

Chilkat Guides, Ltd.

P.O. Box 170, Haines, Alaska 99827 * Phone: 907-766-2491 * Fax: 907-766-2409 *
E-mail: raftalaska@chilkatguides.com * Website: www.raftalaska.com



Greetings from Haines, Alaska!

Thank you for choosing Chilkat Guides, Ltd. and our Kongakut River expedition. This coming season we are offering one Kongakut river trip in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, home to the 130,000 strong Porcupine Caribou herd. Remote mountain ranges, untouched American wilderness and a dazzling diversity of flora and fauna characterize this arctic landscape. Sign up now for this river trip of a lifetime.

Kongakut River

Day 1: This day is the travel day from your hometown to Fairbanks, Alaska. We will meet you at 5:00 p.m. for a quick pre-trip orientation and to hand out river gear. (Meeting & lodging location to be announced).

Day 2: This morning we will board a small charter plane at the Fairbanks airport bound for the Gwich'in settlement of Arctic Village 150 miles away. After a plane change, we continue flying another 80 miles to Drain Creek, our put-in and first campsite at the foot of the Romanzof Mountains.

Day 3: We will start the day with a morning hike into the headwaters of the Kongakut River. This is a perfect opportunity to slow down and make the transition to life on the river.

Day 4: Today we will paddle downstream for about ten miles, encountering a few small rapids, and spending time hiking amongst the deceptively diverse tundra.

Day 5: This is our whitewater day. After a quick scout, we will run the main rapids of the expedition, then continue down river encountering a few small riffles.

Day 6-9: Now we begin to experience one of the true wonders of the Arctic Refuge, the migration of the Porcupine Caribou herd. Floating through this major travel corridor our river time and camps will be directed by the roving caribou herd.

Day 10: At our last camp, you can enjoy the view from a prominent ridge overlooking the Beaufort Sea. Afterwards we will de-rig the river gear for an early flight out the next morning.

Day 11: In the morning we will catch flights from Caribou pass back to Arctic Village, then on to Fairbanks for showers and a closing meal together.

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Clothing & Equipment

The remote wilderness of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is a combination of arctic tundra and the Arctic Coastal Plain. Dramatic weather shifts and long summer days are the norm for this region. The weather can range from snow to 80 degrees in a matter of days.

We strongly urge you to use synthetic fleece or wool items because they remain warm when wet and they dry quickly. We recommend that you dress in layers, wearing light layers close to the body with warmer layers added as necessary.

Base Layers

- 2-3 Sets of light/medium weight synthetic long underwear
- Underwear – as many as you think you will need (non-cotton fabric
- recommended) 2 – 3 T-shirts
- 2 Long sleeve shirts (synthetic or wool is best)

Outer Layers

- 2 Lightweight pants (fleece, synthetic or wool)
- 1-2 Shorts – light and quick drying (also nylon pants with zip off legs)
- 1 Sweater – thick wool or fleece
- 1-Windbreaker jacket and wind / rain pants (nylon or lightweight Gore-Tex)
- Bug net for your head

Extremities

We provide heavy-duty rubber gloves, kitchen glove style.

- 5 – 7 Pairs of socks – Synthetic or wool blend (Warm, dry feet are happy feet!)
- 2 Pairs of gloves or glove liners– wool or fleece
- Baseball or brimmed hat (for sun and rain)
- Wool or fleece hat for warmth (fleece headbands are great for cold ears)

Foot Gear

We provide rubber boots & felt insoles.

- 1- Hiking boots - with good ankle support
- 1- Camp shoes – athletic, running or sport sandals

Rain Gear

We provide heavy-duty rubber rain gear

Miscellaneous Necessities

- Sleeping bag – rated to 10 degrees (complimentary if needed but feel free to bring your own)
- Daypack (1800-2100 cu. in.) lined with a thick plastic compactor bag ***A MUST!***
- 3 Carabiners – to attach items to the boat (D-shaped metal rings w/latch, found at climbing stores)
- Water bottle
- Moisturizing lotion (heavy duty; the silty environment is hard on the skin)
- Sunblock & lip balm (plus a spare)
- Spare glasses or contact lenses
- Sunglasses (“Chums” or “Croakies” to keep them attached to you)
- Insect repellent
- Thick compactor, garbage bags (to line your daypack)

Recommended Items

- Neck gaiter
- Binoculars, camera
- Personal beverages & alcohol
- Misc... reading material, notebook & pen, cards, handi-wipes, wash cloth (or small towel), biodegradable soap, bandana, small flashlight, pocket knife
- Personal, favorite snack items (we provide GORP)

We Supply:

- *Dry bags – two NRS 2.2 cu. ft. outfitter bags*
- *Shared Tent*
- *Sleeping bag*
- *Sleeping pad*
- *Rubber boots & felt insoles*
- *Rubber gloves*
- *Lifejacket*
- *Optional camera box (military ammo can)*

We supply two dry bags that are quite large. Clothes are packed into one dry bag, and your sleeping bag, sleeping pad and a few small items will go into the other dry bag. These dry bags are not accessible while we are on the river, however your daypack will be. Items you will need in your daypack include: hat, gloves, extra socks, warm layers, rain gear, water bottle, sun screen, lip protection, sun glasses, etc.

If you have any questions, please call us at (907) 766-2491 or send us an email at raftalaska@chilkatguides.com

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Trip Registration

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN THIS PAGE TO CHILKAT GUIDES

Full Name _____ River & Trip Date _____

(Name you go by) _____ Home phone # _____

Address _____ Business phone # _____

Citizenship _____ Date of Birth _____ Email _____

Passport # *(required)* _____

Gender _____ Height _____ Weight _____

How did you hear about Chilkat Guides, Ltd. _____

In case of emergency, please notify:

Name _____ Name _____

Address _____ Address _____

Phone # _____ Phone # _____

Medical insurance carrier:

Policy #/ group/ agent:

With whom, would you like to share
your, hotel room and/or tent?

RIVER GEAR REQUESTS

Please reserve the following **complimentary** gear for me:

- Rain Gear SM M L XL XXL
- Shared Tent
- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Pad

If you are traveling independently what accommodations can we reserve for you?

- Single tent = \$150**

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Client Profile - Kongakut

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Name: _____

List your other wilderness camping trips/expeditions. *(None required, we're just curious.)*

What river rafting or canoeing experience do you have?

What is your present state of health?

Describe your physical activities.

Can you swim?

Are you taking any medications?

PLEASE be specific.

Do you have any allergies?

Are you a vegetarian or vegan?

Do you eat/like fish?

Do you prefer coffee, tea or cocoa?

Do you have any dietary restrictions or food preferences?

Tell us about your interests, skills or areas of expertise (i.e. botany, geology, photography, etc.)

Anything else we should know about you?

TRAVEL ITINERARY

To Fairbanks –

Airline company _____

Arrival Date _____

Arrival Time _____

Accommodations _____

From Fairbanks

Airline company _____

Departure Date _____

Departure Date _____

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VISITOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISKS – Rafting & Hiking

In consideration of the services of Chilkat Guides, Ltd their officers, agents, employees, stockholders, owners, volunteers, participants and all other persons or entities associated with those businesses (hereafter collectively referred to as "CG") I agree as follows:

Although CG has taken reasonable steps to provide me with appropriate equipment and skilled guides so I can enjoy an activity for which I may not be skilled, CG has informed me that this activity is not without risk. There are certain risks in each activity, including physical, emotional and other injury; illness; paralysis; loss and damage to third parties and to equipment and other property as well as to myself; permanent trauma; and death. CG does not want to frighten me or reduce my enthusiasm for this activity, but believes it is important for me to know in advance what to expect and to be informed of the risks. The following further describes some, but not all, of these risks:

The risks include, among other things, the hazards of walking on uneven terrain; slips and falls; being struck by objects dislodged or thrown from above; using the equipment for the activity; forces of nature, including lightning and weather changes; exposure to insect and animal bites and attacks; cold including hypothermia; drowning; my own condition and any medical or physical condition I might have; the physical condition of other participants; and the physical exertion associated with this activity. The risks of rafting also include the hazards of tides and currents and exposure to the elements.

Furthermore, CG employees have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather, the elements or the terrain. They may give inadequate warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction. They also might be negligent in other ways.

I am aware that rafting and hiking entail risks of injury and death to any participant. I understand that the description of these risks is not complete and that other unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury and death. I agree to assume and accept full responsibility for the risks identified herein and those risks not specifically identified. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary; no one is forcing me to participate, and I elect to participate in spite of and with full knowledge of the risks.

I acknowledge that engaging in this activity may require a degree of skill and knowledge different from other activities and that I have responsibilities as a participant. I acknowledge that the staff of CG has been available to explain to me more fully the nature and physical demands of this activity and the risks, hazards and dangers associated with it.

I certify that I am fully capable of participating in this activity. Therefore, I assume and accept full responsibility for myself, including all minor children in my care, custody or control and assume all of the risks for injury, death or loss of personal property and expenses as a result of those risks and dangers identified herein and those risks and dangers not specifically identified, including but not limited to those resulting from my negligence in participating in this activity, and I voluntarily release, forever discharge and shall be estopped from bringing any and all claims, demands and causes of action which are connected with my participation in this activity. In the event that I file a lawsuit against CG I agree to do so solely in the State of Alaska and I further agree that the substantive law of Alaska shall apply in that action without regard to conflict of laws rules.

I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

I have carefully read, clearly understood and accepted the terms and conditions stated herein and acknowledge that this agreement shall be effective and binding upon me, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate and for all members of my family, including minor children.

Signature

Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian, if participant is under 18 years of age

Signature

Date