

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## ALASKA

### PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION FOR NON-U.S. CITIZENS

A passport is required to travel by air between Canada and the United States. Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps.

Holders of Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into the United States for stays of up to 180 days.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

### REAL ID REGULATIONS FOR U.S. CITIZENS

Effective May 7, 2025, U.S. citizens must present a REAL ID compliant driver's license, or other accepted form of identification (including a valid passport), to board domestic flights within the United States. Children under the age of 18 are not required to provide identification when traveling with a companion within the United States.

### COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

The United States currently has no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry for Canadian residents. Visit the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for up-to-date information.

### LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

If your journey includes travel in Alaska's high elevation regions, you may experience altitude sickness. Please consult your healthcare provider for suggestions on prevention and treatment.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

During your journey you will be exposed to the elements. Make certain to review the **Packing List** suggestions for your season of travel and check the weather before your trip.

In the summer months, National Parks and their surrounding areas are often home to a few pesky plants and insects. Poison oak is one such plant to keep on the lookout for. Your guides will help you identify it if you are not sure what to look for. If you come in contact with poison oak, it is very important to wash with soap and water as quickly as possible. Keep in mind that the irritating oils from the plant are easily transferred from you, your clothing or equipment to other persons or equipment, so even if you are not sensitive it is important to consider others.

The mosquito population in summer is quite high. Mosquitoes are large and aggressive. Be certain to pack insect repellent with a high percentage of DEET as well as some After Bite. Those more sensitive to mosquitoes may also consider bringing head netting. Ticks are also present in the spring and early summer - check yourself after hiking through grass or brush.

Indigenous wildlife – such as bears – are also commonplace in some areas. Your guides will take you through a few extra precautions with regard to local wildlife encounters.

### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Cash transactions must be made in U.S. currency. Major credit cards are widely accepted for goods and services. Access to ATMs is widespread in larger cities such as Fairbanks and Anchorage but may be limited in smaller towns and rural areas.

## PACKING LIST & BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

*Baggage weight and size restrictions may apply on some Tailor Made programs inclusive of internal air flights. Contact your A&K Tailor Made Travel Consultant to determine any applicable weight restrictions for your journey.*

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

### Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather requires. Please note: dark colors tend to attract insects such as mosquitoes. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Waterproof, well broken-in hiking boots
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Lightweight raincoat
- Two-piece rain suit with hood
- Fleece jacket or vest
- Warm hat and gloves
- Sweater or lightweight jacket
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Sleepwear (light and warm)
- Personal garments
- Socks
- Swimwear/cover-up

### Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer
- Sun block and lip balm
- Simple first-aid kit
- Sunglasses
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Mosquito repellent
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Foldable walking stick
- Lightweight binoculars
- Small daypack or fanny pack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey.

	<b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions</b>	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$50 per person, per day (full day)
Flightseeing Pilots	Included	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Yacht Cruise Staff, Staff at Remote Lodges or Specialty Inns (if applicable)	Included	\$50 per person, per day.* Gratuities are accepted on site and shared among the staff. *For private charter vessels please refer to "Life on Board" document.
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.