

Wild, Resilient, and Sacred

From the bottom of the deepest glacial fjord to the summit of its highest peak, Glacier Bay encompasses some of our continent’s most amazing scenery and wilderness.

It is a land reborn, a world returning to life, a living lesson in resilience. If ever we needed a place to intrigue and inspire us, this is it. Glacier Bay is a Homeland, a living laboratory, a national park, a designated wilderness, a biosphere reserve, and a world heritage site. It’s a marine park, where great adventure awaits by boating into inlets, coves, and hideaway harbors. It’s also a land park, with its snow-capped mountains, spectacular glaciers, and emerald-green forests. From summit to sea, Glacier Bay’s wildness is remote, dynamic, and intact.

Find additional trip planning info including our summer program schedule, event calendar, science, history, maps, and much more on our website (And on the NPS App!)

NPS.gov/GLBA →



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Find information on trip planning, permitting, wildlife, safety, and more in this newspaper, online, or from a ranger during your visit.
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Park rangers in Glacier Bay offer programs daily, and are available at the Visitor Center (upstairs in the Glacier Bay Lodge) and the Visitor Information Station.
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Hiking and trailhead information can be found on your park map, or contact the Visitor Information Station for additional details.
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The Glacier Bay official Visitor Center is located upstairs in the Glacier Bay Lodge. Check our hours of operation online (QR Code above) or on the NPS App.
- 

Glacier Bay is bear country. Familiarize yourself with the wildlife of Glacier Bay to keep yourself and wild animals safe.
- 

Whale watching is a highlight of any trip to Glacier Bay. Look for humpback and killer whales but keep your distance. Binoculars recommended!
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Glacier Bay features world-class kayaking opportunities for the experienced sea-kayaker. Stop by or call the Visitor Information Station for boating info.
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Glacier Bay’s only designated campground is in Bartlett Cove. In much of Glacier Bay’s wilderness, there are no facilities or designated campgrounds.
- 

Over 2.2 million acres of Glacier Bay is designated wilderness, the highest level of protection offered to public lands in the U.S.
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Bringing your boat to Glacier Bay? Connect with the Visitor Information Station for boating information and permitting.
- 

Emergency?
Call 911. Note your location to the operator.
In the national park? Call 907 697-2651
Radio: Marine channel 16
Non-emergency line: 907 683-9555



NPS PHOTO / S. TEVEBAUGH



NPS PHOTO / S. NELSON



NPS PHOTO / S. TEVEBAUGH

Top: The icy face of Lamplugh Glacier at low tide. Middle: Tribal members arrive at a dedication event in traditional dugout canoes. Bottom: Scientists gather oceanography data near Margerie Glacier in winter.

Welcome

To Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Homeland of the Lingít since time immemorial.

Nestled in the pristine wilderness of Alaska, Glacier Bay National Park beckons with its awe-inspiring beauty and captivating wildlife. As you step foot into this dynamic landscape, prepare to be enchanted by towering glaciers, ancient fjords, and the rhythmic calving of tidewater glaciers. Whether you arrive by cruise ship, tour vessel, or your own private boat, Glacier Bay promises an unforgettable adventure.

Begin your exploration at the historic Glacier Bay Lodge, where you can rest and recharge amidst breathtaking views. Learn about the Xunaa Lingít, who have called this land Homeland since time immemorial, and discover the wonders that await you. Venture through developed trails in Bartlett Cove, through lush forests and along the rugged shoreline. As you explore the 2.7 million acres of designated wilderness, witness the grandeur of glaciers as they flow into the sea. Glacier Bay is a symphony of nature, a place where puffins dive, bears roam, and the ancient ice whispers its timeless secrets.

Whether you’re a seasoned adventurer or a curious first-time visitor, Glacier Bay invites you to create lasting memories. So grab your binoculars, breathe in the crisp air, and embark on a journey that will forever connect you to this extraordinary corner of the world.



PARK RANGERS ARE READY TO GREET YOU ON YOUR VISIT!

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Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve

The National Park Service was established on August 25, 1916, “... to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life... and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

Glacier Bay National Monument was founded in 1925, and became a national park in 1980 with the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA).

Mailing Address
PO Box 140
Gustavus, AK 99826

E-mail
glba_administration@nps.gov

Web
nps.gov/glba

Park Information
907 697-2230

Camper and Boater Information
907 697-2627

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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Call 911. Note your location to the operator.
In the national park? Call 907 697-2651
Radio: Marine channel 16
Non-Emergencies: 907 683-9555

Things to Do

Boating

Explore Glacier Bay’s waterways by kayak or small boat to experience glaciers, wildlife, and quiet coves. Whether by paddle or by motor, the scenery is stunning from the water. Start your journey connecting with the Visitor Information Station, the permitting and backcountry office. The park website is your source for permitting needs, head to go.nps.gov/GlacierBayBoating to get started.

Camping

Camping in Glacier Bay offers a true wilderness experience. A first-come, first-served campground is available in Bartlett Cove, or venture deep into the bay with a boat drop-off for a remote experience. Learn more at the Visitor Information Station, the permitting and backcountry office.

Hiking

Trails near Bartlett Cove range from easy shoreline walks to forested routes through old-growth spruce and hemlock. Off-trail hiking is nearly unlimited, but can be extremely rugged. Find trail information on the back page of this guide, or contact the Visitor Center and/or Visitor Information Station.

Tour the Bay

Take a boat ride into Glacier Bay to see tidewater glaciers, whales, wildlife, and dramatic mountains. The park “Day-boat” is operated by the Glacier Bay Lodge and departs each morning from the Bartlett Cove Public Use Dock. Park rangers join you onboard to guide your day trip in the bay. Book your tour through the Glacier Bay Lodge: VisitGlacierBay.com | 888 229-8687

Talk to a Park Ranger

The Visitor Center is located upstairs in the Glacier Bay Lodge. The ranger desk has limited hours, be sure to check the schedule (Schedule available online). The Visitor Information Station is staffed with backcountry rangers every day from May 1-Sept 30.

Attend a Ranger Program

Join ranger-led walks or evening programs to learn about Glacier Bay’s ecology, history, and wildlife. Programs are designed for all ages and interest levels. Programs are offered out of the Visitor Center, located at the Glacier Bay Lodge.

Learn about Lingít Homeland

Glacier Bay National Park is the ancestral Homeland of the Xunaa and Yakutat Lingít clans who sustained themselves for centuries on the abundant resources of the land and sea. Visit Xunaa Shuká Hít, Huna Ancestors’ House, to learn more about these deep connections.



Join a park ranger on the forest loop guided walk, offered daily. NPS Photo / S. Tevebaugh



Backcountry camp at sunset in the Beardslee Islands. NPS Photo / S. Lacy



Visit Yaa Naa Néx Kootéeyaa, The Healing Totem Pole, and a traditional dugout canoe in Bartlett Cove

Places to Go

Visitor Center

Located in the historic Glacier Bay Lodge
Find a park ranger at the information desk upstairs in the Glacier Bay Lodge. The desk is staffed by a ranger at midday. Rangers lead a 90-minute guided walk on the forest trail daily.

Find maps, a park stamp, visitor guides, a selection of Alaska Geographic items for sale, and more at the ranger desk. Watch a park film in the lodge theater! For ranger programs, check the Bartlett Cove Program Schedule, or the event calendar page on nps.gov/GLBA.

Visitor Information Station

Located at the head of the Bartlett Cove Public Use Dock
The Visitor Information Station (VIS) is your go-to spot for permitting, boating, camping, and other backcountry information. The VIS holds daily required orientations for boaters and campers. Knowing the regulations, closures, and safety information while boating in Glacier Bay is your responsibility, and the VIS is your resource for questions on these topics.

Find maps, a park stamp, permitting information, and a small selection of Alaska Geographic items for sale. A gear cache is available for users of the Bartlett Cove Campground.

Xunaa Shuká Hít

Located along the Tlingit Trail in Bartlett Cove, approximately 1/4 mile from the lodge
Xunaa Shuká Hít (Huna Ancestors’ House) was dedicated in 2016. Discover the beauty and significance of this building, a collaborative effort between the National Park Service and Hoonah Indian Association.

For visitor programs at Xunaa Shuká Hít, check the Bartlett Cove Program Schedule, or the “Event Calendar” page on nps.gov/GLBA or the NPS App. Even when closed, the exterior of the building exhibits incredible carving and craftsmanship, and there are several totem poles nearby.

Healing Totem Pole

Located outside the Visitor Information Station
Yaa Naa Néx Kootéeyaa, the Healing Totem Pole, stands at the head of the public use dock in Bartlett Cove. Designed by tribal elders, culture bearers, artists and National Park Service staff, it compresses centuries of history into 20 feet of yellow cedar. Witness the intricately carved totem pole and learn the story it tells by visiting the totem pole in Bartlett Cove on your visit. Yaa Naa Néx Kootéeyaa is located at the top of the Bartlett Cove Public Use Dock, just outside the Visitor Information Station.

Humpback Whale Skeleton Exhibit

Located along the Tlingit Trail, below the lodge, near the VIS.
Visitors to Bartlett Cove have the rare opportunity to get up close and personal with an impressive forty-five foot adult humpback whale skeleton. Currently, this is the second largest re-articulated humpback whale skeleton on display in the world.

Trails

Check the trails guide on page 3.
Bartlett Cove is the only developed area in Glacier Bay, and is the place to find hiking trails.

Glacier Bay Backcountry

Glacier Bay’s got wilderness
Exploring the backcountry of Glacier Bay is a bucket-list goal for many intrepid travelers. Wild places where few humans have stepped foot abound in the park’s backcountry. Start at the Visitor Information Station when you reach Bartlett Cove.

Need a Map?

Stop by the Visitor Information Station in Bartlett Cove, the Visitor Center when a park ranger is on duty, or find a selection of maps online at nps.gov. Scan the QR code on page 4 for a direct link.



The Glacier Bay Lodge is open each summer for visitors to the park



Backcountry rangers are available at the Visitor Information Station (VIS)



Visit the skeleton of a whale that once swam the waters of Glacier Bay



Stay Safe in the Park



Boating Safety

Pre-plan for success
Knowing the regulations, closures, and safety information while boating in Glacier Bay is your responsibility. Utilize the **map on page 4**, the “Glacier Bay Guide” to park waters, as a reference. **Boaters (and campers) are required to attend an orientation at the Visitor Information Station.**

Tides
Tides in Glacier Bay can swing over twenty vertical feet, twice per day. This equates to a large area of land that appears “dry” at low tide. Bring a tide chart on your trip, and be sure to secure boats, kayaks, and gear well above the high tide line. Some waterways are only accessible at notably high tides.



Hypothermia

In the backcountry, good rain gear is a must. Staying dry will help you stay warm. Prevention and early recognition of hypothermia are vital to staying safe. **Early symptoms:** Violent shivering, changes in mood or consciousness, irritability, cool, pale skin, slow or weak pulse, slow, shallow breathing. **Treatment:** Provide shelter from cold, rain, wet ground, and wind. Replace wet clothing with dry options. Techniques to stay warm include: Wrap hypothermic person in a space blanket, sleeping bag, or ground cloth/tarp. Wrap warm water bottles in cloth and place in the sleeping bag with the person. Provide close

contact with another warm person. **DO NOT:** Give alcohol, rub or massage the affected area, or expose to excessive heat.



Glacier Areas

Dynamic beauty in motion
Glaciers have long captivated those who witness them. These massive rivers of ice are always on the move, shaping mountains and creating new landscapes. As they shift and change, traveling near them can be hazardous.

Landslides and Tsunamis
Landslides have occurred in Glacier Bay historically, and when a landslide ends in the ocean, a tsunami may occur. Be aware of your surroundings when traveling in glacier country, and be prepared to handle potential emergency scenarios.



Wildlife Safety

Humpback Whales
Humpback whales rely on Glacier Bay’s productive marine environment to feed each summer. Stay 1/4 nautical mile (nm) away from humpbacks and do not alter course to pursue whales within 1/2 mile. Pay attention to “whale waters” speed and course restrictions which change throughout the season. Check current whale waters at the Visitor Information Station or online at [nps.gov/GLBA](https://www.nps.gov/GLBA). **Additional info on the “Glacier Bay Guide” page 4.**

Stay moose aware
Moose cause more injuries per year than bears. Moose are not inherently aggres-

sive, but will defend themselves if they perceive a threat. Give moose ample room, speak to them calmly. Unlike bears, it is OK to run from a charging moose. Try to put an obstacle (tree, rock, etc.) between yourself and a charging moose. If a Moose’s ears are laid back or hackles are up, it might be agitated by your presence.

Black and brown bears
While walking, hiking, or camping in Glacier Bay, you may encounter either a black or brown bear. The vast majority of these encounters do not result in human injury or property damage. You can help prevent injury to yourself or to the bear by taking a few basic precautions: Stay alert. Be aware of what goes on around your campsite. Make noise and travel in groups of two or more. Choose routes that offer good visibility. Keep your personal items and food within reach. Avoid streams with spawning fish. If you carry bear spray, know how to use it. See the column at right to consider what actions to take when and if you encounter a bear.

Respect wildlife
Feeding wildlife is prohibited. Utilize the “Glacier Bay Guide” on page 4 for restrictions on islands closed to protect seabirds, marine mammal closures, or find additional regulations on the back cover, page 8.



Pets

Pets are permitted, **on leash**, on developed roads, the public dock, and specific beach areas in Bartlett Cove only. Pets are **not** allowed on land elsewhere in Glacier Bay National Park.

If You Encounter a Bear...

When encountering humans, most bears will run away, approach curiously, appear to ignore the situation, or act defensively.



- If you see a bear from afar:**
- Monitor the bear’s movement.
 - Change your course to avoid them.
 - Keep your gear under direct control.
 - Group together without blocking the bear’s route.
 - Talk calmly to make the bear aware of your presence, avoid surprising it.

- If the bear moves toward you:**
- Stand your ground and talk calmly.
 - Allow bear to pass peacefully.

- If the bear becomes focused on you:**
- Be assertive and elevate your defense: Clap your hands, wave arms, use noisemakers such as air horns, or bang pots and pans together.

- If the bear approaches closely or charges:**
- Continue to stand your ground.
 - Use bear spray if you have it.
 - Few charges end in contact.

- If the bear makes intentional contact:**
- This is likely a predatory attack, fight back.

- 
- If you surprise a bear:**
- The bear may act defensively: snorting, popping its jaw, or charging.
 - Stand your ground, talk calmly.
 - Attempt to back away slowly.
 - Do NOT run, this could trigger a predatory response.

- If you surprise a bear and it charges:**
- Use bear pepper spray.
 - If bear makes intentional contact: this is likely a **defensive** attack, play dead.





Get the Latest Schedule of Events

Daily ranger programs are offered at the Glacier Bay Lodge and Visitor Center. Tribal programs may be available at Xunaa Shuká Hit (Huna Ancestors’ House). Scan this QR code to find the “Event Calendar” on [nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov) and the NPS App, or visit the Glacier Bay Lodge where a physical program schedule is posted.



Trails in Bartlett Cove

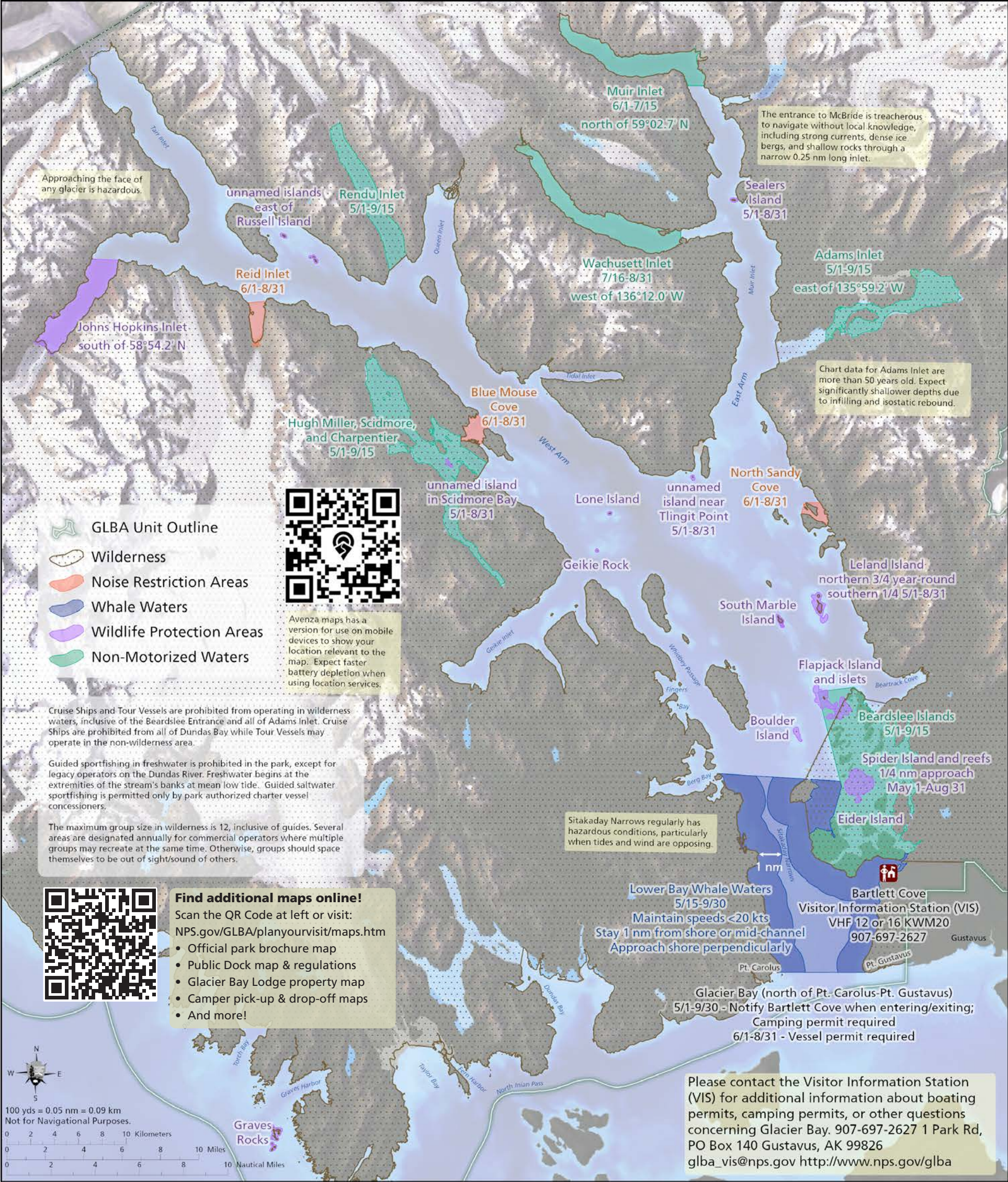
Bartlett Cove is the only developed area within Glacier Bay. The forests and shorelines offer great hiking opportunities. Near the park’s headquarters in Bartlett Cove, several maintained trails are available for day-hikes.

Bartlett Cove Trail Information				
	Distance	Time	Difficulty	Description
Forest Trail	1 mile	30 - 90 min.	Easy	Wheelchair access between Glacier Bay Lodge and a viewing deck at Blackwater Pond. Park rangers lead daily guided walks on this trail.
Tlingit Trail	1/2 mile (one-way)	10 - 30 min.	Easy	An easy stroll along the forested shoreline edge. Find interpretive signage detailing native plants, humpback whales, a traditional Lingít dugout canoe, and see Xunaa Shuká Hit (The Huna Ancestors’ House).
Bartlett River Trail	4 miles (out and back)	4 - 5 hours	Moderate	This rugged trail winds through the dense forest of Glacier Bay to reach the Bartlett River as it joins the waters of the Bay inside the Beardslee Islands. Watch for roots and rocks on the trail.
Bartlett Lake Trail	10 miles (out and back)	7 - 8 hours	Moderate to Strenuous	The Bartlett Lake trail has two trailheads: one in Bartlett Cove, one accessible to the north of Mountain View Road in Gustavus. Note: The 10 miles noted here is based on an out-and-back hike starting at the Bartlett Cove trailhead. Be prepared to route-find on this trail.



Glacier Bay Guide
For Boaters, Kayakers, and Campers

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Select Glacier Bay Regulations through the Year

	Apr. 1 - Apr. 30	May 1 - May 14	May 15 - May 30	Jun. 1 - Jun. 30	Jul. 1 - Jul. 15	Jul. 16 - Aug. 31	Sep. 1 - Sep. 15	Sep. 16 - Sep. 30	Oct. 1 - Oct. 31	Nov. 1 - Mar. 31
Wildlife Protection Areas	Stay at least 100 yds from from all hauled out sea lions and nesting bird colonies year-round, unless otherwise noted. Stay 1/4 nm from humpback whales. Approach other marine mammals no closer than 100 yds. The feeding, touching, teasing, frightening or intentional disturbing of wildlife nesting, breeding, or other activities is prohibited anywhere in the park.									
	Nesting Bird and Sea Lion Closures (100 yds from shore) - Geikie Rock, Graves Rocks, Lone Island, unnamed islands northeast of Russell Island, Cape Fairweather area, Cormorant Rock area, Leland Island (northern 3/4 of island), Flapjack Island complex, Boulder Island, Eider Island, South Marble Island (50 yds on southern end when sea lions absent)									
	Nesting Bird Closures (100 yds from shore) - Sealers Island, unnamed island near Tlingit Point, unnamed island in Scidmore Bay, Leland Island (southern 1/4 of island)									
	Harbor Seal Closures - Spider Island Complex (1/4 nm from shore)									
	Harbor Seal Closures Johns Hopkins Inlet closed to everyone				Harbor Seal Closures - Johns Hopkins Inlet 10 kts restricted speed and no approaching seals on ice closer than 1/4 nm; cruise ships not permitted					
Non-Motorized Waters	Adams Inlet, Rendu Inlet, Hugh Miller Inlet, Beardslee Islands - no motor vessels or seaplanes									
			Muir Inlet - no motor vessels or seaplanes			Wachusett Inlet - no motor vessels or seaplanes				
Whale Waters			Lower Bay: maximum 20 kt speed, stay 1 nm from shore or mid-channel (does not include vessels ≤18' length, those engaged in fishing, or those operating solely under sail), and only approach shore perpendicularly. Additional temporary restrictions on speed or other areas may be in place.							
Noise Restrictions			No use of generators or other non-propulsive motors, except while in transit or using a windlass (10pm-6am) - Reid Inlet, Blue Mouse Cove, North Sandy Cove							
Other	Camping permits and orientation required for Glacier Bay & Vessels must notify Bartlett Cove upon entry/exit									
	Private vessels must have permit and orientation									
	Bartlett Cove temporary moorings with permit allowed									
	Bartlett Cove Dock restrictions variable throughout year - please see Bartlett Cove VIS									

Popular Wildlife of Glacier Bay



Find even more wild-
life from Glacier Bay
online!



By Sea



Humpback Whale
Megaptera novaeangliae
Humpback whales have been studied by park staff since the 1980s, one of the longest running humpback whale monitoring programs in the world. Best spotted by their blow, this distinctive mist occurs when whales exhale warm air into colder air.



Killer Whale
Orcinus spp.
Three genetically distinct types are found in the park: Fish-eating “resident” killer whales (*Orcinus orca ater*), marine mammal-eating “Bigg’s” killer whales (*Orcinus orca rectipinnus*), and “offshore” killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) which primarily eat sharks.



Sea Otter
Enhydra lutris
Nearly extirpated in the late 1800s due to fur trading, sea otters are a true conservation success story. A busy diet helps keep sea otters warm. They lack blubber, and rely on eating and their fur to stay warm in frigid waters. They have the densest fur of any mammal on earth.



Harbor Seal
Phoca vitulina
These seals have unique dappled gray coats. A thick layer of blubber keeps them warm, and they rely on floating ice to stay safe from predators. They rely on this ice, calved off from nearby glaciers, to give birth to pups each year. Look for seals near tidewater glaciers.

By Land



Brown Bear
Ursus arctos
Coastal brown bears in Southeast Alaska are the same species as the grizzly bear, but grizzly bears are found in interior Alaska and have a distinctly different diet. Brown bears have a prominent shoulder hump and a curved, “dish-shaped” facial profile.



Black Bear
Ursus americanus
Forest dwellers found throughout the Bay. Black bears have a straight facial profile and prominent ears. They lack the shoulder hump of brown bears, and may feature white marking on their chest. Glacier Bay is home to a unique color-morph of black bears: the glacier bear, or blue bear.



Mountain Goat
Oreamnos americanus
Mountain goats have thick white coats of hollow hairs that help keep them warm in extreme weather. Goats may have been among the first terrestrial mammals to colonize Glacier Bay after the ice age, able to traverse mountains and stay above the thick ice.



Porcupine
Erethizon dorsatum
Able to use their quill-covered backside for protection from predators, these members of the rodent family are well known for this defensive mechanism. They do not shoot their quills. Porcupines are often found scaling tall trees to reach their tasty, tender leaves.

Glacial History



18,000 years ago*
During the Great Ice Age, a massive ice sheet thousands of feet thick covers present-day Glacier Bay National Park and much of North America.



14,000 years ago
Following the Great Ice Age, local sea levels are higher than current day. Much of the bay is filled with seawater, and present day Bartlett Cove is entirely underwater.



2,500 years ago
Glaciers and ice fields in the area grow. A single large glacier begins overtaking the majority of Glacier Bay. Note the amount of land pushed in front of the glacier as it advances.



350 years ago
The great glacier has covered much of the current-day Glacier Bay. A massive outwash plain has been deposited at the head of the glacier and covers modern-day Bartlett Cove and the entrance of the bay.



250 years ago (1775)
The great glacier surges forward, reaching Icy Strait. This is likely the period when the Xunaa Lingít were pushed out of their Homeland by the advancing ice.



1790
After reaching Icy Strait, the glacier stalls and begins to retreat. Captain George Vancouver visits the area in 1794 and describes Glacier Bay as “a compact sheet of ice as far as the eye could distinguish.”



1890
Western visitors begin traveling to the bay for research, exploration, and tourism. John Muir first visits in 1879, led into the bay by Lingít guides. Glacier Bay National Monument would be established in 1925.



2000 / Present Day
Today, the great glacier that once filled the entirety of the bay has split and returned to the heads of inlets and bays within the park, still stunning in their individual majesty.

*All dates are approximate.

Glacier Bay Today

Pick up an official park map on your visit.





Homeland

Dressed in a traditional beaded vest, Lingít elder, Wakéesh Don Starbard, shares with visitors: “There’s a good balance now. Yes, our young people are going off to college to become successful. But our language is strong. Our dance is strong. Our canoe culture is strong, and, most importantly, our connection to Homeland remains strong.” All summer long, visitors gather at the Tribal House. They listen to traditional stories and explore the intricately carved and painted building. Tribal interpreters working for the National Park Service (NPS) and the Hoonah Indian Association (HIA), the tribal government, share deeply of their traditions, history, enduring connection to Glacier Bay Homeland, and the collaborative efforts that led to the completion of this magnificent building.

For countless generations, the Xunaa Lingít sustained themselves on the abundant resources found throughout Glacier Bay prior to the Little Ice Age. Although villages inside the bay were overrun by glacial advances in the 1700s, the Xunaa Lingít re-established fish camps and seasonal villages soon after glacial retreat. Establishment of Glacier Bay National Monument in 1925 (and later National Park) and implementation of laws and park regulations led to a period of alienation and strained relationships between tribal members and the NPS. Time and new understandings have brought much healing. In recent years, the NPS and HIA worked cooperatively to reinvigorate traditional activities, develop cultural programs for youth and adults, amend regulations to allow for a broader range of traditional harvests in park boundaries, and preserve oral histories.



“Walking in the footsteps of our ancestors” Details from Yaa Naa Néx Kootéeyaa, the Healing Totem Pole, in Bartlett Cove.

Two New Totem Poles in Bartlett Cove

At the entrance to Glacier Bay National Park, Haa L’éelk’w Hás Aani Kootéeyaa, Our Grandparents’ Land Totem Pole, welcomes all to the Homeland of the Xunaa and Yakutat Lingít. On August 22 2025, tribal members breathed life into this intricately carved kootéeyaa, designed to honor the strength and life-giving forces of Lingít women and the arts traditionally associate with them. In Lingít society, women are matriarchs, weavers, gatherers, song keepers and so much more.



NPS PHOTO / S. TEVEBAUGH

Paddling into the Future, Holding Firmly to the Past: Gazing out over Bartlett Cove, Haa Léelk’w Hás Éil’i Kootéeyaa, Our Grandparents’ Ocean Totem Pole, greets all who arrive to Xunaa Lingít Homeland by boat. This richly carved and painted totem pole depicting a Lingít man holding both a canoe paddle and the “holdfast” or root of a bull kelp reminds us that the Lingít continue their journey into the future while steadfastly holding to the honored traditions of their ancestors.



NPS PHOTO / S. TEVEBAUGH



“The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science.” - Albert Einstein

A Living Laboratory

Visitors and researchers from around the world explore and admire Glacier Bay. The dramatic retreat of glaciers created a premiere scientific laboratory. Explorer John Muir initiated the park’s remarkable legacy of scientific inquiry in the late 1800s. Botanist William Cooper secured protected status for Glacier Bay following his research about how plant life follows glacial retreat. In this tradition, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve has a forty-one year time series studying humpback whales in the bay, thirty-three years studying the oceanography of the Bay (the characteristics of the water itself), and twenty-six years studying underwater acoustics of the Bay.

From whales and plankton to climate and otters, research is a common occurrence in the protected laboratory of

Glacier Bay. This scientific study provides a greater understanding and appreciation for the wilderness we explore.

Dr. Cooper’s Vision

People visit Glacier Bay to view amazing scenery, dramatic glaciers, and spectacular wildlife. Yet a century ago one man saw something else of great value here: incredible opportunities for science. Botanist William Skinner Cooper (1884–1978) came to Glacier Bay in 1916 to study how plants colonize newly-exposed ground following glacial retreat. He recognized Glacier Bay as the best place on earth to witness the process of “plant succession,” a fascinating interplay of plants, nutrients, soil, and time. In this process the bare ground emerging from beneath a glacier goes through various stages to become

a rich, thick, mossy evergreen forest of towering spruces and hemlocks. Dr. Cooper saw a natural laboratory in Glacier Bay where scientific principles could be discovered as well as tested; a place where completely new scientific questions could be asked. As a prominent member of the Ecological Society of America, Dr. Cooper successfully led

a committee of colleagues in a vigorous campaign to lobby President Calvin Coolidge for protection of the Glacier Bay area in 1925 as a national monument. One of the monument’s fundamental mandates was to preserve the opportunity to conduct scientific studies, making Glacier Bay a true “park for science.”



HARBOR SEALS ARE MONITORED IN JOHNS HOPKINS INLET TO STUDY THEIR POPULATION AND BEHAVIORAL TRENDS.

Glacier Bay Crossword

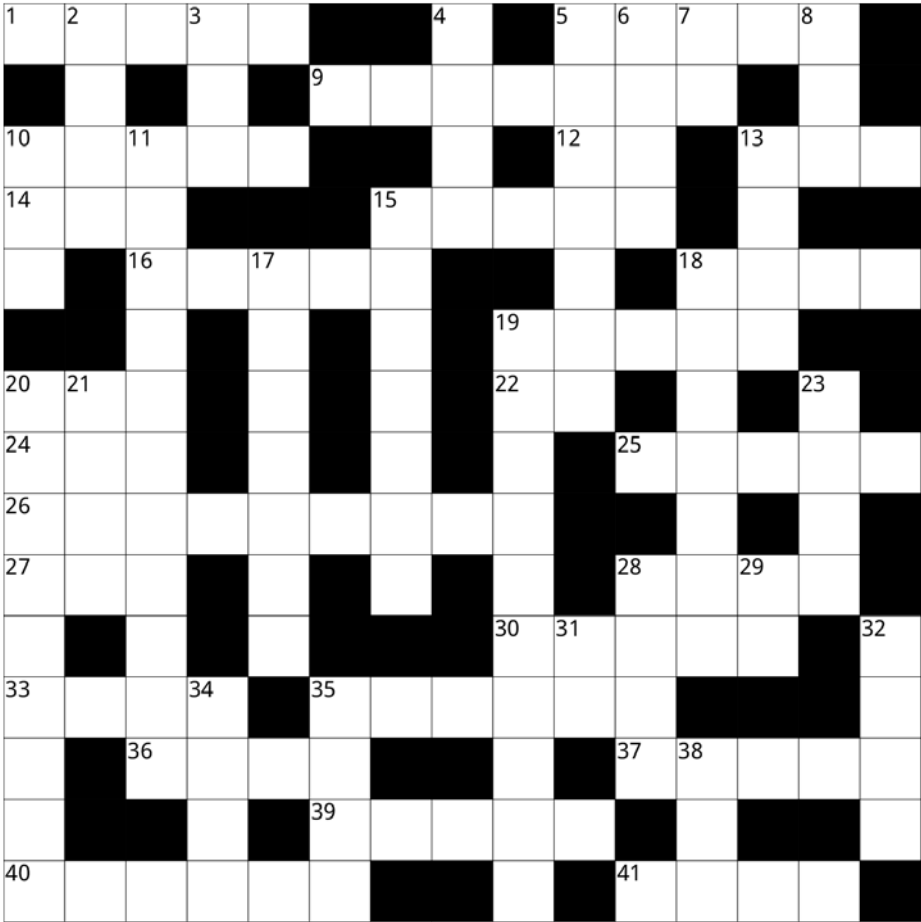
ACROSS

1 - A pebble, or larger. Sometimes carved by a glacier, often by water.
5 - Common Alaskan shrub, forms impenetrable thickets, fixes nitrogen.
9 - Glacial landform: Streamlined, tear-drop-shaped hill formed by glacial ice. Composed of glacial till, like a moraine.
10 - Plural: Name for large group of floating birds or sea otters.
12 - Adverb: A famous John Muir quote begins, “Nature ____ a poet...”
13 - Pollinator
14 - (Abbreviation): Name of first commercial steamer in Glacier Bay, 1883. Eliza Scidmore was a passenger.
15 - The National Park Service administers park lands in ____ for all Americans.
16 - Last name of prospector who mined gold near Reid Glacier, spent nearly 32 summers in Glacier Bay.
18 - Examples: Kittiwake, Bonaparte’s.
19 - Large bird of prey, active in daylight hours. USA!
20 - Female moose or whale.
22 - Indefinite article.
24 - Nickle, copper, and gold ____ is present in Glacier Bay.
25 - Largest water body.
26 - First initial, last name of man who accompanied Harry F. Reid on his 1890 study trip. A glacier carries his namesake.
27 - Dryas grows in a ____ only 5-10 years after glacial retreat.
28 - Plural: Congressional acts or ____ establish national parks, whereas presidential proclamations establish national monuments.
30 - Hollow feather of bird, or spiny hair of porcupine.

33 - A device used in fishing.
35 - Males produce deep thumping sounds from inflated neck sacs. Nicknamed, “hooters”.
36 - Color of glowing alpenglow.
37 - Small mouse-like mammal with long, pointed snout.
39 - Plural: Antlers of male moose.
40 - Could describe a glacier’s slow, consistent movement.
41 - Not found in Glacier Bay since the park’s formation until captured on a trail cam in 2020.

DOWN

2 - Only amphibian in Glacier Bay
3 - Abbreviation: A common title or name for a park ranger working in nature.
4 - Last name: Naturalist who came to Glacier Bay in 1879 to prove that glaciers created the valleys in Yosemite, CA.
5 - Inhabitant of the state in which Glacier Bay is located.
6 - A bird or plant check ____ is a handy item to have when exploring Glacier Bay.
7 - Abbreviation (unofficial): Small European country on a peninsula bordering the Baltic and North seas. Landforms heavily influenced by Glaciers.
8 - Fish eggs.
10 - Dangerous water current caused by meeting of cross currents or tides.
11 - Mountain range in Glacier Bay named by Captain Cook in 1778.
13 - Color of glacial ice.
15 - Calving glaciers sound similar to,
17 - Plural: Rare in Glacier Bay, pelagic birds similar to puffins. Two versions found in Glacier Bay are the Parakeet, or Rhinoceros.

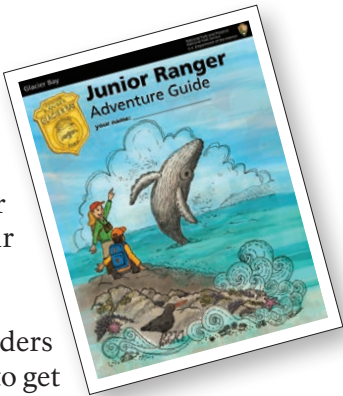


18 - The last ____ period reached its maximum extent in Glacier Bay in about 1750.
19 - One of these occurred in 1958 triggering a destructive tsunami in Lituya Bay, washing away trees on a ridge line 1,700 feet in elevation.
20 - Fish-eating birds, excellent swimmers. Often seen “sunning” their wings to dry.
21 - Shorthand, latin scientific name for a killer whale.
23 - Plural: Handy items to have when your boat motor stops working.
28 - Plural, joke: “The sun should come out any minute now”, “The glacier calves every 2 minutes, on the dot”,

“The park ranger will be switching on the northern lights tonight at 8 pm.”
29 - Acronym: Water line.
31 - The ____ Coast Guard enforces regulations and initiates search and rescues in Alaskan waterways.
32 - Plural: Adult female bears.
34 - Adjective: The sound a glacier makes is...
35 - Large rotating currents often found in the Gulf of Alaska and worldwide.
38 - Abbreviation: The Alaska Marine ____ connects Southeast Alaska communities where the road system cannot.
Answers on back cover.

Become a Junior Ranger!

Are you ready to begin your Junior Ranger adventure? Find a park ranger at the Visitor Center or Visitor Information Station to pick up your Junior Ranger activity booklet. The Junior Ranger Adventure Guide will inspire wonder and insipiration during your visit to Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve!

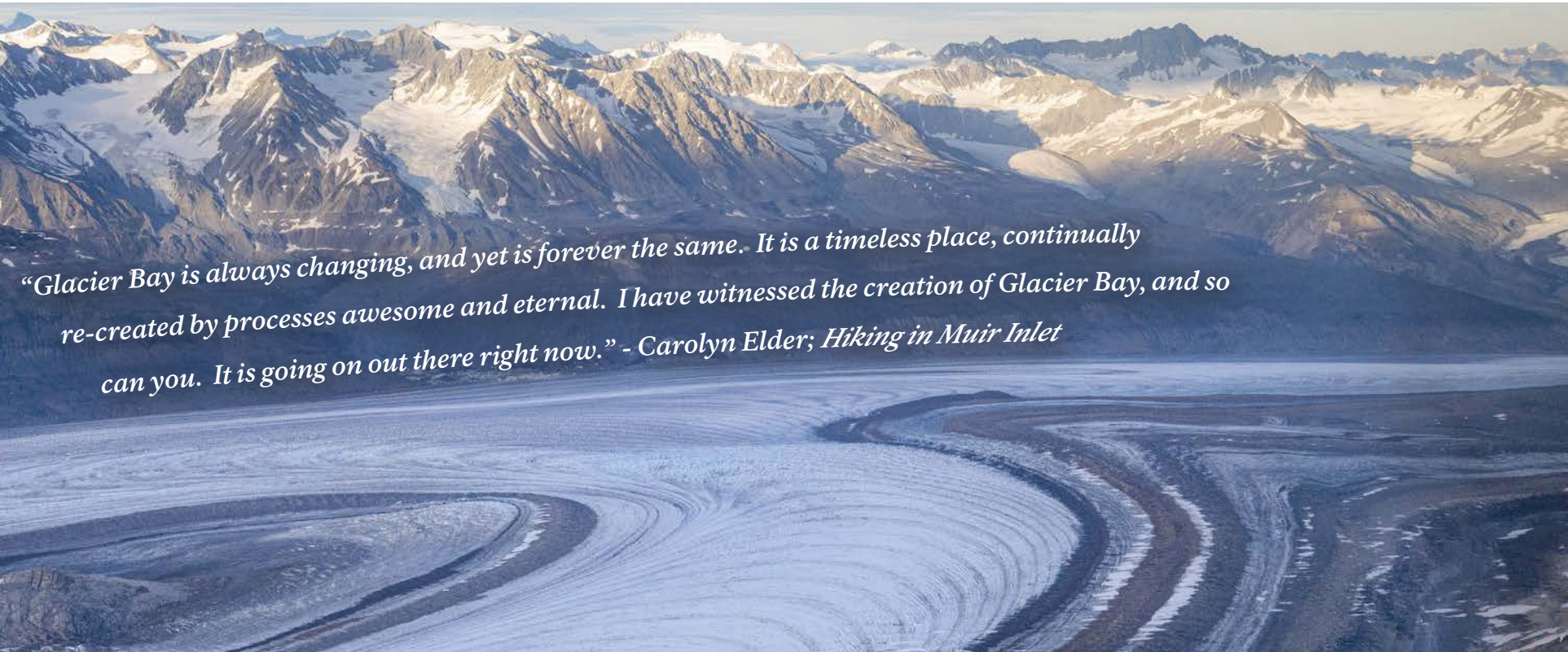


The National Park Service extends a special invitation for 4th graders nationwide to visit National Parks free-of-charge. Discover how to get your free 4th grader pass at: EveryKidOutdoors.gov





Did you know Glacier Bay has an award-winning distance learning program? Scan the QR code to learn more about distance learning opportunities connecting your class or group with Glacier Bay!



“Glacier Bay is always changing, and yet is forever the same. It is a timeless place, continually re-created by processes awesome and eternal. I have witnessed the creation of Glacier Bay, and so can you. It is going on out there right now.” - Carolyn Elder; Hiking in Muir Inlet

GLACIERS ARE POWERFUL EARTH MOVERS, FORMING LONG CURVING MORAINES AS SEEN IN THIS PHOTO OF THE GRAND PACIFIC GLACIER. CAPABLE OF CREATING UNIQUE SHAPES AND FORMATIONS LIKE ESKERS, MOULINS, AND DRUMLINS, GLACIERS CREATE BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES AS THEY MOVE.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve
PO Box 140 Gustavus, AK 99826
907-697-2230



Alaska Geographic
3400 Spenard Rd, Ste 106 Anchorage, AK 99503

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Hours of Operation

Visit the park’s Basic Information webpage (click the lowercase i on the homepage) and utilize the official NPS App for current operating hours for the Visitor Center, Visitor Information Station, and additional facilities. The park is open 24/7, year-round, with no entrance fees, but certain facilities and services may be closed or limited in the winter months.

Crossword Puzzle Solution

1	S	T	O	N	E			M		A	L	D	E	R	
2	O	A		D	R	U	M	L	I	N				O	
3	R	A	F	T	S			I	A	S			B	E	E
4	I	D	A					T	R	U	S	T			
5	P		I	B	A	C	H		K				G	U	L
6	R		U							E	A	G	L	E	
7	C	O	W		K				A	N		A		O	
8	O	R	E	L		D		R				O	C	E	A
9	R	C	A	S	E	M	E	N	T			I			
10	M	A	T		T			R	H			L	A	W	S
11	O	H		S						Q	U	I	L	L	S
12	R	E	E	L				G	R	O	U	S	E		O
13	A		R	O	S						S	H	R	E	W
14	N		U			R	A	C	K	S		W			S
15	T	R	U	D	G	E				E		L	Y	N	X

Regulations - Your Responsibility

Defer to the Superintendent’s compendium and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for all park rules and regulations. *Visit this link for select regulations regarding harvesting, hunting, fishing, firearms, and more.* →



Wildlife Protection

Give wildlife space! Do not approach wildlife. If your presence changes an animal’s behavior, you are too close. Feeding wildlife is prohibited. All food, garbage, and equipment used to cook or store food must be properly cached: Use a bear-resistant food container, do not store these items in a kayak or open truck bed. Utilize designated waste and recycling receptacles near the Visitor Information Station. Watch carefully for ground-nesting birds.

Whales and other marine mammals

Be aware of “whale waters” implemented each summer, which require vessel speed limits and/or mid-channel requirements. All vessels (including kayaks) must stay 1/4 nm from humpback whales. Within 1/2 nm, do not approach whales or try to get closer. Stay 1/4 nm from harbor seals on ice, and at least 100 yards from hauled-out sea lions and other marine mammals.

Harvesting

You may harvest unoccupied seashells, edible berries and fruits, edible mushrooms, clams, and mollusks. State regulations apply. Paralytic shellfish poisoning may be present in Glacier Bay, be extremely cautious when harvesting shellfish in the area.

Hunting

Prohibited in the national park. In the national preserve in the Dry Bay area, hunting is allowed with a valid state of AK license.

Fishing

A valid State of Alaska Fishing License is required for sport fishing in the park. Licenses are available online, visit the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for license info: www.adfg.alaska.gov

Firearms

Prohibited in federal facilities including the Glacier Bay Lodge. Special regulations apply within the national park and preserve.

