

STORY IDEA: A self-powered tour of Ketchikan and Misty Fjords

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – Whether novice or expert, arguably the best method to see Southeast Alaska is up close and personal, via kayak. From water level, the world of Alaska’s rainforest shores and clear, deep-water coves comes alive, as the kayaker becomes a part of the landscape, rather than viewing it from a distance.

For a preview, check out the innovative websites of Ketchikan-based Southeast Exposure [www.southeastexposure.com](http://www.southeastexposure.com) and Southeast Sea Kayaks [www.kayakketchikan.com](http://www.kayakketchikan.com) – both are full-service kayak tour companies that take self-powered touring to the next level.

CONTACTS: Southeast Exposure, P.O. Box 9143, 37 Potter Road, Ketchikan, AK 99901

Phone: (907) 225-8829 Winter Contact: Oct 15 - Apr 5 (907) 783-2377

Email: [seexposure@kpunet.net](mailto:seexposure@kpunet.net)

Southeast Sea Kayaks, 1007 Water Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901

Toll free: (800) 287-1607, Phone: (907) 225-1258

Email: [paddle@kayakketchikan.com](mailto:paddle@kayakketchikan.com)

STORY IDEA: Brown and Black bear of the Panhandle islands

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – From the banks of Neets Bay or Traitors Cove, the bear of Southeast Alaska are visible in their native environment, brushing aside the foam of a mountain-fed stream to catch salmon in a movement that is time eternal.

CONTACTS:

Alaska Department of Fish & Game: [www.adfg.state.ak.us](http://www.adfg.state.ak.us)

Alaska Wildlife News: [www.wildlifeneews.alaska.gov](http://www.wildlifeneews.alaska.gov)

U.S. Forest Service, Tongass Office: [www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass](http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass) 648 Mission

Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone: (907) 225-3101

Ketchikan Visitors Bureau for a list of hunting guide companies, [www.visit-ketchikan.com](http://www.visit-ketchikan.com)

STORY IDEA: Roving Blueberry Afoot at the annual Blueberry Arts Festival

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – For one day each August, the Southeast Alaska town of Ketchikan gets the blues – the blueberry blues. All part of the annual Blueberry Arts Festival, locals and visitors turn out for blueberry pie, slug races, and a long list of activities that highlight the Panhandle’s favorite fruit.

CONTACTS: Ketchikan Area Arts & Humanities Council, [www.ketchikanarts.org](http://www.ketchikanarts.org),

Phone: (907) 225-2211

STORY IDEA: Profile of Ketchikan artist Ray Troll

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – From the man whose fishy art spawns a closer look at the life aquatic, artist Ray Troll makes his home overlooking Ketchikan, where he can overhear some of the strangest fish tales of all time.

CONTACTS: [www.trollart.com](http://www.trollart.com), P.O. Box 8874, Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone: (907) 225-5954

STORY IDEA: Former brothel district now luring visitors upstream

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – From the days when fancy ladies entertained travelers weary from the gold fields or fishing grounds, Ketchikan’s red light district closed less than a century ago, leaving behind a clutch of bright-colored shacks that today lure visitors upstream with tales of a colorful past.

CONTACTS:

Historic Ketchikan [www.historic-ketchikan.org](http://www.historic-ketchikan.org)

Ketchikan Visitors Bureau: [www.visit-ketchikan.com](http://www.visit-ketchikan.com) 131 Front Street,  
Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone (907) 225-6166 or toll-free (800) 770-3300 Media  
Contact: Patti Mackey

STORY IDEA: Profile of Ketchikan coffee roasters, Raven's Brew Coffee

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – From the rain forest of Southeast Alaska came a coven  
of coffee roasters whose dreams to deliver a memorable cup 'o Joe resulted in Raven's  
Brew Coffee – now popping up in the strangest of places, from Alaska to Australia to  
Antarctica.

CONTACTS: [www.ravensbrew.com](http://www.ravensbrew.com), 1-800-91-RAVEN (72836), Fax: 360-570-9145,  
sip@ravensbrew.com

STORY IDEA: Ketchikan, boom and bust at the southern reaches of the Great North

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – At the southern tip of the Alaskan Panhandle, the town  
of Ketchikan has been at the forefront of the Alaska booms and busts – from the Gold  
Rush to the logging era.

CONTACTS:

U.S. Forest Service, Tongass Office: [www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass](http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass) 648 Mission  
Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone: (907) 225-3101

Ketchikan Visitors Bureau: [www.visit-ketchikan.com](http://www.visit-ketchikan.com) 131 Front Street,  
Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone (907) 225-6166 or toll-free (800) 770-3300 Media  
Contact: Patti Mackey

STORY IDEA: Profile of Ketchikan artist Evon Zerbetz

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – With her work shown in galleries throughout Alaska and the Northwest, linocut artist Evon Zerbetz jots down whimsical bits of ideas that will eventually illustrate a children’s book, face an art card, or sell as an original linocut piece. Zerbetz is the illustrator of several children and young adult books, including the 2003 novel of Newberry-award winning author Karen Hesse: “Aleutian Sparrow.”

CONTACTS: [www.evonzerbetz.com](http://www.evonzerbetz.com), P.O. Box 8943, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 Phone: (907) 225-8212 [evon@evonzerbetz.com](mailto:evon@evonzerbetz.com)

STORY IDEA: Wild weather in Southeast Alaska

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – Ripped from its moorings, a commercial fishing boat is blown across the Tongass Narrows to neighboring Pennock Island, saved just-in-time by the quick response of the U.S. Coast Guard. It’s just one of many weather-related close calls that are fueled by Southeast Alaska’s curious weather. Tallying more than 13 feet of rain each year and with its fair share of gusty winds, the area around Ketchikan is a veritable proving ground for meteorologists.

CONTACTS:

National Weather Service Annette Island office: (907) 886-3038

U.S. Coast Guard Station Ketchikan: [www.uscg.mil/d17/staketch/index.htm](http://www.uscg.mil/d17/staketch/index.htm),

Phone: (907) 228-0340

STORY IDEA: What Do People Do in a Rainforest?

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – So, what does a person do when the rain falls to the tune of 13 feet per year? When the winter daylight diminishes to a few precious hours at the height of the day?

For some, it's a psychological exercise. For others, it's an opportunity to enjoy the sublime, the quiet hours of winter filled with all those things that never get done with a summer of near-constant sunshine and good weather.

CONTACTS:

Rainy Day Quilters Guild, P.O. Box 5131, Ketchikan, AK 99901

Ketchikan Area Arts & Humanities Council, [www.ketchikanarts.org](http://www.ketchikanarts.org), Phone:  
(907) 225-2211

Totem Heritage Center, 601 Deermount Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone:  
(907) 225-5900 Fax: (907) 225-5901 [museum@city.ketchikan.ak.us](mailto:museum@city.ketchikan.ak.us)

Tongass Historical Museum, 629 Dock Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901 Phone:  
(907) 225-5600 Fax: (907) 225-5602 [museum@city.ketchikan.ak.us](mailto:museum@city.ketchikan.ak.us)

Southeast Alaska Discovery Center, 50 Main Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901  
Phone: (907) 228-6220