

PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE COPPER RIVER DELTA

ALASKA

APRIL 30-MAY 9, 2011



HOLBROOK
TRAVEL

ALASKA • Photograph millions of migrating shorebirds on Alaska's Copper River Delta and North Gulf Coast during this unique 10-day expedition. Your home base will be the Orca Adventure Lodge in Cordova, with daily excursions for the best landscape and wildlife photo opportunities in the area. A small plane flight up to the Bering Glacier, the largest in North America, will surely be a highlight of your trip. Join Jerry Goffe in the field, with the spectacular Chugach Mountains and Prince William Sound as your backdrop. Enroll today, space is limited!

ABOUT YOUR LEADER:

Photography has been Jerry Goffe's professional career and personal passion for over 35 years. Jerry began as an architectural photographer, later moving into commercial and illustrative photography. His photographs have appeared in Sunset Magazine, Architectural Forum, Smithsonian Magazine and National Geographic, among others. In the mid- 1980s Jerry became an expert in legal evidence documentation. He now directs his passion to conservation through photography at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, where he is a volunteer, guide and photography instructor. (www.naturephotoworks.com) Jerry takes great joy in sharing the beauty and splendor of wildlife and nature through his photography workshops. We hope you will join him!



HIGHLIGHTS

- Full day photographing shorebirds at Alaganik Slough
- Take a road trip through the Copper River Delta
- See the historical Million Dollar Bridge and Childs Glacier in the Chugach National Forest
- Day trip via small plane to Bering Glacier
- Boat trip to photograph puffins at the Martin Island Bird Refuge
- Photograph sea otters in Orca Inlet
- Learn about environmental impact and positive outcomes of the Exxon Valdez oil spill
- Travel by the Alaska Marine Highway ferry with stop at Valdez

TRIP DETAILS

Land Cost: \$2849

Plus \$165 airfare from Cordova-Anchorage and flights to and from your home city to Anchorage. Rates based on double occupancy with a minimum of 9 participants. Single rooms available for an additional \$145.00

Register online at: www.HolbrookTravel.com/JerryGoffeAlaska2011

Contact Debbie Sturdivant at:
Debbie@HolbrookTravel.com or 1.800.451.7111
for more details.



April 30 - Anchorage

Upon arrival in Anchorage, you will take the hotel shuttle to the Quality Inn near the airport. **Overnight at Quality Inn.**

May 1 - Cordova

Pick up at 9:00 and depart for Whittier where we board the ferry for the scenic trip to Cordova. Cordova is a uniquely Alaskan community, shaped by its dramatic natural setting, rich cultural heritage, and colorful residents. It is a working town, nestled in the heart of a spectacular wilderness, which still looks to the ocean and forests for its livelihood. Cordova is the gateway to our adventure. The Copper River Delta lies at the confluence of the Copper River and the Gulf of Alaska and is the crown jewel of North America's wetlands. At 700,000 acres it is the largest wetlands complex on the Pacific Coast of North America--an ecosystem of almost unparalleled productivity. We arrive at the Orca Adventure Lodge and settle into our rooms before dinner. The lodge is Alaska's most unique adventure destination, located on the shores of Prince William Sound where sea otters play outside your front window. This evening, you will have an orientation on the trip schedule. Our itinerary is flexible, based on weather and tides during our visit. Anticipate rain! After dinner we are joined by Mary Anne Bishop for a discussion on local shorebirds. **Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge.** (BLD)

May 2 - Cordova

Today we fly by small plane over the Bering Glacier, North America's largest. Over the past century, warmer temperatures and changes in precipitation have thinned the Bering Glacier by several hundred meters and while it advances and retreats regularly, the glacier has retreated about 7 miles since 1900. Afterwards stop at the Martin Island Bird Refuge for a boat trip to photograph puffins. **Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge.** (BLD)

May 3 - Cordova

Full day adventure by jet skiff down to the Alaganik Slough. There will be a large number of shorebirds in this area. Enjoy a picnic lunch and more photography before returning to the lodge this afternoon. **Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge.** (BLD)

May 4 - Cordova

Visit Hartney Bay and the Eyak River today for fantastic opportunities to photograph eagles and other wildlife. **Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge.** (BLD)

May 5 - Cordova

After breakfast we take a boat trip in the Orca Inlet, where we will have the opportunity to see the world's largest population of sea otters and observe their interaction within the pod. Our guide for the day has been involved in sea otter studies for 15 years. Afterwards, we head to Hinchinbrook to another remote beach for lunch. The island is 20 by 24 miles in size with long sandy beaches lined with spruce, hemlock and muskeg. It is home to numerous deer, bear and seabird colonies. A few back-to-earth human inhabitants also call it home. Once we are on the island, we'll observe and identify bird life, shells, marine worms and marine mammals with our guide, noting the relationships forged on the island among the many different residents. Visit the kittiwake colony. In the late afternoon, when we return to Cordova, we may explore downtown, the museum as well as the Eyak Cultural

Center. The harbor is extremely photogenic as well. **Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge.** (BLD)

May 6 - Cordova

Today we enjoy a short hike with plenty of time for photography along the Copper River Delta boardwalk and trail. Return to the lodge. After dinner enjoy a lecture by author Rikki Ott on the Exxon Valdez oil spill. **Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge.** (BLD)

May 7 - Cordova

After breakfast, we depart for a full day van tour of the Copper River Delta traversing the 56-mile "road to nowhere." Cordova has one road, the Copper River Highway, which ends just past the Copper River and the Million Dollar Bridge. The Million Dollar Bridge is an amazing site to see and is an important part of Cordova's history. Built around 1910 for the railroad to haul copper ore from the Kennecott copper mines to the port of Cordova, it was severely damaged in the 1964 earthquake. At the end of the Copper River Highway, we will witness Childs Glacier "calve" into the turbulent Copper River. Please note if conditions permit, the group will view the glacier on a boat excursion instead of the road trip. We may have the opportunity to observe moose, mountain goats, beavers and waterfowl. Today's activities include some of the highlights of the Cordova Shorebird Festival. **Overnight at Orca Adventure Lodge.** (BLD)

May 8 - Cordova

Time for last minute photography this morning before heading to the airport to board our flight back to Anchorage. We have free time after we shuttle to the Quality Inn Hotel, where we have a day room (or overnight if your flight goes out tomorrow). Some options to consider are photographing Potters Marsh, exploring downtown Anchorage or the Alaska Native Heritage Center, if desired. Evening take shuttle to the airport to catch flight back to Lower 48. **Day room or Overnight at Quality Inn.** (B)

May 9 - Arrive Home or take shuttle to the airport.

Program Includes: all transportation, accommodations, photography instruction by your leader, expert local guides, meals and activities as stated in the itinerary.

Program does not include: airfare to Anchorage or Cordova-Anchorage, additional activities, beverages and gratuities. Please call Holbrook at 800-451-7111 for an airfare from your city.

Payment: In order to secure your space on the trip, a \$200 deposit and completed enrollment form is due immediately. Final payment is due on or before January 25, 2011. Final payments are non-refundable. Optional travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information about insurance coverage, see www.travelinsured.com or call 800-243-3174. Holbrook's Agency number is 15849.

For additional trip information contact Jerry Goffe at 505-346-4220 jgoffe20@comcast.net or Debbie Sturdivant at 866-748-6146 debbie@holbrooktravel.com