



Natural Selections

BIRDING, WILDLIFE, AND PHOTO TOURS



Brown Bear and Sockeye Salmon

Alaska Brown Bears and Salmon Photography Workshop

5 Nights/6 Days

Hearing 'Alaska' conjures up images of bears, mountains, wilderness...that is exactly why Natural Selections is going! Alaska provides a stunning setting for our Bears and Salmon photography tour. Embrace this wild adventure and join us to swim with spawning salmon, safely photograph fishing Brown Bears, and watch fishing Bald Eagles.

Salmon runs are one of nature's great spectacles. Our tour is timed to be able to witness the spawning migrations of both Pink and Sockeye Salmon. We will have the opportunity to snorkel with both species and photograph them during their runs. Where there are salmon...there are bears! When not underwater, we will have the chance to photograph some of the largest Brown Bears on earth as they gorge themselves on nutritious, fatty salmon. We will travel from Anchorage to the Russian River to Kodiak Island, photographing wildlife along the way. While the bears and salmon are the stars of the show, countless species of birds and mammals can be spotted along the way. Join us in the great white north for the Alaskan adventure of a lifetime!

Tour Overview

Day 1: Arrive Anchorage (ANC)

Day 2: Quartz Creek and Crescent Creek Underwater Salmon

Day 3: Quartz Creek and Crescent Creek Salmon

Day 4: Fly to Kodiak - Brown Bears

Day 5: Kodiak Brown Bears and underwater Salmon

Day 6: Morning Brown Bears, depart Kodiak (ADQ)

5 Night/6 Day Itinerary

Day 1, Arrive Anchorage:

We'll arrive in Anchorage in the morning, have introductions and orientation over lunch, then proceed south to Cooper Landing. The drive is just over two hours; however, we will make a few stops along the way. Dall's sheep and Beluga Whales can sometimes be seen on the drive along Turnagain Arm. Tern Lake will have Trumpeter Swans, Common Loons, and American Dippers. We'll expect a 1 PM departure and a 5 PM arrival at our hotel with stops accounted for. After check in and dinner at the Sunrise Inn Café we will use the remaining two-three hours of daylight to go on an evening drive to look for Black Bears and Lynx on Skilak Road.

Brown Bear



Sockeye Salmon

Meals en-route or near our lodge

Lodging at Sunrise Inn

Day 2, Quartz and Crescent Creeks:

If there are clear skies, we will leave our lodging at 6:30 AM before sunrise (7:30 AM if overcast) for a drive to Quartz Creek where we will set up for our underwater compositions for Sockeye salmon. On the way we'll stop at the Kenai Lake on our way for swans, loons, and ducks at sunrise. There is often a layer of morning fog here which adds another layer of interest to the turquoise lake surrounded by tall mountains - perfect for an environmental portrait of these waterfowl.

At noon we'll take a lunch break at Cooper Landing Brewing Company, then drive to Crescent Creek just up the road for different underwater salmon compositions until dinner at Gwin's Lodge. After dinner we still have over an hour of sunlight. We'll drive along Skilak Lake Road in search of Black Bears, Brown Bears, Lynx, and

Owls until we run out of light.

Meals en-route or near our lodge

Lodging at Sunrise Inn

Day 3, Quartz and Crescent Creeks:

We'll check out of our rooms early, and commence day three with underwater salmon photography at Quartz Creek and Crescent Creek. In order to make the most of the 2+ hour drive with bathroom breaks and other underwater salmon opportunities along the way, we should leave Quartz Creek by noon for lunch at the Cooper Landing Brewing Company.

Depending on Salmon abundance, we may make a stop along the way to Portage Creek/Williwaw Pond on return trip to Anchorage in the evening for different Salmon compositions and mountain scenery.

Meals en-route or near our lodge
Lodging at Extended Stay America Hotel

Day 4, Fly to Kodiak – Brown Bears:

We'll turn in our vehicles after breakfast, and fly out to Kodiak in the early afternoon. Once in Kodiak, we'll grab our new vehicles and check into our hotel, generally by 4 PM. Then after an early dinner we head out in the evening light for fishing Kodiak Brown Bears. We generally lose light around 9:30 PM, so should be back at the hotel by 10 PM.

*Meals en-route or near our lodge
Lodging at Best Western*

Day 5, Kodiak Brown Bears and Salmon:

We'll start off with a brief continental breakfast at the hotel and then set out before sunrise, at 6 AM, arriving at either White Sands beach or Women's Bay, depending on recent activity (both 20 minutes away). Here, we'll enjoy Kodiak Brown Bears and underwater Pink Salmon photography, and around mid-day drive to Pasagshak to watch for Eagles, Whales, Foxes, and more Bears!

If skies are overcast, we we'll stay out until a late dinner (7 PM) and then conclude our day at the hotel. If there are blue skies, we will head back earlier (5 PM) for dinner and then go out for an evening drive to the Women's Bay flats for bears at sunset.

*Meals en-route or near our lodge
Lodging at Best Western*

Day 6 Kodiak Brown Bears, depart Kodiak:

Today we'll get out early for sunrise at 6:30 AM and more Bear photography, after which we will come back to the hotel for checkout and then lunch, proceeding to the airport thereafter.

Brown Bears



Pink Salmon

Included in this itinerary:

Ground transportation and fuel, one-way flights from Anchorage-Kodiak on day 4, lodging, guiding, permits, guide throughout.

Not Included:

In-bound flights to Anchorage, outbound flights from Kodiak, meals, gear, travel insurance, alcoholic beverages, laundry, souvenirs, or other items of a personal nature.

Travel insurance:

Travel Insurance is recommended for this and all travel. Please see <https://www.naturalselectionstours.com/travel-insurance/> for details.



Natural Selections
BIRDING, WILDLIFE, AND PHOTO TOURS

**109 Eaglewood Way, Athens,
Georgia 30606**

Tel: +1 (504) 9563-9689

info@naturalselectionstours.com

www.naturalselectionstours.com