

Craig
travel

ALASKA EXPLORER & GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST



HOLLAND AMERICA LINE | MS ZAANDAM

JOURNEY LEADERS: NICK & PAM CANNON

SEP 16 - OCT 4, 2026 | 19 DAYS | ALL MEALS

Spirit Bear in Great Bear Rainforest, British Columbia, Canada

Prepare to be captivated by Alaska's rugged beauty, where towering mountains rise dramatically from serene waters and massive glaciers crash thunderously into the sea. Marvel at the sight of orcas basking beside our ship, imagine soaring over vast ice fields, and savouring the taste of freshly caught salmon. Keep your eyes peeled for the elusive spirit bear—a rare black bear with a striking white coat—within the breathtaking Great Bear Rainforest. Spanning 15.8 million acres in British Columbia, this temperate rainforest is also home to grizzlies, humpback whales, and coastal wolves, offering unforgettable scenic cruising through one of the world's last true wildernesses.

Aboard Holland America Line, enjoy premium amenities and service as you sail pristine coastal waters. This award-winning cruise line redefines pampered luxury with spacious staterooms, exceptional dining, nightly entertainment, and more. Take advantage of special group rates on this adventure. Availability is limited, so contact us today to reserve your spot on this unforgettable Alaskan voyage.

The Cruise Ship • *ms Zaandam*

The **ms Zaandam** boasts exquisite details, from its spacious staterooms to the priceless antiques that line the halls. At 61,000 tons, it carries 1,432 guests in truly spacious comfort.

Fifteen different lounges and restaurants beckon, including the Mainstage, a two-deck high entertainment hub, and the Dining Room with its grand staircase and floor-to-ceiling windows. Other delights include the redesigned Lido for casual meals, a full-size theatre, casino, cardroom, and numerous intimate lounges for a quiet conversation or a pre-dinner dance. Recent additions include the beautiful Explorations Café with a library, internet access and coffee bar, Kids Club, and the Culinary Arts Centre for cooking classes and presentations. Ample deck areas, a complete Promenade Deck, two pools, and the superb Greenhouse Spa and fitness area are all ours to enjoy. Activities abound, from fashion shows to dance and bridge, as well as relaxation options like sauna and massage. The choice is yours.

Staterooms feature twin beds (most convert to queens), plush mattresses, Egyptian cotton sheets, bathrobes, private bathrooms, individually controlled air conditioning, ample closet space, a flat-panel television, and more. Averaging over 190 sq. ft., they offer a separate sitting area and vanity. Most outside staterooms feature picture-window viewing and all feature a bathtub/shower. Deluxe mini-suites boast a private balcony, floor-to-ceiling windows, mini-bar, and a whirlpool bath.



Inclusive Features

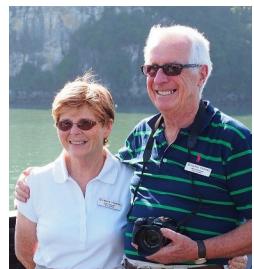
- 18-night cruise on the *ms Zaandam*, based on sharing a twin-bedded stateroom in the category selected
- Baggage handling shipside
- All meals and entertainment on board
- Services of local representatives and cruise director
- All gratuities for included shipboard services
- All cruise line taxes and fees

Air-inclusive rates also include:

- Estimated round-trip economy airfare from cities listed
- Transfers between the airport and ship
- All current air taxes, fuel surcharges, and fees
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value

Journey Leaders

Pam and Nick Cannon are seasoned travellers with a profound passion for exploration. They have explored the United Kingdom, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Mediterranean. As two of our most popular leaders, they have led cruise and tour groups to various destinations, such as Panama, Alaska, South Africa, Europe, and South America, in the past few years. With their warm and caring personalities, as well as their passion for travel, they are sure to enhance your travel experience. They cannot wait to join you on this incredible Alaska adventure.



SEP 16, Wednesday

ARRIVE VANCOUVER

Keen adventurers from across Canada fly to Vancouver and transfer to Canada Place Pier to embark on the luxurious *ms Zaandam*, our home for eighteen wonderful nights of cruising. Enjoy the panorama of Vancouver's harbour and the surrounding mountains as we sail under the Lion's Gate Bridge to begin our cruise.

Embark / Sail 3:00pm

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SEP 17, Thursday**INSIDE PASSAGE**

Sail through the breathtaking Seymour Narrows, part of the fabled Inside Passage, where deep-draft vessels glide close to steep mountain walls. This stunning route, lined with turquoise glaciers and lush forests, connects Southeast Alaska's remote towns to the world. BLD

SEP 18, Friday CRUISING GREAT BEAR RAINFOREST

Take in views of one of the most remote regions of the Great Bear Rainforest – a vast 15.8-million-acre temperate rainforest known for plunging waterfalls and mist-draped mountains. Keep your binoculars ready; wildlife is abundant. Humpback whales, otters, orcas and bald eagles are frequently spotted in the area. Highly elusive animals, such as coastal wolves and the honey-coloured spirit bear also call this region home. Relax and enjoy a front-row seat to British Columbia's untamed beauty. BLD

SEP 19, Saturday**SITKA, ALASKA**

Sitka, Alaska, on Baranof Island, combines stunning scenery with a rich history. Once the capital of Russian America, it retains landmarks like St. Michael's Cathedral and the Russian Bishop's House. Explore Sitka National Historical Park for Russian and Tlingit artifacts or visit Castle Hill for views of Mount Edgecumbe. Nature lovers can visit the Fortress of the Bear and Alaska Raptor Center to see wildlife up close. BLD

Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm

BLD



Cruise along the tranquil waters of Juneau



Keep an eye out for majestic whales. Courtesy of Holland America Line

SEP 20, Sunday CRUISING HUBBARD GLACIER

Hubbard Glacier cruises are so popular because of the glacier's three-story icebergs that cannon into crystal waters, a process called calving. It's also colourful. On clear days, Hubbard turns a stunning deep blue and on cloudy ones, its many ripples and icebergs shimmer in soft light. BLD

Arrive 8:00am / Sail 1:00pm

BLD

SEP 21, Monday**VALDEZ**

A paradise for fishing enthusiasts, Valdez offers every kind of salmon, huge halibut and ample opportunity to reel them in. Rivers and streams spill into the Sound here and are ideal for kayaking. BLD

Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm

BLD

SEP 22, Tuesday**KODIAK**

Kodiak is all about bears! This unique subspecies named after the Kodiak Archipelago where they are found evolved in isolation for around 12,000 years and can reach heights of 3 meters, or 10 feet, when standing on their hind legs. BLD

Arrive 11:00am / Sail 6:00pm

BLD

SEP 23, Wednesday**HOMER**

The Homer area is known as the Halibut Fishing Capital of the World, and it captivates audiences around the globe as the home of the Discovery Channel's Kilcher family, made famous by Alaska: The Last Frontier. BLD

Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm

BLD

SEP 24, Thursday**ANCHORAGE**

Anchorage is a haven for nature lovers. With its national parks, scenic trails, and abundant wildlife—from city moose to majestic whales—it is definitely a must-visit destination. Experience the Northern Lights, savour local cuisine, and immerse yourself in the rich culture. BLD

Arrive 10:00am / Overnight in Port

BLD



Stroll through Ketchikan's historic boardwalk

SEP 25, Friday**ANCHORAGE**

Enjoy the breathtaking beauty of Anchorage. BLD

In Port/ Sail 5:00pm

SEP 26, 27/ Saturday, Sunday**AT SEA**

Enjoy exploring the many amenities on board during two wonderful days at sea. BLD

SEP 28, Monday**CRUISING GLACIER BAY**

Early this morning, we are greeted by a breathtaking scene: rugged promontories marking the entrance to a spectacular bay. Forested slopes lead to jagged peaks, where icy rivers cascade into tranquil waters. Watch as massive ice pinnacles break from the glacier and crash dramatically into the sea. Local experts share fascinating insights into these prehistoric formations and guide us in spotting the abundant wildlife here—harbour seals, mountain goats, humpback whales, orcas, bald eagles, and even black bears. BLD

Arrive 7:00am / Sail 5:00pm

BLD

SEP 29, Tuesday

We are in Alaska's scenic capital today, surrounded by towering peaks. Try your hand at the thrill of salmon fishing—Alaskan style, pan for glinting flecks of gold, or soak up vistas only accessible by air. The options are plentiful, and the choice is yours.

Arrive 8:00am / Sail 5:00pm**JUNEAU**