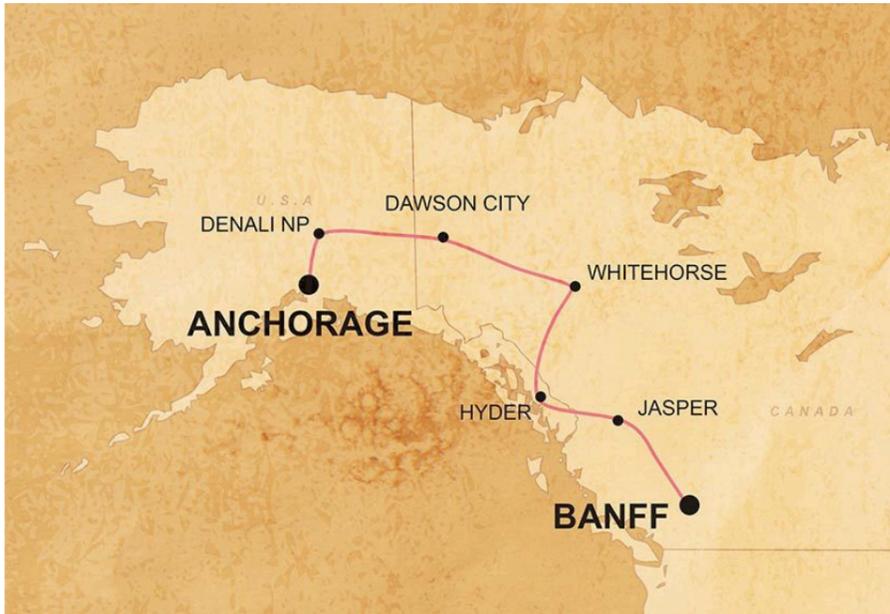
**Trip Style:** Overlanding  
**Route:** Anchorage to Banff  
**Duration:** 24 Days  
**Transport:** US Style School Bus, Boat  
**Accommodation:** Basic Hotel 1 night  
 Camping 16 nights  
 Wild Camp 2 nights  
 Multishare Hostel 3 nights  
**Meals:** Breakfasts x 18, Lunches x 18, Dinners x 18

**Physical Challenge:** ● ● ● ○ ○

Depending on the trip, activities may include treks of 3-4 hours at altitude or across hilly terrain, multi-day treks at sea level, horseback riding, canoeing and other adventurous activities. A moderate level of fitness is required.

**Lifestyle Challenge:** ● ● ● ● ○

This is a fairly challenging trip; you may well be travelling at high altitudes, across deserts or through cold and windy or hot and steamy areas. The terrain and roads may be rough and the facilities can be very basic or non-existent. There may be some long drive days followed by wild camps, and physically and mentally it can be tough, but there will be some rest days and time to relax as well.



# DAILY ITINERARY

## Day 1 - Anchorage (4th August 2021)

**Border information:** If you are joining in Anchorage, you will most likely enter the USA at Anchorage Ted Stevens International Airport (IATA code: ANC).

There will be an important group meeting at 18:00 at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting.

The rest of the day is free to explore Anchorage and its stunning surroundings. Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Anchorage before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Anchorage.

Accommodation: Bent Prop Inn

## Day 2 - Seward (5th August 2021)

**Meals:** Lunch, Dinner

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Today our journey begins with a short drive to the town of Seward.

On the following day you will have free time to explore Seward and take part in optional activities such as a boat trip to the nearby Kenai Fjords National Park.

## Day 3 - Seward (6th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will have free time to explore Seward and take part in optional activities such as a boat trip to the nearby Kenai Fjords National Park.

## Day 4 - Denali NP (7th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will drive to Denali National Park, the home of Denali, the highest mountain in North America.

On the following day we will have an included trip into Denali National Park. We will take a shuttle bus through the park to the Eielson Visitor Centre, where we will be able to explore and enjoy some excellent hiking and wildlife viewing opportunities.

On the following day we will have a free day to further explore the National Park or take part in some of the many optional activities available here.

## Day 5 - Denali NP (8th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will have an included trip into Denali National Park. We will take a shuttle bus through the park to the Eielson Visitor Centre, where we will be able to explore and enjoy some excellent hiking and wildlife viewing opportunities.

## Day 6 - Denali NP (9th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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We will have a free day today to further explore the National Park or take part in some of the many optional activities available here.

## Day 7 - Denali Highway (10th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we have a short and scenic drive to our lodge along the Denali Highway, located in an area popular with wildlife spotters and fishermen.

On the following day we will head out along the river to an area deep in the Alaskan wilderness, where we will be able to head out on a trek to a nearby glacier, explore the surrounding wilderness, and then wild camp for the night.

## Day 8 - Denali Highway (11th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will head out along the river to an area deep in the Alaskan wilderness, where we will be able to head out on a trek to a nearby glacier, explore the surrounding wilderness, and then wild camp for the night.

## Day 9 - McCarthy (12th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will head back downstream from our wilderness camp to rejoin our bus. We will then drive to the historic remote outpost of McCarthy, once a thriving copper mining town and the gateway town to the stunning Wrangell-St Elias National Park.

On the following day we will have free time to explore Wrangell-St Elias National Park and the historic towns of McCarthy and Kennicott. We will have the chance to take part in an abundance of optional activities such as hiking, historic mine tours, scenic flights, glacier walks and ice climbing.

## Day 10 - McCarthy (13th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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We will have some free time today to explore Wrangell-St Elias National Park and the historic towns of McCarthy and Kennicott. We will have the chance to take part in an abundance of optional activities such as hiking, historic mine tours, scenic flights, glacier walks and ice climbing.

## Day 11 - Tok (14th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will have a scenic drive day towards the Canadian border, arriving at the small town of Tok.

## Day 12 - Dawson City (15th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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**Border information:** Exit the USA at Pokar Creek, enter Canada at Little Gold Creek.

Today we will travel along the spectacular 'Top of the World Highway' to cross into Canada at North America's northernmost border. We will drive into the famous Klondike area of Canada's Yukon province and the city of Dawson, once a hive of activity for gold prospectors.

On the following day we will have free time to explore the area and take part in optional activities such as taking a tour of the old gold mines, trekking up the nearby Midnight Dome, or taking in a can-can show at the Diamond Tooth Gertie's Gambling Hall!

## Day 13 - Dawson City (16th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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We will have some free time today to explore the area and take part in optional activities such as taking a tour of the old gold mines, trekking up the nearby Midnight Dome, or taking in a can-can show at the Diamond Tooth Gertie's Gambling Hall!

## Day 14 - Whitehorse (17th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we will drive to Whitehorse, the capital of the Yukon territory. En route we will stop for a tour of one of the incredible original mobile mining rigs near Dawson, Dredge No. 4.

## Day 15 - Whitehorse (18th August 2021)

Today we will drive into the province of British Columbia. We will have an included visit to the fascinating Sign Post Forest, and in the evening we have the chance to go on an optional visit to see the show at the fantastic Northern Lights Centre.

## Day 16 - Watson Lake (19th August 2021)

**Meals:** Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will drive south through the beautiful countryside of British Columbia.

### Day 17 - Stewart (20th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will have an included day trip over the border to Alaska and the 'ghost town' of Hyder. Here we will visit the Fish Creek Observation Site where we will hopefully spot Alaskan brown grizzlies or black bears fishing for salmon. We will also visit the huge Salmon Glacier before returning to Stewart for the night.

### Day 18- Stewart (21st August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will drive south through the beautiful countryside of British Columbia to the town of Stewart.

On the following day we will have an included day trip over the border to Alaska and the 'ghost town' of Hyder. Here we will visit the Fish Creek Observation Site where we will hopefully spot Alaskan brown grizzlies or black bears fishing for salmon. We will also visit the huge Salmon Glacier before returning to Stewart for the night.

### Day 19 - Francois Lake (22nd August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will drive to the town of Hazelton and have an included tour of the historical Ksan Indian Village to learn all about the life and history of the Gitksan people. After our visit we will continue our drive towards the Rocky Mountains and stay at the area of Burns Lake.

### Day 20 - Jasper (23rd August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will continue our drive into the Canadian Rockies and to the town of Jasper.

On the following day we will have a free day to explore the stunning Jasper National Park or take part in optional activities such as hiking, rafting, biking, or taking the Skytram up the near Whistlers' Mountain.

### Day 21 - Jasper (24th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Today we will have a free day to explore the stunning Jasper National Park or take part in optional activities such as hiking, rafting, biking, or taking the Skytram up the near Whistlers' Mountain.

### Day 22 - Banff (25th August 2021)

**Meals:** Breakfast

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Today we have a scenic drive along the Icefields Parkway to the town of Banff, travelling through both Jasper and Banff National Parks. En route we will have an included visit to the Athabasca Falls and Lake Louise.

### Day 23 - Banff (26th August 2021)

Enjoy a range of activities in Banff

### Day 24 - Banff - End Date (27th August 2021)

**Border information:** If you are leaving in Banff, you will most likely exit Canada at Calgary International Airport (IATA code: YYC).

Today is the end day for passengers finishing their trip in Banff. Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact your sales agent if you are interested in booking extra nights of accommodation in order to fully explore and take part in some of the optional activities listed below.

Accommodation:

## ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

### Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

### Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

### Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

## EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

**Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564**

## A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

## ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on [customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk](mailto:customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk).

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

# IMPORTANT NOTES

## OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overlanding trip works, please see the Essential Information document.

## SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

## MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.

## VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

## USA NOTES

## CANADA NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 28th July 2021**