

Wild Southeast Alaska - A Photo Expedition

Alaska Fjords, Glaciers, and Much More with Barbara Eddy

barbaraeddyphotography.com

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July 4 - July 11, 2025 8 days/7 nights - Limited to 5 Participants

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Wild Southeast Alaska Photo Expedition from Petersburg to Juneau, Alaska

Did you ever want to visit Southeast Alaska and cruise the Inside Passage on a small vessel instead of a large cruise ship? Then this is the trip for you, one that is designed for photographers and wildlife enthusiasts. We will have the privilege to voyage on a small sailboat. I can't think of a better way to experience this adventure.

The journey from Petersburg to Juneau features the spectacular scenery, Native people, and wildlife of Southeast Alaska. The approximately 150 miles (as the raven flies) of watery wilderness is punctuated by coastal shorelines, home to foraging black and brown (grizzly) bears, mountain goats, and Sitka deer. Here, the glaciers reach the tops of mountains, all skirted by the temperate rainforest of the Tongass National Forest. Humpback whales, orcas, harbor seals, Steller sea lions, countless seabirds, and fish species call this place home. As your photo leader with the experienced guidance of our captain and naturalist, we will endeavor to put you in the places of maximum interest and photographic opportunities.

Special Features of this Cruise. One focus of this itinerary is visiting the best whale waters in Southeast Alaska. Humpbacks can be incredibly active: breaching, fluking, and bubble-net feeding. Even resting, they are incredibly energizing to be around – especially when they are in large numbers. In this area during the summer, there are an estimated 300 individual humpbacks in residence, all actively feeding. (Over 800 whales have been identified here over a five-year period.) Many are bubble-net feeding: blowing a helix of bubbles underwater that rises to the surface as a wall, surrounding and entrapping their prey. At the surface, it appears as a continuing ring of bubbles. It is as if the humpbacks were indicating exactly where they are going to appear next—right in the center of the circle—mouths agape as they

consume hundreds of pounds of prey fish trapped in the bubble net. This is truly an incredible natural spectacle. It is exciting just to be around the humpbacks, hour after hour, as they alternately feed and rest. They are not the only whale species found here.

In the following segment, I will detail all the wildlife likely to be encountered.



I hope you can join us on this expedition.

You can see many of my images on both my website barbaraeddyphotography.com

and in posts on my informational Facebook page.

To view, please go to <https://www.facebook.com/BarbaraEddyNaturePhotographyWorkshops/>

Our journey begins in Petersburg, this quaint port city looks like a Norwegian fishing town of about 3000 people. It seems as if everyone in town either works on a fishing boat or works at one of the three local canneries. Most sights are within a ten minute walk of downtown and the docks.

Our trip ends in Juneau, the smallest of all the state capitals but the capital of the largest state. It is the only capital that cannot be reached by road. Because of its beautiful location, there are numerous things to do and see here, including photography that compliments our voyage because we otherwise spend little or no time in towns.

Fitness and Health - Physical Level - EASY

Special Considerations - Although the Inside Passage is sheltered water we can sometimes encounter choppy conditions.

Packing List - Recommended camera equipment and clothing list will be sent upon receipt of the deposit.

Where: Petersburg to Juneau, Alaska

Arrival Point: Petersburg Airport

Ending: July 11

When: July 4 - 11, 2025 - arriving on July 3rd

Maximum Number of Photographers: 5

Days of tour: 8 days/7 nights

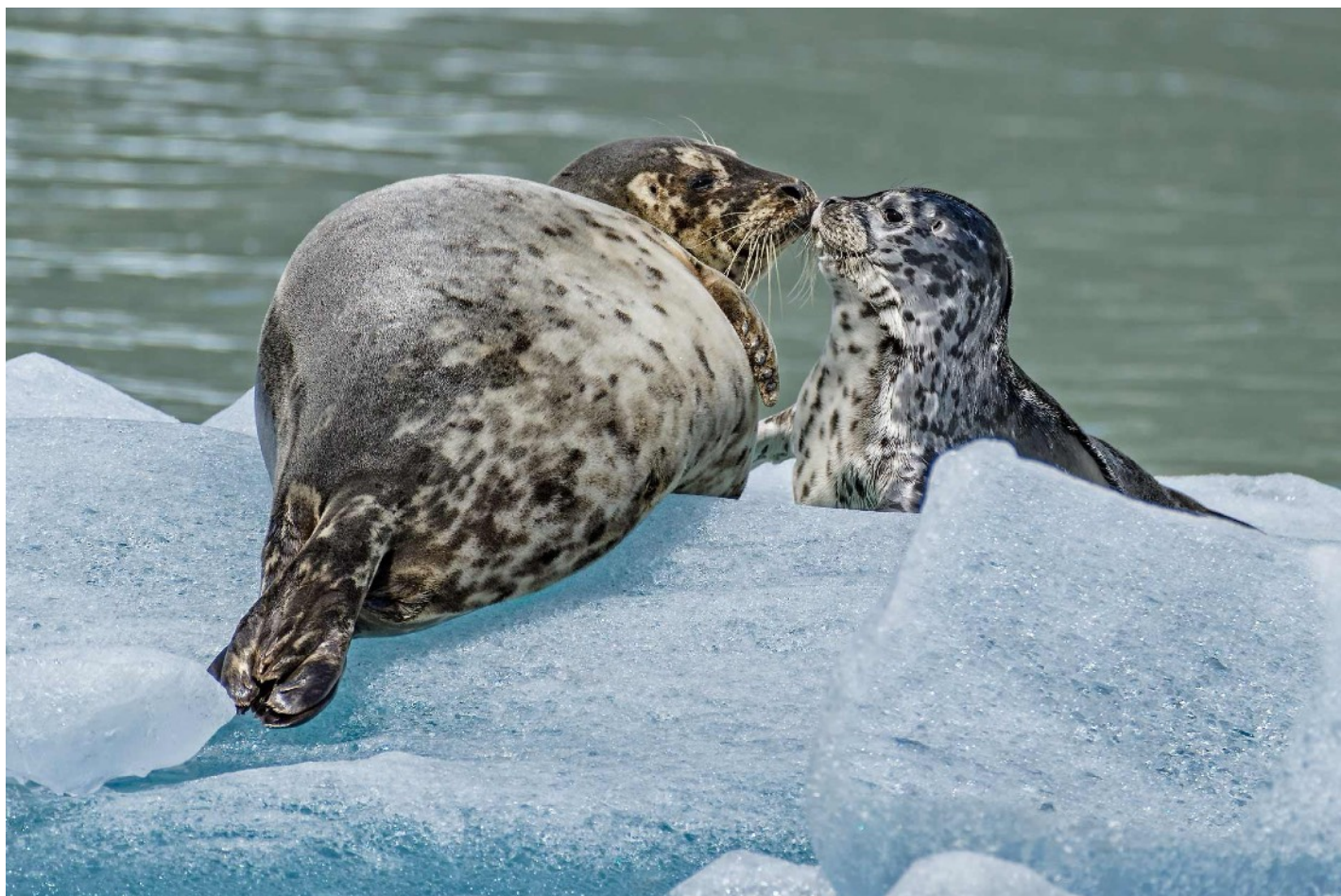
Departure Point: Juneau, Alaska

Days including travel days: 9 days / 8 nights

Price: \$5850 double occupancy

Starting: July 4 - Boarding ship at 9 a.m.

Optional Extensions - Details to come





The scenery and wildlife likely to be encountered...

Orcas regularly visit Frederick Sound and Stephens Passage. It is a part of the territory of the resident “J-pod of the North.” They are as playful, shore-loving, friendly, curious, and as easy to be with as the J-pod of Puget Sound. These waterways are also used frequently by transient orcas, seen on previous trips going after various mammals—often close to the boat!

Dall’s porpoise and harbor porpoise are also resident. The former like to bow-ride and rooster tail—zip through the water so fast that they create a spray of water like a rooster tail! Sea lions and harbor seals are resident too, and both have rookeries on several islands. Steller sea lions also haul out by the hundreds. These huge marine mammals are larger than grizzlies. They growl, rather than bark. We often anchor one night beside one of their rookeries where you can listen to them throughout the night.

A continuous highlight of the cruise is the grandeur of the scenery. The Ice Kingdom and calving glaciers of Endicott and Tracy Arm provide some of the most dramatic scenery in Southeast Alaska. Ford’s Terror, another possibility for our cruise, is beyond description—it lies outside the realm of the imagination! Everywhere there are snow-clad mountains cloaked in the intense green of old-growth forests. You will not only view these ancient forests, but you’ll also go ashore to explore the intimate life of their giant trees, mossy glades, berry patches, and waterfalls.

You will explore salmon streams, forest edges, meadows, flower gardens, river flats, and muskegs—a mosaic of the habitats of Southeast—in addition to the

old-growth forests. Sometimes you will follow animal trails, in some cases walking in “grandfather’s” footsteps—the deep impressions made by brown bears pacing in their same footsteps for decades on end.

Admiralty Island has the greatest concentrations of nesting bald eagles and breeding brown bears of any similar-sized area in Alaska—or the world! There are more nesting bald eagles on this one island than in all the rest of the 49 states. It is reported that there is one grizzly per square mile. This would indeed be the greatest concentration of brown bears anywhere in the world. Bears are often seen foraging along the shoreline.

To the west are the high snow-capped mountains of Baranof Island. To the east are the ice-covered peaks and moving glaciers of the Coastal Range. As we cruise and follow the whales, this pageantry of splendor continues to unfold. There is always a new light—foggy, sunny, misty, sunny again; broken clouds, scattered clouds, overcast, clear; sunrises and sunsets that go on for hours—providing outstanding photo opportunities. The scenery is always changing and is great for dramatic photography!

Each evening brings another new wilderness anchorage and another possible shore excursion. Most days, you can go ashore and explore a new place, take photographs, or just sit awhile and contemplate. The days are very full, and life in Southeast Alaska is very rich. You will be in the very heart and spirit of this region. Traveling by boat, you are always where you want to be—somewhere in the vast wilderness area surrounded by gorgeous scenery. A further advantage is that everything, including your luggage, travels with you.

Itinerary

It is impossible to give more than a suggested itinerary for this particular cruise due to its highly opportunistic nature. We deliberately keep the itinerary flexible in order to allow for the unexpected events that often are the highlights of visiting Southeast Alaska.

We aim to do the things that most interest you, our special guests. Your days will be spent photographing, whale watching, cruising, and excursions ashore for more photography opportunities. You may also enjoy daily discussions designed to enhance your understanding of this magnificent wilderness. In short, we operate without a firm itinerary. So, the following is only a suggestion.

July 3 or earlier Pre-trip arrival in Petersburg. Make time to explore this small city, and purchase any essential items, such as a fishing license or rubber boots and rain gear. I plan to enjoy the July 4th fireworks that happen on the night of July 3rd. (Hotel and meals in town are not included in the price of the trip.)

Day 1 - July 4 We meet the boat at the marina in the morning and depart Wrangell Narrows to the wide-open Stephens Passage, rounding the entrance buoys with their resident Steller's sealions. Our route sails across the passage and over the bar into Thomas Bay. This protected bay offers our first turquoise glacial waters and we anchor in the flow of tumbling Cascade Creek for a vigorous but stunning trail hike to the waterfall and along this riotous river. We pull the anchor and head to aptly named Scenery Cove for the night. This is a wonderful bay to launch the kayak and paddleboard and to explore with the skiff.

Day 2 - July 5 - We depart Thomas Bay after a peek at Baird Glacier and push along the route used by John Muir in 1880 from Fort Wrangell to the upper reaches of the Inside Passage. We round Cape Fanshaw, where he camped on the shore and head across Stephen's Passage passing the beautiful Art-deco lighthouse on the Five Fingers Islands dating to the 1930s. With luck, and calm seas we will get invited ashore by the lighthouse keeper for a closer look.

We continue on to an isolated island anchorage or on to Admiralty/ Kootznoowoo Island Wilderness for the night through whale-rich waters. We pass a large sealion haul-out and pause to watch and photograph this wild and raucous sight. Often we set out a shrimp pot for the night in hopes of a tasty catch of spot prawns, or try jigging for halibut.

Day 3 - July 6 - The boat hugs the shore, looking for bears on the beaches and humpback whales. As we round the point into Holcombe Bay, the route splits to Tracy and Endicott Arms - both are spectacular fjords with icebergs and gorgeous turquoise water from suspended glacial silt. Often bald eagles are seen keeping an eye on things from the top of an iceberg. The open bay at the entrance to the fjords has the potential for bears on shore, and feeding whales. We can take a ride on the skiff or launch the kayak and enjoy more exploration of the bay and nearby icebergs.

Day 4 - July 7 The route in the morning takes us across the old terminal moraine and into Endicott Arm. The fjord is miles wide here and waterfalls stripe the sheer faces of the carved granite. We pass the hanging Sumdum Glacier and enter into another world: One John Muir loved and described in his Alaskan adventures. Like him we will see the work of glaciers and their various landforms. We slow for waterfall drive-bys and occasionally a visit by some friendly porpoises.

Day 5 - July 8 With good timing, we can enter Ford's Terror on a slack tide and wind our way through this





narrow gap in the granite walls to a spectacular "flooded Yosemite". The walls tower above us and cares of the outside world cease as waterfalls thunder down from granite spires. We spend the rest of the day exploring the inner reaches of this magical place by skiff and kayak watching for black and brown bears and mountain goats on the rugged shores.

Day 6 - July 9 We time exiting the narrows at the entrance with the high slack tide and continue up bay to the Dawes Glacier - an active tidewater glacier at the head of the fjord that is retreating over 1/4 mile a year. Seals are often hauled out on bergs and the spectacular scenery of a freshly carved glacial landscape offers a photographer's delight. We linger at the glacial face - hoping to photograph a crashing, splashing calving.

At some point we leave the glacier to its business and head down bay to a protected anchorage with a beach for a leg-stretcher and forest walk.

Day 7 - July 10 We head north watching for whales or opportunities to troll for salmon along the shore of Admiralty Island. With a southerly breeze we can often raise the sails. We often spot our last icebergs on this stretch and take a break at the Midway Islands to look for black oystercatchers and hauled out seals. We

continue on to Taku Harbor State Park for lunch. This historic cannery site offers photographers an opportunity to explore the forested ruins, and possibly to set the crab pots out for Dungeness crab. We continue onto our final anchorage at Admiralty Bay with a beach walk and old-growth forest grove to explore.

Day 8 - July 11 Our last day takes us through whale-rich waters by Douglas Island and we finish the trip in Auke Bay/Statter Harbor in the morning. The harbor offers some final great photo options with the weathered fishing boats and roosting eagles. Sadly we say goodbye to the boat, but adventures remain exploring Alaska's capitol of Juneau.

Following your return you may want to stay on in Juneau for a day or two or if flight connections work you may leave for home on July 11th.

Day 8 & 9 - Optional extension in Juneau - Join Barbara for extra time in Juneau. Here I'm offering an extension and will have more information about this shortly. I'm have two whale watching trips planned during this time. Please let me know if you are interested in joining me on the extension.

Photography This cruise is designed for photography. Using *S/V Bob* as your "wilderness lodge" and transportation all in one, you never have anywhere to go but where you are, in wildlife-rich wilderness splendor. This means you can take pictures all day and, whenever you want a break, sit down with your laptop and edit your images. Barbara will be available to discuss photography strategies and post processing. She love sharing her knowledge of photography and strives to help you bring stunning images home to share with friends and family.

Meet the Crew - True Alaskan Sailors The best part of our itinerary is you, doing what you want to do. The second best part is your crew.

Your professional **Captain Blain Anderson** loves to show off Alaska. His sailing credentials include over 20 years of boating and sailing experience in Alaskan saltwater and he holds a 50-ton US Coast Guard Masters License. Over the years, he has acquired a lengthy resume of leading trips to some of the wildest and most remote country in Alaska. Trained as a biologist, Blain loves Alaska's amazing wild-ness, and he enjoys interpreting its natural history on hikes and flipping rocks on beach walks. He also loves to catch fish, crab, and shrimp enjoys sharing salmon and halibut recipes fresh from the grill. He's fun, but man, his jokes are corny.

Monique Anderson has hiked, skied, and boated around the wilds of Alaska for decades now. In 2009, she took a two-year break from Landscape Architecture to sail the Inside Passage with Blain in their 33' pilothouse sloop *Oystercatcher*. Monique loves hiking and kayaking, and sharing her passion for photography and a deep knowledge of Alaskan ecosystems, with guests. Be forewarned, she sometimes enjoys 'bushwhacking' along the paths less traveled. You'll enjoy her enthusiasm and charm as she prepares fantastic meals, particularly mouth-watering desserts and other goodies. Together, she and Blain provide a unique and unforgettable Alaskan experience aboard *Sailboat BOB*.

Photographer Guide - Barbara Eddy Barbara Eddy was born in Lorain, Ohio and raised in the rural countryside where she fell in love with nature. At a very early age she developed a deep affection for wildlife, surrounding herself with diverse pets ranging from raccoons to skunks and other small creatures. She developed an enthusiasm for horses and riding which continues today. When traveling to horse shows as a teenager she acquired her first camera and quickly developed a passion for photography. She soon joined a camera club and began working at a photo processing facility. In 1987, she hired on as a darkroom technician at NASA in Cleveland, Ohio. A highlight of her NASA career was printing images of the space shuttle as well as the Apollo Lunar Missions. In 1990 she began her career as a nature photography workshop and seminar instructor. Since then her photography travels have taken her all over the world leading photographers to Africa, the Antarctic, the Galapagos, Ecuador, the Falklands, Scotland, Canada, Japan, and, of course, locations all over North America. To this day she leads groups to diverse locations worldwide for nature photography. She has co-authored six nature photography "how-to" books. Barbara, an award-winning photographer, has been published around the world in such prestigious publications as National Geographic, and also in calendars, books and greeting cards.

What Barbara finds special about Southeast Alaska The highlight of this trip is exploring the length of Alaska's Inside Passage from Petersburg to Juneau. One trip alone will not exhaust the opportunities for exploration. You will find many reasons to return. The allure is the grandeur of the scenery and seascape that is populated by robust populations of wildlife. The ice kingdom and calving glaciers of Endicott or Tracy Arm are spectacular lures. A few groups have changed the itinerary to spend virtually the entire voyage here. By cruising and living aboard *Sailboat Bob*, you are always where you want to be – in whale-rich waters surrounded by awe-inspiring wilderness rich in wildlife and old-growth forests carpeting mostly pristine islands. The days are full, and life in Southeast Alaska is very rewarding. You will be in the heart and spirit of this region. I hope this brief description has given you an inkling of why Southeast Alaska has enthralled me.

Captain Blain, Mo, and Barbara are always available to answer your questions and impart information about your surroundings that will enhance your experience.





What is included:

- Room and Board (double occupancy) on Sailboat Bob
- Three meals per day while on board
- Intensive Photo Instruction in field from Barbara Eddy
- Transportation to and from the boat from meeting point in town

What is NOT included:

- Transportation to and from Petersburg / Juneau
- Tips for boat staff
- Items of personal nature
- Alcoholic beverages

To Enroll: Please email contact@barbaraeddyphotography.com to check availability. A deposit of \$2000 is required to secure your enrollment. A balance of \$3850 is due on April 4, 2025

Make Check out to Barbara Eddy and mail to: Barbara Eddy - PO Box 575 - Ronan MT 59864

Cancellation Policy:

For complete peace of mind, we strongly recommend that you purchase [Travel Insurance](#) to protect yourself against cancellation penalties and travel costs. We understand that life happens. If you must cancel a reservation, please notify contact@barbaraeddyphotography.com as soon as possible. All cancellations must be requested via email and we will try our best to accommodate. [Travel Insurance](#) should cover any non-refundable fees and travel expenses. We will make every attempt to fill your spot.

- At the time of booking, you have the option to pay a \$ 2,000 deposit or the full workshop amount. If you pay the deposit, the remaining balance of \$3850 will be due on April 4, 2025.
- For cancellations more than **121 days from departure**, we will refund your deposit minus a \$500 cancellation fee once we fill the vacancy. If we are unable to fill the vacancy, your cancellation fee of \$500 will be forfeited or applied to another workshop conducted within the next calendar year.
- If you must cancel between **91 to 120 days prior to departure**, a \$700 cancellation fee will be assessed plus any funds paid by Barbara Eddy Photography to suppliers that are non-refundable. If we can refill your space on short notice the non-refundable supplier fees will be returned to you. The \$700 cancellation fee can be applied to a future workshop conducted within 365 days of the cancellation date.
- Unfortunately, within **90 days of departure**, no refunds can be given. If we are able to fill the vacancy, your payment minus the \$700 cancellation fee can be applied to a future workshop conducted within 365 days of the cancellation date.
- We strongly recommend that all participants purchase [Travel Insurance](#) to cover any non-refundable deposits and workshop fees.

Additional Items:

- Any non-refundable fees paid to a third party in connection with your tour cannot be refunded.
- Barbara Eddy Photography cannot offer partial refunds for unused services. If you have to cut your trip short, no refunds can be given.
- If you are not present at the time of trip departure, we will try our best to contact you. We cannot offer any refunds for no-shows.

Thank you for your interest in my photography expeditions. Any questions please email me at contact@barbaraeddyphotography.com or call 208-244-1887.

Warm Wishes,

Barbara



Wild Southeast Alaska Awaits You!

