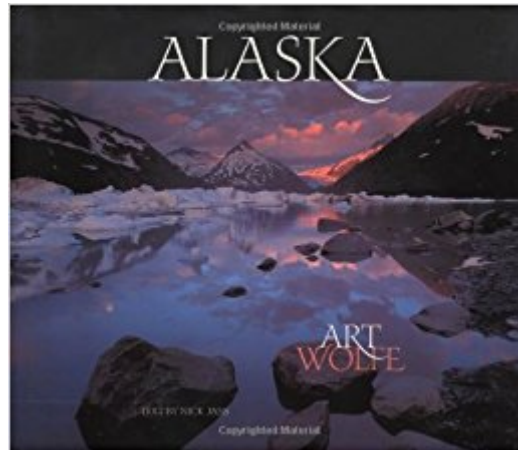


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# Alaska



## Synopsis

Over 130 images paired with essays from Nick Jans record the splendor of this great American wilderness. From intimate singular images to hauntingly beautiful landscapes, Alaska finds new expression under the artful lens of Art Wolfe. For more than 15 years Art Wolfe has been documenting Alaska, from the rainforests of the Southeast to snow-shrouded mountains to the northern expanses of the Brooks Range and beyond. Wolfe brings a painter's sensitivity to light, pattern, and composition in his photography of landscape and wildlife, and Alaska is his personal vision of a truly awesome landscape.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Wolfe does a superb job of capturing the intense colors writers can only allude to." -- Journeys

Art Wolfe is considered a master of light and composition. His photography has been gathered in many books, including Pacific Northwest (see page 20) and Migrations. He lives in Seattle. Nick Jans is a teacher and writer living in Ambler, Alaska. He is a contributing editor to Alaska magazine and author of The Last Light Breaking.

Whether this book of color photographs accurately shows what Alaska really looks like, I don't know, because I haven't been there yet. But having finished it, I'm planning my trip! But I can say this is a great book of photographs of nature. Anyone who loves to look at photographs will love this book.

Wolfe demonstrates that he is one of the greatest living outdoor photographers. His sense of light and composition is unexcelled. Almost every picture has a strong sense of line, either vertical, horizontal or diagonal. And the range of light is exceptional, often including in the same picture the darkest blacks and the brightest whites. The handling of sky is as sublime as that of any of the 19th century American landscape painters. I'm certain that there must be plain blue skies in Alaska but every one of Wolfe's skies has clouds that are fleecy, or glowering, or mysterious. And the light that falls on the landscapes illuminates them with a strange beauty whether casting deep, hard-edged shadows that make a rugged peak look even more majestic; or soft shadows that fall across a brush-covered hillside and create a subtle modulation of green; or the red rays of the magic hours of dawn and dusk. Occasionally his pictures take on a strange abstraction that requires a careful examination to discover what one is looking at, like the pictures of white ice floes on the surface of an inky-black river or the network of crevasses on a glacier with a few spots of emerald blue in the white field, where the snow has melted into a pond reflecting the sky. Wolfe is a master of color field photography. Consider the brownish, grayish web of fine lines with several smears of white across it that resolves into a portrait of musk oxen with white horns and muzzles. Or the white arctic foxes in the snow with a bare hint of orange on their undersides. Or the receding green hillsides distinguished only by differing textures with a tiny browsing caribou in the foreground. The text by Nick Jans is sometimes overly poetic and almost unnecessary given the photographs although explaining just what it is that makes tundra tundra has some interest. However when I turn the page to see just the top halves of the heads of two fierce little owls peeking at me with yellow eyes hidden amongst a row of wildflowers in the Arctic Wild Life Refuge, words disappear from my mind. Most people agree that Alaska is one of the last great wildernesses and that we are unlikely to see anything more exciting in our lives. Art Wolfe has captured the excitement of Alaska. He has also captured the excitement of great photography.

"Alaska" is the 10th anniversary edition of acclaimed nature photographer Art Wolfe's stunning photographic survey of the 49th State. Wolfe explores the major habitats of Alaska, from Mountain to River & Lake, Tundra to Sea & Coast, and Forest to Island. Alaska writer Nick Jans provides a supporting commentary on Alaska's natural history. The space, light, wildlife, and physical dimensions of Alaska can almost defeat a good photographer's ability to capture them. Wolfe's roughly 150 photographs are therefore all the more remarkable for their consistently excellent artistry. For the non-resident, yes, Alaska really can be that spectacular on its best days. For those who haven't been to Alaska, yet, this coffee-table type collection is a superb introduction to what the

state has on offer. "Alaska" is very highly recommended to fans of Art Wolfe's superb nature photography, and to those who have or will visit Alaska's wild spaces.

MUST I REALLY SAY HOW GOOD ART WOLFES' PHOTOS ARE? THIS IS A FINE BOOK TO KEEP ON ANY SHELF IF YOU LOVE NATURE IN ANY WAY, SHAPE OR FORM. MY NEW-USED COPY WAS IN FINE SHAPE AND WHO WOULD COMPLAIN ABOUT THE PRICE BUT A CHEESEHEAD. EXCELLENT PHOTOS OF ALL SUBJECTS RELATED TO ALASKA OF COURSE. I JUST WISH THERE WERE MORE PHOTOS BUT I'M GREEDY. A VERY EXCELLENT BOOK TO HAVE AROUND AND GREAT FOR ALL AGES.

I bought this book because the pictures looked incredible and I was hoping to see Alaska from a new point of view, and I was not disappointed. Most of the pictures in here are like I have never seen before. However there were more typical pictures in here than I thought there would be. I wouldn't probably pay full price for it because of that, however I would buy it again at the price I got it for (around 10.00). Very nice to have on a table top or to just pull off the bookshelf to look at for inspiration for various things. If you like Art Wolfe you will like this book.

I bought this for a dear friend that lived in Alaska many years ago. It brought back fond memories of her time there (she lived in Alaska back in the 1940's). The photography is stunning and the author does a wonderful job describing all the different areas of Alaska. Having visited Alaska for a short vacation and experiencing the splendor and vastness of this great state, it is easy to see why my friend loved it so much and still talks about it often.

You feel like you are there big clear pictures.....awesome scenery, amazing animal pictures it makes you want to go to Alaska

Art Wolfe has a genius for arriving at the perfect moment, it seems, or else he stays a long time at the different locations.

Was a gift.

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