

Alaska Celebrity Speaker Programme 2023



The 2023 Alaska season will feature Alaska Native Voices again in 2023 with a Cultural Heritage Guide, The National Park Rangers for all visits to Glacier Bay plus a Naturalist on every sailing, providing deck commentary, talks and manning our Alaska Outpost daily.

Alaska voyage details.

Voyage Code	Celebrity Speaker	Voyage Date	Nights
Q320	Bear Grylls	8 June 2023	12
Q321	Kenton Cool	20 June 2023	10
Q322	Kenton Cool	30 June 2023	7
Q323	Pen Hadow	7 July 2023	10
Q324	Ann Daniels	17 July 2023	10
Q325	Felicity Aston	27 July 2023	11
Q326	Mensun Bound	7 August 2023	10



Bear Grylls.

Q320 8 June 2023 Alaska

Bear Grylls is probably the most recognisable face of adventure on the planet. The former 21 SAS soldier was one of the youngest ever climbers of Mt Everest, despite breaking his back in a free-fall accident only months earlier.

Bear's TV shows include the legendary Discovery channel show MAN Vs WILD and the hit show RUNNING WILD with Bear Grylls, now in its seventh season on National Geographic Channel. His Running Wild guests have included President Obama (in Alaska), Roger Federer, Julia Roberts, Prime Minister Modi of India and most recent Hollywood stars, Natalie Portman and Ashton Kutcher. Bear is a family man, a No. 1 bestselling author who has sold over 20 million books, the Honorary Colonel to the British Royal Marine Commandos and the first ever Chief Ambassador to 55 million young Scouts worldwide.





Kenton Cool.

Q321 & Q322 20 June 2023 & 30 June 2023 Alaska

Kenton Cool is an English mountaineer and mountain guide. He is one of Britain's leading alpine and high-altitude climbers and has summited Mount Everest fifteen times, including leading Sir Ranulph Fiennes' 2008 and 2009 Expeditions and Ben Fogle's 2019 Expedition.

He has completed over 20 notable expeditions in the Greater Ranges and, in 2013, became the first person to climb Nuptse, Everest and Lhotse in a single push without returning to base camp. He has also skied two, 8,000m mountains and guided a successful Expedition to the summit of K2. He has also led expeditions through Alaska including North America's highest peak, Mount McKinley.





Pen Hadow.

Q323 7 July 2023 Alaska

Explorer and Adventurer Pen Hadow was catapulted to international fame when he became the first and only person to complete one of the last great polar challenges - solo, without re-supply, from Canada to the North Pole. It took him three attempts over 15 years to achieve this single feat at the 'bleeding edge of exploration'. Pen has a strong connection with Alaska in his adventures, including attempting to sail to the North Pole from Nome, Alaska.





Ann Daniels.

Q324 17 July 2023 Alaska

Ann Daniels is one of Britain's leading Polar explorers. In 2002 Ann became a world record holder when she reached the North Pole despite unbelievable arctic conditions and became the first woman in history to ski to the North and South Poles as part of an all women team. This journey has never been repeated.

In 2009, Ann took part in the first Catlin Arctic Survey over a period of 100 days, 1000km crossing of the ice cap in temperatures as low as minus 50°C. The survey set off from Alaska, walking, skiing and on occasions swimming stretches of open water to reach the North Geographic Pole. Ann is described by The Daily Telegraph as one of the top 20 Great British Adventurers of all time.



Felicity Aston.

Q325 27 July 2023 Alaska

Felicity Aston MBE is a Polar Scientist turned Explorer. In 2012 she became the first woman to ski alone across the Antarctic, a 1744km/1084m journey that took her 59-days and entered her in the Guinness Book of World Records. She has also created and led record-making ski expeditions to both the North and South Geographic Poles with international teams of pioneering women, skied frozen rivers and lakes in Siberia, driven 36,000km to the Pole of Cold (the coldest inhabited place on Earth), flown across the United States in an airship and run the Marathon Des Sables footrace in the Sahara.

An award-winning author of three books, professional speaker, and occasional TV presenter, in 2016 Felicity retraced the route of the 1898 Klondike Gold Rush and spent time mining for gold in Alaska and the Yukon to co-present a series for the BBC.





Mensun Bound.

Q326 7 August 2023 Alaska

Known as the 'Indiana Jones of the Deep', Mensun Bound has conducted wreck surveys and excavations all over the world in a career that spanned 40 years. During that time he excavated one of the oldest known shipwrecks (600 BC). In 2019 Bound stunned the world with his discovery of Admiral von Spee's flagship, Scharnhorst which had been lost in battle during World War One.

That same year Bound was Director of Exploration for the first search to find Shackleton's ship 'Endurance'. In 2022 the search resumed and on 5th March the Endurance was found and, as predicted by Bound, it was upright, largely intact, proud of the seabed in an excellent state of preservation.



