

# Seward Summer Activities (May 15—Sept 15 or so) (check w/us for details outside of these dates)

One of the advantages to choosing our lodging for your stay during your visit to the Seward area, is that you have access to our extensive knowledge of Alaska. There are so many activities, and vendors in our area to choose from, we've prepared this overview to help sort it all out. With our locals' insight you can rest assured you won't miss out on any of the great opportunities Seward has to offer, or fall prey to the "tourist traps," either! We've listed both indoor and outdoor activities, and both free and paid choices. Please visit our website for more extensive details. We're also happy to help you with any reservations you may desire. Just email us at [activities2010@angelsrest.com](mailto:activities2010@angelsrest.com) or give us a call at 907-491-7378. Please don't hesitate to contact us if there's something you're interested in but don't see listed (there may be a reason why)! Generally, we suggest reservations should be made in advance for those activities requiring them.

MUSEUMS



**Museums ~** The [Alaska SeaLife Center](http://www.alaskasealife.org) is an educational & research marine center, open to the public. Interesting to all ages. A great rainy day activity. Open 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. <http://www.alaskasealife.org> We recommend the specialty tours, and the behind the scenes tours. Admission \$20.00 Adults; \$20-\$79 for specialty tours; 7% tax. (Please note: some specialty tours must be reserved at least 14 days in advance!) AAA, AARP, Military discounts available.

The [Seward Historic Museum](http://www.sewardhistoricmuseum.com) on 4th and Jefferson offers a quaint & interesting historic museum. Summer hours 9-5, other times of year call. (224-3902) for hours. Admission \$ 3 adults.

HIKING



**Hiking ~** opportunities in the area, from easy to strenuous are too numerous to detail here! Please visit our website for extensive information and links to numerous trail details. We also have information in the cabins and will be happy to discuss options with you.

A visit to [Exit Glacier](http://www.nps.gov/exit), pictured to the right, a part of the Kenai Fjords National Park is a "must see." From the parking area it's about a mile walk (easy) to the face of the glacier. In addition to the glacier we often hear reports of moose, bear and goat sightings. The [Lost Lake Trail](http://www.nps.gov/lostlake) and [Primrose Trail](http://www.nps.gov/primrose) are also both very popular and accessible year round. Our favorite hike is to Tonsina Creek, pictured to the left, a part of the [Caines Head State Recreation Area](http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/caineshead), which you can access from [Lowell Point](http://www.nps.gov/lowell). If you want to hike all the way to Caines Head, the home of historic World War II Ft. McGilvary, you'll be able to hike one direction ONLY (assuming the land portion of the trail is accessible). Because of the tides and the time it takes to do this hike, you MUST plan on taking a water taxi the other direction. *This part of the planning is complicated and we really want to help you consult the tide tables to figure this out for your safety and enjoyment!*



BOAT TOURS

**Boat Tours~** Of all the activities in our area, taking a boat tour into the Kenai Fjords National Park is the #1 attraction and one we highly recommend!!

Boat tours are a great way to see glaciers, wildlife and amazing scenery!! While there appears to be a wide variety of choices of vendors, we have some very special recommendations in this area. To conserve space in this brochure, we are highlighting the #1 vendor we recommend. Our website has an overview of all the other (BIG boat) choices. Since basically, all tours go the same places and take the same basic routes, we will focus here on what we consider to be the best of all the options, based on over 10 years of experience and customer feedback. You may see choices of "1/2 day" or "bay tours" (In March and April they're called "Whale watching tours"). These shorter tours should only be considered if a National Park Tour is not offered (March-May & late September). *All boat tours are subject to 7% tax, \$3.50 per person port fee, and possible fuel surcharges.*



Alaska Saltwater Small Group Tours is our #1 recommendation for a boat tour and consistently gets rave reviews, even in poor weather! A smaller family owned company, they strive to ensure each passenger has a great trip. They are also better able to adjust their tour to accommodate the weather, the wildlife and the needs of the guests on board! Tours are limited to 15 passengers, (although the boat will hold 30), and include lunch. Departs 8:00 a.m. Returns 4:30 --5:00 p.m. (or later if wildlife is abundant). \$179 per person/\$159 early booking (we suggest no later than April to ensure your spot), 7% tax, \$3.50 port fee. Tours start mid- to late May; their season winds down in

September. Best vendor if you are prone to seasickness. <http://www.alaskawhalewatchingtours.com>

DOG SLEDDING

**DOG SLEDDING ~** No trip to Alaska would be complete without a visit to some Alaskan Huskies!

[Ididaride](http://www.ididaride.com) specializes dog sledding tours that include an overview of the famous Iditarod race. The Seavey family has 3 generations of mushers; Mitch won the race in 2004! Learn about the race and what it takes to participate, try on the clothes the mushers wear, play with the puppies (possible future race winners), and get to ride through the Alaska landscape in a special wheeled sled, pulled by a full team of dogs. You'll learn a lot and have a lot of fun; very reasonably priced. Combine this with your visit to Exit Glacier for a nice day. <http://www.ididaride.com> \$59 adults, 3% tax



Want to see the dogs on snow? There may be an option for a combination flight seeing (via helicopter) combined with a glacier landing on Godwin Glacier to dog sled. This an expensive outing (approx \$450 per person plus 7% tax) and since vendors have changed recently we'd like to discuss this with you in detail, so we can provide you with the most up-to-date information. Extremely weather dependent; short season (Late May - Mid-August).



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**Fishing ~** is a very popular sport in the Seward area primarily for salmon and halibut. Both shore fishing and deep sea fishing are available. Most successful shore fishing occurs in July and August for salmon. We have some poles available for use for our customers and can help direct you to some good locations (including our own breakwater!) Fly fisherman may be interested in some inland stream or lake fishing (all catch and release).

The typical fishing charter season starts in mid April with Halibut. Starting in July and continuing till early September, salmon and combination salmon/halibut charters are offered. There are both full and half day charters. Fishing for halibut typically means an all day charter because of the distance required to travel. There is also a range of sizes of boats, from 6 people to 24, depending on the charter. Charters depart from the small boat harbor between 6:00am and 8:00am depending on the charter vendor. Over the years we've worked with a number of vendors and have developed a short list of recommendations to ensure you the best experience.



1. In general, we do not recommend combo charters. Fish for one species only.
2. If you have any concerns about weather, discuss these before you step onto the boat.
3. Fishing gear will be provided, licenses, food and beverages will not be.



Alaska Saltwater Lodge's Fishing Charters is our #1 recommendation for a fishing charter. A smaller family owned company. Full day charters from approx. Mid-May to Early September generally departing 7:30 a.m. returning approx. 4:30 p.m. Charters are offered for single species salmon, halibut, or ling cod. They also offer combo salmon/halibut or combo halibut/ling cod. Their combo fishing (salmon) and wildlife viewing is perfect if you only have one day to spend on the water and want to both fish and glacier/wildlife sightsee. Prices are generally \$200 salmon, \$225 halibut, \$269 combos plus 7% tax, \$3.50 port fee; possible fuel surcharge [http://www.alaskasaltwaterlodge.com/seward\\_fishing.htm](http://www.alaskasaltwaterlodge.com/seward_fishing.htm)

## Other fishing charter options:

We have several other boat captains that customers have given excellent feedback about. Let us help you find the perfect fishing charter for your needs! There is also fishing from shore, depending on the time of year, and for fly fisherman, catch and release on inland streams and lakes.

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**Kayaking ~** Sea kayaking is very popular in our area. Trips range from short 2 hour paddles in nearby waters, to all day trips that start by boating to a nearby fjord, where you spend the day paddling in pristine waters amongst the icebergs. Season starts in late May and typically ends by early September. No experience is needed on any of the trips offered below. We're happy to help you pick the right trip for you! *For experienced sea kayakers only* Kayak rentals are available nearby. We're happy to book anything below for you!



Kayak Adventures a small family run operation, does an excellent job. They offer a large variety of trips, from short 4 hour tours to all day trips. They also offer custom trips for as few as 2, which are very special. Departure is from Lowell Point. Our guests have been extremely happy with this vendor. \$125 - \$399, 7% tax <http://www.kayakak.com>



Liquid Adventures specializes in sea kayaking and offers a 3 hour trip, an 8 hour trip combination kayaking/hiking Resurrection Bay Getaway, or an Aialik Bay and Glacier trip. Very nice staff. Departure is from their waterfront location just a short walk from our cabins. Most trips are 2 person minimum. Our guests consistently rave about their experiences with this company. \$69-\$399 depending on tour, 3% tax <http://www.liquidadventures.com>

Chugach Outdoor Center offers Kenai Lake kayaking (full and half day trips using sea kayaks). Enjoy kayaking without the fear of rough sea waters. \$65 - \$125, 3% tax <http://www.chugachoutdoorcenter.com/>



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**RAFTING** - Alaska Wildland Adventures located in Cooper Landing, 45 miles north, offers a short two hour Kenai River float trip and an all day Kenai River Canyon raft trip. Guests have enjoyed their trips with this vendor. <http://www.alaskarivertrips.com/rafting.html> \$ 54- \$140 depending on tour, 3% tax.



**Chugach Outdoor Center** offers a variety of rafting & fresh water kayaking options, some in Seward. White water rafting at 6 Mile Creek, near Hope, about 70 miles north of Seward Class IV-V (very physically demanding); Kenai Lake kayaking (full and half day trips using sea kayaks), and Resurrection River (Seward) rafting float trips with, or without hikes to Exit Glacier. \$75 - \$149 depending on tour chosen; gear provided, 3% tax <http://www.chugachoutdoorcenter.com/>

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**HORSEBACK RIDING** - there are two different options for horseback riding. One is a small family run operation here in Seward, the other is located in Cooper Landing, a very nice day trip from Seward.



**Alaska Horseman** open year round is a small company operating out of Cooper Landing (45 miles north,) a nice day trip any time of year). They offer a variety of tours from simple 2 hour horseback trail rides to combination paddle/saddle trips that include a paddle in Kenai Lake and some gold panning! Our guests have raved about their experiences here! \$99 - \$239 depending on tour chosen, \$20 to gold pan only, 3% tax.

<http://www.alaskahorsemen.com/>



**Bardy's Trail Rides** is a small company in Seward. See places only accessible via horseback in the Seward area. They offer a 2 hour ride twice daily (Noon and 3pm) during the months of May thru August. \$85 per person, 7% tax. <http://www.sewardhorses.com/>



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**FLIGHT-SEEING** - Get up in the air for a different perspective! Flying over our great Fjords and glaciers can be an amazing way to see the area.



**Scenic Mountain Air** is a small locally owned, extremely reputable, company operating out of Moose Pass (28 miles north) that offers a variety of flight-seeing trips. Take either a bush plane (wheeled) from Seward, or a float plane from Moose Pass. Flight seeing starts at 30 minutes & can range to a 2 hour tour of Price William Sound. You can also fly around Mt. McKinley, a 4.5 hour trip with a stop in Talkeetna or Big Lake for lunch. You always have a window seat in these planes. (2 person min. all flights.) Fly over the **Kenai Fjords National Park** for amazing views & photos! \$75 per person to \$1,495.00 per plane depending on tour taken, 3% tax. We're happy to book this for you! <http://www.scenicmountainair.com>



There may also be some helicopter flight seeing options, check with us since vendors in this operation have changed recently.

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**WALKING TOURS** ~ Lowell Point and downtown Seward are both great places to stroll around. There's lots of history in the town of Seward, and you can see lot's of Paul's shingle work in both places.

**EARTHQUAKE MOVIE** ~ During summer months the Library in downtown Seward shows a movie about the great 1964 Earthquake that hit Alaska and especially Seward. Showing times normally 2pm.

**LIBERTY THEATRE** ~ this historic movie theatre has first run shows! And great popcorn.