

ROAD TRIP · UNITED STATES

Alaska cruise and the Olympic coast

14 days · Seattle

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Alaska cruise and the Olympic coast

A week through the Inside Passage to Alaska's glaciers, then by car to Olympic and Mount Rainier.

Length	14 days, 13 nights
Distance	640 km, 6 driving days
Behind the wheel	9 h 40 min
Travellers	2, 1 room, 1 car
Hotels	Comfort: a good hotel (3 stars)
Flights	Amsterdam – Seattle (SEA), Seattle (SEA) – Amsterdam

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Seattle	Days 1–2	**8**
Seattle	Days 3–9	**10**
Port Angeles	Days 10–11	**12**
Ashford	Day 12	**14**
Seattle	Day 13	**16**

Day by day

DAY	DATE	NIGHT	KM	DRIVE	°C
1		Seattle	20	20 min	
2		Seattle			
3		Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	10	0 min	
4		Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria			
5		Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria			
6		Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria			
7		Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria			
8		Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria			
9		Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria			
10		Port Angeles	220	3 h 10 min	
11		Port Angeles			
12		Ashford	250	3 h 40 min	
13		Seattle	130	2 h	
14		Flight home from SEA	20	20 min	

640 km · 9 h 40 min behind the wheel · on average 110 km a driving day

Kilometres and drive times by road (OSRM, OpenStreetMap), without stops: plan generously.

The route



Map: US Census Bureau (public domain) · roads © OpenStreetMap contributors

ON THE ROAD

Day 1	Land at Seattle (SEA), drive to Seattle · About 20 km (10 mi), 20 min
Day 3	Board the ship in Seattle
Day 10	Off the ship in Seattle, drive to Port Angeles · About 220 km (140 mi), 3 h 10 min
Day 12	Port Angeles, drive to Ashford · About 250 km (150 mi), 3 h 40 min
Day 13	Ashford, drive to Seattle · About 130 km (80 mi), 2 h
Day 14	Seattle to Seattle airport (SEA), fly home to Amsterdam · About 20 km (10 mi), 20 min

Well prepared

ESTA

Dutch and Belgian travellers need no visa for a holiday of up to 90 days, but do need an approved ESTA before boarding. It costs about $40, is valid for two years (or until your passport expires) and is applied for online. Apply at least 72 hours before you fly, and only on the official site.

esta.cbp.dhs.gov

Passport

An electronic passport (with the chip symbol), valid for the whole stay. Children need their own passport and ESTA.

nl.usembassy.gov

Driving licence

Your Dutch driving licence is accepted for renting and driving a car as a visitor. An international driving permit next to it helps with police and some rental desks.

anwb.nl

Renting a car

The renter is the main driver and pays with a credit card in their own name (no debit or prepaid card); the deposit is held on it. Usually from 21, and from 21 to 24 you pay a young-driver fee of about $25 a day. Book from home with insurance included (CDW/LDW and extra liability, SLI) and an extra driver if you want to take turns. Returning the car elsewhere (a one-way trip) costs extra. Fuel is sold by the gallon (3.8 litres); fill it up yourself before you bring it back.

Driving in the USA

Keep right; speeds are in miles an hour (65 mph is 105 km/h). Turning right on red is allowed after stopping, unless a sign says no. At a 4-way stop, whoever stopped first goes first. For a stopped yellow school bus with flashing lights you stop in both directions. Toll roads are often electronic only: ask your rental company about its toll pass. On remote stretches (parks, desert) there's little signal and a long way to the next pump: fill up at half and download the map.

Renting an RV

You can rent an RV from about 21 with an ordinary car licence. On top of the rent, count on mileage (often per mile), a kit with bedding and kitchen things, cleaning and the campsite: in the popular parks you book those months ahead on recreation.gov. Big RVs aren't allowed on every park road. Take photos of the RV when you pick it up: damage and missing items are the most heard complaint.

recreation.gov

National parks

Most big parks charge per car. Visitors from abroad pay $100 a person extra at 11 popular parks; the annual pass for non-residents is $250. Some parks need a timed-entry reservation in high season.

nps.gov

Money and tipping

Prices are without sales tax, which is added at the till. In restaurants a tip of 15 to 20% is usual. Cards are accepted almost everywhere; at the pump you may be asked for a ZIP code, so pay inside.

Travel insurance and health

Care in the USA is very expensive: take travel insurance with worldwide medical cover, and check whether your health insurance covers the USA. Cancellation insurance covers the trip if you can't go; insure the rental car with the rental company (see Renting a car). Take medicines in their original packaging, with a prescription in English. Emergency number: 911.

Power, phone and time

110 volt with flat two-pin plugs (type A/B): bring an adapter. A US eSIM is cheaper than roaming. The mainland has four time zones, Arizona mostly without daylight saving time.

Customs

Fresh food, meat and fruit may not be brought in. Declare food you carry.

Packing list

- [ ] Passport (valid for the whole trip)
- [ ] ESTA, printed
- [ ] Driving licence (and an international one)
- [ ] Credit card in the driver's name
- [ ] Travel and cancellation insurance
- [ ] Confirmations: flights, car, hotels
- [ ] America the Beautiful pass for the parks
- [ ] Plug adapter for type A/B (110 volt)
- [ ] Car charger and phone holder
- [ ] eSIM or offline maps
- [ ] Sunscreen, sunglasses and a cap
- [ ] Water bottles for the desert
- [ ] Hiking shoes
- [ ] Layers: the coast and the nights get cold
- [ ] Medicines, in your hand luggage
- [ ] A pen, for this booklet

DON'T FORGET

Notes



DAYS 1–2

Seattle WA

Pike Place Market and the Space Needle

Land at Seattle (SEA), drive to Seattle: about 20 km (10 mi), 20 min

2 nights

HOTEL

- [ ] Staypineapple, The Maxwell Hotel, Seattle Center Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  300 Roy St
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Seattle University District · 3★ — roughly €120
  4501 12th Avenue NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn and Suites Seattle - Airport / 28th Avenue · 3★ — roughly €90
  18850 28th Ave South
- [ ] Staypineapple, Watertown Hotel, University District Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  4242 Roosevelt Way NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Seattle/Northgate · 3★ — roughly €110
  9550 1st Ave Ne

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DAYS 3–9

Seattle WA

Glaciers, whales and gold-rush towns

Board the ship in Seattle

7 nights

HOTEL

- [ ] Staypineapple, The Maxwell Hotel, Seattle Center Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  300 Roy St
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Seattle University District · 3★ — roughly €120
  4501 12th Avenue NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn and Suites Seattle - Airport / 28th Avenue · 3★ — roughly €90
  18850 28th Ave South
- [ ] Staypineapple, Watertown Hotel, University District Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  4242 Roosevelt Way NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Seattle/Northgate · 3★ — roughly €110
  9550 1st Ave Ne

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DAYS 10–11

Port Angeles WA

Olympic: Hurricane Ridge and the Hoh Rain Forest

Off the ship in Seattle, drive to Port Angeles: about 220 km (140 mi), 3 h 10 min

2 nights

PORT ANGELES · DAYS 10–11

HOTEL

- [ ] 11 Mi to Olympic NP: Port Angeles Retreat w/ Deck · 3★
- [ ] Charming Port Angeles Studio w/ Deck & Views! · 3★
  533 Black Hawk Loop
- [ ] Oceanfront Port Angeles Home w/ Mountain View! · 3★
  924 Gunn Rd
- [ ] Peaceful Home < 8 Mi to Olympic National Park! · 3★
  130 Olympian Way
- [ ] Picturesque Port Angeles Cabin w/ Fire Pit! · 3★
  3578 Monroe Rd

NOTES



DAY 12

Ashford WA

Mount Rainier: Paradise

Port Angeles, drive to Ashford: about 250 km (150 mi), 3 h 40 min

1 night

ASHFORD · DAY 12

HOTEL

- [ ] Cozy Cabin - 5 Miles to Mt Rainier National Park! · 3★
  108 Osborn Rd
- [ ] Cozy Hikers Getaway, 5 Mi to Mt Rainier Natl Park · 3★
  102 Stevens Place
- [ ] 'elk Hideaway:' Ashford Cottage w/ Hot Tub! · 3★
  33823 State Route 706 E
- [ ] Hikers Haven w/ Hot Tub - Near Mt Rainier! · 3★
  55509 317th Ave E
- [ ] Owls Nest Studio w/ Hot Tub: Hike Nearby! · 3★
  33823 WA-706

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DAY 13

Seattle WA

Back to the city

Ashford, drive to Seattle: about 130 km (80 mi), 2 h

1 night

HOTEL

- [ ] Staypineapple, The Maxwell Hotel, Seattle Center Seattle · 3★ — roughly €100
  300 Roy St
- [ ] Residence Inn by Marriott Seattle University District · 3★ — roughly €120
  4501 12th Avenue NE
- [ ] Hampton Inn and Suites Seattle - Airport / 28th Avenue · 3★ — roughly €90
  18850 28th Ave South
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- [ ] Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Seattle/Northgate · 3★ — roughly €110
  9550 1st Ave Ne

NOTES

What it costs

DAY	PLACE	HOTEL	TOURS	CAR	TOTAL
1	Seattle	€160	–	€60	**€220**
2	Seattle	€160	–	€60	**€220**
3	Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	€260		€60	**€320**
4	Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	€260			**€260**
5	Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	€260			**€260**
6	Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	€260			**€260**
7	Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	€260			**€260**
8	Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	€260			**€260**
9	Aboard: Inside Passage: Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria	€260			**€260**
10	Port Angeles	€160	–	€60	**€220**
11	Port Angeles	€160	–	€60	**€220**
12	Ashford	€160	–	€60	**€220**
13	Seattle	€160	–	€60	**€220**
14	Flight home from SEA	–	–	€60	**€60**

Flights	€1,700
Hotels	€2,780
Excursions	€0
Car hire	€480
Total	**€4,960**
	€2,480 a person

An estimate to plan with (prices of 2026-10): hotels, the ticked excursions, car hire and flights. No fuel or meals.

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About this booklet

Made on rondreis.expert. Your trip is still there, to change and print again: usa.roundtrip.expert/tours/alaska-cruise-seattle/

PHOTOS

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Seattle	Space Needle002.jpg · Rattlhed at English Wikipedia, Public domain
Seattle	Space Needle002.jpg · Rattlhed at English Wikipedia, Public domain
Port Angeles	Exterior, Richard B. Anderson Federal Building, Port Angeles, Washington LCCN2010719694.tif · Carol M. Highsmith, Public domain
Ashford	Small tree-lined lake (Unsplash).jpg · adrian aows, CC0
Seattle	Space Needle002.jpg · Rattlhed at English Wikipedia, Public domain

MAP AND TYPE

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THE ROUTE

Seattle (2) · Seattle (7) · Port Angeles (2) · Ashford (1) · Seattle (1)

A week through the Inside Passage to Alaska's glaciers, then by car to Olympic and Mount Rainier.

14 days · 13 nights · 640 km

rondreis.expert

usa.roundtrip.expert/tours/alaska-cruise-seattle/