

FACT SHEET

THE KODIAK BEAR I

- Populations at a historic high of 3500
- Kodiak's success in bear management has become a worldwide model
- Most of the bears live in the protected lands of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge, which comprises two thirds of the island.
- The Kodiak bear is a subspecies of the brown or grizzly bear
- Often touted as the world's largest carnivore, but they are primarily omnivores
- Some grow to over 1,000 pounds but the average adult male weighs between 600-900 lbs; females weighing about 30% less
- Bears and humans have coexisted on the Kodiak Archipelago for almost 8,000 years
- Best time to see a bear: July – September
- Kodiak bears are shy by nature and any kind of human interaction may cause them stress
- Most local air taxis offer half-day viewing trips for around \$450 per person
- In 2012, the Kodiak Brown Bear Center will open in the Karluk watershed, which includes the O'Malley River, the Thumb River and the outlet to the Karluk River.

