Welcome to Haines

Your walking tour of downtown Haines begins at the Haines Convention and Visitors Bureau on 2nd Avenue between Main Street and the Haines Highway. Inside the log cabin that was built in the 1970’s, you’ll find information about Haines, the Inside Passage, greater Alaska, and the Yukon, Canada. You’ll also meet local residents who are happy to share their love and knowledge of Haines and Alaska with you.

Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood Hall

Diagonally to the right as you leave the Visitor Center is the Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood (ANB/ANS) Hall. The formation of the Native organization in the early 1900’s led to the Alaska civil rights movement and continues as a social and philanthropic organization. It’s also where Bingo Nights happen!

As you walk to the right toward 1st Avenue you’ll notice our local clinic, which is administered by SEARHC (Southeast Alaska Regional Healthcare Consortium), a nonprofit tribal health consortium of 18 Native communities serving the health interests of the Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, and other Native and non-Native peoples.

Take a walking tour of downtown Haines

The Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood Hall.

Don’t forget to visit the American Bald Eagle Foundation on the corner of 2nd Avenue and the Haines Highway. Take a natural history tour and experience a live raptor presentation.
known as the Chisel Building. It was completed in 1916 by Joe Chisel and served as a hotel with backroom gambling, where rooms rented for $3.50 a day. During Haines’ boom and bust economy it has housed a variety of businesses and currently is the home to Alaska Rod’s and La Loft.

A Brothel in Haines on 2nd Avenue?
The red building on the left side of the street has been entertaining guests for more than 100 years, first as the Hotel DeFRANCE at the turn of the century; a restaurant, dance hall, brothel and bootleg joint in the 1930’s; and eventually as a restaurant and bar in the 1950’s. The Bamboo Room and Pioneer Bar has been owned by the Tengs’ family for more than 65 years.

Across the street, the building now called Bell’s Store—a great place to buy local seafood—started life as the City Hall and Fire Station until they were moved in 1977 to the current location at the Haines Highway between 2nd and 3rd Avenues. As you continue north, you’ll notice the Haines’ Soboleff family for more than 65 years.

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A few more steps and your at Haines Assisted Living, which was built in 2009. Stop in for a visit.

Turn left on 3rd Avenue
As you walk down 3rd Avenue you’ll see Sacred Heart Catholic Church and pass Dalton Street, named after Jack Dalton, early entrepreneur, pioneer and the man behind the 246-mile Dalton Trail that starts in Haines and ends at Fort Selkirk in the Yukon.

Main Street: The Art of Shopping meets the Art of Brewing
Main Street. Our local shopping district and residence of the Haines Brewing Company—A perfect distraction before continuing on 3rd Avenue to the Haines Borough Public Library, Tlingit Park and Lookout Point.

To the right you’ll find Blossoms by Emily, The Hair Shop, Olerud’s Market Center (for all your grocery, outdoor gear and apparel needs), The Alaska Sport Shop and Miles Furniture. To the left is Talia’s Treasures, The Babbling Book & Dragon’s Nook, Skipping Stone Studios, the Frontier Tradesmen, Howser’s IGA, Caroline’s Closet, and the Alaska Liquor Store. Currently, Main Street is also our local art gallery. Make sure to check out the window displays. You might just see something you can’t live without.

The Best Small Library in America
On 3rd Avenue you’ll find the offices of the Haines Borough, our local government; Chilkoot Indian Association, the tribal administration for Chilkoot tribal members; and the award-winning public library. In 2005 the Haines Borough Public Library received Library Journal’s annual Best Small Library in America award co-sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In 2017, the Library was chosen as a finalist for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service.

A Story Worthy of a Totem
As you continue south on 3rd Avenue you’ll see a 20-foot totem that tells the library’s history beginning with a crouching female figure holding the box of knowledge to represent the Haines Women’s Club, which started a lending library in 1928.

The Smell of Roasting Coffee
Before turning left on Mission Street, you might want to visit our local deli, coffee roasting company and organic grocer, Mountain Market.

A Park for All Ages
As you continue along Mission Street, you’ll notice the Haines Senior Village and the Haines Senior Center/Chilkat Valley Pre-school, which is bordered by Tlingit Park. Next to the Senior Center is the children’s play area which connects to the picnic area, walking trail, restrooms, and a historic cemetery with headstones dating to the 1880’s.

A Gold Rush Artifact
From the cemetery is a set of steps that take you down to Front Street and Lookout Park, which is graced with a totem pole representing the Eagle clan and a memorial for local residents who lost their lives fishing Alaskan waters. Also on display near the park is a Keystone Driller, a steam-powered, portable drilling machine that was used for gold prospecting in the early 1900’s. It was found at Dalton Cache, 42 miles north of Haines.

Boat Harbor Left, Cruise Ship Dock & Historic Fort Seward Right
If you decide to walk back towards Main Street—to the left if you’re facing the water—you’ll see Haines’ picturesque small boat harbor where the local fishermen, Alaska Fjordlines and Kraken Charters dock their boats. The tall building is the Ice House where fishermen can buy ice to keep their fish cold and fresh.

A Prohibition Favorite
At Front Street and the end of Main Street is the Harbor Bar and Lighthouse Restaurant, originally built in 1907. During Prohibition it was known as a “card room.” Even if you don’t feel like a drink, peek in and check out the bar brought from Skagway during the Gold Rush era.

Fort Seward to the Right
Walking to the right along the waterfront will take you to historic Fort Seward and the cruise ship dock. This is a great area for spotting marine life and birds, and beachcombing.