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Above - Explore Columbia Glacier by kayak or day cruise. 90 minutes from Valdez, it's the largest tidewater glacier in Prince William Sound. Receding since 1983, it sheds icebergs the size of houses, some the size of a school.

of the area. **Go kayaking.** Cutting through the glassy surface of the Sound under your own power is the ultimate solo experience. As mountains rise in the background and glaciers continuously calve, you'll paddle through the waters, keeping an eye out for seals and sea otters. Take a guided tour or just rent a boat from **Anadyr Adventures** (835-2814) or **Pangaea**

Adventures

(835-8442).

Go fishing. Some visitors come to Valdez just for the fishing, and it's easy to see why—the salmon runs are colossal. Pinks and silvers return in the millions, and anglers typically wrestle 14-pounders, sometimes right in the port. You'll also find some of the most accessible big halibut in Alaska; charters take out to flat waters, where the creatures reach 150 pounds or more. Go with **Alutiq Charters** (907-835-3541); former commercial fisherman Bob Sanford offers trips on his comfortable 50-foot boat. To book a fishing charter, call **One-Call-Does-It-All** (835-4988) or rent a boat through **Fish Central** (835-5090).

