



THE  
*Wilds*  
OF  
**ALASKA**

**June 10 – 20, 2024**

Hosted by Gerry and Jan Van Kooten



*“Wilds of Alaska” is an active, land-based tour of some of the best and most interesting road-accessible portions of Alaska.* Tour leader Gerry Van Kooten is a long-time Alaska resident, an expert on Alaska geology, and Professor Emeritus of Geology at Calvin University.

This tour is packed full of a wide variety of amazing experiences! In 10 days we visit Anchorage and the Kenai Peninsula towns of Seward, Soldotna, Kenai, and Homer. With the spirit of Alaskan adventure, we raft the upper Kenai River, jet boat the Susitna River, and cruise the wildlife-rich Kenai Fjords National Park. In the interior, we visit Talkeetna, Fairbanks, and Denali, where the majestic and famous national park lies. Weather permitting, you’ll see great views of Mount Denali, North America’s tallest peak!



**Tour Cost**

\$7,169 per person from Grand Rapids, based on double occupancy

REGISTER ONLINE AT

[bookings.wittetravel.com](http://bookings.wittetravel.com)  
**use booking code 061024VANK**

or complete and return the printed registration form.

*Getting the best of both worlds, we are immersed in the wonderful mountains as well as the rugged coastal sea cliffs with many opportunities to spot wildlife.*

We discuss Alaska’s geology, including plate tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes, and landscape evolution, among other topics. Surrounded by pristine beauty, the leader will give informal lectures on Alaska’s history, geography, and wildlife trends. On tour, we hike to salmon falls, a marsh nature trail, and Denali’s Alpine Trail, as well as walk the Kenai River boardwalk. You won’t want to miss this once in a lifetime adventure, exploring Alaska’s most iconic attractions while being immersed in native history, culture, and geology!

*Importantly, we will also have a lot of fun on the trip and make new friends.*



**Hosted by**

**Gerry and Jan Van Kooten**

Gerry Van Kooten, Professor of Geology Emeritus, has many years of experience in the energy industry in Alaska working for companies, government, and Native corporations. He has been an Alaska resident since 1985, living in Anchorage and the Kenai

Peninsula, and returning every summer during his 13 years of teaching at Calvin. He is a veteran tour leader who has led many field trips for students and adult learners to Hawaii, Montana, and northern Michigan.

Jan Van Kooten is a music teacher and music director in schools and churches in Alaska, Michigan, and Arizona, including as an adjunct music professor at Calvin. She has accompanied Gerry on many geology field trips and helps with logistics while bringing her own perspective. Appreciating the geology, environment, and natural resources of all kinds will be an important part of this trip. Gerry and Jan are excited to show you some of the best of their home state!

(907) 202-1486 • gvankooten1@gmail.com

**Tour Pace**

**ACTIVE** – This is an active trip and participants should be able to walk several miles on a mostly level trail. Our longest hike is 5-6 miles. Sometimes we go off trail and walk on uneven ground; participants should have good balance and be able to walk comfortably. Our pace is steady and we stop periodically for discussion. At Denali National Park, we will do a particularly challenging hike with considerable uphill, but there will be an option for a shorter, easier hike. *Contact Gerry to ask further questions about the activity level.*





### *Inclusions & Highlights:*

- Roundtrip flights from Grand Rapids
- Motorcoach transportation throughout entire itinerary
- Accommodations in moderate first-class hotels
- Seven breakfasts, one lunch, and three dinners
- Kenai Fjords National Park visit with cruise
- Kenai River raft excursion
- Talkeetna River jet boat excursion
- Denali National Park visit
- Tips and taxes for entire itinerary

### **ITINERARY**

**JUNE 2024**  
**10, Monday**

### *Depart, Arrive in Anchorage*

This afternoon we gather at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport for our flights to Alaska! Upon arrival this evening, we will meet our tour host (Gerry) and his wife and tour manager (Jan). Due to our evening arrival, we will head to the hotel for check-in.

**11, Tuesday**

### *Anchorage*

After breakfast, we set out on a driving and walking tour of Alaska's largest city, Anchorage. We will visit Point Woronzoff and Resolution Park for views of Cook Inlet and Ship Creek. We'll stop by Lake Hood, one of the world's busiest floatplane basins, and nearby Earthquake Park. We will walk downtown Anchorage and have time for an independent lunch. In the afternoon we visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center. We will have a group welcome dinner this evening to get to know each other better. (B, D)

**12, Wednesday**

### *Anchorage > Girdwood > Seward*

Today we will head south towards the coastal town of Seward. Along Turnagain Arm, we make stops at Potter Marsh (birds, fish), Windy Point (Dall sheep), and Bird Point. We continue to the Kenai Peninsula, stopping at Turnagain Pass. Upon arrival in Seward, we hike an easy 1.5-mile trail to Exit Glacier, part of the Kenai Fjords National Park and the only part of the Park accessible by road. We also visit the Alaska Sea Life Center, one of the few cold-water research and rehabilitation centers in the world. (B)



- ❶ View of the downtown Anchorage
- ❷ Exit Glacier, Kenai Fjords National Park
- ❸ Sea lions near Seward



**13, Thursday**  
*Seward*

We are in for a saltwater adventure today! We head to the Seward harbor to take an 8.5-hour wildlife cruise through Kenai Fjords National Park looking for seals, sea lions, otters, whales, birds, and glaciers. Our cruise will have an on-board lunch and we stop at Fox Island for a provided dinner. Bring a warm coat and a camera! The evening in Seward is free. (B, L, D)

**14, Friday**  
*Seward > Soldotna*

After breakfast, we drive to Cooper Landing and take a float trip by raft down the Kenai River. We'll hear the natural and cultural history of the Kenai River Valley and have more opportunities for wildlife spotting. This afternoon we hike the 5-mile round trip trail to Russian River Falls. From mid to late June through August salmon return to spawn in the lake. To get to Russian Lake the fish jump the falls (or the concrete ladder on the banks of the river). If we're lucky we may even see a bear fishing down by the river. After the hike, we stop by Gerry's Moose River home for dinner before continuing to Soldotna for hotel check-in. (B, D)



**15, Saturday**  
*Ninilchik > Homer > Soldotna*

This morning our group will travel to the coastal fishing and "End of the Road" town of Homer. En route we stop in the Native village of Ninilchik to see the Russian Orthodox Church and Ninilchik River overlook. We visit the Deep Creek Boat Launch and walk to the tip of the spit to discuss longshore sediment drift and view eagles. Our day also includes the Norman Lowell Art Gallery, the Kachemak Bay Overlook, and Marine Islands Visitor Center. We overnight in Homer. (B)

**16, Sunday**  
*Soldotna > Nikiski*

We return to Soldotna for the 9:30 a.m. Soldotna Bible Chapel service. After church we enjoy the boardwalk along the Kenai River, the Kenai Flats, Kenai River Mouth overlook, Kenai Russian Orthodox Church, and Captain Cook State Park. Along the way we will discuss the geology of the Cannery Loop Gas Storage project far beneath the Kenai River and the mechanics of beach cliff erosion along Cook Inlet. We also discuss the Cook Inlet salmon fishery and the many users of this resource. (B)





**17, Monday**  
*Soldotna > Wasilla*

Today we drive to Wasilla (Sarah Palin's hometown) with several stops along the way. First is the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center to view recovering and rehabilitated wildlife. We stop at Alyeska Ski Resort to ride the tram to the mountain top and enjoy expansive views of Cook Inlet and Turnagain Arm. Passing through Anchorage, we stop briefly to see Spirit Houses at the Native village of Eklutna. (B)

**18, Tuesday**  
*Wasilla > Talkeetna > Denali*

This morning we drive to Talkeetna and visit the Alaska Sled Dog kennel operated by Dallas Seavey. Around noon, we board a river jet boat for an excursion up the Talkeetna River. The riverboat company is operated by a Calvin University alum. Your captain and deckhand will talk about the local area as well as help point out wildlife as you maneuver up the braided river. Once back in Talkeetna, we board the coach and make our way to the town of McKinley Park, the gateway to Denali National Park. (B)

**19, Wednesday**  
*Denali*

Today we explore Denali National Park and Visitor Center. We will drive 15 miles into the park, view Mt. Denali (depending on the weather), and have a choice of hiking activities. Because of recent landslides and road closures, park buses do not drive past Mile 43. Tonight, we enjoy the festivities at an Alaskan dinner theater. (B, D)

**20, Thursday**  
*Return*

This morning we drive to Fairbanks. Since we have an evening flight, we will be able to visit Pioneer Park and Gold Dredge #8. We also will see TAPS (Trans Alaska Pipeline System) and catch dinner in downtown Fairbanks before proceeding to Fairbanks International Airport for our overnight return flights. (B)

**21, Friday**  
*Arrive in Grand Rapids*

We arrive back in Grand Rapids this morning.

- ④ Summers on the Kenai Peninsula
- ⑤ Exit Glacier in Kenai Fjords National Park
- ⑥ Mt. Denali
- ⑦ Ninilchik
- ⑧ Salmon jumping upstream for spawning, Russian River Falls



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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**General Data Protection Policy.** We collect personal data, including, but not limited to legal name, gender, date of birth, passport information, dietary needs, and mobility concerns for the purpose of making travel arrangements on your behalf. We share this information with suppliers as it relates to the operation of your trip/tour. By signing the registration form/agreeing to the terms in TRIP, you agree to sharing your personal data for the purpose of making travel agreements on your behalf.

The cost of your tour includes:

**Air transportation** from Grand Rapids to Anchorage, and returning from Fairbanks to Grand Rapids with any regularly scheduled air carrier, based on a nonrefundable/nonchangeable fare, which requires a minimum of 10 passengers traveling round trip together. The identity of the carrier, which may include the carrier's code-share partner, will be assigned and disclosed in your final documents. Tickets are issued 45 days prior to departure. All current airlines taxes, security fees and fuel surcharges are included. Note that these items cannot be guaranteed until tickets are issued.

**Secure flight information.** The requirement to collect date of birth, gender, and full name are federally mandated by the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight Program. While disclosure of this information is voluntary, if it is not provided, participants may be denied boarding. TSA's privacy policy, as well as additional details, can be found at [tsa.gov](http://tsa.gov) using the keywords Secure Flight. Witte takes all reasonable steps to safeguard the privacy of all information collected from its clients.

**Frequent flyer points** are not guaranteed in connection with group airfares. Some airlines may limit group airfare credits to 25% to 50% of the frequent flyer points that apply to individuals while others do not offer any credits for group airfares.

**Hazardous Materials.** Federal law forbids the carriage of hazardous materials aboard aircraft in your luggage or on your person. A violation can result in five years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more (49 U.S.C. 5124). Hazardous materials include explosives, compressed gases, flammable liquids and solids, oxidizers, poisons, corrosives and radioactive materials. For more information, examples and special exceptions, visit: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>.

**Land transportation.** A deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach is used for transfers, excursions, and travel between cities. Because motorcoach travel is restricted in many places, sightseeing is often done on foot or via public transportation.

**Accommodations** in moderate first-class to standard first-class hotels based on two people sharing a room with private facilities. When hotels in these categories are not available, top-quality superior tourist-class properties are selected. The supplement for single accommodations is \$1,615. If you register alone but want a roommate, we will do our best to assign one. If a single room must be assigned to any member of the group for any reason, even if it is at the last minute or while on tour, we will need to charge the single supplement. Changes in rooming arrangements requested by the participant 45 or fewer days prior to departure may result in additional charges.

**Meals.** Breakfast daily and dinners as indicated in the itinerary. Dinners include a basic beverage.

**Tour Personnel.** A Witte tour manager to accompany the group from arrival in Anchorage until departure from Fairbanks. The tour manager may be assisted by local guides as needed.

**Sightseeing and admission fees** in accordance with the itinerary.

**Tippping and taxes** are included for all services, including the tip for the tour manager and motorcoach driver.

**The tour cost does not include** airline luggage fees if charged, portage of luggage, optional travel protection plan including luggage and trip cancellation coverage, optional excursions, independent meals, and any other items not mentioned as included.

**Optional travel protection.** Witte recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan. For your convenience, Witte Travel offers a travel protection plan designed by Traveler Insurance Services. This travel protection can be purchased at any time prior to making the final payment for your tour. **To be eligible for the waiver of pre-existing medical condition exclusion, the protection plan must be purchased within 15 days from the time you make your initial trip deposit, provided you are medically fit to travel at the time of purchase and full trip cost is insured. The pre-existing medical exclusion applies to you, your traveling companion, business partner and traveling or non-traveling family member. For all traveling companions to benefit from the pre-existing condition waiver, each must enroll in travel protection within 15 days of initial deposit and meet qualifications for the pre-existing condition waiver.** The plan cost for the travel protection plan that applies to your tour will be noted in your brochure and on the registration form. It may be necessary to increase the trip cost insured on the travel protection plan if you purchase additional services and/or upgrade any arrangements. This could increase the plan cost of the travel protection plan. This travel protection plan is refundable during the 15 day (30 day for IN residents) review period following the purchase of the plan; as long as you have not departed on your trip or filed a claim.

Schedule of Coverages	Maximum Coverage Amount (up to the limits shown below)
Trip Cancellation	100% of Insured Trip Cost
Trip Interruption	150% of Insured Trip Cost
Trip Delay	\$750 (\$150/day)
Missed Cruise Connection	\$750
Baggage & Personal Effects	\$2,000
Baggage Delay	\$250
Equipment Delay	\$200
Emergency Medical & Dental Expense	\$50,000(\$500 dental sublimit)
Emergency Evacuation and Repatriation	\$250,000
Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000
24 Hour Travel Assistance & Concierge Services*	Included

\*Travel Assistance & Concierge Services are provided by the designated provider listed in the Policy. Maximum trip length allowed is 90 days. Coverage and rates may vary by state. Rates are subject to change. The product descriptions provided here are only brief summaries and may be changed without notice. The full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, are contained in the insurance policy.

Prior to purchasing, you may view/download the Policy based on your state of residence at: <http://policy.travelerinsurance.com/335A-1217>. Travel Insurance is underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company; NAIC #22276. ZKN

The purchase of this product is not required in order to purchase any other travel product or service. Your travel retailer might not be licensed to sell travel insurance and will only be able to provide general information about the product. An unlicensed travel retailer may not answer questions about the terms and conditions of the insurance offered and may not evaluate the adequacy of your existing insurance coverage. The products being offered provide insurance coverage that only applies during your covered trip. You may have insurance coverage from other sources that provide similar benefits but may be subject to different restrictions depending upon the coverage. You may wish to compare the terms of the travel policy offered through Traveler with any existing life, health, home and automobile insurance policies you may have. If you have questions about your coverage under your existing insurance policies, contact your insurer or insurance agent or broker.

**Documentation:** All adult passengers (18 and over) are required to show a valid state-issued photo ID or U.S. federal photo ID (passport) in order to be allowed to go through the checkpoint and onto their flight. All non-U.S. citizens should contact Witte for their special requirements. We will check the requirements for non-U.S. citizens at the time they register and again approximately 45 days prior to departure. Witte is not responsible for any changes in requirements for non-U.S. citizens that occur after our final check. All non-U.S. citizens should contact Witte for their special requirements. We will check the requirements for non-U.S. citizens at the time they register and again approximately 45 days prior to departure. Witte is not responsible for any changes in requirements for non-U.S. citizens that occur after our final check.

When travelling domestically or internationally, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) advise that everyone carry at least two forms of acceptable identification in order to board a flight found <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/acceptable-ids>. Examples: DHS-designated enhanced driver's license, Real ID-compliant driver's license, U.S. Passport, a foreign government passport. The name, date of birth and gender that appears on the identification card must exactly match the same data listed on airline ticket(s) and booking records.

Minor children traveling internationally without both parents are strongly encouraged to carry a notarized note signed by both parents stating that they have permission to travel without one or both of them. It has become increasingly necessary to possess such a note, and will save time if questions arise departing from the U.S. or to exit a foreign country. In order to download a sample minor consent form go to: <https://www.us-passport-service-guide.com/minor-travel-consent-form.html>The sample form is a guide only. Parents who share custody of their children should carry copies of the legal custody documents. Important note: Parents are responsible to contact the embassy of the country or countries the minor child will be visiting to confirm all travel entry and exit requirements, which may include obtaining additional notarized documentation.

**HEALTH DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS.** You are responsible to make absolutely certain to have the proper immunizations and required documentation of such immunizations before travel. Witte shall not assume responsibility for the accuracy of health requirements or vaccination documentation prior to departure or upon landing at the final destination. See your health practitioner for advice. Prior to travel, required inoculations, if any, must be recorded by your health practitioner on a valid vaccination certificate, and you must carry for proof of inoculation where required. If you are concerned about taking any medications or receiving certain inoculations, and adequate timing of such inoculations relative to your travel booking, consult your health practitioner BEFORE booking. Check the U.S. State Department websites <http://travel.state.gov> for relevant information relating to travel to specific destinations, the USA Centers for Disease Control <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list/> and the World Health Organization <http://www.who.int/en/relating-to-health-issues>.

**Luggage allowance.** You may take one suitcase with a maximum size of 62 linear inches (height plus width plus depth) and weight of 50 lbs. You may also carry a purse, a camera and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum size of 45 linear inches and weight of 15 lbs. These size and weight restrictions conform to most airlines' requirements. Hand luggage does not fit in the overhead bins on the motorcoach. There may be room for it in the storage compartment under the coach or by an empty seat on board. If not, it will need to be placed on the floor in front of your feet.

**Tour cost.** The tour cost is based on a group of 22 passengers and current tariffs for air and land arrangements.

**Please note** that these travel arrangements are subject to possible price increases due to additional charges imposed by a supplier or government. You may be charged additional sums by Witte to offset increased fees, fuel surcharges, taxes, fluctuations in foreign exchange markets, and/or changes in group size. Before passing on an increase, Witte will use its best efforts to minimize the amount. If it is necessary to increase the tour cost, participants will be advised at final billing and provided with a summary of the contributing factors. Your signature on the registration form indicates consent to any post-purchase price increases.

**Reservations and payments.** To make reservations on this tour, complete the Registration Form and return it as indicated. Reservations cannot be accepted over the telephone. Payments are due as follows:  
Deposit of \$995 per person with Registration Form. Early registration is encouraged.  
Payment of \$1,995 per person by November 15, 2023.  
Payment of \$1,995 per person by February 15, 2024.  
Balance due on receipt of final invoice sent approximately 30 days prior to departure  
If you are registering for the tour after one of the above payment dates, increase your deposit amount accordingly so your account will be up to date. Please note that checks returned due to insufficient funds are subject to a \$30 service fee.

**Credit card payments.** Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express credit cards are accepted for the deposit. The deposit charge is processed shortly after receipt of your registration form.

**Cancellations and refunds.** Witte must receive notice of cancellation in writing. Penalties are per person and will be based on the date of receipt, as follows:  
More than 90 days before departure ..... \$300  
Between 90 and 46 days before departure ..... \$600  
Between 45 and 31 days before departure ..... \$2,180  
30 or fewer days before departure ..... No refund

**The service fee noted under "Special Flight Arrangements" and the nonrefundable portion of any special arrangements, or any other non-refundable arrangements made on behalf of the canceling participant, are also added to the above penalties.** Allow four to six weeks for processing of refunds. Note that payments made by check are refunded by check to the person or organization that made the payments, and payments charged to a credit card are credited back to the same credit card.

**Membership/Passenger's Responsibility.** You acknowledge Witte is responsible for a comfortable and respectful atmosphere that protects the health of all travelers, creating a positive tour experience. This requires commitment from every individual on the tour to assume personal responsibility for protecting their own health and wellbeing, as well as the health and wellbeing of other travelers and tour personnel. You pledge to follow local and state laws as well as tour and sightseeing requirements related to any community health concern. If you refuse to comply with these rules of conduct, you understand that Witte Travel &

Tours reserves the right to remove you from the trip and you are responsible for any associated expenses. Witte reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a member of the tour and to expel from the tour any participant whose conduct or condition is incompatible with the interest of the group.

**Land-only participants.** If you wish to make your own flight arrangements, contact Witte for the land-only cost at least 90 days prior to departure. Participants who make their own flight arrangements are strongly encouraged to coordinate their flight schedules with the group's flight schedule and to use the same airports. The group's airport transfers on the arrival and return days will be timed to the group's flight schedule. Land-only participants may need to arrange for their own airport transfers. Contact Witte for information and costs on options for private transfers. Witte cannot be responsible for any inconveniences to land-only participants resulting from changes in the group's flight schedule. Participants who change their status to land-only less than 90 days prior to departure may be subject to penalties imposed by the airlines.

**Domestic flight connections.** Note on your registration form if you would like to fly to and from the international departure city. You will be contacted with schedule options and costs. Witte must receive requests for connecting flights at least 45 days prior to departure.

**Special flight arrangements.** Note on your registration form if you would like to extend your stay and/or depart from and/or return to another city. The number of passengers who can deviate from the group's flight schedule is restricted. You will be contacted to let you know if the arrangements you requested are possible and to advise you of schedule options and costs. Upon confirmation of your special arrangements, a nonrefundable service fee of \$75 per person will be added to your account along with any additional air or land costs that may apply. In the event of cancellation, the service fee and any nonrefundable portion of special air or land arrangements made for you will be added to the penalties noted under "Cancellations and Refunds." Witte must receive requests for special flight arrangements at least 45 days prior to departure.

**Special meal requests and food allergies.** Note special meal requests and food allergies on your registration form. Witte cannot be responsible if special requests are not met but we will pass them on to the airlines, hotels and restaurants. If you have dietary restrictions or food allergies, be sure to carry your medications with you at all times. Also, discuss your special needs with your tour personnel and ask the wait staff about the foods you are served.

**Mobility Concerns.** Sightseeing on Witte tours almost always includes walking. Visits to historical places often mean climbing stairs and walking on uneven surfaces or cobblestones. The Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") is only applicable within the U.S., and facilities for disabled individuals are limited outside its borders. A qualified and physically able companion must accompany travelers who need such assistance. Motorized scooters and wheelchairs are unsuitable for many trips. Transportation services, including many tour motor coaches, are not equipped with wheelchair ramps. Handicap accessibility is not always available. Witte tour personnel are not able to provide attendant services.

Consult your physician if you have any concerns about your ability to participate.

**Time away from the tour.** Advise Witte in writing at least 45 days before departure if you plan to spend some time away from the tour. Wherever possible, you will be credited for missed hotel nights.

**Final tour documents**—including itinerary, hotel list, passenger list, flight schedules with departure instructions, and luggage tags—are sent about 10 days prior to departure. Flight tickets are usually made available at the airport at check-in.

**Limitations of Responsibility and Disclosure.** The trip outlined herein has been contracted with Alaska Travel Connections. Witte acts solely as a booking agent for supplier hotels, airlines, air charters, bus companies, ground transportation, cruise lines, boat purveyors or owners, and other independent contractors providing accommodations, transportation, and/or other services, and is not the source or provider of the travel services. Each of these supplier companies is an independent entity with its own management, and is not subject to the control of Witte. Participant is advised that the suppliers whose services appear in travel documentation are responsible for providing the travel services purchased, and consents to the use of those suppliers, and understands and agrees each supplier's Terms and Conditions are contained in printed form and are set forth on their respective Web sites, which govern the transaction. All bookings are accepted by Witte as agent for the travel suppliers on your itinerary. The transportation, accommodations and other services provided by the sea, ground, and air operator suppliers offered are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the tickets, exchange orders or vouchers issued by them and/or their suppliers, including Terms and Conditions on their respective Web sites.

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Witte, its agents, sponsors, organizers and employees shall not be responsible for any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay, irregularity or expense arising from strikes, weather, sickness, acts of war or terrorism, governmental restrictions or regulations or from any act or omission on the part of any individual or company furnishing transportation, accommodations or any other services to the tour participants; absent gross negligence, Witte shall not be responsible for any injuries, death, damages, loss or delay by any means of transportation or by reason of any event beyond its actual control.

Weather conditions, including but not limited to the presence or absence of snow, sunshine, and rainfall are not guaranteed to occur or not occur, and are outside of Witte's control. Volcanic eruptions, ash clouds, and wind may be characterized as an adverse weather condition or a natural disaster by suppliers and your travel insurance company, which is beyond the control of Witte.

Witte shall not assume any responsibility for any air and/or ground schedule changes.

Witte reserves the right to make alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary.

**Force Majeure.** "Force Majeure" means, in relation to Witte, any circumstances beyond the reasonable control of Witte, (including, but without limitation, acts of God, explosion, tidal waves and flood, tempest, forceful wind, earthquakes, fire or accident, hostilities, war or threat of war declared or undeclared, acts or threats of terrorism, sabotage, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil disturbance, requisition, epidemic, sickness, quarantine, government intervention, invasion, act of foreign enemies, mobilization, embargo, weather conditions, defects in machinery and vehicles, delay, wildlife, contamination by radio-activity from any nuclear fuel or from any nuclear waste, or other untoward occurrences).

Witte shall not be deemed to be in breach of these terms and conditions or otherwise be liable to you, by reason of delay in performance, or by non-performance, of any of its obligations hereunder to the extent that any such delay or non-performance is due to any Force Majeure.

If Witte, and/or any of its travel suppliers, are affected by Force Majeure, they shall be entitled to, and may in their sole and absolute discretion, vary or cancel any itinerary or arrangement in relation to the trip. Payment of any refund by Witte to you as a result of the non-performance of any obligations due to Force Majeure shall remain in its sole and absolute discretion, although Witte shall use its reasonable efforts to reimburse you where possible. However, Witte shall be entitled to deduct from any refund recoverable the reasonable actual and potential costs to Witte of the Force Majeure and applicable cancellation fees.

Regarding civil unrest, once Witte has investigated the prevailing situation, as it deems fit, it shall remain in Witte's sole and absolute discretion whether to proceed with the trip. You may in such circumstances cancel the trip subject to Witte's and each supplier's terms and conditions.

**In case of insufficient participation,** geopolitical, or natural cause, or other circumstances beyond its control to the extent travel services cannot be provided wholly or partially, Witte may cancel the tour. In such cases, Witte will use its best efforts to supply alternative services and accommodations, and no refunds will be granted provided that the alternatives are comparable to the original services and accommodations included in the tour cost. In the event of cancellation of the tour by Witte, its liability will be limited to a refund in full of all monies paid by the participants. If available, Witte will offer an alternative trip, which the participants may accept or reject.

California Passengers: Witte is registered as a California Seller of Travel CST# 201-3304-40. Witte is a fully accredited tour operator with the Airlines Reporting Corporation, the International Airlines Travel Agency Network, and is a member of the National Tour Association, the mark of excellence in the group tour industry.

**Assumption of Risks/Safety.** Travel to certain destinations may involve greater risk than others. Witte urges all participants to remain informed daily as to current news events, as well as to review travel prohibitions, warnings, announcements, and advisories issued by the U.S. Government prior to booking travel to international destinations. Information on conditions in various countries and the level of risk associated with travel to particular international destinations may be found at <http://www.state.gov>, <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>, <http://www.tsa.gov>, <http://www.dot.gov>, <http://www.faa.gov>, <http://www.cdc.gov>, and <https://www.cbp.gov/travel>

In recognition of the inherent risk of travel and related activities in which you are intending to engage, you confirm that you are physically and mentally capable of participating in the travel booked and that you willingly and voluntarily assume full responsibility for any injury, loss, or damage suffered by you or caused by you. By registering for any related travel activities, you certify that you do not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for yourself or other participants.

The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) is a free service provided by the U.S. Government to U.S. citizens who are traveling to or living in, a foreign country. STEP allows you to enter information about your upcoming trip abroad so that the Department of State can better assist you in an emergency. Registration is recommended and provided by going to <https://step.state.gov/step/>

BY OFFERING FOR SALE TRAVEL TO PARTICULAR DESTINATIONS, WITTE DOES NOT REPRESENT OR WARRANT THAT TRAVEL TO SUCH POINTS IS ADVISABLE OR WITHOUT RISK, AND SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR COSTS, DAMAGES, OR LOSSES THAT MAY RESULT FROM TRAVEL TO SUCH DESTINATIONS. EACH TRAVELER'S PARTICIPATION CONSTITUTES ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH EVENTS AT THE PARTICIPANT'S OWN RISK.

Traveler acknowledges that Witte Tours or its associates may receive advice from health authorities regarding the trip which may include requirements for the wearing of masks/coverings, guidance in hand hygiene, and avoiding physical contact.

An inherent risk of exposure to communicable disease exists in any public place where people are present. Diseases can be extremely contagious and lead to severe illness and death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens and guests with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. By traveling on this tour, you voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to illness and agree to indemnify and hold Witte Tours harmless from third-party claims and any damages due to sickness or death.

**Photographs/Videos Copyright Policy, Release, and Authorization.** Witte reserves the right to use any photographs/videos taken at any event or during the operation of any travel activity and to use the resulting photography, videos or recordings for promotional or commercial use without the express written permission of those included in the photograph/video. By making a reservation with Witte, the parent/guardian/participant agrees to allow and authorizes his/her likeness to be used by Witte without compensation to the parent/guardian/participant, or anyone else, and releases any claims and demands ensuing from or in connection with the use of the photographs, including any expectation of confidentiality and all claims for libel and invasion of privacy.

Copyright in all photographs, video, and related materials created by participants related to Witte belong to the parent/guardian/participant upon creation. The parent/guardian/participant grants to Witte ("Witte Tour Materials") a nonexclusive, worldwide, irrevocable license to use any Witte Tour Materials provided, sent or available to Witte and/or the organizing academic institution or affiliation group or group of participants (including tags) in any media now existing or subsequently developed for the following limited purposes: brochures, invitations, websites, blogs, social media, newspapers, magazines, television, on line marketing, and promotion and advertising of Witte's travel services and programs.

If the parent/guardian/participant prefers their likeness not be used, he/she must notify [groups@witte.travel](mailto:groups@witte.travel) in writing prior to departure of the trip and include a photograph.

**SECURITY.** Any passwords used for registration on this site are for individual use only. You may not share your password with anyone. You are solely responsible for the security of your password and any use of the services by anyone else with whom you share your password. We may monitor your password and, at our discretion, require you to change it. If you use a password that we consider insecure, we may require it to be changed or we may end your account.

If you become involved in any violation of system security, we reserve the right to release your details to system administrators at other sites in order to assist them in resolving security incidents. We reserve the right to investigate all suspected violations of these Terms and Conditions.

We reserve the right to fully cooperate with any law enforcement authorities or court order requesting disclosure of the identity of anyone posting any E-mail messages, or publishing or otherwise making available any materials that are believed to violate these Terms and Conditions. BY ACCEPTING THIS AGREEMENT, YOU WAIVE AND HOLD HARMLESS WITTE FROM ANY CLAIMS RESULTING FROM ANY ACTION TAKEN BY WITTE DURING OR AS A RESULT OF ITS INVESTIGATIONS AND/OR FROM ANY ACTIONS TAKEN AS A CONSEQUENCE OF INVESTIGATIONS BY EITHER WITTE OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES.

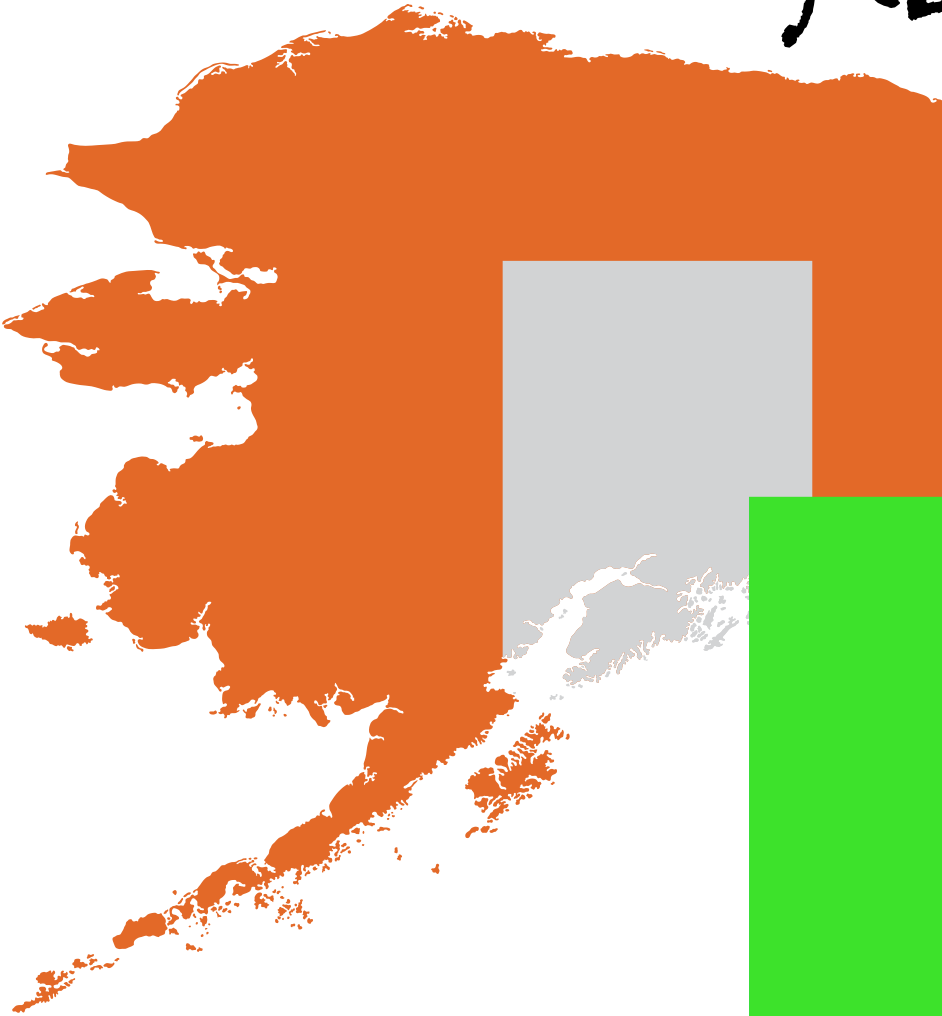
**Arbitration.** Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement of the performance thereunder, including without limitation any claim related to bodily injury, property damage or death, shall be settled by binding arbitration in Kentwood, Michigan, U.S., in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association then existing, and judgment in the arbitration award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction over the subject matter of the controversy. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive Michigan law. This agreement to arbitrate does not waive or modify the limitation of liability contained in this document.

**Exclusive Governing Law and Jurisdiction:** This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Michigan, without regard to conflicts of laws principles. If the right to seek arbitration is for any reason waived by both parties, or if judicial review of any arbitration is sought, any action or legal proceeding arising out of this Agreement shall be brought exclusively in the courts of Kent County, Michigan, and the parties hereby waive any objection to venue or jurisdiction in connection therewith. In connection with any action or legal proceeding arising out of this Agreement, the parties hereby specifically and knowingly waive any rights that either party might have to demand a jury trial. Use of the Witte website is unauthorized in any jurisdiction that does not give effect to all provisions of these terms and conditions, including, without limitation, this paragraph.

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If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email our customer service department at [groups@witte.travel](mailto:groups@witte.travel)

# Register **TODAY!**



**witte** Travel & Tours

3250 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49512  
616.957.8113 | 800 GO WITTE  
[groups@wittetravel.com](mailto:groups@wittetravel.com) | [wittetours.com](http://wittetours.com)



# REGISTRATION FORM

## CALL/CAA THE WILDS OF ALASKA

June 10 – 20, 2024

\$7,169 per person from Grand Rapids,  
based on double occupancy

For office use only



Register online at [bookings.wittetravel.com](http://bookings.wittetravel.com)  
using booking code **061024VANK**  
or complete and return this paper form

### IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE YOUR FULL LEGAL NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR LEGAL ID.

NOTE: Your legal ID must be an exact match to the name on your airline ticket. Incorrect information could result in airline penalties or denied boarding.

#### Passenger #1 PRINT CLEARLY

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle  I do not have a middle name \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred First Name \_\_\_\_\_

For travel purposes, **please enter the gender that matches your legal I.D.**, even if your legal I.D. is not how you refer to yourself at this time. Use (M) Male, (F) Female, (U) undisclosed, or (X) unspecified .

M  F  X  U Birthdate mm\_\_\_\_/ dd\_\_\_\_/ yyyy\_\_\_\_ Citizenship:  U.S.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

☎ Home \_\_\_\_\_ ☎ Work \_\_\_\_\_ ☎ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Known Traveler Number (if you have one) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Dietary Needs:

Vegan  Low Sodium  Vegetarian  Diabetic  Gluten free  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobility concerns: (walker, wheelchair, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Medical \_\_\_\_\_

#### Passenger #2 PRINT CLEARLY

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle  I do not have a middle name \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred First Name \_\_\_\_\_

For travel purposes, **please enter the gender that matches your legal I.D.**, even if your legal I.D. is not how you refer to yourself at this time. Use (M) Male, (F) Female, (U) undisclosed, or (X) unspecified .

M  F  X  U Birthdate mm\_\_\_\_/ dd\_\_\_\_/ yyyy\_\_\_\_ Citizenship:  U.S.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

☎ Home \_\_\_\_\_ ☎ Work \_\_\_\_\_ ☎ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Known Traveler Number (if you have one) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Dietary Needs:

Vegan  Low Sodium  Vegetarian  Diabetic  Gluten free  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobility concerns: (walker, wheelchair, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Medical \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mailing Address

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

#### Emergency Contact

NOT TRAVELING WITH YOU \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Accommodations

Double occupancy. Roommate's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate not yet known  Assistance needed finding a roommate

I understand that if a roommate is not available, I will be responsible for the cost of single occupancy.

Single occupancy (+ \$1,615 per person = \$8,784)

CONTINUED ON REVERSE

061024VANK CAA-CALL Wilds of Alaska APP Van Kooten

## Optional Travel Protection

Witte Travel recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your trip investment.

**The per person premium for this travel protection is \$610.08\* for double occupancy and \$747.52\* for single occupancy.**

I/we wish to purchase the travel protection at this time. Full payment of the plan cost is included with my deposit. I have read and understand the policy, which includes the full coverage term details, including exclusions and limitations as well as the Travel Protection brochure enclosed.

I/we wish to decline the travel protection at this time. I/we understand that travel protection can be purchased later, as long as it is done prior to making final payment on the tour.

\*It may be necessary to increase the trip cost insured on the travel protection plan for participants who purchase additional services and/or upgrade their arrangements. This could increase the plan cost.

The full coverage terms and details, including limitations and exclusions, are contained in the insurance policy. To view/download the Policy based on your state of residence at: <http://policy.travelexinsurance.com/335A-1217>. Travelex Insurance Services, Inc CA Agency License #0D10209. Travel Insurance is underwritten by, Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance Company, NAIC #22276. 4PZ

### Travel Protection Information:

- You can enroll in this plan when you register for the tour or at any time prior to making final payment on the tour.
- **The pre-existing medical condition exclusion is waived if you purchase within 15 days of your initial trip payment, provided all insureds are medically able to travel and all prepaid nonrefundable trip costs are insured. This exclusion applies to You and Traveling Companions as well as Business Partners and Family Members, whether traveling or not.**
- This travel protection plan is refundable during the 15 day (30 day for IN residents) review period following the purchase of the plan; as long as you have not departed on your trip or filed a claim.
- For more information and an outline of the included benefits, see "Optional travel protection" in the Terms and Conditions of your tour brochure.
- Any person who knowingly presents a false or fraudulent claim for payment of a loss or benefit or knowingly presents false information in an application for insurance is guilty of a crime and may be subject to fines and confinement in prison. Please visit [www.travelexinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning](http://www.travelexinsurance.com/company/fraud-warning) to view the state specific fraud warnings or call 844.858.9910.

## Special Arrangements

Upon confirmation of your special arrangements, a nonrefundable service fee of \$75 per person will be added to your account along with any additional air or land costs that may apply.

**Flight Connections** from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Special Air Arrangements:** To spend additional time away, I/we would like to depart on \_\_\_\_\_ and return on \_\_\_\_\_. To request special land arrangements (car rentals, hotels, etc.), include a note and we'll contact you.

## Signature

**I/we have read, understand and accept the terms and conditions as outlined in the tour brochure. I/we acknowledge receipt of information about Witte's Travel Protection Plan as well as the Price Increase Rules.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Note – Payment reminders will be e-mailed to Passenger #1. If no e-mail is provided, payment reminders will be sent by U.S. mail.

**Register online at [bookings.wittetravel.com](http://bookings.wittetravel.com)  
using booking code 061024VANK**

or complete and return this paper form to:

Witte Travel & Tours  
3250 28th Street SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

**Enclose your deposit of \$995 per person.** If you are purchasing Optional Travel Protection add the full plan cost to your deposit.

# CREDIT CARD/eCHECK PAYMENT FORM

For office use only

**CALL/CAA  
THE WILDS OF ALASKA**

June 10 – 20, 2024

\$7,169 per person from Grand Rapids,  
based on double occupancy



wittetours.com  
Fax: 616.957.9716

It is not secure to e-mail the credit card form.  
Please fax or mail back.

Name of Passenger(s):

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

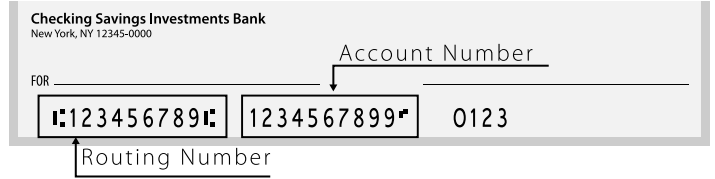
**eCheck Payment**

Routing Number \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on bank account \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print)



**Credit Card Payment**

Type of card:     Visa     MasterCard     Discover     American Express

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Security code \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print)

Billing address of credit card (if other than on application):

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Billing phone \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize Witte Travel & Tours to charge this bank account/credit card for the deposit and full travel-protection premium (if selected). Remaining payments may be made by either by going to [bookings.wittetravel.com/login](http://bookings.wittetravel.com/login) to pay via eCheck or credit card, by sending a check, or by calling 1/800-469-4883. For security reasons, we are unable to store your bank account/credit card information.

Cardholder's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

For office use only

Reservation ID \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

- Deposit of \$995 per person with Registration Form
- Payment of \$1,995 per person by November 15, 2023
- Payment of \$1,995 per person by February 15, 2024
- Balance due approximately 30 days prior to departure