Alaska Family Adventure
July 30 to August 9, 2011

From Anchorage, drive to Seward and board a small ship bound for Kenai Fjords National Park, home to glaciers and prolific marine wildlife, including whales, Steller sea lions, sea otters and puffins. Travel inland to Talkeetna and continue on to Denali National Park with its more than 6 million acres of protected wilderness. Explore along the "park road," seeking out grizzlies, caribou, wolves and moose on the way to our back country lodge. Hike through pristine wilderness, perfect those gold-panning skills, watch a dog sled demonstration and perhaps take a flight-seeing tour by small plane.

YOUNG EXPLORERS PROGRAM

Stanford Family Adventures bring destinations to life for our younger travelers. Our Young Explorers program features hands-on educational activities, kids-only tours and meals, and opportunities to meet lifelong friends. At the close of every Adventure, the comment we hear most often from our Young Explorers is how much they are going to miss their new friends!

At the heart of our Young Explorers program are our well-seasoned, highly trained, road-tested Sierra Camp counselors, all recent Stanford grads. Summers spent working closely with families have given this crew the skills to make each Adventure exciting and educational for Young Explorers of all ages. You can count on these talented counselors to provide age-appropriate educational activities for kids that make travel come alive. Kids meet in small peer groups where a 10-1 explorer-to-counselor ratio promises intimate and age-appropriate programming.

But in case you thought your kids got to have all the fun, our Young Explorer Leaders also engage the whole family through fun (and silly!) group activities. Virtually all over the world, our families have danced through Disco Bingo, squared off in Family Feud, raced through Family Olympics and competed in their own Palio.

FACULTY LEADER

Scott Pearson, professor emeritus of economics, has been studying economic change in developing countries for four decades and taught economic development and international trade at Stanford's food research Institute for over 30 years. He has co-authored a dozen books, won several awards for his research and teaching, and advised governments on food and agricultural policy. Scott spent two summers in Fairbanks, Alaska, in the 1970s, studying land use conflicts, and he is excited to introduce Stanford families to the interior of Alaska. During the program Scott will present a series of historical talks that contrast how well the Alaska natives, the Russian-American Company, American territorial governments and Alaskan state governments have managed Alaska’s vast natural resources. Scott has led some 55 educational travel programs to all corners of the world, including 15 Travel/Study programs.
ITINERARY

Saturday, July 30
HOME / ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
Independent arrivals into Anchorage, Alaska, any time this day. Shuttle to the Clarion Suites Downtown to check in for your overnight stay. Free night to explore Anchorage on your own.
CLARION SUITES

Sunday, July 31
ANCHORAGE / SEWARD
This morning, meet for a welcome orientation, and then visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center for a special tour of exhibits and meet local, native artisans and craftsmen. This afternoon, head south along the scenic Seward Highway en route to the coastal town of Seward. A visit and casual hike near Exit Glacier will allow an up-close-and-personal encounter with a massive glacier. Enjoy a welcome reception and dinner and relaxing this evening at our hotel.
SEWARD WINDSONG LODGE (B, L, D)

Monday, August 1
SEWARD / KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK
Starting from the stunning seacoast town of Seward, board a small boat bound for Kenai Fjords National Park – home to an array of glaciers and marine wildlife, including whales, Steller sea lions, sea otters, puffins and more. A 4-hour marine wildlife cruise will allow us to explore the rugged coastlines. Enjoy lunch in front of a calving glacier before arriving at our exclusive lodge destination: Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge. Nestled in a protected tidal lagoon area, the Glacier Lodge offers miles of pristine beachfront for exploring and views of the stunning Pedersen Glacier. This afternoon, settle into your private cabins. Enjoy dinner and evening presentations, or take a stroll along the coastline and beach comb for natural treasures like sea glass.
KENAI FJORDS GLACIER LODGE (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 2 and Wednesday, August 3
KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK
Explore the wild delights of Kenai Fjords National Park for the next two days. After breakfast in the main lodge each day, choose from a wide array of activities best suited to your energy level and interest. Guided options include hiking, sea kayaking, canoeing or just relaxing at the main lodge, which offers ideal comfort within direct views of nature. Curious sea otters and seals frequent the lagoon, just steps from the main lodge deck. Return to the main lodge in the late afternoon and enjoy group dinners followed by evening lectures.
KENAI FJORDS GLACIER LODGE (B, L, D; both days)

Thursday, August 4
KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK / TALKEETNA
Depart Seward and the Kenai Peninsula, headed north toward the Alaska Range. Enjoy comfortable road travel through Chugach State Park to Talkeetna, a mountain town rich in gold-mining history, and presently, the starting point for many mountaineering expeditions for climbers on the Alaska Range and Mt. McKinley. The name "Talkeetna" loosely translated, means "River of Plenty,” as three
rivers - the Talkeetna, Chulitna, and Susitna - converge here to become the Big Susitna drainage. With its scenic beauty and river access, Talkeetna is a popular destination for both travelers and resident Alaskans alike. This afternoon, settle into our accommodations in Talkeetna and enjoy dinner. Optional evening activities include flightseeing to the Alaska Range and visiting “downtown” Talkeetna. (As this is a weather dependent activity, you will also have options to flightsee during your time in Kantishna, at the Kantishna Roadhouse).

**TALKEETNA ALASKAN LODGE (B, L, D)**

Friday, August 5

**TALKEETNA / DENALI NATIONAL PARK**

This morning, we make our way north to the Denali Park entrance area and journey to our home for the next three nights, the Kantishna Roadhouse. Travel along the Denali Park Road, the only road in the park, to access the more than 6 million acres of protected wilderness within Denali National Park and Preserve. The Denali Park Road extends 91 miles to the old mining community of Kantishna. Along the way, cross rolling mountainsides, cliffs, scenic vistas and prime wildlife viewing areas. It is not uncommon to encounter wildlife right on the park road, as Denali’s “Big Four”—caribou, moose, Dall sheep and grizzlies — use this pathway on natural migrations. Upon arrival at the Kantishna Roadhouse, enjoy dinner and settle into your cabin accommodations. Located on the banks of Moose Creek, Kantishna Roadhouse offers a glimpse back in life during gold mining days, with original structures – like a mining recorder’s office and the original Roadhouse – still intact on the property.

**KANTISHNA ROADHOUSE (B, L, D)**

Saturday, August 6 and Sunday, August 7

**DENALI NATIONAL PARK**

 Explore and hike in the Kantishna region of Denali National Park. Options available at the Kantishna Roadhouse include guided hiking with casual, moderate or challenging trails to choose from; natural history programs; gold panning and a dog sled demonstration. For those seeking a bird’s eye perspective of the park, you may sign up for optional flightseeing tours that depart the Kantishna airstrip daily (weather dependent).

**KANTISHNA ROADHOUSE (B, L, D; both days)**

Monday, August 8

**DENALI NATIONAL PARK / FAIRBANKS**

Following an early breakfast, embark on a return scenic drive and watch for wildlife while heading for the entrance of the park. Enjoy a picnic lunch near the park entrance area, before a drive north to Fairbanks, for a festive farewell reception and dinner.

**PIKE’S WATERFRONT LODGE (B, L, D)**

Tuesday, August 9

**FAIRBANKS / HOME**

After breakfast, visit the University of Alaska Museum of the North before shuttles to the airport for return flights home.

(B)
INFORMATION

WHAT TO EXPECT

The Alaska Family Adventure is fast-paced and active, requiring you to be in good health and physical condition. Participants must be physically fit and in active good health. Schedules include some long days, with early wake-up calls and activities scheduled throughout the day and sometimes into the evenings. On some days, much of the day will be spent transferring to our next destination. Because part of the Alaskan experience is the journey itself, we will experience great scenery and fantastic wildlife during our travel by bus, boat and train.

A typical day may start with breakfast, followed by a stimulating lecture by the faculty leader while kids meet with their Young Explorer groups for learning-based, fun activities with their peers. Then depart on a hike with fellow travelers. Lunch is a delicious, hearty meal made from fresh, local ingredients after which families have some free time to explore on their own. In the evening, partake in a fun family activity, perhaps the all-time favorite, Stanford Family Feud.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Our accommodations during the Alaska Family Adventure range from best-available hotels in the cities of Anchorage and Talkeetna to backcountry lodges located within Kenai Fjords and Denali National Parks. Our accommodations during this program are simple, yet comfortably appointed, and allow us up-close access to outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities.

SIZE

This program is limited to 34 participants.

COST*

$6,495 per adult, double occupancy
$6,395 per adult, triple/quad occupancy
$8,190 per adult, single occupancy
$6,295 per child, double occupancy
$6,195 per child, triple/quad occupancy

*Association nonmembers add $200 per person.

INCLUDED

- 10 nights of accommodations at comfortable hotels and back-country lodges
- 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 9 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
- Bottled water on excursions
- Gratuities to porters, guides and drivers for all group activities
- All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary
- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance
- Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program
NOT INCLUDED

- International and U.S. domestic airfare
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as email, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

DEPOSIT, FINAL PAYMENT, CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS
A $1,000 per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at www.stanfordalumni.org/trip?alaska2011. Deposits and any payments are fully refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until the final payment due date, 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

INSURANCE
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. We strongly encourage that you subscribe to optional baggage and trip-cancellation insurance. A brochure offering such insurance will be mailed with your confirmation. The product offered in this brochure includes a special Waiver of Pre-Existing Conditions and coverage for Financial Insolvency and Terrorist Acts if you postmark your insurance payment within 15 days of the date listed on the confirmation letter.

ELIGIBILITY
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association; the program cost for nonmembers is $200 more than the members’ price. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit www.stanfordalumni.org/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

RESPONSIBILITY
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner's risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket connected with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in May 2010 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

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