DENALI FALL COLORS (8 DAYS)

Departure: Aug, Sep

Day 01 | Welcome to Alaska!

Museum of the North & Gold Dredge
*Fairbanks Accommodations

Day 02 | Denali National Park

Explore Denali National Park
*Denali Accommodations

Day 03 | Talkeetna

Denali Flight Seeing
*Talkeetna Accommodations

Day 04 | Talkeetna & Willow

Riverboat Adventure & Dogsled Tour
*Wasilla Accommodations

Day 05 | Hatcher Pass & Matanuska Glacier

Hatcher Pass & Glacier Ice Trek
*Wasilla Accommodations

Day 06 | Palmer & Knik Glacier

Musk Ox Center & Knik Glacier Jet Boat Adventure
*Anchorage Accommodations

Day 07 | Kenai Fjords National Park

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

Day 08 | Seward

Morning at Leisure OR
AM Motorcoach to Anchorage
*End of Tour

DAY 01 | FAIRBANKS: Explore the Golden Heart City. Begin your day at 10 AM by visiting the University of Alaska's Museum of the North where you will get a chance to immerse yourself in stories about Alaska's peoples, explore 2000 years of Native art, artifacts and Arctic wildlife. On our way to our lunch stop we will check out the black gold that fills the Alyeska Pipeline, flowing almost 500 miles from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez! This afternoon offers a chance to strike it rich and learn more about Alaska's gold mining history at a historical Gold Dredge that operated from 1928 to 1959 and was used to extract millions of ounces of gold.

DAY 02 | DENALI NATIONAL PARK: Today you will be met your guide in the lobby of your hotel at 8:00 AM. Your guide will assist with your luggage as you load up and set off on your adventure. Your Denali Fall Colors Tour begins with a scenic drive from Fairbanks to Denali National Park. This 2-hour drive offers great views and opportunities for possible wildlife sightings. A lunch stop is provided prior to your scheduled park tour. (Meal not included.)

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 - $106 - 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 – Snack Pack included – Dinner not included, restaurant stop provided)
ACCOMMODATIONS NEAR DENALI NATIONAL PARK

DAY 03 | TALKEETNA: Today will be a highlight of your Alaskan adventure. After a morning at leisure in Denali, you will head to Talkeetna--a local gem where three Alaskan rivers meet. In Talkeetna, one of the most photographed vistas in our state can be seen: the towering peaks of the Alaska Range; Mt. Foraker, Mt. Hunter, and Mt. Denali.

DENALI FLIGHTSEEING:
1-hour flight time
*(*GLACIER LANDING UPGRADE AVAILABLE / $125 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.

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

DAY 04 | TALKEETNA/WILLOW: Today brings another fun-filled day of activity!

RIVERBOAT ADVENTURE:
2-hour riverboat ride, plus travel

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

KENNEL TOUR: After your Riverboat Adventure, you will travel south to Willow to visit with Vern, an experienced dog musher for over twenty-six years. Vern will tell you the history of dog mushing in Alaska and about the famous Iditarod race. He weaves in the history of sled dogs from early native use to gold rush use to the famous Serum Run to Nome during the 1925 diphtheria epidemic. His explanation of the uniqueness of the Alaskan Iditarod race--its length, diversity of competition, and the NO HELP rule--is a history highlight. During the presentation, the training and care of Iditarod dogs is demonstrated. You will learn about the logistics of the race: food drops, checkpoints, veterinarian care, the Iditarod Air Force, and trail conditions. Clothing and survival gear, along with sleds and equipment, are also shown in demonstrations. An action-packed ride with the sled dog team is the icing on the cake. There is no snow this time of year, so the dogs pull you in a free wheeled buggy. These buggies are what the dogs train with all summer long to get ready for their winter jobs. The wilderness trail you take goes over bridges and through the woods.

(Breakfast not included, options on-site and near accommodations - Lunch & Dinner not included, restaurant stops provided)
ACCOMMODATIONS IN WASILLA

DAY 05 | HATCHER PASS/GLACIERVIEW: MUSK OX FARM: Your first stop of the day will be in Palmer at The Musk Ox Farm, a private non-profit organization dedicated to the development and domestication of the musk ox for the purpose of providing additional subsistence income opportunities for Alaska's indigenous people. The Musk Ox Project began as a way 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 knitters' cooperative. The knitters work at home in remote coastal villages throughout Alaska creating scarves and luxurious caps. Each village has its own signature pattern derived from traditional designs. Come to view the animals, learn about the project, and take advantage of this unique opportunity to see and photograph one of the Arctic's oldest living species while taking an informative tour led by a knowledgeable guide. You can see tame cows, powerful bulls, and newborn calves as wel

GLACIER TREK: After lunch, discover the true beauty of glaciers up close. You will follow your guide as you explore the ice and rock formations of the Matanuska Glacier while 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. There are great photo ops from all picnic benches. (HELICOPTER GLACIER LANDING UPGRADE: $299 PER PERSON -REPLACES GLACIER TREK ACTIVITY)

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

DAY 06 | PALMER / KNIK GLACIER: Today finishes out your time in the picturesque Matanuska Valley. You get to see spectacular views in Hatcher's Pass. You will also learn about the area's flora and fauna. This is the perfect day to photograph water cascades with beautiful backgrounds. You'll also have an opportunity to hike on your own and take pictures of the alpine flowers and scenic mountain views. Keep an eye out for wildlife, including marmots, that frequent this area!

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 riverboat, you will head to Lake George, the base of the 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, you will say good-bye to your AAU guide. Early tomorrow morning, you will begin your AAU choreographed 2-day Kenai Peninsula adventure starting with a scenic ride to Seward on the Alaska Railroad.

(Continental Breakfast available based on accommodations - Lunch not included, restaurant stop provided - Dinner not included, many restaurants close to accommodations)
ACCOMMODATIONS IN ANCHORAGE

DAY 07 | 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 very scenic area of Alaska.

Gold Star Rail - Breakfast INCLUDED

- First-Class Gold Star glass-domed train with access to open air viewing deck
- Seating on the second level of the double-decked dome cars
- Complimentary beverages provided

KENAI FJORDS CRUISE: A Kenai Fjords wildlife and glacier cruise takes you deep into the heart of Kenai Fjords National Park where there is an abundance of marine and land-based wildlife.

- Spectacular views, from rugged coastline to emerging rainforests and calving glaciers.
- Lunch is included with your cruise.

Breakfast in Gold Star dining car included - Lunch aboard day cruise included - Dinner not included)
ACCOMMODATIONS IN SEWARD

DAY 08 | RETURN TO ANCHORAGE: This morning, your return via motorcoach to Anchorage begins at 10:30 AM (arriving in Anchorage at 1:30 PM). **If you take the morning motorcoach back to Anchorage to fly home that same day, flights should not leave Anchorage until at least 3:30 PM.**

You can also choose to take an evening motor coach (departing at 6:30 PM arriving in Anchorage at 9:30 PM). Upgrading ($175.00 per person) allows you to return by Gold Star Rail (departing at 6:00 PM arriving in Anchorage at 10:30 PM, rail package includes dinner). Choosing an evening departure from Seward allows you to enjoy additional activities in the area like hiking, or you can visit North America's only cold-water research facility, The Alaska SeaLife Center ($35 per person paid at entry).

If you'd like more time to enjoy Anchorage, consider taking the early motor coach back and add an Anchorage day to your tour. You can always add a post-tour Anchorage hotel night to your trip. Just outside of Anchorage, you can visit to the Alaska Native Heritage Center ($30.00 per person paid at entry).

With this amount of flexibility, you can fully customize the end of your tour!

2027 Rates

*per person

8 Day Denali Fall Colors

Double Room Occupancy	Triple/Quad Room Occupancy	Single Room Occupancy
$5,649	**$5,349**	**$6,449**

Fairbanks Upgrade	Pre-tour hotel: $395 / night
Talkeetna Upgrade	Glacier Landing: $125 / person
Glacier View Upgrade	Helicopter Glacier Landing: $299 / person
Seward Upgrade	Gold Star Rail Anchorage Return: $175 / person
Anchorage Upgrade	Post-tour hotel: $395 / night

Alaska Adventure Unlimited

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 adventure 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 our executive mini-coaches. Rates also include some meals: 4-5 breakfasts (depends on hotels), 1 lunch, 1 box dinner. Rates do not include gratuities, **tax ($345)**, 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 November 15, 2026. 100% final payment is due February 15, 2027. Bookings after February 2027 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 Based on Availability
Accommodations can vary from private cabins to hotels or lodges based on availability and entire group needs once the tour is sold out. Accommodations include private bathrooms. In smaller towns, all package properties will be quality 3-4-star local lodging.

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.