



HIKING THE CHILKOOT TRAIL

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW
ABOUT PLANNING, PREPARING FOR,
AND HIKING THE TRAIL

BY LAURA FRIESEN

INTRODUCTION

So, you've decided to hike the Chilkoot Trail? Good for you! You've come to the right place.

This guide is designed to answer all of your questions about hiking the trail.

Part One will provide a short history of the Chilkoot Trail and an overview of the hike.

Part Two will address everything you need to know during the planning stages, from when to go, to campgrounds, to reservations.

Part Three looks at preparations and everything you need to do in order to be ready to tackle the hike.

As it is the most commonly used route - this guide focuses on completing the trail as an independent, multi-day hike from Dyea, Alaska to Bennett, British Columbia during the summer hiking season. It is also possible to hike the trail in the off-season, day-run the trail, hike it "backwards" from Bennett to Dyea, join a guided group hike, or to undertake day hikes on shorter sections of the trail. Information on these options will be limited in this guide.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



My name is Laura Friesen. I'm a traveler, writer, and lover of the outdoors. My partner and I hiked the Chilkoot Trail in 2016. After spending hours upon hours searching for information while planning our own hike, I decided to compile everything I learned into this ebook to help others experience this amazing adventure for themselves.

I currently blog at www.anordinaryexistence.com, where you can find more information about my own personal experience on the trail.

Thank you for purchasing this guide! I hope you find it useful.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part One

6	A Brief History of the Chilkoot Trail
8	Overview of the Hike
10	Who Should Attempt This Hike?

Part Two

12	When to Go
13	Permits and Reservations
15	Camping on the Chilkoot
21	Possible Itineraries
23	Transportation
29	Skagway
32	Planning Checklist

Part Three

34	Bear Safety
38	Leave No Trace
46	Food
51	Water
53	Training
55	Packing
58	Packing List
59	Preparation Checklist
60	What it's Really Like

A large, rusted metal boiler, likely a steam engine component, sits on a mossy forest floor. The boiler is dark brown with a perforated front panel and a cylindrical top section. It is surrounded by tall, thin trees in a dense forest. The ground is covered in moss and fallen leaves. The text "PART ONE: OVERVIEW" is overlaid in white, serif font on the right side of the image.

PART ONE: OVERVIEW

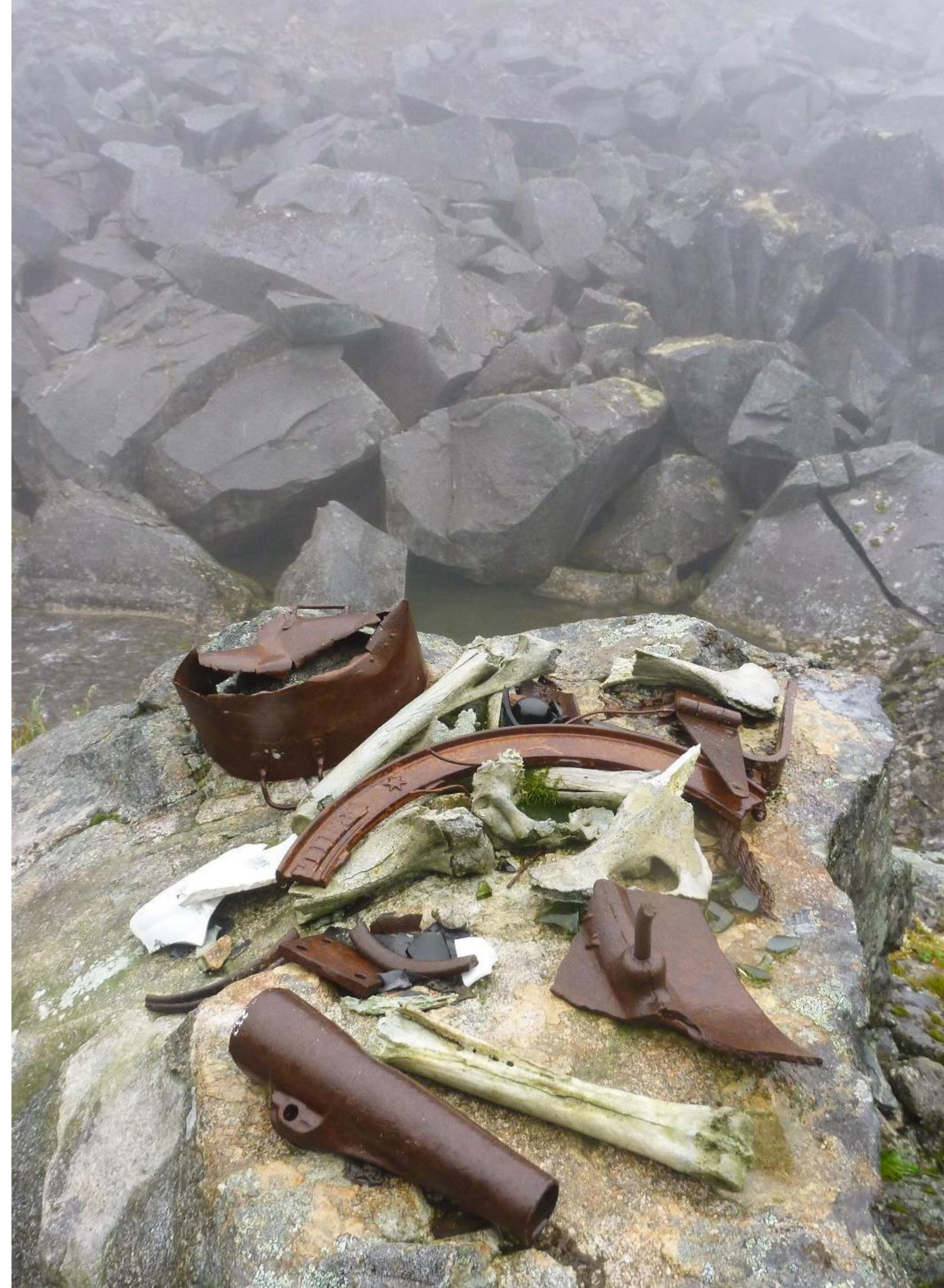
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CHILKOOT TRAIL

The Chilkoot Trail was originally used as a trade route by the Aboriginal Tlingit people. Owned by the Raven Clan, the trail was used to transport marine products from the coast to the interior, where they were traded for furs and skins.

By the mid-19th century, Russian, British, and American fur traders had arrived in the area and the Tlingit people became central actors in the international fur trade.

By 1880, a deal had been negotiated to allow for gold prospectors to access the interior via the trail. The Tlingit people took up the roles of guides and packers for those seeking fortune

In 1896, gold was discovered in the Klondike region and by 1897 the first of the stampedeers arrived in Dyea, Alaska. From this point until 1899, over 30,000 men, women, and children made their way over the Chilkoot Pass in hopes of striking it rich. Only a fraction would make it to Dawson City and even less would go on to find gold.



The Chilkoot Trail became such a central part of the Klondike Gold Rush, not only due to the existing relationships with the Tlingit people, but also because it was the shortest and cheapest route for prospectors to get from the coast to Bennett, British Columbia. Once at Bennett, they were able to build boats and rafts to take them the rest of the way to Dawson City. Tram lines were built and tent cities sprung up at Canyon City, Lindeman City, and Bennett as more and more people made their way to the interior.

In the winter of 1897-98, a flood of people was crossing the U.S.-Canada border along the Chilkoot. Many of these prospectors came underprepared and had little experience in wilderness living. Out of concern for the ability of these people to survive the harsh environment, the Canadian Mounties began requiring stampeders to have a year's worth of supplies, equal to one ton of goods.

Supplies were weighed at scales just before the Chilkoot Pass and prospectors were turned back if they lacked sufficient goods. Many gave up at this point, defeated by the challenging conditions.



In 1899, the White Pass & Yukon Route Railway was built, providing much quicker and easier access to the interior. The Chilkoot Trail was all but abandoned until both the United States and Canada designated it a national historic site. In 1998, the two countries began to co-manage the trail under the Klondike Gold Rush International Historical Park.

It is this storied history that attracts so many to the trail each year. Hikers can relive a piece of history as they trace the steps of these intrepid travelers who made their way over the Chilkoot Pass more than a century ago. Lucky for us, you're no longer required to carry a ton of goods!

For further reading on the history of the trail, check out David Neufeld and Frank Norris' *Chilkoot Trail: Heritage Route to the Klondike*



OVERVIEW OF THE HIKE

Distance: 33 miles/53 kilometers

Terrain: moves from coastal rainforest, over the rocky pass, and through sub-alpine terrain

Time required: 3 to 5 days

Cost: varies year to year but expect to pay around \$40 (under 16 yrs)/\$67 (17+) for permit and reservation fees

Highlights:

- Historical significance of the trail and discovering artifacts along the way
- Beautiful scenery and diversity of the terrain
- The mental and physical challenge of the trail
- A limited number of hikers allows for both socializing and solitude

Hiking the Chilkoot Trail is a wonderful and challenging experience. The trail runs from Dyea, Alaska to Bennett, British Columbia, crossing the U.S./Canada border at the crux of the pass. Bennett is accessed only via the trail, by train or by floatplane.

Known as “the world’s longest museum,” history buffs will appreciate coming across the numerous artifacts and buildings left from the Gold Rush days.

Hikers can expect to pass through an astounding diversity of terrain. The U.S. side of the trail stays within the confines of the forest, but even here you will move from dense forest with thick undergrowth to more open sections. The Canadian side offers up more rugged and mountainous terrain with stunning vistas where the trail runs alongside picturesque lakes and rivers.

The Chilkoot is a moderate to difficult hike with deep mud, roots, and slick/loose rocks common along the trail. Elevation gains/losses are mostly moderate, outside of the steep climb to the pass which requires scrambling over boulders at a 45° angle.

The trail is remote. In the case of an emergency, airlifts can cost tens of thousands of dollars. Be sure your insurance covers this. During the summer months, the trail is patrolled by NPS rangers and Parks Canada wardens, though you may not see staff while on the trail.

The trail is clearly defined for the majority of the hike, except for the section leading up to the Pass. This route is marked by staff from early June to early September with tall orange rods.

Weather on the Chilkoot can be unpredictable with wet, cold, snowy conditions possible even in summer. Average temperature in the summer months is around 12°C/53F. The U.S. side of the trail is generally wetter as weather systems blow in from the coast. Snow sections can persist throughout the summer. Warm layers and rain gear are essential.

Hikers must carry all necessary gear and food and be prepared to be self-reliant. Designated campgrounds feature only minimal amenities such as warmup shelters and outhouses.

The Chilkoot Trail is a great option for those looking for a challenging and interesting backcountry experience.

WHO SHOULD ATTEMPT THIS HIKE?

The Chilkoot Trail is a strenuous hike that is recommended for those who have experience with backcountry hiking. The biggest challenge comes while crossing the Chilkoot Pass, prior to which hikers gain 1000 feet in elevation over only half a mile, in the section known as the Golden Stairs. This requires scrambling over boulders while carrying a heavy pack. This “pass day” can often take more than 12 hours to complete. For many, this can be as much of a mental challenge as a physical one.

Having said that, people from all walks of life hike the Chilkoot. During our five days on the trail we met families, couples, and solo hikers. Ages ranged from as young as four to over seventy. Some had extensive experience with hiking, others had only done multiday hikes once or twice before. The most important thing is to be realistic about the ability of yourself and your group when planning your days and distances on the trail.

Children – though Parks Canada does not recommend taking young children on the trail, there is no age restriction in place. If you are planning on taking young children, be prepared to carry them up sections of steep, rocky, and unstable terrain as some areas (particularly the Golden Stairs) are difficult for children to navigate.

Dogs – Parks Canada also does not recommend taking dogs on the trail. Sharp and loose rocks can be hazardous to a dog’s paws and having a dog can increase the likelihood of experiencing a bear encounter. If you do take your dog, it is required that you have them on a leash at all times.

A lush forest scene with a moss-covered ground and several large, textured tree trunks. The forest floor is covered in vibrant green moss and ferns, with large, gnarled tree roots exposed. The trees are tall and thin, with a dense canopy of green leaves. The lighting is soft and natural, creating a serene atmosphere.

PART TWO: PLANNING



WHEN TO GO

The Chilkoot Trail is patrolled by NPS and Parks Canada staff from early June until early September. During this time rangers are stationed at various points along the trail and the route over the pass is marked.

Snow persists on the trail and an avalanche hazard remains in effect usually until mid-July. Early-season hikers are encouraged to bring an avalanche safety kit and some form of traction. An early start on “pass day” (before 6 AM) is required to ensure you’re through the avalanche zone while temperatures remain low.

Peak season is from mid-July until mid-August. Days are longer and temperatures warmer during this time. However, snow patches can remain throughout the summer and hikers can expect unpredictable weather (including snow) at any time.

From mid-August to mid-September the days are shorter, weather wetter, and nights colder. However, it can still be a good time to go as the trail is generally quieter.

Off-season hikers should expect harsh winter conditions and have advanced route finding, avalanche, and self-rescue skills.

PERMITS AND RESERVATIONS

Permits are required for all hikers spending at least one night on the trail (even if not crossing the border); and for trail runners, who will not overnight on the trail but will be crossing the border.

Permit fees can vary from year to year but are around \$55 for adults (ages 17+) and \$28 for youth (ages 6-16). This includes camping fees. There is also an \$11.70 reservation fee per person.

Permits are picked up at the Trail Center in Skagway (on Broadway between 5th and 6th) prior to departure and must be displayed on the outside of your pack at all times.

Hikers also register for customs when picking up permits, as the trail crosses the U.S./Canada border. Trail Center hours are 8:00am - 5:00pm, seven days a week. It is recommended to allow 20 minutes at the Trail Center to complete this process.

All hikers must be present and have proper documentation (passport, visas - if needed). Permits can be picked up the day before or the morning of your departure. Permits not picked up by 12 noon on departure day are forfeited.



Walk-In Permits:

It is possible to obtain a walk-in permit at the Trail Center after 1:00 pm for a next-day start. Forfeited permits are also available after 1:00pm for a same-day start. Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis and are not guaranteed.

This option is recommended only for those with flexible travel schedules, in the case that permits are not available.

Walk-in hikers must have their preferred campsites chosen when registering at the Trail Center.

Reservations:

Only 50 hikers are allowed over the Chilkoot Pass on any one day, meaning permit availability can be limited. It is recommended that you reserve your permits prior to your hike, particularly if hiking during the busier summer months (July and August).

Parks Canada begins taking reservations in early January for that calendar year's season. Reservations can be made Monday-Friday 8am-4pm (PST) by calling the numbers below. Expect to leave a message and have your call returned by staff at a later time.

In Canada/US: 1-800-661-0486
Overseas: 1-867-667-3910

Information required to make your reservation includes:

- # of adults (17+), youth (6-16), and children (under 6) in the group
- # of tent sites needed
- Itinerary (dates and which campgrounds you plan to stay at)
- Credit card

Reservation fees are nonrefundable. Permit fees are refundable up to one month prior to start date.

Maximum group size is 12. Groups larger than this must hike and camp separately. Only one large group (9-12 people) is allowed over the pass in a single day.

CAMPGROUNDS

Camping is allowed only in designated campgrounds along the Chilkoot Trail.

Within each of the campgrounds you will find picnic tables, a shelter (except at Deep Lake), bear lockers or poles, outhouses, and individual tent sites - available on a first-come, first-served basis. Nearby rivers and streams at each camping area provide the opportunity to refill water bottles and bladders. Some campgrounds have wooden platforms on which to pitch your tent. Canyon City, Pleasant Camp, Lindeman City, and Bennett campgrounds have on-ground sites.

You are required to plan out which campgrounds you will be staying at and provide this information at the time of obtaining your permit (whether that's on the phone or as a walk-in at the trail center).





HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR CAMPGROUNDS

The ability of yourself and your group should be your number one concern when deciding on which campsites to stay in. Distances between campgrounds and elevation gains/losses should be considered. A trail profile map is available on the [Parks Canada](#) website. A brief description of each campground, its location on the trail, and possible itineraries presented here can aid in choosing which sites to stay at.



Finnegan's Point **MI 4.8/KM 7.7**

Finnegan's Point is the smallest of the campgrounds, with only 6 sites. It is located near the Taiya River, where you can find views of the Irene Glacier. Because of its proximity to the trailhead, Finnegan's Point is best for those getting a late start on the trail or those looking to spend an extra night on the U.S. side of the trail.



Canyon City **MI 7.5/KM 12.1**

Canyon City campground provides 32 on-ground sites. If you get in early enough, grab a site right near the river, as these fill up first. A side trail near the campground leads to the Canyon City ruins where an old stove and steam boiler mark the site of the Gold-Rush-era city. This campground is a good option for those looking to spend two nights on the U.S. side, before crossing the Pass.



Pleasant Camp **MI 10.5/KM 16.9**

Pleasant Camp is ideal for those fit and experienced enough to complete the Pass and reach Happy Camp in a single day (10 miles/16.1 km). However, it is recommended that all early season hikers leave from Sheep Camp and get an early start due to avalanche hazard. Pleasant Camp contains 12 on-ground sites. Rope is required for hanging food, as there are no bear lockers.



Sheep Camp
MI 12.6/KM 20.3

Sheep Camp is the last campground on the U.S. side. With 25 sites, it is the point that most hikers will start out from to make their way over the Pass. During the early season, when avalanche risk is high, hikers are strongly encouraged to be on the trail before 6:00 am. A Park Ranger gives nightly briefings on trail conditions, weather, and what to expect on summit day.



Happy Camp
MI 20.5/KM 33

Happy Camp, often referred to as “the most miserable place on earth,” is located above the treeline and often experiences harsh weather conditions. It contains 25 tent sites and is where the majority of hikers stay on summit day. The sites are located on a hillside, overlooking the river. The view is beautiful, if the weather allows you to see it.



Deep Lake
MI 23/KM 37

With only 12 sites, Deep Lake is smaller and quieter than Happy Camp. It is a good option for those whose ability allows them to reach it on summit day, as the weather is often better and the sites more protected. There is no cook shelter at Deep Lake, only a cooking area with picnic table.



Lindeman City
MI 26/KM 41.8

With both Upper and Lower campgrounds, Lindeman City offers a total of 31 on-ground tent sites. The campground is also the site of an interpretive center where you can pick up a trail completion certificate. Located on the shores of Lindeman Lake, Lindeman City Campground is within striking distance of Bennett (7 miles/11.3 kilometers).



Bare Loon Lake
MI 29/KM 46.7

In a beautiful setting, and as the last campground before Bennett, Bare Loon Lake can book up fast during the busy season. It contains an open-air picnic shelter and 17 tent sites which overlook the lake. Only 4 miles/6.4 km from Bennett, staying at Bare Loon makes for a short hike out on the final day.



Bennett
MI 33/KM 53.1

The Bennett campground, located on the shores of Lake Bennett, is accessible by train and floatplane, making it an option for those not wanting to hike the trail or those meeting up with hikers at the end of their journey (permit required). It is also ideal for hikers looking to spend an extra night on the trail.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ABOUT CAMPING ON THE CHILKOOT

- Disposal of grey water is different in U.S./Canadian campgrounds: U.S. campgrounds - in fast-moving water; Canadian campgrounds - in designated grey water pits. See Leave No Trace rules (pg. 38) for more information.
- The wooden tent platforms have either wooden runners or eye hooks to which you can secure your tent (see photo at beginning of this section). Bring a length of rope (or several shorter lengths of rope) for this purpose.
- Open fires are NOT allowed at any point on the Chilkoot Trail.
- All campgrounds have a nearby water source (stream, river, or lake). Water must be treated.
- When crossing the Pass, the trip from Sheep Camp to Happy Camp can often take up to 12 hours. Deep Lake is an additional 2.5 miles/4 kilometers past Happy Camp. Keep this in mind when choosing your campsites.

POSSIBLE ITINERARIES

3 Days/2 Nights

Day 1: Trailhead to Sheep Camp
Distance: 13 miles/20.9 kilometers

Day 2: Sheep Camp to Deep Lake
Distance: 10 miles/16.1 kilometers

Day 3: Deep Lake to Bennett
Distance: 10 miles/16.1 kilometers

Description: This itinerary is suitable only for experienced and extremely fit hikers. When hiking from Deep Lake to Bennett, ensure you've allowed ample time to arrive prior to your prearranged transportation (train or floatplane). Another option would be to spend an extra night in Bennett and depart the following day.

5 Days/4 Nights

Day 1: Trailhead to Canyon City
Distance: 7.7 miles/12.5 kilometers

Day 2: Canyon City to Sheep Camp
Distance: 5.3 miles/8.4 kilometers

Day 3: Sheep Camp to Happy Camp
Distance: 7.5 miles/12.1 kilometers

Day 4: Happy Camp to Bare Loon Lake
Distance: 8.5 miles/13.7 kilometers

Day 5: Bare Loon Lake to Bennett
Distance: 4 miles/6.4 kilometers

Description: This itinerary provides a more relaxed pace and shorter daily distances for those looking to spend a little extra time on the trail. For those capable of going the extra distance, another option would be to spend night 3 at Deep Lake, which can be less crowded and have better weather than Happy Camp. The short distance from Bare Loon Lake to Bennett ensures hikers have plenty of time to arrive in Bennett before the train departs.

POSSIBLE ITINERARIES

5 Days/4 Nights

Day 1: Trailhead to Finnegan's Point
Distance: 5 miles/8 kilometers

Day 2: Finnegan's Point to Sheep Camp
Distance: 8 miles/12.9 kilometers

Day 3: Sheep Camp to Happy Camp
Distance: 7.5 miles/12.1 kilometers

Day 4: Happy Camp to Lindeman Lake
Distance: 5.5 miles/8.8 kilometers

Day 5: Lindeman Lake to Bennett
Distance: 7 miles/11.3 kilometers

Description: With a shorter first day, this itinerary is ideal for those getting a later start on day 1. Keep in mind that this makes day 2 a longer and more challenging day before going over the pass on day 3. In most cases, Lindeman Lake is within striking distance of Bennett in time for the train departure, but ensure you allow ample time.

7 Days/6 Nights

Day 1: Trailhead to Finnegan's Point
Distance: 5 miles/8 kilometers

Day 2: Finnegan's Point to Pleasant Camp
Distance: 5.7 miles/9.3 kilometers

Day 3: Pleasant Camp to Sheep Camp
Distance: 2.3 miles/3.6 kilometers

Day 4: Sheep Camp to Deep Lake
Distance: 10 miles/16.1 kilometers

Day 5: Deep Lake to Bare Loon Lake
Distance: 6 miles/9.7 kilometers

Day 6: Bare Loon Lake to Bennett
Distance: 4 miles/6.4 kilometers

Day 7: Depart Bennett

Description: This itinerary is ideal for those wanting to take their time enjoying the trail and hits all the "best" campgrounds (ie: those that are often less crowded or have the best scenery). With shorter distances hikers won't feel rushed and will have an easy day before crossing the pass. Day 3 could be shortened by spending the night in Happy Camp, rather than continuing on to Deep Lake. Spending an extra night in Bennett rounds out the hike, though this could also be omitted if time doesn't allow it.

TRANSPORTATION

The trailhead for the Chilkoot is located near the old townsite of Dyea, Alaska, about 10 miles from Skagway. As there are no longer services available at Dyea, most hikers make Skagway their jumping off point. This section will focus on getting to/from and around Skagway as well as getting out to the trailhead and back from the end of the hike.

Schedules and prices for transportation in the region change regularly. Rather than providing this information here, I have provided links to websites that will have the most up to date information and the option to make reservations.



GETTING TO/FROM SKAGWAY

LAND

The only road access to Skagway is via the Klondike Highway from Whitehorse. The trip is 109 mi/175 km and takes around 2 hours and 45 minutes.

The [White Pass & Yukon Route](#) (WPYR) railroad offers transportation via train/bus combo between Skagway and Whitehorse during summer months.

AIR

[Alaska Seaplanes](#) offers scheduled passenger flight service from Juneau to Skagway.

It is also possible to charter flight service from various locations around Alaska.

Another option is to fly into the Whitehorse International Airport and then drive or take the WPYR from there.

SEA

The [Alaska Marine Highway System](#) offers ferry service to Skagway from both Haines (1 hour) and Juneau (6 hours). It is possible to make an extended trip with the AMHS system from points further out as well. Both walk-on and vehicle traffic is allowed.

The [Haines-Skagway Fast Ferry](#) provides service from Haines (45 minutes). Walk-on only, no vehicles.



GETTING AROUND SKAGWAY

Skagway is a small city and it is easy to get around on foot. The majority of shops and services are located on or near Broadway.

Having your own vehicle can be useful, particularly if you are staying away from downtown or want to get out and explore the region. See the following page for more information about car rentals.

There is also a public transit service, the [SMART Bus](#), that runs from May 1 - October 1. The route runs from the cruise ship docks, around the Broadway area, and as far as the Klondike Gold Fields/Jewell Gardens.

RENTING A CAR

I highly recommend renting your own vehicle. While there are public transit options, having your own vehicle allows for greater flexibility, gives you more options for exploring the region, and is useful when running around making last minute preparations for the hike.

Cars can be rented in Skagway at:

Avis

3rd Ave - Between Spring and Broadway (Summer)

Sgt. Preston's Lodge (Winter)

(907) 983-2247

Sourdough Vehicle Rentals

351 6th Ave

(907) 983-2523

If you are flying into Whitehorse, cars can be rented at the airport and driven to Skagway. If flying into Juneau, cars can be rented at the airport and taken to Skagway via ferry.



GETTING TO/FROM THE TRAILHEAD

If you are staying in Skaway, the best option for getting to the trailhead is by shuttle.

If you have your own vehicle, the most common options are to:

- 1) leave it in Skagway and shuttle to the trailhead (parking available at the WPYR station lot for train passengers; or check with your accommodation provider)
- 2) leave it at the Dyea Campground parking lot (0.5 miles from trailhead) and take a shuttle back to the vehicle after returning to Skagway following the hike.

To arrange a shuttle, contact Ann Moore:

TruMoore Services
(907) 617-7551

www.facebook.com/TrumooreServices





RETURNING FROM BENNETT

Previously, hikers had the option of using the cutoff trail and walking out to the highway, where they could catch a pre-arranged ride. This trail is no longer open and hikers caught using it can face a fine.

Currently, the only options for returning from the end of the hike are either train or floatplane.

Contact [Alpine Aviation](#) for flight information.

The [WPYR Railroad](#) offers service for hikers from late-May until early-September. Whitehorse, Carcross, Fraser, and Skagway can all be accessed from Bennett via train or train/bus combo.

Be sure to check the train schedule prior to choosing your hiking dates as departures from Bennett are limited and do not run 7 days a week. Tickets must be purchased and picked up prior to heading out on the trail.



WHERE TO STAY IN SKAGWAY

There are a number of options for accommodations in and around Skagway for before and after your hike. This list is not exhaustive but provides options of places we either stayed ourselves or had recommended to us by others. Click through the links for the most up to date pricing and availability.

Be sure to check with your accommodation provider about leaving extra luggage, gear, and vehicles for the duration of your hike. They may also have items such as bear spray and stove fuel left behind by other hikers for guests to use.

[Sgt. Preston's Lodge](#)

Located in town at 6th and State Street.

[The Skagway Inn](#)

Located on Broadway between 6th and 7th.

[The Swaying Spruce](#)

Rental cabins located about a mile from town on the Dyea Road.

[The Chilkoot Trail Outpost](#)

B&B located only a half mile from the Chilkoot trailhead.

[Dyea Campground](#)

Also located only a half mile from the trailhead.

WHERE TO EAT IN SKAGWAY

There are numerous restaurants open in Skagway during the busy tourist season. Again, the places listed here are ones we either tried ourselves or had recommended to us.

[The Red Onion Saloon](#)

Broadway and 2nd
Good pizza and a lively atmosphere.

[The Skagway Brewing Co.](#)

Broadway and 7th
Large menu, good burgers, and a wide selection of beers.

[Bites on Broadway](#)

Broadway and 6th
Full coffee menu, breakfast items, and a selection of soups and sandwiches.

[Skagway Fish Co.](#)

Congress Way
Various seafood dishes, known for their fish and chips.

[Starfire](#)

4th, near Spring Street
Authentic Thai cuisine

[Bombay Curry](#)

5th, just off Broadway
Highly reviewed Indian cuisine



OTHER AMENITIES IN SKAGWAY

Grocery Stores:

Skagway relies on a once-weekly barge delivery to stock grocery stores. This means that, depending on the day of the week, options can be limited. It is recommended to bring along the foods needed for the hike. For last minute items or during your pre/post hike stay, you can find groceries at:

[Fairway Market](#) – 4th and State Street

[You Say Tomato](#) – State Street, between 20th and 21st

Gear:

You'll likely need to purchase stove fuel and bear spray, as you cannot fly with either. Outfitter shops have a good selection of gear and clothing as well, if you need any last-minute items.

[The Mountain Shop](#) – 4th, between Broadway and State; they also rent gear, if you don't want to purchase or travel with it

[Duff's](#) – 5th, between Broadway and State

PLANNING CHECKLIST

- Determine size and ability of group
- Decide how many days you plan to spend on the trail
- Pick your preferred dates and alternate possibilities (with transportation options in mind)
- Choose preferred campsites and alternate possibilities
- Call Parks Canada to make your reservation
- Make travel arrangements (flights, car rental, ferry, train/bus)
- Arrange accommodation for before and after the hike
- Arrange a shuttle to the trailhead
- Book post-hike transportation from Bennett



PART THREE:
PREPARING



BEAR SAFETY

The area through which the Chilkoot Trail passes is home to both black and grizzly bears. It is important to know and follow general bear safety rules to avoid an encounter or to know what to do in the case you come across a bear.

It is recommended that hikers carry bear spray with them. Prior to heading out, ensure your canister is full, and that you know how to use it properly.

On the following pages you will find general bear safety information which is relevant any time one is hiking in bear country. Reading and memorizing this information is key to ensuring a pleasant hiking experience that is safe for both humans and bears alike.

AVOIDING AN ENCOUNTER

- **Make noise** - talk loudly or sing to announce your presence; due to noise from rivers and streams at many points on the trail, bear bells are largely ineffective, using your own voice is best
- **Keep moving** - particularly if there are fresh signs of bear activity in the area (droppings, tracks, etc.)
- **Travel in groups** - you're less likely to encounter a bear when traveling in groups of four or more
- **Leave pets at home** - dogs can provoke aggressive behaviour in bears; if you do bring your dog, keep them on a leash at all times (this is a requirement in the national parks, regardless)
- **Keep odours out of your tent** - food, beverages, toiletries, trash, and anything else with a scent should be stored in the provided bear lockers or hung from bear poles

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A BEAR

- If the bear is not aware of your presence - move away slowly and quietly
- If the bear is aware of your presence:
 - Talk in a calm, firm voice
 - Avoid direct eye contact
 - Back away slowly - never run!
 - Make yourself appear big - if in a group, stay close together
 - Keep your pack on your back - it can provide protection in the case of an attack
 - Leave an escape route for the bear - don't block them in
- If the bear approaches - stand your ground and prepare to use your bear spray

WHAT TO DO IF A BEAR ATTACKS

- If it is a defensive attack (most common type of attack; generally lasts less than two minutes)
 - Use your bear spray
 - Play dead - lie face-down, with your legs spread and hands clasped behind your neck

- If it is a predatory attack (these are extremely rare; occur when a bear is stalking you or attacks at night)
 - Try to escape into a building (if you are near a shelter); climbing a tree is an option, though black bears and young grizzlies can climb trees
 - Use your bear spray
 - Fight back - use rocks, sticks or anything you can find to hit the bear; shout and yell loudly

because every attack is different, and it can be difficult to know what type of attack you are encountering, it is always best practice to avoid the encounter in the first place

LEAVE NO TRACE

If you are reading this book, you are most likely someone who loves the outdoors and enjoys exploring all that Mother Nature has to offer. Whether you are an experienced outdoors-person or new to activities such as hiking, it is always important to consider the impact you are having on the ecosystems in which you undertake your adventures.

The idea behind the “Leave No Trace” rules is to have the smallest possible impact on these environments, leaving them as close to their pristine and wild state as possible. This benefits the plants and animals who live there, as well those of us looking to get out and enjoy the natural world. The following 7 principles will help you to make the most of your wilderness experience while reducing the chance of any negative outcomes. Study them, know them, follow them.

Chilkoot-specific information related to each principle is included to help you become familiar with the rules of the trail before you head out.



#1 PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE

It is important to know your route, distance, terrain, potential weather conditions, and any rules/restrictions of the area before you head out. Poor planning or coming unprepared can result in things such as excessive food waste, having a group that is too large, camping in restricted areas, and unsustainable use of natural resources.

On the Chilkoot:

- open campfires are NOT allowed at any point on the trail. Bring a campstove and ensure you have adequate fuel for the duration of your trip.
- camping is allowed only in designated campgrounds. Plan your itinerary based on the ability of the least-experienced hiker in the group.
- be prepared for all weather conditions. Wind, rain, sleet, and snow are all possible, even in summer.
- the maximum group size allowed is 12 people. Groups larger than this must split into smaller groups and camp and hike separately. Only one large group (9-12 people) is allowed to complete the Chilkoot Pass on a single day.



2 TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES

Traveling on surfaces such as rock, sand, and gravel is preferable to camping and traveling in vegetated areas, where plants are susceptible to being trampled and damaged. Always stay on-trail where possible and try to set up camp in areas that have already been impacted.

On the Chilkoot:

- the trail is well-worn and hikers are required to stay on-trail. Do not go off-trail to avoid mud or take shortcuts. Hiking poles are useful, but their use should be restricted in areas where they can contribute to erosion.
- most designated camping areas provide wooden tent platforms on which hikers are expected to pitch their tents. For on-ground sites, erect your tent in well-worn areas to avoid damaging vegetation.

3 DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY

Both human and food waste need to be dealt with properly. For human waste - best practice is to bury solid waste by digging a cathole (6-8 inches deep, 4-6 inches in diameter) at least 200 feet away from water sources, trails, and campsites. Toilet paper can be buried in the hole. Feminine hygiene products must be packed out. For food waste - all packaging and food scraps must be packed out, and are not to be burned or disposed of in the backcountry.

On the Chilkoot:

- outhouses are located at each campground. Toilet paper is provided on the U.S. side of the trail (though not always available). It is NOT provided on the Canadian side of the trail. In the case that you are not in close proximity to an outhouse, follow the above rules for burying waste. Packing a small, lightweight garden trowel can be useful for this purpose.
- disposal of waste water differs on the U.S. and Canadian sides of the trail. For U.S. side - all food particles must be strained and packed out; waste water is disposed of in fast-moving water. For Canadian side - all food particles must be strained and packed out; waste water is disposed of in the designated grey-water pits, located at each campground.
- ALL food waste, scraps, and packaging must be packed out. Taking an extra resealable plastic bag is useful to keep garbage separate from the rest of your food. Be sure to store this in the provided bear lockers or hung from bear poles.

#4 LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND

Do not alter or remove ANY items from the backcountry. This includes rocks, flowers, and cultural artifacts. Avoid altering the natural environment. Do not move fallen trees/branches, rocks, etc. Do not carve, hammer nails into, or cut branches from trees.

On the Chilkoot:

- the Chilkoot Trail is home to numerous artifacts which remain from the historic Gold Rush era. DO NOT touch, move, or take artifacts.
- do not damage or pick flowers, mushrooms, or other plants along the trail.





#5 MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS

In the case that campfires are utilized in the backcountry - use only dead and down wood, keep fires small, ensure the fire is extinguished completely, and return the area as close to its natural state as possible. Camp stoves are an increasingly popular option which leave little to no trace.

On the Chilkoot:

- open campfires are NOT permitted at any point on the trail. Bringing a campstove and fuel is a necessity for cooking and heating water.
- woodstoves are provided in warm-up shelters below treeline. On the U.S. side - collect dead and down wood; on the Canadian side - firewood is provided, do NOT collect wood.

#6 RESPECT WILDLIFE

Observe wildlife quietly and calmly from a distance. Always give wildlife a wide berth and leave room for them to move. Do NOT touch or feed wildlife. Animals can be unpredictable and dangerous when they are startled or feel cornered or threatened. Always keep pets on a leash to ensure they do not approach wildlife.

On the Chilkoot:

- the trail passes through an environment that is home to a wide number of animal species. Follow the above rules and do not disturb any wildlife you may come across.
- keep all food and any items with an odor in the provided bear lockers or hung from a bear pole. For more information about hiking in bear country see the “Bear Safety” section.
- always keep your pack within arms-reach and do not leave it unattended.

#7 BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS

Keep noise levels to a minimum. When traveling in groups, ensure you remain respectful of others and their space. Leave all natural treasures and artifacts for others to enjoy and discover. Share the trail by allowing others to pass by, stepping off to the side when necessary.

On the Chilkoot:

- all hikers on the trail are required to camp in designated areas. While in campgrounds, be respectful of others and allow ample space. Keep noise levels down. If camping in a larger group, avoid “taking over” the campground and ensure others are comfortable.
- warm-up shelters can be crowded at certain times of the day and in bad weather. Avoid spreading out and make sure everyone has room to cook and eat comfortably.
- as mentioned, do not remove or touch artifacts. Leave them for others to enjoy.

FOOD

Choosing what meals to eat while hiking can be a highly personal affair. Depending on the amount of calories one needs, the distances to be hiked, and an individual's preferences, everyone will differ in terms of the food they decide to pack in their bag.

If you are an experienced multi-day hiker, you may already know exactly what and how much food you need to take. For those of you looking for some guidance, this section is meant to provide some general guidelines and tips when it comes to planning meals. I've also included a list of possible meal options for inspiration.



CALORIES

Body weight, pack weight, distance, elevation gain/loss, terrain, and temperature are just some of the factors which impact the number of calories a hiker burns in a day. If you want to get technical and plan your meals around calorie count, you can use the formulas below to estimate the number of calories burned in a long day of hiking with a heavy pack (most likely the case when hiking the Chilkoot Trail):

Body Weight (lbs.) X 25 Calories = Daily Calories Burned - Low End

Body Weight (lbs.) X 30 Calories = Daily Calories Burned - High End

These formulas will give you a range of calories burned/day, meaning that in order to maintain bodyweight, you must consume at least this many calories.

For example, a 150lb. person would burn 3,750 - 4,500 calories/day.

Of course, this is not an exact science and a multitude of factors will impact the exact number of calories burned. However, this can give you a rough idea of how much you want to consume in a day and can help when you're comparing nutritional information.

GENERAL TIPS ABOUT COOKING AND EATING ON THE TRAIL

KEEP MEALS SIMPLE

- Stick to options that require only boiling water or can be cooked in a single pot. This will save fuel, time, hassle, and will keep dishes to a minimum, which means less time cleaning up and less weight in your pack.
- Utilize freeze-dried meals. There are endless options available. Buy a few before hand and taste test to find your favorites. Or make your own if you have access to a dehydrator. Freeze-dried foods save space and weight in your pack and make meal prep quick and easy.

LIMIT COOKING TIME

- Some prefer three square meals a day, but it is often easier if you can avoid cooking a large meal at lunch. You won't have to stop and dig out your camp stove. Plus, the less you cook, the less fuel you need to carry.
- Eating smaller snacks throughout the day can maintain energy levels better than a large meal at lunch time. It is often more convenient as well. It is easy to keep snack foods accessible and they make for a quick option when you're out on the trail.

EAT CALORIE-DENSE FOOD

- A multi-day hike is not the time to start a diet. Foods high in calories will keep your energy levels up throughout the day and save space in your bag.
- Beware of consuming too many "empty calories." While many "junk" food items are calorie dense and can be good options for supplementing meals, ensure you are still obtaining nutrients by incorporating healthier options as well.

BE SMART ABOUT PACKING

- Keeping all of your food (and anything else with a scent) in a dry bag makes it quick and easy to transfer it from your pack to a bear locker or bear pole. The dry bag will also keep everything, well, dry, in case it rains.
- Bring along a large resealable plastic bag to store food waste and trash away from the rest of your food items.
- Packing breakfast/lunch/dinner items in separate resealable bags keeps things organized and makes it easy to grab what you need quickly.

COME PREPARED

- Always bring enough food for the duration of your hike, plus an extra day's worth. The extra weight will be worth it in the case that something happens and you need it.
- Be sure to check that your camp stove is in good working condition, that you know how to use it, and that you have enough fuel.
- Bring the majority of the food for your hike with you. If you are entering the U.S. from another country - check with U.S. Customs to find out what food items are restricted. Citrus and fresh meat are often problematic. Commercially packaged goods are usually acceptable.

COOK/EAT/STORE FOOD PROPERLY

- Each campground has picnic tables and/or cook shelters at which to prepare your meals. Do NOT prepare food or eat near tent sites.
- Store your food in the provided bear lockers or hang it from bear poles. Do NOT store food at your tent site.
- Never leave your pack unattended while out on the trail. Ensure it is always within reach.
- ALL food scraps, packaging, etc. must be packed out. Strain food particles out of waste water before disposing of it.

MEAL IDEAS

The following meal suggestions are to give you some ideas when planning what food to take. Most of these options are ready-to-eat or require only boiling water to prepare. If you're looking to take less processed foods, it is possible but be prepared to add extra weight to your bag. These often require extra seasonings, oils for cooking, and cookware/utensils. Also, if you're taking a number of energy bars, gels, drink mixes, etc., find out how your body reacts to these before heading out on the trail. Try not to rely on caffeine boosts to get you through your day. Nutrient-rich, high-calorie foods will maintain your energy longer and leave you feeling better at the end of the day.

BREAKFASTS

- instant oatmeal (2 packages/person, depending on calories) + pack of raisins or other dried fruit
- freeze-dried breakfast options (you can get everything from cereal with milk to huevos rancheros)
- energy bar (compare options for calorie and nutrient density)
- beverages:
 - instant coffee
 - tea
 - hot chocolate

LUNCHESES/SNACKS

- crackers
- tortillas
- cured meats and hard cheeses (first day or two only)
- individual packets of nut butters, jams, and other spreads
- cut and portioned fresh vegetables - carrots, celery, peppers, etc. (first day or two only)
- trail mix
- chocolate-covered nuts or fruit
- energy bars, gels, jelly beans
- jerky (beef, turkey, bison, etc.)
- dried fruit or fruit "chips"

DINNERS

- tortillas, meats, and cheeses (first night or two only)
- freeze-dried meals
- instant-anything (pasta, noodles, rice, potatoes, soups, etc.)
- shelf-stable, vacuum-sealed pouches of meat
- dessert (candy, candy bars, freeze-dried desserts)
- beverages
 - iced tea mix
 - juice mix
 - powdered energy drink

WATER

Water sources are plentiful on the Chilkoot Trail. The route meets up with rivers and streams frequently. There are also water sources at each of the campgrounds. It is required that you purify all drinking water. Purification options include boiling, filtering, chemicals, and UV light.

Boiling:

The Center for Disease Control recommends bringing water to a rolling boil for 1 minute at altitudes less than 2000m. If you choose to boil water, be sure to bring sufficient fuel and allow the time it will take to boil and cool the water. You'll also need a pot big enough to boil sufficient quantities of water at a time.



Filtering:

There are multiple options for filtering water. Check out your local backcountry outfitter and aim for something that balances simplicity and weight with functionality. Filters can be expensive though, so this option is best for those who will get long-term use out of it.

Chemicals:

Chemical water treatment options include drops and tablets. Directions for use and time requirements vary among brands so be sure to bring the instructions with you. Some find chemical treatments to leave an aftertaste in the water so you may want to bring drink mixes to mask the taste. We used Pristine Water Purification drops and found them to be tasteless, easy, compact, and didn't find the wait times to be too much of a pain.

Ultraviolet Light:

UV purifiers such as the SteriPen are lightweight and compact options. It is usually recommended to pre-filter water that will be treated this way. Remember to bring new and extra batteries.





TRAINING

Training is essential for any multi-day hike but, perhaps, even more so for the Chilkoot due to the unique challenges of the trail.

The Chilkoot Trail is considered to be a moderate-level difficulty. The majority of the trail has mostly minimal elevation gains, although you will find short, steep climbs near the trailhead, coming out of Canyon City, and coming out of Lindeman City. Otherwise, expect up and down undulations throughout.

By far, the most physically demanding section of the trail is found between Sheep Camp and the Pass.

More than 1500 feet (457 m) of elevation is gained between Sheep Camp and the Scales (over a distance of 2.8 miles/4.5 km). An additional 1000 feet (305 m) is gained from the Scales to the Pass, over less than a mile. This is where you find the infamous Golden Stairs which requires scrambling over boulders on all fours up a 45° incline. Hikers then descend about 500 feet (152 m) to the Stone Crib.

While each hiker will be unique in their training preferences and abilities, I've provided some general guidelines and suggestions to get you started.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR TRAINING

For those starting out at an average level of fitness, beginning a training program about 12 weeks out from the hike is generally sufficient. Focusing on a mix of cardio and strength training will help you to prepare for both the distances that will be covered and for carrying the weight of your pack. Always check with your doctor before beginning any training program.

Aim to work up to 3-5 days/week of cardio and 2-3 days/week of strength training.

Cardio – vary the type/intensity/duration of exercises to avoid overuse injuries and to keep it interesting. Options can include walking/running (outside or treadmill), stairs/stair machine, and elliptical machine.

Strength – focus on the most-used muscle groups when carrying a pack and hiking: legs, core, and shoulders/back. Don't forget to train the muscles that carry you both up AND down, it will make the descents much more pleasant.

Swimming and yoga are good options for active recovery days.

If you're wondering the best way to train for the Golden Stairs, the unfortunate answer is stairs, stairs, and more stairs (with your pack on). Another good option is the Jacobs Ladder at your gym or even a rock climbing session or two to get you used to using all fours.

Training hikes are always a good idea. These are shorter day-hikes done with full pack weight on. These give you a chance to adjust you pack, test your gear, and get an idea of what carrying the weight will be like in the real world. Ideally, these are done on terrain similar to that of the trail, and done over the average daily distance you will be hiking. However, if you don't have access to trails for training hikes, be sure to wear your weighted pack during training sessions and test all your gear, even if only in your own backyard.

For more detailed information on training for adventure sports, I highly recommend *The Outdoor Athlete* by Courtenay Schurman and Doug Schurman. It contains detailed training programs, tips, and ways to assess your fitness level. It covers training for a number of outdoor sports, from hiking, to rock climbing, to trail running, and more. Even if you'll only use the section on hiking, it is worth the investment.

PACKING

As with food and training, what and how you pack will depend on your personal preferences and hiking style. The printable packing list found on page 58 includes essential and recommended gear sections that, in my opinion, are the necessary items to make your hike as safe and as comfortable as possible. On the following pages, you will find more information about gear and clothing recommendations, and tips for packing.

The trick to packing for the Chilkoot is to ensure you'll have everything you need on the trail while keeping your pack weight as low as possible. High-tech, lightweight gear such as tents and sleeping bags can be expensive but are often a good investment and can really help save on pack weight.

You can expect to carry at least 30 lbs. on the Chilkoot Trail. For two of us, carrying a lightweight 2-person tent and regular sleeping bags, our packs were about 35 and 45 lbs, fully loaded.



NOTES ABOUT GEAR

This section contains general notes about the things to consider when choosing the gear for your hike. These are not hard and fast rules, rather they are meant to provide suggestions and things to think about.

Backpack: It is recommended to use a backpack that fits you properly and has been adjusted to your body. Always test your pack ahead of time to ensure it is comfortable for you. Between two of us, we had 115L capacity which was about right for the amount of gear/clothing/food we carried for two people over five days.

Boots: Due to the terrain (loose rocks, tree roots, mud, etc.) found on the Chilkoot, it is recommended to wear supportive, waterproof hiking boots. Be sure to break them in well before heading out on the trail.

Sleeping Bag: Summer temperatures on the Chilkoot generally range from 50-60F (10-15C). Have a bag rated for at least these temps, if not lower. We were comfortable with our bags rated to +5C but some recommend having one rated to -5C. This will mostly depend on if you are a hot/cold sleeper.

Tent: The lighter weight the better. You can most likely expect rain at some point on the trail so choose a tent that does well in wet weather.

Camp Stove: We used a Jetboil (rented from The Mountain Shop) and found it light, compact, and easy to use. These work best if only boiling water for rehydrating and not cooking meals. Either way, aim for something compact and light.

Wet Weather Gear: You could luck out and not have rain, but most find they run into rain/sleet/snow at some point. It is recommended to have a full set of rain gear (jacket and pants) and a rain cover for you pack. I also recommend packing everything in dry bags or lining your backpack with a garbage bag. The day we did the Pass, we had driving wind, rain, and snow. Despite rain covers, everything not packed in dry bags was soaked by the time we got to Happy Camp, including our sleeping bags. I recommend avoiding this.

Snow Shoes/Ice Axe/Avalanche Kit: Only recommended for early-season (May/June). You can check trail conditions on the NPS website to get a better idea of what is needed.

NOTES ABOUT GEAR

Gaiters: All major stream crossings have suspension bridges which negate the need for fording rivers. However, depending on water levels, you can expect moving through ankle-deep water in some areas. Trail flooding at lower elevations is possible and can result in deep muddy sections. Gaiters can be useful if these conditions are present.

Trekking Poles: Trail staff recommends bringing trekking poles, which can be especially useful on remaining snow pack.

Traction: Microspikes are recommended if there is a significant amount of ice/snow remaining on the trail, particularly on the descent from the Pass to the Stone Crib. We found we didn't need them in early August, but again, keep an eye on trail conditions.

Bear Spray: You cannot fly with bear spray (even in your checked bag). It is available for purchase at the outfitters in Skagway or may be available at your chosen accommodations. Be sure to check that the canister is full and know how to use it properly.

Toque/Hat/Gloves: Good for bad weather and cool evenings. Gloves with grip are especially helpful on the Golden Stairs.

Clothing: synthetic, lightweight, quick-dry clothing is ideal for the Chilkoot. I did not include a full list of clothing on the packing list, as this will depend on the individual. The list here is what I carried on a 5-day trip to give you an idea of what you may want to take.

- 5 pairs of socks (take one pair for each day, they'll most likely get wet)
- 5 pairs of underwear
- 2 sports bras
- 1 tank top
- 1 t-shirt
- 1 long-sleeved shirt
- 1 zip-up hoodie
- 1 pair of hiking pants
- 1 pair compression shorts
- 1 pair leggings
- 1 thermal layer (top and bottoms)
- 1 set of rain gear (top and bottoms)
- Camp shoes
- Toque
- Brimmed hat
- Buff
- Gloves

PACKING LIST

ESSENTIAL ITEMS

- Tent
- Sleeping bag/pad
- Rain gear – jacket and pants
- Pack cover
- Thermal layer
- Warm hat
- Boots
- Extra socks
- Rope (30 ft) – to secure tent
and hang food
- Camp stove/fuel
- Lighter/matches
- Cookware/utensils
- Food
- First aid kit
- Water bottle/bladder
- Water purification
- Toilet paper
- Headlamp
- Map/compass
- Passport
- Trail permit
- Train tickets

RECOMMENDED

- Trekking poles
- Traction
- Gaiters
- Camp shoes
- Gloves
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Camera/extra batteries
- Journal/pens
- Bear spray
- Biodegradable soap
- Cloth/towel
- Extra resalable plastic bags

PREPARING CHECKLIST

- Review and memorize bear safety and leave no trace rules
 - Choose and follow a training program
 - Gather and test your gear
 - Plan your meals
 - Pre-pack to ensure you can fit everything in your bag and that it is not too heavy
 - Do a trial hike to test pack weight, gear, etc. in a real-world situation
- Stops to make in Skagway, prior to heading out on the trail:
 - The Trail Centre (on Broadway, between 5th and 6th) to pick up permits and register with customs
 - The WPYR Railway Station (on 2nd, between Broadway and Spring Street) if returning from Bennett by train, tickets must be picked up prior to the hike
 - One of the outfitters – for bear spray, stove fuel, and any other last-minute gear needs

SO, WHAT'S IT REALLY LIKE TO HIKE THE CHILKOOT TRAIL?

Hiking is such a subjective experience that it is difficult to answer this question and I can only speak to my own experience. Personally, I found it to be exhilarating, peaceful, and nerve-wracking at different times. It was a much bigger physical and mental challenge than I was expecting. For a truly honest account, one must consider both the highs and the lows.

The Lows: I experienced paralyzing fear on the steep, loose and slippery rocks of the Golden Stairs. I became extremely frustrated when other sections of the trail, which I had underestimated, proved to be difficult as well. We had horrendous weather coming over the Pass and spent most of the day wet and cold only to arrive at Happy Camp to find more wind, rain, and cold temperatures.

The Highs: I was completely awestruck multiple times a day, even on the tough days, by the absolute beauty of the forest, the rivers, lakes and mountains. We had the most amazing rain-free afternoon at Bare Loon Lake where we could truly appreciate our surroundings. The challenges of the trail made me redefine what I was capable of. Seeing the artifacts and information about what the Gold Rush Stampeders went through put it all in perspective.

Overall, hiking the Chilkoot is a great adventure and completely worth the effort. My best advice is to come prepared, and to take the trail as it comes.





CONTACT ME

If you have any comments or questions regarding this guide, please feel free to contact me. You can also find more information about my own experience hiking the trail at my website.



info@anordinaryexistence.com



www.anordinaryexistence.com

I hope you have enjoyed this guide and found it useful. Happy trails!

- Laura



CHILKOOT RAIL