



American Alpine Institute

www.GuidesChoice.com

www.AlpineInstitute.com

Info@AlpineInstitute.com

Equipment Shop: (360) 671-1570

Administrative Office: (360) 671-1505

The Spirit of Alpinism

- Expedition Itinerary -

St. Elias Range, Alaska

Meeting Location: The Best Western Golden Lion Inn at 1000 East 36th Ave in Anchorage, AK.

Meeting Time: There will be a pre-trip meeting for all team members at 2pm on the day before the first day of your program (Day 0). Guides and climbers will meet in the main lobby at the hotel and commence with the gear check and packing procedures shortly thereafter.

**As a reminder, as with all mountain-based itineraries, this itinerary can and will change from what is described below. Climbing days and rest days are often dictated by weather and conditions. This day-to-day plan is rough and should be used for general reference only.*

Day 0

2pm gear check and orientation at the hotel in Anchorage. After the gear check we will run any needed errands and guides will shop for fresh food items. There will be an optional dinner at a local eatery in the evening.

Day 1

We will drive from Anchorage to the Matanuska Glacier (approximately 2 hours) and spend the day reviewing ice axe and crampon use on the glacier. We will camp at a car camping location not far from where we access the glacier.

Day 2

This day will be a full day of skills training including ice climbing techniques, roped glacier travel procedures, and crevasse rescue scenarios. We will camp at the campground again this night.

Day 3

We will set off early in the morning for the small town of Chitina on the world famous salmon source, the Copper River. The drive will take about 3 hours. Our goal will be to fly onto the ice field this afternoon, but depending on the timing and weather, it could be the next morning before we are ready to fly. Once we are on the glacier, we will set up base camp and starting planning out the proposed climbing objectives for the next 10 days.

Days 4-12

Climbing days.

Day 13

We pack up camp, fly off the glacier, and spend the rest of the day and that night at the Ultima Thule lodge, deep in the Alaskan wilderness. The hosts of the lodge often prepare extravagant meals of fish and wild game, quite a treat after eating mountain food for the last 10 days!

Days 14

We will fly back to Chitina in the morning and drive back to Anchorage to conclude the trip.