

Alaska's National Parks: Denali & the Kenai Fjords

10 days

Majestic glaciers, unique wildlife, and pristine views do justice to Alaska's nickname as the Last Frontier. Learn about the history of famous traditions like the Iditarod, and experience the beauty of both Denali and the Kenai Fjords National Parks on this small group Wildlife Tour. In quaint villages, and in the untamed wilderness, picture-perfect landscapes will appear around every corner.



Your tour package includes

8 nights in handpicked hotels
8 breakfasts
2 lunches
2 dinners with beer or wine
7 sightseeing tours
Expert Tour Director & local guides
Private deluxe motor coach
1 train ride

Included highlights

Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge Denali National Park Palmer Visitor Information Center Alaska Railroad train ride Kenai Fjords National Park cruise Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 2.5 hours daily across mostly flat terrain, including paved roads and gravel paths, with few hills. Some activities will take place at high altitudes.

Group size

15–35

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Fairbanks, Alaska \rightarrow 2 nights

Day 1: Arrival in Fairbanks

Welcome to Alaska! Settle in to your hotel this evening.

Day 2: Sightseeing tour of Fairbanks

Included meals: breakfast, welcome dinner Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Fairbanks this morning.

- Enter the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center to view the exhibits dedicated to the culture and art of Alaskan Natives.
- Pan for gold at Gold Daughters.
- Walk through Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge with a naturalist guide.

Please note: The stops along the guided tour may vary based on season.

This evening, attend a traditional Alaskan salmon bake welcome dinner.

Denali, Alaska \rightarrow 2 nights

Day 3: Denali National Park via Nenana village

Included meals: breakfast

Head to Denali this morning and on the way stop to visit Nenana village.

Enjoy a free afternoon in Denali or add an excursion.

+ Denali Wilderness Walking Tour

Day 4: Sightseeing tour of Denali National Park

Included meals: breakfast

A day of sightseeing with your guide immerses you in the scenery, flora, and fauna of Denali National Park.

- Look for wildlife such as grizzly bears, moose, wolves, caribou, and eagles.
- See Denali, North America's tallest mountain (weather-dependent).
- Enter the Murie Science and Learning Center for a ranger-led talk about the park's ecosystem and ongoing conservation efforts.

Stop for free time to enjoy a late dinner on the way out of the park.

Anchorage, Alaska \rightarrow 2 nights

Day 5: Anchorage via Talkeetna & Palmer

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

On your way to Anchorage, visit two historic towns to learn more about Alaskan culture and traditions.

- Stop in Talkeetna to enjoy free time to shop and eat downtown.
- Enjoy a talk led by a local mountain climber to learn about mountaineering in Alaska and what it's like to summit the state's most famous peaks, including Denali.
- Visit the Palmer Visitor Center for an in-depth look in to the history, art, culture of the town.

Then, continue on to Anchorage and sit down for an included dinner.

Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Anchorage

Included meals: breakfast

Head out on a guided tour of Anchorage, Alaska's largest city.

- Pass by Earthquake Park to learn about how the 1964 natural disaster impacted the city.
- Stop at the Lake Hood Seaplane Base.
- Venture downtown to see the Captain Cook Statue and salmon ladders (seasonal).
- Spend free time exploring the city.

Please note: The stops along the guided tour may vary based on season.

Spend a free afternoon in Anchorage or add an excursion.

+ Alaska Native Heritage Center

Seward, Alaska \rightarrow 2 nights

Day 7: Train ride to Seward

Included meals: breakfast

Hop aboard the Coastal Classic Train and enjoy a scenic journey on the Alaska Railroad as you travel to Seward.

- Admire views of the coast and forest as you travel along the route National Geographic named one of the top train rides in North America.
- Ride along the Turnagain Arm of the Cook Inlet and through the Kenai Peninsula.
- View massive glaciers and towering waterfalls through the large windows or opt to stop by the Vista Dome car, which has a glass ceiling and offers panoramic views.

Spend a free afternoon in Seward or add an excursion.

+ Kenai Fjords National Park: Exit Glacier Hike

Day 8: Kenai Fjords National Park cruise

Included meals: breakfast, lunch Embark on a cruise through the waterways of Kenai Fjords National Park to experience the panoramic glacial views the area is known for.

- Float along the pristine waters on the Kenai Peninsula.
- Try to spot wildlife, such as birds and whales.
- Enjoy an included boxed lunch.

Overnight Flight \rightarrow 1 night

Day 9: Anchorage via Kenai Peninsula & departure

Included meals: breakfast, farewell lunch Drive through the Kenai Mountain Range, making a stop in Portage.

- Reach the Turnagain Arm of the Cook Inlet, known for its dramatic tidal turns that create 10-foot walls of water
- Visit the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center to learn about the organization's animal rescue work
- Stop by the Bird Treatment and Learning Center, and learn how the clinic works to rehabilitate injured, ill, and orphaned birds from across the state

Continue on to Anchorage and celebrate your trip during a farewell lunch. Then, transfer to the airport for your overnight flight home.

Arrive Home

Day 10: Arrival at home

Arrive home today. Please note: This arrival time applies to east coast gateways. If you live in another region, you may arrive home on the evening of day 9.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: https://www.goaheadtours.com/ANPG | 1-800-597-0350

Day 3: Denali Wilderness Walking Tour

From \$169.00. Visit the link above for pricing info. (2 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Return to Denali National Park and take an in-depth, walking tour focused on the park's flora and fauna. Your walk will be led by a naturalist guide who will point out various landmarks and talk about Alaska's geology and glacial history. Walk through boreal forests and discover how plants and animals have adapted to the extreme sub-arctic climate. As you explore the landscapes the local animals call home, you'll gain a new perspective for this region's natural beauty.

Day 6: Alaska Native Heritage Center

From \$125.00. Visit the link above for pricing info. (3 hours, departs in the afternoon) Pay a visit to the Alaska Native Heritage Center, where you'll join a local guide to learn about Alaska's indigenous cultures. The center aims to share and preserve the stories of the local indigenous people. Six traditional villages sit along the shore of Lake Tiulana, and you'll visit one of the villages to get an authentic look into the lifestyles and traditions of Alaska's native people. From the Athabascan to the Tsimshian people, you'll learn about the many artforms that define each of these unique indigenous groups. These artforms include everything from songs and dances, to games and dress. After your tour, enjoy free time to explore the Hall of Cultures and shop for artwork created by native Alaskan artisans. Then, sit down for dinner at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel.

Day 7: Kenai Fjords National Park: Exit Glacier Hike

From \$75.00. Visit the link above for pricing info. (3 hours, departs in the afternoon) Exit Glacier is one of the main attractions in Kenai Fjords National Park and today you'll set off on a moderately strenuous hike along Exit Glacier Trail to enjoy wide-ranging views of this incredible site. The well-maintained loop trail will take you past forests, streams, and of course, Exit Glacier. The glacier is part of a naturally carved valley within Harding Icefield and marks the spot where expeditionists exited after crossing the icefield for the first time. As you follow a naturalist guide on the hike, keep your eyes peeled for owls, magpies, mountain goats, and more. End the day with a visit to the Exit Glacier Nature Center where you can view exhibits about the glacier, shop at the Alaska Geographic bookstore, and chat with a ranger about the national park. This excursion is dependent on the weather.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.com/terms