

SEASONAL SALES TAX in ALASKA

Galena	3%(Oct – Mar)	6% (Apr – Sept) Seasonal (No Prop. Tax)
Nome	5%(Sept – Apr)	7%(May – Aug) Seasonal
Seldovia	5%(Oct-Mar)	7.5% (Apr – Sept) Seasonal
Sitka	5% (Oct – March)	6% (Apr – Sept) Seasonal
Skagway	None(0%)(Oct – Dec)	5% (Jan – Sept) Seasonal
Whittier	None(0%)(Oct – Mar)	5% (Apr – Sept) Seasonal

Non-comprehensive list of current Sales Tax Holidays in Alaska:

- **Ketchikan Gateway Borough** – [KGB Code 4.50.340 Sales Tax Holiday](#) – provides an example of letting a sitting assembly choose to offer a “sales tax holiday” during a given year by resolution. By resolution, they can choose to declare a day during the period from October 1st through March 31st of the fiscal year as year as a “sales tax holiday.” This becomes effective only if the city council of the city of Ketchikan declares the same day as a sales tax holiday.
- **Whittier’s** seasonal sales tax effectively provides a full winter holiday from Sales tax, as they define; “Tax year” means the period beginning April 1st and continuing through September 30th each year.”
- **Skagway** – Since the Release of AK Taxable most recent report in January 2019, Skagway has implemented a Sales Tax Holiday on “Retail Sales Only” from October 1 through December 31. Retail sales include all sales of tangible goods and products for any purpose other than resale. Prior to the new legislation, Skagway charge 3% Sales Tax in the winter, and 5% Sales Tax from April – Sept)
- **Haines Borough** approved the concept of Sales Tax Holidays in July, 2019. They recently had a sales tax holiday on 10/19/19, and have another scheduled for 3/2/20. Their holiday doesn’t seem very clear cut: <https://www.hainesalaska.gov/community/sales-tax-holiday-saturday-october-19-2019> partly due to its infancy.
- **Wrangell Borough** has offered two sales-tax-free days every year for the last decade. The first holiday coincides with the release of the AK PFD, and the second coincides with their fall community “Pumpkin Patch” festival.

On the other side of the Sales Tax Holiday spectrum:

- **Petersburg Borough** Assembly **no longer offers Sales Tax Holidays**. They used to offer two days of holiday a year, but found they were losing about \$50,000 in revenue a year on those two day – with one being timed to coincide with the release of PFD payments.

Other fun sales tax facts from the State of Alaska Department of Commerce:

- Only 9 cities located outside of boroughs levy a property tax, only 24 municipalities in Alaska 9either cities or boroughs levy a property tax.
- One hundred and seven municipalities (reporting) levy a general sales tax. Sales tax rates range from a low of 1% to a high of 7%.
- The “typical” sales tax rates within Alaska range from 2% to 5%.
- Other types of local taxes levied are raw fish taxes, hotel/motel “bed” taxes, car rental tax, severance taxes, liquor and tobacco taxes, gaming (pull tabs) taxes, aircraft taxes, guide taxes, transportation taxes, and fuel transfer taxes.