

# APOGEE ADVENTURES

## 2024 Northwest Explorer

### Summarized Itinerary

**Trip Begins:** Seattle, Washington

**Trip Ends:** Seattle, Washington

- Day 1:** Our group will meet at the airport in Seattle, Washington, this afternoon. Once everyone has arrived and all bags have been collected, we will transfer by van to our first campground. This afternoon will be spent getting to know one another, going over trip details, and getting excited for our adventures to come.
- Day 2-6:** On the morning of Day 2, we'll travel to Olympic National Park, an area rightfully known as the "Land of Contrasts." Our first full days together will be spent breaking in our boots on some fantastically scenic day hikes in the park. Days 4-6 will give us our first opportunity to test our backcountry skills as we explore the vibrant wilderness of this magnificent park. We'll exit the backcountry on Day 6 having whetted our appetites for further adventure.
- Day 7 & 8:** After leaving the Olympics, we will transfer east to Darrington, Washington, and the Sauk River. Here we'll spend a great day rafting the Sauk with our professional guides before taking a day to relax and restock our food and supplies in preparation for our transition to North Cascades National Park and the "American Alps."
- Days 9-15:** For the next six days and five nights, we'll backpack into the heart of the North Cascades – glaciers, pristine forests, and snowcapped peaks abound. We'll hike six to ten miles a day and see the mountains in a way most visitors never do. Our nights will be spent at designated backcountry campsites telling stories and playing games. We will emerge from the backcountry on Day 14, ready for a much-appreciated shower, yet triumphant and proud of our accomplishments. Day 15 will be a recovery day in Bellingham; we'll sleep in, do laundry, relax, explore, and recount our backcountry adventures.
- Days 16-18:** From Bellingham, we'll transfer to Anacortes, Washington, to meet our professional sea-kayaking guides for a three-day paddle among Puget Sound's San Juan Islands. Paddling around Guemes and Cypress Islands, we'll spot seals, look for orca, camp on remote beaches, and take in the rocky coastline from a water view. We'll also give back to this beautiful area by doing trail maintenance, beach cleanup, or beautification on this one-of-a kind island.
- Days 19 & 20:** On our last full day together we will explore Seattle and its famous Pike's Place market by foot. On the last morning of the trip, we will transfer back to the Seattle airport for flights home. We'll part with hugs and plans to keep in touch with new friends.

*Please note that all itineraries are subject to change.*

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