

ANCHORAGE IS NOT ALASKA!

Anchorage is a big city. A lot of the population is of the younger type. It is as crazy here as down in the lower 48. Fast paced, fast drivers, fast everything.

We headed out for Seward and the first thing we saw along Turnagain Arm, was a pod of about 50 Beluga whales. They were porpoising along beside the road, followed by a crowd of people in cars with cameras. They would jump into their cars and race to the next turnout to wait for the whales to arrive there.

Finally a beautiful drive took us to Seward, AK. The City has developed about a mile of the waterfront of Resurrection Bay into campsites for RV's. We nose in to within 40 ft of the waters edge and have an unobstructed view of snow clad mountains. A large cruise ship turned around right in front of our site and headed out to sea, while we were having wine and snacks in the living room looking out the front window.



Stayed for three days in Seward. The first day we opted for a six-hour glacier cruise. The boat took us right to the face of the Aialik glacier with a length of a mile at the waterline and a height of 700 ft. We parked and shut off the engines for 20 minutes and listened to the ice crack with calving of chunks of glacial ice. Awesome!

The remainder of the trip showed us Stellar sea lions, Harbor seals, Puffin nurseries, Sea otters and Black Bears. Oh Yes, also some mountain goats sticking to the side of steep cliffs.

The last full day, we took a sled dog ride with the Iditarod sled dogs used in the race. They train them and keep them in shape pulling tourists around. The city library showed two remarkable films about the 1964 earthquake and the resulting damages.

We are experiencing rain today, in fact the first rain of the trip and the first rain for us since last year sometime. If it does not let up, it may be the start of the Alaskan winter and turn to snow!

We will travel next to Homer, AK for a few days and then start to head south from Anchorage for home.

Dave & Bonnie
8/30/02