

# Chilkoot Trail Backpacking Trip

4-day Itinerary



Join Alaska Mountain Guides for a trip back in time, as we travel in the footsteps of the stampeders who traveled the Chilkoot Trail during the Klondike Gold Rush.

"The Klondike Gold Rush captured the imagination of the world. Rich and poor, young and old, women and men were attracted to the Klondike from all parts of the globe. No image better represents this historic event than the endless line of stampeders struggling over the Chilkoot Pass during the winter of 1897-98.

Today the Chilkoot Trail National Historic Site and Klondike Gold Rush National Park commemorate this extraordinary journey. The contrast between the scenic grandeur of the coastal mountains and the fragile remains of the stampeders' goods and temporary structures make the Chilkoot a unique backcountry trail."

- A Hikers Guide to the Chilkoot Trail



In Alaska and the world's great ranges!

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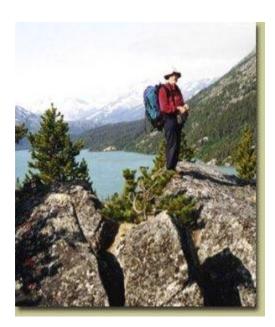
#### Chilkoot Trail Information

We'll start our trip in historic Skagway, where we will meet for a pre trip meeting at your hotel the evening before the hiking begins. Porters are available upon request to help carry your gear.

#### **4-Day Itinerary**

### Day 1

In the morning we will register with the park service and then enjoy a 20 minute drive to Dyea to the start of the trail. Here we will grab our packs and head out on the well-maintained trail along the Taiya River. The first day will entail a 12.4-mile walk through the lush temperate rainforest full of huge cottonwoods, edible berries, and colorful wildflowers. That night we will make camp at Sheep Camp and enjoy a scrumptious dinner and a well deserved rest.



## Day 2

This is the big day. We will hike the "Golden Stairs" over the Chilkoot Pass and on to Happy Camp. We will get up early and travel 7 miles and gain about 2000 feet in elevation to reach the summit. Here a warming hot spring is a welcome lunch spot before dropping down to our campsite.

As we ascend, the big trees of the rainforest are left behind and we move into the alpine zone. This is a great day of fun walking and interesting scenery. We will see the remains of the scales used to weigh the stampeders' supplies as well as pieces of the aerial tramway built to move freight. The last part of the day is a nice stroll along Crater Lake.

#### Day 3

Today we descend a bit while walking through the alpine tundra towards Bare Loon Lake. This 9 mile walk past alpine lakes is a good time to spot golden eagles, waterfowl and even bear. The blueberries in this area are outstanding during late summer trips.

### Day 4

Today is a short hike to Lake Bennett and our rendezvous with the White Pass Yukon Route Railway. The classic train ride back to Skagway takes about 3 hours and is a nice way to reenter civilization.



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**Dates & Prices:** Please see our schedule for current dates and prices information.

These trips can also be done individually as a 4 day Chilkoot Trail trip or a 12 day Yukon River Float.

**Includes:** Guides, camping equipment, transfers, food, permit fees, train ride back to Skagway



Please contact us if you have any questions, or would like additional information about any of our trips or courses.

We hope to see you in Alaska!

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