SOUTHCENTRAL

WHERE THE ROADS CAN'T TAKE YOU
FLOATPLANE TOURS FROM ANCHORAGE

So many of Alaska's amazing places can only be discovered by flying.

The views are vastly different from the air, revealing the pristine wilderness of Alaska's roadless backcountry. Alaskans count on small seaplanes to access to fantastic scenery, fishing spots and premier wildlife viewing. For many visitors, a flightseeing trip like this is the highlight of their entire Alaska vacation. **Rust's Flying Service** offers tours for every budget and schedule, ranging from an incredible 30-minute overview of Anchorage and the surrounding area to a whole day bear viewing or fishing. Rust's takes off and lands on Lake Hood, the largest and busiest seaplane base in the world. Soar over glaciers and towering peaks in Denali National Park, explore massive tidewater glaciers in Prince William Sound, or discover the spectacular mountains surrounding Knik Glacier. For a longer expedition into Alaska's backcountry, venture out on a fly-in fishing trip or a fly-in bear viewing trip, which puts you safely in a place to see these majestic giants fishing or foraging for food.

To Book: (907) 243-1595, flyrusts.com

FISH THE WORLD-FAMOUS KENAI RIVER
TROUT & SALMON FISHING FROM COOPER LANDING

For anglers, this part of the world is practically heaven.

The turquoise blue Kenai River, surrounded by 3,000-foot snow-capped mountains, is home to all five species of Pacific salmon (including the world's largest salmon) plus rainbow trout and Dolly Varden. Stay at the **Kenai Riverside Lodge**, which is right on the road system a few hours from Anchorage but which maintains a remote feel. Sixteen comfortable cabins are situated around a main log lodge with a sprawling riverside deck. There's no cable TV or Internet, but you're here for the fish, right? The lodge has access to the upper, middle and lower stretches of the river, so that you can target fish from your wish list. On the Upper end of the river, you'll find reds (sockeye salmon), rainbow trout or Dolly Varden, while the lower end has more silver salmon; optional king salmon and halibut charters in Resurrection Bay available to round out your experience. The lodge is run by **Alaska Wildland Adventures**, a company that prides itself on ecotourism practices. Talk to the guides for insights, tips and charter options. They share an expertise and passion for Alaska's outdoors, with an entertaining fishing tale thrown in here and there too.

To Book: (800) 478-4100, kenairiversidefishing.com

DISCOVERING DENALI BY AIR
FLIGHTSEEING FROM TALKEETNA

Visit the small mountaineering town of Talkeetna, the starting point for climbers challenging Denali, North America's highest peak (elevation 20,310 feet).

Visit the small mountaineering town of Talkeetna, the starting point for climbers challenging Denali, North America's highest peak (elevation 20,310 feet). You can experience Denali too, on a flight with **K2 Aviation**, the Denali Flightseeing Company. The family-owned-business has been operating Denali flight tours for over 60 years, offering extraordinary trips into the heart of the Alaska Range. Talkeetna is just a few hours from Anchorage, making it a superb day trip. K2 offers a variety of tours ranging from one to three hours, each with the opportunity to add a glacier landing. The skilled pilots at K2 Aviation will fly you deep into Denali National Park for unbelievable views of Denali, Mt. Foraker and Mt. Hunter. Follow glacier rivers, over granite walls and through towering mountain passes to discover secrets that can not be seen from the road. Often referred to as "once in a lifetime experience," a glacier landing beneath Denali's towering summit illustrates the sheer scale of this surreal landscape. Denali's massive size puts everything else in perspective.

To Book: (907) 733-2291, flyk2.com

MODERN COMFORT IN ALASKA
WILDERNESS LODGES NEAR ALASKA'S MUST-SEE DESTINATIONS

See Alaska's wide-open spaces and dramatic mountain views from the ideal spot: a Princess Alaska Lodge.

Located near some of Alaska's top attractions and easily accessible from major highways, five Princess Alaska Lodges ensure a comfortable stay within minutes of the wild.

Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge is just one mile from the Denali National Park entrance. Built in the tradition of great national park lodges, it is full of natural wood, with 40-foot windows looking out to the mountains and an outdoor deck that sits above the impressive Nenana River Canyon. Guests will enjoy the property's many amenities including four dining venues, shopping, fire pits and an espresso bar.

There's a lot to see in Fairbanks, also known as the Gateway to the Arctic. **Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge**, along the shores of the Chena River, is an ideal base camp for all kinds of adventures. Learn about the city's rich Gold Rush history or just hang out on the lodge's riverfront deck and enjoy the midnight sun.

Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge, just north of Talkeetna in Denali State Park, offers superb views of North America's tallest peak, Denali (formerly Mt. McKinley). Explore the lodge's custom-built treehouse, raft the Chulitna River, or stroll captivating nature trails just outside the lodge.

Located in Copper Center, **Copper River Princess Wilderness Lodge** is a welcome destination for visitors exploring Wrangell St. Elias, the largest national park in North America. Two-story windows and an expansive outdoor patio offer dramatic views of Mt. Drum, Mt. Blackburn, the Klutina and Copper rivers, and the park beyond. Fish the world-famous Copper River or visit the abandoned Kennicott copper mines.

Explore the famous fishing grounds of the Kenai and the Chugach National Forest from **Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge** in Cooper Landing. From the large deck, look down on the turquoise waters of the Kenai River, home to the world's largest salmon. Go fishing, rafting, or hike nearby trails before retreating to guest rooms with wood-burning fireplaces and private porches. Or drive an hour south and take a day cruise from Seward into Kenai Fjords National Park.

To Book: (800) 426-0500, princesslodges.com

ALASKA'S FAMED COASTAL & BROOKS FALLS BROWN BEARS
FLY-IN BEAR VIEWING FROM HOMER

Brown bears are the ultimate symbol of the Alaskan wild. Like most things in Alaska, we grow them big: up to 1,400 pounds.

Seeing the massive size and ferocious power of one of these bears is unforgettable. In just a little over an hour's flight from Homer, you can reach remote areas where bears instinctively congregate in lush environments to fatten up before winter. Fly with a family-owned company, **Alaska Bear Adventures** across Kachemak Bay for the trip of a lifetime. Tours visit Katmai National Park or Lake Clark National Park for coastal viewing or to iconic Brooks Falls to see bears catch fish as they jump up the falls. The scenery for both trips is a breathtaking mix of glassy backcountry lakes, cragged mountains, massive ice fields, pebble beaches, and a wealth of rugged wilderness. Pilots are fully trained bear guides with an avid interest in bear behavior. You might see cubs nursing and playing, sows grazing on sedge grass, digging for clams at low tide, or fattening up on fish. Tours range from short and sweet (2-4 hrs) to full day expeditions (8-11 hrs), but their classic trip (5-7 hrs) and Brooks Falls (7-8 hrs) are preferred by most.

To Book: (877) 522-9247, alaskabearviewing.com

KENAI FJORDS TOURS
GLACIER & WILDLIFE CRUISES FROM SEWARD

Kenai Fjords Tours has been exploring Resurrection Bay and Kenai Fjords National Park with passengers since 1978.

That's given them plenty of time to curate and perfect their selection of day cruises departing from Seward.

Choose your trip and set sail with Seward's original tour operator. Explore aboard a modern sightseeing vessel, complete with a heated cabin and expansive viewing deck, and enjoy a warm meal during your journey. Cruises range from short, leisurely afternoon trips to full-day adventures. Along the way, your seasoned crew will provide insights into the area's history and wildlife as you stop to observe whales, harbor seals, sea lions, puffins, cormorants, sea otters, Dall's porpoises and other creatures of the sea. Select tours also offer views of stunning tidewater glaciers. When conditions allow, deckhands may even bring glacier ice aboard for passengers to hold or to chip into signature cocktails as ice cubes. Specialty cruises include kayaking off the shores of Fox Island, where overnight stays are also available at the remote and remarkable Kenai Fjords Wilderness Lodge.

To Book: (888) 478-3346, KenaiFjords.com

ALASKA'S GLACIER WONDERLAND
26 GLACIER CRUISE IN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

A day cruise in Prince William Sound offers quintessential Alaskan coastal scenery and plenty of glacier action just south of Anchorage.

Pass through gorgeous inlets and fjords and keep a look out for otters, bears, mountain goats, bald eagles, seals, and whales. Prince William Sound has the densest concentration of tidewater glaciers in the world, giving you the best chance to witness them "calve", sending large pieces of ice into the sea with a thunderous crash. **Phillips Cruises & Tours** has been sharing this magnificent area of Alaska with guests from around the world since 1958. Today, guests board luxurious, high-speed catamarans for the signature 26 Glacier Cruise (5.25 hours) or the Glacier Quest Cruise (3.75 hours). A U.S. Forest Service Ranger provides narration on all cruises from Memorial Day through the end of the season. All cruises include a hot meal, coffee, tea, and water. Your adventure begins in Whittier, Alaska, a unique gateway to Prince William Sound located 50-minutes south of Anchorage by car near milepost 79 of the Seward Highway. You'll drive through the 2.5-mile Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel, the longest vehicle / railroad tunnel in North America before reaching Whittier. You can also reach Whittier by coach, train, or cruise ship.

To Book: (907) 276-8023, 26glaciers.com

TRULY ALASKAN, HAND-CRAFTED GARMENTS
ALASKA NATIVE KNITTING COOPERATIVE

One of Anchorage's premier downtown souvenir shops, the Domingmak Anchorage Cooperative showcases the handiwork of Alaska Native knitters who create ultra-soft and warm garments with a local fiber called qiviut ("kiv-ee-ute").

Harvested from musk-oxen (or ominigmak in the Inuit language), qiviut is spun into a yarn that is warmer than wool, softer than cashmere and as lightweight as silk. A cooperative of around 200 knitters throughout Alaska make extremely high-quality hats, tunics, scarves and more with this luxurious and rare yarn. You won't find this type of souvenir anywhere else in the world! Visit the **Domingmak** shop for a wide selection featuring traditional patterns unique to different regions of Alaska. Inspiration for these patterns came from ancient designs found on parkas and ivory carvings, or from the natural world (ice ridges, otters, sea urchins). A purchase at Domingmak Anchorage Cooperative provides much-needed income to talented fiber artists in rural Alaska, and gives you a practical and beautiful reminder of your visit.

To Visit: (888) 360-9665, qiviut.com

WAKE UP NEXT TO GLACIERS
SMALL SHIP CRUISING IN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Cruising isn't just for Alaska's Inside Passage. A stunning week on the water awaits in Prince William Sound. This breathtaking region boasts the highest concentration of tidewater glaciers in the world. While many experience its wonders on a day cruise or an afternoon kayak trip, with **UnCruise Adventures**, you get an immersive week-long journey. Your all-inclusive adventure takes place aboard the Safari Explorer, a boutique vessel with only 36 guests, offering personalized service and gourmet meals. Every day, a new adventure unfolds — whether it's kayaking, paddleboarding, hiking ashore, or exploring by skiff.

Itinerary Highlights:

Day 1: Begin your adventure with a scenic ride from Anchorage to Seward, where you'll board the Safari Explorer.

Day 2: Wake up to awe-inspiring views of glaciers pouring into Icy Bay.

Day 3: Captain's choice: embark on whale watching, kayaking, beachcombing, or other spontaneous adventures.

Day 4: Explore the small fishing town of Cordova, with glacier hikes and local cultural programs.

Day 5: Discover the serenity of Columbia Glacier as you hike, kayak, or paddleboard.

Day 6: Meares Glacier beckons with the chance to paddle or tour by skiff, while a nearby salmon hatchery provides more wildlife viewing opportunities.

Day 7: Kayak or skiff through the spectacular College Fjord and Barry Arm, home to glaciers and sea otters. Wrap up your adventure with a farewell dinner and slideshow.

Day 8: Disembark in Seward and head back to Anchorage.

To Book: (888) 862-8881, uncruise.com

AWAKEN IN ALASKA'S WILDERNESS
MULTI-DAY JOURNEYS ON THE KENAI PENINSULA AND UP TO DENALI

There's so much to know about getting out in Alaska's wilderness.

Where to go? What to see? How to gear up? It's important to have a trusted guide that can help you have an authentic experience in your comfort zone — and it's a treat to end the day with a comfortable place to stay and a freshly-cooked meal. **Alaska Wildland Adventures,** considered a pioneer of ecotourism, offers small-group, multi-day journeys that highlight a variety of ecosystems and topography. Most journeys are structured around three wilderness lodges: **Kenai Riverside Lodge** where you can fish or raft the famous Kenai River, Kenai Backcountry Lodge on the shores of Skilak Lake in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, and Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge, the only lodge inside Kenai Fjords National Park. Daily activities include hiking, rafting, fishing, kayaking, talking with your naturalist guide, or rocking on the front porch listening to the sounds of Alaska. Journey range from 2 to 11 days, with options that take you from Kenai all the way to Denali. A sample journey:

The Alaska Wildland Collection

Day 1: Depart Anchorage and travel to the Kenai Riverside Lodge

Day 2: Raft the Kenai River, then boat across the turquoise Skilak Lake to the Kenai Backcountry Lodge

Day 3: Explore the wilderness inside the Kenai Wildlife Refuge from the Backcountry Lodge

Day 4: Return to Kenai Riverside Lodge and hike the trails of the Chugach National Forest

Day 5: Head to Seward to board a catamaran bound for Kenai Fjords National Park and the Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge

Day 6: Beachcombing, kayaking, nature walks and more from the lodge

Day 7: Depart the Kenai Fjords Glacier Lodge and return to Anchorage via the Alaska Railroad.

To Book: (800) 334-8730, alaskawildland.com

CRUISE INTO ALASKA'S UNTAMED WILDERNESS
GUIDED RIVER ADVENTURES FROM TALKEETNA

Take an exciting ride into the wilderness with Mahay's Jet Boat Adventures from the village of Talkeetna, where the Susitna, Talkeetna, and Chulitna rivers meet.

On a clear day, you'll bask in the towering shadow of Denali, the tallest mountain in North America. For some visitors, an excursion aboard these comfortable, covered jet boats will be their deepest immersion into the Alaskan wilderness. Look for giant eagle's nests and marvel at huge trees lying on the riverbank, freshly felled by beavers. Choose from 4 different adventures, each with a stop ashore to see a Dena'ina dwelling replica and an authentic trapper's cabin. The 20-mile Wilderness Excursion has 4 departures per day, and, at two hours is perfect if you're short on time. Opt for the 50-mile (3.5 hour) Chulitna Gorge Journey for a bit more time on the water. Add a little whitewater to your wilderness experience with the five-hour, 135-mile Devil's Canyon Adventure where you'll experience Class V rapids in a safe, dry environment. Or, add a train ride to your adventure with the River, Rail & Trail tour.

To Book: (907) 733-2223, mahaysriverboat.com

INTERIOR

NORTHERN HOSPITALITY
FULL-SERVICE HOTELS IN ALASKA AND THE YUKON

Where you stay during your Alaska vacation can make all the difference.

While room styles and amenities are important parts of the experience, what really matters is access and location to the Alaska you've come to see. **Holland America** has properties in Alaska's most visited areas, as well as gorgeous, off-the-beaten-path destinations.

The **Holland America Denali Lodge** boasts a prime location, less than 2 miles from the Denali National Park entrance. The 582-room resort maintains a surprising intimacy, thanks to a well-planned layout and gracious staff. The property's Denali Square complex includes fire pits, a restaurant and shopping. During the evenings, you have easy access to the Music of Denali Dinner Theater, a popular roadhouse-style dinner theater featuring the story of Denali's first ascent.

The Victorian-style, 94-room **Holland America Skagway Inn** captures the spirit of the Klondike Trail with its Victorian decor, rustic setting, and warm Alaska hospitality. Located next to Skagway's historic district, it's convenient to shops and entertainment in town.

Located in the heart of the Yukon, the **Holland America Dawson City Inn** will transport you back to the time of the Gold Rush—with modern conveniences, of course. Relax on the outdoor deck under the midnight sun and enjoy a meal in the restaurant. Don't miss the nearby Jack London museum or a cruise on the Yukon River aboard the Klondike Spirit.

To Book: www.hollandamericahotels.com, 800-544-0970

EXPLORE INTERIOR ALASKA'S HISTORIC RIVERS
RIVER CRUISES FROM FAIRBANKS HIGHLIGHT ALASKAN MODES OF TRANSPORT

Historical Cultural River Cruise highlights the Origins of Fairbanks Rivers were the main means of travel in Alaska before there were roads or railroads, and you can still experience that history firsthand.

Take a three-hour journey back in time along the Chena and Tanana Rivers aboard the Riverboat Discovery, an authentic Alaskan sternwheeler. Since 1950, the Binkley family has operated riverboat tours in Fairbanks. But their family history goes back more than 100 years, when Charles M. Binkley began operating boats on the Yukon River during the 1898 Gold Rush. Today, you can cruise out into nature with third- and fourth-generation captains. As the wheel churns up the water, watch for Alaska's abundant wildlife along the riverbank, and see Alaska bush pilots taking off right from the river (another critical mode of travel in the Last Frontier). At a riverside fish camp, learn how Alaska Natives traditionally prepared salmon for smoking and drying. (You'll find out how good it tastes when you sample Captain Jim's smoked salmon). Finally, share the excitement, joy and hard work of an Iditarod dog kennel and learn about yet another way Alaskans traveled through wild and unyielding landscapes.

To Book: (866) 479-6673, riverboatdiscovery.com

CHRISTMAS IN JULY - OR JUNE, OR ANYTIME!
HOLIDAY CHEER JUST 15-MINUTES FROM FAIRBANKS

It's Christmas year-round in North Pole, Alaska. At the hub of the festivities is Santa Claus House, a frontier general store and post office turned holiday shop.

The store includes an incredible inventory of holiday-themed items in nearly 20,000 square feet of retail space: Alaska-themed ornaments, Made-in-Alaska gifts, jewelry, collectibles, clothing, and toys for children, many of which are **Santa Claus House** exclusives. You can also visit Santa's reindeer team, grab a drink or a treat from the Sweet Shop, see the World's Largest Santa statue (nearly 50 feet tall), and, in summer months and during the holidays, have your photo taken with Santa himself! The most popular offering, though, is the Original Letter from Santa, a family tradition for generations. Every Christmas, Santa Claus House receives hundreds of thousands of letters from children around the world. During your visit, you can order a Letter from Santa to be sent to your child or grandchild. They've sent millions of letters to children all over the world since 1952. You can also purchase a genuine deed to one square inch of the North Pole!

To Visit: (907) 488-2200, santaclaushouse.com

AMONG THE JAGGED PEAKS
DENALI (MCKINLEY) FLIGHTSEEING FROM DENALI NATIONAL PARK

The Alaska Range is formed by a dramatic wall of jagged peaks, anchored by Denali ("the tall one" in native Koyukon Athabascan).

See it from every angle with Denali Air, which is perfectly positioned in the middle of the Alaska Range for easy access to both the North and South sides. Denali Air flights see the majestic mountain a whopping 90% of the time, thanks to the company's experienced pilots and its location just outside the park. In just a 1-hour flightseeing trip you'll see a large section of Denali National Park and "the Great One." As you take off, look out from your window seat inside the 6- or 8-passenger twin-engine plane to see rivers winding down mountains and the multi-colored hues of Polychrome Pass merging into green tundra. Soon, the landscape becomes one of snow and ice, and Denali's massive scale truly comes into view. You'll keep climbing in elevation as you start circling the mountain and soaring over dramatic glaciers and jagged peaks. All the while, you'll be listening to narration, with the pilot interjecting interesting tidbits along the way.

To Book: (907) 683-2261, denaliair.com

CATCH GOLD FEVER IN ALASKA'S GOLDEN HEART CITY
PAN, PANNING AND YOU'LL KEEP WHAT YOU FIND

The two-hour tour of Gold Dredge 8 begins beside the Trans-Alaska pipeline. You'll learn about Alaska's "black gold," then board a replica of the Tanana Valley Railroad for a 35-minute ride through the boreal forest to Alaska's Interior gold fields.

Enjoy an entertaining narrative of the Alaska Gold Rush history while riding aboard a replica of the Tanana Valley Railroad. Then pull into the dredge, which mined this area from 1927–1942. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the dredge is a mechanical wonder. It "walked" across the gold fields, scooping up pay dirt and mechanically panning it. Local miners will share their experiences, and what it takes to be an Alaska miner. Then you'll put their advice to work, panning for gold. You're guaranteed to find some as you sift through the dredge tailings. Have your gold weighed at the gift shop and find out the market value of your haul. You may even decide to turn it into a locket or other souvenir! There's complimentary coffee and cookies in the gift shop, and you'll have time to wander the grounds or explore the dredge before boarding the train for the return trip.

To Book: (866) 479-6673, goldd redge8.com

FAMILY FUN UNDER THE MIDNIGHT SUN
GOLF, ATV, SXS, AND COVERED WAGON TOURS JUST 20 MINUTES NORTH OF DENALI NATIONAL PARK

Founded in 1995 by a local Alaskan family, Black Diamond Resort Co. offers adventures for all age ranges, making it the perfect destination for single travelers or families.

Drive yourself or opt for a convenient pickup from nearby hotels. Unforgettable activities include playing golf on Alaskan tundra at one of the world's northernmost courses—the 9-hole **Black Diamond Golf** Course. Or ramp up the adrenaline on an ATV or SXS tour, with an optional GPS-led **Treasure Hunt** tour. For a slower paced tour, stop back in time on the **Covered Wagon Adventure**, which is a serene journey on a wagon pulled by two beautiful draft horses. Kick back and soak in the scenery as your guide shares local folklore and later you will have a chance to meet and snap photos with your horse team. Most tours also offer a stop for a family-style feast at the backcountry pavilion — breakfast, lunch, or dinner! Tours run multiple times daily, from 8 a.m. to 7:45 p.m. At the **Black Diamond Grill**, you'll find fresh Alaskan seafood, steaks, burgers, salads, and more. And if you're looking for a place to stay, the Aurora Denali Lodge is open year-round!

To Book: (907) 683-4653, blackdiamondresortco.com

ARCTIC

ADVENTURE TO THE ARCTIC CIRCLE
DAY AND OVERNIGHT SUMMER TOURS FROM FAIRBANKS

One third of Alaska lies above the Arctic Circle, but it is so vast and remote that most people don't get the chance to explore it — not even residents!

Adventurers have long been fascinated with the expansive beauty of this region, and even today the journey north is heralded as a certificate-worthy accomplishment. From Fairbanks (sometimes referred to as "Gateway to the Arctic"), you can experience the polar north on a day trip or overnight excursion. With **Northern Alaska Tour Company,** travel by air or a guided ground tour along the Dalton Highway. These excursions focus on the natural history and cultural heritage of the region. Visit the Brooks Mountain Range community of Coldfoot, gateway to the Gates of the Arctic National Park, or take a flight to Fort Yukon. See the famed TransAlaska Pipeline and the mighty Yukon River. You'll be amazed at the long days of light, the endless expanse of tundra, and the changing scenery the further north you travel. If you have three days, you can even get as far as the Arctic Ocean.

To Book: (800) 474-1986, northernalaska.com

WITNESS THE MAGIC OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS
FALL AND WINTER AURORA VIEWING NORTH OF FAIRBANKS

There's no natural phenomenon that compares to the aurora, the colorful lights that dance unpredictably through the Arctic night.

Alaska is the best place in the world to catch this flare and mystical event, which can be experienced on a day trip or as a longer expedition. **Northern Alaska Tour Company** offers aurora viewing tours from Fairbanks to Coldfoot, a remote town located in the Brooks Mountain Range. Coldfoot is perfectly situated under the "auroral oval," where you'll find impressive displays of northern lights. They start as faintly glowing bands of greenish white light, often appearing static and stationary. With increased intensity, auroras resemble vertical curtains of shimmering light. At maximum intensity, these curtains form dramatic arcs and spirals that can span the horizon. Watching the aurora is truly an amazing part of an Alaska adventure—well worth the trip in fall or winter. From Fairbanks, you can fly or drive round-trip to Coldfoot or combine the two. If you want to spend a few nights searching for the aurora, you'll have time to pack in other activities during the day.

To Book: (800) 474-1986, northernalaska.com

ALASKA'S BEST ROADSIDE GLACIERS

Exit Glacier Easiest roadside glacier to walk up to. Signposts mark recession over the past 100 years. Walk the lower trail to get a good photo in front of the glacier face. *30 minute walk on paved path leads you to the impressively steep glacier. 20-min drive from Seward.*

Matanuska Glacier The widest roadside glacier in the state. It now has a four-mile wide towering face that you can walk right up to and touch. Keep an eye out for summertime ice-climbers at this most impressive roadside glacier. *2 hrs from Anchorage*

Mendenhall Glacier Most accessible glacier from Juneau, stretching 12-miles with a beautiful lake at its terminus. *Several trails leading from the visitor center offer viewpoints of the glacier. Rafting, hiking, kayaking, and flightseeing excursions also available.*

Middle and Portage Glaciers These small glaciers in the Chugach National Forest are good examples of hanging glaciers, which dangle from the mountains. They feed the nearby stream systems that harbor many species of salmon and trout. *Several pullouts allow for viewing. 48 miles south of Anchorage.*

Portage & Byron Glaciers Both glaciers have receded in recent years. Head south from Anchorage on the Seward Highway, to the end of the 5-mile Portage Spur Road. You can visit the face of Portage by tour boat from the dock at the lake. *One mile scenic walk to the Byron Glacier along Byron Creek.*

Worthington Glacier A short walk from the Richardson Highway brings you up close to the 4-mile glacier. *Take the Glenn Hwy to the Richardson Hwy. Worthington Glacier State Recreation Site is located at milepost 28.7 of the Richardson Hwy.*

SEE ALASKA BY RAIL
470 MILES TO EXPLORE, FROM SEWARD TO FAIRBANKS

Alaska is big, and it can take a while to get between towns. Traveling aboard the Alaska Railroad ensures that the journey is just as spectacular as the destination. It's a relaxing and practical way to see Alaska, with routes leading to many top destinations: Anchorage, Girdwood, Seward, Whittier, Talkeetna, Denali and Fairbanks. Glaciers, mountains, and wildlife fill the ever-changing panorama of your window, making for an easy and luxurious way to experience the beauty of this large state. Travelers have been enjoying these views by train since 1923, and now experience modern comforts like glass-dome ceilings and full-service dining too. Onboard guides are eager share tales from Alaska Railroad's rich history, and to point out sights and photo ops along the way. Trains run daily from mid-May to mid-September, with weekend service in the winter. **To Book:** (800) 544-0552, alaskarailroad.com

SUMMER ROUTES
MID-MAY TO MID-SEPTEMBER

Denali Star: Daily service to Anchorage, Wasilla, Talkeetna, Denali, and Fairbanks. Incredible views of Denali (McKinley) on a clear day.

Coastal Classic: Daily service to Anchorage, Girdwood, and Seward. Ride from Anchorage and take a day cruise from Seward into Kenai Fjords National Park. Great views of mountains and glaciers from the train.

Glacier Discovery: Daily service to Anchorage, Girdwood, Portage, Whittier, Spencer Glacier, and Grandview. Ride to Whittier for day cruises in Prince William Sound. Or disembark at the Spencer Glacier Whistle Stop for guided rafting or hiking with glacier views.

Hurricane Turn: Talkeetna to Hurricane Gulch, Thursday-Monday. Round-trip flagstop train used by locals to reach cabins or homes in Alaska's roadless backcountry. Great views of the Indian River Valley and Hurricane Gulch.

WINTER ROUTES
MID-SEPTEMBER TO MID-MAY

Aurora Winter Train: Weekend service to Anchorage, Talkeetna, and Fairbanks (and select mid-week departures). See Alaska's winter backcountry from the comfort of a warm railcar.

Hurricane Turn: First Thursday of the month, serving Anchorage, Talkeetna, and Hurricane Gulch flagstop area.

ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY

With its southernmost port in Bellingham, WA, the Alaska Marine Highway extends more than 3,500 miles to Dutch Harbor, with over 30 stops along the way. Taking a ferry is an excellent way to see a huge swath of Alaska's coastline while visiting communities along the way.

It is such a unique set of routes that it has been designated as a National Scenic Byway and an All-American Road – the only marine route with this distinction. **For more information:** alaska.org/ferry

FERRY TERMINALS

Southcentral
Chenega Bay, Cordova, Homer, Seldovia, Tatitlek, Valdez, Whittier

Southwest/Aleutians
Akutan, Chignik, Cold Bay, False Pass, King Cove, Kodiak, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Port Lions, Sand Point, Dutch Harbor/Unalaska

Inside Passage
Angoon, Bellingham (WA), Gustavus, Haines, Hoonah, Juneau, Kake, Ketchikan, Metlakatla, Pelican, Petersburg, Prince Rupert, Sitka, Skagway, Tenakee, Wrangell, Yakutat

YOU CAN DRIVE TO THESE FROM ANCHORAGE OR FAIRBANKS

Chugach State Park: One of the four largest state parks in the United States, just 7 miles from Downtown Anchorage.

Chugach National Forest: Encompasses the Kenai Peninsula, Prince William Sound, and the Copper River Delta.

Denali State Park: South of Denali National Park and less crowded. Hikes lead to views of the Alaska Range. *Anchorage: 2.5 hr drive; Talkeetna: 5 hr drive; Fairbanks: 3.5 hr drive.*

Denali National Park: Home to Mt. Denali, big land mammals, and vast wilderness. Private vehicles restricted in the park beyond mile 15; buses provide access. *Anchorage: 5 hr drive or 8 hr train; Fairbanks: 2.5 hr drive or 4 hr train.*

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park: 13.2 million acres, greatest collection of peaks over 16,000 ft., and massive glaciers. Visit McCarthy/Kennicott to explore the abandoned copper mine. *Anchorage: 7 hr drive; Fairbanks: 8 hr drive.*

Kenai Fjords National Park: View glaciers and marine wildlife. Visit via a day cruise from Seward, or by hiking near Exit Glacier. Anchorage: *2.5 hr drive or 4 hr train; Fairbanks: 9 hr drive.*

Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve: One of Alaska's most remote national monuments. Visit to float the Aniakchak River.

Bering Land Bridge National Preserve: This area protects a remnant of the land bridge from Asia to North America. Remote birding; few visitors to Serpentine Hot Springs.

Cape Krusenstern National Monument / Noatak National Preserve / Kobuk Valley National Park: These three remote parks share a visitor center in Kotzebue.

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: 19.64 million acres of wilderness in northeast Alaska. Known for the Porcupine Caribou herd migration each year.

YOU CAN SEE THESE ON A CRUISE OR MARINE FERRY

Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve: Protected bald eagle habitat near Haines

Klondike National Historical Park: Commemorates 1898 Klondike Gold Rush. Hike historic Chilkoot Trail or walk the National Historic District of downtown Skagway.

Sitka National Historical Park: Alaska's oldest national park. See Tlingit and Haida totems and examples of Russian colonial architecture.

Tongass National Forest: Largest national forest at 17 million acres. Home to glaciers, deep fjords, and old-growth temperate rainforest.

Glacier Bay National Park: Dramatic fjords and tidewater glaciers. Fly or ferry to Gustavus, or see on a cruise.

REMOTE

Reach these parks by air taxi from Southcentral Alaska. In addition to camping, there's a range of wilderness lodges.

Katmai National Park & Preserve: View brown bears (Brooks Falls) and volcanic Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. *Anchorage: 2.5 to 3 hr flight; Homer & Kenai: 1 to 2 hr flight.*

Lake Clark National Park & Preserve: Bear viewing & world class salmon fishing. Also visit Dick Proenneke's Cabin. *Anchorage: 2.5 hr flight; Homer & Kenai: 1 to 2 hr flight.*

WILDERNESS

No hotels or facilities within these parks. Most accessible only by small plane.

Gates of the Arctic: 8.4 million acres in Alaska's Arctic. View caribou, birds and fast-flowing rivers.

Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve: Floating from Eagle to Circle is the most common way to experience the preserve.

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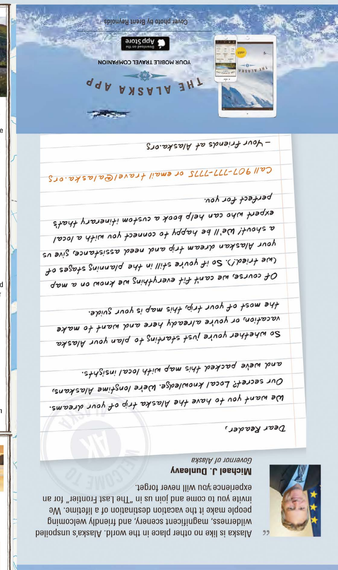


MAP LEGEND
Primary Highway
Other Road
Railroad
Ferries
Mileage Markers
Intermediate Mileage
National Boundaries
Provincial Boundaries
Time Zones
Point of Interest
Park
Rest area
Airport
Mountain Peak
Capital
ARCTIC OCEAN
BEAUFORT SEA
BERING SEA
GULF OF ALASKA
PACIFIC OCEAN
Utqiaġvik (Barrow)
Wainwright
Atqasuk
Nuiqsut
Deadhorse
Kaktovik
Point Hope
Kivalina
Kotzebue
Noorvik
Shungnak
Kobuk
Ambler
Bettles
Allakaket
Fort Yukon
Beaver
Galena
Ruby
Nome
Unalakleet
Stebbins
St. Michael
Emmonak
Alakanuk
Grayling
Anvik
Shageluk
Holy Cross
Aniak
Chuathbaluk
Russian Mission
Kalskag
Lower Kalskag
Marshall
Pilot Station
St. Mary's
Mountain Village
Scammon Bay
Hooper Bay
Chevak
Nunapitchuk
Kwethluk
Bethel
Akiak
Napakiak
Napaskiak
Oscarville
Eek
Tuntutuliak
Chefornak
Nightmute
Toksook Bay
Tununak
Newtok
Mekoryuk
Hooper Bay
Kipnuk
Kongiganak
Quinhagak
Goodnews Bay
Platinum
Togiak
Manokotak
Dillingham
Aleknagik
Clarks Point
Koliganek
New Stuyahok
Ekwok
King Salmon
Naknek
Egegik
Pilot Point
Ivanof Bay
Port Heiden
Chignik
Chignik Lagoon
Chignik Lake
Perryville
Ivanof Bay
Sand Point
Cold Bay
King Cove
Akutan
Unalaska / Port of Dutch Harbor
Nikolski
Atka
Adak
Shemya
Eareckson Air Station
Alexander Archipelago
Prince of Wales Island
Ketchikan
Wrangell
Petersburg
Sitka
Juneau
Haines
Skagway
Hoonah
Gustavus
Yakutat
Cordova
Valdez
Whittier
Seward
Homer
Kodiak
Anchorage
Girdwood
Talkeetna
Denali Park
Fairbanks
Delta Junction
Tok
Glennallen
McGrath
Nikolai
Tanana
Galena
Ruby
Beaver
Fort Yukon
Circle
Dawson City
Mayo
Keno Hill
Stewart Crossing
Pelly Crossing
Carmacks
Whitehorse
Haines Junction
Destruction Bay
Burwash Landing
Beaver Creek
Watson Lake
Upper Liard
Lower Post
Stewart
Prince Rupert
Port Edward
Port Alexander
Hyder
Skagway
Tok
Cordova
Valdez
Whittier
Seward
Homer
Kodiak
Anchorage
Fairbanks
Juneau
Ketchikan
Sitka
Wrangell
Petersburg
Haines
Skagway
Yakutat

BUCKET LIST
DESTINATIONS TO VISIT

3 PERFECT DAYS IN FAIRBANKS

Fairbanks is situated in the heart of Alaska's Interior. It's the second largest city in Alaska, but retains a warm, small-town charm. 24-hours of daylight in the summer and the brilliant aurora borealis in late summer and winter make it a year round destination.

Call (800) 327-5774 for your free Fairbanks Visitors Guide. Call (907) 456-5774 or visit explorefairbanks.com for more information.

SUMMER | 3–4 DAYS

Fill your days with gold rush history, activities on the Chena River, and trips to the Arctic and

DAY 1 Start your day at the **Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center** to get an orientation to the town. A tour along the Chena River or panning for gold rounds out the first day.

DAY 2 Take a flightseeing or driving tour above the Arctic Circle. You'll be amazed at the endless expanse of tundra.

DAY 3 Explore downtown Fairbanks, walk along the Chena River, and enjoy local cuisine and breweries. Experience Fairbanks' Alaska Native culture at the UA Museum of the North or at one of many events throughout the year, including the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics (July). End the day with a trip to North Pole to visit the town where the spirit of Christmas lives year-round.

DAY 4+ If you can stay more than 3 days, use Fairbanks as a base camp to take a trip to Denali National Park. It's only 2 hours by car or 4 hours by train. Or, take an overnight trip to the Arctic instead of a day trip.

WINTER | 3–4 DAYS

During Aurora Season, August 21 - April 21, see the incredible northern lights dance across the sky. Weather and aurora activity on a particular day can affect whether you'll see the lights or not, so dedicate at least 3 nights to the activity. During the day, celebrate Winter Season by viewing sculptures at an ice art carving event at a variety of locales around town. Spend the day on a dog sledding excursion, ice fishing, or cross country or downhill skiing. When you're in need of a warm up after all the snow and ice, take a relaxing soak in nearby Chena Hot Springs.

SITKA WHERE WILDERNESS & CULTURE COLLIDE

Accessible only by air and sea, Sitka offers world class-fishing and wildlife encounters, a thriving Alaska native culture, centuries of history, miles of coastline and wilderness, a vibrant culinary scene, and a passionate artist community.

Plan your escape and order your free visitor guide at www.visitsitka.org

DAY 1 Join a walking or driving tour to learn about the community and history. Be sure to stop at Sitka's animal rehabilitation centers — Alaska Raptor Center and Fortress of the Bear. View totem poles along the trail to the site of the Battle of 1804 at Sitka National Historical Park. Culture buffs will love the Sheldon Jackson Museum and the Sitka History Museum. Visit the Sitka Sound Science Center and experience Tlingit native dance with the Naa Kahidi Dancers.

DAY 2 Book a fishing charter to take you salmon or halibut fishing.
For summer fishing with an experienced local outfitter, Speak in Sitka Sound or take a wildlife boat tour to view Sitka's local marine life including humpback whales, sea otters, sea lions and a host of marine birds at Saint Lazaria National Wildlife Refuge.

DAY 3 Grab your sneakers to get into Sitka's ancient forest. Rent a bike or a scooter and ride to the end of the road, bike the Cross Trail or the single track bike trail. Prefer exploring on foot? Sitka's trail system has something for everyone. Pack a lunch and spend time at a park where you can grill and chill. End your day searching for treasures as you beachcomb one of Sitka's beaches.

DAY 4+ Explore, relax and join us in our welcoming community

HOMER IT'S ALL HERE

Homer is often described as all of Alaska in one town. Known as the 'Halibut Fishing Capital of the World,' Homer is a haven for artists, campers, fishermen, shoppers, foodies, outdoor lovers, and photographers. Its slow pace, world-class fishing, bear viewing, whale watching, and postcard perfect setting on Kachemak Bay draw you in. Discover amazing restaurants, art galleries, the Homer Boat Harbor, beaches, tidepooling, lupine lining the Homer Spit, and stunning views of volcanoes and glaciers. Homer truly has it all!

For more info or to request your FREE Homer Visitor Guide, call 907-235-7740, email info@homer-alaska.org, or visit HomerAlaska.org.

DAY 1 Bear Viewing Excursion. Experience the thrill of bear viewing in Katmai or Lake Clark National Park. You might even catch a sunset over Cook Inlet's volcanoes on your return flight.

DAY 2 Explore Homer. Dive into Homer's history and wildlife with visits to the Pratt Museum and the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. Stroll through Downtown Homer to explore art galleries, shops, and cozy cafés. End your day with a memorable dinner and a beachside walk.

DAY 3 Kachemak Bay State Park. Take a water taxi to Kachemak Bay State Park for hiking or sea kayaking. Enjoy breathtaking views and encounters with puffins, sea otters, and perhaps whales. Return to Homer for a bay-view dinner on the famous Homer Spit.

Have great photos from Homer? Tag @VisitHomer on Instagram or Facebook, and follow us for more inspiring adventures. #VisitHomer

UNALASKA PORT OF DUTCH HARBOR

Adventure in the Aleutians. Visit a fascinating, remote island community. Halfway out on the Aleutian chain, a dramatic emerald green landscape greets visitors to Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, one of Alaska's most remote communities.

Get more info at the **Unalaska Visitors Bureau:** info@unalaska.org, (907) 581-2612. Or, read the Unalaska/Port of Dutch Harbor Visitor Guide at Unalaska.org.

Home to a rich Alaska Native culture, history, wildlife, and reality TV fame, Unalaska feels a world away, even though it's just a 2-hour flight from Anchorage. In summer, the population of 4,000 grows to nearly 10,000 as fishermen, researchers, seasonal workers, birders, and tourists arrive.

Explore Amaknak and Unalaska Islands, watch for eagles and whales, marvel at the unique Russian Orthodox church, and search for Deutsmet Catch boats at the docks. Plan for two or three days to fit in outdoor experiences and sites of interest. The must-see Museum of the Aleutians details a nearly 10,000 year-old Unangan culture, along with history of the Russian fur trade, Captain Cook, and World War II. Learn more at the Aleutian World War II Visitor Center.

Unalaska offers fine dining restaurants, a hotel, full service community center, pool, library, festivals, and sporting events. The island's fierce beauty lures hikers, kayakers, sea paddlers, surfers and other adventure sport enthusiasts. Birders from all over the world visit the famous Baby Islands sanctuary just 70 miles offshore in search of species such as the rare Whiskered Auklet. And with a commercial fishing industry ranked above all others in the United States, Unalaska is the ideal spot to go on a sport fishing charter.

SEWARD GATEWAY TO KENAI FJORDS

This coastal community offers incredible wildlife viewing, easy access to glaciers, hikes for all abilities, world-class fishing, and a historic shopping district. With so much variety, many families choose to spend several days exploring this picturesque town.

To request your FREE Seward travel guide, visit www.seward.com or call (907) 224-8051.

DAY 1 Start out at the **Visitor Center** for maps and local travel tips. Then head down Fourth Avenue, Seward's historic main street, to browse unique shops. Learn why "Alaska Starts Here" in a stop at the community library and museum. Explore the various murals around town—there are more than two dozen!—before enjoying a meal featuring local seafood.

DAY 2 Explore Kenai Fjords on a comfortable tour boat to see calving glaciers, whales, sea lions, puffins, otters, and more. The average tour is six hours with longer tours going out further for more glacier action. If you opt for a half-day cruise, spend the afternoon at nearby Exit Glacier. A short trail leads to a stunning overlook; those seeking a more rigorous adventure may continue up the Harding Icefield Trail.

DAY 3 Get hooked on salmon, halibut, rockfish, or lingcod with a charter fishing trip. You can ship your catch home as the ultimate Alaska souvenir. Or visit the Alaska SeaLife Center, Alaska's only public aquarium and wildlife rehabilitation facility. A stroll along the adjacent waterfront path is a great way to spot marine mammals in the wild.

NOME 3 DAYS 3 WAYS

The predominantly Indigenous city of Nome is nestled in a remote corner of Western Alaska. It's known for its rich history, including the 1899 gold rush, and as the finish line of the iconic Iditarod Sled Dog Race. You can't drive there, but can fly from Anchorage in just 90 minutes. Historic sites, cultural experiences, and wildlife are key attractions, both in Nome and along three scenic gravel highways, each leading about 75 miles out of town. Locals recommend that you rent a car and explore all the routes. (Otherwise it might be hard to choose between them!) You can easily spend a whole day for each, watching migratory birds, taking photos of musk ox or scouting for historic sites. When in town, be sure to stop by for a unique experience at the Museum, Cultural Center, and Nome Visitor Center.

For more information: 907-443-6665, visitnomealaska.com

DAY 1 **Nome-Teller Highway:** Although you can't see it, this drive brings you within 55 miles of Russia, and close to Beringia, the long-ago migration path from Asia to North America. You may spot reindeer herds, musk ox and many bird species before arriving at Teller, an authentic Inupiat village of fewer than 300 people who survive on a subsistence lifestyle.

DAY 2 **Nome-Taylor Highway:** This route passes Salmon Lake, a popular recreation spot, and winds through the hills where you can see signs of old mining claims. A beautiful side trip to Pilgrim Hot Springs ends in a wooded area with historic buildings and 178 degree springs. This is one of the few places near Nome where you can find trees in any number.

DAY 3 **Nome-Council Highway:** Known for its spectacular birding and sweeping coastal views, as well as historical attractions: Safety Roadhouse, the last stop on the Iditarod Sled Dog Race; the gold rush era community of Council, which boasted a population of 15,000 in its heyday; and the famous "Last Train to Nowhere.

HIGHLIGHTS OF POPULAR TRAVEL ROUTES

For More Scenic Drive Itineraries: Alaska.org/scenic-drives

1 9 SEWARD HIGHWAY — 127 MILES, PAVED

This is one of the most spectacular drives in the world. Follow Turnagain Arm then head south through a mountain pass before descending into the waterfront town of Seward. Seward Highway is Route 1 from Anchorage to Sterling Hwy Junction, then Route 9 to Seward.

ROUTE 1

ANCHORAGE TO STERLING HIGHWAY JUNCTION

Anchorage | MP 0 | The highway bisects Anchorage, then leads south along Turnagain Arm.

Potter Marsh | MP 117 | Stroll the 1550-foot boardwalk for accessible viewing of migratory birds like arctic terns and swans.

Beluga Point & Bore Tide | MP 110.5 | This is the best roadside spot in Alaska to see Beluga whales, with possible sightings between May & September. It's also one of the few places in the world to easily view a bore tide 6 feet high.

Windy Corner | MP 106.6 | Park on the gravel pull-out to look for Dall sheep, mountain goats and bald eagles on cliffs above the roadway.

Girdwood | MP 90 | Alaska's only world-class resort town. Popular for summertime hiking, biking, berry-picking and gold panning. In winter, it's a downhill skiing getaway.

Portage | MP 80 | The sunken buildings and "ghost forest" here are vivid evidence of the 9.2 magnitude earthquake in 1964. The earth sank between 6-10 feet for miles allowing saltwater to flood and kill these trees.

Portage Glacier Road Junction & Tunnel to Whittier | MP 78.9 |11-mile detour to Portage Lake, and the Begich Boggs Visitor Center. Take a 1-hour cruise to Portage Glacier, or a hike to Byron Glacier. This road goes to Whittier, too. Take the 2.5 mile one-way tunnel through the mountain for access to Prince William Sound glacier tours.

Turnagain Pass | MP 70 | In summer, this mountain pass is bright with wildflowers; in winter, it's a backcountry ski and snowmobile mecca.

Hope Junction | MP 56 | Gold fever was responsible for the founding of Hope in the 1890s. 16 miles down this road

Tern Lake & Sterling Highway | **Junction** | MP 37 | Rest area with beautiful views and wildlife viewing opportunities. Stay on Seward Highway 9 to Seward. Sterling Highway 1 leads to Homer.

ROUTE 9

STERLING HIGHWAY JUNCTION TO SEWARD

Kenai Lake | MP 23.8 | The majestic turquoise of this glacial lake is caused by light reflecting off silt suspended in its water.

Exit Glacier Road | MP 4 | The only part of Kenai Fjords National Park accessible by car; the rest is explored by boat or air. Drive 8 miles to the visitor's center, then walk 30 minutes to Exit Glacier. Or plan a 6-8 hour round-trip hike to Harding Icefield.

Seward | MP 0 | Wildlife, glaciers and dramatic scenery abound in Seward's Resurrection Bay and Kenai Fjords National Park.

3 PARKS HIGHWAY — 382 MILES, PAVED

WASILLA TO FAIRBANKS

This highway parallels the Alaska Railroad and is dominated by stunning views of Denali on a clear day. Glenn Hwy 1 Junction to Talkeetna, Denali National Park, and Fairbanks. Also Junctions with the Denali Hwy 8.

Wasilla | MP 36 | Wasilla, home to the Iditarod Headquarters, is the last big commercial hub to gather supplies if you're venturing further North.

Willow | MP 71 | Mushers and their dogs load off from Willow on the official start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in early March. Visit the kennel of a local musher for a tour.

Talkeetna Spur Road | MP 98 | 14-mile detour to charming and rustic Talkeetna, a community of artists, musicians, mountain climbers and bush pilots.

Susitna River Bridge | MP 104 | Spilling south from the Alaska Range, the Susitna is one of Alaska's five largest rivers.

Petersville Road Junction | 114.9 | Built in the 1920s, this 34-mile long gravel road is still used by miners. Gold panning tours available.

Denali Viewpoint South | MP 135.2 | The best spot to get a photo of Mt. Denali on a clear day. This is Denali State Park, which is less developed than Denali National Park.

Hurricane Gulch Bridge | MP 174 | Cross high over a deep gorge carved by water.

Broad Pass | MP 203 | A gorgeous stretch of highway, with unobstructed mountain views on each side. At 2,300 feet elev., it's the highest point on the Parks Highway.

Cantwell & Denali Highway (8) Junction | MP 210 | The Denali Highway affords spectacular views of the Alaska Range, rolling tundra and lakes. Until the mid-70s, this mostly-gravel road was the main route to Denali National Park. From Cantwell, the road leads 134 miles to Paxson, where it connects with the Richardson Highway . . . Closed in winter. Max 30 mph. Must have rental car, gravel roads.

Denali Park Road Junction | MP 237 | The first 15 miles are open to private vehicles, but you need to ride a park service bus or private tour. Bears, moose, caribou and sheep wander freely in the unspoiled wilderness.

Healy | MP 249 | Adventure center 10 miles north of Denali with ATV tours, hiking trails, and a zipline.

Nenana | MP 304.5 | The Alaska Railroad was completed here in 1923.

Fairbanks | MP 356 | The heart of the Interior and gateway to the Arctic.

1 STERLING HIGHWAY — 142 MILES, PAVED

KENAI LAKE/KENAI RIVER TO HOMER

This part of Alaska is an angler's dream. From the combat fishing waters of the Kenai to saltwater fishing at Anchor Point — and just about all points in between. Marvel at volcanoes across Cook Inlet as the highway hugs the coastline before you reach Homer. Seward Hwy Junction (MP 37 Seward Hwy) to Kenai, Soldotna, and Homer.

Kenai Lake/Kenai River | MP 45.1 | Fishing fanatics worldwide know the incomparable Kenai River. Its productive waters host of all 5 species of Pacific salmon.

Cooper Landing | MP 48 | A prime location for river rafting, hiking, fishing, and mountain biking at the intersection of the Kenai and Russian rivers.

Skilak Lake Road East Entrance | MP 58 | 18-mile gravel road loops toward Skilak Lake. A chances to spot moose, birds and bear. Rejoins the Sterling Highway at MP 75.2.

Sterling | MP 82 | The confluence of the Kenai and Moose Rivers makes for excellent fishing.

Kenai Spur Hwy Junction to Kenai
MP 94 | Miles of sandy beaches and four active volcanoes across Cook Inlet. Watch locals "dip net" for salmon in commercial boats haul in their catch.

Soldotna | MP 95 | Try fishing, rafting, and flightseeing in Kenai's sister city.

Old Ninilchik Village | MP 135 | Ninilchik offers an old-world setting with quaint fishermen's cottages and a Russian Orthodox Church on the hill.

Anchor Point | MP 157 | This town is "North America's Most Westerly Highway Point," and another fishing hot-spot.

Pullout overlooking Homer Spit | MP 169.5 | Stop for an impressive view of Homer and Kachemak Bay

Homer, end of the Homer Spit | MP 179 | The highway ends on the Homer Spit — a long, narrow finger of land jutting 4.5 miles into Kachemak Bay.

1 GLENN HIGHWAY & THE TOK CUTOFF — 328 MILES PAVED

ANCHORAGE TO TOK

Find glacial rivers, steep mountains, and the massive Matanuska Glacier, the widest roadside glacier in the U.S. At Glennallen, the Glenn connects with the Richardson Highway 4, then continues on the Tok Cutoff.

Anchorage | MP 0 | Alaska's most populous city, tucked between Cook Inlet and the Chugach Mountains.

Palmer Hay Flats | MP 30 | Scan this game refuge for birds and moose as you pass, especially in the morning and evening. There is a viewing platform and trail at MP 30.5.

Parks Hwy 3 Junction
MP 35 | The Glenn and Parks Highways split here. The Glenn continues East toward Glennallen. The Parks leads north to Denali and Fairbanks.

Alaska State Fairgrounds | MP 40 | From late August to early September you'll find live entertainment, food, and monster vegetables. Records include a 569 lb. squash and 1,469 lb. pumpkin!

Palmer–Fishhook Road (Hatcher Pass) | MP 48.5 | Wind along the scenic Little Su River to the 1930s era Independence Mine. Plan 40+ minutes round-trip, more if you want to explore the trails or mine buildings. Hatcher Pass connects Palmer and Willow; beyond the mine the road is gravel and unmaintained.

Matanuska Glacier State Recreational Site | MP 101| Get out to view the 4-mile wide glacier through telescopes or from a one-mile trail. Glacier treks available further north.

Sheep Mountain | MP 113 | Vivid colors on Sheep Mountain, caused by iron staining volcanic soil, illustrate the region's heavy mineralization. Watch for sheep in this area.

Eureka Summit | MP 129.5 | The highest point (3,322 feet) along the Glenn Highway drains to the Matanuska River on one side and the Copper River on the other. From here you may see the Chugach Range, the Alaska Range, the Talkeetnas and the Wrangell Mountains.

Glennallen | MP 187 | Gateway to adventure in the Copper River Valley and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, the U.S.'s largest national park.

Richardson Hwy (4) Junction | MP 189 Glenn | North leads to Fairbanks, south to Valdez and Prince William Sound.

Gakona Junction & Tok Cutoff | MP 128.5 Richardson, MP 0 Tok Cutoff | After a quick section of the Richardson, keep right at Gakona Junction to continue on the Glenn Highway (Tok Cutoff) towards Tok.

Slana River | MP 75.5 Tok Cutoff | If you see a salmon in the river, it swam nearly 300 miles to lay its eggs in this freshwater tributary of the Copper River

Tok & Junction with Alaska Highway 2 | MP 125 | Tok is the first (or last!) major stop on the Alaska side of the U.S./Canada border.

2 4 RICHARDSON HIGHWAY — 366 MILES, PAVED

FAIRBANKS TO VALDEZ

Take your time on Alaska's first road, built as a route for gold seekers from Valdez to Fairbanks. Mountain views, roadside glaciers and plunging waterfalls greet you, along with gold rush and pipeline history. Route 2 from Fairbanks to Delta Junction, Route 4 from Delta Junction to Valdez. The Richardson also junctions with Denali Hwy 10, Alaska Hwy 8, Tok Cutoff 2, Glenn Hwy 1, and Edgerton Hwy 1.

ROUTE 2

Fairbanks | MP 364 | Alaska's second-largest city.

North Pole | MP 349 | Stop by the Santa Claus House

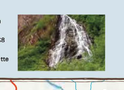
Delta Junction | MP 266 | Visit the oldest roadhouse in the Interior, now a museum. Continue southeast on the Alaska Highway if headed toward Tok and Canada. If driving to Alaska from the contiguous United States, the Alaska Hwy (known as Route 1 through Canada) is the road you'll follow from Dawson Creek, BC. *1,387 miles, paved*

ROUTE 4

Stay on the Richardson 4 to continue south toward Glennallen and Valdez

Trans Alaska Pipeline view | MP 216 | 70,000 workers and $8 billion built this 800 mile pipeline.

Rainbow Ridge scenic view | MP 206 | The varied color palette on the mountainside reflects the differing geology of the area.



Reds and greens are volcanic rock; yellows and pastels are siltstone.

Paxson & Denali Highway 8 Junction | MP 185 | Views of mountains and glaciers of the Alaska Range make the Denali Hwy one of the most scenic drives in the world. The road leads 134 miles west to Cantwell, where it connects with the Parks Hwy 3. *Mostly gravel, closed in winter.*

Gakona Junction | MP 128.5 | The Tok Cutoff of the Glenn Highway leads northeast, following the Copper River and northern edge of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. If you're driving to Canada, take this road. *129 miles, paved.*

Glenn Hwy Junction 1 | MP 115 | From here, the Glenn Highway 1 heads west toward Anchorage.

Old Richardson Junction to Copper Center | MP 100 | Take Old Richardson Highway loop to visit Copper Center. Known for access to fishing the Gulkana, Tonsina and Klutina Rivers.

Wrangell Range Views over Willow Lake | MP 88 | The best view of the Wrangell Mountain Range and its 12 peaks over 10,000 ft. on a clear day.

Edgerton Hwy 10 Junction & McCarthy Road 10 | MP 82 | The paved Edgerton Hwy is 33 miles long and ends in Chitina, where the McCarthy Road begins. The 60-mile gravel road was converted from a 1909 rail bed used to support the Kennecott Copper Mines.

Worthington Glacier State Recreation Site | MP 28.7 | View this impressive roadside glacier from an easily accessible platform.

Thompson Pass | MP 26 | Thompson Pass cuts through the Chugach Mountains, opening up a colorful alpine landscape in summer/fall and a snowy playground in winter.

Bridal Veil Falls | MP 13.5 | A beautiful roadside waterfall.

Old Valdez Town Site | MP 4 | The 9.2 magnitude earthquake in 1964 devastated the original port and city of Valdez. The town is now located 4 miles down the road.

Valdez | MP 0 | Hike or explore Prince William Sound by sea kayaking, fishing, or a day cruise.

OTHER HIGHWAYS IN SOUTHCENTRAL & INTERIOR

2 Alaska Highway — 1387 MILES, 74 PAVED, 1,6 GRAVEL
Also known as the ALCAN, runs 1,387 miles from Dawson Creek, British Columbia to Delta Junction, AK.

2 Elliott Highway — 150 MILES, 16 PAVED, 1,6 GRAVEL
From Fox (10 miles north of Fairbanks), wind through the White Mountains, with views of the Trans Alaska Pipeline on the way to Manley Hot Springs.

5 Taylor Highway — 160 MILES, 16 PAVED, 1,6 GRAVEL
From Tetlin Junction through the historic Fortymile River gold creeks of Eagle.

2 Top of the World Highway — 70 MILES, GRAVEL (CLOSED IN WINTER)
Very off-the-beaten path route to the Yukon. Drive along the peaks and crests of mountains, with expansive views of the valleys below.

8 Steese Highway — 161 MILES, 80 MILES PAVED, THEN GRAVEL
From Fairbanks to Circle. Winter aurora viewing at Cleary Summit or 24-hours of daylight on summer solstice at Eagle Summit.

2 Copper River Highway — 52 MILES, PAVED
From Cordova, access to trails, wildlife viewing, and glacier views. Road closed indefinitely at mile 36.

9 Dalton Highway — 414 MILES, 74 PAVED, 1,6 GRAVEL
Isolated and remote highway that parallels the Trans Alaska pipeline, leading to the Prudhoe Bay oil fields and the Arctic Ocean.

Most rental agencies don't allow vehicles on gravel roads. Confirm before booking

ALASKA'S OCEANS & MOUNTAINS — SOUTHCENTRAL

1 TALKEETNA
Anchorage: 2½ hrs | 3 hrs
Fairbanks: 4½ hrs | 6 hrs

Talkeetna is a base station for Denali-climbing expeditions, flightseeing adventures, and salmon fishing along its three great rivers. Visit the historic buildings and walk the one-block Main Street.

- View Denali's peak and glaciers on a flightseeing adventure.
- Fish, float, or take a jetboat ride on the Talkeetna or Chulitna Rivers.
- Take a guided hike in Denali State Park.

2 PALMER / WASILLA
Anchorage: 45 mins
Fairbanks: 5–6 hrs

Alaska's agricultural center and year-round outdoor recreation hub.

- Visit the world's only Musk Ox Farm.
- Drive into the high country of Hatcher Pass to Independence Mine
- Head east on the Glenn Highway to Matanuska Glacier.
- In late August, attend The Alaska State Fair.

3 ANCHORAGE
Fairbanks: 7 hrs | 12 hrs

Alaska's most populous city and main transportation hub for flights, cruises, The Alaska Railroad and car rentals. Hike in the Chugach Mountains in the morning and enjoy fine dining in the evening.

- See glaciers and marine wildlife on a day cruise in Prince William Sound or Kenai Fjords.
- Board a small plane for Denali flightseeing or bear viewing.
- Hike Flattop, walk or bike the Coastal Trail.
- Experience Alaska's Native culture at local museums.

4 GIRDWOOD
Anchorage: 45 mins | 1½ hrs

Girdwood is in a beautiful temperate rainforest with an abundance of outdoor adventures and stellar restaurants. Each year many visitors are drawn to Hotel Alyeska, a luxury resort at the base of Mount Alyeska.

- Go for lush rainforest hikes or steep mountain ascents.
- Soar 2,000 feet to a bird's-eye view aboard the Alyeska Tram.
- Go rafting. There are 3 different trips near Girdwood, all with glacier views.
- Tour a historic gold mine and pan for gold.
- Flightsee over glaciers, or land on them and go dogsledding.

5 WHITTIER
Anchorage: 1.5 hrs | 2½ hrs

Whittier is the gateway to Prince William Sound. It's home to just a few hundred people, yet sees thousands of visitors every year. Access by land is through the one-lane Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel.

- Kayak, or take a glacier & wildlife day cruise into Prince William Sound.
- Hike the Portage Pass Trail for views of Portage glacier.

6 COOPER LANDING
Anchorage: 2 hrs

This small town is situated along the shores of Kenai Lake, and is near the intersection of the Kenai and Russian Rivers.

- Fish or float the Kenai River.
- Go for day hikes on the Carter Lake or Russian River Falls trails, or multi-day treks on the Johnson Pass and Resurrection Pass trails.

7 KENAI / SOLDOTNA
Anchorage: 3 hrs

Kenai overlooks the mouth of the Kenai River, with views of Cook Inlet, two mountain ranges and four active volcanoes. Soldotna is Kenai's sister city, and the Kenai River runs through the middle.

- World class salmon fishing on the Kenai River. The 97-lb world record salmon was caught here.
- Take a small plane to go bear viewing.
- Hike or canoe in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

8 SEWARD
Anchorage: 2½ hrs | 4 hrs

This seaside paradise with a bustling harbor is the gateway to Kenai Fjords. Peruse quaint shops and galleries, and enjoy alpine and marine adventures.

- Cruise into Kenai Fjords for wildlife & glacier viewing.
- See Alaska's marine mammals at the Alaska SeaLife Center.
- Slice through the glassy waters of Resurrection Bay on a kayak trip.
- Fish for halibut or salmon.
- Walk right up to Exit Glacier.

For more info, or to request the Seward Destination Guide: (907) 224-8051, seward.com, email: visitseward@seward.com

EXPLORE THE MAP ONLINE & PLAN YOUR TRIP TO ALASKA
Get detailed information on lodging, tours, cruises, and transportation, including contact info, prices, photos, videos, and expert advice to help you plan your trip.
Alaska.org/map

9 HOMER
Anchorage: 4.5 hrs

Homer's lifeblood is its eclectic mix of artists, fishermen, chefs, & outdoor lovers, all drawn by its slow pace, world-class fishing, bear-viewing, & postcard-beautiful setting on stunning Kachemak Bay.

- Fly to Katmai or Lake Clark National Park to view mighty brown bears
- Cast your lure for monster halibut & salmon
- Take a water taxi across the bay & go kayaking or hiking
- Grab your camera as Homer is a top destination for photo tourism
- Relish world-class dining while enjoying the views of Kachemak Bay
- Visit local art galleries to understand why Homer is Alaska's Best Art Community

For more information or to request your FREE Homer Visitor Guide, call (907) 235-7740, email info@homeralaska.org, or visit HomerAlaska.org

10 VALDEZ
Anchorage: 6 hrs
Fairbanks: 7 hrs

This gold rush town is located at the head of a fjord on the eastern side of Prince William Sound. It's the terminus of the Trans Alaska Pipeline and home to a wide range of marine wildlife and glaciers.

- Take a day cruise to Columbia Glacier or kayak in Prince William Sound
- Kayak the waters of Prince William Sound.
- Drive a few miles north of town to Bridal Veil Falls or Worthington Glacier.

11 MCCARTHY / KENNICOTT
Anchorage: 7.5 hrs
Fairbanks: 9.5 hrs

Set in the heart of Wrangell-St. Elias, America's largest national park, McCarthy is one of the best small towns to get off the beaten path. Kennicott is an old mining village, now a ghost town. McCarthy is a sister village, 5 miles away.

- Tour abandoned mill buildings of Kennicott Copper Mine.
- Flightseen mountains & glaciers in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.
- Take a guided hike on the Root Glacier or go rafting.

OTHER SOUTHCENTRAL TOWNS

12 Glennallen: Gateway to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Situated at the intersection of the Glenn and Richardson Highways.

13 Glacier View: The Matanuska Glacier is the centerpiece. Explore the area on guided hikes, river rafting, or ATV tours.

14 Willow: Official starting location for the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Stop for ATV & dog sled tours.

15 Copper Center: Known for great access to fishing the Gulkana, Tonsina and Klutina Rivers.

16 Chitina: Once a ghost town, now a fishing to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

17 Hope: Historic gold rush settlement with views of Turnagain Arm and great hiking trails.

18 Seldovia: Small community accessible by water taxi from Homer. Beachcomb, fish, and stroll the boardwalk.

ALASKA'S HEARTLAND — INTERIOR

19 FAIRBANKS
Anchorage: 7 hrs | 12 hrs

Gold strikes helped put Alaska's second-largest city on the map. Today, Fairbanks boasts a university, operating gold mines, and a wealth of attractions, making for a fun, quirky slice of real Alaska.

- Explore Alaska's interior on a river cruise.
- Travel back to the time of the Gold Rush and pan for your own gold!
- Cross the Arctic Circle.
- Explore ice age animals and Alaska Native culture at the UA Museum of the North.
- Soak in Chena Hot Springs, 60 miles from Fairbanks.
- View the northern lights during Aurora Season (August 21–April 21)

Call (800) 327-5774 for your free Fairbanks Visitors Guide. Call (907) 456-5774 or visit explorefairbanks.com for more information.

20 DENALI
Anchorage: 4.5 hrs | 9 hrs
Fairbanks: 2½ hrs | 4 hrs

Six million acres of lakes, tundra, peaks, and wildlife dominated by North America's highest peak and interrupted only by a single, 92-mile road. Denali offers your best chance to see Dall sheep, caribou, fox, wolves, and bears. No private cars beyond mile 15; use the tour and shuttle buses.

- Take a narrated bus tour on the Denali Park Road.
- Go flightseeing to see Denali from the air.
- Enjoy activities near the park entrance: hike, go ziplining, rafting or ATV'ing.

OTHER INTERIOR TOWNS

21 Eagle: Incorporated during the Klondike Gold Rush. It sits on the banks of the famed Yukon River, attractive for river rafting.

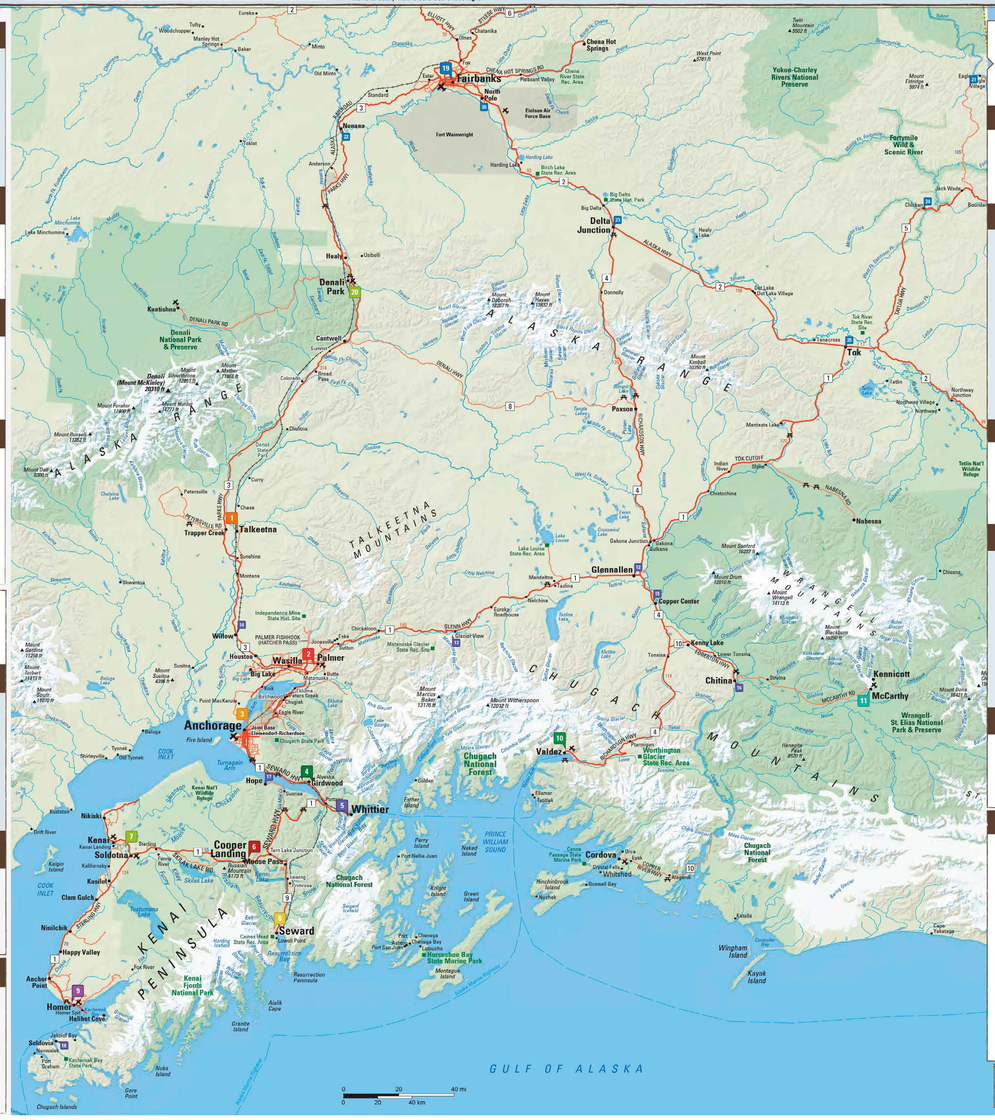
22 Nenana: This town on the Nenana River was the main port for old paddlewheel riverboats that plied interior rivers.

23 Delta Junction: The aptly-named junction is where the Alaska Highway ends and meets the Richardson Highway.

24 Chicken: Established in 1898, it's one of Alaska's few surviving gold rush towns.

25 Tok: First Alaska town reached when driving from the Lower 48.

26 North Pole: Embrace the holiday feeling in the town where "the Spirit of Christmas lives year-round."



ALASKA'S INSIDE PASSAGE — SOUTHEAST

1 SKAGWAY

Skagway combines coastal scenery with Gold Rush history. The Park Service has rescued buildings from the Gold Rush era, and today those relics make this small town an authentic example of 19th-century life.

- Ride the Yukon & White Pass Route Railroad.
- Explore the Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park by walking the 6 blocks of downtown Skagway that make up the National Historic District.

2 HAINES

Experience the essence of Alaska in Haines, a city with awe-inspiring landscapes, teeming wildlife, and amazing salmon fishing. Immerse yourself in iconic Alaskan adventures, savor craft beverages, and shop for locally made art.

- The legendary Haines Highway, a designated scenic byway, treats you to spectacular vistas when driving here. For a maritime adventure, the Alaska Marine Highway seamlessly links you to Southeast Alaska and beyond.
- Raft, boat, kayak, bike, and embark on 4x4 expeditions through the pristine wilderness surrounding Haines.
- The Alaska Chilkat Bald Eagle Preserve hosts the world's largest congregation of bald eagles, while the Chilkoot River promises captivating brown bear sightings from late July to September.
- From epic heli-skiing to cross-country adventures, Haines caters to winter sports lovers. Enjoy backcountry skiing, snowmobiling, and snowshoeing in the snow-covered wonderland.

For more info, or to request the Haines Vacation Planner: (907) 766-6418, visithaines.com, visit@haines.ak.us

3 JUNEAU

Juneau is in a lush, temperate rainforest, with access to huge glaciers. It's also the state capital. This town of 30,000 residents doesn't have a road linking it—airplanes and boats are the only ways to get here and away.

- Visit Mendenhall Glacier by sea kayaking, flightseeing, rafting, or hiking.
- Go whale watching.
- Get beautiful views from the top of Mount Roberts. Hike or take the tram to the top.

4 SITKA

Home to the native Tlingit people for over 10,000 years, Sitka is a welcoming community of 8,500 residents. Are you outdoorsy or a museum fan? A thrill seeker or a nature lover? Looking for an unusual getaway or an inspiring retreat? Sitka's got you covered.

- Tour St. Michael's Cathedral, the first Russian Orthodox cathedral in North America
- View totem poles along the trail to the site of the Battle of 1804 at Sitka National Historical Park
- See bald eagles, owls, and more up close at the Alaska Raptor Center
- Learn about Alaska's brown and black bears, and get up close at the Fortress of the Bear
- Visit the Sheldon Jackson Museum, founded in 1888, this unique Victorian octagonal concrete building houses over 5,000 Alaska Native items from across the state
- Explore Sitka's marine world at the aquarium at the Sitka Sound Science Center

Plan your escape and order your free visitor guide at www.visitsitka.org

5 KETCHIKAN

Ketchikan is adjacent to the country's largest forest, the Tongass. A vibrant Alaska Native culture reflects the artwork and traditions of three distinct tribes: Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian.

- Historic and cultural attractions include Totem Heritage Center, Totem Bight State Historical Park, Southeast Alaska Discovery Center and Saxman Native Village
- View Misty Fjords National Monument by boat or floatplane.
- Visit shops and restaurants along Creek Street

OTHER SOUTHEAST ALASKA TOWNS

1 Yakutat: Fishing is the main attraction, but there's also great hiking, beachcombing, and the St.