

COMPLIMENTARY



2025 ALASKA

ACTIVITY GUIDE

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Top dining spots, brewery
map and local shopping
guide

DRIVING MAPS

Denali, Seward, Homer,
Matanuska Glacier &
Fairbanks to Valdez

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editor's note

Imagine yourself in a coffee shop talking with locals about

the best places to visit in Alaska. That's what you'll find in this book: solid advice from Alaskans who know and love this state, whether they're park rangers, naturalists, innkeepers or bush pilots.

As you get to know Alaska, remember that Alaskans like to get to know visitors, too. Feel free to email me with questions (editor@alaska.org). I also love to invite visitors along for a hike, a flight in my airplane, or even a moose barbecue at the house with my family. Follow me on Facebook and

Instagram ([@AlaskaTravel](https://www.instagram.com/AlaskaTravel)) and I'll let you know when it's happening.



Be sure to get our app for your iPhone or iPad, free at TheAlaskaApp.com (it will totally change your vacation). We know you'll love exploring our backyard—and that this trip to Alaska won't be your last.



Bob

Bob Kaufman
Alaska.org

One of my favorite places—Strandline Lake. I took my son in the spring (bottom right) and two friends in the summer (bottom left).

P.S. Share your favorite Alaska moments with us at [#YouNeedAlaska](https://www.instagram.com/YouNeedAlaska)

DRIVING TIMES

Time (hrs.)

From Anchorage to:

Talkeetna
Denali Park
Fairbanks
Seward
Kenai/Soldotna
Homer
Glennallen
Valdez
Cantwell

2.5
5
7
2.5
3
5
4.5
7
4

From Glennallen to:

Chitina
McCarthy
Valdez

1.5
4
2

From Cantwell to:

Paxson

5

From Talkeetna to:

Denali Park

2.5

A detailed map of Alaska's interior, showing major highways and towns. Key locations include Anchorage, Fairbanks, Denali Park, and various smaller towns like Seward, Homer, and Chitina. The map highlights routes for driving, with distances and travel times provided in the adjacent tables.

ALASKA RAILROAD
907-265-2494

Denali Star

Northbound

Southbound

Fairbanks
Denali Park
Talkeetna
Wasilla
Anchorage

8:00 pm
4:00 pm
11:20 am
9:35 am
8:20 am

8:20 am
12:30 pm
4:40 pm
6:15 pm
8:00 pm

Coastal Classic

Northbound

Southbound

Anchorage
Girdwood
Seward

10:15 pm
8:50 pm
6:00 pm

6:45 am
8:05 am
11:20 am

Glacier Discovery*

Northbound

Southbound

Anchorage
Girdwood
Portage
Whittier
Portage
Whistle Stop
Grandview

9:00 pm
7:40 pm
7:15 pm
6:05 pm
5:15 pm
4:30 pm
3:20 pm

9:45 am
11:00 am
12:45 pm
1:30 pm
1:55 pm
3:30 pm

*Full route: May 31 – September 15, 2025
Anchorage/Girdwood to Whittier round-trip: May 12, 17, 18 & 21, 2025
Anchorage/Girdwood to Whittier & Spencer Whistle Stop round-trip: May 24 -May 30, 2025

ALASKA BUS COMPANY
907-299-6806

Northbound

Southbound

Homer
Soldotna
Cooper Landing
Girdwood
Anchorage

8:00 am departure
9:45 am
11:00 am
12:15 pm
1:00 pm arrival

7:00 pm arrival
5:30 pm
4:15 pm
3:00 pm
2:00 pm departure

Operating daily: May 15 - August 15

FLIGHT TIMES

From Anchorage To

Travel Time (min.)

Airline

Fairbanks
Glennallen
Homer
McCarthy/Kennicott
Kenai
Valdez

55
60
50
2 hrs. 30 min.
25
40

Alaska
Copper Valley Air
Ravn
Wrangell Mt. Air
Grant
Alaska, Ravn

From Chitina To

Travel Time (min.)

Airline

McCarthy

15

Wrangell Mt. Air

A photograph of a brown bear standing in a lush green forest. The bear is facing the camera, and its fur is a mix of brown and black. The background is filled with tall evergreen trees and a clear blue sky.

ALASKA

.ORG

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COVER PHOTO: A brown bear stands to get a better view @Arthur Lee

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GETTING THERE

Downtown Shuttles:
Alaska Botanical Gardens
907-770-3692

Alaska Native Heritage Center
907-330-8000

Alaska Zoo
907-346-3242

**Transportation Beyond
Anchorage:**
Girdwood Express
907-764-2067

Alaska Railroad
800-544-0552
(Anchorage, Talkeetna, Denali,
Fairbanks, Seward, Girdwood,
Whittier, Wasilla)

Alaska Bus Company
907-299-6806
(Anchorage, Girdwood, Cooper
Landing, Soldotna & Homer)

Of all the world's cities, Anchorage uniquely combines the conveniences of the modern world with a rugged, natural environment that has all but vanished from populated regions of the world. In Anchorage, you can watch moose in the morning and ballet in the afternoon. You can take a short flight to see some of the most dramatic mountain scenery on earth, then be back in town for fresh seafood at a five-star restaurant.

Within a few miles of downtown, you can encounter scenes more wild than you'll find in most national parks: moose roaming through a park, rushing mountain streams, and city parks vast enough to forget the century you live in. The world's second highest tides surge against its shores, and North America's highest peak glimmers in the distance.

Most of all, Anchorage is a gateway to adventure. You can experience all Alaska has to offer and never check out of your hotel. Flightsee over Denali, fish a wilderness river, or visit grizzly bears via air taxi. See calving glaciers and enormous whales on a day cruise. Hike to a glacier, climb a mountaintop, or drive some of the world's most spectacular highways.

For culture and shopping, there's no better place in Alaska. Collect the prized works of Alaska's top artists and native craftspeople in galleries. Learn about our rich history in museums and heritage centers. Catch a show at one of our performance halls.

For those who know where to look, the opportunities are endless.

AROUND THE CITY

We've hand-picked the top Anchorage attractions and suggested the amount of time to spend at each attraction.

MAP

See page 8

**31 Earthquake Park**

Duration: 15 min.
This park is set in the woods where an entire neighborhood slid into the ocean during last century's most powerful earthquake. Walk trails and read signs which explain the destruction and the stupendous natural forces that caused it. See page 12 to learn more about the trail leading to Earthquake Park. To see actual footage of the '64 quake, watch Alaska Channel in your hotel. Drive all the way west on Northern Lights Blvd. or walk the Coastal Trail.
Open Daily
6am - 11pm
5101 Point Woronzof Rd

**42 Alaska Native Heritage Center**

Duration: 1 - 3 hrs
Share the rich legacy of Alaska's 11 major cultural groups. Stroll through life-sized dwellings and experience firsthand storytelling, song, dance, games, demonstrations, and films.
907-330-8000
May - September
Mon-Sun 9am-5pm
8800 Heritage Center Dr
alaskanative.net

**36 Potter Marsh**

Duration: 30 min. - 1 hr
This 564-acre fresh water marsh stretches for nearly two miles between the Seward Highway and the base of the Chugach Mountains. Walk the 1,550 feet of family friendly boardwalks overlooking the wetland that concentrates migratory and nesting birds. You may also see moose, beavers and muskrats, bald eagles, and spawning salmon.
2999 E 154th Ave. Anchorage

**41 Alaska Botanical Garden**

Duration: 1 - 2 hrs
Stroll through a forested 110-acre botanical garden with nature trails, perennial gardens, herb and rock garden, gift shop and nursery.
907-770-3692
Open Daily
4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd
alaskabg.org

**40 Alaska Aviation Museum**

Duration: 45 min - 2 hrs
Learn about Alaska's aviation history and daring bush pilots who opened up the Last Frontier. See rare aircraft dating back to WWI, historic photographs, artifacts, maps, newspaper accounts, aviators' clothing & films.
907-248-5325
Open Daily 10am - 5pm
4721 Aircraft Dr.
alaskaairmuseum.org

**46 Lake Hood Floatplane Base**

Duration: 30 min. - 1 hr
Watch floatplanes - as many as 800 per day - splash down and lift off at the world's busiest floatplane base lake. Stroll the grassy shores lined with planes, from rusting relics to brightly painted beauties to vintage models which float on their bellies. Stay off the gravel runway!
Open Daily
Lake Hood

**43 Alaska Zoo**

Duration: 2 - 3 hrs
Enjoy this wooded hillside zoo, a nonprofit wildlife rescue housing cold-climate species like polar bears, brown bears, muskox, cats, bald eagles and more.
907-346-3242
May & September 9am-6pm
June-August 9am-8pm
4731 O'Malley Rd.
Take the O'Malley exit off the Seward Hwy.
alaskazoo.org

**15 Alaska Wild Berry Products**

Duration: 1 - 2 hrs
Alaska Wild Berry Products is home to the world's largest chocolate fall. Take a self-guided tour of their candy kitchens while enjoying free samples! Be sure to take a photo with their famous 20 foot tall Inukshuk Rock Man.
800-280-2927
Mon - Sat 10am-7pm Sun 11am-6pm
5225 Juneau St.
akwildberry.com



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Alaska**



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Alyeska Nordic Spa



**Alyeska Resort
& Hotel**



**Glacier & Wildlife
Explorer Tour**



Wildlife & Turnagain Arm Tour



**Anchorage
All-Around City Tour**
with taste of
smoked salmon

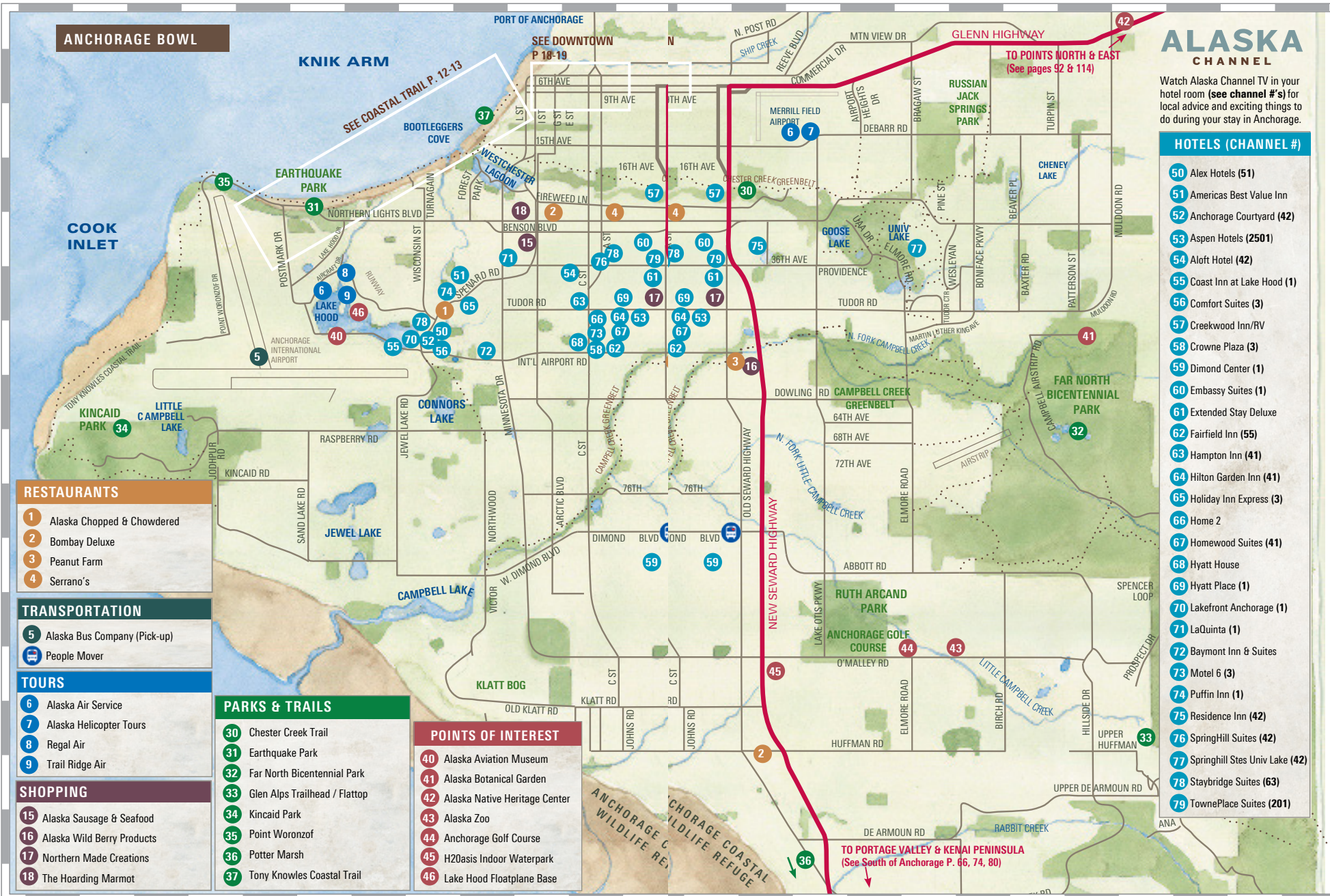


So much to see and do in Girdwood!

Use promo code SAVE15 when you book tours online



AkFinest.com



ANCHORAGE PARKS
& TRAILS

MAP

See page 8


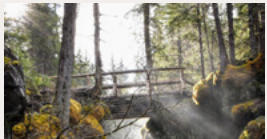

IN TOWN

TRAIL	DESCRIPTION	DIRECTIONS
37 TONY KNOWLES COASTAL 	Length: 11 miles one-way Difficulty: low Anchorage's most popular walking, biking, and jogging trail winds along the coast 11 miles from Downtown to Kincaid Park. Rent a bike from Trek Bike Rentals (907-793-0069).	Two primary access points from Downtown, Elderberry Park on W. 5th Ave and corner of 2nd Ave and H St. Detailed map on page 12.
30 CHESTER CREEK TRAIL 	Length: 6-miles one-way Difficulty: low Follows a flat, forested, mountain-fed creek 6 miles from Westchester Lagoon, near Downtown, to Russian Jack Springs Park. Feels like you're in the wilderness but you're never far from town. Perfect for biking.	Begins at Westchester Lagoon, near Downtown Anchorage, and ends at Russian Jack Spring Park. See map on page 8.
33 FLATTOP MOUNTAIN / GLEN ALPS TRAILHEAD 	Length: 3-miles round trip Difficulty: med / high Alaska's most visited peak. Ascend the 1.5-mile, 1,350 vertical foot trail to the rocky, football field-sized summit in about an hour & take in panoramic views from Denali to the Aleutian Islands. Longer hikes include 5 miles one-way to Williwaw Lakes or 5.5 miles to Wolverine Peak.	From Seward Hwy, head east on O'Malley Rd (4 mi.), right on Hillside Dr (1 mi.), left on Upper Huffman (0.7 m.), right on Toilsome Hill Dr. (see sign for Flattop/Glen Alps) for 2 winding miles. \$5 parking. See map on page 8.
34 KINCAID PARK 	Length: multiple trails Difficulty: low This 1400-acre forest offers one of America's top trail systems as well as the largest moose population. Walk, or rent a bike from Trek Bike Rentals (907-793-0069) and hit the singletrack trails.	Hike or bike the Coastal Trail 11 miles from Downtown, or drive to 9401 Raspberry Rd. Detailed map on page 12.
32 FAR NORTH BICENTENNIAL PARK 	Length: multiple trails Difficulty: low / med Find true wilderness within Anchorage in this 4,000 acre park. The lower parking lot accesses flat land. Its trails run along creeks and through forest. 500 yards in, the 4.5-mile Spencer Loop crosses a roaring creek, then climbs above a seldom-visited whitewater gorge.	From Downtown, drive east on Tudor, right onto Campbell Airstrip Rd. Park .75 mile in for lower sections, 1.5 miles in for the Spencer Loop and upper sections. See map on page 8.


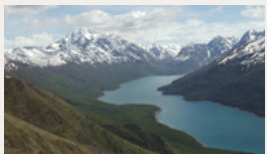

Whether you're looking to take a light after-dinner stroll around your hotel or a hearty day hike at the edge of wilderness, Anchorage's parks and trails system has something for you. 190 parks covering 10,000 acres are connected by 40 miles of trail. Always be alert for wildlife on Anchorage trails. For moose and bear safety, see page 66-67.

If you're interested in a guided hike, Go Hike (907-746-4644), offers hiking, biking, and kayaking tours at Eklutna, just 45-minutes north of Anchorage.

JUST SOUTH OF ANCHORAGE

TRAIL	DESCRIPTION	DIRECTIONS
TURNAGAIN ARM TRAIL 	Length: 9.4-miles one-way Difficulty: low / med Ten miles south of Downtown, this trail traverses mountainsides above the Seward Highway. On the left are the peaks of the Chugach Mountains; on the right, stunning views of Turnagain Arm. 3 access trails.	Drive south on the New Seward Hwy, 10 minutes to Potter Trailhead, 15 min to McHugh trailhead, 20 min to Windy Corner trailhead. Map on page 64-65.
WINNER CREEK TRAIL 	Length: 3 miles one-way Difficulty: low / med A wide trail winds through rainforest, crosses a bridge over a thundering gorge.	45 min drive. Park in the day lot near Alyeska Hotel. Map on page 71.
BYRON GLACIER TRAIL 	Length: 1.4 miles Difficulty: low / med Easy trail with slight elevation gain that follows the glacially fed Byron Creek to a viewing area with a bench to gaze upon the glacier tucked into the mountains.	1 hr 15 min drive. Seward Hwy, left on Portage Glacier Rd, Right on Byron Glacier Rd to parking area. Map on page 72-73.

JUST NORTH OF ANCHORAGE

EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER 	Length: 3+ miles Difficulty: low / med A gateway to Chugach State Park and a glacial river valley as wild and dramatic as any in Alaska. Enjoy an easy, 3-mile nature walk or trek up-valley 5 miles to see plunging waterfalls and 3,000-foot cliffs.	30 min drive. Glenn Hwy to Hiland Rd. Eagle River exit, turn right off exit. Right on Eagle River Loop Rd. Follow until you reach the center. \$5 parking. Map on page 92-93.
THUNDERBIRD FALLS 	Length: 2 miles Difficulty: low / med Walk through the mossy forest to watch the falls thunder down the rocky cliff face. Short flat trail perfect for families.	30 min drive. Glenn highway to exit clearly marked for Thunderbird Falls. \$5 parking. Map on page 92-93.
EKLUTNA 	Length: multiple trails Difficulty: low - high Eklutna Lakeside Trail is flat and wide, great for walking or biking. 10 miles one-way. Bike rentals available. Twin Peaks Trail is a challenging 6.5 mile round-trip hike with stunning views of the lake from above.	45 min drive. Glenn Hwy to Eklutna Exit. Follow Eklutna Rd 10 miles to parking area. \$5 parking. Map on page 92-93.
HATCHER PASS 	Length: multiple trails Difficulty: low - high Hike in alpine tundra. Several trailheads of varying difficulty are available along the drive. Fishhook Trail, Gold Cord Trail, Reed Lakes Trail, and Gold Mint Trail - to name a few! Also access Independence Mine State Historical Park for gold rush history.	1 hr 15 min drive. Glenn Hwy to Trunk Rd Exit. Follow Trunk Rd then left on N. Palmer-Fishhook Rd. \$5 parking. Map on page 92-93.

TONY KNOWLES COASTAL TRAIL

Gently winding along the coast eleven miles from downtown to the chalet at Kincaid Park is Anchorage's most popular trail: The Tony Knowles Coastal Trail. Leave the bustling city behind, and explore a local treasure that tells a long tale of natural and human history. Skirt the fault line of the '64 quake, stroll through scented forests, look for moose, and take in sweeping vistas where you can spot beluga whales and North America's highest peak, all in a single view. We've highlighted the first five miles of the trail for you – from the modern skyline of downtown to the open skies of Point Woronzof.



- 1 **ELDERBERRY PARK** This quaint downtown park is named after the delicious fruiting shrub. Enjoy romantic views of Cook Inlet from the swing set and tour Anchorage's oldest standing home, the Oscar Anderson House
- 2 **HANNAHCOVE GARDEN** Stop and reflect at this memorial rock garden to Alaskan children lost before their time. Enjoy the wildflowers and trees, including a flex pine from interior Alaska and a sculpted larch. Rest on boulders brought in from the Chugach Range (to the east) while viewing the immense mountains of the Alaska Range (to the north)
- 3 **WOODEN BRIDGE OVER MARSH** Look for tall, furry cattail plants, and listen for the mating call of the northern wood frog which sounds like the quacking of a duck
- 4 **WESTCHESTER LAAGOON** Burn some calories on the public outdoor workout station. Spot waterfowl, such as Red-necked Grebes with their large floating nests and Canada geese, which feed on the open lawns
- 5 **FISH CREEK BRIDGE** This short wooden bridge crosses a popular salmon fishing creek. Downriver you'll see deep channels that the creek has carved into the mud flats. In late summer, salmon migrate up to the estuary to spawn
- 6 **BEACH** Jump off the trail and comb the beaches of Anchorage. At low tide you can touch the dense glacial silt of the mudflats (but do not walk on them). Unlike sandy beaches of the south, pebbles and gravel left by glaciers coat the shoreline
- 7 **LYNN ARY PARK** Enjoy the baseball fields, tennis courts, and playground. This is also a perfect spot to view Mt. Susitna, or Sleeping Lady, named after a native Alaskan legend, which says the mountain lady will awaken when her lover returns from battle with news of peace
- 8 **BENCHES WITH DOWNTOWN VIEW** Catch your breath and soak in the city views as you prepare to enter the more forested section of the trail
- 9 **EARTHQUAKE PARK** View exhibits describing how the 1964 earthquake shelved off a huge swath of land here. Take a short side trek on the spur trail to distinguish between thick white spruce on one side of the trail and scraggly black spruce on the other
- 10 **OLD-GROWTH GROVE** Undisturbed by the earthquake or development, the old-growth trees in this location are more knotted than in other parts of the trail where the vegetation is more recent. Notice the heavily-armored cottonwood trees and birches with enormous burls
- 11 **VOLCANO VANTAGE** Breaks in the trees along the trail reveal views of some of Alaska's living volcanoes, including Mt. Redoubt and Mt. Spurr. The latter blanketed Anchorage in ash during an eruption in 1992
- 12 **POINT WORONZOF** Look directly north for the best view yet of majestic Mount Denali and Mt. Foraker ("Denali's Wife"). This is the end of our tour, but you're only halfway to Kincaid Park, so slip on your jogging shoes for six more miles of beautiful coastal trail snaking along bluff and beach to more remote patches of Anchorage's wilderness

ONE DAY IN ANCHORAGE WITHOUT A CAR

1-3 HOURS

HIGHLIGHTS

-  **PEOPLE MOVER**
907-343-6543
peoplemover.org
-  **ALASKA ESCAPE ROOMS**
907-444-6975
alaskaescaperooms.com
-  **ANCHORAGE TROLLEY**
907-276-5603
anchorgetrolley.com
-  **THE ULU FACTORY**
907-276-3119
theulufactory.com

● GETTING AROUND

Get around Anchorage like the locals – take the **People Mover**! Buy passes with the People Mover mTicket app, and track your bus in real time with the People Mover mStop app.

● CULTURE & SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Alaska Escape Rooms is an award winning 1 hour story adventure you must solve to escape! Check out this nationally ranked experience.

Ride on the **Anchorage**

Trolley and experience Anchorage's history, wildlife, culture and more! Tours depart every half hour.

Watch skilled craftsmen continue an ancient tradition at **The Ulu Factory**. Great for filleting fish, cutting meat and chopping vegetables.

Fly over the Chugach Mountains near Anchorage or circle Denali and land on a nearby glacier. Trips range from 30 minutes to 3 hours. See page 46.

HALF & FULL DAY EXCURSIONS FROM ANCHORAGE

HIGHLIGHTS

-  **ALASKA RAILROAD**
907-265-2494
alaskarailroad.com
-  **ALASKA'S FINEST TOURS & ADVENTURES**
907-764-2067
akfinest.com

MAP

See page 18

● RAIL TOURS

Visit Seward, Whittier, Talkeetna, or Spencer Glacier on a day trip from Anchorage on the **Alaska Railroad**.

● SIGHTSEEING & GLACIER TOURS

Alaska's Finest Tours & Adventures, a 100% Alaska Native-owned company, offers guided van tours from Anchorage to the Matanuska Glacier, Turnagain Arm, Portage, and Girdwood, plus city tours with scenic and culinary stops.

● SHOPPING

Bring a piece of Alaska home with you. Browse downtown Anchorage for real Alaskan

gold, paintings and much more. You can even take home fresh or smoked salmon!

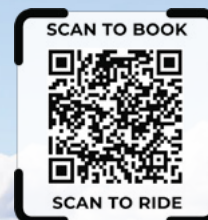
● BEAR VIEWING

Go bearviewing from Anchorage you can take a full-day excursion by plane to Katmai or Lake Clark National Park to see bears in their natural environment. You may see them eating sedge grass, digging for clams, or fishing. See page 52.

● FLY-IN FISHING

Go beyond the reach of the road and fly to remote wilderness lakes or rivers to fish for salmon or trout away from the crowds. See page 59.

EXPERIENCE ANCHORAGE TODAY!



AnchorageTrolley.com
907-276-5603

ALASKA BUS COMPANY



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ONE DAY IN ANCHORAGE

WITH A CAR

HALF DAY
EXCURSIONS FROM
ANCHORAGE

HIGHLIGHTS

42 ALASKA NATIVE
HERITAGE CENTER
907-330-8000
alaskanative.net

41 ALASKA BOTANICAL
GARDENS
907-770-3692
alaskabg.org

43 ALASKA ZOO
907-346-3242
alaskazoo.org

23 THE HOARDING
MARMOT
907-334-3333
hoardingmarmot.com

● MUSEUMS

Visit the **Alaska Native Heritage Center** to learn about traditions. Tour **Alaska Botanical Garden** for winding nature trails, lush herb and flower gardens. Drop in the **Alaska Aviation Museum** to check out antique Alaskan aircraft and bush pilot exhibits.

● WILDLIFE

View over 100 animals across 25 acres of Anchorage's wooded hillside at the **Alaska Zoo**. Open 7 days a week, 9am-6pm May & September, and 9am-8pm June, July & August.

● HIKING

Hike Flattop, Anchorage's favorite mountain, or any of the city's 10,000 acres of parkland and trails (page 10). Get the gear you need for a day in the woods at **The Hoarding Marmot**, an affordable place to buy gently used outdoor essentials.

● FISHING

Fish for Salmon in downtown Anchorage at Ship Creek or one of the local lakes. Go with a guide or rent gear and try your own luck. Check out our guide on how to fish in Anchorage (page 58).

FULL DAY
EXCURSIONS FROM
ANCHORAGE

HIGHLIGHTS

4 NOVA ALASKA GUIDES
907-745-5753
novalaska.com

MAP

See pages 8, 18 & 91

● TAKE A DRIVE

Taking a drive is a great way to spend the afternoon, or a full day. From Anchorage, popular drives include Turnagain Arm, Hatcher Pass, or the Matanuska Glacier. See our list of recommended day-trips in our On the Road section (page 61)!

Alaska Highway Safety Office reminds you that you share the road with many types of travelers, so stay alert, don't drive distracted or impaired, and follow Alaska's traffic laws to ensure a safe road ahead for everyone.

● WHITEWATER RAFTING,
& GLACIER TOURS

Unleash your sense of adventure with **NOVA ALASKA GUIDES!** Explore the stunning Matanuska Glacier or experience the thrill of Alaska's best half day whitewater!

● DAY CRUISES

View marine wildlife and glaciers in Prince William Sound or Kenai Fjords National Park. Depart Anchorage via Alaska Railroad or motorcoach. Read more on page 41.



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and more.

WINTER SEASON: Oct.-Apr.
SUMMER SEASON: Mother's Day-Mid-Sept.
Visit alaskanative.net for more details.

8800 Heritage Center Drive
(907) 330-8000 | alaskanative.net



BEYOND ANCHORAGE

Ideas for 1-day or 3-day trips on
pages 61-63.

DOWNTOWN ANCHORAGE WALKING MAP

The modern city which today occupies the entire Anchorage Bowl grew up downtown. A walk through the museums and historic buildings gives a rich glimpse into our fascinating past.

See next pages for descriptions.
See dining section on page 33.

COOK INLET

HANNAH COVE

79 COASTAL TRAIL

TONY KNOWLES COASTAL TRAIL
2ND AVENUE

CHRISTENSEN DRIVE

1ST AVENUE

Statehood Monument

3RD AVENUE

4TH AVENUE

5TH AVENUE

6TH AVENUE

7TH AVENUE

8TH AVENUE

9TH AVENUE

10TH AVENUE

ALASKA CHANNEL

Watch Alaska Channel TV in your hotel room (see channel #'s) for local advice and exciting things to do during your stay in Anchorage.

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- 47 Alaska Railroad
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- 49 Anchorage City Trolley Tours
- 50 Kenai Fjords Tours
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- 52 Portage Glacier Cruise (Pick-up)
- 53 Sweet Cheeks Cabaret/Broken Blender

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- 62 ORSO
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SHIP CREEK
WINGATE BY WYNDAM (3,8)

SHIP CREEK AVE

QUYANA PARK

BARROW ST

CORDOVA ST

3RD AVENUE

THE WILDBIRCH HOTEL

4TH AVENUE

5TH AVENUE

6TH AVENUE

EXTENDED STAY HOTEL (1)

SHERATON ANCHORAGE (44)

TO GLENN HWY NORTH

FAIRBANKS ST

TO SEWARD HWY SOUTH



People Mover Downtown Transit Center

Buy bus passes with the People Mover mTicket app. Track buses in real time with the People Mover mStop app. Customer Service Hours end at 4:45pm.

907-343-6543

6th Ave. btwn. G & H St.
peoplemover.org



25 Fifth Avenue Jewelers

Duration: 30 min

Alaskan gold quartz, a rare combination, is hand-crafted into rings, necklaces, earrings & other jewelry. Find a rare collection of natural Alaskan gold nugget jewelry & natural gold nuggets direct from miners. View their one of a kind collection of fine jewelry pieces, estate jewelry, and diamonds. Est. 1967.

907-258-3635

Tues. - Fri. 12-6pm, Sat 12-5pm

5th Ave. & D St.
akdiamondco.com



16 Ship Creek Salmon Viewing

Duration: 30-45 min

Watch salmon jump up the dam. A nearby hatchery release a quarter million smolt each year. They migrate to the oceans, then return 2 - 5 years later by sense of smell - to the delight of local anglers who catch up to 5,000 per year in the world's premier urban king salmon fishery.

Open Daily 6am - 11pm
302 E Whitney Rd



5 Anchorage Museum

Duration: 30 min - 3 hrs

Browse galleries of art, native artifacts, Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center and full-sized replicas of native dwellings at Anchorage's recently expanded museum. Don't miss Sydney Laurence's classic Denali (Mt. Denali) painting. Also home to the Imaginarium for kids.

907-929-9200

Open Daily 10am-6pm

7th Ave. between A & C St.
anchagemuseum.org



1 Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Duration: 10 min

Built during the '80s oil boom, "the PAC" is one of the nation's foremost performance houses. Watch a film on the Northern Lights (907-263-2993) at the Sydney Laurence Theater during summer, daily from 9am-9pm. Legend has it that artist Sydney Laurence's ghost haunts the building, transforming the colors of lights and sending empty elevators up and down.

907-263-2900

6th Ave btwn. F & G St.
alaskapac.org



9 Visit Anchorage Log Cabin

Duration: 10 min

Gather brochures and ask the friendly volunteers and staff questions at this charming sod-roofed cabin. Snap photos of wildflowers, a two-ton jade boulder, and a sign pointing to the world's great cities.

907-257-2363

Open daily 8am-7pm

4th Ave. & F St
anchorage.net



11 Oscar Anderson House (1915)

Duration: 45 min

Anchorage's first wood-framed home, built by the 18th white man to step foot in Anchorage, remains untouched by the city that grew around it. See his family treasures and other traces of the past.

M St. & Coastal Trail
oscarandersonhousemuseum.org



3 The Mushing District

A section of 4th Avenue between A & G street has been designated as the Anchorage Mushing District. Visitors can view bronze dog paws on the sidewalk and banners celebrating Mushing greats. The area is significant because the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race and the Open World Championship Sled Dog Race both begin their races on 4th Avenue.

4th Ave. btwn. C & D St.



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(Corner of 5th & D St.)

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@5th Avenue Jewelers

@akdiamondco



47 Alaska Railroad Depot

Duration: 10 min

Located inside the Historic Anchorage Depot, our Anchorage store offers a unique shopping experience amidst the rich history of the area. The depot, constructed in 1942 within the historic Ship Creek townsite, serves as a beacon of Alaska's past, embodying the spirit of exploration and adventure that defines the region. alaskarailroad.com
Gift Shop open 6am-2pm
 1st Ave. near C St.



31 Oomingmak Musk Ox Producers' Co-operative

Duration: 15 min

Feel qiviut, the downy soft underwool of the Arctic Musk Ox, a rare and sensuous fiber eight times warmer than wool. 250 native Alaskan knitters from around the state own the co-op and share their stories as they make scarves, hats, and other garments using designs passed down through generations.

907-272-9225

Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm

6th Ave. & H St.

qiviut.com



8 Holy Family Cathedral

Duration: 10 min

Built in Knik in the early 1900's, the cathedral was moved here by horse-drawn sleigh in the 1920's and has since been renovated. Pope John Paul II visited it in 1981.

907-276-3455

5th Ave. & H St.

holyfamilycathedral.org



30 G Street Art District

Duration: 1 hr

This truly is Anchorage's Art center - with several galleries as well as some great restaurants. You'll find a wide assortment of art - many by well-known Alaskan artists - including prints and paintings, sculpture, hand-blown glass, jewelry, ceramics & Alaskan native art. Stop by Aurora Fine Arts Gallery, a longtime gallery linking the Native Alaskan art community and art lovers.
 G St. between 3rd and 5th Ave.



26 Anchorage 5th Avenue Mall

Duration: 1 hr

Alaska's premiere retail destination. Anchored by Nordstrom and JCPenny, this 5-level shopping center houses Apple, Michael Kors, Sephora & 110 others, along with local shops and boutiques like Alaska Wild Berry Products and the Iditarod Store.

907-258-5535

Open Mon.- Sat. 11am-7pm,

Sun. 11am-6pm

5th Ave. & C St.

simon.com/mall/anchorage-5th-avenue-mall



79 Tony Knowles Coastal Trail

Duration: 1 - 5 hours

11 miles from 2nd Avenue in Downtown Anchorage to Kincaid Park. Several access points. Views of Knik Arm, Mt. Susitna, and Denali on a clear day.

Open daily

5th Ave & N St.



2 Alaska Law Enforcement Museum

Duration: 20 min

Discover how law and order came to the most far-flung jurisdiction of America. Displays include: Alaska State Troopers, Women in Police, CSI Room, Patch Room, 52' Hudson, documentary movie.

907-279-5050

foast.org

Wednesday-Friday 10am-4pm,

Saturday 12pm-5pm

245 5th Ave, Suite 112, near "C" St.



14 Alaska Public Lands Information Center

Duration: 30 min

Inside the Federal Building, the APLIC is a good information source for learning more about Alaska's parks and wildlife. Built in 1936, the Federal Building once housed all of Alaska's federal offices. See the beautiful Aurora sculpture out front and great animal mounts inside.

907-644-3661

4th Ave & F St.

nps.gov/thingstodo/visit-aplic.htm



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• *Qiviut is eight times warmer than wool*

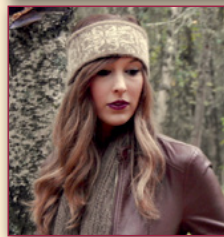
• *Does not itch, and will not shrink*

• *Finer than the best Cashmere*

• *Garments are hand knit by over 200 Alaska Native members*

• *Traditional based village patterns for scarves and smokings*

• *Hats, Headbands, Smokings, Scarves, limited supply of lace yarn and fiber*



OOMINGMAK

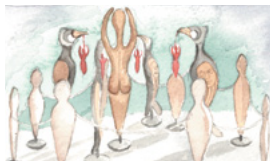
Downtown Location • Corner of 6th & H

Little brown house with musk ox mural

604 H St., Dept. ACG • Anchorage, AK 99501

Toll Free 1-888-360-9665 • (907) 272-9225 • www.qiviut.com



**6 Egan Center/Cruise drop-off**

Duration: 5 min

Our convention center, "the Egan" displays traditional and modern Alaskan art, including a magnificent wood-and-whalebone sculpture named "Eskimo Spirit Carvings." Governor William Egan was our first elected governor.

907-263-2800

5th Ave btwn. E & F St.

anchorageconventioncenters.com

**17 Wendler Building (1915)**

Duration: 10 min

See the only turreted building downtown. The grueling, 1,000 mile Iditarod sled dog race starts here each March; Balto the dog's lifelike bronze statue commemorates it. Look across D St. at the mural of Alaska.

907-274-4063

4th Ave. & D St.

**15 Resolution Park / Captain Cook Monument**

Duration: 10 minutes

The best spot downtown for a sweeping photo of Cook Inlet, the Port of Anchorage, Mount Susitna (Sleeping Lady), and on a clear day, Mount Denali. At high tide, be sure to keep an eye out for whales. The life-size bronze statue of Captain Cook gazing out to sea honors the 200th anniversary of his exploration of Alaskan waters. This is a great place to see the sunset.

3rd Ave. & L St.

**29 David Green Master Furrier**

Duration: 30 min

Visit Alaska's pioneer furrier, the store that fashions the furs worn by celebrities whose pictures adorn the walls. Friendly staff will explain Alaska's fur-bearing species, relate trapper's tales, and show how hand-made furs are crafted. They have one of the largest selections of fur garments under one roof in North America! The main store has been in the same location for over 50 years, used to be home to David Green's family (2nd floor) and survived the 1964 earthquake.

907-277-9595

Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12pm-4pm

4th Ave. btwn. A & B St.

davidgreenfur.com

**27 Alaska Mint**

Duration: 30 min

View the largest selection of Gold-n-Quartz jewelry in the state. Watch as artisans create beautiful pieces of jewelry and Alaskan collector medallions. You can also watch their minters as they strike beautiful images of Alaska on one of their 3 presses. Squish a penny for your penny collection. Be sure to ask to hold one of their Alaskan gold nuggets. The Alaska Mint is also the starting point for some popular winter events like the Iditarod and Fur Rondy Sled Dog Races.

907-278-8414

Open daily

Hours vary

4th Ave. & E St.

alaskamint.com

**12 The Kobuk / Kimball Building (1915)**

Duration: 10 min

One of Anchorage's first commercial buildings, the Kimball family built it in 1915 after paying a whopping \$500 for the land, and still owns it today. It originally housed a dry goods store - today, an eclectic array of gifts, teas, candy, an espresso bar and bakery.

5th Ave. & E St.

907-272-3626

anchorage.net/listing/the-kobuk

**82 Town Square**

Duration: 20 min

Enjoy the flowing fountain and vibrant floral garden. Stroll down the walkway of 10,000 bricks commemorating different Alaskans. Photograph the immense whale mural by the famous artist Wyland.

6th Ave. & E St.

**80 Delaney Park Strip**

Duration: 1 hr

Known as the "Park Strip," the wide open lawns were cleared as a firebreak for early Anchorage, then later became the main airfield. Climb around an antique train engine, visit memorials to Martin Luther King, Jr. and WWII veterans, and enjoy the magnificent Centennial Rose Garden.

Between 9th & 10th Streets from A St. to P St.

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TAKE A PIECE OF ALASKA HOME



The Greens celebrate 4 generations in Alaska

In his speech to persuade Congress to purchase Alaska in 1860, William Henry Seward spoke of its riches: gold, timber, jade, furs, fish. Many of today's most popular art objects and souvenirs are made of the very materials Seward talked about over 150 years ago. The unique crafts produced in Alaska come from the earth and capture the spirit of this wild, untamed country. No matter your taste or budget, you can bring a piece of Alaska home with you.

Be sure to look for the Made in Alaska logo before you buy. And most everything can be shipped home for you. Above all, let your own taste and style guide you to those things that will most remind you of your magical time in Alaska.



WildAlaskan.com

● FINE ARTS & CRAFTS

Paintings and prints capture the heart and soul of Alaska. Weavers practice ancient techniques to create baskets made of birch, grass, and baleen. Ivory and bone, from whales, walrus and mammoth, make for gorgeous carvings and sculptures. Soapstone is another favorite for sculpture.

Several galleries and unique shops make up the G Street Art District, near the intersection of G St. and 5th Ave. You'll find a wide variety of modern & Alaskan art and many options for souvenirs.

● FURS

Nothing is more Alaskan than

fur. Trade in furs attracted Russians here, and it still thrives. Whether it's fox, wolf, or sable, nothing is as warm or sensuous.

Founded in 1922, **David Green Master Furrier** is located on 4th Avenue between A & B Streets. They offer extraordinary fashions and unmatched quality, with designs ranging from traditional to cutting-edge.

● CLOTHING & OUTDOOR GEAR

Bringing the right gear for your Alaska vacation can seem daunting. Luckily we know the spots in Anchorage to gear up. **The Hoarding Marmot** offers affordable

HIGHLIGHTS

29 DAVID GREEN MASTER FURRIER
907-277-9595
davidgreenfur.com

23 THE HOARDING MARMOT
907-334-3333
hoardingmarmot.com

MAP

See page 8 & 18

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● SOUVENIRS

No matter what kind of Alaskan remembrance you're looking for, you're guaranteed to find it at **Trapper Jack's Trading Post**. With more than 7,000 square feet of souvenirs, you'll find everything from T-shirts and native Alaskan handmade crafts to gold-nugget jewelry and whalebone carvings. Their sister shop **Moose Creek Trading Post**, on 5th Ave. between D and E, also has great souvenirs to bring home.

● QIVIUT

Combed from the undercoat of the Arctic musk ox, Qiviut (pronounced ikiv-ee-utei) is eight times warmer than wool, rarer than cashmere and extraordinarily lightweight. It is one of the finest natural fibers known to man.

The Oomingmak Musk Ox Producer's Co-op is owned

by approximately 250 Native Alaskan women from over 20 remote coastal villages of Alaska who knit tunics, scarves and other items by hand. Each village has a signature pattern derived from traditional aspects of village life and the Alaska Native culture. Items are sold at their quaint downtown shop where you can often meet knitters.

● GOLD

Gold-in-quartz was formed together deep within the earth millions of years ago - and is one of the rarest forms of gold in the world.

At the **Alaska Mint** you will find the largest selection of Gold-n-Quartz jewelry in the state. This is one of the rarest forms of gold in the world. Ask them about designing a custom coin or piece of jewelry for your collection. You can also tour the mint.

Northern Made Creations Gold & Diamond Co. creates amazing jewelry with gold mined by Alaskan miners. Browse gold nugget and

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HIGHLIGHTS

32 TRAPPER JACK'S TRADING POST

907-272-6110
trapperjackstradingpostak.com

31 OOMINGMAK MUSK OX PRODUCER'S CO-OP

907-272-9225
qiviut.com

27 ALASKA MINT

907-278-8414
alaskamint.com

19 NORTHERN MADE CREATIONS GOLD & DIAMOND CO.

907-338-7778
northernmadecreations.com

MAP

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© Fifth Avenue Jewelers and Wild Nigyan

KEEP IT LOCAL

When purchasing products in Alaska, look for the Made in Alaska logo. It signifies the product was manufactured entirely in this state. This logo is your assurance of local quality.

**HIGHLIGHTS****25 FIFTH AVENUE JEWELERS**

907-258-3635
akdiamondco.com

33 THE ULU FACTORY

907-276-3119
theulufactory.com

WILD ALASKAN COMPANY
shop online
wildalaskan.com

14 ALASKA SAUSAGE & SEAFOOD

907-562-3636
alaskasausage.com

MAP

See page 8 & 18

gold quartz jewelry, custom designed diamond and gemstone jewelry, exotic mineral specimens and other Alaskan creations.

Fifth Avenue Jewelers

established in 1967, specializes in hand-crafted gold quartz and gold nugget jewelry. View their one of a kind Estate jewelry collection and other fine diamond & colored stone jewelry.

ULU KNIVES

Alaska's Indigenous People of the North invented this ancient curved blade which rocks back and forth, filleting salmon and trout. Watch skilled craftsmen carry on with this tradition at **The Ulu Factory** near Ship Creek. Blades are made of US stainless steel and the handles come in a variety of hardwoods including Alaskan Birch and American Walnut. Learn how to use an Ulu and about its rich heritage with a demonstration and guided explanation of how they make The Legendary Knife of the Arctic. Open June through August, Monday -

Friday from 8am - 6pm and Saturday & Sunday 9am - 6pm.

SEAFOOD & SAUSAGE

From sockeye salmon to halibut, black cod, crab, and more, **Wild Alaskan Company** seafood is frozen at peak freshness, bringing you the same great taste and quality you experienced in Alaska. Delivering wild-caught Alaskan seafood to doorsteps all over the U.S., Wild Alaskan Company lets you enjoy seafood from Alaska all year long.

Since 1963, **Alaska Sausage & Seafood** has crafted quality products, including Alaskan Sausages with Reindeer and Wild Alaskan Smoked Salmon. These can be found in nearly every grocery store and fine restaurant in Alaska. The Eckmann family invites you to their Anchorage retail store to sample and discover why so many are loyal customers. Or, order online and let them ship it to you!

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www.theULUfactory.com

HIGHLIGHTS

15 ALASKA WILD BERRY PRODUCTS

907-562-8858

akwildberry.com

14 MEADOW LAKES MARKET

907-373-3033

MAP

See page 18 & 91

● BERRIES & CHOCOLATE GALORE!

Experience the irresistible taste of **Alaska Wild Berry Products**, where gourmet chocolate meets wild Alaskan flavors! Indulge in confections made from time-honored recipes, or surprise your taste buds with wild berry jellies, jams and sauces. Open 7 days a week, you can also shop their large selection of Alaskan foods, souvenirs, clothing and jewelry. View the 20 foot tall Chocolate fall or take a FREE

tour of the candy kitchens.

● ALASKA'S MARKETPLACE

Meadow Lakes Market offers a collection of Alaska-made goodies from some 80 local artists. Located in Wasilla (about 60 miles north of Anchorage), it's a perfect stop en-route to Talkeetna or Denali. A few finds include jams and jellies, birch baskets, jewelry, metal and glass art, and locally made soaps.



EAT, DRINK, & BE MERRY

CUISINE OF THE NORTH

Alaska is one of the last, best places in the world to sample—and savor—wild-caught seafood. Nothing says Alaska more than King Crab or salmon. From the cold depths of the Bering Sea, King Crab is a delicacy, and you can't get much closer to the source! All five species of Pacific salmon, are available in Alaska restaurants. Ask for what's in season, as fresh-caught wild Alaska salmon is an amazing dining experience. King Salmon, is Alaska's state fish and is known for its large size and rich melt-in-your-mouth texture. You'll also see coho (silver) salmon, and sockeye (red) salmon on the menu as the "catch of the day" when they're in season.

Halibut is a local favorite, with delicate flavor served many ways, from fried to grilled or baked. Alaskans consider rockfish a real treat for it's mild, sweet flavor. It's not as available as halibut, but you'll find it in many restaurants during the summer.

But there's more than just seafood. Reindeer is an Alaska specialty that is easy to come by and tasty to try. Essentially a domestic caribou, reindeer is typically made into sausage, with a flavor similar to high-end link pork sausage. It's served for breakfast or as a reindeer hot dog at street vendors and restaurants. You can also find reindeer sausage in local stores.

Above - Fresh Alaska King Crab expertly prepared at Orso.



— Est. 2008 —

Serrano's

DOWNTOWN


Our menu showcases the passion and love of our rich heritage and our unique family recipes that have been passed down through generations. We believe in the lost art of home cooking combined with a modern flare.



Fresh Caught Alaskan Seafood
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Monday – Tuesday, 11 am – 10 pm • Thursday 11 am – 12 am
Friday – Saturday, 11 am – 2 am • Sunday, 11 am – 9 pm

www.SerranosMexicanGrill.com





© ORSO

● BEST SEAFOOD

Local Alaska fare infused with the spirit of Italy, **ORSO** offers up a selection of delectable fresh seafood entrees, classic dishes like Lamb Osso Bucco and an inspired wine list. Conveniently located in the heart of downtown Anchorage!

Visit **Glacier BrewHouse**, an upscale BrewHouse known for fresh Alaskan seafood, Alderwood-fire grilled meats, and hand-crafted brews. Stop in for lunch dinner, or a weekend brunch. Be sure to leave room for a world-famous bread pudding!

Savor a culinary adventure at **Alaska Chopped & Chowdered** that honors the exquisite flavors of land and sea. Discover for yourself why their "Seafood x Steak x Chowder House" has garnered such widespread acclaim. Open for lunch and dinner. Sip local beers on tap alongside an amazing wine list.

● BEST GRILL

Serrano's Mexican Grill brings authentic family recipes to life with a modern twist, offering scratch-made dishes crafted from the freshest ingredients. Their menu highlights traditional flavors

alongside unique "hidden gems," with specialties like hand-crafted corn tortillas, house-made salsas, and slow-marinated carne asada. With three Anchorage locations—Downtown on 4th Avenue, plus Midtown spots on Northern Lights and Tudor—Serrano's is open daily for lunch and dinner, with Sunday brunch starting at noon.

● BEST STEAK

Walk into one of the few Alaska buildings that's around 100 years old, and you'll find history - along with mouthwatering steak that's cut and aged on premises. "Home of the 4" filet mignon, **Club Paris** is the local go-to for a satisfying steak dinner, and it also serves Alaska seafood. While some steakhouses might offer lunch as an afterthought, Club Paris also dotes on its lunch offerings: hamburger beef ground in-house, as well as lunch meats smoked and roasted.

● BEST INDIAN FOOD

At **Bombay Deluxe** the vibrant flavors of India come to life in the heart of Anchorage. Savor curries, tandoori naans & kababs, biryani dishes, as well as a variety of vegan and vegetarian options. To drink, enjoy a glass of beer or wine, chai, iced masala tea, mango, or strawberry lassi. Sweet



Grab your camera!



Scan for more information.



HIGHLIGHTS

62 ORSO
907-222-3232
orsoalaska.com

61 GLACIER BREWHOUSE
907-274-2739
glacierbrewhouse.com

1 ALASKA CHOPPED & CHOWDERED
907-222-4970
akchowder.com

63 SERRANO'S MEXICAN GRILL
907-865-6898
serranosmexicangrill.com

60 CLUB PARIS
907-277-6332
clubparisrestaurant.net

2 BOMBAY DELUXE
907-277-1200
bombaydeluxe.com

MAP

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HIGHLIGHTS

3 PEANUT FARM
907-563-3283
wemustbenuts.com

53 SWEET CHEEKS
CABARET

907-306-7956
sweetcheekscabaret.com

61 GLACIER
BREWHOUSE
907-274-2739
glacierbrewhouse.com

2 DOUBLE SHOVEL
CIDER CO
907-562-1100
doubleshovelsider.com

BIG SWIG TOURS
907-268-0872
bigswigtours.com

MAP

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tooth? Choose from Gulab Jaman, Indian-style donuts soaked in rose-flavored syrup or an Indian-style rice pudding. Order from the menu, take advantage of the lunch buffet, or order take-out or delivery.

● **BEST BURGER & CASUAL FARE**

When you need a sports fix, head over to **Peanut Farm**, a laid-back 2-story sports bar & grill and pizza kitchen. With more than 70 screens and a huge outdoor patio, it's the perfect hang-out for cheering on your favorite team.

● **DINNER & A SHOW**

Experience a lively night out in Anchorage with a **Sweet Cheeks Cabaret** show at The Cheeky Room, located inside **The Broken Blender**. Weekly burlesque shows run all summer long (excluding August, with a special National Potato Day performance on August 16th). During the show, you can order food and drinks from The Broken Blender's pub-style menu. If you're not in The Cheeky Room, unwind with

their karaoke nights, live music, or stop by for lunch, dinner, or a casual drink. Don't miss the outdoor patio on a sunny day!

● **ALASKA BEER, CIDER & DISTILLERIES**

Alaskans know their stuff about brewing beer, with over 40 microbreweries and distilleries operating around the state. The **Glacier BrewHouse** specializes in craft beers, as well as award-winning, oak-aged beers. **Double Shovel Cider Co** specializes in naturally gluten-free hard cider. They use ingredients from Alaska and from the Pacific Northwest. See our brewery map on page 38-39 or visit on a fun guided excursion with **BigSwig Tours**.

● **LOCAL MARKETS & PRODUCE**

Alaska's produce thrives under lots of summer light, and you can find the freshest harvests as farmers markets around Anchorage. See the chart below for more market information, and see page 8-9 for market locations on a map.

FARMERS MARKET INFO

ANCHORAGE FARMERS MARKET

1420 Cordova Street	May - Mid-Oct	Saturday's	9AM-2PM
---------------------	---------------	------------	---------

MARKET BY THE MOUNTAINS

1301 Muldoon Rd	Late June - September	Saturday's	9:30AM-2:30PM
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THE CENTER MARKET

600 E. Northern Lights Blvd	Year Round	Wednesday's	10AM-6PM
		Friday's	10AM-6PM
		Saturday's	10AM-4PM

SOUTH ANCHORAGE FARMERS MARKET

11111 O'Malley Center Dr.	May - early October	Saturday's	9AM-2PM
---------------------------	---------------------	------------	---------

SPENARD FARMERS MARKET

2590 Spenard Rd.	Mid-May - September	Saturday's	9AM-2PM
------------------	---------------------	------------	---------



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555 W. Northern Lights Blvd
Summer Hours 11am - 10pm
907-277-1200

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1120 Huffman Road
Summer Hours 11am - 9pm
907-644-4521



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FEATURED ALASKA
BREWRIES

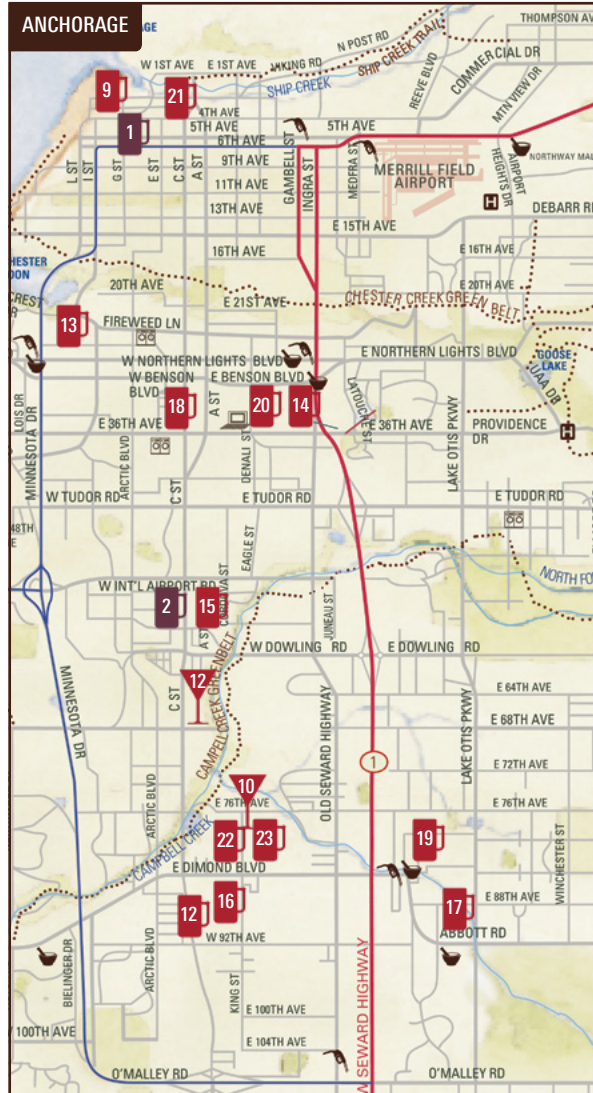
1 **GLACIER BREWHOUSE** Anchorage's first craft brewery, known for outstanding ales and fresh Alaska seafood. Lunch, dinner & weekend brunch #gbak 737 W 5th Ave #110, 907-274-2739
glacierbrewhouse.com

2 **DOUBLE SHOVEL CIDER CO** DOUBLE SHOVEL CIDER Co // AK-Made Hard Cider (GF) • Cider & Tap Room @ 502 W 58th Ave • Food Trucks, To-Go Cans, Bottles, Growlers • 907-562-1100 // doubleshovelsider.com

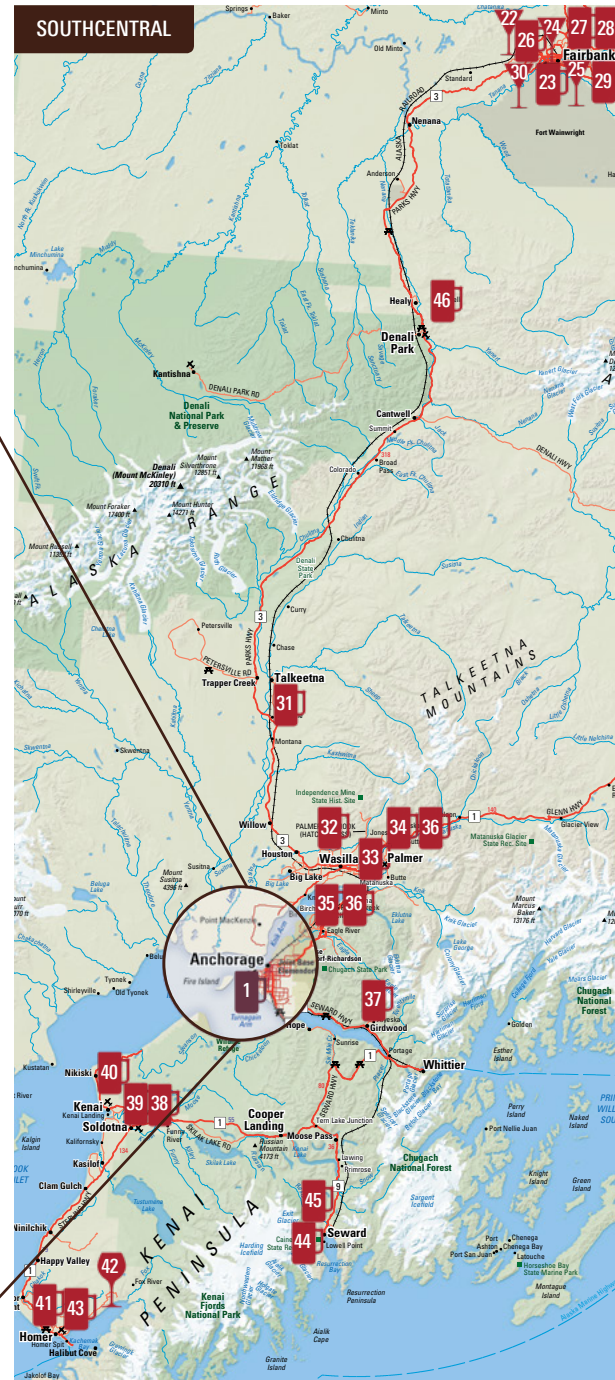
ANCHORAGE

- 9** **49TH STATE BREWING COMPANY**
907-277-7727
- 10** **ALASKAN SPIRITS DISTILLERY**
907-290-7177
- 11** **ANCHORAGE BREWING CO**
907-677-2739
- 12** **ANCHORAGE DISTILLERY**
907-561-2100
- 13** **BROKEN TOOTH BREWING (BEAR TOOTH THEATRE PUB)**
907-276-4200
- 14** **BROKEN TOOTH BREWING (MOOSE'S TOOTH PUB & PIZZERIA)**
907-258-2537
- 15** **CYNOSURE BREWING**
907-563-2966
- 16** **KING STREET BREWING CO**
907-336-5464
- 17** **MAGNETIC NORTH BREWING CO**
907-891-7406
- 18** **MATANUSKA BREWING CO**
907-677-2531
- 19** **MIDNIGHT SUN BREWING CO**
907-344-1179
- 20** **ONSITE BREWING CO**
907-310-2337
- 21** **SHIP CREEK BREWING COMPANY**
907-720-2337
- 22** **TURNAGAIN BREWING**
907-646-2337
- 23** **ZIP KOMBUCHA**
907-351-7821

Dive into the local craft beer, wine, and spirits scene at Alaska-owned breweries. Some locations are brewpubs serving up delicious meals like fresh Alaska seafood dishes or award-winning pizza. Others have local food trucks on site for a quick bite—from gourmet reindeer hot dogs to BBQ and sweet and savory crepes! Call ahead, as hours vary and not all breweries are open 7 days a week. Visit on your own or go behind the scenes with **Big Swig Tours** (907-268-0872). Enjoy responsibly!



SOUTHCENTRAL



FAIRBANKS

- 22** **ARCTIC HARVEST DISTILLERY**
Fairbanks 907-460-1414
- 23** **BLACK SPRUCE BREWING CO**
Fairbanks 907-328-0448
- 24** **FAIRBANKS DISTILLING COMPANY**
Fairbanks 907-452-5055
- 25** **HOARFROST DISTILLING**
Fairbanks 907-479-6128
- 26** **HOODOO BREWING**
Fairbanks 907-459-2337
- 27** **LAT 65 BREWING CO**
Fairbanks 907-328-7748
- 28** **MIDNITE MINE BREWING CO.**
Fairbanks 907-456-5348
- 29** **SILVER GULCH BREWING**
Fairbanks 907-452-2739
- 30** **URSA MAJOR DISTILLERY**
Fairbanks 907-347-8951

SOUTHCENTRAL

- 31** **DENALI BREWING CO**
Talkeetna 907-733-2536
- 32** **BEARPAW RIVER BREWING CO**
Wasilla 907-373-2337
- 33** **BLEEDING HEART BREWERY**
Palmer (907) 746-2421
- 34** **ARKOSE BREWERY**
Palmer 907-746-BEER
- 35** **ODD MAN RUSH BREWING**
Eagle River 907-696-2337
- 36** **MATANUSKA BREWING CO**
Eagle River 907-696-3000
Palmer 907-745-2337
- 37** **GIRDWOOD BREWING CO**
Girdwood 907-783-2739
- 38** **ST. ELIAS BREWING CO**
Soldotna 907-260-7837
- 39** **KENAI RIVER BREWING CO**
Soldotna 907-262-2337
- 40** **KASSIK'S BREWERY**
Kenai 907-776-4055
- 41** **GRACE RIDGE BREWING CO**
Homer 907-435-0601
- 42** **BEAR CREEK WINERY & LODGING**
Homer 907-318-2470
- 43** **HOMER BREWING CO**
Homer 907-235-3626
- 44** **SEWARD BREWING CO**
Seward 907-422-0337
- 45** **TIDEWATER TAPHOUSE**
Seward 907-224-3838
- 46** **49TH STATE BREWING COMPANY**
Healy 907-683-2739

ACTIVITIES

Alaska Experiences you shouldn't miss - and will never forget!

GLACIER & WILDLIFE
CRUISES

41

FLIGHTSEEING & BEAR
VIEWING

46

FISHING

56

As you cruise out on glacier-filled waters, you hear a distant rumbling. You turn just in time to catch one of nature's most dramatic sights: a house-sized block of ice shearing off a tidewater glacier and crashing into the ocean.

Taking a glacier and wildlife cruise is a magical experience. Over the past 10,000 years, glaciers have sculpted the face of Alaska, moving mountains and carving valleys. And cruising is the best way to get close to these icy behemoths.

You'll also get close to Alaska's unique animals. Passing through inlets and fjords, you'll look for bears, mountain goats, bald eagles, and puffins. Then sail into waters jumping with seals, porpoises, and sea lions. With the help of underwater microphones, you can listen to whales converse in their ancient language.

Cruising options exist to suit any taste. Spend a quick afternoon touring nearby bays or travel deep into a national park. Choose a light snack or a gourmet buffet on an island.

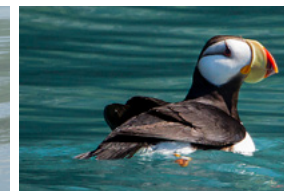
The waters of coastal Alaska are as pristine as they were 1,000 years ago. Getting out on the water is an unforgettable way to experience the unchanged call of the wild.



© Major Marine Tours



© Alaska Wildland Adventures



© Alaska Wildland Adventures

THE ALASKA APP



FIND THE BEST GLACIERS BY
USING OUR GLACIER DIRECTORY



PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND OR KENAI FJORDS?

LOGISTICS

● PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND Departs Whittier

By car: 1.5 hrs from Anchorage, call 877-611-2586 for Whittier tunnel schedule

By rail: 2.5 hrs, departs Anchorage 9:45am, returns Whittier 6:45pm daily from May 31 - Sept 15

● KENAI FJORDS

By car: 2.5 hrs from Anchorage
By rail: 4.5 hrs, departs Anchorage 6:45am, returns Seward 6pm daily from May 16-Sept 14
Consider an overnight in Seward before your cruise (See pg 81)

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Prince William Sound has the densest concentration of tidewater glaciers in the world, some flowing a dozen miles from ice-capped peaks to terminate in cliffs of ice towering hundreds of feet above the water. Wildlife sightings are less reliable than Kenai Fjords.

HIGHLIGHTS

Best glacier calving • Generally calm waters • Dramatic mountain scenery • Spectacular waterfalls • Seabirds, otters, harbor seals, and the occasional whale • Shorter cruises stay in Blackstone Bay while longer cruises go deep into the Sound.

KENAI FJORDS

For those interested in spotting marine wildlife, especially whales. Shorter cruises stay in Resurrection Bay and view glaciers at a distance. Longer cruises go all the way into Kenai Fjords National Park to the face of impressive tidewater glaciers.

HIGHLIGHTS

Best whale watching • Emerald green fjords, rugged cliffs, and coves • Puffins, seabirds, sea lions, otters, harbor seals, mountain goats • Shorter cruises in Resurrection Bay view glaciers at a distance • Longer cruises go into Kenai Fjords National Park.

CALM WATERS
WILD SIGHTS
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

GLACIERS

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- May - October | Complimentary hot meal
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See amazing wildlife and experience the icebergs of Columbia Glacier and the calving of Meares Glacier.

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CRUISE OPERATORS

Operator Cruise Name (Season)	Length (Hours)	Cruise Cost (Adult / Child)	Departs	Transportation from Anchorage (Adult / Child)
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND DAY CRUISES (WHITTIER)				
Phillips Cruises & Tours, LLC 907-276-8023				
26 Glacier Cruise May 3 - Oct 5 (Daily)	5 hours	\$199 / \$125*	12:30	Coach \$89 / \$59 Train \$129 / \$65
Glacier Quest Cruise May 17- Sept 14 (Daily)	3.75 hours	\$159 / \$89*	1:00	Coach \$89 / \$59 Train \$129 / \$65
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND DAY CRUISES (VALDEZ)				
Stan Stephens Glacier & Wildlife Cruises 866-867-1297				
Columbia Glacier Cruise May 17- Sept 15	6 hours	\$169 / \$84.50	10:30	
Meares Glacier Excursion June 1 - Aug 31	7.5 hours	\$189 / \$99.50*	9:00	
PORTAGE GLACIER CRUISE (FROM PORTAGE LAKE)				
Gray Line Alaska 800-544-2206				
May 16 - Sept 16	1 hour	\$49 / \$29	10:30, 12:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30	Coach \$90 / \$70
KENAI FJORDS DAY CRUISES (FROM SEWARD) RESURRECTION BAY				
Kenai Fjords Tours 888-478-3346 (Call for winter hours)				
Ressurrection Bay May 16 - Sept 5	4.5 hours	Call for rates	12:30	
Major Marine Tours 907-224-8030				
Kenai Fjords Wildlife Cruise June 16 - Oct 12	4 hours	\$145 / \$72.50	12:30	Coach \$150 / \$75
Happy Puffin Tours 907-535-1735				
Sailing and Wildlife Viewing June 2 - Sept 13	7 hours	\$399	10:00	
KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK				
Kenai Fjords Tours 888-478-3346				
Northwestern Fjord Tour May 31- Aug 31	8 hours	Call for rates	8:30	
Captain's Choice Nat'l Park Tour June 7 - Aug 24	7 hours	Call for rates	9:00	
Classic Kenai Fjords Park Tour May 3 - Sept 28	6 hours	Call for rates	8:00, 11:30	
Major Marine Tours 907-224-8030				
Kenai Fjords National Park Tour June 7 - Aug 18	6 hours	\$225 / \$112.50*	8:00	Coach \$150 / \$75
May 3 - Sept 21	6 hours	\$225 / \$112.50*		
Northwestern Fjord Tour May 30 - Sept 1	8.5 hours	\$295*	9:00	Coach \$150 / \$75
Seacor Tours 907-802-0553				
Wildlife & Glacier Tour May 15 - Sept 15	6.5 hours	\$299*	9:00	
Expeditions Northwest 907-912-0460				
National Park Expedition May 25 - Sept 1	7 hours	\$349*	8:00	

* Pricing includes meals

** Some cruises may require taxes and fees in addition to prices listed above.



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ALASKA BEGINS WHEN YOU LEAVE THE GROUND



© Denali Air

In a state one-fifth the size of the U.S. with less than 10,000 miles of road, flying is a way of life. Air taxis are to Alaska what yellow cabs are to New York and water taxis are to Venice.

Scenic flights in a small plane or helicopter bring you face to face with Alaska's dramatic beauty. Visitors consider it a highlight of their Alaska vacation. Civilization fades into distant memory as you float over jagged peaks that have never felt the press of a human footprint or spot a bear foraging in the wild. The adage, "Fly an hour or walk a week" is never more true than when, minutes out of town, you soar above the massive buttresses of Denali or glide over the iceberg-choked waters of Columbia Glacier.

Some small planes are equipped with floats to land on mountain lakes, remote rivers, or ocean bays. Others deploy skis to land on snowy glaciers. Most flights offer all window seats, pilot narration, and individual headsets. Operators offer set prices for seats on flightseeing trips to popular destinations. You can also charter by the hour for trips to remote wilderness destinations.

If weather permits, you won't regret taking a flightseeing tour of Denali. From the air, nature presents itself on a scale beyond your wildest comprehension. You enter the scene over a boulder-strewn labyrinth of treacherous crevasses seven miles long. Soon, exquisite ice formations loom on the crest of these walls. You are gazing at blocks of ice the size of shopping malls. Suddenly, just ahead, it appears: the lofty summit of Denali, North America's highest peak.

Above - Take in magnificent views of Alaska from the air.
Below - Visitors have fun on a glacier landing.



© Takeerna Air Taxi

THE ALASKA APP



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TRAVEL TIP



BUCKET LIST

Alaska by Helicopter



FLIGHTSEEING, DOG SLEDDING, GLACIER LANDINGS, HELI-HIKING & MORE!



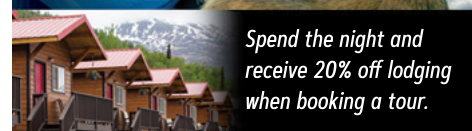
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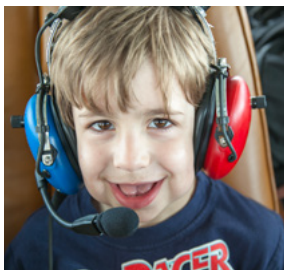
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when booking a tour.

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THREE FLIGHTSEEING TOURS TO DENALI

FROM ANCHORAGE (140 miles away)

If you're not headed further north, this is a wonderful opportunity to experience the grandeur of the mountain. Fly north over a roadless wilderness of braided rivers, vast forests, and thriving wetlands. Look for moose, bear, and swan. 45 minutes into flight, enter the glacial amphitheaters of Denali for close-up views of crevasses, granite walls, and Denali itself, which you explore for 30 minutes. On the return, land on a wilderness lake for photos.

HIGHLIGHTS

See Denali and the Great Gorge and be back in 3 hours
• Tour hundreds of miles of Alaskan wilderness • Spot wildlife • Float or wheel planes

LOGISTICS

Tours: 3 hr route from Anchorage, from \$575+ including lake-side landing (Regal Air: 907-243-8535)

FROM DENALI PARK (80 miles away)

Tours from Denali Park fly the north side of Denali which plunges 17,000 feet to the tundra in just two miles (versus 30 miles for the south side). Fly over the beautiful Polychrome Hills and the Cantwell Glacier on shorter helicopter flights. Longer fixed wing flights see Wonder Lake, Muldrow Glacier, and get right up to the Wickersham Wall, the highest relief on the planet.

HIGHLIGHTS

Glacier landings • See mining community of Kantishna • See pioneer climbing route taken up Muldrow Glacier • See entire North side of the Park

LOGISTICS

By car: 4 hrs from Anchorage
By rail: 7 hrs 30 min, departs Anchorage 8:20am, return departs Denali Park at 12:30pm
Tours: \$269 - \$599 based on tour type (Denali Air: 907-683-2261, Denali Summit Flight: 800-474-1986, TEMSCO Helicopter Tours: 907-683-0683)

FROM TALLEETNA (60 miles away)


Given unpredictable weather, this authentic pioneer town halfway to Denali Park offers a great chance to see the mountain. Rich in ambience, fishing and river recreation, Talkeetna merits an overnight (see pg 100). A half-dozen air taxis which offer climber drop-offs also specialize in scenic flights, with specially-equipped ski planes for landing on glaciers. Fifteen minutes into flight, you are exploring the peaks and glaciers.

HIGHLIGHTS

Glacier landings • See more glaciers and mountains • Learn rich climbing history • Ski or wheel planes


LOGISTICS

By car: 2.5 hrs from Anchorage
By rail: 3 hrs 10 min, departs Anchorage 8:20am, return departs Talkeetna at 5:20pm
Fixed Wing tours: 60-90 min, starting at \$275+ based on tour (Talkeetna Air Taxi: 907-733-2218)






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Heli-Ice Climbing • Heli-Packrafting • Heli-Hiking
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INFO@OUTBOUNDHELI.COM

OTHER FLIGHTSEEING ADVENTURES

Want more dramatic views of Alaska? Most companies offer other flightseeing tours to experience Alaska's beauty from above, besides Denali. Here are just a few of them:



© Alaska Helicopter Tours

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Explore endless miles of winding fjords and inlets. Touch down in the sound. Taxi past tidewater glaciers and floating icebergs. Wildlife is likely to be spotted as well - keep an eye out for bears, otters and eagles!

VOLCANOES & GLACIERS FROM ABOVE

Most companies based in Anchorage also offer quick tours (1.5 - 2 hours) to one of the many nearby glaciers, like Colony Glacier, Knik Glacier, Blackstone Glacier, or Lake

George Glacier. See Anchorage from above, mountains, glaciers, and land on a glacial lake! Some companies even offer an option to go dog sledding.

ANCHORAGE & THE CHUGACH RANGE

Short on time? A 30 minute flightseeing tour is a great option for visitors who want to experience Alaska from a bird's eye view but might not have a lot of time. Look for sheep and other wildlife in the Chugach Mountains and enjoy the scenic Turnagain Arm below.

FLIGHTSEEING RECOMMENDATIONS

ANCHORAGE	Alaska Air Service 907-694-8687 Alaska Helicopter Tours 907-272-7777 Alpine Air 907-783-2360 Trail Ridge Air 907-248-0838 Regal Air 907-243-8535
DENALI	Denali Air 907-683-2261 Denali Summit Flight 800-474-1986 TEMSCO Helicopter Tours 907-683-0683
FAIRBANKS	Northern Alaska Tour Company 800-474-1986
GLENNALLEN	Copper Valley Air 907-822-4200
MCCARTHY	Wrangell Mountain Air Service 907-554-4411
PALMER	Outbound Heli Adventures 907-351-6736
SEWARD / MOOSE PASS	Marathon Helicopter Tours 907-224-3616 Scenic Mountain Air 907-416-1959
SOLDOTNA	Natron Air 907-262-8440
TALKEETNA	K2 Aviation 907-733-2291 Talkeetna Air Taxi 907-733-2218
VALDEZ	Alpine Air 907-831-0643

Above right - In summer, you can still mush on snow. Just fly to a glacier! **Below** - Many floatplane flights offer optional landings mid-trip in some of Alaska's most stunning places - only accessible by air.



© Regal Air

PLAN YOUR ADVENTURE

The most unforgettable way to appreciate Alaska's majesty is by float plane

Flight Charters
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Fly-in Fishing
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ScenicMountainAir.com (907) 416-1959
Moose Pass, AK, 25 Miles North of Seward

WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK



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www.coppervalleyairservice.com

the denali experience

GET UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Birds eye view of Denali National Park and Denali, The Great One, operating out of Denali Park area.

denali summit flights

800-474-1986 / denalisummitflight.com

BEAR VIEWING

Strong, unbridled, and nomadic, Alaska's bears are perhaps the ultimate symbol of the wild. Seeing one, if even for a fleeting moment, is a rare and magical experience.

More than 50,000 black bears and 35,000 brown bears range the state's untamed wilderness, lumbering through berry-covered hillsides and slapping at salmon-choked rivers.

Unlike moose, you probably won't casually encounter bears on the road. One option is to visit Denali National Park, where your chances of seeing them, at least from a distance, improve. To see throngs of bears up close – belly-flopping into rivers, jaw-sparring for the best fishing grounds, or just napping in the sun – air-taxi operators can fly you to places with excellent viewing odds. They'll fly you across Cook Inlet to a system of rivers and bays that swarm with salmon, drawing ravenous brown bears by the dozens.

These 5- to 10-hour bear-viewing tours offer a unique insight into the creatures' culture. Many of them have become so accustomed to human presence they tend to ignore visitors and carry on with their normal routines.

Getting there is an experience in itself. You'll fly over glassy back country lakes, cragged mountain peaks, massive ice fields, pebble beaches, golden tundra, and a wealth of rugged wilderness.



© Alaska Air Service



BEAR VIEWING ■ FLIGHTSEEING ■ FISHING

A blue floatplane is shown on a calm lake. In the background, there are snow-capped mountains. An inset photograph shows a brown bear standing on a rocky shore, catching a fish.

Come fly with us!

Regal Air

Call today! 907.243.8535 or visit Regal-Air.com
4506 Lakeshore Drive, Anchorage, Alaska

REDOUBT BAY 1

(June 10 - late Aug.)

You'll often find several bears fishing for salmon in this scenic mountain lake system, where Wolverine Creek empties into Big River Lakes. See black and brown bears in one of the most concentrated and viewable bear populations in the state of Alaska. Less walking is required since viewing occurs on boats.

HIGHLIGHTS

Salmon fishing nearby • Lodge visits available on some tours



© Alaska Bear Adventures

BROOKS FALLS (KATMAI) 2

(Late June - early Aug., first 3 weeks of Sept.)

This is the famous site where bears are photographed pouncing on salmon swimming up waterfalls. In July, this river draws up to 25-35 bears at a time and you'll likely see large males jaw-spar and compete for the best fishing spots. It's about a mile walk to the bear viewing platform after a bear etiquette briefing.

HIGHLIGHTS

World-famous bear-fishing waterfall scenes • Spectacular salmon runs

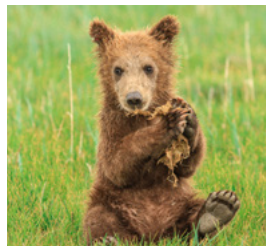
**LAKE CLARK NATIONAL PARK 3**

(June 1 - Sept 30)

The coasts of Lake Clark National Park and Silver Salmon Creek are prime foraging locations often attracting two to three times the number of bears found at other hot spots. It's not uncommon to see 10 to 15 bears at a time eating sedge grass and fishing for salmon.

HIGHLIGHTS

More remote location, fewer people • Magnificent backdrop



FROM ANCHORAGE	
Regal Air 907-243-8535	Brooks Falls - 10 hour tour, \$1135+ Lake Clark - 6.5 hour tour, \$975+
Brooks Lodge 800-544-0551	Brooks Falls - 10 hour tour, \$1370+ 800-544-0551
Alaska Air Service 907-694-8687	Lake Clark - 6 hour tour, \$985+
Trail Ridge Air 907-248-0830	Brooks Falls - 10 hour tour, \$1350+ Redoubt - 10 hour tour, \$1350+

FROM SOLDOTNA	
Natron Air 907-262-8440	Lake Clark - 2-3 hour tour, \$575+

FROM HOMER	
Alaska Bear Adventures 877-522-9247	Lake Clark - 4 + hour tour, \$685+

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or Extended Stays at Brooks Lodge

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AlaskaBearAdventures.com

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877 522-9247

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JEWELS OF THE WATER

With nearly 34,000 miles of coastline and countless pristine lakes and rivers, Alaska is a fisherman's paradise. No experience? No problem. Expert guides offer all the equipment and instruction you need.

You'll likely be going after the Big Two: salmon and halibut. Salmon range from pan-size to nearly 100 pounds, while halibut can weigh hundreds of pounds. Dining on your catch may be easier than hauling it in; most charters offer filleting, freezing and shipping.



SALMON: ALASKA'S SUPREME SPORT-FISH

With nearly 34,000 miles of coastline and countless pristine lakes and rivers, Alaska is a fisherman's paradise. No experience? No problem. Expert guides offer all the equipment and instruction you need.

TALKEETNA

This river and its tributaries, north of Anchorage, are a well-kept secret. The salmon aren't as big as in the Kenai but there are fewer crowds. Launch from Talkeetna or find road accessible spots in the Susitna River Valley off the Parks Highway.

HIGHLIGHTS

Fewer crowds • Talkeetna reachable by car and train • Talkeetna offers great Denali flightseeing

Logistics

By car: 2.5 hrs, drive Glenn Hwy north to Parks Hwy to the Talkeetna Spur Rd to the end.
By rail: 2 hrs, 55 mins, depart Anchorage 8:20 am, return leaves Talkeetna 5:05 pm.

KENAI RIVER

The biggest salmon are here, south of Anchorage, where the world-record 97-pounder was caught. Head to Cooper Landing, Kenai or Soldotna: Float on drift boats or cast from shore for four species of salmon. It can be crowded, but the views make up for it.

HIGHLIGHTS

World's biggest salmon • Cooper Landing is just 2 hours from Anchorage • Nearby hiking & recreation

Logistics

By car: 2 hrs to Cooper Landing, 2 hrs 45 mins to Kenai/Soldotna. Drive the Seward Hwy south to the Sterling Hwy. Cooper Landing is milepoint 48, and Soldotna is milepoint 95.2.

HALIBUT: ALASKA'S LARGEST SPORTFISH

Alaska's halibut are called barndoor for a reason: The largest sport-caught halibut tipped the scales at 459 pounds. While that grandma was a rarity, you can expect to catch lots of "chickens" — fish in the 10-30 pound range, and feast on their sweet, firm meat. You'll need to get an hour's boat ride out onto the ocean to nab one of these behemoths. Once they bite, be prepared for a real wrestling match.



And regardless of your success, you'll be out on the white capped waves, with glaciers and peaks in the distance. In Southcentral Alaska, there are two main jumping off points for great halibut fishing: Homer and Seward, each with its own special character.

HOMER

Homer is an eclectic, laid-back community of artists and fisherman that lies at the end of the Sterling Hwy. Homer is the gateway to Kachemak Bay, one of the richest bays in the world. (See page 88)

HIGHLIGHTS

"Alaska's Halibut Capital" • 40-180 minutes boat ride from prime fishing • Good seabird and marine mammal viewing • Slightly more protected waters

Logistics

By car: 5 hrs, drive the Seward Hwy to the Sterling Hwy to the end.
By air: 55 minutes, Ravn Alaska (800-866-8394) has 5 flights daily.

SEWARD

Seward is a picturesque seaside community, 2.5 hours south of Anchorage, with a bustling harbor, quaint shops and galleries, and a reputation as "Gateway to Kenai Fjords National Park." (See page 83)

HIGHLIGHTS

One to three hour boat ride to prime fishing • Closest to Anchorage • Lots of glacier and whale watching cruises

Logistics

By car: 2.5 hrs, drive south on the Seward Highway to the end (126 miles). **By rail:** 4 hrs, 20 mins, depart Anchorage 6:45am, return departs Seward 6:00pm.

FISHING RECOMMENDATIONS			
GEAR & GENERAL INFORMATION			
	Anchorage	Alaska Dept of Fish & Game (regulations)	907-267-2100
FLY-IN FISHING			
	Soldotna	Natron Air	877-520-8440
	Anchorage	Regal Air	907-243-8535
	Anchorage	Trail Ridge Air	907-248-0838
LODGES			
	Cooper Landing	Kenai Riverside Lodge	800-478-4100
GUIDES & CHARTERS			
	Anchorage	The Bait Shack	907-522-3474
	Talkeetna	Phantom TriRiver Charters	907-733-2400
	Cooper Landing	Alaska Wildland Adventures	800-478-4100
	Seward	Alaska Northern Outfitters	907-224-2665
	Seward	Expeditions Northwest	907-912-0460
	Homer	Homer Ocean Charters	907-235-6212
FISH & GAME PROCESSING			
	Anchorage	Alaska Sausage and Seafood	907-562-3636
BUY ALASKAN SEAFOOD			
	Online	Wild Alaskan Company	wildalaskan.com

HOW TO FISH IN ANCHORAGE

FOUR IMPORTANT DETAILS:

- 1. Buy a License:** Available for purchase at sporting goods stores and local grocery stores. A King Stamp is an extra fee. You can also purchase online and print from adfg.alaska.gov/Store/
- 2. Go Unguided:** The creeks and lakes around Anchorage can provide hours of fun for the entire family. Visit **The Bait Shack** for gear rentals, tackle, fishing licences, and local advice. Use the gear in Anchorage, or take it with you on the road and fish around the state. Always contact the **Alaska Department of Fish & Game** for the most current regulations. When fishing, remember bear safety! See page 68-69 for more info on bear and moose safety.
- 3. Fly-In Fishing:** The best guided option from Anchorage is a fly-in fishing charter. Depart via floatplane and find yourself in the wilderness with an experienced guide for a day of fishing (see options on page 59).
- 4. No Deep Sea Charters:** Deep sea charters for halibut, salmon and rock fish do not depart from Anchorage. Instead, drive to Whittier (1.5 hrs), Seward (2.5 hrs), or Homer (4.5 hrs). Most charters depart early (around 6am), so consider driving to your charter departure point the night before. See page 60 for more information.

HIGHLIGHTS

THE BAIT SHACK
907-522-3474
thebaitshackak.com

8 REGAL AIR
907-243-8535
regal-air.com

9 TRAIL RIDGE AIR
907-248-0838
trailridgeair.com

WILD ALASKAN COMPANY
wildalaskan.com

MAP

See page 18

UNGUIDED FISHING

Contact the **Alaska Department of Fish & Game** for regulations, possession limits, and permitted areas to fish at each location.

NAME	FISH	ABOUT	LOCATION & DISTANCE (from Downtown Anchorage)
SHIP CREEK	Silver Salmon, King Salmon	Peak Season: King Salmon, mid-May – early July Silver Salmon, mid-July – August* Great fishing within walking distance from downtown Anchorage hotels. The perfect spot even if you only have a few hours. Silver and King Salmon runs are the most popular with anglers, but Pink and Chum salmon also arrive in decent numbers when the Silvers arrive.	Pay lot parking on E. Ship Creek Ave. Fishing access is across the street. 5 mins.
BIRD CREEK	Silver Salmon	Peak Season: mid-July – August* Feels like fishing a remote wild Alaska river, with the ease of access from downtown Anchorage (just 40 minutes). When the runs of silver salmon are in, join hundreds of anglers. Drop by at 10 or 11pm for a true Alaska experience: crowds of locals casting for a late night dinner.	Mile 103 Seward Highway. Large parking area on left. 40 mins.

NAME	FISH	ABOUT	LOCATION & DISTANCE (from Downtown Anchorage)
CAMPBELL CREEK	Silver Salmon	Peak Season: mid-July – September* This fish-filled creek rushes out from Far North Bicentennial Park and through the center of town before emptying into the Cook Inlet. Campbell Creek has special regulations so it is important to refer to the ADF&G Regulation Guide	Park at Taku-Campbell lake (76th and King St). 15 mins.
LITTLE CAMPBELL LAKE	Arctic Char, Trout, Landlocked Salmon	Season: Year-round (ice fishing in winter months)* Accessible lake with plenty of shoreline and a floating dock to fish from. Set in the northeastern section of Kincaid Park, Little Campbell Lake is surrounded by a thick forest lined with trails and plenty of opportunities to see wildlife.	Raspberry Rd to Kincaid Park. A sign on right points to lake. 15 mins

*check ADF&G Sport Fishing Regulations Guide for exact date restrictions. Fisherman can be ticketed if fishing outside of published dates.

FLY-IN GUIDED FISHING TRIPS (MAY – SEPTEMBER)

REGAL AIR 907-243-8535	Salmon, Trout, Grayling, Arctic Char	Fly via float plane to the Lake Creek area (35-45 minutes) of Alaska's Matanuska-Susitna Valley where you'll connect with your guide, gear and boat. Fish for salmon May - August. In September fish for trout.	
TRAIL RIDGE AIR 907-243-8535		Guided: from \$850+	

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ON THE ROAD

Beyond Anchorage

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DAY TRIPS FROM ANCHORAGE



GIRDWOOD 🚗 45 mins 🚂 1 1/4 hrs

The journey to and from Girdwood takes you through some of the most breathtaking scenery anywhere (driving map page 64-65). Drive just beyond Girdwood to the **Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center** to see Alaska animals up close. Or travel to Girdwood on **The Alaska Railroad** or the **Girdwood Express** and hop on the Glacier Valley Transit to get around town. Go flightseeing or dog sled on a glacier with **Alpine Air Alaska**. See our Girdwood section for more information.



WHITTIER 🚗 1 1/4 hrs 🚂 2 1/2 hrs 🚌 2 hrs

Tidewater glaciers meet the waters of Prince William Sound, and hanging glaciers nestle in the towering peaks. See it all on a cruise with **26 Glacier Cruise**, or custom charter with **Lazy Otter Charters**. Seals, sea otters, sea birds, and even whales can be spotted here, too. For the most relaxing trip, ride **The Alaska Railroad** from downtown Anchorage. You'll arrive back in Anchorage well after dinner, but you'll enjoy a meal on the cruise and can buy snacks on the train. If you have a car, leave Anchorage early to give lots of time to photograph the dramatic scenery along Turnagain Arm. For a more active excursion, go sea kayaking with **Lazy Otter Charters**. See our Whittier section for more information.



SEWARD 🚗 2 1/2 hrs 🚂 4 hrs 🚌 3 hrs

If you have one day, you have a few options. Take a day cruise into Resurrection Bay and Kenai Fjords National Park with **Major Marine Tours**, **Kenai Fjords Tours**, **Happy Puffin**, **Expeditions Northwest**, or **Seacor Tours**. The glacier cruises coordinate with **The Alaska Railroad** train schedule from Anchorage. Get a birds-eye view of the fjords and icefield on a flightseeing tour with **Marathon Helicopters** or **Scenic Mountain Air**. Other highlights include the **Alaska SeaLife Center**, and Exit Glacier, one of the few glaciers in Alaska you can walk right up to! See our Seward section for more.



MAT-SU VALLEY 🚗 45 mins-2 1/2 hrs

A variety of adventures await in the Mat-Su Valley, north of Anchorage. Drive 2.5 hours from Anchorage to the Matanuska Glacier where you can raft, go on a glacier trek or ice climb with **NOVA Alaska Guides**. Race friends across six ziplines at the **Alaska Zipline Adventure Park**. Or opt for horseback riding or a farm tour. See the glaciers of the Mat-Su Valley from above and even land on one with **Alaska Helicopter Tours** or **Outbound Heli Adventures**. Need Alaska-made souvenirs? Stop into **Meadow Lakes Market**. See our Mat-Su Valley section for more information.



TALKEETNA 🚗 1 1/2 hrs 🚂 3 hrs

Talkeetna is the perfect day trip for experiencing small town Alaska and getting close to Mt. Denali in just a few hours. Go flightseeing around Mt. Denali with **Talkeetna Air Taxi**. It's also a hot-spot for more down-to-earth adventuring, like a jet boat tour with **Mahay's** or a rafting tour with **Talkeetna River Guides** on a glacial river, or ziplining with **Denali Zipline Tours** through a boreal forest. If you really want your boots on the ground, enjoy a guided walk or hike with **Alaska Nature Guides**. Nearby, pan for gold with **Denali Gold Tours**. See our Talkeetna section for more information.

3-DAY TRIP IDEAS

FROM ANCHORAGE

DAY 1



TALKEETNA

1½ hrs 3 hrs



SEWARD

2½ hrs 3½ hrs



HOMER

5 hrs 1 hr



DENALI

5 hrs 8 hrs



MCCARTHY

8 hrs 2½ hrs



FAIRBANKS

7½ hrs 12 hrs



VALDEZ

6 hrs

Travel north through the boreal forest to Talkeetna by car or train, taking in views of Mt. Denali on a clear day. If driving, stop along the way and pan for gold with **Denali Gold Tours**. Upon arrival in Talkeetna, hop on **Mahay's Jetboat Adventures**, where you'll speed up and down rivers. Or, take the river at a slower pace on a rafting tour with **Talkeetna River Guides**.

Begin your journey along the scenic Turnagain Arm and stop at Exit Glacier just before you get into Seward. You can walk the Glacier View Trail to a viewpoint, or continue further on the Glacier Overlook Trail part way up the exposed rock to an overlook of the glacier itself. Then visit the **Alaska SeaLife Center** for Alaska marine wildlife.

STAY Harbor 360 Hotel

The drive delivers waterfront views, mountain passes covered in wildflowers, turquoise glacially fed rivers, and towering volcanoes across the inlet. Map on page 78. Upon arrival, explore the shops and restaurants along the Homer Spit. Need a ride? Contact **Alaska Bus Company**.

STAY Westwind Cabins

From Anchorage, plan for a 5-hour drive or bus ride, or an 8-hour train ride. Take advantage of your mid- to late-afternoon arrival by going on an evening ATV or Jeep tour with **Denali Park Adventures**.

STAY at Backwoods Lodge

Follow the Glenn and Richardson Highways, and the gravel McCarthy road for this off-the-beaten path adventure. See map on pages 118-119 and 121 for tours and ideas. Or, drive to Glennallen or Copper Center and fly into McCarthy with **Copper Valley Air Service** or **Wrangell Mountain Air**.

STAY Kennicott Glacier Lodge or Ma Johnson's Hotel in McCarthy

Whether traveling by car (8 hrs) or train (12 hrs), watch for views of Mt. Denali. Head to the **Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum**, showcasing dozens of pre-World War II automobiles, vintage clothing, and a view into Alaska's formative years. For more local ideas, visit the **Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center**.

STAY Wedgewood Lodge, Sophie Station Suites, Bear Lodge

Break up the drive with an adventure! Go rafting or trek on the Matanuska Glacier with **NOVA Alaska Guides** or flightsee over Wrangell St. Elias National Park with **Copper Valley Air Service** from Glennallen. Then, stop and see Worthington Glacier before arriving in Valdez (driving map page 118-119). In August, look for spawning salmon at Crooked Creek just outside of town.

DAY 2

Take to the skies with **Talkeetna Air Taxi** for a flightseeing tour of Mt. Denali and you can even land on a glacier! Other adventures include a zipline tour with **Denali Zipline Tours** or a guided hike with **Alaska Nature Guides**. Then grab a bite at one of the local restaurants along main street.

Take a glacier and wildlife cruise in Resurrection Bay or Kenai Fjords National Park with **Major Marine Tours**, **Kenai Fjords Tours**, **Seacor Tours**, **Happy Puffin Tours**, or **Expeditions Northwest**. You'll see whales, sea otters, sea lions, puffins and glaciers. Or fish for salmon and halibut with **Alaska Northern Outfitters**.

To fish, depart bright and early with **Homer Ocean Charters**. Want to see wildlife? Fly to remote bear viewing locations with **Alaska Bear Adventures** for near-guaranteed sightings.

Plan for at least a half day bus tour on the Denali Park Road, the main way to see the park. If you prefer to explore on foot, join a hike with **Traverse Alaska** or **Northern Epics**. See the park from above and get up close to Mt. Denali on a flightseeing tour with **Denali Air**.

Go on a glacier trek or ice climb on the magnificent Root Glacier or packraft on a glacier lake with **Kennicott Wilderness Guides**. Treat yourself to a gourmet meal at **Salmon & Bear** restaurant.

Head to the Arctic with **Northern Alaska Tour Company** or to North Pole, Alaska to visit the **Santa Claus House**. Or, board an authentic Alaskan sternwheeler, the **Riverboat Discovery** for a journey back in time. Then, hop aboard a narrow-gauge train and pan for gold on a two-hour tour of **Gold Dredge 8**.

Explore the glaciers of Prince William Sound on a scenic day cruise with **Stan Stephens Cruises**. Opt for the shorter 6-hour Columbia Glacier Cruise, or the full-day 8.5 hour Meares Glacier Cruise. Then get a view from above with **Alpine Air**.

DAY 3

The train departs at 5pm. Go on a flightseeing tour with **Alaska Helicopter Tours** or **Outbound Heli Adventures** from the Palmer area. Stop at one of the MatSu Valley breweries for a local pint (see page 38).

The train departs Seward at 6pm, giving plenty of time for another tour like **Stoney Creek Zipline** or flightseeing with **Marathon Helicopters**. If driving, make a pitstop to visit the animals at the **Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center** in Portage.

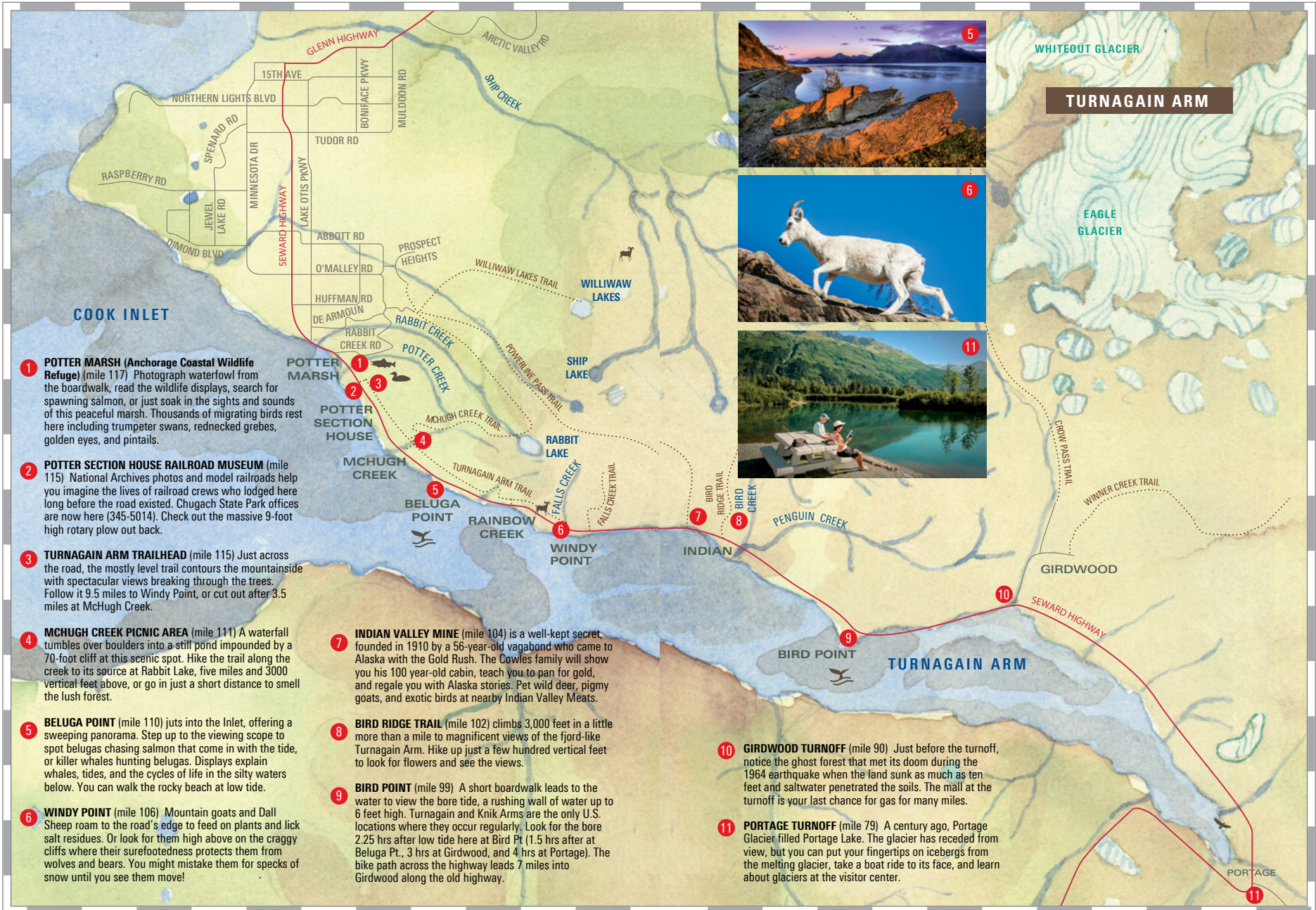
Begin your journey back to Anchorage. If you missed bear viewing in Homer, stop in Soldotna and fly with **Natron Air**. Stop into a local brewery in Kenai or Soldotna (see map on page 38-39).

The train and bus both depart early afternoon. Take a final tour before departing, like rafting with Traverse Alaska. See page 106-107 for ideas. If driving, begin your 5 hr journey back to Anchorage at any time.

Before you depart, see the massive Wrangell St. Elias National Park, its towering mountains and flowing glaciers from above on a flightseeing tour **Wrangell Mountain Air**. Then, begin your journey back to Anchorage.

The train departs at 8:15am for the 12-hour journey. If driving, stop to see the impressive Alyeska Pipeline before beginning the drive back to Anchorage. Talkeetna makes a great pitstop for lunch or dinner.

Drive back to Anchorage the same way you drove in, or put your car on the ferry to Whittier, and drive the one-hour back to Anchorage on this popular loop.



MOOSE SAFETY



Moose are a routine part of life for most Alaskans. These hulking creatures wander neighborhoods and nonchalantly cross highways, forcing motorists to wait. While moose are happy to pose for a picture or two, give them lots of room!

1.

Never approach a moose.

Moose - especially cows with calves - can be aggressive and need plenty of room.



2.

Pay attention to body language.

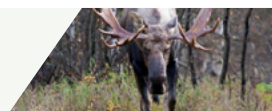
A stressed moose has its ears back, the hair on its neck raised, and it may lick its lips. This moose may charge you. Give stressed moose room by retreating from the area.



3.

If a moose charges/chases you:

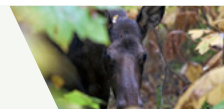
It's okay to run away if you have a head start. Hide behind something solid, such as a tree.



4.

If a moose knocks you down:

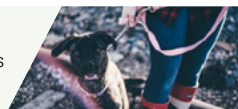
Curl into a ball, protect your head, and lie still until the moose retreats.



5.

Keep dogs under control at all times.

When a dog chases or aggravates a moose, it creates a dangerous situation for both of you!



6.

Do not feed moose.

It is both dangerous and illegal.



7.

Enjoy watching from a safe distance.

More information at: www.wildlife.alaska.gov



BEAR SAFETY



Strong and unbridled, bears are perhaps the ultimate symbol of the Alaskan wild. While they top visitor's "must see" lists, it's extremely important to practice bear safety when hiking or walking - even on trails in urban areas.

Prepare for possible bear encounters.

- Check information boards at trailheads about recent bear activity and follow the advice in posted notices.
- Develop a safety mindset before you have an encounter. This can help you stay calm. Your behavior influences the outcome of a bear encounter.
- Carrying a deterrent is a critical means of defense in bear country. Make sure it is one registered by the EPA for defense against bears and is not expired. Bear spray is available at most sporting stores.

1.

Avoid bears while traveling in bear country

- Make noise by talking, singing, or clapping, especially when visibility is limited.
- Travel in a group. Groups of 3 or more are noisier and less likely to surprise bears. Don't let your group get spread out.
- Use all of your senses to stay aware. Do not wear headphones.

2.

If you see a bear - stay calm.

- If a bear does not notice you - quietly leave the area from the same direction you arrived. Stay in your group, and keep your eyes on the bear.
- If a bear does notice you - face the bear and ready your deterrent. Talk to it calmly - your voice is important to identify you as human. With your deterrent in hand, slowly raise your arms overhead so you appear larger.

3.

If a bear approaches, do NOT run.

- Watch the bear and stand your ground. Try to determine whether it is acting defensively or non-defensively. Your response will be different depending on the behavior of the bear.

4.

If a bear is surprised, it may feel threatened and act defensively, especially if it has cubs or food

- Continue to stand your ground, your goal is to calm the bear - and yourself - and let the bear know you're not a threat.
- If the bear strikes or bites you - lie on your front, protect your face and neck, and remain still. Once this bear thinks you are no longer a threat it will likely leave. If it doesn't, fight back.

5.

If a bear approaches you purposefully it may be curious, seeking food, or in rare cases, predatory.

- Stand your ground and act aggressively.
- Fight back if this bear strikes or bites you.



More information at: www.alaskabears.alaska.gov

ALASKA'S RESORT TOWN

GETTING THERE

By car:
45 minutes south of Anchorage
at mile 90 of the Seward Hwy.

By luxury bus:
Alaska Bus Company 907-299-
6806

By rail:
1 hr 20 mins, depart Anchorage
6:45am, arrive Girdwood 8:00am.
Return on the 8:55pm train.

Right - Girdwood's offers
recreation and stunning views.

THE TOWN

Originally called Glacier City for the icy behemoths which rim the surrounding mountains, Girdwood began as a gold-mining town in 1900 when James Girdwood hit pay-dirt in Crow Creek. The '64 Quake sunk the town into Turnagain Arm, and it was moved two miles further inland where it's nestled today in an idyllic valley next to Alaska's premier ski area, Mt. Alyeska. With fine dining and luxury accommodations, Girdwood is an ideal base camp for exploring the Sound and the Kenai Peninsula.



© Kerry Williams

WHAT TO DO

Want to feel Alaska's rugged beauty in your legs? Hike the legendary Crow Creek Trail, part of the historic Iditarod trail. The four-mile ascent up open hillside to Raven Glacier and shimmering mountain lakes takes 4-7 hours round-trip. For a walk in the woods, try Winner Creek Trail, which winds through Alaska's northernmost rainforest. In late summer, blueberries abound.

Rent a bike from **Powder Hound** to pedal local trails, such as the six miles from Girdwood to Bird Point, featuring sweeping inlet views.

MEET THE LOCALS

The **Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center** is located at Mile 79 of the Seward Highway, just 10 miles south of Girdwood. The AWCC is a non-profit sanctuary dedicated to preserving Alaska's

wildlife through conservation, education, research, and quality animal care. It is common for visitors to see brown bears swimming, moose strutting, wood bison roaming, muskox playing, wolves posing, porcupines climbing, and more! The scenic setting also offers visitors the chance to be surrounded by stunning mountains, alpine glaciers, and views of the Turnagain Arm Inlet.

RAFT WITH ICEBERGS

Head out onto the water on an unforgettable rail-and-rafting adventure with **The Alaska Railroad**. This is a wilderness trip made easy: Your ride starts on a train out of Anchorage, Girdwood or Portage, heading into the no-roads zone around Spencer Lake. There you'll board a sturdy raft to scope out the massive Spencer Glacier. Next, you'll float down the calm Placer River—keep an eye out

DISCOVER THE WILD OF ALASKA

Come meet the locals! Bears, bison, moose, reindeer, muskox, wolves, lynx, porcupines, and others that call the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center home. **Wildlife viewing, tours (feed an animal), and educational opportunities abound just 45 minutes south of Anchorage on the scenic Seward Highway.**

AWCC is a non-profit sanctuary dedicated to preserving Alaska's wildlife through conservation, education, research, and quality animal care.



100%
OF THE PROCEEDS
GO STRAIGHT
TO THE
ANIMALS!

OPEN
YEAR
ROUND

Mile 79, Seward Highway | Portage, AK
907.783.0058 | AlaskaWildlife.org | info@alaskawildlife.org

HIGHLIGHTS

12 POWDER HOUND
907-783-2525
powderhoundak.com

**11 ALASKA WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION CENTER**
907-783-0058
alaskawildlife.org

**8 THE ALASKA
RAILROAD**
907-265-2494
alaskarailroad.com

MAP

See page 71

THE ALASKA App



GUIDE TO GIRDWOOD HIKES



GIRDWOOD

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for eagles, wolves, moose and even porcupines.

● RIDE THE RAILS

From Girdwood, your day trip options aboard **The Alaska Railroad** are plentiful. Head into Whittier and hop on a day cruise into glacier packed Prince William Sound. Take the train to Seward for a cruise into Kenai Fjords National Park. Or, stay closer to town aboard the Glacier Discovery Train and ride to Spencer Glacier or Grandview for a scenic round-trip ride through steep mountain passes studded with glaciers and adorned with wildflowers during peak summer in July.

● FLIGHTSEEING

Soar over glacier-filled terrain or out across the shimmering waters of nearby Prince William Sound on a helicopter flight-seeing tour with **Alpine Air Alaska**. Tours range from 30 - 90 minutes, and if you're staying in Anchorage you can book a shuttle ride along with your excursion!

● DOGSLEDDING

Boost the adventure factor and go dog sledding on a glacier! With **Alpine Air Alaska** you'll take off from Girdwood via helicopter and fly to a giant

snowfield on Punchbowl Glacier. There, you'll meet the dog team, stand on the sled runners and "drive" the dogs yourself. Or simply sit back and check out the amazing views around you as you travel the 2- to 3-kilometer loop.

● LOCAL FESTIVALS

There are local celebrations in Girdwood all summer long. In early July, the Forest Fair brings together great food, entertainment, and handcrafted art. In August, pick wild blueberries at the Blueberry Festival. Then, forage with the locals at the Fungus Festival in September.

● PORTAGE VALLEY

Spend an afternoon exploring Portage Valley, just a short drive from Girdwood. Stroll or bike the scenic Trail of Blue Ice, watch for wildlife at Moose Flats, or hike the Byron Glacier Trail. Stop by the Begich Boggs Visitor Center to learn about the area's glacial history before taking the **Portage Glacier Cruise** on a one-hour cruise to the face of Portage Glacier. This narrated tour brings you within 300 feet of the towering ice wall, offering incredible views from both the heated cabin and open-air deck. See Portage Valley map on page 72.

HIGHLIGHTS

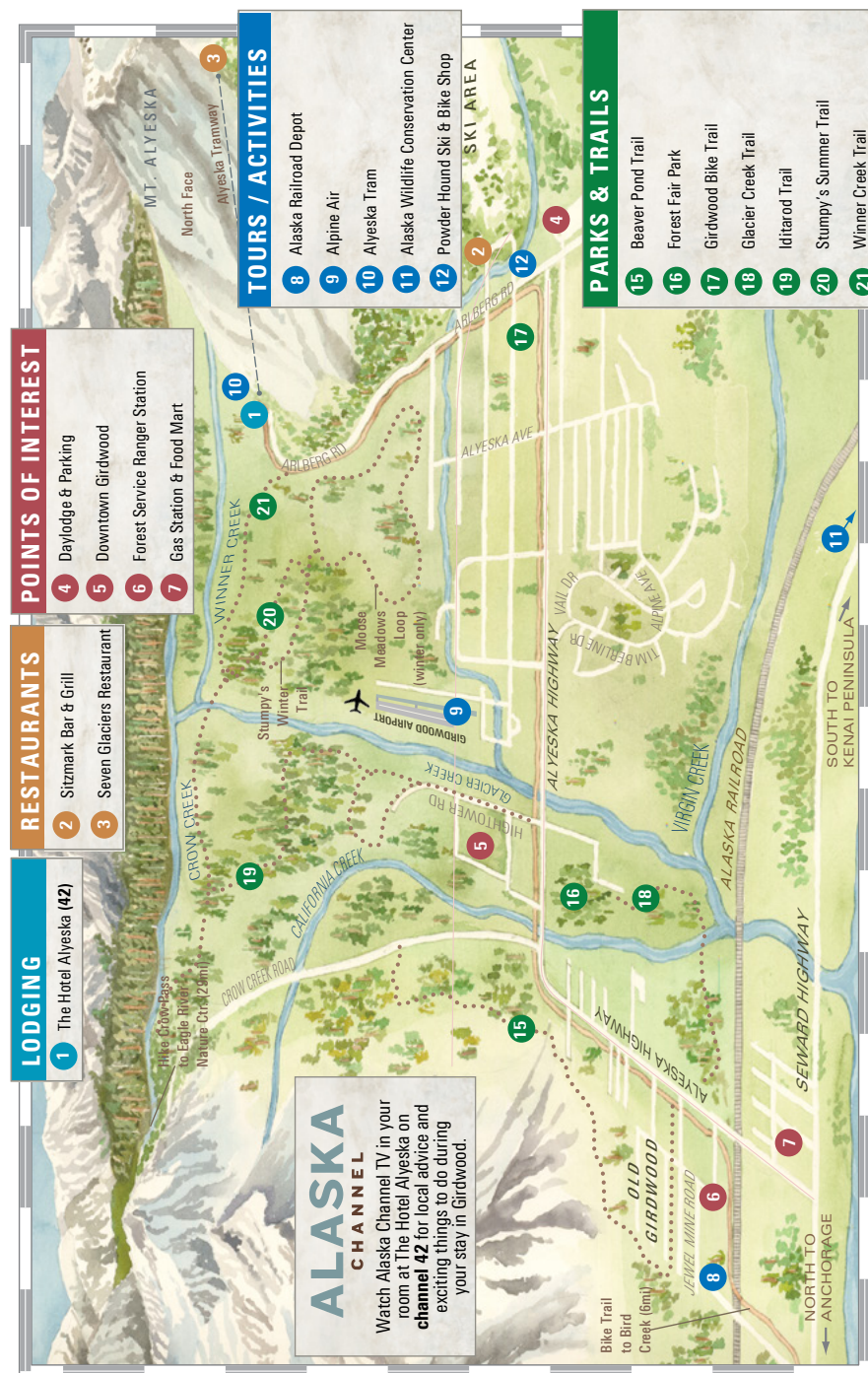
8 THE ALASKA RAILROAD
907-265-2494
alaskarailroad.com

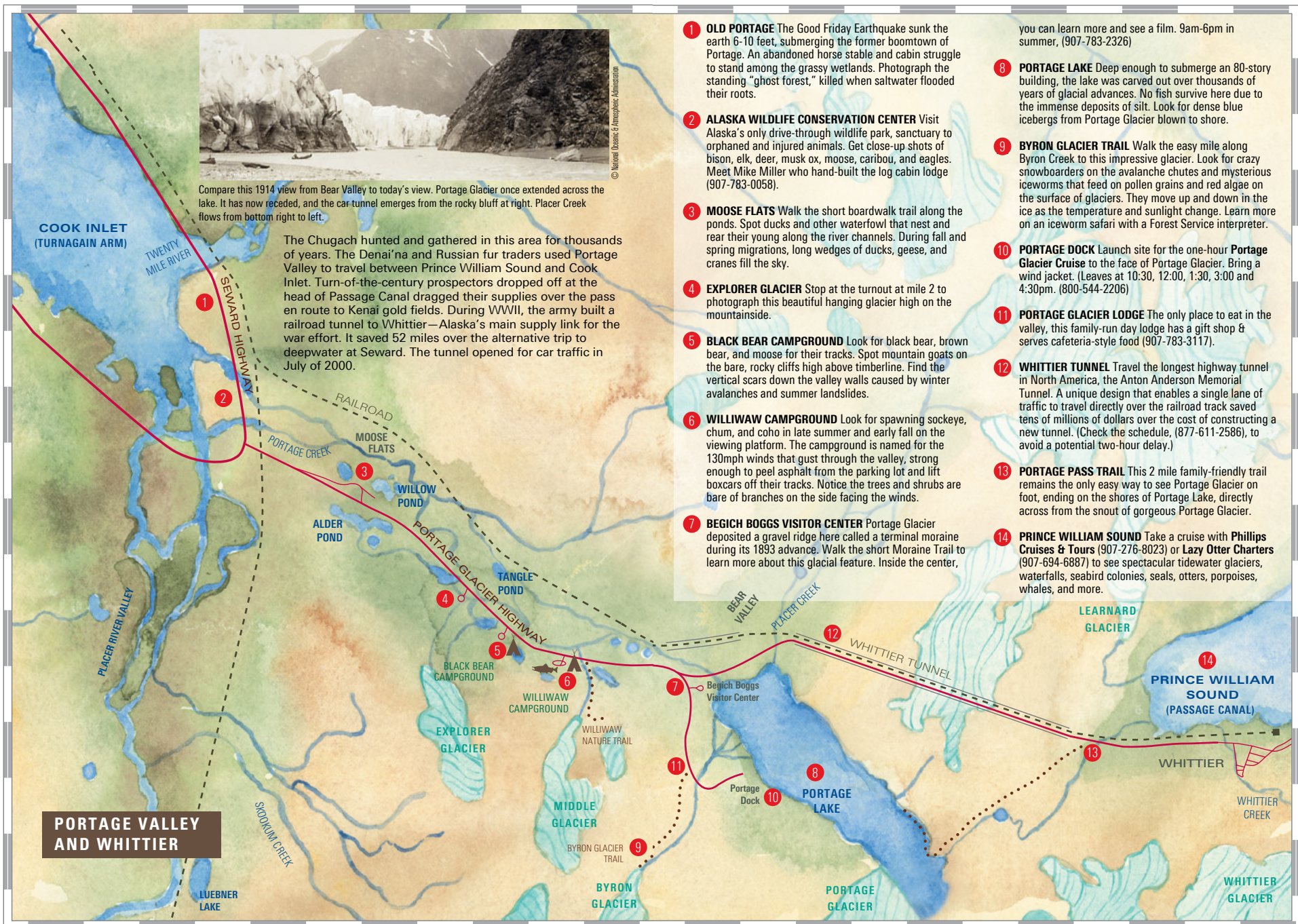
9 ALPINE AIR ALASKA
907-783-2360
alpineairalaska.com

10 PORTAGE GLACIER CRUISE
1-800-544-2206
graylinealaska.com

MAP

See page 71 & 73





WHITTIER

GETTING THERE

By car: 90 minutes south of Anchorage via the Seward Hwy. Access through the single-lane Whittier Tunnel. Call 877-611-2586 for schedule & toll rate

By coach: For Phillips Cruises & Tours - pickup at 9:30am at the Hotel Captain Cook.

By rail: 2 hr 20 mins, depart Anchorage 9:45am, arrive Whittier 12:05pm. Return on the 6:45pm train.

THE TOWN

Whittier was built as a deepwater port and railroad terminus to transport fuel and supplies during WWII. Today, this charming seaside community is a great trip from Anchorage, with easy access to rich ocean waters of Prince William Sound. Charter a halibut or salmon trip or try some fresh fish and chips at Varly's Seafood. The fish processing plant is next door, and you can watch the day's catch unloaded each afternoon. There are also great hiking trails, shops and the town museum, with an excellent display on the Whittier Tunnel, the longest combo vehicle-railroad tunnel in North America. With cruise ships, railroad tours, fishing and lots of day tours, the town is bustling. It's also the launch point for nearby Prince William Sound, the best place in the world to see calving glaciers. You'll also see marine birds, mammals and often whales.



© Phillips Cruises & Tours

● WHAT TO DO

Let **Phillips Cruises & Tours 26-Glacier Cruise** be your guide for an epic Alaska glacier day cruise. Their luxury catamarans depart daily from Whittier, just 1.15 hours south of Anchorage, to explore one of the highest concentrations of glaciers in Alaska and view the wildlife of Prince William Sound. A hot meal is provided, a full galley and bar is available, and narration is provided by a U.S. Forest Service Ranger. You can also book a custom tour with **Lazy Otter Charters**. This family operation uses smaller boats (still smooth and stable) and offers all-day glacier and wildlife watching trips. They also run a water taxi and can

drop you off at remote cabins for a night in the wilderness, or take you on a guided kayaking tour.

● TRAILS

Whittier has a few great hikes with big views. The one-mile hike to Horsetail Falls rewards visitors with views of the waterfall and harbor. Follow Blackstone Road to the sign for the trailhead. The Portage Pass Trail climbs about a mile to stunning views of Portage Glacier, and then descends about 0.75 miles to Portage Lake. Cross the railroad tracks shortly after exiting the tunnel in Whittier and follow signs to the trailhead (map on page 72-73).

HIGHLIGHTS

PHILLIPS 26-GLACIER CRUISE

907-276-8023
phillipscruises.com

LAZY OTTER CHARTERS

800-587-6887
lazyottercharters.com



TRAVEL TIPS TO ARRIVE ALIVE

Did you know you're sharing the road with pedestrians, bicyclists, vehicles, motorcycles, ATVs, snowmobiles, and even large animals? To ensure a safe road ahead for everyone, follow these tips:

- 1 Watch for Pedestrians**
Always look out for people on foot or bicycle, be prepared to stop at intersections, and maintain safe speeds.
- 2 Follow the Speed Limit**
Watch for speed limit signs and use caution in bad weather or low-visibility conditions.
- 3 Don't Block Traffic**
If you have five vehicles behind you at any time, you are breaking an Alaska law. Pull over and let others pass.
- 4 Buckle Up, Phone Down**
Protect yourself and your passengers by staying belted and minimizing distractions.
- 5 Don't Drive Impaired**
It is illegal to drive under the influence of alcohol, cannabis (marijuana), or prescription drugs that impair your ability to operate a vehicle distractions.



For More Information on Driving Safely in Alaska, Visit:
aktowardzerodeaths.org/arrivealiveAK

THE KENAI PENINSULA

GETTING THERE

By car:
45 minutes south of Anchorage at mile 90 of the Seward Hwy.

By luxury bus:
Alaska Bus Company, 907-299-6806



@ Meade Bradstrom

RAFTING & FLOATING

Even with so much of the Kenai's land protected to preserve wildlife, there's still plenty of room for humans to play, whether that means leisurely canoeing through the Wildlife Refuge or holding on tight as you raft along Six-Mile Creek (which, filled with class 4 or 5 rapids, is no "creek"). **NOVA Alaska Guides** has been guiding this exciting stretch of water for over 30 years.

HIGHLIGHTS

NOVA ALASKA GUIDES
907-745-5753
novalaska.com

ALASKA WILDLAND ADVENTURES
800-478-4100
alaskawildland.com

PROSPECTOR JOHN'S
907-598-1808
goldpan-alaska.com

NATRON AIR
907-262-8440
natronair.com

Enjoy the turquoise blue Kenai River with **Alaska Wildland Adventures**. They can take you on a 2-hour scenic float or a 7-hour Kenai Canyon float at 11am.

GOLD PANNING

Experience the thrill of gold panning, mining, and suction dredging with **Prospector John's**—just 90 miles from Anchorage on the Kenai

Peninsula. Browse Alaskan art, jewelry, knives, and more. Join a guided wilderness adventure by raft or powerboat to prospect on gold mining claims, with 2-, 4-, 6-, and 8-hour options available. Roadside sluicing, panning, and gem mining are also offered. All equipment is provided—keep the gold you find! Walk-ins are welcome, but reservations are encouraged.

FLIGHTSEEING & BEAR VIEWING

Flightsee coastal mountains and volcanoes, go bear viewing, or fly-in fishing with pilot Tim Pope of **Natron Air** in Soldotna.

WORLD-FAMOUS FISHING

The Kenai River is to salmon fishing what the Klondike was to gold. This river supports all five species of salmon and is an anglers paradise. Hire a guide: **Alaska Wildland Adventures**, the area's premier operator, offers full

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FLIGHTSEEING - BEAR AND GLACIER VIEWING

KENAI PENINSULA DRIVING MAP

For one of the most beautiful drives in the state, head south of Anchorage on the Seward & Sterling Highways. You'll pass towering peaks of the Kenai Mountains and turquoise waters of Kenai River and Lake. Discover well-maintained hiking trails, small friendly towns, and great side roads, like Skilak Lake Road.

DRIVING TIMES

ANCHORAGE TO
Girdwood: 40 mi, 45 min
Whittier: 50 mi, 1 hr 20
Seward: 128 mi, 2.5 hrs
Kenai: 158 mi, 3 hrs
Homer: 221 mi, 5 hrs
SEWARD TO HOMER: 168 mi, 3.5 hrs
KENAI TO HOMER: 80 mi, 1.5 hrs
ALASKA BUS COMPANY 907-299-6806 (PG 15)

KENAI

MP 94 | Watch locals "dipnet" for salmon and commercial boats haul in their catch. Non-fisherman enjoy the miles of beaches and views of four active volcanoes across Cook Inlet.

TERN LAKE & STERLING HWY

MP 37 | On a calm day, the lake offers a beautiful reflection of the mountains, along with birding and wildlife viewing. Picnic area and toilets.

COOPER LANDING

MP 48 | Prime river rafting, hiking, fishing, and mountain biking. Intersection of world-famous Kenai and Russian Rivers.

SKILAK LAKE RD EAST ENTRANCE

MP 58 | 18-mile gravel road loops toward Skilak Lake. Chances to spot moose, birds and bear. Rejoins Sterling Hwy at MP 75.2.

RUSSIAN RIVER FALLS TRAIL

MP 52 | 2-mile trail to high platform where you may view salmon and bears. Mostly flat, perfect for families and hikers of any level.

KENAI LAKE & RIVER

MP 45 | Fishing fanatics worldwide are drawn to the Kenai River. **Alaska Wildland Adventures** (800-478-4100) offers full day fishing trips and half or full day scenic float trips.

END OF HOMER SPIT

MP 179 | The highway ends on the Homer Spit. Shops and restaurants line the Spit, and you can camp here, too. More about Homer on page 88.

CANYON CREEK REST AREA

MP 57 | Pullouts on both sides of the road, with views up through Turnagain Pass. A biking trail parallels the highway here; it's a good spot to stretch your legs.

TURNAGAIN PASS

MP 68 | In summer, this mountain pass is bright with wildflowers; in winter, it's a backcountry ski and snowmachine mecca. Parking area with restrooms.

HOPE JUNCTION & SIX MILE CREEK

MP 56 | Gold fever was responsible for the founding of Hope in the 1890s. 16-miles detour to Hope. Also turn here to raft Six Mile Creek (which, filled with class 4 and 5 rapids, is no "creek") with **NOVA Alaska Guides** (800-746-5753).

SCENIC MOUNTAIN AIR

MP 32.4 | Offering 30 min - 1.5 hr flightseeing tours from their floatplane base on Trail Lake. See Chugach Mountains, Icefields & Kenai Fjords National Park from above. (907-416-1959).

KENAI LAKE

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



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 visitors 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. More about Seward on page 83.

MAP KEY

-  Rest Area
-  Campground



KENAI TRAILS

Map of Kenai Peninsula trails on page 82.



CAMPGROUND GUIDE

1. Bertha Creek 2. Granite Creek 3. Porcupine 4. Tenderfoot 5. Trail River 6. Ptarmigan 7. Primrose 8. Resurrection North 9. Crescent Creek 10. Quartz Creek 11. Cooper Creek North 12. Cooper Creek South 13. Hidden Lake 14. Upper Skilak Lake 15. Engineer Lake 16. Lower Skilak Lake 17. Kelly Lake 18. Peterson Lake 19. Watson Lake 20. Bings Landing 21. Funny River 22. Centennial 23. Crooked Creek 24. Johnson Lake 25. Clam Gulch 26. Ninilchik River 27. Ninilchik View 28. Deep Creek 29. Stariski 30. Anchor River 31. Homer Spit

Download The Alaska App for Kenai Peninsula wildlife viewing hot spots, trails, historic sites, and park ranger audio guides. Free on the App Store THEALASKAAPP.COM



Above - Adam Kaufman fishes for hooligan. **Right** - Aerial view of Seward, a coastal town on the shores of Resurrection Bay.

day fishing trips. Fish for rainbow trout or sockeye & silver salmon. Professional guides will outfit you with quality gear, & show you all you need to know. Ask about their cozy lodging options.

HIKER'S PARADISE

The multi-day **Johnson Pass**, **Resurrection Pass** and **Russian Lakes-to-Resurrection River** trails make up Alaska's most developed trail system.

Day hikes are also abundant. Want to see salmon spawning grounds up close? Hike to **Russian River Falls**. For more of a challenge, hike the steep trail to **Carter Lake**. On the longer side, Lost Lake trail crosses high alpine terrain with wide open vistas and sapphire-colored lakes. **Juneau Falls**, near Cooper Landing, climbs

steeply through thick forest to wide open views.

SOLDOTNA

Stop in Soldotna, a town with more river city parks than anywhere else in Alaska, over 250 campsites, one mile of elevated Kenai River boardwalk, and 50 sets of river access stairs (to fish the world-famous Kenai River of course!). There's also an outdoor market and free concerts in Soldotna Creek Park every Wednesday, June through August. Contact the **Soldotna Chamber** for more information.

TRANSPORTATION

Hop aboard one of **Alaska Bus Company's** 27-passenger luxury buses. May 15 through August 31, 7 days a week, you can ride between Anchorage, Girdwood, Cooper Landing, Soldotna, and Homer.

HIGHLIGHTS

SOLDOTNA CHAMBER
907-262-9814
visitsoldotna.com

ALASKA BUS COMPANY
907-299-6806
alaskabuscompany.com



GATEWAY TO KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK

GETTING THERE

By car: 2.5 hrs, drive south on the Seward Highway to the end (126 miles).

By bus: Park Connection Motorcoach 800-266-8625

By rail: 4 hrs, 20 mins, depart Anchorage 6:45am, arrive Seward 11:20am. Return train leaves Seward 6:00pm, arrives Anchorage 10:15pm. 907-265-2494

By car: Hertz 907-224-4378

THE TOWN

Sandwiched between Resurrection Bay and the Kenai Mountains, Seward is one of Alaska's oldest and most scenic communities. As the "Gateway to Kenai Fjords National Park," this tiny village is a seaside paradise, with a bustling harbor, quaint shops and galleries, and an abundant offering of Alaskan adventures into the surrounding marine and mountain environments.

One of those mountains is Mt. Marathon, rising steeply above town. Every 4th of July, this town of 4,000 swells to 25,000, and runners hit the trail to be first to the summit in America's second-oldest footrace. The town's population also balloons during the August Silver Salmon derby, the state's largest.



GLACIER & WILDLIFE CRUISES

Take a cruise into Resurrection Bay or venture farther into Kenai Fjords National Park for more glacier and wildlife viewing opportunities.

Kenai Fjords Tours has been connecting guests with the pure wilderness of Kenai Fjords National Park since 1978. There's no telling what magical sights await as you journey up the coast from Seward on one of their unique glacier and wildlife cruises. One thing is for certain: the abundant wildlife and incredible landscapes — from tumbling glaciers and lush forests to towering walls of rock. Book online and save. **Major Marine Tours** cruises are hosted by an onboard naturalist and serve a deli lunch on board. **Seacor Tours** offers full-day, small group tours into Kenai Fjords for a maximum

of 22 guests on their comfortable and speedy catamaran. Lunch is included. **Happy Puffin Tours** offers unforgettable sailing adventures. Day tours and multi-day excursions include wildlife viewing, glacier viewing, kayaking, remote hikes, and campfire-cooked meals. Custom tours and water taxi services are also available. **Expeditions Northwest** is a locally-owned small group glacier and wildlife tour company. They offer full-day tours and private charters in Kenai Fjords National Park, with a maximum of 6 guests.

ALASKA SEALIFE CENTER
The **Alaska SeaLife Center** is the only public aquarium in Alaska that is a combined marine research, education, and wildlife response facility. Don't miss this unique opportunity to

HIGHLIGHTS

6 KENAI FJORDS TOURS
888-478-3346
kenaifjords.com

7 MAJOR MARINE TOURS

907-224-8030
majormarine.com

10 SEACOR TOURS
907-802-0553
seacortours.com

5 HAPPY PUFFIN TOURS
907-535-1735
happypuffintours.com

4 EXPEDITIONS NORTHWEST
907-912-0460
expnw.com

2 ALASKA SEALIFE CENTER
800-224-2525
alaskasealife.org

MAP

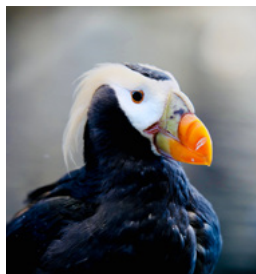
See page 84

THE ALASKA APP



EXIT GLACIER PARK
RANGER AUDIO GUIDE





Above - Puffins are one of the many types of marine wildlife you'll see at the Alaska Sealife Center

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 ALASKA NORTHERN OUTFITTERS**
907-224-2665
alaskanorthernoutfitters.com
- 11 STONEY CREEK CANOPY ADVENTURES**
907-224-3662
stoneycreekca.com
- 8 MARATHON HELICOPTERS**
907-224-3616
marathonhelicopters.com
- 9 SCENIC MOUNTAIN AIR**
907-288-3646
scenicmountainair.com
- 20 SEWARD HARBOR 360**
907-224-2550
harbor360hotel.com
- 41 SEWARD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS CENTER**
907-224-8051
seward.com

MAP

See page 84

get close to the rare animals living in Alaska's waters.

● FISHING

Fish with **Alaska Northern Outfitters** in Seward aboard the M/V Sea Quest, the boat for your ultimate Alaska fishing experience. With over 18 years of expertise, this premier vessel ensures a fun, safe, and productive day on the water. The experienced captain and crew are dedicated to giving you the best chance to catch halibut and salmon, while providing a memorable time on the water.

● ZIPLINING

The only canopy tour on the Kenai Peninsula combines ziplines with panoramic mountain views. And, **Stoney Creek Canopy Adventures** makes it easy. You will learn how to zip at Ground School before you start the course which spans 8 ziplines, 2 rappels and 3 sky bridges. You'll fly as high as 70 feet, and zip as fast as 40 mph.

● FLIGHTSEEING

Marathon Helicopters flights depart right from the Seward Airport. Choose from 15-minute flights above the surrounding mountains and valleys (where you'll see an impressive 5 glaciers), 30-min glacier landings, to hour-long custom flights over Kenai Fjords National Park. They can even drop you off on Mt. Marathon for a picnic, or to let you hike down!

Just 30-minutes north of

Seward in the town of Moose Pass, **Scenic Mountain Air** offers flightseeing tours from their floatplane base on Upper Trail Lake. The 30-minute tour provides views of the Chugach Mountains, Alpine glaciers and beautiful mountain lakes. The 1-hour flight includes the above plus Kenai Fjords, Harding ice fields, many massive glaciers and views of Resurrection Bay.

● ACCOMMODATIONS

The waterfront **Seward Harbor 360 Hotel** is a perfectly located launching pad for the area, with the bonus of gorgeous views.

● VISIT EXIT GLACIER

The gentle one-mile, accessible "Glacier View Loop Trail" leads to views of Exit Glacier and back to the parking area. A .6-mile spur trail climbs to an overlook to get you even closer to the ice. Energetic hikers can opt for the 8-mile roundtrip Harding Icefield Trail that looks down on the glacier. You can also enjoy these hikes with a park ranger, available from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

● LOCAL INFORMATION

There's no better place to have your questions answered and to learn about Seward than the **Seward Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center**. It's centrally located and open seven days a week during summer months, so it's easy to stop by for a quick question or local expertise about tours, lodging, and restaurants.



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END OF THE ROAD, BEGINNING OF ADVENTURE

GETTING THERE

By air:
Air Ravn Alaska 800-866-8394

By ferry:
AK Marine Highway 800-642-0066

By water taxi:
Mako's 907-235-9055 Homer Ocean Charters 907-235-6212

By car: Drive 4 hours on the Seward Hwy to the Sterling Hwy to the end.

By luxury bus:
Alaska Bus Company, 907-299-6806

THE TOWN

The end-of-the-road town of Homer is the "Halibut Fishing Capital of Alaska." An eclectic mix of artists, fisherman, and outdoor lovers make up the lifeblood of the town. They are drawn by Homer's slow pace, rich fishing, and postcard-beautiful setting by Kachemak Bay. Homer is endowed with two unique geographical features. The Homer Spit is a long, narrow finger of land jutting 4.5 miles into Kachemak Bay. Dotted with businesses, the area caters to visitors and provides lots of recreation opportunities. The second is Kachemak Bay, one of the world's richest marine estuaries with rich fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities. And a handful of tiny, enchanting harbor towns lie just a water taxi ride away across the Bay.



@Gregory Lane

VISITOR CENTER

Visit the **Homer Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center** for tour recommendations, accommodations, and hiking maps.

LODGING

Stay in one of the four completely unique **WestWind Cabins**, located just 5 minutes from downtown and 10 minutes from the Homer Spit. Windows look out to Kachemak Bay (and in the fall and winter – the northern lights!). Guests also have access to their new Nordic spa.

BEAR VIEWING

Homer is a gateway to

gorgeous Katmai National Park, one of the most densely populated brown-bear areas in the world. **Alaska Bear Adventures** has been flying to remote bear-viewing areas for many years, and seeing 30 bears fishing for salmon or digging for clams is not unheard of. The flight alone, over some of Alaska's wildest and most stunning countryside, is well worth the trip!

HALIBUT FISHING

Experience world-class halibut fishing in Homer, Alaska, with **Homer Ocean Charters**. Since 1979, this locally owned company has provided top-tier

fishing adventures, offering ¾-day, full-day, and combo trips for halibut, salmon, and rockfish. Their expert captains and crew ensure an exciting, successful outing for all skill levels. Enjoy breathtaking views of Kachemak Bay while creating unforgettable fishing memories.

WILDLIFE TOURS

Join **Homer Ocean Charters** for an unforgettable wildlife boat tour in Kachemak Bay. Spot sea otters, harbor seals, puffins, bald eagles, and even humpback whales as you cruise through stunning coastal scenery. The friendly, knowledgeable crew provides fascinating insights into Alaska's marine ecosystem, ensuring a comfortable and enriching adventure. Perfect for nature

lovers, photographers, and anyone seeking breathtaking Alaskan views.

ACROSS THE BAY

Experience life in a remote fishing and artists village, Halibut Cove, where the streets are paved with water. Take the 45-minute boat ride on the **Danny J**, eat at **The Saltry**, and then browse the galleries.

TRANSPORTATION

Hop aboard one of **Alaska Bus Company's** 27-passenger luxury buses. June through August, 7 days a week, you can ride between Anchorage, Girdwood, Cooper Landing, Soldotna, and Homer.

HIGHLIGHTS

32 HOMER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VISITOR CENTER

907-235-7740
homerakalaska.org

41 WESTWIND CABINS

907-299-7596
westwindcabins.com

1 ALASKA BEAR ADVENTURES

877-522-9247
alaskabearviewing.com

MAP

See page 88

HIGHLIGHTS

2 HOMER OCEAN

CHARTERS
907-235-6212
homerocean.com

45 ALASKA BUS

COMPANY
907-299-6806
alaskabuscompany.com

MAP

See page 88

Top Ten Trending Destinations in the U.S. (Trip Advisor, 2023), Top Five Best Small Town Art Scene (US Today, 2023), Top Small Art Town Getaway (Only in Your State, 2023), 15 Best Places to Travel in July (Travel & Leisure, 2024)

HomerAlaska.org @ @visithomer

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WESTWINDCABINS.COM

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Stretching from the Alaska Range in the north to the Talkeetna and Chugach ranges in the east and south, the massive Mat-Su borough covers an area roughly the size of West Virginia.



GETTING THERE

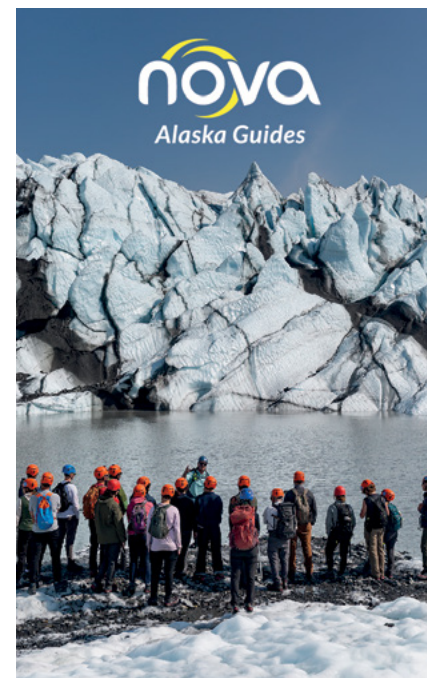
By car: 45 min drive north of Anchorage

By rail: 50 min, depart Anchorage 8:20am, arrive Wasilla 9:30am. Return to Anchorage with 6:20pm Wasilla departure

Starting in Anchorage, you'll head north on the Glenn Highway. After passing the Palmer Hay Flats, stay on the Glenn by taking on off-ramp towards Palmer, a year-round outdoor recreation hub with a walkable downtown. Continue on the Glenn for another hour and you'll find the mighty Matanuska Glacier - a roadside glacier you can walk on with a guide!

Above - The mighty Matanuska Glacier with blooming fireweed in the foreground.

Northbound? The same junction where the Glenn heads east is also the start of the Parks Highway. The Parks Highway passes through Wasilla, home of the Iditarod Headquarters. This is the last big commercial hub to gather supplies if you're venturing





further north. Beyond Wasilla lie the more rural communities of Houston, Big Lake, and Willow.

● SHOPPING

Stop into **Meadow Lakes Market** for souvenirs made by over 80 local Alaskan artists. Browse soaps, jewelry, woodwork, clothing items, metal and glass art. Or delight your palette with jams and jellies, spices and rubs, locally roasted coffees, local honey, and sweet treats.

● FLIGHTSEEING

Get an aerial view or land on a glacier with **Alaska Helicopter Tours**. **Outbound Heli Adventures** offers year-round flightseeing, glacier landings and epic heli-adventures.

● GLACIER ADVENTURES

Join the original guiding company on the Matanuska Glacier, with over 35 years of experience, and explore the breathtaking beauty of one of Alaska's most accessible glaciers on foot with **NOVA Alaska Guides** renowned Glacier Tour!

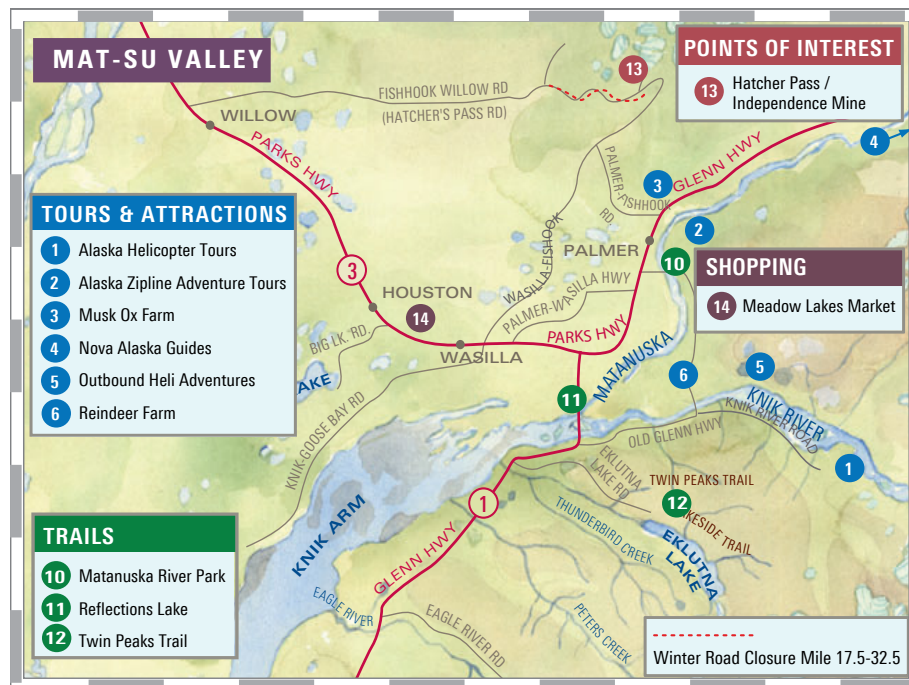
● HATCHER PASS

Set in the Talkeetna Mountains, between the towns of Willow and Palmer, Hatcher Pass

is a favorite local hot spot for recreation or a scenic drive. Hike in alpine tundra dotted with wildflowers and ptarmigan, or visit Independence Mine Historical State Park. You can get here via Hatcher Pass Road (aka Fishhook Road), which winds through the mountains for roughly 60 miles between Palmer and Willow. Most visitors don't drive the road all the way through, because the road turns gravel and 4WD is recommended. Instead, travel to the top of the pass from Palmer to reach Independence Mine, where you can learn about gold mining in the area between 1938 and 1950.

● ADVENTURE PARK

Alaska Zipline Adventure Park, offers the state's only all-tandem, side-by-side zipline experience. Race friends across six ziplines, soaring up to 255 feet high and reaching speeds of 45 MPH. The park also features scenic horseback trail rides with creek crossings and breathtaking Chugach Mountain views, plus farm tours for an up-close look at ranch life. Shuttles from Anchorage are available, making it an easy and exciting day trip for all ages.



HIGHLIGHTS

- 14 MEADOW LAKES MARKET**
907-373-3033
- 1 ALASKA HELICOPTER TOURS**
907-272-7777
alaskahelicoptertours.com
- 5 OUTBOUND HELI ADVENTURES**
907-351-6736
outboundheli.com
- 4 NOVA ALASKA GUIDES**
907-745-5753
novalaska.com
- 2 ALASKA ZIPLINE ADVENTURE PARK**
907-745-2927
akzipline.com

MAP

See page 91

ANCHORAGE TO MATANUSKA GLACIER DRIVING MAP

Take a day trip to the Matanuska-Susitna Valley ("Mat-Su" as locals call it). Pass through broad river valleys, Alaska's agricultural heartland, and steep-walled canyons en route to Alaska's biggest roadside glacier (2 hours 15 minutes from Anchorage).

IDITAROD TRAIL MUSEUM

Take a ride on a cart pulled by a dog sled team and browse memorabilia (907-376-5155). Turn left on Knik-Goose Bay Rd at MP 42.2. More Wasilla info page 89.

THUNDERBIRD FALLS

MP 25.6 | Mostly flat, two-mile hike to a 200-foot waterfall. Several lookout platforms along the way. \$5 parking.

EKLUTNA VILLAGE HISTORICAL PARK

MP 25.6 | The area's oldest continuously inhabited Athabaskan settlement with colorful Spirit Houses built over the graves of the deceased—a custom that came from the melding of Russian and local cultures.

Anchorage

COOK INLET

EAGLE RIVER NATURE CENTER

Gateway to immense Chugach State Park. Trails, mountains, waterfalls, visitor center, guided hikes. 20 minutes up Eagle River Rd. See page 11.

Download The Alaska App for more attractions, tours, hiking trails & audio guides. Free on the App Store
THEALASKAAPP.COM

TO DENALI (175 MILES) - SEE MAP ON PAGE 94-95

PALMER-FISHHOOK RD

(HATCHER PASS) MP 49.5 | Wind along the boulder-filled Little Susitna River to alpine reaches and Independence Mine. Hiking trails lead to mountain lakes and panoramic views. See page 11 for trails.

INDEPENDENCE MINE STATE HISTORICAL SITE

Paved walkways and 1930s-era buildings and machinery reveal the hard scramble lives of early miners. Beyond the mine, the road is gravel and unmaintained. \$5 parking.

MATANUSKA RIVER VIEW

MP 60 | This impressive river flows from the Matanuska Glacier. Contact NOVA Alaska Guides (907-745-5753) for a rafting trip.

MATANUSKA GLACIER OVERLOOK

MP 101.5 | This pullout is the closest view of the Glacier from the highway.

GLACIER ACTIVITIES

MP 102 | For a guided glacier trek or rafting tour, contact NOVA Alaska Guides (907-745-5753).

MUSK OX FARM

MP 50 | See one of the Arctic's oldest living species up close (907-745-4151).

ALASKA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

MP 40 | Late August to early September you'll find rides and gawk-worthy monster vegetables.

PALMER HAY FLATS

MP 30 | Scan this game refuge for birds and moose as you pass, especially in early morning/late evening. Or take Knik exit, cross under highway, and park at trailhead for Reflections Lake, an easy 1-mile nature trail.

OLD GLENN HIGHWAY

MP 29 | A 19-mile detour cuts through the heart of Alaska's farmland. Stop at the Reindeer Farm (907-745-4000) or hike the quick but steep Butte Trail (Mothershead Lane).

EKLUTNA LAKE CAMPGROUND & TRAILS

MP 25.6 | Follow the 10-mile scenic road to a pristine mountain lake. Camping & picnic areas. See page 11 for trail info.

MATANUSKA GLACIER STATE RECREATION SITE

MP 101 | Interpretive signs, camping, glacier viewpoints with telescopes, picnic area, restrooms and pathways (some of which are handicap accessible). \$5 parking.

MAP KEY

-  Rest Area
-  Campground

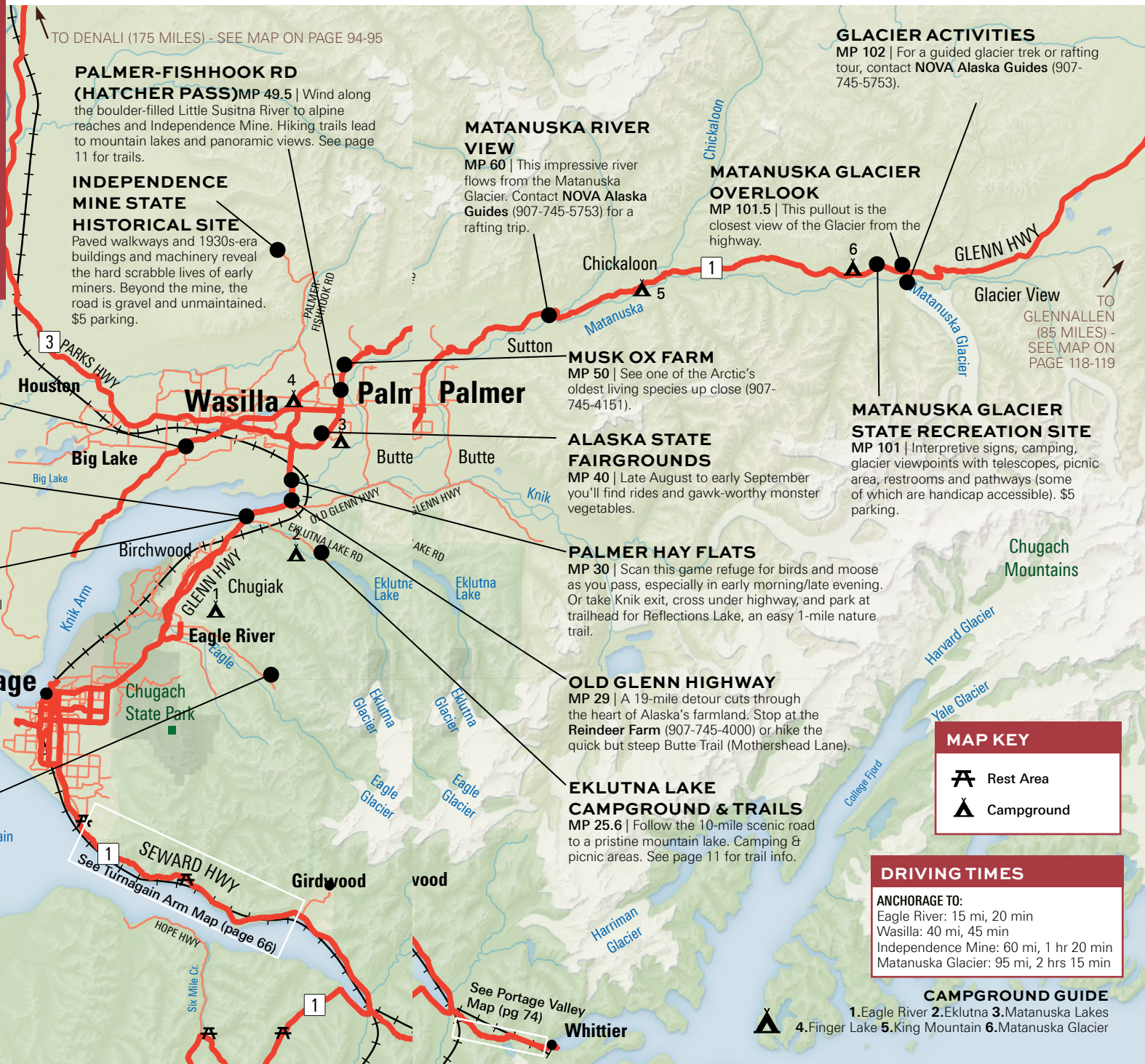
DRIVING TIMES

ANCHORAGE TO:

Eagle River: 15 mi, 20 min
Wasilla: 40 mi, 45 min
Independence Mine: 60 mi, 1 hr 20 min
Matanuska Glacier: 95 mi, 2 hrs 15 min

CAMPGROUND GUIDE

1. Eagle River 2. Eklutna 3. Matanuska Lakes
4. Finger Lake 5. King Mountain 6. Matanuska Glacier



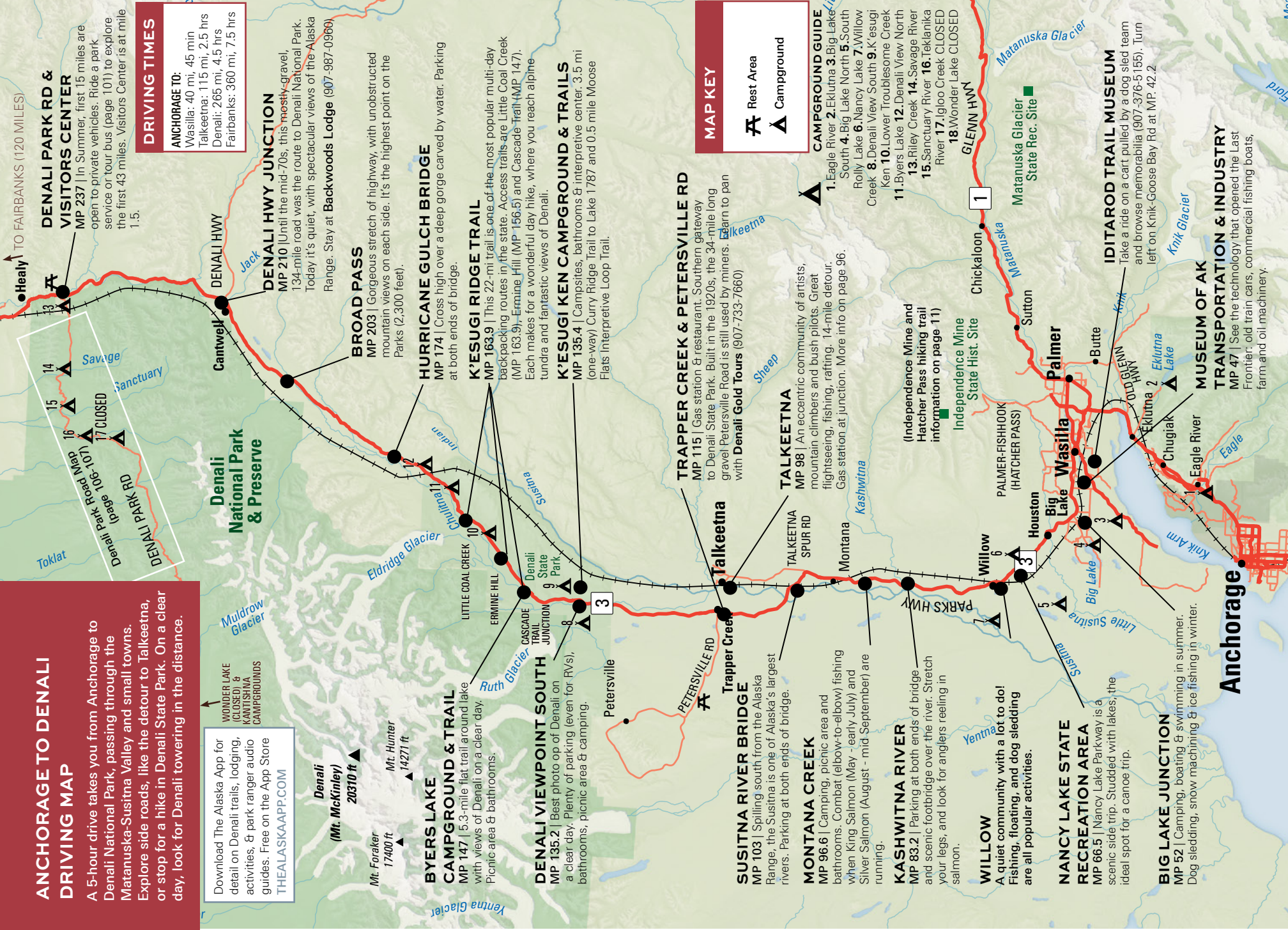
ANCHORAGE TO DENALI DRIVING MAP

A 5-hour drive takes you from Anchorage to Denali National Park, passing through the Matanuska-Susitna Valley and small towns. Explore side roads, like the detour to Talkeetna, or stop for a hike in Denali State Park. On a clear day, look for Denali towering in the distance.

Download The Alaska App for detail on Denali trails, lodging, activities, & park ranger audio guides. Free on the App Store. THEALASKAAPP.COM

DRIVING TIMES

ANCHORAGE TO:
Wasilla: 40 mi, 45 min
Talkeetna: 115 mi, 2.5 hrs
Denali: 265 mi, 4.5 hrs
Fairbanks: 360 mi, 7.5 hrs



DOORWAY TO DENALI

GETTING THERE

By car: 2.5 hrs, drive the Glenn Hwy to the Parks Hwy to the Talkeetna Spur Rd. (at mile 99).

By rail: 2 hrs 50 mins, depart Anchorage 8:20am, arrive Talkeetna 11:05am. A popular day trip: take the morning train up, return on the 8:00pm train. Going to Denali? Overnight in Talkeetna en route. Alaska Railroad 907-265-2494

By bus: Park Connection Motorcoach 800-266-8625

THE TOWN

Talkeetna began at the turn of the century as a supply station for miners and trappers. This pioneer town has maintained its rustic spirit. Historic buildings line the one-block main street, and many locals still live in log cabins. Miners and trappers who live in the bush without running water or electricity come into the village for supplies and messages.

Talkeetna is the nearest town to Denali and is the staging area for many climbing expeditions. In summer, the town swells with a colorful cast of international adventurers who come to test themselves against the high peaks of the Alaska Range.

Talkeetna offers an ideal combination: it has all the outdoor recreation services you'll need, yet offers the relaxation of a small town that keeps civilization at arm's length: The little red schoolhouse still stands, and you'll find only one stop sign and one parking meter... and it's broken.



Above - Explore downtown Talkeetna on foot, an authentic Alaskan town.

HIGHLIGHTS

5 MAHAY'S JET BOAT ADVENTURES

907-733-2223

mahaysriverboat.com

8 TALKEETNA RIVER GUIDES

800-353-2677

talkeetnariverguides.com

MAP

See page 91

RIVER ADVENTURES

Take an exciting ride into the wilderness with **Mahay's Jet Boat Adventures**. Speed up and down glacier-fed rivers as you experience gorgeous scenery in the shadow of Denali. The 2-hour Wilderness Excursion brings guests ashore midway through the journey for a ¼-mile forest walk to a Dena'ina dwelling replica and an authentic trapper's cabin. The thrilling 5-hour Devil's Canyon Tour includes a visit ashore as

well, and then zig-zags guests further upriver through thrilling rapids!

Talkeetna River Guides has offered expertly guided rafting day trips for over 20 years. The two-hour Talkeetna River Natural History Float Trip explores the lower Talkeetna River, a glacier-fed waterway steeped in pioneer history. The four-hour Chulitna River Tour rafts 19 miles of river, through pristine wildlands of Denali State Park towards Talkeetna.

THE ALASKA APP



USE NEARBY IN ANY TOWN TO FIND LOCAL'S FAVORITE SPOTS



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TALKEETNA
River Guides

13521 MAIN STREET • TALKEETNA, AK 99676
800-353-2677 • WWW.TALKEETNARIVERGUIDES.COM

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907.733.7660
WWW.DENALIGOLDTOURS.COM

Devil's Canyon Tour
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mahays@mahaysjetboat.com Talkeetna, AK 907-733-2223

HIGHLIGHTS

- 7 TALKEETNA AIR TAXI**
907-733-2218
talkeetnaair.com
- 3 DENALI GOLD TOURS**
907-733-7660
denaligoldtours.com
- 1 THE ALASKA RAILROAD**
907-265-2494
alaskarailroad.com

On a clear day, both tours enjoy views of Mt. Denali and the Alaskan Range as the back-drop.

● FLIGHTSEEING

Talkeetna is Alaska's flightseeing capital. Some of the most highly trained glacier pilots in the world can take you so close to the mountains you can imagine touching them. And sometimes you can touch; ski planes actually land on the glaciers! **Talkeetna Air Taxi** is the area's finest, with planes equipped for pilot narration and window seats for all; 1-2 hour tours are offered throughout the day.

● PAN FOR GOLD

Learn how to pan for gold! **Denali Gold Tours** works several claims in the active

Cache Creek Mining District. You can spend a half-day or full-day working this authentic mining claim, far away from the crowds. Tours depart from Trapper Creek, just a short 30-minute drive from Talkeetna.

● RIDE THE RAILS

You can visit Talkeetna on **The Alaska Railroad** en route to Denali or Fairbanks, or as a day trip from Anchorage. The scenic Denali Star train departs Anchorage each morning from mid-May to mid-September, treating visitors to views of the MatSu River Valley, Talkeetna Mountains, and (on a clear day) Denali. Thursday-Monday during the summer, hop on the Hurricane Turn train from Talkeetna for a truly local experience. This train still operates as a flag-stop

Right - About a 30-minute flight from Talkeetna, you can pan for gold in Trapper Creek.



© Denali Gold Tours

service. To disembark, notify the conductor of the milepost where you wish to stop. To get back on, wave a flag. It's a great way to meet locals who use this service to access remote cabins with no road access.

● OUTDOOR GEAR & TOURS

Gear up for your outdoor adventures at **Talkeetna Gear Shop**. Rent fat tire bikes, mountain bikes, or electric cruisers and explore the trails around Talkeetna! You can also rent stand up paddle boards, perfect for exploring the many lakes in the Talkeetna area. Check out the used gear consignment for good prices on outdoor gear or book a guided tour to make the most of your trip!

● OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Fly through the forest canopy with **Denali Zipline Tours**. Experience the thrills of ziplines and suspension bridges, combined with great views of the Alaska Range, Denali, and local rivers. Learn about the boreal forest or glacial rivers, then zip to a different platform for another view and another story. This fully-guided, 3-hour tour is the only zipline with views of Denali. Check out the room-sized to-

scale model of Denali at the **Talkeetna Historical Museum** along with old gold-panning equipment and other relics.

Stop by the **Ranger Station**: the command and control center for Denali expeditions. Hear live radio communications with climbers on the mountain, and read accounts of earlier expeditions.

● HIKING

Join the professional naturalists of **Alaska Nature Guides** for a guided hike in the Talkeetna and Denali State Park area, known for its lush beauty and spectacular views. They offer hikes on all skill levels ranging 2.5 to 4.5 hours. Choose from gentle strolls along pristine lakes to exhilarating hikes up to the tundra for panoramic views of Denali and other Alaska Range giants.

● STAY THE NIGHT

A visit to Talkeetna isn't the same without a visit to the historic **Talkeetna Roadhouse** famous for their sourdough hotcakes in a fun, cozy setting.

TOURS

- 1 AK Railroad Summer Depot
- 2 Alaska Nature Guides
- 3 Denali Gold Tours
- 4 Denali Zipline Tours
- 5 Mahay's Jet Boat Adventures
- 6 Sheldon Comm. Arts Hangar
- 7 Talkeetna Air Taxi
- 8 Talkeetna River Guides

SHOPPING

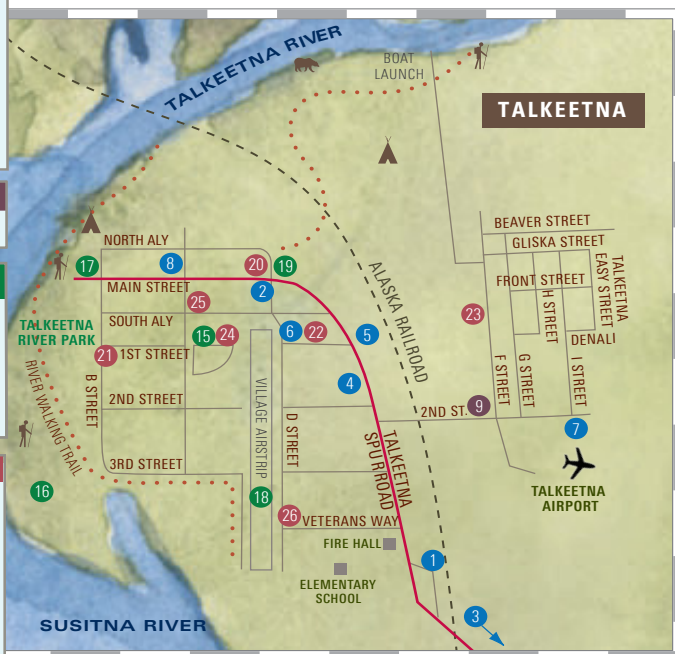
- 9 Talkeetna Gear Shop

TRAILS

- 15 Ball Park
- 16 River Trail
- 17 Talkeetna River Park
- 18 Village Airstrip
- 19 Village Park

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 20 Fairview Inn
- 21 Park Service Ranger Station
- 22 Post Office
- 23 St. Benards Church
- 24 Talkeetna Historic Museum
- 25 Talkeetna Roadhouse
- 26 VFW Post



HIGHLIGHTS

- 9 TALKEETNA GEAR SHOP**
907-707-3618
talkeetnagearshop.com
- 4 DENALI ZIPLINE TOURS**
907-733-3988
denaliziplanetours.com
- 2 ALASKA NATURE GUIDES**
907-733-1237
alaskanatureguides.com

THE GREAT ONE

MAP

See page 106-107

GETTING THERE

By car:

5 hrs, drive the Glenn Hwy to the Parks Hwy to mile 237.

By rail:

7 hrs, 30 mins. **Northbound** train Anchorage to Denali. Depart 8:15am, arrive 3:55pm. **Southbound** train Denali to Anchorage. Depart 12:30pm, arrives 8:00pm. 907-265-2494

By bus:

Park Connection Motorcoach
800-266-8625

THE PARK

Denali National Park & Preserve is a shining gem in America's national parks system – six million acres of lakes, tundra, peaks, and wildlife dominated by North America's highest peak and interrupted by a single 90-mile road. Denali offers your best chance to see Dall Sheep, caribou, moose, fox, wolves, and bear—apart from a bear-viewing tour.

The park road hugs the north side of the Alaska Range. Unlike the more distant views from south-side roads, here a 30-mile massif of the continent's loftiest peaks plunges straight down to the tundra. To reduce traffic and protect natural resources, private cars are not allowed past mile 15. Instead, use the park's visitor transportation shuttle bus.

Denali owes its magic to the careful balance struck between preservation and use. Here, you can hop the bus and journey through a subarctic wilderness largely unchanged by human beings.



© Jeannine Bryan

● PARK TOURS

To have the best chance to see what you came for, take a narrated tour into the park. In 2025, construction will continue on a bridge to bypass a landslide that occurred at MP 45.4 of the Denali Park Road. Instead of traveling the entire 92 miles, tour buses will travel as far as MP 43. Transit buses (the hop-on, hop-off park shuttles) will also be operating on the shortened route. These buses do not

always guarantee narration, but you get the flexibility to hop off and hike area trails at your leisure. Climb back aboard when the next bus comes through. Reservations are recommended (800-622-7275).

● FIXED-WING FLIGHTSEEING

Aviation is king in Alaska for good reason: airplanes allow you to experience corners of the state that are otherwise inaccessible. In Denali, there

HIGHLIGHTS

2 DENALI AIR

907-683-2261

denaliair.com

7 DENALI SUMMIT FLIGHT

888-733-2899

denaliummitflight.com

10 TEMSCO

907-683-0683

temscoair.com

3 DENALI ATV

ADVENTURES

907-683-4ATV

denaliatv.com

MAP

See page 106

is no better way to get close to the face of The Great One than in an airplane! **Denali Air** and **Denali Summit Flight** offer jaw-dropping fixed-wing flights to Denali. These flights give you optimal access to Denali National Park's 5 million acres, soaring over tumbling glaciers and colorful tundra en route to Denali itself. Fly over the summits or encircle the entire Denali massif during a flight of a lifetime.

● HELICOPTER FLIGHTSEEING & TOURS

TEMSCO is the only helicopter operator in the Denali area, and Alaska's original helicopter glacier tour. Why helicopters? They have about six times as much window space and

the smooth ride is less likely to cause motion sickness. **TEMSCO's** award-winning tours include classic Denali flightseeing experiences with an option of a glacier landing, to heli-hiking in a secluded area near the park boundary.

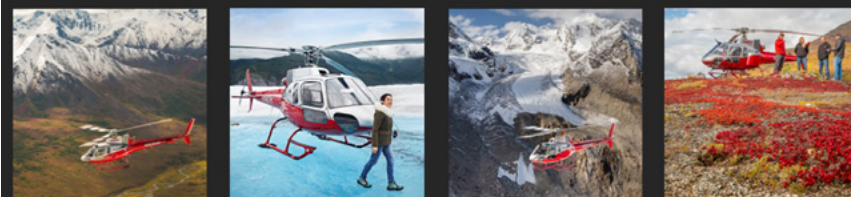
● THE WHEEL DEAL

Buckle up and explore the backcountry around Denali. With **Denali ATV Adventures**, you'll splash through rivers and drive over trails rutted with tree roots. 2.5-hour and 3.5-hour tours are offered all summer. From early June to mid-August, a unique Midnight Sun Adventure departs at 9 pm, taking advantage of long daylight hours! Single rider ATVs and multi rider side by



Experience Denali with TEMSCO Helicopters

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(907) 683-0683 · denali_tours@temscoair.com

THE ALASKA APP

DENALI PARK ROAD
AUDIO GUIDE



Above - take in the incredible sights of the Denali Highway on a Jeep Tour

© Denali Highway Jeep Excursion

side ATVs are available.

Black Diamond offers traditional ATV tours in the Denali area, but their Treasure Hunt tour takes it up a notch. Guests are armed with a GPS and given a list of treasure-hunt style objectives to find along the way, from old coal mining trails to sites where Athabascan artifacts have been found.

● DENALI HIGHWAY

The Denali Highway was the original road that led to Denali National Park before the Parks Highway was completed in the early 1970s. Today the road is beautiful, remote, rugged, and mostly gravel. In fact, it was named the #2 drive of a lifetime by National Geographic!

Get behind the wheel of your own 4-door Jeep Wrangler for an unforgettable adventure on the Denali Highway with **Denali Highway Jeep Excursion**. Much of the route lies above timberline, so the vistas go on forever. The mountains and glaciers of the Alaska Range form a

majestic backdrop, with miles of rolling tundra punctuated by shallow lakes in between.

Nestled in a forested setting at the crossroads of the Parks and Denali Highways, **Backwoods Lodge** is a perfect launching point for visitors with a car. With the Denali Highway right on its doorstep, awaiting adventure, and the entrance to Denali National Park a mere 30-minute journey to the north, this lodge is strategically placed for those eager to dive into Alaska's natural wonders. Additionally, this locally-owned lodge operates year-round, making it an excellent choice regardless of the season.

● RIVER TOURS

Traverse Alaska offers private, custom-guided, one-day and multi-day river rafting and packrafting trips. On a full-day rafting tour, you'll raft the river and take a break at a private beach for lunch and a walk, away from the crowds. With active groups, you'll hike to the river, inflate your own packraft, and paddle the

HIGHLIGHTS

4 DENALI HIGHWAY

JEEP EXCURSIONS

907-683-JEEP

denalijeeep.com

15 BACKWOODS LODGE

907-987-0960

backwoodslodge.com

1 BLACK DIAMOND

907-683-4653

blackdiamondtourco.com

11 TRAVERSE ALASKA

907-903-0979

traversealaska.com

MAP

See page 106-107

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Unforgettable,
Bucket-list
Experience!*

Since 1973

Above - learn from experts on a guided hike with Traverse Alaska. **Below** - See caribou and other wildlife inside Denali National Park.



HIGHLIGHTS

11 TRAVERSE ALASKA

907-903-0979

traversealaska.com

9 NORTHERN EPICS

907-687-2070

northernepics.com

6 DENALI PHOTO GUIDES

907-768-2200

denaliphoto.com

5 DENALI PARK ZIPLINE

907-683-2947

denalizipline.com

MAP

See page 106

river back to the car.

● GUIDED HIKING

Join **Traverse Alaska** for a private, custom-guided hike, designed specifically for your group. Your guide will meet you at your lodging. Then, you'll venture into the backcountry on the first day, leading you through the boreal forest up to the tundra, while discussing Denali's unique natural history, geology, and cultural history.

You'll cover safe travel protocol among the wildlife and backcountry of Alaska, away from crowds and maintained trails. By the end of the day, you'll have all the tools necessary for a successful, independent trip in Denali National Park (map, bus system, explanation, etc.). People come back exhilarated, having successfully explored the backcountry on their own.

Northern Epics hiking tours take you both on and off-trail. They'll immerse you in Denali's wild beauty while providing a deeper understanding of the landscape through expert education. Choose from a relaxed 3-hour naturalist walk, a 4-hour tour where you'll

engage all your senses—tasting edible plants and wild berries, a challenging 5-hour mountain climb, or a unique half-day survival tour where you'll learn to build a shelter among other survival skills. With small group sizes, every tour feels personal, allowing for a deeper connection to the land and your guide. Plus, 5% of all net profits go toward conservation efforts, ensuring these landscapes remain wild for generations to come.

● PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

Capture Denali's stunning landscapes with **Denali Photo Guides**, offering expert-led photography tours in small groups of up to four people. Whether you're using a smartphone or a professional DSLR, you'll receive personalized tips to enhance your shots. Choose from a 3-hour Denali Photo Excursion, an evening Midnight Sun tour for dramatic lighting, or a Backcountry Photo Excursion with a helicopter ride to a mountaintop.

● ZIPLINE

One of the newest additions to the area is the **Denali**

Park Zipline. Enjoy the thrill of a zip, while taking in sweeping 360-degree views of the surrounding tundra and the Alaska Range. With 7 ziplines (over a half mile of zips), a side by side dual racer finale zipline and multiple suspension bridges — you are pretty much guaranteed an exciting adventure!

● DOG SLED DEMONSTRATION

Experience an authentic Alaskan lifestyle at **Husky Homestead** - home of Iditarod Champion, Jeff King. Cuddle puppies upon arrival, meet the incredible sled dogs and get a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into creating a championship team and carving a life in Alaska's Interior.

Meet the working sled dogs that help Park Rangers protect the wilderness of Denali National Park. Why sled dogs and not snow machines? Find out by visiting the **Denali National Park Kennels**. Demonstrations are free, and occur three times a day between mid-May and early September. You can drive (parking is limited) or hop on the free shuttle bus from the Denali Visitor Center.

● ONE STOP...MANY ADVENTURES

Explore Denali in multiple ways with **Black Diamond**, run by long-time and year-round locals. Play golf under the midnight sun, explore the Denali back country

on a guided horse drawn covered-wagon tour or take an ATV adventure. Sit down to a gourmet meal of fresh Alaskan salmon, halibut and more at their popular Black Diamond Grill.

● DINING & NIGHTLIFE

A handful of restaurants, coffee shops, and a pizza parlor are clustered near the park entrance. The major hotels have good dining as well. A shuttle system serves the area. For great beer and Alaska-sized portions using local ingredients, head to **49th State Brewing Company**, just north of Denali to Healy. The staff is 100% cicerone certified, meaning they know beer, including the proper glass for each type. Sit inside or escape outdoors into the garden, where you'll find a replica of the Into the Wild bus; climb on board to see the memorabilia.

● HIKING TRAILS

Near the entrance area, there are plenty of developed trails that offer views and a bit of solitude. **Horseshoe Lake Trail** is a great 3-mile, round trip walk to a lake with a beaver dam and lodge. For something more challenging try the 5.4 mile round trip hike up the **Mount Healy Overlook Trail**. You'll be rewarded with sweeping views of the Denali National Park entrance area, the Nenana River Valley, Healy Ridge, and nearby alpine ridges.

HIGHLIGHTS

8 HUSKY HOMESTEAD

907-683-2904

huskyhomestead.com

1 BLACK DIAMOND

907-683-4653

blackdiamondtourco.com

49TH STATE BREWING COMPANY

907-683-2739

49thstatebrewing.com

MAP

See page 106

© Traverse Alaska

TOURS & ACTIVITIES

- 1 Black Diamond
- 2 Denali Air
- 3 Denali ATV Adventures
- 4 Denali Highway Jeep Excursions
- 5 Denali Park Zipline
- 6 Denali Photo Guides
- 7 Denali Summit Flight
- 8 Husky Homestead
- 9 Northern Epics
- 10 TEMSCO Helicopter Tours
- 11 Traverse Alaska



DENALI NATIONAL PARK



GOLDEN NUGGET OF THE INTERIOR

GETTING THERE

By car or coach:
7 hrs, drive the Glenn Hwy to the Parks Hwy to mile 358.

By rail:
12 hrs, **Northbound** train Anchorage to Fairbanks. Depart 8:20am, arrive 8:00pm.
Southbound train Fairbanks to Anchorage. Depart 8:20am, arrives 8:00pm.



© Sherman Hugue / Explore Fairbanks

THE TOWN

In 1901, when prospector E.T. Barnette accidentally ended up here, he could hardly have envisioned today's Fairbanks: His gold strike drew frantic diggers who helped grow the town into Alaska's second-largest city. Today, you can step back in time to tour gold mines and check out the world of tomorrow at the city's cutting-edge university. Then soak up the unique flora and fauna, flight-hop up to the Arctic Circle, or just wander downtown and experience this proudly quirky town that still holds onto its fiercely independent roots.

LOCAL INFORMATION

Start your Interior Alaska adventure at the **Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center** in downtown Fairbanks. Serving as the regional visitor facility, the center has friendly and knowledgeable staff who will share all there is to know about Fairbanks. And the free, 9,000-square-foot exhibit hall features displays showcasing Interior Alaska's people, wildlife, landscapes, and seasons.

PIONEER PARK

Experience the Alaska of 100 years ago. Part theme park, part historic village, **Pioneer Park** offers a lazy railroad and Gold Rush town streets, with original buildings moved from historic downtown. The Park has six small museums,

national historic monuments, an art gallery, Alaskan shops and, of course, plenty to eat including a Salmon Bake.

FLIGHTSEE

Get a bird's eye view of Fairbanks on a half-hour flight tour, or choose a longer flight to see Denali and the Alaska Range with **Denali Summit Flights**. Your pilot-guide narrates the tour, using an excellent intercom system, while you check out the views from your window seat. After all, on flights that hold no more than 9 people, everyone gets a window seat.

MUSEUMS

Alaska's road to modernization a century ago was a dramatic journey, and the **Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum** explores

HIGHLIGHTS

5 MORRIS THOMPSON CULTURAL & VISITORS CENTER

907-459-3700
morristhompsoncenter.org

10 PIONEER PARK

907-459-1087
fnsb.gov/462/Pioneer-Park

9 DENALI SUMMIT FLIGHT

888-733-2899
denaliumitflight.com

5 FOUNTAINHEAD ANTIQUE AUTO MUSEUM

907-450-2100
fountainheadmuseum.com

MAP

See page 114 & 116

Santa Claus HOUSE

101 St. Nicholas Drive
North Pole, Alaska



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Visit the Museum!



1923 Mercury-bodied Model T Speedster



Above - Ride a vintage steam train through Pioneer Park.

that journey in fun, vivid detail. On the grounds of Wedgewood Resort, the museum showcases dozens of historically significant pre-World War II automobiles, vintage clothing, and offers visitors a trip back to Alaska's rugged and exciting formative years.

Discover fascinating stories about Alaska's people and places at **UA Museum of the North**. From Alaska's wildlife to contemporary Alaska Native art, you'll find something appealing on exhibit, whatever your interest might be.

● GET OUTDOORS

See Alaska in bloom at the **Georgeson Botanical Gardens**, where 50-pound cabbages grow among thousands of flowers, vegetables, and herbs. Or stroll the Chena Riverwalk, a paved 3.5 mile path between Pioneer Park and Airport Way.

● SHOPPING

The Great Alaskan Bowl Company is one of the last fully operating bowl mills in America with 33+ years of

operation. Their manufacturing team creates solid birch mixing/serving bowls, drinking steins and flower vases! You will also find a hand-picked selection of Made in Alaska gourmet foods, household goods and gifts from over 200 Alaskan makers. Open 7 days a week with laser personalization and shipping/handling available!

● GET OUTTA TOWN

Go take a soak in the natural mineral waters of **Chena Hot Springs**, a 440-acre resort 60 miles from Fairbanks. Or go see the famous **Trans-Alaska Pipeline**, the transporter America's black gold. There's a walk-up viewpoint at mile 8.4 of the Steese Highway just north of Fairbanks.

For something truly pioneering, hop a short flight into the Arctic Circle and experience its vast, undisturbed wilderness. **Northern Alaska Tour Company** can fly you there on an unforgettable five-hour jaunt. They also offer fly-drive and drive-only options to the Arctic Circle. Beginning Aug 21 through April 21, they also offer northern lights-viewing tours above the Arctic Circle; your



Be inspired by the light of the Aurora Borealis. Renew your energy under the Midnight Sun. Experience the warmth of Fairbanks—Alaska's Golden Heart—and the basecamp to Denali, Interior and Arctic Alaska. Make the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center your first stop to planning your Alaskan adventure.

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ALASKA

Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center
101 Dunkel Street • Downtown Fairbanks

www.explorefairbanks.com
(907) 456-5774
info@explorefairbanks.com

HIGHLIGHTS

- ③ **UA MUSEUM OF THE NORTH**
907-474-7505
uaf.edu/museum
- ⑥ **GEORGESON BOTANICAL GARDENS**
907-474-1944
uaf.edu/afes/places/gbg/
- ⑧ **THE GREAT ALASKAN BOWL COMPANY**
907-474-9663
woodbowl.com
- ⑨ **NORTHERN ALASKA TOUR COMPANY**
907-474-8600
northernalaska.com

MAP

See page 114-115

THE ALASKA APP



THE MOST ACCURATE
WEATHER FORECASTS



the denali experience

GET UP CLOSE

AND PERSONAL

Birds eye view of Denali National Park and Denali, The Great One, operating out of Denali Park area.

denali summit flights

800-474-1986 / denalisummitflight.com



©Michael Rogers

chances of seeing the aurora are greater here, as this area is situated beneath the Aurora Oval.

Climb on board an authentic Alaskan sternwheeler, the **Riverboat Discovery**, and take a journey back in time along the Chena and Tanana rivers. Your voyage will transport you into the Alaskan wilderness and back to a time when the Gold Rush was booming and sternwheeler riverboats ruled the water ways of the North. The narrated 3-hour long tour isn't all spent on the boat but exploring the Chena Village, a living museum, to learn about the rich culture of Interior Alaska.

Hop aboard a narrow-gauge train and stake your claim to gold on a 2 hour tour of **Gold Dredge 8**. Learn how 100,000 hopeful gold miners fought the permafrost in their quest to get rich! Visit the historic Dredge No.8 and meet real Alaskan miners who have been mining here since the 1970s. After disembarking the train, you'll explore the old mining site and pan for gold yourself.

It's Christmas year round in North Pole, Alaska—just 20 minutes away from Fairbanks. At the hub of the festivities is **Santa Claus House** a frontier general store and post office turned holiday shop. The postal tradition lives on—official Letters from Santa are postmarked from the North Pole and stamped with an official Santa seal. And today, the store includes live reindeer, holiday gift items, the world's largest Santa statue and, in summer months and over holidays, Santa himself.

● ACCOMMODATIONS

In Fairbanks, Fountainhead Hotels (a locally owned hotel group) has three properties to choose from. A mile from Downtown Fairbanks, the **Wedgewood Resort** offers all large suites, sits on 27 acres of gardens and walking paths, and offers access to the 75-acre Wedgewood Wildlife Refuge. **Bear Lodge** also sits on the grounds of Wedgewood Resort. Closer to the airport is **Sophie Station Suites**. This all-suite hotel is great for longer visits or families looking for a little more room to spread out.

HIGHLIGHTS

11 RIVERBOAT DISCOVERY

866-479-6673
riverboatdiscovery.com

7 GOLD DREDGE 8

866-479-6673
golddredge8.com

12 SANTA CLAUS HOUSE

907-488-2200
santaclaushouse.com

39 WEDGEWOOD RESORT

907-452-1442
fountainheadhotels.com

25 BEAR LODGE

907-452-1442
fountainheadhotels.com

38 SOPHIE STATION SUITES

907-479-3650
fountainheadhotels.com

MAP

See page 114

RiverboatDiscovery.com | 866-479-6673

Cruise the great rivers of Alaska

Board the Sternwheeler Riverboat Discovery for one of the most unique Alaskan experiences available

See an Alaskan Bush Pilot in action | Tributaries to the mighty Yukon River
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FAIRBANKS AREA-WIDE

POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1 Pipeline Viewing Station
- 2 Tanana Valley State Fairgrounds
- 3 UA Museum of the North

TOURS & ACTIVITIES

- 5 Antique Auto Museum
- 6 Georgeson Botanical Garden
- 7 Gold Dredge 8
- 8 Great Alaskan Bowl Company
- 9 Northern Alaska Tour Company & Denali Summit Flights
- 10 Pioneer Park
- 11 Riverboat Discovery
- 12 Santa Claus House

RESTAURANTS

- 13 Alaska Salmon Bake
- 14 Food Factory
- 15 Pike's Landing
- 16 The Pump House
- 17 The Bakery

PARKS & TRAILS

- 18 Chena River Walk
- 19 Creamer's Field Bird Sanctuary
- 20 Wedgewood Wildlife Sanctuary Trail



ALASKA CHANNEL

Watch Alaska Channel TV in your hotel room (see channel #'s) for local advice and exciting things to do during your stay in Fairbanks.

FAIRBANKS HOTELS

- 25 Bear Lodge (2)
- 26 Best Western Chena River Lodge (1)
- 27 Best Western Plus Pioneer Park Inn
- 28 Candlewood Suites (1)
- 29 Extended Stay Deluxe Hotel
- 30 Hampton Inn & Suites
- 31 Holiday Inn Express
- 32 Hotel North Pole (2)
- 33 Hyatt Place (2)
- 34 LaQuinta (1)
- 35 Pike's Waterfront Lodge (1)
- 36 Princess Riverside Lodge (8)
- 37 River's Edge Resort (3)
- 38 Sophie Station (4)
- 39 Wedgewood Resort (8)

32 12 TO NORTH POLE, DELTA JUNCTION, TOK



GATEWAY TO WRANGELL ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK

Below - The Copper River offers one of Alaska's best river trips.

Below - Wrangell Mountain Air is perfect for those who don't have the time or don't want to do any driving. Charter flights are available to the Wrangell-St. Elias from any arrival point.

Discover some of America's most remote, beautiful land. Four major mountain ranges converge here, with America's second-highest peak and nine mountains over 14,000 feet. Slicing through it all is the Copper River and its turbulent tributaries.

LAKE LOUISE

Lake Louise State Recreation Area is known for its trout and grayling fishing, views of Tazlina Glacier, and berry picking. Turn at MP 159.8 Glenn Hwy for the scenic 19-mile drive north. After the first few miles, the road has lots of frost heaves (bumps), so you'll want to drive half your normal speed.

GLENNALLEN & COPPER CENTER

Glennallen and Copper Center are gateways to Wrangell St. Elias National Park. At 13.2 million acres, it's America's largest national park (and bigger than Switzerland). With **Copper Valley Air**

Service you can get a birds-eye view of the park with several flightsees ranging from 60 to 120 minutes. Opt for a tour with a landing in the park (great for National Park passport stampers) or ask about custom tours! **The Visitor's Center** at MP 106.8 Richardson Highway boasts an award-winning movie, ranger talks and walks, and short nature trail.

In Copper Center, visit the **George I. Ashby Memorial Museum** to see mining and trapping memorabilia, along with early Russian religious articles.

FLY, FLOAT, OR FISH

Get out on the water with **AK Fish Charters** and fish the Gulkana or Klutina rivers—tributaries of the Copper River famous for sockeye salmon known as Copper River Reds. You might also target king salmon, Dolly Varden, or catch-and-release species of trout and grayling. Fly over Wrangell St. Elias National Park with **Wrangell Mountain Air**, or touch down and explore the ghost towns of Kennicott and McCarthy.

CHITINA

Established in 1908 as a supply town for the mines, Chitina became a ghost town when the copper dried up in 1938. Today, down by the river, you can see lazily spinning fish wheels plucking red, king, and silver salmon from the river. Before Chitina, drop by **Tonsina Native Arts & Crafts** (MP 13 Edgerton Hwy) for authentic native gifts.

CONTINUE THE DRIVE

On the way to Chitina, drop by the Tonsina Native Arts & Crafts in the Kenny Lake Area (mile 13) for some cool native crafts. Chitina is the only interesting stop between Glennallen and Kennicott. Established in 1908 as a supply town for the mines, it became a ghost town when the copper dried up in 1938. Today, down by the river, you can see lazily spinning fish wheels plucking red, king, and silver salmon from the river.

HIGHLIGHTS

COPPER VALLEY AIR SERVICE

907-822-4200
coppervalleyairservice.com

AK FISH CHARTERS

989-387-5646
akfishcharters.com

WRANGELL MOUNTAIN AIR

800-478-1160
wrangellmountainair.com



VALDEZ TO FAIRBANKS DRIVING MAP

Stunning views and fascinating history come together on this 368-mile trek along the first major road built in Alaska. Glaciers, jagged peaks, two mountain passes, and several historic sites punctuate your journey. Stop into old roadhouses and get glimpses of the Alyeska Pipeline.



DRIVING TIMES

FAIRBANKS TO:
Delta Junction: 95 mi, 1 hr 45 min
Denali Hwy Jct: 175 mi, 3.5 hr
Glenn Hwy Jct: 245 mi, 4.5 hr
Old Richardson Jct: 254 mi, 4 hr 45 min
Edgerton Hwy Jct: 275 mi, 5 hr 15 min
Valdez: 365 mi, 7.5 hr

MAP KEY

Rest Area	Campground

NORTH POLE
MP 349 | Stop by the **Santa Claus House** (907-488-2200) or send home a postcard stamped "North Pole."

FAIRBANKS
MP 364 | Alaska's
second-largest city a
gateway to the Arctic

**RIKA'S ROADHOUSE,
BIG DELTA STATE
HISTORICAL PARK**
MP 275 | The Valdez-to-Fairbanks Trail ran through here and the roadhouse was built to accommodate travelers. Picnic area, toilets, and camping.

**TRANS-ALASKA
PIPELINE VIEW**
MP 216 | 70,000 workers a
billion built this pipeline tha
through 800 miles of wilde
Parking area.

RAINBOW RIDGE—
SCENIC VIEW
MP 206 | Varied color palette on the mountainside reflects the geology of the area. Reds and greens are volcanic rock; yellows and pastels are siltstone.

**PAXSON & DENALI
HWY (8) JUNCTION**
MP 185 | Views of glaciers and the Alaska Range make the Denali Hwy one of the most scenic drives in the world. The road leads west to Cantwell, where it connects to the Parks Hwy. 134 miles, mostly gravel, closed in winter.

GAKONA JUNCTION
MP 128.2 | The Tok Cutoff of the Glenn Highway leads northeast to Canada, following the Copper River and edge of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve.

BRIDAL VEIL FALLS
MP 13.5 | One of the most beautiful roadside waterfalls in Alaska. Parking area and hiking trails nearby. Horsetail Falls is 0.5 miles down the road.

**CROOKED CREEK
INFORMATION SITE**
MP 0.5 | Pink and chum salmon
return to this stream each summer
spawn, mid-July through Labor Day
with peak numbers in mid-August.

VALDEZ — **MP 4** | Get out in Prince William Sound for sea kayaking, fishing, or a day cruise.

DELTA JUNCTION
MP 266 | Marks the end of the 1,000-mile Alaska Highway that began in Dawson Creek, British Columbia. Stop in at the visitor center at the Sullivan Roadhouse Historic Museum.

**RICHARDSON
MONUMENT**
MP 197 | Honors Capt.
P. Richardson's contribu-
Alaska's first great road
Scenic views of surround-
mountains and Gulkana

**JUNCTION TO AK
COPPER CENTER**
MP 106 | One of the oldest
communities in Alaska's Interior
for access to fishing the Gulf of
Tonsina and Klutina Rivers. E
George L. Ashby Museum
3916). Fish with AK Fish C
(989-387-5646).

VIEW OF WRANGELL MTNS | On clear days, the best view of the Wrangell Mountain Range and its 12 peaks is from the summit of Mt. Ranier at 10,000 ft. A stunning reflection in Willow Lake is visible on the left.

WORTHINGTON
GLACIER STATE
RECREATION SITE

THOMPSON PASS

Cuts through the Chukotka Mountains, opening up a colorful alpine landscape of wildflowers, tall grasses, and shrubs. In fall and a snowy playground in winter, it's a pullout for scenic views.

**EDGERTON HWY (10) &
MCCARTHY ROAD (10)**
MP 82 | The paved Edgerton Hwy is 33 miles long and ends in Chitina, where the 60-mile McCarthy Road begins.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve

Download The Alaska App
for more attractions, tours,
hiking trails & audio guides.
Free on the App Store
THEALASKAAP.COM

WHERE THE MOUNTAINS MEET THE SEA

GETTING THERE

By car or coach from Glennallen: 2.5 hours, drive the Richardson Hwy South to end.

By air from Anchorage: 45 minutes: Ravn Alaska (907-266-8394) has frequent flights.

By ferry from Whittier: 6 hours, Alaska Marine Hwy (800-642-0066)

THE TOWN

The moniker “Switzerland of Alaska” couldn’t be more appropriate for Valdez—the lush green snow-capped Chugach mountains and shimmering water do bring Europe to mind. But Valdez boasts even more: a mix of tidewater glaciers, rain forests, and mountains situated at the head of a deep, stillwater fjord on Prince William Sound. As one of the original routes to the interior of Alaska, the town is steeped in history. But the area shines in its exceptional natural treasures and outdoor recreational opportunities. Mountains rise up 4,000 feet up, salmon gather by the millions, glaciers tower over the Sound, and wildlife play on the town’s doorstep.



THE DRIVE

Your adventure begins with the drive to Valdez along the Richardson Highway. At mile 45, the road starts to climb to Thompson Pass, 2,800 feet above sea level—be sure to turn off and stop at the spectacular Worthington Glacier. Continue on and you’ll pass within yards of 600-foot-high waterfalls and 5,000-foot peaks. You’ll also see funky little roadhouses that once hosted gold prospectors, along with parts of the TransAlaska pipeline. See driving map on page 118 for more information.

DAY CRUISES

Imagine slicing through crystalline waters with towering glaciers within arm’s reach, when from the deep a

humpback whale breaks the mirrored surface just feet from your boat. That’s what a trip is like with **Stan Stephens Glacier and Wildlife Cruises**. You’ll also look for sea lions, puffins, sea otters, eagles, and porpoises as you explore quiet fjords and learn about the fascinating history of the area.

KAYAKING

Cutting through the glassy surface of the Sound under your own power is the ultimate solo experience. Take a guided tour or rent a kayak from **Anadyr Adventures** or **Pangaea Adventures**.

WILDLIFE VIEWING

When the salmon return to spawn—from mid-June through August—the waters

VALDEZ

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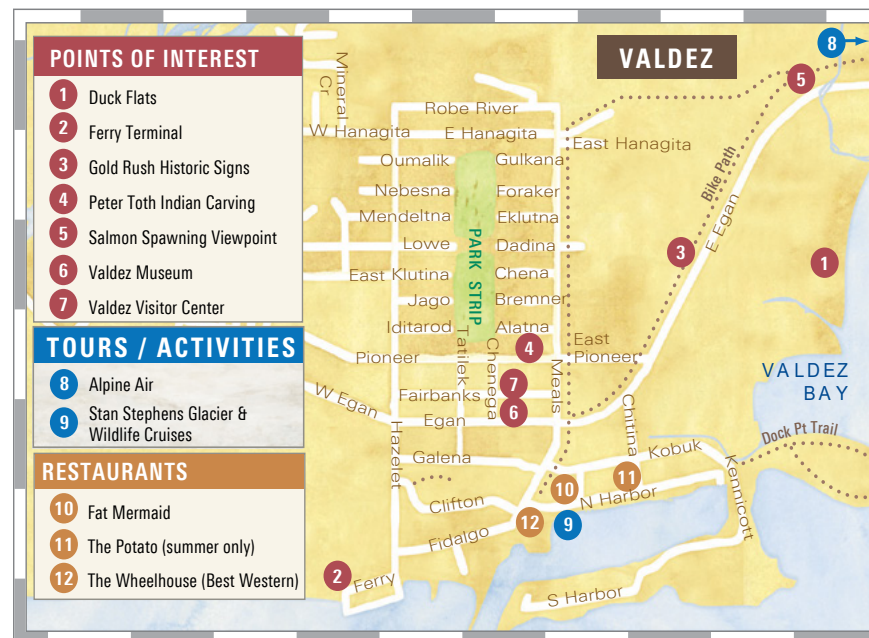
alpineairalaska.com

HIGHLIGHTS

9 STAN STEPHENS GLACIER & WILDLIFE CRUISE
866-867-1297
stephenscruises.com

MAP

See page 121





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 Solomon Gulch Fish Hatchery (1561 Dayville Road) run thick with pink and Coho salmon. You may also spot sea lions out in the water or black and brown bears fishing from shore, especially at low tide. There's a self-guided tour available from May through October. The Valdez Duck Flats is a 1,000+ acre salt marsh and nesting ground for waterfowl. You might see Harlequin ducks, Arctic terns, bald eagles, and more. Park at the USFS Crooked Creek Information Site. Follow the bike path from the parking area; you can check out the flats across the highway from the path.

● **VALDEZ GLACIER LAKE**
15-minutes from town, gorgeous Valdez Glacier Lake is often home to large chunks of floating ice that have calved off from the Valdez Glacier. While you can't see the glacier itself from the lakeshore, you can if you get out on the water. Local kayak companies offer guided tours during the summer. Follow Valdez Airport Road. The road turns to gravel about ¾ miles before the lake.

● FLIGHTSEEING

A helicopter tour out of Valdez with **Alpine Air** takes you to the heart of Alaska's wilderness to marvel at vast glaciers, hidden waterfalls, and abundant wildlife. Your tour will bring you face to face with giant tidewater glaciers, and you can even choose to land on the ancient ice and experience the beauty of the untouched glacial pools. Along the way you may see mountain goats, moose, whales, puffins and more! Tours range from 30 minutes to 2+ hours.

● WALKS & RIDES

For a quick, easy walk with amazing views, try the 0.9 mile **Dock Point Trail**. This loop has just one steep section (tip: if you hike it clockwise you'll walk that section downhill). One side of the loop looks over the Duck Flats, a rich estuary. The other side overlooks the harbor. Park at the trailhead across from the Valdez Small Boat Harbor. Connect with the roughly 6.5 mile **Valdez Bike Path** near downtown at the intersection of Meales and Egan Ave. Bike and eBike rentals are available in town.

HIGHLIGHTS

8 **ALPINE AIR**
907-783-2360
alpineairalaska.com

MAP

See page 121

ALASKA'S PIONEER TOWN

Getting There

By car: (a spectacular drive) 7-8 hours. Drive the Glenn Hwy, to Richardson South, to Edgerton Hwy East, to McCarthy Rd.

By air: 30 minute flight from Chitna on Wrangell Mountain Air (907-554-4402), Copper Valley Air Service (907-822-4200)

THE TOWN

Visiting Kennicott/McCarthy is like stepping back in time into less-traveled country that is just opening its doors to tourism. History hangs thick in the air, and the hardy locals who remain are proud to take the time to share it with visitors. McCarthy is also the gateway to American's largest national park, Wrangell-St. Elias, an untamed wilderness of 17,000 foot peaks, Dall sheep-covered mountainsides, and countless glaciers, one of which, the Root Glacier, spills over a 6000-foot headwall into the heart of town.



● BOOM & BUST

Few stories in history can compare: in the summer of 1900, two prospectors exploring deep in the wilderness see magnificent green cliffs perched high on a mountainside. Climbing closer, they stumble upon the richest copper vein ever found.

It doesn't take long for two of America's most prominent financiers, the Morgans and Guggenheims, to sniff out the wealth potential. They buy the rights and build 196 miles of private railroad to Cordova to get the copper out. When the mine opens in 1911, they employ 600 miners and build a wilderness city complete with a hospital,

general store, schoolhouse, baseball field, skating rink, tennis court, recreation hall, and dairy.

The mine buzzes with activity for 37 years. Then the Depression hits and the price of copper crashes. One November day in 1938, the last trainload of miners chugs away for good, leaving the Kennicott mine standing quietly in the wilderness.

● GET ACQUAINTED

You'll arrive in McCarthy; Kennicott is five miles up the hill. In McCarthy, ask the friendly locals what it's like to live in a town with no post office or school. Great walking trails lead to the banks of

THE ALASKA APP



GPS WALKING TOUR OF
MCCARTHY/KENNICOTT





Above - An aerial view of Root Glacier located seven miles beyond the end of McCarthy Road in the heart of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Photo by Michael Oyer.

HIGHLIGHTS

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
VISITOR CENTER**
907-205-7106

**WRANGELL MOUNTAIN
AIR**

800-478-1160
wrangellmountainair.com

**KENNICOTT WILDERNESS
GUIDES**

800-664-4537
kennicottguides.com

**SALMON & BEAR
RESTAURANT**

907-554-4402
salmon-bear.com

GOLDEN SALOON

907-554-4402

golden-saloon.com
**KENNICOTT GLACIER
LODGE**

800-582-5128
kennicottlodge.com

the raging Kennicott River and through woods to the toe of the Kennicott Glacier. In Kennicott, stop into the **National Park Service Visitor Center**. There are free talks about local history and ecology, guided walks, a 15-minute film on the history of the Kennecott Mine, and even a small book store. You can also find information on camping, and planning your Wrangell St. Elias National Park backcountry adventure.

● FLIGHTSEEING

If you want to get a true sense of the 13 million acres within Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, it's a good idea to start above the park.

With **Wrangell Mountain Air** just minutes from town, you'll fly along the famous vertical limestone cliffs of the Chitstone Canyon, past rare rock glaciers, above towering waterfalls, and over immense glaciers.

● GUIDED HIKING & GLACIER TREKS

Kennicott Wilderness Guides has been guiding incredible adventures in the heart of Wrangell St. Elias National Park since 1995. Hike on the Root Glacier, packraft in the Kennicott Glacial Lake, or fly into the world's largest wilderness on a bush-plane supported backcountry trip.

● DINING & NIGHTLIFE

The intimate **Salmon & Bear Restaurant** has just ten tables, creative cuisine including exquisitely prepared Wild Copper River Red salmon, and fine wines. The nearby **Golden Saloon** offers a more casual atmosphere. Enjoy open mics, game nights, and live music.

● ACCOMMODATIONS

Kennicott boasts what may be the most romantic, picturesque lodge in the state: the quintessentially Alaskan **Kennicott Glacier Lodge**. A

KENNICOTT
WILDERNESS GUIDES

Guided adventures in the heart of
Wrangell St. Elias National Park

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McCarthy, ALASKA
(907) 554-4402
www.McCarthyLodge.com

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McCarthy, ALASKA

salmon & BEAR
RESTAURANT

**MA JOHNSON'S
HISTORICAL HOTEL**

Golden Saloon

Party & dine like
a local in the
Last Frontier.



Above - Enjoy the views from the Kuskulana River Bridge.

replica of one of the historic copper-mining buildings, it's a luxurious property that sits in the heart of the ghost town, surrounded by pine trees and mountains, with a porch that nearly hangs out over the Root Glacier.

In McCarthy, check out **Ma Johnson's Historical Hotel**. From the lobby to each cozy room, guests will discover genuine artifacts from McCarthy's days as a bustling mining town. Budget travelers might find a room at the nearby **Lancaster's Backpacker Hotel**.

● THE WAY TO MCCARTHY: WILD AND WONDROUS

The journey to McCarthy and Kennicott is an adventure in itself, whether you drive the entire 7-8 hours from Anchorage or opt for a combo drive/flight that shaves a couple of hours off your trip. The decision point is at Chitina, 5 hours from

Anchorage, where you can park your car, call **Wrangell Mountain Air**, and hop on an Alaska bush plane for a 30-minute flight into town. This gives you incredible aerial views of the Wrangell Mountains, Kennicott and Root glaciers and historic mines. Ask Wrangell Mountain Air about a charter from Anchorage if you want to fly the entire way.

However, if a rugged road trip sounds adventurous (and it is!), you'll drive the last 60 miles on a gravel road that was originally a rail bed built in 1909 to support construction of the Kennecott Copper Mines. Driving the McCarthy Road takes 2 hours on average, and you're encouraged to take it slowly and enjoy these highlights:

The Copper River Bridge (MP 0), is the gateway into Wrangell St. Elias National Park. Watch for anglers and fish wheels churning the

water. **The Chitina River Overlook** (MP 5) offers great views of the river, fed from glaciers spilling out of the Bagley Icefield and from deep within the St. Elias and Wrangell Mountains. Drive across the single-lane **Kuskulana River Bridge** (MP 17). An old railroad bridge built in 1910, it sits 238 feet above the raging river!

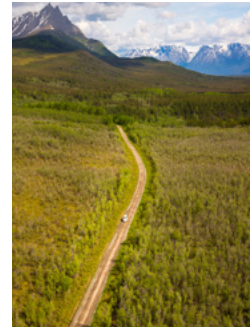
The Gilahina Trestle (MP 29), 90 feet high and 890 feet across, was built in just eight days during construction of the railroad to Kennicott mine.

Stretch your legs on the 2.5-mile loop trail at **Crystalline Hills Trailhead** (MP 34.7). The 15-20 minute hike takes you through a dense spruce forest, ending with a beautiful

view of the Chitina River Valley. You might see spawning salmon at **Long Lake** (MP 45.2) as late as September; each year 18,000 return. Get your first glimpse of McCarthy at the **Overlook** (MP 57.7).

The **McCarthy Road Rangers Station** (MP 59), an NPS kiosk on your left, is open daily in summer. Ask here for parking/shuttle information.

You've reached the **End of McCarthy Road / Footbridge** (MP 60). Park and walk over the footbridge, crossing the Kennicott River. Then continue walking into town or catch a shuttle.



Above - Spectacular McCarthy Road.

HIGHLIGHTS

MA JOHNSON'S HISTORICAL HOTEL
907-554-4402
majohnsonshotel.com

LANCASTER'S BACKPACKER HOTEL
907-554-4402
mccarthylodge.com

WRANGELL MOUNTAIN AIR
800-478-1160
wrangellmountainair.com

KENNICOTT *Glacier Lodge*



Experience gracious hospitality in the center of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Hike on a glacier, explore the Kennicott National Historic Landmark, and enjoy the spectacular scenery.

KennicottLodge.com 800-582-5128 info@KennicottLodge.com

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2026 ALASKA ACTIVITY GUIDE?
Email editor@alaska.org

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fossilized walrus ivory & jawbone
whale bone • oosiks
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Made in Alaska Products:

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Native crafts • cabin decor
smoked salmon
jams, syrups and candies

DOWNTOWN
ANCHORAGE
CORNER OF 4TH & G



Over 7,000 square feet of
Alaska souvenirs and fine gifts

