



ALUMNI TRIPS

2026 CATALOG

TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH



NOLS respectfully acknowledges the ancestral lands and indigenous peoples, past and present, on whose lands we conduct our courses.

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Spread the Word
Reunions
NOLS Fund

ACTIVITY SCALE ✓

This is a subjective rating of anticipated physical difficulty for alumni trips. Weather, route, and group dynamics can combine to make alumni trips more or less difficult.



Moderate

Difficult

Cover photo: Michelle Leonard

The previous Alumni Trips Director left us with an outgoing message last year:

“Heraclitus told us 2500 years ago that “Change is the only constant in life” and 2025 will be no exception.”

We have seen that to be true. This complex and fast changing world continues to show us what is most important; love the ones around you, be flexible and curious, and find helpful ways to engage in the world. In a world that's constantly changing, we, at NOLS, strive to be a place of respite and grounding. Our Alumni trips—guided by sound decision-making, skilled instructors, and a deep passion for exploration—offer a trusted container for your global travel and backcountry adventures.

2026 will showcase some classic trip favorites like hiking the Dolomites, sea kayaking in Croatia, and exploring the Wind River Range with llamas. We'll also bring you some new challenging trips like trekking to Everest Base Camp, backpacking through Kyrgyzstan's Tian Shan mountains and a three week sea kayaking expedition in Patagonia to put your back country skills in action.

The Alumni Trips department will continue to center people and nurture meaningful relationships. We aim to create experiences that offer the comfort of NOLS camaraderie, the thrill of exploration, and the joy of shared adventure.

We look forward to seeing you on a trip this year,



Kellsie Forbes
Alumni Trips Director



LIST OF TRIPS BY TYPE

BACKPACKING (Tent camping)

Alaska's Talkeetna Mountains

India's Ladakh Highlands

NEW Kyrgyzstan's Tian Shan Mountains

NEW Peru's Iconic Sacred Valley to Machu Picchu

Wyoming's Wind River Range with Fly Fishing
and Llamas *(family friendly)*

Wyoming's Wind River Range Traverse

HIKING/TREKKING (Lighter packs & huts, tea houses, or hotels)

Chile's Torres del Paine National Park

Croatia's Velebit Mountains

NEW Iceland's Hornstrandir Nature Reserve
and the 2026 Solar Eclipse

Iceland's Volcanic Trails

Ireland's Coast

Italy's Dolomites - Alta Via #1

Italy's Lakes District

Italy's Tuscan Countryside & Ligurian Coast

Nepal's Khumbu Region- Everest Base Camp

Nepal's Manaslu Circuit

Norway's Jotunheimen Mountains

Portugal's Fisherman Trail

Scotland's Isle of Arran

Scotland's Speyside Way

Slovenia's Julian Alps

Sweden's Kungsleden Trail

WALKING

Italy's Alps - Bassa Via Val D'Aosta

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Backcountry Ski Touring in Iceland

Backcountry Winter Touring Basics in Teton Valley

Rock Climbing on Greece's Kalymnos Island

Technical Canyoneering in Utah

NEW Nordic Skiing Lodge to Lodge in Maine

Nordic Skiing under Sweden's Northern Lights

WATER

Rafting Utah's Gates of Lodore *(family friendly)*

Sailing Greece's Ionian Sea

Sailing Longboats in Mexico's Sea of Cortez

Rafting on the Salmon River *(family friendly)*

Sea Kayaking Alaska's Prince William Sound

Sea Kayaking Croatia's Dalmatian Coast

Sea Kayaking Fiji's Yasawa Islands

NEW Sea Kayaking Patagonia's Ocean Secrets

MOUNTAINEERING

Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro

Wyoming's Gannett Peak

Women's Wyoming's Gannett Peak

NEW Washington's Mount Baker

Alaska's Denali

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

Horsepacking in Wyoming's
Wind River Range

Safari in Tanzania



Rafting Utah's
Gates of Lodore

MOUNTAINEERING ON TANZANIA'S MOUNT KILIMANJARO



Join us for an attempt at the summit of Tanzania's iconic Mount Kilimanjaro (19,340 feet). This expedition attempts Africa's tallest peak while exploring the landscape and culture of Tanzania. The route travels on muddy trails, up steep rocky scrambles, across hard snow, and through thick jungles. Porters help carry the loads as well as prepare meals and share their culture with the group. **More info**

Physicality



*Low activity,
easy walking*

*High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs*

Sleeping & Eating



*Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals*

Camping, simple meals

Weather



*Moderate temps,
little precipitation*

*Extreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation*

OVERALL DIFFICULTY



Mild

Difficult

Porters will help to lighten your pack, but hiking at high elevation is challenging

DATES

March 29 - April 6
April 12 - 20

COST

\$4,155
*Includes pre- and
post-trip lodging in Arusha*

Ben Gurvitz

SAFARI IN TANZANIA



DATES

April 7 - 10
April 21 - 24

COST

\$1,795
Includes all expenses

Oscar Manguy

Designed as an add-on adventure to the Kilimanjaro trip, this 3-day safari will take you to some of Tanzania's most famous parks. While riding in a safari jeep, you'll have the chance to observe African wildlife in their natural habitat, guided by our experienced team. Ngorongoro Crater and Tarangire National Park are among the most popular destinations for travelers each year, and this is the perfect opportunity to add a wildlife adventure to your Kilimanjaro trip. [More info](#)

Physicality



Sleeping & Eating



Weather



OVERALL DIFFICULTY



This trip is mostly going to be riding in jeeps.

A trip for those not afraid of rugged adventure! Come explore Kyrgyzstan's inspiring Tian Shan mountains by trekking the Ak-Suu Traverse - a popular route surrounded by glaciers, sprawling high alpine valleys, and steeped in Kyrgyz nomadic culture. This 12 day trip is a blend of demanding backcountry hiking and cultural immersion.

More info

Physicality



Sleeping & Eating



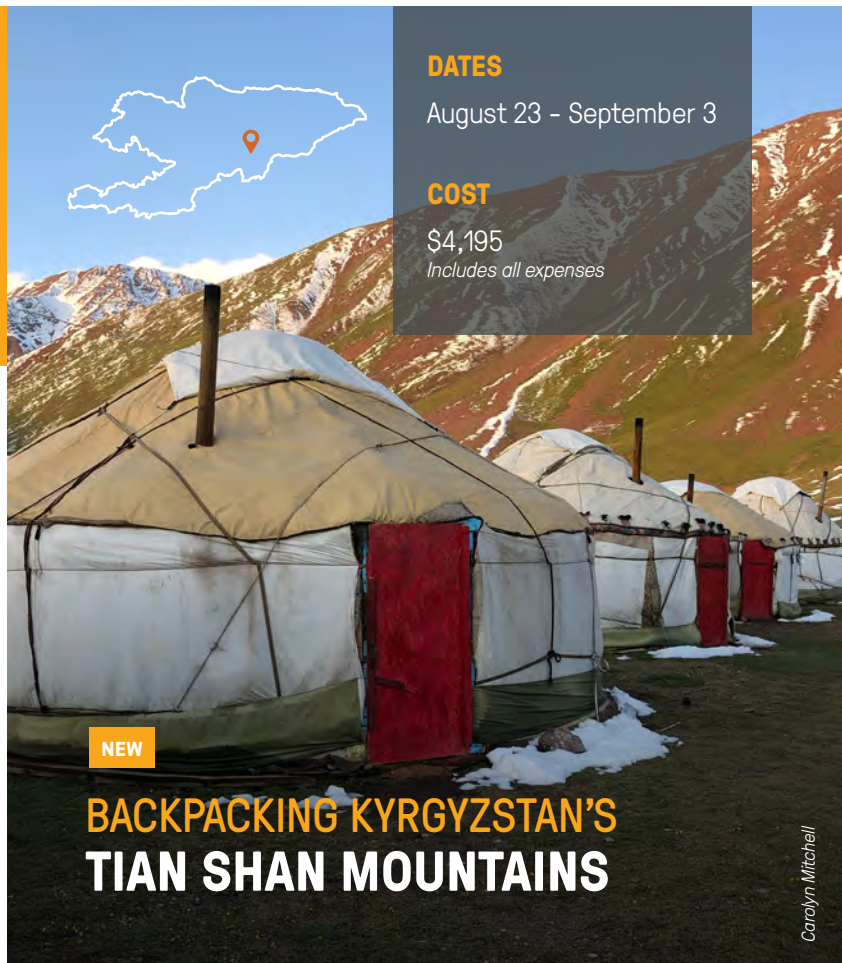
Weather



OVERALL DIFFICULTY



Even with horse support, high altitude, big elevation gains and backcountry camping make this a physically demanding trip.



DATES

August 23 - September 3

COST

\$4,195

Includes all expenses

NEW

BACKPACKING KYRGYZSTAN'S TIAN SHAN MOUNTAINS

Carolyn Mitchell

The Manaslu Circuit is one of Nepal's great treks, and also one of its least crowded, largely due to the challenges involved in reaching it. The route moves up two massive glacial valleys for the first 10 days, stopping in small village tea houses along the way. Then, cresting a 17,000-foot pass, you reach the pinnacle of the journey with the help of your team of NOLSies. Come along with us as we make this incredible journey truly the trip of your life. **More info**

Physicality



Sleeping & Eating



Weather



OVERALL DIFFICULTY



Porters will help to lighten your pack, but hiking at high elevation is challenging

HIKING NEPAL'S MANASLU CIRCUIT



DATES

October 22 - November 6
November 15 - 30

COST

\$4,395
Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Kathmandu

Rebecca Harrison

HIKING NEPAL'S KHUMBU REGION EVEREST BASE CAMP

The Himalayas are unsurpassed in their soaring heights, beauty, and legends, and Nepal has a rich history of people living among these fabled giants. We will visit some century old villages and lodge in traditional tea houses that make long distance trekking in the Khumbu Region quite comfortable. On this trip, astounding views of Mount Everest and a trip to Everest's base camp will immerse you in the whole spectrum of trekking in the Himalayas.

More info

DATES

April 4 - 21

COST

\$4,795

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Kathmandu



Physicality

*Low activity,
easy walking*

*High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs*

Sleeping & Eating

*Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals*

Camping, simple meals

Weather

*Moderate temps,
little precipitation*

*Extreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation*

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild

Difficult

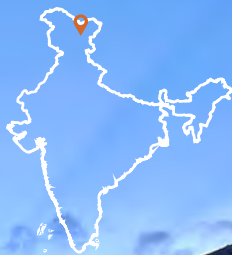
Hiking in difficult terrain at high altitudes is challenging.

DATES

June 15 - 25

COST

\$2,995

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Leh

HIKING INDIA'S LADAKH HIGHLANDS

Arman Deganian

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Your pack is light, but high elevation and camping life is a challenge for most folks.

India's Ladakh region is one of the historic centers of Buddhism, and the soaring peaks surrounding you are sure to inspire thoughts beyond yourself. This high-altitude trip will travel through the passes and mountains of Northern India. You will have a light pack as mules carry your gear from camp to camp and our expedition team provides full support. **More info**

BRING YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY ALONG!

NOLS Alumni trips are a great way to share the adventure with friends and family, giving them the chance to join in the fun *(unless otherwise noted)*.

Your job is to make sure they know what they are getting into; remember, NOLS Alumni trips are not guided vacations. Folks have to pull their own weight to get to the places we go!



Hillary Rochelle

HIKING HUT TO HUT IN CROATIA'S VELEBIT MOUNTAINS

Join NOLS on this trip to hike the Velebit coast range in Croatia! The limestone mountains of the Velebit are relatively unexplored by non-Croatians but a rustic hut system is in place to make the adventure a bit more comfortable. Vehicle support keeps our packs light and allows hikers to stretch their legs further each day. A mid-trip shuttle allows visits to both the Northern and Southern National Parks and the world famous Plitvice Lakes National Park. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Vehicle support means daypacks are light, but the terrain and mileage is challenging.

DATES

June 14 - 22
September 11 - 19

COST

\$3,195
Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Zagreb

Marina Egareva

HIKING IRELAND'S COAST

Explore the trails of Ireland's western coast from Ennis north to the Cliffs of Moher, the Aran Islands, and the Connemara region with a light backpack and a group of fellow NOLS grads, families, and friends. This trip stays in small inns where the music is traditional and the food is incredible. [More info](#)



DATES

July 5 - 11
July 12 - 18

COST

\$3,355
Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Ennis

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Enjoy variable hikes, light backpacks, and upscale inns along the Emerald Isle's west coast.

DATES

July 17 - 22

COST

\$4,195

*Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Reykjavik*

HIKING HUT TO HUT ON ICELAND'S VOLCANIC TRAILS

Lisa Franchetti

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Sleeping in huts lightens your backpack, but long trails and fickle weather make this trip challenging.

Join us for a challenging and immensely scenic backpacking trip in Iceland as we hike hut-to-hut under the midnight sun. This trip travels amongst Iceland's Volcanic Trail huts, one of Iceland's most remote and impressive wilderness areas. Highlights include dramatic and varied topography, incredible flora, glaciers that drain into wild, raging rivers, and natural hot springs. [More info](#)

NEW

HIKING HUT TO HUT IN ICELAND'S HORNSTRANDIR NATURE RESERVE & THE 2026 SOLAR ECLIPSE

DATES

August 8 - 17

COST

\$6,995

*Includes pre and post trip
lodging in Isafjordur*

Kelsie Forbes

Physicality

Low activity,
easy walking

High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps,
little precipitation

Extreme hot/cold temps,
lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild

Difficult

Staying at cabins lightens the pack for these long hiking days.

Perched on the furthest tip of Iceland's Westfjords, the Hornstrandir Nature Reserve offers some of the most untouched hiking trails in the world. On this spectacular hike we will see the famous Hornbjarg cliffs plummet to the ocean and watch the midnight sun kiss the sea. We'll stay in historical private cabins along the trail. The best part of this trip is that we will be there for the 2026 total solar eclipse.

More info

HIKING HUT TO HUT IN ITALY'S DOLOMITES

ALTA VIA #1

NOLS grads, friends, and families are invited to spend a week hiking in the awe-inspiring Dolomites. Traveling between “rifugi” (rustic inn-style lodgings), your group will savor Italian cuisine and culture with mostly European hikers. The team carries light backpacks while hiking among the stunning peaks of northern Italy. **More info**



DATES

June 19 - 26
June 20 - 27
August 30 - September 6
September 8 - 15

COST

\$3,555
Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Bolzano

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Long trail days include steep up and down hiking, but hut living means backpacks are light.

HIKING ITALY'S LAKES DISTRICT

This trip explores the world-famous lakes district in north-central Italy. Spend seven days hiking the shores and nearby spires around spectacular Lakes Como, Lugano and Maggiore, while staying in a combination of hotels and “rifugi” (rustic inn-style lodgings). Explore the peaks, culture and cuisine of this iconic region with NOLS. **More info**



DATES

June 10 – 17

COST

\$3,655

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging

Physicality

*Low activity,
easy walking*

*High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs*

Sleeping & Eating

*Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals*

Camping, simple meals

Weather

*Moderate temps,
little precipitation*

*Extreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation*

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild

Difficult

DATES

September 20 - 28

COST

\$3,995

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging

HIKING ITALY'S TUSCAN COUNTRYSIDE AND LIGURIAN COAST

Lynda Pilage

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Inn lodging means culture, comfortable rooms, cooked meals, and light backpacks on trail days.

Join a group of NOLS grads, friends, families, and instructors for exploration and camaraderie along the Ligurian Coast and Tuscan countryside. We use a combination of trains, shuttles, and foot power to connect small hotels in Italy's early autumn. This trip mixes hiking with exploration of the region's iconic towns, villages, rural areas, and ancient landmarks. [More info](#)

Join NOLS Alumni on our newest route in northern Italy. This trip is a cultural and historical walking tour of the Aosta region along the Via delle Gallie (the original Roman road between Rome and Lyon). This route is less strenuous than our other hiking trips in Italy. Short hikes, public transport, and private shuttles will progressively move you towards San Bernadino Pass, a literal highpoint of the trip, where we will stay at the 15th century hospice built by Saint Bernard. **More info**

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking

High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation

Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild

Difficult

Lodging in inns and huts means lighter packs

WALKING ITALY'S ALPS BASSA VIA VAL D'AOSTA



DATES

June 9 - 17

COST

\$4,295
Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Turin

HIKING HUT TO HUT IN NORWAY'S JOTUNHEIMEN MOUNTAINS



DATES

August 11 - 20

COST

\$3,795

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Oslo



Oslo / Mangy

Spend eight days hiking in Norway's outstanding Jotunheimen Mountains between backcountry huts! This trip offers a challenging level of hiking on well marked, but rocky terrain. Expect significant elevation changes and a couple days of exposed trail hiking. The trip kicks off from the vibrant Scandinavian city of Oslo. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Rocky trails and significant elevation change are daily challenges

HIKING PORTUGAL'S FISHERMAN'S TRAIL



DATES

March 11 - 20
March 23 - April 1
October 21 - 30
November 2 - 11

COST

\$3,695
Includes pre- and
post-trip lodging in Lisbon



Join this trip along Portugal's stunning southwestern coast. The trip includes cultural time in Lisbon and a daily gear transfer service to keep packs light on the trail. We'll lodge in guesthouses and small hotels, dining on simple regional cuisine. It's real hiking with long mileage, seaside cliff navigation, plenty of sand and beaches with jaw dropping vistas. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking ☒ High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals ☒ Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation ☒ Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild ☒ Difficult

Long trail days include beaches, sand, and some country lanes, but a daily gear transfer keeps daypacks light.

Travis Welch

DATES

April 29 - May 6

COST

\$3,755

Includes pre- and
post-trip lodging in Brodick

HIKING SCOTLAND'S ISLE OF ARRAN

Mary Absolon

PhysicalityLow activity,
easy walkingHigh altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs**Sleeping & Eating**Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

WeatherModerate temps,
little precipitationExtreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation**OVERALL DIFFICULTY**

Mild

Difficult

Enjoy light packs, challenging hikes, and inn living.

Join us for a circumnavigation of Scotland's remote Isle of Arran, a rugged island with such topographic diversity that it's called "Scotland in miniature." This 65-mile backpacking trip blends trails, beach/boulder walking, highland-like grassy peaks, and shuttles. Highlights include Goat Fell peak, comfortable inns, Brodick Castle, exploration of a Buddhist retreat, extensive Bronze-Age standing stones, and a wee whiskey tasting at the Arran Distillery. **More info**

HIKING SCOTLAND'S SPEYSIDE WAY



DATES

May 9 - 17

COST

\$3,495

Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Aviemore

Sally Masters

Join a group of NOLS grads for a spectacular walking tour from Scotland's high Cairngorms peaks to the North Sea. We will trek ~60 miles between small hotels with light backpacks in the heart of pastoral whiskey country. The challenge on this trip is typically the weather while the food and lodging are highlights!

More info

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Enjoy light packs, lengthy hikes, and inn living.

HIKING HUT TO HUT IN SLOVENIA'S JULIAN ALPS



DATES

June 25 - July 3
September 1 - 9

COST

\$2,655

Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Ljubljana



Jessica Penny

Join us on a spectacular hike in Slovenia's Julian Alps where we'll explore the steep trails, high passes, peaks, and rich cultural milieu of Triglav National Park. This unique trip merges rural mountainous landscapes with old-Europe charm and new-country independence. This hut-to-hut hiking trip starts in Slovenia's beautiful capital, Ljubljana. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Hut lodging means dorm style rooms, cooked meals, and lighter backpacks

Hiking along Sweden's famous Kungsleden trail offers stunning arctic landscapes, charming mountain huts, and iconic scenery. This style of travel is common in Europe and our group will share time and space with Scandinavians as we go. The trail winds through northern Sweden and explores Lapland on foot while the foliage transitions to stunning fall colors. **More info**

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

HIKING HUT TO HUT ON SWEDEN'S KUNGSLEDEN TRAIL



DATES

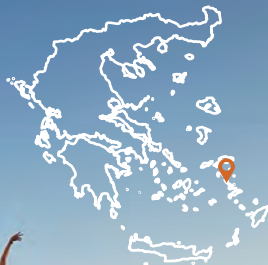
September 3 - 12

COST

\$3,195

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Kiruna

CLIMBING ON GREECE'S KALYMNOS ISLAND



DATES

April 18 – 26

COST

\$3,695

Includes lodging for trip duration in Masouri

Jackie Smith

Kalymnos is one of the most highly regarded climbing destinations in the world. Beautiful limestone cliffs and sea caves make for miles of vertical terrain to explore. This trip is based out of the “climbing village” of Masouri and will give you excellent access to numerous crags of remarkable quality. We will focus on teaching climbing techniques, knots, rope handling, belaying, anchors, “sport” climbing systems, rappelling, and lead climbing theory. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Rock climbing can be physically challenging, but comfortable lodging allows for relaxation and recovery.

BACKCOUNTRY SKI TOURING IN ICELAND'S HORNSTRANDIR PENINSULA



DATES

April 27 - May 5

COST

\$6,995

Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Isafjordur



Michelle Leonard

Spring skiing in Iceland has become legendary in recent years because of the unique ability to ski to the ocean's edge and the perpetual spring conditions. The Hornstrandir Peninsula in the westfjords of Iceland is home to some of the most untouched slopes in the country and will be the base for this trip. The roadless peninsula is a protected nature reserve with boat only access and offers an incredible backcountry ski lodge that will be your home for the trip. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

This is a great trip for experienced backcountry skiers.

NORDIC SKIING UNDER SWEDEN'S NORTHERN LIGHTS

DATES

March 15 - 23

COST

\$3,595

*Includes pre- and
post-trip lodging*



Molly Hagbrand

Physicality

*Low activity,
easy walking*

*High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs*

Sleeping & Eating

*Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals*

Camping, simple meals

Weather

*Moderate temps,
little precipitation*

*Extreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation*

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild

Difficult

Skiing with packs can be challenging.

On this Scandinavian winter adventure, you will ski between heated huts along Sweden's national trail, the Kungsleden. This is true Nordic skiing according to the Swedes, but cross country skiing is the most comparable style of travel. No experience is needed on this well marked trail. Anticipated highlights of this trip are the Northern Lights, Scandinavian culture, short hours of daylight, and miles of rolling trail. [More info](#)

SEA KAYAKING ALONG CROATIA'S DALMATIAN COAST

Paddle Croatia's Elaphiti Island Archipelago and make nightly stops at guesthouses in picturesque villages. Sea kayaking and exploring the scenic southern Croatian coastline offers opportunities to indulge in traditional Adriatic culture and culinary specialties. You'll also develop and practice technical paddling and rescue skills in the area's renowned turquoise seas. **More info**



DATES

June 14 - 21
September 13 - 20

COST

\$3,195
Includes pre- and post trip lodging in Mlini

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Guesthouse lodging means light gear, but paddling on windy days and carrying boats takes effort.

SAILING IN GREECE'S IONIAN SEA

DATES

May 11 - 23

COST

\$6,355

Includes pre- and
post-trip lodging in Nidri

Nick Braun

Join us sailing along Greece's Ionian Sea aboard a 40+ foot liveaboard keelboat. This trip will take you to some of the most beautiful island destinations in the world. You'll experience Greece's crystal clear water, fresh Mediterranean food and learn sailing skills as you explore the region. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Keelboat sailing in Greece means challenging winds and tight quarters.

Stay connected with NOLS Alumni Trips. Sign up for the monthly newsletter, *The Alumni Trips Insider*, to learn about new trips, space availability, and articles related to the world of Alumni Trips at NOLS.

Sign up for the newsletter [here](#)



BECOME AN **INSIDER**

Parker Ashton Youngs

BACKPACKING ALASKA'S TALKEETNA MOUNTAINS



DATES

July 26 - August 1

COST

\$2,295

Trip begins and ends
with a pick-up and
drop-off in Anchorage



Jorge Peña

Join NOLS for a week long backpacking trip in Alaska's stunning backcountry. On this trip you will shoulder a full-size pack and head into the Alaskan wilderness for mostly on-trail travel with a group of fellow NOLSies. We will aspire for grand views of high Alaskan peaks and hope for the best possible weather. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Carrying a full pack with a week of rations is challenging.

DATES

July 19 - 25

July 29 - August 4

COST

\$2,155

*Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Lander***Physicality****Sleeping & Eating****Weather****OVERALL DIFFICULTY**

*Llamas carry some of the weight, but mountain
backpacking is challenging.*

Refine your NOLS skills while embracing new ones like fly fishing, photography, and llama packing in Wyoming's beautiful Wind River Range. Instructors will help with the technical skills while you soak in the scenery and experience of this trip. Relive fond memories of NOLS by bringing your family along on this adventure! [More info](#)

Sabrin Mohamed

BACKPACKING AND FLY FISHING WITH LLAMAS IN WYOMING

BACKPACKING WYOMING'S WIND RIVER TRAVERSE

Wyoming's Wind River Range is calling! Polish your backcountry travel and camping techniques on an amazing and challenging traverse of one of America's best mountain ranges. The team hopscotches the Continental Divide while enjoying spectacular views, classic mountain peaks and lake swims. Pack your fly rod for this trip! **More info**



DATES

August 3 - 11

COST

\$2,395

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Lander

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

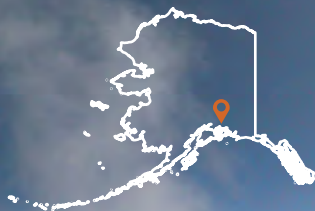
Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

This trip includes challenging hikes with heavy packs on an aggressive route.

MOUNTAINEERING ON ALASKA'S DENALI



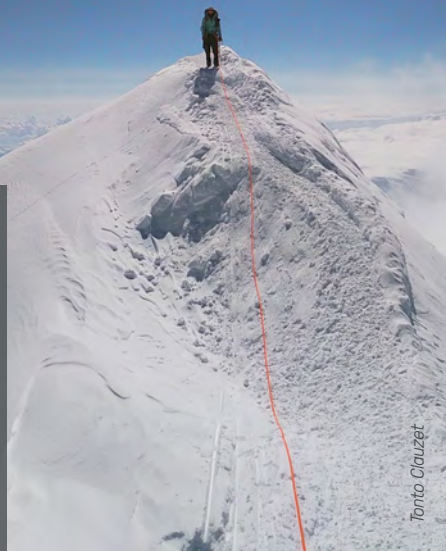
DATES

June 2 - 27

COST

\$12,500

Trip begins and ends
with a pick-up and
drop-off in Anchorage



Tonto Clauzet

This is an expedition for ambitious, driven alumni looking to summit Denali, North America's highest peak (20,320 feet). This challenging course includes long days with heavy packs, close living quarters, and extended time spent on glacier. If you're aiming for a unique, hard-won experience, this is the course for you. [More info](#)

**For qualified alumni only (application required).*

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Heavy packs, high altitude, harsh conditions, and a short summit window.

One of our most popular trips is back! Mount Baker, one of Washington's five glaciated volcanoes, is a true gem of the North Cascades. It offers some of the best snow and ice terrain in the Lower 48, making it ideal to build mountaineering skills. As you travel across ice and ascend steep terrain, you'll learn the fundamentals of glacier and snow travel while surrounded by breathtaking views.

More info

Physicality



Sleeping & Eating



Weather



OVERALL DIFFICULTY



Long hikes, full packs, and steep terrain make a challenging trip.

NEW

MOUNTAINEERING ON WASHINGTON'S MOUNT BAKER



DATES

July 18 - 25

COST

\$3,255

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Seattle

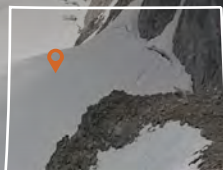
Willy Oppenheim

DATES

July 12 - 19

COST

\$2,795

Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Lander**Physicality**Low activity,
easy walkingHigh altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs**Sleeping & Eating**Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

WeatherModerate temps,
little precipitationExtreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation**OVERALL DIFFICULTY**

Mild

Difficult

Nestled deep in the wilderness, Gannett Peak (13,804 feet) is Wyoming's highest summit. This fast-paced trip moves over steep trails and moraines with heavy backpacks. Your group's training starts with the basics, so novice mountaineers are welcome. Participants will learn and practice glacier mountaineering, rock, and snow skills for the mixed-route summit. **More info**

Felipe Canino

MOUNTAINEERING ON WYOMING'S GANNETT PEAK

Physicality

Low activity,
easy walking

High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps,
little precipitation

Extreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild

Difficult

Long hikes, full packs, and steep terrain make a challenging trip.

Gannett Peak is an alluring objective for any mountaineer looking to gain remote access to a beautiful and elusive summit. Following the same route as our standard Gannett Peak trip, this trip focuses on building mountaineering skills on glacier, snow, and rock. This trip also emphasizes building an inclusive outdoor space for women and those who identify outside the gender binary.

[More info](#)

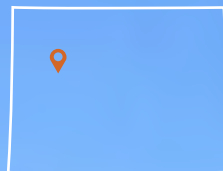
DATES

July 24 - 31

COST

\$2,795

Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Lander



WOMEN'S MOUNTAINEERING ON WYOMING'S GANNETT PEAK

Mario Coletto

HORSEPACKING IN WYOMING'S WIND RIVER RANGE

Lindsay Priefert

Throughout history, Wyoming's Wind River Range has been explored largely on horseback. This trip is a chance to experience the work and benefits of traveling in this time-honored way. Travel into the Winds with a train of horses to camp, fish, and ride. Your group focuses on western horsemanship activities, including herd dynamics, tack, horse behavior, camp and feed selection, pacing, and Leave No Trace camping. **More info**

DATES

August 7 - 16
August 21 - 29

COST

\$2,995
Includes transport from Jackson, WY
to Three Peaks Ranch

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Loading and caring for horses in the backcountry is hard work.

For those interested in applying their pre-existing ski/snowboard skills to a new environment, this trip is designed to prepare intermediate skiers and boarders to travel in the backcountry. Starting at NOLS's Teton Valley Campus and moving to a backcountry yurt, you will go on day tours to explore world class terrain while learning snow science and risk management in avalanche terrain, as well as honing skills that will prepare you for bigger winter adventures. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

You will be spending lots of time skiing uphill and then downhill in powder.

BACKCOUNTRY WINTER TOURING BASICS IN TETON VALLEY



DATES

February 21 - 27

COST

\$2,555

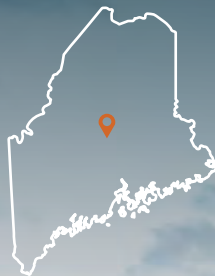
Andy Blair

DATES

February 13 – 16

COST

\$1,555

**NEW**

LODGE TO LODGE NORDIC SKIING IN MAINE

Appalachian Mountain Club

PhysicalityLow activity,
easy walkingHigh altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs**Sleeping & Eating**Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

WeatherModerate temps,
little precipitationExtreme hot/cold temps,
lots of precipitation**OVERALL DIFFICULTY**

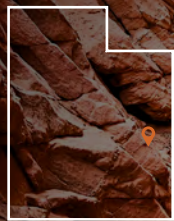
Mild

Difficult

A luggage shuttle between lodges keeps packs light

This three night, four day winter excursion explores Maine's 100-Mile Wilderness from the Appalachian Mountain Club's stunning backcountry lodges. This trip features cozy cabins, saunas, and groomed trails winding through forests of hardwoods and spruce-fir with sections that open onto frozen lakes and broad valleys. [More info](#)

TECHNICAL CANYONEERING IN UTAH



DATES

March 22 – 29

COST

\$2,355

Pre- and post-trip lodging in Grand Junction is included

This physically demanding trip explores the stunning Utah canyons using ropes to navigate slots and manage risks. This is a base-camping, vehicle-supported expedition to maximize your opportunities to rappel, scramble, wade, and use creative rope skills in remote canyon terrain. After challenging days you'll share group camaraderie and natural history stories back at camp. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Rope work and creative body movement through tight canyons is challenging.

Sarah Kolarik

PLAN A PRIVATE OR CUSTOM TRIP WITH NOLS ALUMNI

Interested in taking your family or a group of friends on a NOLS Adventure?

We would love to build a private or custom trip for your group! Our team works with groups as small as two to build exactly what you want, when you want it. You can choose from any of our trip options and request a private departure, or we could build something different and unique for your crew.



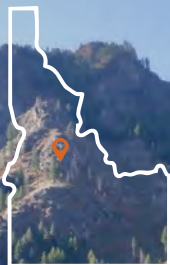
DROP US A LINE

We would be happy to help shape your next vacation and build the trip of your dreams.

alumni_trips@nols.edu

DATES

July 10 - 17

COST\$3,155
Family-friendly trip**Physicality**

Low activity,
easy walking

High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps,
little precipitation

Extreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild

Difficult

SALMON RIVER FAMILY RAFTING

Jessie Lange

Famed in the American West for its natural beauty, history and engaging rapids, we are excited to run this popular Salmon River family trip again. Camp and learn rafting skills like guiding paddle rafts, rowing oar rigs, navigating rapids, and basic river rescue against the captivating backdrop of rugged mountains and pine forests. We have designed this trip to welcome families with kids as young as 10.

More info

RAFTING UTAH'S GATES OF LODORE



DATES

July 26 - 30

COST

\$1,655
Family-friendly trip

Designed for families but great for anyone, this trip floats the Green River through Utah's Gates of Lodore Canyon. Bring the kids along (*ages 10+*) and have a rafting adventure through one of the most scenic river canyons in the U.S. Your instructors will help navigate the Class III river in rafts and possibly inflatable kayaks, ensuring that fun is had by all. [More info](#)

Physicality



*Low activity,
easy walking*

*High altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs*

Sleeping & Eating



*Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals*

Camping, simple meals

Weather



*Moderate temps,
little precipitation*

*Extreme hot/ cold temps,
lots of precipitation*

OVERALL DIFFICULTY



Mild

Difficult

Participants are expected to paddle, but life on this river trip isn't too strenuous.

Rachel Reilly

This trip explores one of the most iconic sea kayaking destinations in the world. You will stare up at glaciers and mountains while floating among icebergs, whales, and other marine mammals. Instructors tailor the kayak instruction to any level of experience so that first time paddlers can enjoy a new type of expeditioning alongside their more experienced peers. **More info**

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

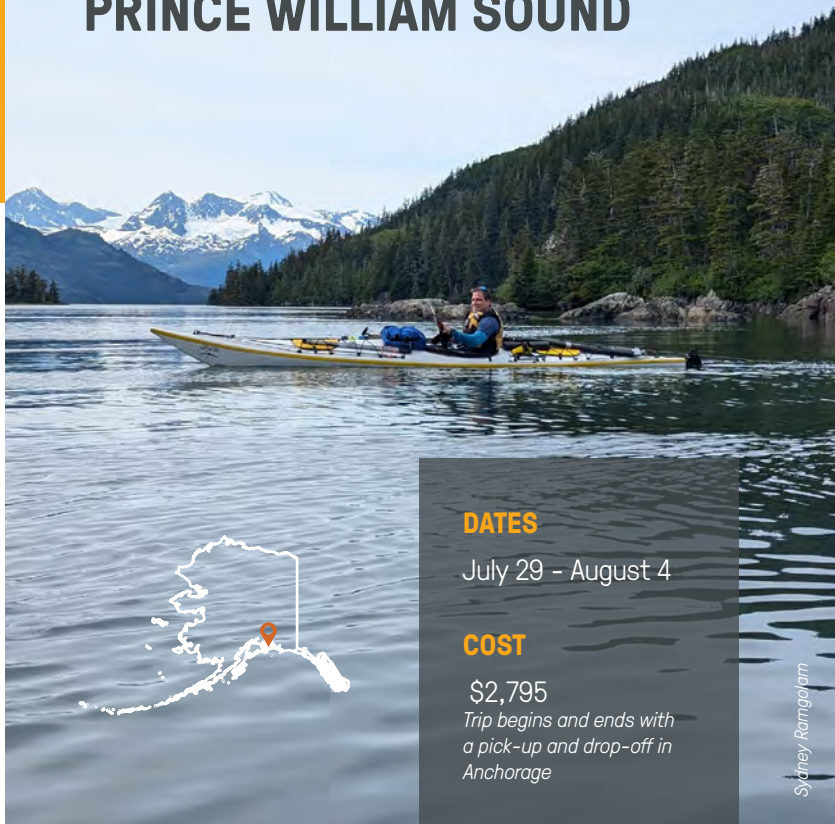
Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Cold water and challenging weather are almost guaranteed, but long sunlight hours keep spirits up!

SEA KAYAKING ALASKA'S PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND



DATES

July 29 - August 4

COST

\$2,795

Trip begins and ends with a pick-up and drop-off in Anchorage

SAILING LONGBOATS IN MEXICO'S SEA OF CORTEZ

DATES

March 1 - 8
November 5 - 12

COST

\$2,695
Family-friendly trip

Sail aboard unique 22-foot Drascombe Longboats on the Sea of Cortez. These versatile, open cockpit centerboard boats sail well in a wide variety of conditions, making them a great avenue for learning important elements of sailing and seamanship. This trip camps on and explores Baja's beautiful and remote desert beaches.

More info

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking ☒ High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals ☐ Camping, simple meals ☒

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation ☒ Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild ☒ Difficult

Navigating changing ocean conditions can be challenging, but life aboard longboats is generally a relaxed affair.

Ellie Piper

NEW

BACKPACKING PERU'S ICONIC SACRED VALLEY TO MACHU PICCHU

This trip travels through the less crowded Vilcabamba mountain range of the famed Inca Empire. We will explore sections of the original Inca Trail, a network of ancient fortified footpaths spanning over 25,000 miles throughout the Andes. We will encounter stunning mountain views and archeological sites, culminating with a visit to the world-famous Machu Picchu. During the expedition, we will have donkey porters allowing lighter packs while hiking. **More info**



DATES

April 26 - May 4

COST

\$4,055

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Urubamba

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

Donkeys will carry gear to lighten the load, but we hike high elevations, and camp in tents adding an extra challenge to this trip.

HIKING IN CHILE'S PATAGONIA

TORRES DEL PAINE NATIONAL PARK, THE "O"

DATES

March 8 - 17

March 20 - 29

November (TBD)

COST

\$4,455

*Includes pre- and post-trip
lodging in Puerto Natales*

Kevin O'Bryan

Patagonia's "O" trek is the most immersive trek you can do in Torres del Paine National Park. The route is a loop moving from one established camp to another in order to minimize impacts on the surrounding land and provide some additional comforts in this very remote region. This is an extraordinary opportunity to experience Patagonian culture while backpacking through remote, rarely visited, and stunning wilderness.

More info

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/ cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

You'll only need a day pack on this trip as horses carry most of the load.

DATES

February 5 - 25

COST

\$7,895

NEW**SEA KAYAKING PATAGONIA'S
OCEAN SECRETS**

Oscar Manguy

PhysicalityLow activity,
easy walkingHigh altitude, rough trails,
long uphill, heavy packs**Sleeping & Eating**Hotel lodging,
restaurant meals

Camping, simple meals

WeatherModerate temps,
little precipitationExtreme hot/cold temps,
lots of precipitation**OVERALL DIFFICULTY**

Mild

Difficult

The weather in Patagonia is challenging.

This trip spends three weeks kayaking through the incredible Chonos Archipelago off the coast of Chile's Aysen region. The objective will be to reach the Isla Kent, a favorite kayaking destination of our NOLS Patagonian instructors. This is a veritable Patagonian expedition. There will be exceptional opportunities to explore Chile's vegetation, wildlife, and coastal culture. You should expect challenging weather, navigation, and paddling. [More info](#)

**Prior expedition sea kayaking experience required.*

This trip is an extraordinary opportunity to experience the pristine, remote, and only sparsely inhabited coastline of the Yasawa chain in Fiji. You will paddle your way through a marine environment rich with life and coral reefs, sleep on tropical beaches, visit a rural village, and have abundant opportunities to snorkel. Instructors will tailor the kayak instruction to any level of experience so that first time paddlers can enjoy a new type of expeditioning alongside their more experienced peers. [More info](#)

Physicality

Low activity, easy walking High altitude, rough trails, long uphill, heavy packs

Sleeping & Eating

Hotel lodging, restaurant meals Camping, simple meals

Weather

Moderate temps, little precipitation Extreme hot/cold temps, lots of precipitation

OVERALL DIFFICULTY

Mild Difficult

The trip is camping, but a support boat makes gear hauling easy and brings along many comforts.

SEA KAYAKING FIJI'S YASAWA ISLANDS



DATES

August 10 -20

COST

\$4,395

Includes pre- and post-trip lodging in Nadi

Devin Duffy



ALUMNI

BENEFITS

Katherine Birney

JOBSNETWORK

Turn your outdoor passion into your profession. Join the NOLS Alumni Jobsnetwork, our free online outdoor jobs clearinghouse where NOLS grads are matched with employers. See nols.edu/jobsnetwork for employer and alumni details.

EQUIPMENT & OTHER DISCOUNTS

We've teamed with brands to provide lodging, education, and gear discounts for NOLS grads. Check out our evolving list of discounts here: nols.edu/alumni/benefits/

NOLS EVENTS

Each year, NOLS hosts events around the globe, primarily in the U.S. that bring together alumni, friends, families, and future NOLSies. From keynote speakers and local day hikes to trivia nights and social gatherings at outdoor gear stores, there are many ways to connect with the NOLS community. We also offer virtual events so you can join from anywhere. Visit nols.edu/events/ for upcoming 2026 gatherings near you.

GIVING BACK



SPREAD THE WORD

Your NOLS experience doesn't end when your course does - share what you loved about your NOLS experience and help more people find out about NOLS! Spread the word by sharing your story on social media, submitting stories and photos to the NOLS Blog or *The Leader*. Learn more at nols.edu/alumni/resources/share-your-story/

STAY CONNECTED

Keep the NOLS spirit alive and stay in touch with our community! Join the conversation on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, to stay connected. Stay informed about NOLS news, inspiring stories, and wilderness tips by subscribing to our newsletters, including *The Scenario*, *NOLS News*, *Alumni Trips Insider*, and several others. nols.edu/about/resources/newsletters/

NOLS FUND

The NOLS Fund provides real-time and flexible support that helps us meet challenges and seize opportunities as they arise. By bridging the gap between tuition and the true cost of delivering a world-class outdoor education, the Fund supports scholarships, educational curriculum, instructor training, risk management, stewardship of our wilderness classrooms, and more. nols.edu/giving/donate/



A NOLS COURSE IS **JUST THE BEGINNING.**

Grounded in wilderness and backed by recognized expertise, with NOLS, you can find a course to give you the training to start a new career, a certification to get your foot in the door, an immersive experience to deepen your education, or an investment in the future of your organization.

A NOLS education can include a progression of complementary skills that build personal and team capacity. You might start backpacking in the mountains, add a dollop of wilderness medicine, layer on a dose of rock climbing and wrap it all up with one of the Seven Summits.