

Highlights of Ketchikan

FOOD:

- Ketchicandies: Locally made chocolates and candy
- New York Café: Near Creek Street
- Sushi Harbor: Near Creek Street and the Exploration Gallery
- Little Mermaid: Espresso, cupcakes and other sweets. Across from Tongass Trading.

WALKING:

You can pick up a Ketchikan Walking Tour map on-board, at the Ketchikan Visitors Bureau (On the Dock) or download one from Amazon.com

- Definitely take a stroll down Creek Street. Creek Street has various shops and you can also tour Ketchikan's most (in)famous house of ill repute.
- You can also take the funicular from Creek Street up the hillside to the Cape Fox Lodge. Good views of town, some totems, espresso and a restaurant.

KETCHIKAN SHOPPING TIPS:

Clothing:

- Simply Bella – Ladies shoes, bags and intimates. A tiny gem of a store right downtown. The mother store is next to the ferry terminal about three miles from downtown and has the most comprehensive high end kitchen ware one could dream of.
- Tongass Trading – Lots of high quality outdoor clothing and sporting goods – downtown.

Sporting Goods and Outdoor Clothing: Tongass Trading (Get your very own pair of Ketchikan Sneakers i.e. Good Year Extra Tuff boots)

Jewelry & Art:

- Trinkets: In the middle of down-town (Short walk from ships)
- Exploration Gallery: Close to Creek Street
- The Point: This is on the West end of town near the mall
- Crazy Wolf Studio – Owned by artist Ken Decker, exquisite Native Alaska arts and crafts are collected in this lovely downtown store.
- Ray Troll Studio – Owned by Ray Troll, who is often around - fabulous, funky art, t-shirts, jewelry and unique pieces of every description.
- Scanlon's Gallery – Just across from Ketchicandies and carries high end art and jewelry from around the state; a wonderful selection.

Books:

- Parnassus Books: On Creek Street. Good collection of Alaskan books as well as others

MY FAVORITE DAYS IN KETCHIKAN

- Rent a Harley or a golf cart and go explore – both are for rent right downtown.
- Sip a beer on the deck overlooking the channel with Owner Paula at the Arctic Bar. Meeting Paula is worth the trip. Tell her Judge Tricia sent you. The Bar is a Ketchikan institution.

- Kayaks are for rent right from the dock for an hour or half day trip.
- Fish from the bridge over Creek Street. One day fishing licenses are available all over.
- On a good day, a float plane trip to Misty Fjords can't be beat.
- My favorite walk is around Ward Lake or its nearby trails. The lake trail is just over a mile and flat – the lake is about seven miles out of town. The trees are as large as redwoods.
- Locals tell me that the Bering Sea Crab Boat trip is a hoot. It is a trip out on a crabber and “guests” get to catch crab just like they do in the Bering Sea.

BEST ATTRACTIONS:

- **Bering Sea Crab Boat Cruise:** A tour on the Bering Sea Crab boat the “Aleutian Ballad” (former Deadliest Catch boat). This is a large and comfortable cruise (the boat has been modified to accommodate passengers) from Ketchikan to the Annette Island reserve where the crew will show passengers various sea life from the area. Toward the end of May is a great time for seeing Eagles. You can check out this tour at <http://www.56degreesnorth.com>. This is a really good tour and show and you can make reservations on board.
- **The Great Alaskan Lumberjack Show:** Just a great show a short walk from the dock. You can buy tickets online or onboard. You can also buy a combo tour that includes a lumberjack show and totem tour. You can check out this tour at <http://www.lumberjacksports.com>.
- **Alaska Rain Forest Sanctuary:** This is a zipline “tour” that is a blast! You can see eagles and bears here as well, but probably not much action in May. You can check out this tour at <http://www.alaskacanopy.com>.
- **Misty Fjords National Monument Tour:** Great tour from Ketchikan on a Catamaran through the Misty Fjords National Monument. Great sightseeing! You can check out this tour at <http://www.mistyfjordscruise.com>. If time is an issue, you can also do a combined flightseeing and cruise.
- **Southeast Alaska Discovery Center:** This is a public lands information center run by the US Forest Service. There is a theater where you can watch a video on Southeast Alaska. There are various exhibits about local wildlife, native culture and past and current activities in the Tongass National Forest.
- **Totem Heritage Center:** This is a City of Ketchikan museum dedicated to totem pole preservation as well as preservation and promotion of local native art and culture.
- **Totem Pole Viewing:** You can see totem poles and a traditional clan house south of town in Saxman (local native town) or north of town at the Totem Bight State Park. In Saxman you can usually see a native artist working on a totem.
- **Panhandle Motorcycle Adventures:** Tour town and outlying areas on a Harley Davidson. You can check out this tour at <https://sites.google.com/site/panhandlemotorcycleadventures>.
- **Southeast Exposure Kayak Tours:** Tour descriptions at <http://www.southeastexposure.com/ketchikan-kayaking-trips.html>