

Experience beautiful, historic Sitka, Alaska's first capital city. Stay in the newly renovated dorms on the Sitka Fine Arts campus and immerse yourself in the landscape and culture of this fascinating seaside town. Explore the rainforest, intertidal zone, vibrant cultures, history, wildlife, and more. Enjoy a night at the symphony, workshops, outings, and lectures with local artists, scientists, fishermen, and culture bearers. This trip will include hands-on art experiences: nature journaling, cedar bark weaving, and metalsmithing. No experience is necessary. Enjoy this picturesque city from the land and the water. Be inspired by whales, otters, kelp, cedar trees, Sitka spruce, totem poles, and so much more. If you love to spend time in nature and enjoy trying new things, this program is for you. Participants must be prepared to walk up to three miles a day comfortably and spend time outside in wet weather. A suggested packing list will be provided.

The dorm rooms are clean, simple, and comfortable. Single rooms are available for an additional cost. There are several shared bathrooms, and our group will be the only one using the building. We will enjoy our meals in the campus dining hall.



Photo credit: Sitka fine Arts (Dining Hall)

Tour Dates

March 31 - April 5, 2025 (Travel on March 30 and April 6)

Tour Cost

\$2,650 (per person)
Double Occupancy
Single supplement: +\$200

Inclusions

- Accommodations
- Transfers to and from the airport
- Ground transportation
- Three meals per day
- Entry fees
- Educational programs
- Gratuities

Transportation costs to and from Sitka are NOT included in this tour price. All travelers must arrange their own transportation to and from Sitka.

For more information and to register, visit www.uaf.edu/summer/travel, or call (907)474-7021

***Details on the itinerary may shift between now and April. An updated itinerary will be provided to participants if any changes are made.

Note about Mobility: Our tours are designed for people who can walk up to 3 miles daily, sometimes on uneven terrain, and easily handle stairs. Sitka is a small, walkable town, and we will walk every day. If you have any concerns about this tour, please contact us.

Day 1, March 31 (Monday)

After breakfast, we will get oriented with the Sitka Fine Arts Campus, our home for the week. Next, we will head to the Sitka Sound Science Center, where we will enjoy learning about the fishing industry by touring the docks with local fishermen. Then, we will explore the intertidal zone with knowledgeable science center staff. In the afternoon, we will meet and create with local artist Rebecca Poulson. After dinner, we will enjoy the film *Yáa at Wooné: Respect for All Things.* This film, created by the Herring Protectors, takes viewers through five parts (the Herring, History, Harvest, Risk, and Ceremony) to show the importance of herring.

Day 2, April 1 (Tuesday)

Today, we will explore Sitka by sea with Allen Marine Tours*. Our group will enjoy a private wildlife viewing tour of Sitka Sound, home to the greatest

variety of wildlife in Southeast Alaska – sea otters,
whales, sea lions, porpoises, harbor seals, brown bears,
puffins, bald eagles, and more! In addition, we will go
for a guided hike in Tongass National Forest, where we will



Photo credit: Visit Sitka

enjoy towering cedars, Sitka spruce, and more. We will meet with a Tlingit master weaver to learn about the traditional art of cedar bark weaving and have the

opportunity to create our own cedar bark project.

*"This Event is Sponsored by Allen Marine Tours, Supporting Southeast Alaska Through Tourism!"

Day 3, April 2 (Wednesday)

Today, we will visit the famous Totem Trail. On this walk through the Southeast Alaska temperate rainforest, we will see poles from several Haida and Tlingit villages, the site of a battle between the Tlingit and Russians, and vistas of Sitka Sound and the intertidal zone. Next, we will tour the Bishop's House, St. Michael's Russian Orthodox Cathedral, and Castle Hill, one of Alaska's most historically significant sites. There will be time today to visit shops and galleries and have lunch in town.



Photo credit: Visit Sitka



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Day 4, April 3 (Thursday)

We will pack our lunches today and head out in the van to see parts of town that are too far to visit on foot. We will enjoy beautiful views of the bay, several short hikes, Whale Park, and more. After dinner, we will enjoy a conversation and a private screening of Cruise Boom with Sitka filmmaker Ellen Frankenstein.

Day 5, April 4 (Friday)

No trip to Sitka would be complete without a visit to the Sheldon Jackson Museum. After spending the morning exploring their exceptional collection of Alaska Native ethnographic objects, we will participate in a metalsmithing workshop with Indigenous artist Mary Goddard. Learn about form line and make a keychain or pair of earrings (no experience necessary!). We will spend the evening at the Sitka Performing Arts Center, enjoying a concert by the Juneau Symphony.

Day 6, April 5 (Saturday)

Today, we will visit the Raptor Center as a group in the morning. You will have the rest of the day to pack and squeeze in any last-minute adventures. Participants might visit shops and galleries, hike, or relax during this time. We will have a farewell dinner in town to celebrate a wonderful week together.



Travel Day - Head home



Photo credit: Visit Sitka