The Rubber Boot Question: “Do I need them & what kind to pack?”

We recommend calf or knee-high rubber boots for onshore activities – The Tongass is a temperate rainforest and tends to be wet everywhere. Often trails are ungroomed, and you splash through streams and tidal wetlands – so sturdy boots that are comfortable to walk in are a better all-around choice than hiking shoes.

Here are pictures of people doing stuff where you want taller (15” or just below the knee) boots:

The Naturalist and two guests - sticking with boots and carrying their hiking shoes.

Here are pictures of the crew’s favorite - Xtratuf boots! They are also known as the Alaskan Slippers.


The Salmon sisters created a fashionable lining to add some fun to a good functional boot.

https://www.xtratuf.com/collections/women-collection-salmon-sisters?gclid=CjwKCAjwj8eJhA5EiwA9z20m5WDvAq51wJWiB3Ycfncu_t0t4eBijFpVYn33OnJ_CLTGGQ88Jxrh12RoCxJ8QAveD_BwE
Another option is to look for ‘foldable boots’ that might pack a little easier.

http://www.puddletons.com/

If you do not think you are going to want a high-end expensive boot after the cruise, one previous guest recommended these Tingley boots: about $34-$40 - ultralight and, they say, comfortable to walk in https://bit.ly/2Gf1Fyc

Packables https://www.baffin.com/collections/rubber-w/products/5310w001 are a Canadian company that make tall, waterproof, comfortable boots.

Most people seem to end up in waterproof boots exclusively while onshore, so you do want something comfortable for walking. We recommend that you pick boots that are comfortable to wear - with good support – suitable for walking distances over uneven terrain.