

Alaska Cruise

June 11-19, 2024

7-Day Voyage of the Glaciers with Glacier Bay (Southbound) Anchorage (Whittier), Alaska to Vancouver, Canada



SHIP: Grand Princess

PORTS & SCENIC CRUISING: Anchorage (Whittier), Alaska - Hubbard Glacier - Glacier Bay National Park Skagway, Alaska - Juneau, Alaska - Ketchikan, Alaska - Vancouver, Canada

Tuesday, June 11 – ONWARD FLIGHT

Meet your ChmieBell Tour managers at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport to handle your check in for our flight to Anchorage, Alaska. **(PASSPORT REQUIRED)** A shuttle will be awaiting our arrival and transport us to our hotel for the evening to relax, explore and enjoy dinner on your own.



Wednesday, June 12 – ANCHORAGE (WHITTIER), ALASKA (Depart 8:30pm)

Whittier, approximately 65 miles southeast of Anchorage, lies nestled at the base of the Chugach Mountains bordering Passage Canal. Established as a World War II port for cargo and troops of the Alaska Command, Whittier remained activated until 1960. Today, Whittier's economy and its 290 residents rely largely on the fishing industry, the port and, increasingly, on tourism. Named for the poet John Greenleaf Whittier, the community is also the gateway to spectacular Prince William Sound, with its magnificent tidewater glaciers and abundant marine life.

We will have a shuttle waiting to take us to the port to set sail and begin our 7-night adventure! You'll have plenty of time to relax, indulge in the hospitality onboard and anticipate the adventure ahead.

Thursday, June 13 – HUBBARD GLACIER (SCENIC CRUISING), ALASKA (Arrive 3:00pm / Depart 8:00pm)

Nicknamed the "Galloping Glacier," this east Alaskan glacier is rapidly advancing toward the Gulf of Alaska into a pristine area known as Disenchantment Bay. In fact, its movement temporarily formed a natural dam that twice closed off nearby Russell Fjord from the bay, but the intense water pressure building within the fjord-turned-lake has thus far been enough to explode through the wall of ice.

The largest tidewater glacier in North America, Hubbard Glacier measures 76 miles long and plunges 1,200 feet into the depths of the bay. Its immense beauty and phenomenal blue hues are enchanting, even from afar. But it's when your cruise ship draws closer that its towering surface really impresses, dwarfing even the uppermost deck on your ship at a whopping 40 stories high. There, with the snowcapped mountains serving as a glorious backdrop, you'll have a prime viewing spot from which to witness the glacier calving, as it often expels icebergs the size of 10-story buildings-imagine the splash!



The area around Hubbard Glacier is also renowned for its wildlife, where whales, harbor seals and otters swim, brown bears, moose and black-tailed deer roam ashore, and a wide variety of seabirds soar gracefully across the sky.



Friday, June 14 – GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK (SCENIC CRUISING), ALASKA
(Arrive 9:15am / Depart 7:30pm)

Princess is one of a select few cruise lines permitted to cruise the pristine waters of Glacier Bay, the highlight of our 7-day Voyage of the Glaciers cruise. Just west of Juneau, this breathtaking national park and preserve boasts some of the world's most spectacular tidewater glaciers, such as Margerie Glacier, which often drops colossal chunks of ice into the sea. Not surprisingly, Glacier Bay National Park and its epic ice giants are part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site comprising Alaska's magnificent park system.

During your scenic cruise, friendly Park Rangers will join the ship to share their knowledge of this amazing place. They may even be able to help you identify Glacier Bay's abundant wildlife, including humpback whales, sea otters, porpoises, harbor seals, black bears, mountain goats, bald eagles and large colonies of seabirds.

Take in the awe-inspiring scenery as you enjoy an unforgettable day of sailing through this dazzling park, where you'll glide along emerald waters and past calving icebergs, and can breathe in the crisp, fresh air to your heart's content.

Saturday, June 15 – SKAGWAY, ALASKA

(Arrive 7:00am / Depart 8:30pm)

Skagway was the gateway to the gold fields for the thousands who flocked to Alaska and the Yukon with the hope of striking it rich. Skagway may have boasted the shortest route to the Klondike, but it wasn't the easiest. Over 100 years ago, the White Pass route through the Coast Mountains and the shorter but steeper Chilkoot Trail were used by countless stampedes. Many a would-be miner perished on the treacherous Chilkoot Trail.



The gold rush was a boon and by 1898, Skagway was Alaska's largest town with a population of about 20,000. Hotels, saloons, dance halls and gambling houses prospered. But when the gold yield dwindled in 1900, so did the population as miners quickly shifted to new finds in Nome. Today, Skagway has less than 1,000 residents. It still retains the flavor of the gold rush era.

Sunday, June 16 – JUNEAU, ALASKA

(Arrive 6:30am / Depart 4:00pm)

In 1880, it was slow going for Joe Juneau and Richard Harris as they searched for gold with the help of Native guides. After climbing mountains, forging streams, and facing countless difficulties, they found nuggets "as large as beans." From their discovery came three of the largest gold mines in the world. By the end of World War II, more than \$150 million in gold had been mined. Eventually the mines closed, but the town Joe Juneau founded became the capital of Alaska and the business of gold was replaced by the business of government.

Some 30,000 people live in Juneau. Its total area makes it one of the biggest towns, in size, in the world. Only Kiruna, Sweden, and Sitka, Alaska, exceed Juneau's 3,248 square miles. Today Juneau is famous not only for gold and government but also for its breathtakingly beautiful glaciers and stunning views of both water and mountains.

Monday, June 17 – KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

(Arrive 10:00am / Depart 6:00pm)



Ketchikan is known as Alaska's "First City" because it's the first major community travelers come to as they journey north. Located on an island, Ketchikan began life as an Indian fishing camp. The name Ketchikan comes from a Tlingit phrase that means "eagle with spread-out wings," a reference to a waterfall near town. In the early 1900s, when gold was Alaska's claim to fame, fishing and timber industries were established in Ketchikan. The growth of these industries helped make this Inside Passage port Alaska's fourth-largest city.

Visitors to Ketchikan will be intrigued by its rich Native heritage, which includes the world's oldest collection of totem poles at Totem Heritage Center. The Haida, Tlingit and Tsimshian are all a part of the city's colorful history. Ketchikan, with its abundance of salmon, is also a sportfishing paradise. Sightseers will be impressed with both the scenic town and its surroundings, especially Misty Fjords National Monument.

Tuesday, June 18 – AT SEA



There's always something happening on board — from heading to the Princess Theater for a lavish original musical production to enjoying a blockbuster movie poolside under the stars or simply relaxing in a lounge sipping a cocktail where a live band is playing your song. Each day, a world of exciting activities awaits, from cooking demonstrations to dance classes, trivia contests and a range of enrichment programs, including the Encounters with Discovery at SEA™ speaker series from experts who offer insights into the places you'll visit. Or perhaps enjoy a day to relax and indulge in a manicure, pedicure or a makeover in the salon, or a soothing massage in the Lotus Spa!

Wednesday, June 19 – VANCOUVER, CANADA

(Arrive 7:30am)

It seems unlikely that a character named "Gassy Jack" Deighton would be responsible for one of the most beautiful cities on the continent. But that's history for you. During the gold rush, Gassy Jack saw a chance to make money from the hordes of miners on their way to the Yukon. The saloon he built became the focus of the shanty town known as Gastown. From that ragtag group of shacks, modern Vancouver was born. The provincial government persuaded settlers to change the name of the town to Vancouver, after Captain George Vancouver, who sailed the region's waters in 1792.

We will have a designated time to disembark and catch our shuttle to the airport for our flight home with the most incredible memories to share with family and friends.

Price Includes:

- Round-trip Airfare Mpls/St.Paul Int'l Airport (All other cities/states – call for pricing)
- Pre-cruise Overnight
- 7-Day Cruise
- Insurance and Ship Gratuities
- Port Taxes and Fees
- Drink Package
- Shuttle to/from Airport and Port



Don't be fooled by others offering cheaper prices.

We have **NO** hidden Costs!

DON'T WAIT! - REGISTER EARLY!

Deposit of \$500 Per Person due to reserve your spot!

Final payment due March 1st, 2024

3% Service Charge may be added for Credit Card payments.

Cash or Check preferred.

All Staterooms are:

Ocean View Balcony

\$5,199 per person

Based on

Double Occupancy

Personally Hosted by Us!

Patty Chmielewski & Michael Bell

Grand Princess®

With an atmosphere of comfortable elegance, tantalizing dining options and dazzling entertainment, your stay on board Grand Princess will be anything but ordinary. Relax at The Sanctuary, a tranquil haven reserved for adults, enjoy Movies Under the Stars® poolside or experience something new with our Discovery at SEA™ enrichment programs.

- Last Refurbished: March 2019
- Guest Capacity: 2,600 lower berths
- Number of Crew: 1,150
- Tonnage: 107,517



ChmieBell TOURS

ChmieBellTours.com / (612) 749-6330

Call us today!