

# EXPLORER ALASKA YACHT CHARTERS

## Clothing - Luggage – Camera Gear

### CLOTHING SUGGESTIONS

Casual clothing is the norm both on the boat as well as in towns, even in some of the better restaurants. Staying warm, dry and comfortable will allow you to maximize the enjoyment of your experience. Layering for warmth is the best approach. If you plan to be outside in windy or rainy conditions, we recommend a long sleeve shirt, sweater and waterproof (not water-resistant) windbreaker and rain pants.

- Pants (Levi's, denims, khakis)
- Shirts (long & short sleeved cotton, one flannel-like, one turtle-neck)
- Sweaters (sweatshirts, wool or synthetic pile)
- Sweatpants or other comfortable pants
- Rain jacket/windbreaker - preferably with hood
- Rain pants - lightweight waterproof/optional
- Shorts (it can be warm!)
- Gloves - lightweight wool or acrylic gloves are the best
- Bathing suit (in case we stop at a hot springs)
- Hats - Rain hat and a sun visor or ball cap
- Shoes - Soft, with non-marking soles for the boat
- Knee-high rubber boots for hiking, beach landings and hiking through the rain forest  
Rubber boots can be easily cleaned of after a muddy hike. If you don't want to pack boots, you can buy inexpensive ones in Juneau and Sitka.

### LUGGAGE TIPS

Remember that you will be on a boat. Avoid bringing hard luggage. The cabins have closets and drawers, but storage is limited. Soft luggage or duffel bags are to be preferred as they stow easily and you will not be competing for space in your stateroom with your luggage.

### EQUIPMENT AND OTHER ITEMS

- Soft day pack
- Binoculars
- Sunglasses
- Sun block
- Lip balm
- We have hair dryers on board
- Fly-fishing gear (saltwater gear and light spinning gear is already on board)
- CD's (if you have a favorite) We have a library of over 200 CDs
- Personal toiletries
- Bring sunscreen, just in case. Bug spray is a good idea too. Mosquitoes are generally not a problem on board but can be in small, quiet, windless coves or on shore.

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SITKA CLIMATE AND HOURS OF DAYLIGHT				
Month	Avg. High	Avg. Low	Rain	Daylight
Jan	29	19	4.5"	7.1 hrs
Feb	34	23	3.75"	9.4 hrs.
Mar	39	27	3.28"	11.8 hrs.
Apr	47	32	2.77"	14.4 hrs.
May	55	39	3.42"	16.8 hrs
Jun	61	45	3.15"	18.3 hrs.
Jul	64	48	4.16"	17.6 hrs.
Aug	63	47	5.32"	15.4 hrs.
Sep	56	43	6.73"	12.8 hrs.
Oct	47	37	7.84"	10.3 hrs.
Nov	37	27	4.91"	7.9 hrs.
Dec	32	23	4.44"	6.4 hrs.

Southeastern Alaska is a *temperate rain forest*, with the most rain falling in the southern part. May and June are the driest months while July and August are a bit wetter but warmer as well. Normal temperatures run from the mid-fifties to low seventies with temps dropping about ten degrees at night. Rarely, when the sun comes out, temps in the eighties can occur. **It is important to note that there can be up to 20 hours of daylight in early summer.** The weather in southeast can and does change with amazing frequency.

## CAMERA AND VIDEO EQUIPMENT

- Rule #1: Start with fresh batteries and bring extras.
- Rule #2: Bring twice the amount of film than you think you could possibly use. You'll really kick yourself if you run out!
- 400 ASA film allows you to shoot in the many different light conditions, but the prints will be grainier if you enlarge the pictures. If you are more into photography, you may want to use film in the range of ASA 64 (slides) or ASA 100 (prints) for sunny days to ASA 200 for overcast days. If you use a camera with interchangeable lenses, bring at least one wide-angle lens (between 24mm and 50mm) and one telephoto. An 80-200mm zoom is the most versatile. A 300mm lens can be very useful for wildlife, if you have a steady hand.
- Digital photographers**, we do have a computer (pc) on board with a CD-R/W burner. We can copy your digital photos from either floppy, smart media, memory stick, secure digital or compact flash to the hard drive during the cruise and then burn all your images on to a CD-ROM for you prior to your departure.
- If you have a video camera, you'll be able to get memorable footage and you'll be recharging your battery often, so bring two batteries and lots of video tape.
- When traveling in the skiff we will be close to the water. Even on a sunny day in calm water there is an "invisible" salt mist in the air. This is hard on camera equipment. Make sure to bring some kind of case for your equipment or at least a heavy plastic bag. Rubbing alcohol works great to remove salt spray from camera bodies. Lens cleaning fluid or a chamois cloth is best for cleaning lenses.