

Hubbard Glacier, Alaska, USA

No town, no pier — just 400-foot walls of ancient ice collapsing into the sea with a boom heard miles away. Hubbard Glacier is North America's largest tidewater glacier and one of the few still advancing, making every ship visit a front-row seat to a living, roaring spectacle.

⚓ Scenic cruising — no docking or tendering

🕒 Typical time: 3-6 hrs in bay

🚫 No shore spending (onboard only)

🗣️ English

🐻 Active calving glacier

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: No pier — ships cruise Disenchantment Bay, 0.5–1 mile from the face

Best For: Glacier calving, wildlife spotting, photography, onboard naturalist talks

Glacier Size: 76 miles long, 7 miles wide at its face; ice cliffs up to 400 ft above waterline

Don't Miss: Bow deck as the ship rotates — and listening for 'White Thunder' calving booms

🚗 Getting around: 📱 Rideshare ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Glacier Wilderness Explorer (Ship-Launched)** — Board a custom expedition catamaran or small vessel directly from your cruise ship and cruise through Disenchantment Bay among icebergs for a...
- **Wildlife Spotting from Deck** — Harbor seals haul out on ice floes near the glacier face.
- **Zodiac or Kayak Launch (Expedition Lines)** — Smaller expedition ships (Lindblad, Quark, Hurtigruten) deploy Zodiacs and kayaks to paddle among icebergs within Disenchantment Bay, an intimate...
- **Onboard Naturalist Program** — Most Alaska cruise lines station a naturalist on the bridge deck during the glacier visit.

BEST WALKS

- **Deck Walk: Bow to Stern for Best Views** Onboard · Any fitness level · 30–90 min — Make a full circuit of the ship's outer decks as the captain rotates.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌡️ **CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		44°	34°	18d
Jun		56°	49°	16d
Aug		60°	53°	20d
Sep		56°	47°	20d
Oct		48°	40°	20d

🇺🇸 **DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY**

Apr 6:02AM–8:36PM · Jun 4:00AM–10:38PM · Aug 5:37AM–9:07PM · Sep 6:48AM–7:37PM · Oct 7:58AM–6:08PM

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Dress warmly, even in summer. The cold air rolling off 400 feet of ice drops deck temperatures fast. Fleece and a windproof layer are non-negotiable, even on a July afternoon.
- Get to the deck early. Ships announce glacier arrival via PA — once that happens, the best rail spots fill within minutes. Post up near the bow for calving views.
- Shoot in burst mode. Calving happens fast and unpredictably. A continuous burst setting on your camera or phone gives you a much better chance of catching the splash and spray.
- Binoculars are worth it. Harbor seals on ice floes and eagles in the cliffs are easy to miss without them. Borrow from the ship's library if you don't own a pair.
- Book the small-vessel excursion early. If your line offers a catamaran or expedition-boat add-on, it books out days before arrival. Reserve as soon as the cruise planner opens.
- Fog doesn't ruin it. Low clouds and mist are common in Disenchantment Bay. The calving 'White Thunder' booms are just as impressive — sometimes more eerie — in fog than on clear days.

Hubbard Glacier, Alaska, USA — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



1 Hubbard Glacier North America's longest tidewater glacier, with a face six miles wide, viewed from ship at the head of Disenchantment Bay.

P Cruise port / terminal