

Baranof Island, Southeast Alaska, USA

No roads, no tourist infrastructure—just natural hot springs, rushing waterfalls, and the raw quiet of the Alaskan rainforest. Baranof Island's Warm Springs Bay is expedition cruising at its most rewarding.

Anchor/tender only

Typical call: 4–6 hrs

USD

English

Small ships only

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Anchor & tender — no pier for large ships; small dock at Warm Springs Bay

Best For: Hot springs soaking, waterfall hikes, wildlife, total immersion in wilderness

Walk to center: No town center; hot springs bathhouse ~0.2 mi from dock

Don't Miss: Baranof Hot Springs outdoor pools and the waterfall trail above the bay

🚗 Getting around: 🚖 **Taxi** ✅ \$20–\$30+ to downtown

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Baranof Hot Springs Soak** — The star attraction: natural mineral hot springs drain into outdoor rock-lined soaking pools overlooking the bay.
 - **Waterfall & Rainforest Trail** — A short but steep trail above the bathhouse leads past Baranof Lake outlet cascades to sweeping views of the bay.
- **Kayaking the Bay** — The calm, protected waters of Warm Springs Bay are ideal for sea kayaking.
 - **Floatplane Scenic Flight from Sitka** — Some itineraries position Baranof Island as a day trip from Sitka by floatplane, offering aerial views of the island's fjords, glaciers, and the...

BEST WALKS

- **Dock to Hot Springs Boardwalk** 0.2 mi | Easy | 5 min — A flat boardwalk stroll from the public dock past the Warm Springs Bay shoreline to the Baranof Hot Springs bathhouse and pools.
- **Waterfall Trail** 0.5 mi round-trip | Moderate | 30–45 min — From the hot springs bathhouse, follow the trail uphill through old-growth rainforest to the cascades below Baranof Lake.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring a swimsuit: The hot springs are the main event. Pack yours in your day bag — the bathhouse has changing facilities but limited space.
- Rain gear is mandatory: Southeast Alaska averages over 100 inches of rain per year at Warm Springs Bay. Waterproof jacket and shoes are essential even on sunny mornings.
- Don't miss the tender back: There is no town, no hotel, and no rescue option if you miss the ship. Note the all-aboard time and set a phone alarm.
- Bring cash from the ship: There are no ATMs or card readers ashore. Any small purchases at the bathhouse (towel rental, snacks) require USD cash.
- Brown bears are real: Baranof Island has a healthy brown bear population. Stay on marked trails, make noise, and follow any bear-safety briefing your ship provides.
- No cell service: Warm Springs Bay is fully off-grid. Download offline maps before leaving the ship and let someone onboard know your plan.

Baranof Island, Southeast Alaska, USA — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



P Cruise port / terminal