

ALASKA'S
TATSHENSHINI-ALSEK

NAMED THE #1 RIVER TRIP IN THE WORLD BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



PERHAPS EARTH'S GREATEST
WILD RIVER JOURNEY





Alaska’s Tatshenshini-Alsek Expedition

On your trip we will float 140 miles from the rolling hills of the Yukon through the Alsek and St. Elias mountain ranges and to the sea. It’s an epic journey back to the ice age down a river forgotten by time. Cutting through the Earth’s largest non-polar ice cap and past some of its most active glaciers, the Tatshenshini-Alsek creates an intensely dramatic, overwhelmingly beautiful, and almost primeval river valley. Protected by five U.S. and Canadian national parks and preserves and part of a 25-million acre UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is part of the largest protected wilderness area in the world.

The Tatshenshini-Alsek has been called one of the last truly wild river systems & National Geographic named it the world’s #1 river trip.

Thanks for booking your trip with Bio Bio Expeditions World Wide to Alaska!

We’re excited to show you the spectacular Tatshenshini and Alsek Rivers.

Included in this packet:

- Important Trip Details 3
- Packing For Your Trip..... 5
- On the River..... 9
- Sample Itinerary 10
- Suggested Reading..... 11
- Flights / Getting Here and Away 11
- Pre and Post trip Accommodations and Things to do..... 14

Please read the first two sections (the Trip Details and Packing Information) carefully and call if you have any questions.

See you on the river!

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Enjoy world-class rivers in small groups with unparalleled personal service, organic meals, and guides with 15+ years of experience leading trips around the world.

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Important Trip Details

Meeting Information:

You should be at the Halsingland Hotel in Haines Alaska by 3:30 pm on the first day of your trip (your trip start date is on your invoice).

We will meet in the lobby at 6 pm for a welcome drink and dinner. It is important to arrive a little early if you are taking a plane to Haines as flight delays are common (and Haines is just a fun place to hang out in:)).

The trip will finish at the Yakutat Alaska Airport on day 12 in time for the late afternoon Alaska Airlines flight to Juneau.

Please read the getting there and away section carefully for details and call if you have any questions.

Emergency Contact Info:

Bio Bio Expeditions World Wide: 1-800-246-7238

For last minute emergencies: Call the Halsingland and ask for a Momentum Guide: (907) 766-2000

Trip and Medical Evacuation Insurance:

We **highly** recommend **trip cancellation insurance and Emergency Evacuation Insurance**. It is inexpensive and will cover all trip costs including airfare if you were to need to change plans or cancel. The Tatshenshini is extremely remote and medical evacuations are incredibly expensive. Medical Evacuation insurance is part of most trip insurance plans and can also be purchased separately.

We cannot stress enough the need for Medical Evacuation Insurance.

We have found Travelex to be high quality and competitively priced:

- [Travelex Trip and Medical Evacuation Insurance >>](#)

Note: Many plans need to be purchased within a certain time from booking your trip or before final payment is made.

Passports and Visas:

We will be traveling from the United States to Canada (and then back again) so you will need a passport for this trip. Make sure to apply for one month in advance if you don’t have one and check your expiration date if you do.

A visa for Canada is not required for U.S. citizens. Non-U.S. citizens should check with the consulate of Canada, the United States and/or their home country to determine the need for a visa and arrange one or both, accordingly.

Filling out Participant Details online:

For overnight trips we need a little more info about the participants - whether you need camping gear, dietary restrictions, boat choices, etc. Your confirmation email contains a link to fill this information out online.

Please do not forget to fill this information out online at least 3 weeks before the trip.

Or if you wish feel free to call us and we can go over it on the phone – 541-488-2525



Trip Planner – Alaska’s Tatshenshini-Alsek Expedition

A journey to one of the world’s most epic wilderness areas

Other Details:

Dietary Request/Restrictions:

We pride ourselves on our food and special dietary restrictions are no problem! Please indicate when filling out your Participation Details online if you have specific dietary restrictions or food allergies.

Itinerary Changes:

We always strive to provide the best and safest experience possible. We do this in the wonderfully unpredictable natural environment. Because of this we do from time to time have to make itinerary adjustments.

Gratuities for Guides:

Tips for guides are never expected but always appreciated. We are extremely proud of our guides. They are some of the most experienced anywhere and are they are what truly set Bio Bio Expeditions trips apart. If you feel your guides did an outstanding job and you wish to thank them a gratuity of between 10% and 20% is customary.

Being Off the Grid – No Cell Phones, Emails, Laptops, etc:

All of us are becoming more and more connected – email, Facebook, smart phones, tablets, web access anywhere... It is a positive and a negative, a blessing and a curse. One of the joys of our trips is that they are completely off the grid. No cell phone service, no email, no Social Media. For many this can be a little disconcerting in the beginning (it is a BIG change☺), but in the end most will find it amazing, refreshing, and very relaxing.

So before you leave you might want to call, text, email, Facebook, Instagram or Twitter your friends, family, pets, and coworkers because you probably will not get to reach them again until it is time to tell the stories of your adventure on your return...



Packing For Your Trip

What We Provide:

All Rafting, Camping, and Safety Equipment:

Rafts, and related equipment, dry bags, and personal floatation devices (PFD's). Our camps include all kitchen equipment, chairs, firepans, toilet equipment, river library and games, etc. Our river camps are fully stocked with amenities!

Meals:

We love food! For some of us, cooking is our second passion. Our food is homemade, diverse, and served with a combination of style and wilderness practicality. Whenever possible we use local and organic produce and free-range meats. We can safely say we serve the best food on the river. On river meals start with lunch on the first day through lunch on the last day. Appetizers are served nightly followed by delicious dinners and desserts. Every meal is balanced and there is always a ton to eat. We can accommodate different diets and food restrictions, and enjoy making special plans for anniversaries, birthdays or any special occasion. Please indicate when completing the trip registration if you have specific dietary restrictions or food allergies.

Beverages / Alcohol:

Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate are available each morning and in the evenings. Orange juice is served with breakfast and wines are served before dinner. Water is available at all times.

Personal Beverages and Alcohol: For those who wish to bring personal beverages such as sodas, beer, and spirits, we provide iced coolers to keep them cold. Most people will find that a beer or a drink is a perfect complement to a relaxing afternoon in camp. With the weight limits on the flight from Juneau to Haines you may need to buy some drinks when you arrive in Haines. Or you can ship it to the guides in Haines before the trip (ask the office about this option). Also, while most people are amazed by what we can bring down the river there are space limits on an 11 day wilderness trip. **Glass bottles are fine for wine and spirits, but please bring beer and sodas in cans.** Luckily with beer there are a lot of great craft beers that are canned now.

Please Note: For your safety and the safety of others alcoholic beverages are limited to camp and may not be consumed before or during boating.

Personal Camping Gear:

We will provide large mountaineering tents that comfortably sleep two, cots, sleeping pads, and sleeping bags. The cot and pad combination is very comfortable (and not done by anyone else on the Tat). Many people find it easiest to bring their own sleeping bag. For comfort please make sure it is a fifteen degree bag or less.

Note: Make sure that if you need camping gear you indicate that when completing the Participant Details online or notify the office.



What to Pack:

The Tatshenshini/Alsek River corridor is a varied and dynamic environment. The rivers run through the mountains and to the sea, from sunnier forested hill country to the glacier filled landscape and alpine climate of Alsek Lake. Weather conditions can vary drastically from a sunny 80 to a chilly 40. While many trips have good weather overall, it is imperative that you be prepared for all possibilities. It is not uncommon to experience wet & dry conditions and temperature fluctuations of up to 40 degrees within one day on the Tatshenshini. Being prepared on this trip means that you are able to adapt to rapidly changing weather conditions.

On River Layering: You should have several layers of non-cotton tops and bottoms made from synthetic materials such as polypropylene or fleece which maintain warmth even when wet. We recommend having three to four layers for the river: A bottom layer of polypropylene long underwear, a middle layer of fleece, a puffy synthetic jacket (not down for the river), and a windproof/waterproof top layer (Jacket and Pants). Having a shell made of Gore-Tex or any of the fabrics that are both breathable and waterproof is critical.

Your Head and Hands: Keeping your head and hands warm while on the river is extremely important. You should have an insulated non-cotton hat for wearing on the river. We also recommend a pair of neoprene gloves. Neoprene gloves are inexpensive and available at most large sporting goods stores.

Your Feet - High Rubber Boots: Keeping your feet warm is also extremely important and in Alaska, where we are constantly stepping in and out of cold water, silt, mud and gravel, it is best to wear what the Alaskans do: mid calf to just below the knee waterproof rubber boots. Bogs, and XTRATUFF are great brands, but there are a ton of options ranging from very inexpensive to ‘last a lifetime’ priced. Non-insulated rubber boots work great and tend to be less expensive. If you get non-insulated ones make sure to try them on with 2 pairs of wool or poly-pro socks as there might be a day where 2 pairs of socks will be more comfortable. Insulated ones will work as well and come in very handy if you live in a climate with a cold winter. Pete wears a pair of Bogs ‘Workman’ insulated boots and finds them a little too warm for many days on the Tat – but on the nice days it’s is easy to slip into sneakers or flip flops at camp. And they make a great ‘one boot quiver’. No matter what the key is that they are waterproof and tall. Some guests stop by [Alaska Industrial Hardware](#) in Juneau – its just a short walk from the airport and they have a huge variety of rubber boots. [REI also has a great selection here >>](#)

Keep in mind that any of the items you choose to wear on the river might be wet when you reach camp (with the exception of your waterproof/windproof shell jacket and pants and rubber boots). Therefore, you should have a complete change of camp clothes (including hats, gloves, and socks). In camp, we set up river wings (a fancy tarp) and have campfires; so comfortable clothes are perfectly acceptable in camp (as long as they are warm and mostly non-cotton).

If you do these types of trips somewhat regularly (or you plan to start) it may make the most sense to visit your local outdoor store and buy high quality gear (or use one of the recommended gear links below). Or you can purchase less expensive gear at many department stores. But be sure to check the labels– no cotton for river attire! Your local thrift store is also a great place to find cotton-free, “fleece” tops and bottoms.

We always hope that most of our cold weather gear will remain stuffed in the bottom of our dry bags for the entire trip, but this is an unpredictable place!

Gear and Clothing Links:

- [PATAGONIA: Patagonia has an incredible environmental ethic and their gear lasts a lifetime. We are huge supporters. Visit their store >>](#)
- [PATAGONIA WORN WEAR: Even cooler!! Patagonia’s refurbished jacket and clothing site >>](#)
- [NRS: An Idaho Boating gear company – great for water gloves and footwear >>](#)
- [REI: The one stop shop for almost everything you need Visit their store >>](#)

Space and weight considerations:

Many people are shocked by what we can bring down river, but there is a limit☺. In order to make your travels and connecting flights easier you might consider bringing only **one duffle style bag and one carry-on daypack**.

On the Tatshenshini-Alsek there is also a limit to what the small bush planes that fly us out of Dry Bay at the end of the trip can hold. A good way to judge how you are doing is to grab a normal size paper grocery bag at your local grocery store - **All your “At Camp” personal items except your sleeping bag, pad, tent, (or our camping gear) and drinks should be able to fit in a large size paper grocery bag**. The exceptions will have their own spots.



Packing Checklist:

If you have any questions or are unable to obtain items listed below, please feel free to contact our office for additional information.

On the river:

- Gore-Tex shell or good rain gear (jacket and pants) – Very, very important!
- Wool or Polypro long underwear tops and bottoms - a must! These will keep you warm when they get wet and they dry very quickly.
- Fleece top and pants.
- A synthetic ‘puffy’ jacket that fits under your shell jacket.
- Warm, non-cotton hat
- Neoprene or fleece gloves (a ‘shell’ mitten over the top is also super comfy)
- River footwear: Rubber boots (see above for details) with multiple pairs of wool or synthetic socks (a pair of neoprene socks can be nice too)
- Visor, cap or sun cap
- Sunglasses with securing straps
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- A camera (the views are EPIC)
- Prudent personal medication: epi pen, inhalers, heart meds, etc.

At Camp: Remember that all your “At Camp” personal items except your sleeping bag, (or our camping gear) and drinks should be able to fit in a large size paper grocery bag.

Recommended

- Sleeping bag – 15 degree or lower (we will provide if needed - Make sure that if you need us to provide camping gear you indicate that when completing the Participant Details online or notify the office)
- Synthetic camp pants.
- Warm synthetic or wool sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece top.
- Extra set of Synthetic long underwear top & bottom
- A packable synthetic or down “puffy” jacket.
- 3 to 4 pairs of comfortable synthetic or wool socks
- Wool or fleece hat
- Warm gloves: synthetic or wool
- T-Shirts / Underwear
- Quick-drying, durable, river/hiking shorts
- Swimsuit
- One pair of comfortable cotton pants and a long sleeve shirt if you like.
- Sneakers or light hikers (sneakers are fine for hiking). You don’t need anything special; comfort is key.
- Plenty of quality hand lotion and chap stick
- Toiletries and personal First Aid (Band Aids, Ibuprofen, personal medications, etc)
- Insect Repellent (Deet works best in Alaska – however the mosquitoes tend to not be as bad as people expect)
- Flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries.
- Your Passport (It will be needed to get on the river)**

Optional

- Baby Wipes – a favorite of our guides – great for a quick clean.
- Flip Flops for camp (another guide favorite)
- Sarong – for changing and sun protection
- Book, journal, sketch pad, cards, small games
- Binoculars
- One or two trash bags/large Ziplocks for packing wet gear
- Personal beer, wine, spirits, or sodas. With the flight weight limits you may need to either buy drinks in Haines. Or you can ship it to the guides in Haines before the trip. **Glass bottles are fine for wine and spirits, please bring beer and sodas in cans**

Important note on lotions, soaps and other cosmetics: In order for us to avoid unwanted bear interactions please avoid extremely fragrant lotions, soaps, and cosmetics.

Travel and ‘City’ Clothing and items:

- You will probably want comfortable clothing for flights, for exploring Haines and Juneau, and for a night or two out.
- Travel clothing and items that will not go on the river will be left in Haines and transferred by us to the Juneau airport for you to pick up after your flight from Yakutat.

Note: minimizing travel clothing will make the travel experience much easier.



Packing and Organizing in Haines

If what is below sounds confusing don't worry:) The guides will go over everything at the welcome dinner at the Halsingland. As well as hand out trip 'Dry Bags' for your river gear. The key is to follow the checklist and if possible limit your travel bags to one large duffle and one carry on bag.

What to keep out to wear for the day 2 morning drive to the river

- Comfortable clothes for travel - from your "at camp" list or even your "on the river" list (that will make changing easier at the river).
- Your camera (it is a beautiful drive).
- Water bottle
- **Your passport and wallet (very important).**

Pack your "At camp" personal items in your personal Dry Bag:

We provide waterproof bags the first evening at the Halsingland. These bags will hold your personal gear that you will not use on the river during the day. Remember hard travel luggage will not fit in these bags. You will re-pack this bag every morning on the river. Always keep in mind - once this bag is packed and on the boat it is generally very difficult to access until camp so make sure to keep anything out you might need on the river.

Pack your "Day Bag" items:

Each morning on the river your guide will supply a small easily accessible day bag for your raft to share for items you might need while floating during the day – sunscreen, extra layers, medication, your waterproof rain jacket etc. For now pack these items in your personal dry bag on top of your 'At Camp' items.

Pack your on-river items:

Pack these on the very top of your dry bag – you will be changing into your on river clothing at the river around lunch on day-2.

Alcohol and personal drinks:

These will be given to the guides to be packed in the boats.

Travel clothing and items that are not going down river:

Pack all the items that you are not taking down the Tat in your duffle or travel luggage. It will be shipped to Juneau and waiting for you at the Alaska Seaplanes counter after your flight from Yakutat.

Once we get to the river:

On the late morning of day-2 we will arrive at the river. At this point you will change into your river gear, put any extra on-river items in your boat's day bag, and close your personal dry bag (which will not be accessible again until camp).



On the River

The Weather

The Tatshenshini/Alsek River corridor is a varied and dynamic environment and that definitely can describe the weather. However we run our trips during the region’s best weather window - from Mid-June – Mid August during the driest and warmest time of the year. We will also experience the north’s extremely long summer days and possibly see the spectacular northern lights. Many of our trips have absolutely beautiful weather, but it not uncommon for trips to have a mix of good and more challenging weather.

Average Temps:

Month	Average High	Average Low
June	62	42
July	64	45
August	63	45
September	56	38

Bears, Bugs and Other Wildlife:

The Tatshenshini – Alsek river corridor is a spectacular area for viewing wildlife. There are few places like it and for many guests the wildlife is a highlight of the trip. It is not uncommon to see grizzly and black bear, moose, mountain goats, dall sheep, bald eagles, and even wolves. During our orientations in Haines and then at our first nights camp we will go over the precautions we take to prevent unwanted bear and other wildlife encounters. This includes a detailed system for dealing with food scraps and trash, avoiding overly fragrant lotions and soaps, packing toiletries on the boats at night, and bear spray.

For many ‘Alaska’ is synonymous with ‘Mosquitos’). There are definitely mosquitos on the Tat, but they are not on the level that many find in other parts of Alaska. The combination of an almost constant breeze and cooler evening temperatures generally mostly keep them at bay. However quality insect repellent is important just in case.

Fishing

The Tatshenshini-Alsel is part of the North’s most prolific salmon habitats. It has massive sockeye salmon runs and is a spawning ground for spring and coho salmon. However, because of the glacial run-off from the world’s largest non-polar ice fields, the water is extremely sediment laden and fishing is not great. There is are some clear side streams that offer fishing opportunities – but the fishing is not a highlight of the trip. For those who want to fish we suggest bringing a small rod with case and a very small tackle box with flies.

Hiking:

The valley is spectacular and the hiking options range from mellow to epic. We will allow for plenty of time for hikes for those that are interested.



In Camp:

Life on the river is a bit different from “real life” and there lies a lot of its appeal! While our camping trips are far from “roughing it” there are a few things that are done differently and for first timers this can cause some nervousness in the beginning (or before the trip). Here are a few answers to some of the questions you may be wondering about...

Camp Life:

Upon arrival at camp the first afternoon one of the guides will give the group a quick “Camp Orientation”. This will give you an idea of how camp works: the kitchen, water and drinks, tent areas, the bathroom, hand wash, library, games, etc. We can also help you choose a tent area and walk you through getting situated for the first time. After that it’s time to kick back, relax and enjoy while the guides prepare appetizers and a big meal. For many people the relaxed time in camp in the afternoons and mornings is a trip highlight. And there are very few places as amazing and as grand as the camps on the Tatshenshini.

How does the bathroom work?

Understandably this is often one of the biggest questions for many first time river runners. We use a “port-a-potty” system that is clean, comfortable and very private. It is easy to use and one of our guides will give a humorous yet sensitive orientation on how it works when we arrive in camp. But it is essentially a toilet without plumbing and it is available from the time you pull into camp each afternoon until you leave camp the next day. Toilet paper and a convenient hand-washing station are provided. We always try to place it in the spot with the best view - so when nature calls it is always good to bring your camera.

How does bathing work?

Another common question and concern. On the Tatshenshini bathing with biodegradable soaps is allowed in the river, however the water is..... well..... cold:).

Even then, after a long hike or on a warm day there are few things more refreshing than a river bath. Because the weather does not always cooperate it is a good idea to pack baby wipes. These work great and are a quick and easy way to feel clean and refreshed. We will also do a couple of “shower evenings” where one of the guides will set up a portable shower filled with heated water.

Sample Itinerary

Please Note: Our Tatshenshini / Alsek River trips take place in the wonderfully unpredictable natural environment and there are almost limitless exploration options, Because of this our on river itineraries are always flexible and relaxed to accommodate water levels, weather, and our guest’s needs and interests.

Day 1:

Arrive in the small coastal fjord town of Haines Alaska and check in to the historic Halsingland Hotel. We will have a welcome dinner and orientation. If you arrive early Haines has a walkable downtown with amazing fish and chips.
(Hotel and Dinner included)

Day 2 :

After breakfast we will start the beautiful 3 hour drive up the Chilkat River valley. With passports ready we cross into Canada and arrive at Daltons Post, our waiting rafts, and the Tatshenshini River.

After lunch we will load our gear and ourselves into the boats, push off, and begin our 140 mile journey from the rolling hills of the Yukon through the Alsek and St. Elias mountain ranges to the sea. For 11 days we will float first on the Tatshenshini and then on the Alsek as they cut through the largest protected wilderness area in the world.

The first day on the water includes the Tatshenshini Gorge and the biggest whitewater of the trip. We then float into our first riverside camp near the Silver Creek area and have a “camp talk” to go over everything you need to know about our comfortable wilderness camping. In the evening we will enjoy our first dinner and night under the stars and begin to settle into life on the ‘Tat’.

Days 3 – 4:

After a hearty breakfast and plenty of time for a second cup of coffee we will break camp and head down river. Day 3 usually involves floating to our first ‘layover camp’ at Sediments Creek. On layovers we spend 2 nights at one camp and have an entire day to explore the area. In this case there will be a shorter or bigger hiking option up to high alpine country, spectacular views of the canyon, and a chance to see wandering mountain goats (or you can just relax along the banks of the river).



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A journey to one of the world’s most epic wilderness areas

Day 5 – 6:

The river has now doubled and doubled again in size. We make our way through braided channels and past increasingly higher peaks. We will spend the nights at places like Alkai, Henshi, and Towagh Creek.

Day 7:

As we cut along the base of the Noisy Range the now massive river narrows and funnels into the lush, almost jungle-like ‘S’ turns. We then fly out of the S turns into the spectacular and massive glacier-draped amphitheater that is the confluence with the Alsek. It is difficult to describe the scale and beauty of this place and it is one of the highlights of the trip. The Greek philosopher Protagoras said that ‘Man is the measure of all things’ – it will be obvious at this point that he never visited the confluence of the Tatshenshini and the Alsek. A beautiful afternoon and night will be spent in this amphitheater in the Melt Creek area.

Day 8:

We had onto the massive Alsek, past towering peaks, and with views of glaciers in every direction. In the afternoon we will pull up to the Walker Glacier and get a chance to see the ice up close. In the evening we can watch the light play over the glacial ice and hear its slow (but loud) movement out of the mountains. This camp is truly spectacular.

Day 9:

Today we usually try and spend the morning getting close to the Walker Glacier before pushing off downstream again towards the ‘Spit’ and Alsek lake. We will pass the Novatak Glacier – part of one of the largest icefields outside of the poles – and below the base of the Brabazon Range. The night is spent on the spit that separates the Alsek river from Alsek lake. At this point the combination of the sheer scale and beauty of the surroundings and the sounds of the glaciers calving into Alsek Lake is almost surreal.

Day 10 – 11:

We make our way into or around the lake to our camp on Gateway Knob. This can be a short or long day depending on iceberg locations and weather. But either way it is worth it. There are few places on Earth with views like this. We will layover here and spend the next two nights along the edge of Alsek Lake with time to explore the Knob and the lake. Weather permitting, we will paddle out into the lake for close up views of the massive icebergs and calving glaciers. If the weather is just right we will see Mount Fairweather rising above the ice and peaks.

Day 12:

After an early morning breakfast, we pack up one last time and head through the ‘bergs’ and back into the current of the Alsek River. Around lunch we float into the Dry Bay outpost where you will say goodbye to most of the guides and take a spectacular small plane flight to Yakutat. Most guests will take the late afternoon Alaska airlines flight to Juneau. (day 12 includes breakfast, lunch, and the charter plane to Yakutat)

Suggested Reading

We will carry a small river library. But for those interested in some pre trip reading here are some great options. You can order them from your local bookstore or from Amazon below:

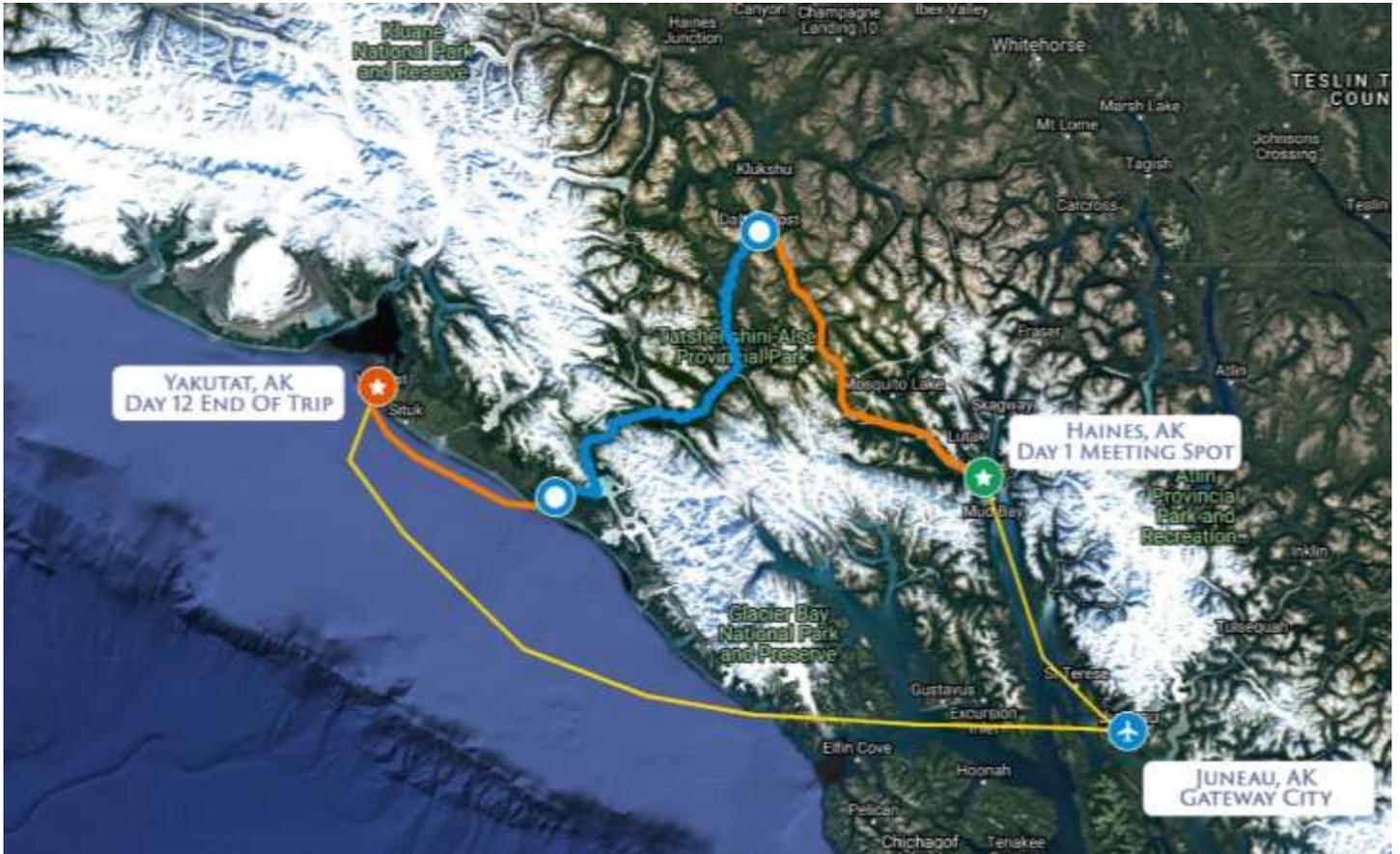
- [The Complete Guide to the Tatshenshini River - by Russ Lyman, Joe Ordonez & Mike Speaks](#)
- [After the Ice Age – The Return of Life to Glaciated North America by E.C. Pielou](#)
- [Never Turn Back: The Life of Whitewater Pioneer Walt Blackadar](#)

Flights / Getting Here and Away

River Location Map

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[Go to our Tatshenshini-Alsek River Map on Google Maps](#)

The Tatshenshini/Alsek is very remote and the trip there is itself part of the adventure. **The Tatshenshini-Alsek trip begins in Haines Alaska and ends in Yakutat Alaska.** Juneau, the Alaskan capital, is the gateway city.

Many people purchase a round trip flight in and out of Juneau and then add the short hops to Haines and back from Yakutat.
Or
If flying with Alaska Airlines they purchase a multi-city flight: Home to Juneau (then a separate seaplane to Haines) and then Yakutat home.

If you have any questions about flights please call or email.



Getting There: Juneau, AK and then to Haines

Guests want to arrive in Haines AK by 3:30pm on Day 1. This allows for time to check in and for any weather delays. A welcome dinner and night 1 at the Halsingland is included in trip.

- **Start with a commercial flight to Juneau International Airport (JNU):** You can arrive the morning of day 1 if you get an earlier flight (see below), fly in the night before, or arrive a little earlier if you want to check out Juneau or Haines before the trip.
- **Then get an [Alaska Seaplane Shuttle](#) to Haines (or a Ferry): You want to try and arrive by 3:30 on Day 1.** We meet at 6 pm that evening, **but weather delays are not uncommon.** There is also the option of taking a ferry. The Ferry takes about 6 hours. It is beautiful! But it takes a while and the schedules change all the time (and they are not good with the internet – so we can’t provide an accurate link:)). But if you have the time it is a wonderful adventure.
- Alaska Seaplanes will shuttle to you to the Halsingland Hotel: The hotel is a short walk into town (and many times the shuttle driver will give you a town tour on the way in:)).

Getting Home: Flying back from Yakutat to Juneau and then home

The trip ends in the early afternoon of day 12 at the Yakutat airport (YAK) – We will drop you off in time for the late afternoon Alaska Air flight to Juneau.

- **Purchase your Alaska Air flight from Yakutat (YAK) to Juneau on Day 12:** This can also be part of a bigger round-trip multi city ticket – home > Juneau > Yakutat > home: [Alaska Air >](#)
- **Purchase your flight from Juneau home:** The Alaska air flight from Yakutat arrives in Juneau between 7pm and 8pm. So many people spend an extra day or two in Juneau on this end of the trip.



Pre and Post trip Accommodations and Things to do

Juneau

Juneau is a port city, a major Cruise Ship terminal, and the bustling capital of Alaska. It is also very much a mountain town and is a great place to spend an extra night or two after your trip. They also have a dizzying selection of very expensive alpaca appare!!

Hotels and things to do in Juneau:

Downtown Hotels: There are a number of options. The Alaskan Hotel is historic, has a great bar with live music, and is right downtown (<http://www.thealaskanhotel.com/>). Keep in mind that it is older and not the most quiet place.

Food and drink: Once again there are many options. We like the Devils Club Brewing Company (<http://www.devilsclubbrewing.com/>), The Narrows Bar for craft cocktails and Juneau hipsters (<https://the-narrows.business.site/>), and Amalga Distillery (<https://www.amalgadistillery.com/>). There are also many eating options and taco joints along the cruise line strip.

Hotels near the Juneau Airport:

The Juneau airport is about 15 minutes from Downtown. For people staying only a night lodging at one of the hotels right at the airport can be the easiest option. There are a number of options - make sure to ask if they have a complimentary shuttle (UBER works as well).

Haines:

Haines is a small little fjord and mountain town and it is worth spending an extra day there before the trip to explore if you have the time. The Halsingland Hotel is a 10-minute walk to the small downtown. We recommend Big Al’s Salmon shack for one of your meals:). There is also a number of gear stores for last minute trip needs.

If you are staying extra nights in Haines we recommend the Halsingland. They are a small hotel so booking directly through their website or by email or phone helps them a lot. Make sure to tell them you are with Momentum if you are coming in early so you don’t have to change rooms for night 1 with us.

Halsingland Hotel: <http://www.hotelhalsingland.com/>