

8-Day Soul of Alaska



Alaska Adventure awaits you on this 8-Day guided tour! This adventure features Denali & Kenai Fjords National Parks, scenic landscapes and wildlife viewing, as well as much more. Our local resident guides will treat you to the history and lore of Alaska, along with personal stories and a touch of Alaskan flavor, as you immerse yourself in the wonder of Southcentral & interior Alaska.

Relax as Alaskan hospitality, combined with superior service, takes care of all your tour details. Our seasoned Alaskan guides accompany you through areas resplendent with wild beauty and take you deep into the land of the midnight sun. They serve as guide and personal concierge, ensuring that every aspect of your journey is effortless. Our tours introduce you to the frontier spirit of this untamed land by showing you our many natural wonders; the habitats of bear, moose, caribou and other animals; and much more! Choose from whitewater or scenic rafting, flightseeing, glacier trekking, wildlife tours, river jet boats, day cruises, and other options. From Anchorage to Denali National Park, to Seward and back, stay in unique and charming accommodations with all the magnificence of Alaska at your doorstep.

Our executive mini-coaches are customized with leather captain's chairs, full-bay picture windows, and complimentary bottled water and soft drinks. Our expert Alaskan guides provide complete narration along the way. Our intimate tours are limited to up to 14 guests, and itineraries can be customized based on availability and your group size.

Our tour package includes:

- 8 days/ 7 nights with scenic accommodations
- A long-time Alaska resident who serves as both driver and guide
- Luxury private transport for 6 days in an executive mini-coach, followed by scenic railroad transport to and from Seward
- A Meet & Greet welcome dinner, two - three lunches, and breakfasts (depending on accommodations)



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1 Welcome to Alaska!

Native Cultural Day and Meet & Greet Dinner
*Wasilla Accommodations



Palmer & Matanuska Glacier 2

Musk Ox Center & Glacier Ice Trek
*Wasilla Accommodations



3 Talkeetna

Denali Flight Seeing or Riverboat Adventure
*Denali Accommodations



Denali National Park 4

Denali Wildlife Tour
*Denali Accommodations

5 Denali National Park & Wasilla

Activities around the park (various upgrades available)
*Wasilla Accommodations



Wasilla & Knik Glacier 6

Iditarod Race Headquarters & Knik Glacier Jet Boat Adventure
*Anchorage Accommodations



7 Kenai Fjords National Park

Alaska Rail to Seward, Wildlife & Glacier Cruise
*Seward Accommodations



Seward 8

Alaska Sealife Center (various upgrades available)
Evening Rail to Anchorage (arrival 10:30 PM)
*End of Tour





DAY 1-ANCHORAGE: Today starts the first day of your Alaska adventure, with you exploring the history of our state! Your guide will meet you out front of your hotel lobby at 11 AM . You'll recognize our executive mini-coaches by the unique gold and black Alaska Adventure Unlimited branding.

NATIVE HISTORY:** Travel across town to the spectacular Native Heritage Center, a renowned cultural museum, where guests can learn about Alaska's first people. In the Welcome House at the Native Heritage Center, you'll see a celebration of contemporary Alaska native cultures, while the outdoor facilities and sites allow the exploration of ancient tradition and the presentation of stories from the past. Upon leaving the Anchorage area, you will travel north to the Matanuska Valley, the farming belt of Alaska. Along the way, we will visit the native village of Eklutna. Enjoy the Russian Orthodox influenced church and native-influenced "spirit houses," while sharing in native cultural traditions.

***Activity may be switched to Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center depending on tour dates.*

(Hotel breakfast included - AAU provided lunch - Meet & Greet restaurant dinner included)

ACCOMMODATIONS IN WASILLA

DAY 2-PALMER: 1) MUSK OX CONSERVATION CENTER - This private non-profit organization dedicated to the development and domestication of the musk ox, *Ovibos Moschatus* for the purpose of providing additional subsistence income opportunities for Alaska's first people. The Musk Ox Project began to introduce a gentle, non-intrusive form of agriculture to the Arctic in 1954. Our musk oxen are the foundation of an Alaskan cottage industry for natives living in remote coastal villages. The soft under-wool of the musk ox, qiviut, is harvested once a year and delivered to Oomingmak, an Alaskan native knitter's co-operative. The knitters work at home in Eskimo villages throughout Alaska creating scarves, nachaqs (Eskimo smoke rings) and luxurious caps. Each village has its own signature pattern derived from traditional designs. On this adventure take an informative tour with led by a knowledgeable guide to learn about the project and take advantage of this unique opportunity to see and photograph one of the Arctic's oldest living species. See tame cows, powerful bulls, and newborn calves that will make your heart melt.



2) **GLACIER TREK:** After lunch, discover the true beauty of glaciers up close. Ice crampons and walking sticks are provided for your glacier trek adventure. You will follow your guide as you explore the ice & rock formations of the Matanuska Glacier as you're walking on it. No experience is necessary to join in the fun. Intermittently placed picnic benches allow guests to choose their own participation level. Great photo ops from all picnic benches. *(*HELICOPTER GLACIER LANDING UPGRADE AVAILABLE/ \$249 person*)*

(Continental breakfast included - Lunch and dinner not included - restaurant stops provided)

ACCOMMODATIONS IN WASILLA

DAY 3-TALKEETNA: Next, it's off to visit the home of Mt. Denali! Today will be a highlight of your Alaskan adventures. In Talkeetna, a local gem where three Alaskan rivers meet, one of the most photographed vistas in our state can be seen: the towering peaks of Mt. Foraker, Mt Hunter, and Mt. Denali, part of the Alaska Range. On this day, you'll be able to choose **ONE** of the following adventures to enjoy in Talkeetna:

ACTIVITY CHOICE ONE-DENALI FLIGHTSEEING:

1-hour flight time, plus travel

(INCLUDED ON DELUXE PACKAGE ONLY OR \$250/ PP UPGRADE ON QUALITY)

GLACIER LANDING UPGRADE AVAILABLE/ \$100 person

- This magnificent flight takes you within six miles of Denali's summit- the highest peak in North America at 20,320 feet!
- Includes window seats for each passenger, and an experienced pilot-guide who will highlight points of interest in the area.



ACTIVITY CHOICE TWO-RIVERBOAT:

2-hour riverboat ride, plus travel

- This exciting adventure takes you on an enclosed jetboat.
- Guests can see unique views of the Alaska Range and Mt. Denali from the river.
- Visit an authentic trapper's cabin and view how trappers lived in "Bush" Alaska.



(Depending on hotel, continental breakfast included - Lunch and dinner not included - restaurant stops provided)

ACCOMMODATIONS NEAR DENALI NATIONAL PARK

DAY 4 - DENALI: Today you have three options to explore Denali National Park!

Option 1: Denali Shuttle - RELAXED

Your chance to spot wilderness & wildlife from the Denali State Shuttle. Your guide will escort you to the Wilderness Access Center where you'll embark on the Denali Park Shuttle. The shuttle takes you deep into the park for a five-hour roundtrip tour, including stops. Keep your eyes peeled for a chance to see the Big 5: moose, Dall Sheep, caribou, wolves, and grizzly bears.



Option 2: Take a self-guided hike in Denali National Park - MODERATE

This is your chance to adventure on your own in the park. Our recommendation is the 2.1-mile loop around Horseshoe Lake. You will have views of the Nenana River & Glitter Gulch at the farthest end of the loop trail. There are multiple benches along the hike to relax and take in the views. There is a moderate climb back up to meet your guide but the scenery is unbeatable. Your guide can facilitate other hike options.

Upgrade Option 3:

Self-Guided 4-Hour Savage River E-bike Ride - \$99 - STRENUOUS

Leave right from Bike Denali and pedal yourself into the park. Experience the front country of Denali and go to Savage River. Navigate the steep terrain in undeveloped wilderness. E-bikes come with racks, panniers, bear spray with handlebar mount, and quality rain suits.



(Continental Breakfast included depending on accommodations - Sack Lunch included - Dinner not included, restaurant stop provided)
ACCOMMODATIONS NEAR DENALI NATIONAL PARK

DAY 5 - DENALI: Today is a day of leisure. There are lots of things to do and experience in and around Denali National Park. Guests may enjoy the scenery and activities provided at their accommodations (some accommodations provide kayaks). There are also various hiking options in and around Denali National Park. In addition, Denali National Park Visitor Center offers many activities for guests to enjoy (exhibits, movies, dog kennel tours, etc.).

Consider adding ONE of the optional UPGRADE adventures listed below:



1) ATV 4-Wheeler Adventure (2 hours):

- \$150 Single Rider**
- \$250 Double Riders**
- \$350 Triple Riders**
- \$450 Quad Riders**

Ride on several terrain types. There are coal mining trails, rocky creek beds, hills to climb, water to traverse, and mud crossings. Total tour covers about 10 miles. Approximately 1 1/2 hours on the actual trails.

**2) 9-Hole Tundra Golf:
\$124 Per Person**

Black Diamond is a challenging course with "Alaskan hazards," such as tundra marshes or even the occasional moose hoof print! The course is relatively short, which makes it accessible and fun for any style of play.



**3) Denali Zip Line (3 hours) :
\$160 Per Person**

Your adventure begins with a three-mile ATV trail ride to your launching point through the scenic Alaskan wilderness. After gearing up, certified guides will lead you along six sky bridges and seven thrilling zip lines. Over half a mile of zips including the dual racer finale!

(Continental Breakfast included based on accommodations - Lunch & Dinner not included, restaurant stops provided)
ACCOMMODATIONS IN WASILLA

DAY 6-IDITAROD HEADQUARTERS: Begin today at the Iditarod Race Headquarters and learn about the Alaska state sport: Dog Mushing! Here you will have a chance to pet puppies, and view a film showcasing the last great race and musher life.



KNIK GLACIER BOAT TOUR: Your next adventure of the day will begin when you will climb aboard a military truck for a scenic drive to the river boat launch. Once aboard the river boat you will head to Lake George, the base of Knik Glacier (one of Alaska's grandest natural attractions). Knik Glacier, formed in the Pleistocene Glaciation Period (the beginning of the Ice Age) 600,000 years ago, originally covered the Anchorage bowl and the entire Cook Inlet. This glacier remains active, though motion is imperceptible to the naked eye. Knik Glacier is still in a constant state of change.

ANCHORAGE: Upon arrival in Anchorage, you will say good-bye to your AAU tour guide. Your accommodations are in Anchorage this evening. Early tomorrow morning, you will begin your AAU choreographed 2-day Kenai Peninsula adventure, featuring the Alaska Railroad and the Kenai Fjords.



(Continental breakfast included - Lunch and dinner not included - Lunch restaurant stop provided, many restaurants close to hotel location for dinner)
ACCOMMODATIONS IN ANCHORAGE

DAY 7-ALASKA RAILROAD TO SEWARD: Listed among the most spectacular rail trips in the world! Ride the famous Alaska Railroad and experience the Kenai Peninsula, a unique and scenic area of Alaska. **(UPGRADE TO GOLD STAR RAIL FOR \$250 PER PERSON)**

QUALITY package - Breakfast NOT INCLUDED

- Vintage Adventure Class railcar
- Seated on the first level of the train
- Timed access (about 20 minutes at a time) to the Vista Dome Car



SEWARD: Kenai Fjords wildlife and glacier cruise takes you deep into the heart of Kenai Fjords National Park, a place many marine and land-based wildlife call home.

- Spectacular views, from rugged coastlines to emerging rainforests and calving glaciers
- Chance to see incredible Alaskan wildlife up close (humpback and Orca whales, seals, sea otters, puffins, eagles, etc.)



(Continental hotel breakfast for Quality package - Lunch aboard day cruise included - Dinner not included, many restaurant options in Seward available)
ACCOMMODATIONS IN SEWARD

DAY 8-SEWARD: Your day begins with your included activity at the Alaska Sealife Center. This facility is one of the only non-profit organizations in the world that has both a public aquarium and fully supported research facility in the same building.

UPGRADE OPTIONS BELOW:

OPTION ONE: Dog Sled Ride: (\$105 PP)

The intrigue of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, also known as Alaska's Superbowl, comes alive as you mush through the Alaskan wilderness to the base of Resurrection Mountain and along Box Canyon Creek. You will have a guide with you while a team of Iditarod dogs pull you in a wheeled cart on a gravel road.



OPTION TWO: Tandem Sea Kayaking: (\$105 PP)

While you're charting the waters of beautiful Resurrection Bay, keep your eyes peeled for otters, salmon, and eagles. This adventure is great for all groups (big and small). Your three-hour guided kayaking tour will go to Tonsina Creek. Kayaking gear, water, and snack provided. Dry bags available upon request.



OPTION THREE: Helicopter w/ Glacier Dog Sled Ride: \$580 per person

Touchdown on the upper part of Godwin Glacier, just outside of Seward. Land on a snowy icefield and experience the magic of winter in the summertime while mushing with the dogs!

OPTION FOUR: Zipline Adventure (3 hrs): \$160 per person

Incredible panoramic views across the valley and glaciers to the southwest as you soar along on eight ziplines. Trip also includes three suspension bridges and two rappels.

OPTION FIVE: Half or full-day salmon, halibut or combo fishing charter:
(subject to fuel surcharge)

Full Day - Halibut (June): \$430; Combo (Jul-Aug): \$460

Half Day - Salmon (Jul-Aug): \$305

Explore the Gulf of Alaska as you search for halibut, salmon, rockfish, or lingcod. Experienced captains, great vessels, and the right equipment will make your fishing experience an unforgettable one.



(Continental breakfast included, depending on accommodations - Lunch & Dinner not included)

RETURN TO ANCHORAGE ON ALASKA RAILROAD OR MOTORCOACH (TOUR ENDS)

Rates *per person



8 Day Soul of Alaska

TOUR TYPE	Double Room Occupancy	Triple/Quad Room Occupancy	Single Room Occupancy
QUALITY	\$4,349	\$4,099	\$5,299

<i>Talkeetna Upgrades</i>	<i>Denali Upgrades</i>	<i>Seward Upgrades</i>
<i>Glacier Landing</i> \$100/person	<i>ATV Rides</i> Single: \$150 Double: \$250 Triple: \$350	<i>Helicopter to Glacier Dog Sled</i> \$580/person
<i>Optional Pre/Post Trip Add-ons</i>	<i>Zipline</i> \$160/person	<i>Zipline</i> \$160/person
<i>Full Day Bear Viewing</i> 8-10 hr Katmai - \$1,364/person 6-8 hr Lake Clark - \$1,164/person	<i>Denali 9-Hole Golf</i> \$124/ person	<i>Fishing</i> Full Day Halibut (June): \$430 Full Day Combo (Jul-Aug): \$460 Half-Day Salmon (Jul-Aug): \$305
<i>Pre-night Hotel</i> \$305 Moderate - \$395 Upscale <i>Post-night Hotel</i> \$305 Moderate - \$395 Upscale		<i>I-did-a-ride or Tandem Kayaking</i> \$105/person
<i>Glacier View Upgrade</i>	<i>Helicopter Glacier Landing</i> \$249/person	

VERY IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ:

Please review terms & conditions below as well as additional terms online.

<https://alaskaadventureunlimited.com/terms-conditions/>

*AAU adventures are a combination of guided and choreographed adventures. Our AAU guide will be with you days 1 – 6. Day 7 & 8 are your AAU choreographed 2-day Kenai Peninsula adventures featuring the Alaska Railroad and the Kenai Fjords. Rates include all accommodations, transportation, all activities based on package purchased (unless stated as an upgrade), and complimentary beverages onboard. Rates include some meals: 4-6 breakfasts (depends on Denali hotel); 3 lunches; 1-2 dinners (Deluxe Package has 1 extra dinner). Rates do not include gratuities, tax (\$310), fuel supplement (if applicable), alcoholic beverages, or optional activities not listed. All items listed as upgrades are not included in the package price. Itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the escort due to weather, road maintenance, and time factors.

Deposit

25% deposit is due at time of booking. 50% is subsequently due on Nov 15, 2023. 100% final payment is due Feb 15, 2024. Bookings after Feb 2024 are due in full at time of booking. Cancellations will incur full 100% penalty. Travel insurance is available and highly recommended. AAU reserves the right to alter rates/itinerary due to changes in economic/weather conditions.

Travel Insurance

If you become ill or injured prior to or during one of our adventures, we will do everything we can to help, but any and all expenses for cancellation, care, or evacuation are entirely your responsibility. Trip delays such as road closures, floods, mechanical breakdowns, or backcountry injury may cause you to miss your flight home, your hotel reservations, or your next activity. Our tours are non-refundable. Travel insurance is available and recommended! It is your choice to accept the risk of not purchasing travel insurance; however, if something does happen, you will be responsible for the financial effects of your decision.

Accommodations are Chosen at Time of Booking

Accommodations can vary from private cabins to hotels or lodges based on availability and block space. Accommodations include private bathrooms. Quality package properties available in Anchorage are properties similar to Comfort Inn. Deluxe package properties are similar to Embassy Suites. In smaller towns, all package properties will be quality 3-4-star local lodging (the same for both quality and deluxe packages). Please ask your agent at booking about accommodation choices.

Activities/Excursions

All activity times are approximate and may change for custom departures/weather. These are listed for planning purposes only. AAU reserves the right to alter rates/itinerary due to changes in economic/weather conditions.

Driver/Guides:

Each of our guides are long-time Alaskans. They share local stories of their lives, their experiences, and their knowledge. They are not certified naturalists, biologists, or geologists. We have supplemented their knowledge with training regarding our parks, wildlife, and flora/fauna. Many of our guides are educators, hunting guides, school coaches, as well as active hikers, hunters, and fishermen. At each of your activities, guides from many other states may offer supplemental knowledge, such as bus drivers in the National Parks, rafting guides with experience from other rivers, pilots specializing in remote flights, railroad staff (given Alaskan facts to share while onboard), experienced boat captains, deckhands, and more.

Meals

We choose from a variety of good-quality restaurants, make reservations in advance, and for included dinner meals, allow you to order from the menu: entrée, non-alcoholic beverage, and dessert. (Non-market price items only.) There are plenty of Alaskan seafood choices as well as steak and other meat options and limited vegetarian items as well. Not all restaurants are able to accommodate gluten-free diets. Travelers are encouraged to prepare for any special dietary needs.