

Juneau, Alaska

Joys of Juneau

The JV house is within walking distance of downtown Juneau, is a leisurely bike ride to the mountains and the beach, and has a beautiful view of Mount Juneau from the living room window! Juneau is home to thriving cultural values, an active art community, and many outdoor enthusiasts. Every other year, the town hosts Celebration, a biennial festival of Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures that is one of the largest gatherings of Southeast Alaska Native peoples. It is also a hub for folk music and hosts the annual Juneau Alaska Folk Festival. The juxtaposition of mountains and the waters of Southeast Alaska, the sprawling Gastineau Channel contribute to a unique natural beauty.

About Juneau

The site where Juneau now stands, first called Dzánti K'ihéeni, was a fishing ground for the Áak'w Kwáan (Auke) and T'aaku Kwáan (Taku) tribes of the Tlingit nation. In the 1880s, miners began arriving in the area, and the city was built as a mining camp and later became the capital of Alaska. Jesuit Volunteers have been in Juneau since 1975. In the summers, Juneau is a bustling tourist destination; its usual population of 30,000 more than doubles in size. In the winter, state politicians flock to the city for legislative sessions. Despite being on the mainland, Juneau is not on the continental road system and can only be accessed by boat or plane! Folks from rural towns or villages in the Southeast Alaskan panhandle often utilize services at agencies operating primarily out of Juneau, the largest city in Southeast Alaska.