



Alaska Sea Kayaking Day Trip Equipment List

The weather in Alaska can be volatile. Clothing systems need to be capable of meeting the demands of an ever-changing environment. A layering system, which allows articles of clothing to be added or subtracted as the weather changes, has proven most versatile. Because it can snow or rain, materials used in clothing should keep you warm even if they are wet. Synthetics such as polypropylene, Capilene, Synchronia, fleece, and pile are best, wool will also work. Cotton, with the exception of a t-shirt for camp, is unacceptable. This equipment list represents a bare minimum for the equipment REQUIRED to keep you WARM and DRY on your trip with us.

Upper Body Layers

Upper body layers are some of the most important components of a good layering system. They should be comfortable, lightweight and breathable.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Base Layers	2		One silk weight and one heavy weight top made of synthetic material that can be layered together to increase warmth. A light-colored silk weight (white/tan/light blue/etc...) is a good idea, because it will decrease the amount of solar radiation (warmth) that your shirt absorbs. That being said, your mid-weight base-layers should be darker so that they do absorb the sun's warmth. Mountain Hardware makes good lightweight, wicking base layers.	-
Tee Shirt	2		To be worn as a sun shirt while hiking at lower elevations. Synthetic fabric is the way to go, and can double as a bandana or extra sun protection under a baseball cap.	-
Medium Weight Top	1		To be worn over the base layers and should be synthetic or wool. A soft shell is an acceptable substitute. Both Black Diamond and Mountain Hardware offer great mid-weight layers.	-
Paddling Jacket	1		A jacket made of waterproof / breathable material such as Gore-Tex is best. It is to be worn while paddling and should fit over several layers. Mountain Hardware shells are breathable, dry, and windproof.	-

Lower Body Layers

Lower body layers should be versatile and easy to change into and out of under changing weather conditions.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Base Layers	2		One silk weight and one heavy weight bottom layer made of synthetic material that can be worn together to increase warmth.	-
Underwear	1-2 pairs		Synthetic briefs and underwear will keep you comfortable and hygienic during high output.	-
Shorts	1		These are nice to wear on warmer days. Cotton is unacceptable; synthetic will dry faster and be more comfortable for long periods of wear. Mountain Hardware makes nice synthetic shorts.	-

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Paddling Pants	1		Pants made of waterproof material are best. They can be inexpensive rubber rain gear or high end kayaking specific pants. Mountain Hardwear shell pants work great.	-
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Head, Neck, Hands & Feet

Keeping your extremities warm & dry is crucial. Developing a system that works for your specific needs takes time; this guide is a good place to start.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Warm-Hat	1		Should be made of synthetic material or wool, cotton is unacceptable and dangerous. Mountain Hardwear makes warm hats.	-
Sun Hat	1		The sun can be very bright (especially with reflection off the water), the more protection your cap offers from the sun, the better.	-
Sunglasses	1		Dark lenses are a must. The sun can be very bright (especially with reflection off of the water) and can cause permanent eye damage.	-
Paddling Gloves	1		Gloves are great for preventing blisters, and when paddling on cool or rainy days.	-
Socks	1-2		These should be synthetic or wool. Having a mix of light and heavy weight socks is nice to adjust to variable weather.	-
Rubber Boots	1		Our instructors typically wear Xtra-Tuf boots, however any rubber boot that comes to below the knee will work.	Provided

Paddling Gear

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Paddle	1		It's often difficult to travel with a kayak paddle, however if you already own one and would like to bring it, please feel free.	Provided
Dry Bags	3-4		For personal clothing and equipment. A variety of sizes work well. Please feel free to call with any questions you may have.	Provided
PFD	1		Class III personal flotation device is required, and will be provided if you don't already have one.	Provided
Spray Skirt	1		For expedition kayaking, coated nylon spray skirts are typically recommended.	Provided

Miscellaneous

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Watch	1		Should have an alarm. Waterproof is best.	-
Water Bottles	1-2		Wide mouth 1-liter Lexan bottles ('Nalgene') work best.	-
Lip Balm	1		Should have some type of SPF protection.	-
Sunscreen	4-8oz.		Should be SPF 30 or higher and be waterproof.	-
Bandana	1		Used for extra sun-protection. Your t-shirt can be used in place of a bandana if you are trying to shave weight (which is a good thing).	-

Optional

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Snacks	1-2		Your favorite snack when exercising. Bars work well.	-

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Camera	1		Either Digital, Film, Still or Video. Consider purchasing a “dry box” to keep rain and salt water out, keeping your fond memories safe until you get home.	-
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Additional Information



We use gear from these select companies on every trip we run! Their gear has proven itself again and again on the highest mountains, roughest water, and steepest ice. We endorse these companies because they make gear that is functional and reliable.



We provide the following: tents, expedition first aid kits, cooking equipment, and trip food.

Please don't hesitate to call us with any questions 1.800.766.3396

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