



Chilkoot High Adventure Base



Chilkoot High Adventure Base Equipment List

When on a scouting adventure in Alaska you need to be prepared for a variety of weather and conditions. In town, at sea level, the average temperature in June – July is in the 60s-70s (F), while higher elevations where backpacking & mountaineering happen could be in the 40s-50s (F). It's not unheard of to have a mid-summer cold snap bringing a dusting of snow to the mountains around Haines. It is important participants bring warm layers and come prepared for both warm sunny days and wet stormy weather that frequents our area. Synthetic clothing material such as polyester, polypropylene, or nylon are essential. Cotton clothing is not acceptable for these outdoor adventures.

Please review this list carefully, all items (excluding the optional section) are required for your adventure in Alaska!

Upper Body Layers				
Upper body layers are some of the most important components of a good layering system. They should be comfortable, lightweight, and breathable. Cotton is unacceptable, except as a T-shirt for basecamp, town and travel apparel.				
Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Base Layers	2-3		A lightweight and breathable layer that is good at wicking moisture away from the body. Synthetic blends like Capilene also work great! A light colored layer is a good idea to reflect sun and stay cool on warm sunny days.	-
T-Shirt	1		Worn when in town / basecamp, ideal for warmer sunny days we may experience during the trip.	-
Mid Layer (Medium Weight)	1		To be worn over the base layers and should be synthetic or wool offering moderate insulation/warmth. Both Black Diamond and Mountain Hardware offer great mid-weight layers.	-
Heavy Weight Top	1		To be worn over the base layers and medium weight top and should be synthetic or wool. Both Black Diamond and Mountain Hardware make nice thick layers.	-
Insulated Jacket	1		During peak summer (late June – July) participants will be ok with a lighter option. Early June trips and late July/August trips should bring a heavier/warmer option. The Ghost Shadow Hoodie is a great light-weight jacket. Black Diamond's Belay Parka is an excellent choice for colder early season or late summer trips. Southeast Alaska is a wet, maritime type climate so we strongly discourage down filled insulation as it doesn't work well when wet.	-
Waterproof Shell / Outer Wear	1		A jacket made of waterproof / breathable material such as Gore-Tex is vital to keep you dry. Insulated jackets don't work well and are not recommended as participants will overheat when active. The Treeline Rain Shell is a great choice.	-

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Lower Body Layers

Lower body layers should be versatile and easy to change into and out of under changing weather conditions.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Base Layers	2		A lightweight and breathable layer that is good at wicking moisture away from the body.	-
Underwear	3-5 pairs		Synthetic briefs and underwear will keep you comfortable and hygienic during high output. Plan on bringing one pair per 3 days of use.	-
Fleece Pants	1		Thick fleece long johns are a must for staying warm when wet or relaxing in camp on a cold day. Consider the Solution 150 Merino full length pants.	-
Shorts or Lightweight Pants	1		These are optional but are nice to wear at lower elevations, in town, or as additional layering options. The Stryder Convertible Pant is a versatile and great choice.	-
Rain Shell Pants	1		Pants made of waterproof / breathable material such as Gore-Tex are vital for keeping you warm and dry. They need to fit over all layers, zippered side vents are a plus. The Acadia Pants from Mountain Hardwear work well.	-

Head, Neck, Hands & Feet

Keeping your extremities warm & dry is crucial. We lose a massive percentage of body heat through our heads. Our hands and feet are the most susceptible to inconveniences like frostbite and trench-foot. Developing a system that works for your specific needs takes time; this guide is a good place to start.

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Beanie / Winter Hat	2		A wool or synthetic hat that covers your ears for colder weather. This type of hat is crucial on itineraries that incorporate mountaineering, but also might be used on backpacking, kayaking, and other segments.	-
Sun-Hat / Ball Cap	1		The sun can be very bright (especially with reflection). The more protection your hat offers from the sun, the better.	-
Buff	1		Multi-functional and lightweight. Can be worn as neckwear, cover up your face from sun, dust, and wind, or style it as a lightweight hat/bandana.	-
Sunglasses	2		Dark lenses with good side protection are a must. The sun can be very bright (especially with reflection off of the water/snow/ice) and can cause eye damage. We recommend bringing a 2 nd pair as backup in case the main pair is lost/broken. Smith Optics make some excellent sunglasses designed for active/outdoor adventure.	-
Light Weight Gloves	1		Light-weight fleece / Windstopper material works best.	-
Heavy Weight Gloves/Mitts* (Mountaineering Only)	1		Should be warm, durable, and water-resistant or water-proof. During mountaineering segments we'll be accessing snow/ice even in June & July. Black Diamond has a large selection of gloves for adventures in the snow and ice.	-
Socks	4-5		These should be synthetic or wool. Having a mix of light and heavy weight socks is nice to adjust to variable weather.	-

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Hiking Boots	1		A pair of sturdy backpacking boots with ankle support. Make sure boots are broken in before coming to Alaska to avoid blisters.	-
Shoes/Sneakers	1		A pair of lightweight sneakers or sandals for wearing during travel and at basecamp.	-
Gaiters	1		These should fit over your boots. They are used to keep mud/snow/rocks out. They should be tall and water/abrasion resistant. The Front Point Gaiter is a great choice.	-

Technical Hardware & Sleeping Systems

For technical gear we recommend [Black Diamond](#). We run their equipment on every mountain trip we operate and find it to be among the best in the industry. For tents and sleeping bags we recommend [Mountain Hardware](#).

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Backpack	1		Should have a capacity of at least 70-80L and should be comfortable with 60 lbs. of weight. The PCT Pack is a great backpackers choice, while the Mission 75L is a favored pack among mountaineers for its streamline/simple design.	YES
Trekking poles	1		Lightweight and adjustable length work best.	YES
Large Duffel	1		Useful when travelling to Alaska and also for keeping any personal items organized/together in storage at basecamp. The Stonehauer Duffel is a solid choice.	-
Sleeping bag	1		Synthetic fill is a must! Down fill does not work well in the wet climate of Southeast Alaska. We recommend a warmth rating of 15 degrees to cover all weather/conditions.	YES
Sleeping pads	1-2		A system of one compact inflatable pad and one closed cell foam pad works best to insulate, especially for mountaineering itineraries. Backpacking, kayaking, and other activities will be ok if using only 1 pad.	YES

Miscellaneous

Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Passport	1		We're located just 40 miles from Canada. Many itineraries involve travel into Canada! Passports required.	-
Eating Utensils	-		Bowl & Spoon (Lexan or titanium work well) as well as a 14 oz. mug with a lid for hot drinks.	-
Watch	1		Light up display with an alarm.	-
Headlamp	1		Trips June 20 – July 20 will be ok without, but we recommend having a headlamp for early and late summer programs. The Spot 350 headlamp is a solid option.	-
Toilet Paper	1		Basecamp is equipped with plumbed toilets and TP, we also stock a group supply in the backcountry but recommend having a small personal supply as well.	-
Lip Balm	1-2		Should have some type of SPF protection.	-
Sunscreen	8oz.		Should be SPF 30 or higher and be waterproof.	-

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Water Bottles	2		Wide mouth 1-liter bottles (Nalgene) work best. Bladder style systems are discouraged.	-
Stuff Sacks	2-4		For organizing your gear inside of your backpack. Consider using compression sacks for both your sleeping bag and clothes to maximize usage of space. Sea to Summit makes great waterproof stuff sacks.	-
Optional				
Equipment	Quantity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comments	Rental
Summit Pack	-		Used on day excursions, should be between 35L - 55L (many people use their big pack for this purpose). Both Mountain Hardwear and Black Diamond offer some great climbing packs in this range.	-
Hand Warmers	4		A good thing to keep in your pack for those brisk alpine starts.	-
Sleeping Bag Liner	1		For increased warmth.	-
Extra Batteries	-		To replace batteries in your headlamp and other accessories.	-
Energy/Candy Bars	0-20		Your favorite snack on the go and a some trail bars are best!	-
Moist Towelettes	0-20		When away from the shower of basecamp these can be handy for personal hygiene.	-
Camera	1		A small, compact digital camera to capture the trip's moments. Waterproof models are even better! It's a good idea to have extra batteries on hand.	-

Additional Information



We provide the following:

Tents, technical equipment, expedition first aid kits, group kitchen gear and trip food.

Please don't hesitate to call us with any questions (800) 766-3396.



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