

## BOOK #006

# The Smart Traveler's Alaska Wildlife Guide

## Chapter 7 — Wildlife Safety & Etiquette

Imagine quietly watching a brown bear fishing for salmon from a safe distance. Everyone remains silent as the bear goes about its day, completely unaware of the respectful observers nearby. Moments like these are unforgettable because they happen naturally, without disturbing the wildlife. Responsible viewing protects both the animals and the people who come to admire them.

### **Respect Wildlife**

Alaska's animals are wild and should always be treated with respect. Never approach, feed, or attempt to attract wildlife for a closer look or a better photograph. Observing animals in their natural behavior creates the most rewarding experiences.

### **Keep a Safe Distance**

Whether you're watching bears, moose, whales, or sea lions, always follow your guide's instructions and respect all posted safety guidelines. Animals can move quickly and unpredictably, so giving them plenty of space is essential.

### **Listen to Your Guides**

Professional naturalists and excursion guides are trained to recognize animal behavior and know how to keep visitors safe. Their instructions are designed to protect both you and the wildlife.

### **Leave No Trace**

Help preserve Alaska's natural beauty by staying on designated trails, disposing of trash properly, and avoiding actions that could damage fragile ecosystems. Responsible tourism ensures future visitors can enjoy these incredible places as well.

### **Enjoy the Moment**

Take photographs, but don't let the camera distract you from the experience. Sometimes the most meaningful wildlife encounters are the quiet moments spent simply watching nature unfold.

### **Aimee's Insider Tip**

One of the things I love most about Alaska is how untouched it feels. By respecting wildlife and following the guidance of local experts, we help keep it that way for future generations. Great wildlife experiences begin with patience, respect, and a willingness to observe from a safe distance.