

Dear Sockeye Cycle Employees,

We look forward to the 2020 season in Haines and Skagway. Below is some information to help you plan your travel, and prepare for summer. A great resource to get to know Skagway is the Skagway Relocation Guide (<https://www.skagway.org/cvb/page/relocation-guide>) also posted on our employee web page. If you have any questions please get in touch with us.

Getting to Skagway

Most of our staff flies into Juneau and connects through to Skagway on a small plane or on the state ferry. Skagway is about a 45-minute flight or a 4-6 hour ferry trip (depending on stops) from Juneau. It is usually necessary to spend a night in Juneau to make a connection to Skagway.

Driving up to Skagway is also an option. You can drive through BC to Skagway, generally 3-4 days of driving through Canada. The mountain passes may still be snowy into May and there are often long runs between fuel/lodging options, so make sure to come prepared!

Last, you can take the Alaska Marine Highway Ferry all the way from Bellingham, WA to Skagway, with or without a vehicle. It's a 3-day trip through the inside passage, making a few stops along the way.

What to Bring

Housing:

If you are in employee housing, your room contains a bed, dresser, and shelving or a closet. The kitchen is stocked with pots & pans, all dishes and appliances needed. We have some sheets and towels from previous seasons that can be re-used, or you can bring your own.

Outdoor Gear:

Alaska, BC and the Yukon is a backcountry paradise, so bring your outdoor gear! We recommend:

- Camping gear: a tent, sleeping bag, and sleeping pad will give you many options to explore the area.
- Backpacking gear: an overnight pack, stove, etc. opens up some longer trails and trips.
- A bike is provided for work and bikes are available for short trips in town, so it's not necessary to bring one with you. Many people do bring their own bike to get in extra riding outside of work.
 - If you plan to bring your own bike, it's cheapest to bring it with you on the flight instead of shipping it. Our shop is available to reassemble when you arrive.
 - Bike storage is tight. We have an outdoor rack that bikes can be locked to and covered with a tarp for weather protection. We don't have indoor storage space (your room is an option if you have a single room).
 - We also offer Employee Purchase deals if you want to buy a new bike during the summer.

Clothing:

Plan for daytime temperatures in Skagway in the high 40's – mid 60's. We do get some sunny days in the 70's and 80's but the norm is cool and windy. The beginning of the season can still be quite cold; don't be surprised if we're riding through snow flurries during training! You need to bring:

- Good waterproof rain jacket and pants.
- Waterproof shoes/boots; tall rubber boots are best for the really wet days, Gore-Tex hiking boots can work, but will soak through on the wetter days.
- Clothing that can be layered for different weather conditions.
 - Polyester, wool, and fleece layers continue to insulate when wet and are a better choice

than cotton.

- A watch for keeping time on tour (a phone will not work for this purpose).
- Cycling jerseys and padded shorts are not necessary on tour, though some guides choose to wear them on nicer days and for personal riding.
- A bike helmet is required for all riding while working. Please bring one with you if you have one you like.

Shipping & Mail

Please do not send personal mail to our shop. We have a PO Box set up for seasonal employees. Your address for the summer is:

Your Name
PO Box 1338
Skagway, AK 99840

Do not give out this address for bills, junk mail or other important year round documents. It is closed during the winter and is your responsibility to forward any mail to another location. Please check with us before sending very large boxes/parcels to this box as we may be able to suggest a more efficient way.

Phones

Cell phones generally work well and can access reasonably fast 4G service. The local cell phone provider is AT&T. Verizon also works well. Cell service works in town but not far outside of town.

Internet Access

We have wifi available in the house for personal use. This is meant for everyone to keep in touch via email, and do basic web surfing. We pay by usage and can't have devices constantly connected and regular downloading/streaming data. Usage is limited and may be temporarily disabled to avoid overage charges. There is also free internet access at the local library.

Health Care/Emergencies

While working, you are covered by worker's comp insurance for injuries on the job. Skagway has a medical clinic, which can take care of most basic needs. The clinic operates on a sliding scale based on income and accepts most insurance. If you are seriously injured and need emergency care, the Medi-Vac (air-ambulance) flight to Juneau, Seattle, or Anchorage is extremely expensive. Your health insurance may cover this cost in some cases, but we highly recommend that you obtain medical evacuation insurance in addition to any medical insurance you have. The cost is \$125 for a year, which includes air ambulance service in Skagway, <https://www.airmedcarenetwork.com/Alaska/>.

Please call or email with questions as you prepare for the summer: info@sockeyecycle.com or 1-888-292-4154.

Sincerely,

Dustin Craney – President & General Manager
Becky Hill – Office Manager
Matt Jillson – Tour Manager