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Alaska

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Abstract

Suggested readings for this Penn Alumni Travel excursion. See the Library Guide for this bibliography [here](#).

Keywords

alaska, bibliography, penn, alumni, travel, readings, guidebooks

Comments

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Alumni Travel Reading List

Alaska

July 5th – July 12th, 2014

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“The inexorable forces of nature are on full display in Alaska — mountains eroded by the crushing force of massive glaciers, icebergs crowding cold, aquamarine seas, the cycles of plants and animals, compressed into the scant weeks of an arctic summer. Spend eight days navigating in luxury the waterways of the Inside passage aboard 66-passenger Admiralty Dream and witness wildlife up close from its kayaks and skiffs. Learn about Alaska's culture at a traditional Tlingit dance performance, an industry exploring the Alaska State Museum, and visiting a salmon hatchery. With skilled naturalists by your side, encounter its abundant wildlife, magnificent peaks and fjords, and ice-blue glaciers of unfathomable proportions — while learning about the traditions of Alaska's ancient cultures.” (From the Penn Alumni Travel website)

Suggested Readings

Alaska lives up to its official nickname: “The Last Frontier.” Indeed, Alaska was the 49th state to join the union in 1959. Alaska is both the largest state by land area and the least densely populated. Although having an economy dominated by the oil & gas industry, Alaska’s unique and rugged landscape attracts millions of visitors every year. Here is a taste of Alaska.

Photography and Art

Flair, Susan W. *Alaska Native Art: Tradition, Innovation, Continuity*. University of Alaska Press, 2006.

“Ranging from the islands of the Bering Sea to Alaska's interior forests, this work celebrates the rich art of Alaska's Native peoples, both setting their work in the context of historical traditions and demonstrating the vibrant role it continues to play in contemporary Alaskan culture.” (From the Publisher)

Jonaitis, Aldona, Susan McInnis, and Alvin Amason. *Looking North: Art from the University of Alaska Museum*. University of Washington Press, 1998.

“*Looking North* presents 138 of the Museum's most treasured works from the archaeology, ethnology, and fine arts collections. Among them are ancient artifacts as well as 19th- and 20th-century artworks by Athabaskan, Aleut, Yupik, Inupiat, Haida, Tlingit, and other Alaska Natives.” (From the Publisher)

Geography

Huber, Thomas P, and Carole J Huber. *The Alaska Highway: a Geographical Discovery*. University Press of Colorado, 2000.

“The authors, both geographers, discuss the region’s history and include special in-depth sections on topics ranging from the aurora borealis to the midnight sun; the boreal forest to the First Nations peoples; and the grizzly bear to the king salmon.” (From the Publisher)

Travel Guides

Sherwonit, Bill, Andromeda Romano-Lax, and Ellen Bielawski. *Alaska: True Stories*. Publishers Group West, 2003.

Travelers' Tales Alaska takes you into the "Last Frontier" for adventures with wildlife and local culture. These first person narratives provide an inside view to the landscape, ecology and native culture of Alaska.

DeLorme. *Alaska Atlas and Gazetteer*. 2000.

This atlas -gazetteer includes a detailed topographic map and serves those wishing to use it for outdoor recreation, commercial purposes, emergency/rescue, and everyday travel. It also includes a physical relief fold out map with city maps of Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks.

Film

Over Alaska. PBS. 2009.

Fly over Alaska as if you are on a tour of the 49th state. This video takes the viewer over Mt. McKinley and through the glacial crevasses. The camera follows the Iditarod and kayakers as they navigate past icebergs and brings you close to bears, whales and wildlife. *Over Alaska* portrays Alaska's human and environmental history and culture.

Online and Mobile Travel Resources

TravelAlaska.com: The Official State of Alaska Vacation and Travel Information Website
This is an official website created by the State of Alaska for visitors to the state. The Website features an interactive map where visitors can learn about the various regions of the state. The state has also created a mobile app that visitors can use to access a wide range of information resources and maps about the state.

TravelAlaska Mobile App
This is the mobile application developed by the State of Alaska for visitors to create travel itineraries, access road & highway information, maps, and other government information. The app is available through the Apple App Store and Google Play for Android users.

Alaska.org
This website was created by actual Alaska residents with the goal of helping visitors plan their trip to the state. The guides on the website are created and maintained by local park rangers, wildlife biologists, bush pilots, naturalists, photographers, and travel professionals. The website is coordinated by the Alaska Channel.

Lonely Planet Alaska Website
Lonely planet is a widely recognized source for travel guides. The website includes lists of best places to visit, activities to do, and specific recommendations based on the region or city you are visiting in Alaska. Lonely Planet also publishes books on travel to the state.