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Ziplines make waves in Alaska

April 4, 2011 By [M.T Schwartzman](#) [Leave a Comment](#)



Courtesy of Icy Strait Point

Ziplines have become all the rage in Alaska since the first one opened in 2005. And as the zipline has gained in popularity over the past decade, it has spread throughout the Southeast region, where the heavily traveled Inside Passage is almost entirely covered in temperate rain forest — making it the perfect environment for an exhilarating ride through the tree tops.

In May, Skagway becomes the latest port to introduce its own version of this high-adventure shore excursion. The four-hour ‘Mammoth Waterfalls and Ultra Zipline Adventure’ is located at the site of a former gold-rush town once known as Dyea — a city of 10,000 prospectors over a century ago, but long since reclaimed by the forest. After a brief narrative tour during the ride to the zip site, passengers can complete 12 ziplines up to 228-meters-long and traverse four adventure sky bridges overlooking waterfalls and the forest floor.

Beside Skagway, other ziplines can be found in Juneau (two locations), Ketchikan (two locations) and Icy Strait Point, Alaska’s only master-planned cruise destination, which claims that its ZipRider is the longest and tallest in the world, stretching 1,625 meters with a 300-foot (91 meter) vertical drop — riders complete the course in 90 seconds and reach speeds of more than 96 kilometres per hour. New for 2011 is helmet-cam video of your ride, available for purchase.

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About M.T Schwartzman

M.T. Schwartzman has sold nearly 600 articles to publications in the U.S., Canada, England, Finland, and Australia. A full-time freelance writer since 1993, he primarily covers trends and new developments in Alaska tourism and the worldwide expansion of the cruise industry. In addition to his writing activities, M.T. teaches adult-education classes. His courses have covered magazine writing, travel writing, and

business writing. He currently resides in the USA.

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From the Blog

[Transport of medication](#)

Whether you are headed directly to your cruise embarkation point or to the airport for a flight to a cruise on a distant shore, it is most important to heed this warning: I have seen so many people make the fatal mistake of packing their medication in their checked luggage. One should always transport this potentially life saving cargo in one's carry on luggage and do not let it leave your side.

[Cruising In Australia Has Never Been Better](#)

Yesterday was a pretty exciting day in the cruising world, with the announcement of the ICCA industry statistics for 2010 in Australia. The news was all good; in spite of the GFC and other global dilemmas, cruising holidays are still on the up!

[Ziplines make waves in Alaska](#)

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Cruise Passenger The winner of our Memorable Moments at Sea Comp was Peter Willard!

Yesterday at 5:44pm

Cruise Passenger Finally a Saturday with weather to really get out there and enjoy! Hope everyone has a top weekend....I intend to!

Friday at 5:38pm

Cruise Passenger Our caption competition is going great guns, but for anyone interested in seeing what all the fuss is about concerning the prize, I have a posted a product review on our website.....check it out!

Liquid Image Video Mask - Product Review

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