

Kupreanof Island, Southeast Alaska, USA

One of the Inside Passage's most authentic escapes — no souvenir shops, no crowds, just Tlingit history, towering old-growth forest, and black bears fishing the creeks. Small ships only.

Tender (anchor & skiff ashore)

Typical call: 5–7 hrs

USD

English / Tlingit

Small expedition ships only

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender / skiff — ships anchor; no large pier

Walk to center: Dock opens directly onto Kake village; totem pole ~5 min walk

Best For: Tlingit culture, bear viewing, wilderness hiking

Don't Miss: Kake's 132-ft totem pole & Gunnuk Creek bear platform

🚗 Getting around: 🚗 **Taxi** ✅ From ~\$80/person · 🚗 **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Gunnuk Creek Bear Viewing** — Watch black bears fishing for salmon from a dedicated viewing platform at the old Gunnuk Creek Fish Hatchery.
- Tlingit Cultural Experience at Keex' Kwaan Lodge** — Witness traditional Tlingit regalia and dance performances by the Keex' Kwaan dancers at the lodge.
- Kake's 132-Foot Totem Pole** — Standing 132 feet, this pole — raised in 1971 and long celebrated as the tallest totem pole carved by a Native carver and raised in traditional...
- Logging Road Exploration by Vehicle** — Over 120 miles of logging roads wind through Kupreanof Island's Tongass National Forest, offering access to mountain vistas, salmon rivers, and...
- Tlingit Canoe Trip** — Paddle with local Tlingit guides in traditional-style canoes from near the cruise dock.

BEST WALKS

- Kake Village & Totem Pole Walk** 0.5 mi · Easy · 20–30 min — From the Kake dock, walk into the village to see Kake's 132-ft ceremonial totem pole, the historic Keku Cannery, and the Keex' Kwaan Lodge.
- Kake Waterfront & Eagle Watching** 0.5–1 mi · Easy · 30–45 min — Stroll the Kake waterfront along the inlet.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		46°	37°	18d
Jun		58°	49°	16d
Aug		61°	53°	17d
Sep		56°	48°	17d
Oct		48°	42°	18d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:46AM–8:06PM · Jun 4:01AM–9:51PM · Aug 5:24AM–8:34PM · Sep 6:27AM–7:12PM · Oct 7:30AM–5:51PM

USD

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bear awareness is real: Black bears occasionally walk through Kake village. Walk in groups, make noise on trails, and follow your ship naturalist's guidance. No need for panic — just awareness.
- Waterproof boots are essential: Southeast Alaska's temperate rainforest means rain is likely. Xtratufs or waterproof hiking boots are strongly recommended — trails and boardwalks get slick.
- Minimal cell service: Don't count on your phone for navigation or communication ashore. Download offline maps before leaving the ship and carry a printed ship schedule.
- Know your last-tender time: There's no way to call the ship if you miss it. Confirm tender cutoff before heading out, especially on longer hikes or guided excursions.
- Bring cash: Kake is a tiny community with limited card readers. USD cash is the safest option for any purchases, tips for local guides, or small vendors.
- Tides matter: The Inside Passage has dramatic tidal swings. Tender landings and beach walks can change significantly with the tide — check conditions with your expedition crew.

Kupreanof 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.



- 1 Kake Totem Pole** One of the world's tallest totem poles, carved to mark Alaska's 1967 centennial, standing above Kake harbor.
- 3 Gunnuk Creek** Salmon spawning stream running through Kake, a traditional Tlingit subsistence fishing site.

- 2 Keku Islets** Cluster of small forested islets near Kake known for tidal currents and abundant marine wildlife.
- P Cruise port / terminal**