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# Kenai Backcountry Lodge FACT SHEET

Contact Details: Kenai Backcountry Lodge P.O. Box 389 Girdwood, AK 99587

Physical Location: South shore of Skilak Lake, Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, Kenai Peninsula, Alaska

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## Lodge Overview:

Nestled in the heart of Kenai National Wildlife Refuge and accessible only by small boat, Kenai Backcountry Lodge is the perfect venue to reinvigorate your passion for the solitude and peace you find in nature. Venture through evergreen forest as you journey to breathtaking alpine tundra. Discover by small boat what wonders lie beyond the next cove. Relax in a cozy, wood-fired sauna. Paddle a sea kayak across a brilliant turquoise glacial lake. Seek out moose and other wildlife under the rich glow of the midnight sun. And, at the end of the day, enjoy appetizers and a glass of chilled chardonnay, prelude to a delicious dinner served with gourmet flair.

Accessible only by boat, a stay at Kenai Backcountry Lodge includes a scenic rafting journey on the Kenai River. Guest accommodations are authentic hand-built log cabins that offer charming indoor amenities, including private bathrooms, lodge-style furnishings, linens, comforters, and propane heaters and lights. With only nine log cabins for a maximum of 18 fellow travelers, guests are ensured greater intimacy with the environment.

## **Environmental Innovations:**

Kenai Backcountry Lodge was developed and managed with efforts to reduce the impact on the natural area. Buildings have been built or renovated with environmentally friendly methods and materials in order to maintain historic context and blend with the wilderness character of the land.

The strategic construction of a solar panel array and micro-hydro power generation system utilizes the strength of Alaska's midnight sun and a nearby creek to lessen dependence on generators. The solar panels provide the vast majority of the power that

charge the lodge's battery bank, while water from the creek moves a small turbine which trickle charges the bank before returning to its natural path into Skilak Lake. The energy stored in the battery bank runs all lights and water in the kitchen, main lodge, cabins, and lodge laundry facilities. Guests are fascinated by the solar and micro-hydro system and truly appreciate the lack of generator noise that is common to most other backcountry lodges. Alaska Wildland Adventures is proud to continue working towards promoting the quiet beauty of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge and all of Alaska's wild places.

Guests gain knowledge of "Leave No Trace" practices emphasizing the importance of respecting wildlife and their habitats. Additionally, the total number of guests at the lodge is limited to minimize environmental impact.

#### Lodge Activities:

Guided and Unguided Walking and Hiking	Wildlife Viewing
Naturalist Programs	Resource Library
Paddling in Sea Kayaks	Relaxation
Photography	Sauna

## **Getting There:**

Kenai Backcountry Lodge packages begin with a scenic drive through the Kenai Mountains for our lake crossing by motorized skiff to the remote lodge. A popular way to access the lodge is on our full-day Kenai River Canyon Raft trip, departing daily from our own Kenai Riverside Lodge in Cooper Landing, Alaska.

#### Meals:

All meals and snacks are included with every Kenai Backcountry Lodge stay. Meals are home-cooked, delicious and healthy. With advance notice, special diets are happily accommodated.

## **Operating Season:**

Kenai Backcountry Lodge is open from early June through mid-September. The Kenai River is the "driveway" to the lodge; therefore a night at our Kenai Riverside Lodge is included in all Backcountry Lodge stays for a complete wilderness experience.

#### **Special Events:**

Kenai Backcountry Lodge may also be chartered for private functions. The lodge offers a charming environment for family reunions, group and business retreats, weddings and honeymoons.

#### **Reservations and Rates:**

For Kenai Backcountry Lodge reservations and rates, visit us <u>online</u> or call toll-free at **800.334.8730**.

Kenai Backcountry Lodge is owned and operated by Alaska Wildland Adventures.

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