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ALASKA

2021 Mapbook

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Lodging & Activities

30 Detailed City
& Highway Maps





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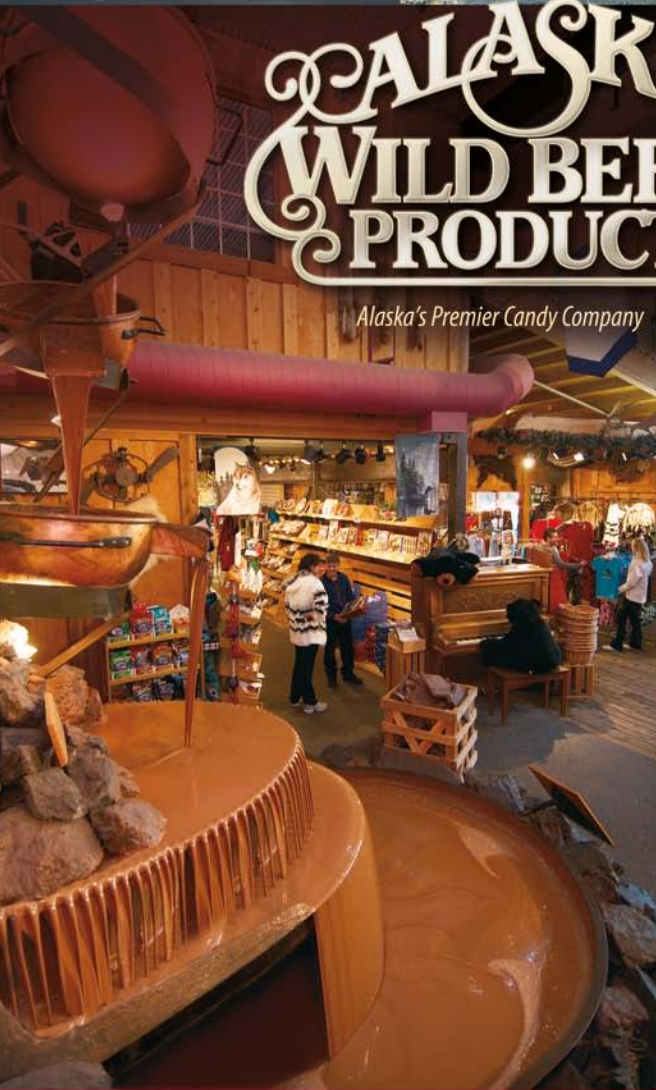
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FROM THE DESK OF TIM BELL

I have lived, worked and played in Alaska most of my life. My love affair with the north began when my family moved to Muncho Lake

in 1959 to run Lakeview Lodge. Since the age of 19, I've made my living publishing travel magazines about Alaska, the Yukon and Northern BC. I've grown to know the people and places that make the north country unique and consider it a privilege to share my experiences through this Mapbook.

In this guide, each town has a select few advertisers, giving our readers a small choice of excellent service providers. Having sold advertising for over 50 years, I've found it is better to only showcase reputable, local businesses in order to offer the most authentic experience.

Our Mapbook is filled with easy to read maps of each city, town and highway we cover. Parking, camping, scenic viewpoints and point of interest stops are marked with symbols. Mile by mile road logs of every highway are available online, or for download via scannable QR codes found on each highway map.

Travel safe,

Tim Bell



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Valdez Harbor

Cover Design: Summer Tarr

Our guides are available
online to view or download to
your smartphone or tablet at:

www.BellsAlaska.com

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ALASKA
RAILROAD



ALASKA TOWNS & CITIES

SOUTHCENTRAL

Anchorage	21
Copper Center	39
Glennallen	36
Valdez	43
Wrangell-St. Elias	40

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA

Palmer	82
Talkeetna	85
Wasilla	90

INTERIOR ALASKA

Chicken	126
Delta Junction	119
Denali National Park	94
Fairbanks	105
Healy	103
Nenana	104
North Pole	118
Tok	121

KENAI PENINSULA

Anchor Point	74
Cooper Landing	66
Girdwood	53
Homer	75
Hope	57
City of Kenai	71
Ninilchik	73
Portage	54
Seward	58
Soldotna	68
Sterling	67
Whittier	55

HIGHWAY MAPS

State Driving Map	6
Alaska Highway	128
Glenn Highway	19
Parks Highway	10
Richardson Highway	14
Seward Highway	52
Sterling Highway	65
Tok Cut-off	17

Traveling to Alaska during the COVID-19 Pandemic

The restrictions on travel during the pandemic have not only affected the millions of visitors who have had to put their northern travel dreams on hold, but also the thousands of people who work in the travel industry.

As we look forward to the return of visitors, please keep in mind the unique challenges that Alaskan communities face. Outside of Anchorage and Fairbanks, there are very limited healthcare resources, which requires residents to be extremely vigilante in following health and safety protocols. As guests in their communities we ask all visitors to stay respectful of guidelines and restrictions, as they may vary from place to place.

**In order to be aware of the current regulations,
please visit covid19.alaska.gov for up to date information**

Conditions across Alaska are dynamic and may change with little notice as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Always plan ahead and be prepared for changes. Enjoy your travels, but we ask that you stay home if you feel sick, even if you have mild symptoms.

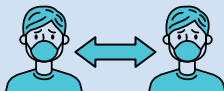
Protect Yourself and Others

Together we can slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep our communities safe.



Practice Good Hygiene

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds, practice good hygiene, and cover any cough or sneeze. Don't touch your face with unwashed hands.



Practice Social Distancing

When you have to leave home, keep a minimum of six feet away from others at all times.



Wear a Mask

The state does not require the use of masks by the public, however health and science experts recommend you wear a mask in public wherever social distancing is challenging.



Get Tested if you are Sick

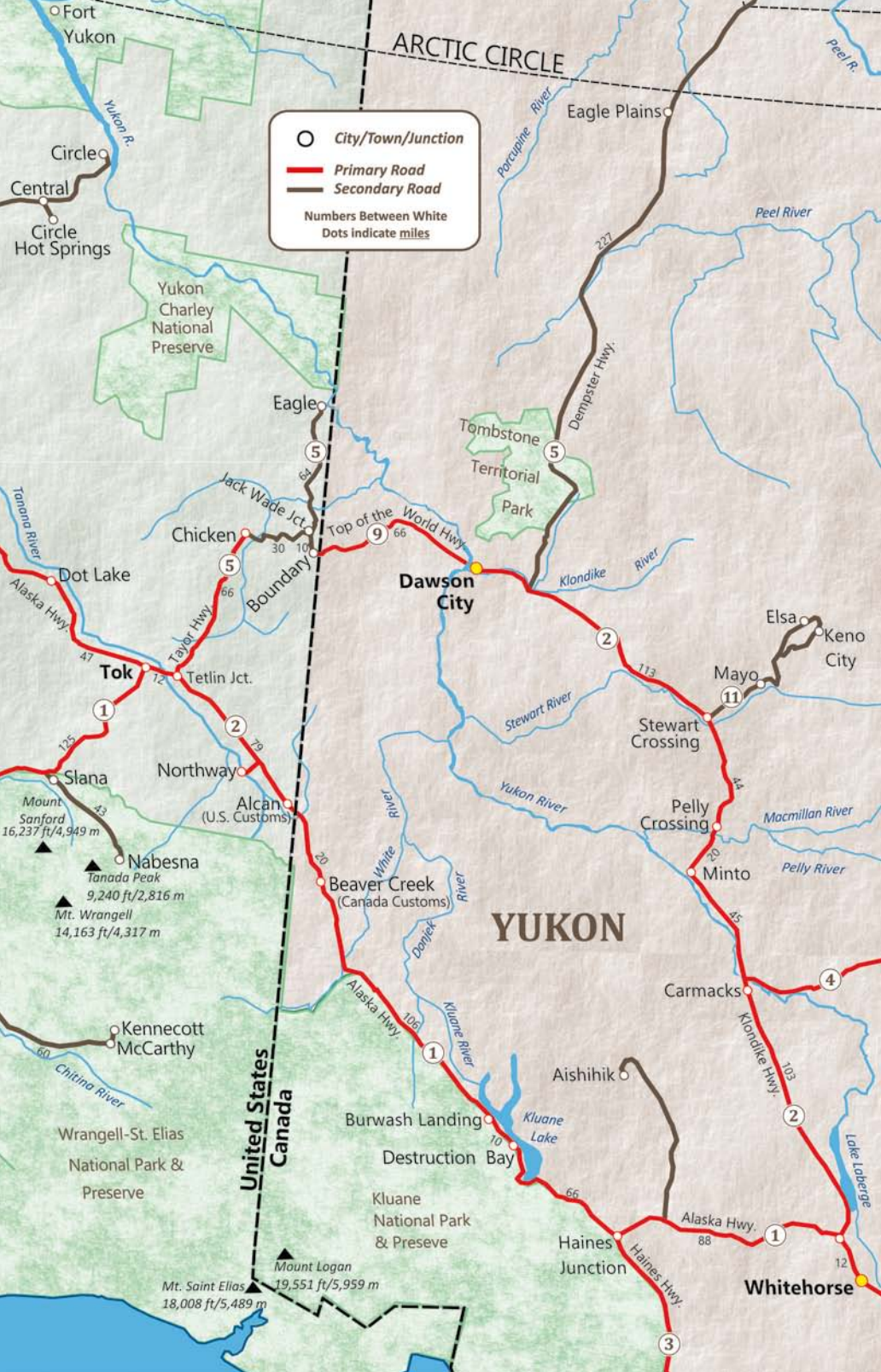
If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, isolate yourself from others and call a provider to get tested. If you require medical attention, call a doctor before going in.





ALASKA







Over twelve years and \$150 million went into the building of the Parks Highway, which was completed in 1971. It extends through some of Alaska's most rugged terrain yet this is an excellent year-round road. Alaska's Route 3 penetrates a wilderness wonderland and connects the state's two largest population centers; Anchorage and Fairbanks. This 358 mile highway parallels the Alaska Railroad for much of the route. The Parks Highway begins in Anchorage (Mile 0), however the first 35.5 miles of the Parks Highway is shared with the Glenn Highway.

The Parks Highway was named for George Alexander Parks (Alaska Territory Governor from 1925 - 1933) but is aptly named as it accesses both Denali State Park and Denali National Park. This highway was designated a National Scenic Byway in 2009, and on a clear day you can see Denali (Formerly Mt. McKinley), the nation's tallest peak at 20,310 ft. There are scenic lookouts at mile 135 and mile 163 that offer great views of Denali.

Traveling north on the Parks Highway you encounter the communities of Wasilla, Houston, Willow, Talkeetna, Denali, Healy and Nenana before reaching Fairbanks.

Vitus Energy Stop at one of their three convenient locations between Anchorage and Fairbanks; **Birchwood** (North Birchwood exit in Chugiak at 19223 Old Glenn Hwy), **Trapper Creek** (mile 115.5) and **Cantwell** (mile 210.4). Each store offers fuel, snacks, clean restrooms, ATM-services and a liquor store. Birchwood and Trapper Creek locations have ice cream, hot showers and laundry facilities. Trapper Creek also has a full restaurant and cabin rentals.

Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry at mile 47. A great collection of historical artifacts from vehicles and trains to early aviation. The Museum was established to tell the stories of the people and the machines that opened Alaska to exploration. 3800 W. Museum Dr.

Willow Creek State Recreation Site at mile 71, has overnight camping and day use area. There is water, toilets, firepits, hiking and fishing for coho, pink, chum and chinook salmon.

Gigglewood Lakeside Inn on Caswell Lakes. Luxury vacation cabin rentals with private entrances and baths. The Inn is well known as a Birding paradise and is highly recommended by their guests. Hiking and fishing options are unparalleled. At mile 87.9 turn east for 5 miles. 907-495-1014

Talkeetna, accessed via a 14 mile spur road at mile 99 is an adventure filled town with Jetboats, ziplining and flightseeing tours. Talkeetna is famous as the basecamp for most Denali climbing expeditions and a great place to take a flightseeing tour of Denali and the Alaska Range. (See pg 85)

Denali Grizzly Bear Resort and Campground, on the south boundary of Denali National Park, is pioneer family owned and operated. Most rooms of the Cedar Hotel have decks overlooking the river and the remaining rooms have fantastic mountain views. Cable TV, in-room coffee, and Wi-fi available for a fee. Charming, affordable cabins with spectacular views. Wooded RV sites, water & electric (20/30 amp) and secluded riverside tenting. Mile 231.1 Parks Highway. 866-583-2696

The entrance to **Denali National Park** is at mile 237.3. Visitors can drive the Park Road for the first 15 miles into Denali National Park. To go further into the park you will need to take public shuttle busses,



a private tour or enter the park pass lottery. However, In 2021, Denali National Park is allowing guests to purchase a \$25 permit, which allows private vehicles to drive the Park road to the Teklanika Rest Area at mile 30. Purchase tickets at recreation.gov

Three Locations Between Anchorage & Fairbanks

**vitus**

			Birchwood
			Trapper Creek
			Cantwell







Mile 99 Parks Hwy & on the boardwalk in Denali

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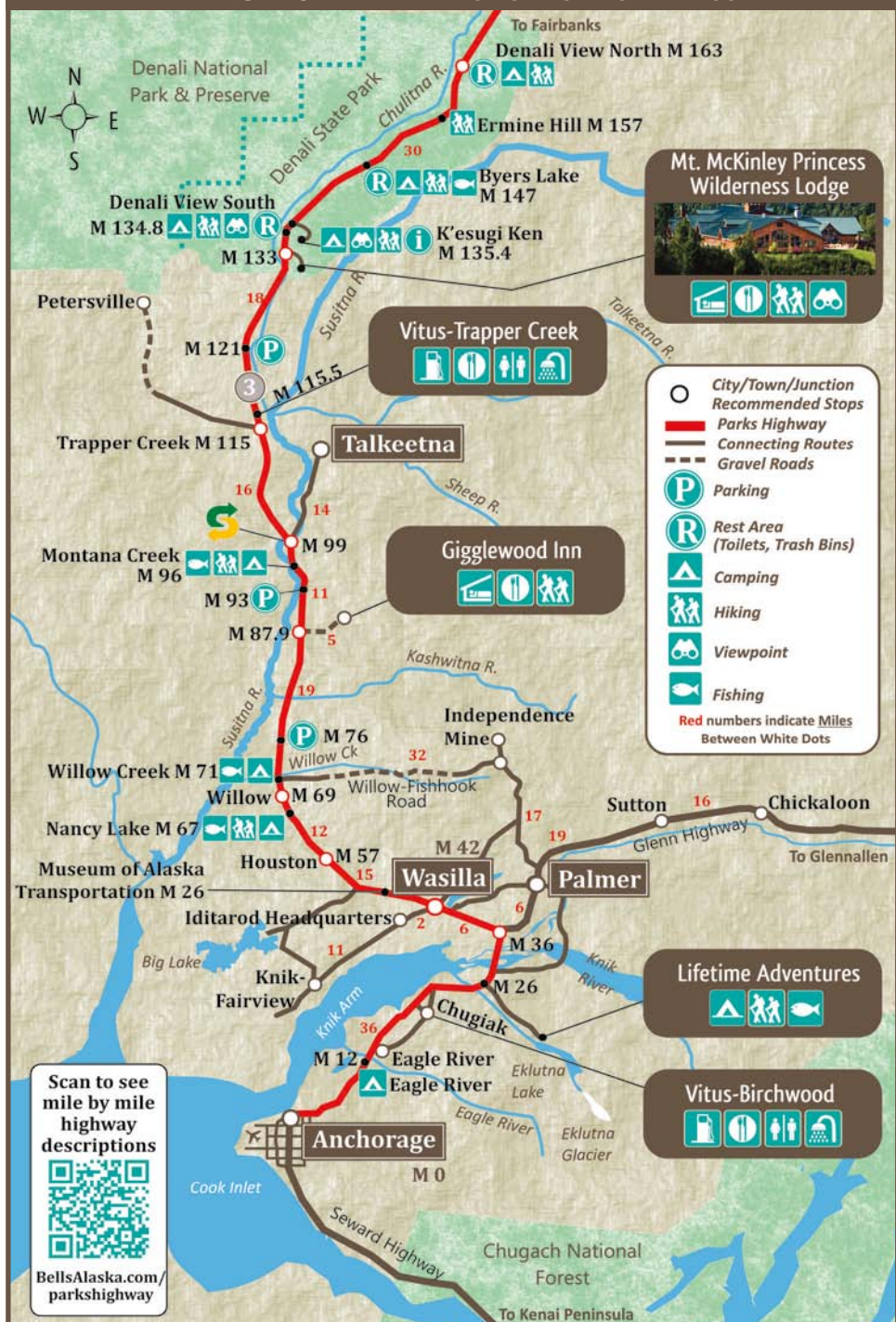


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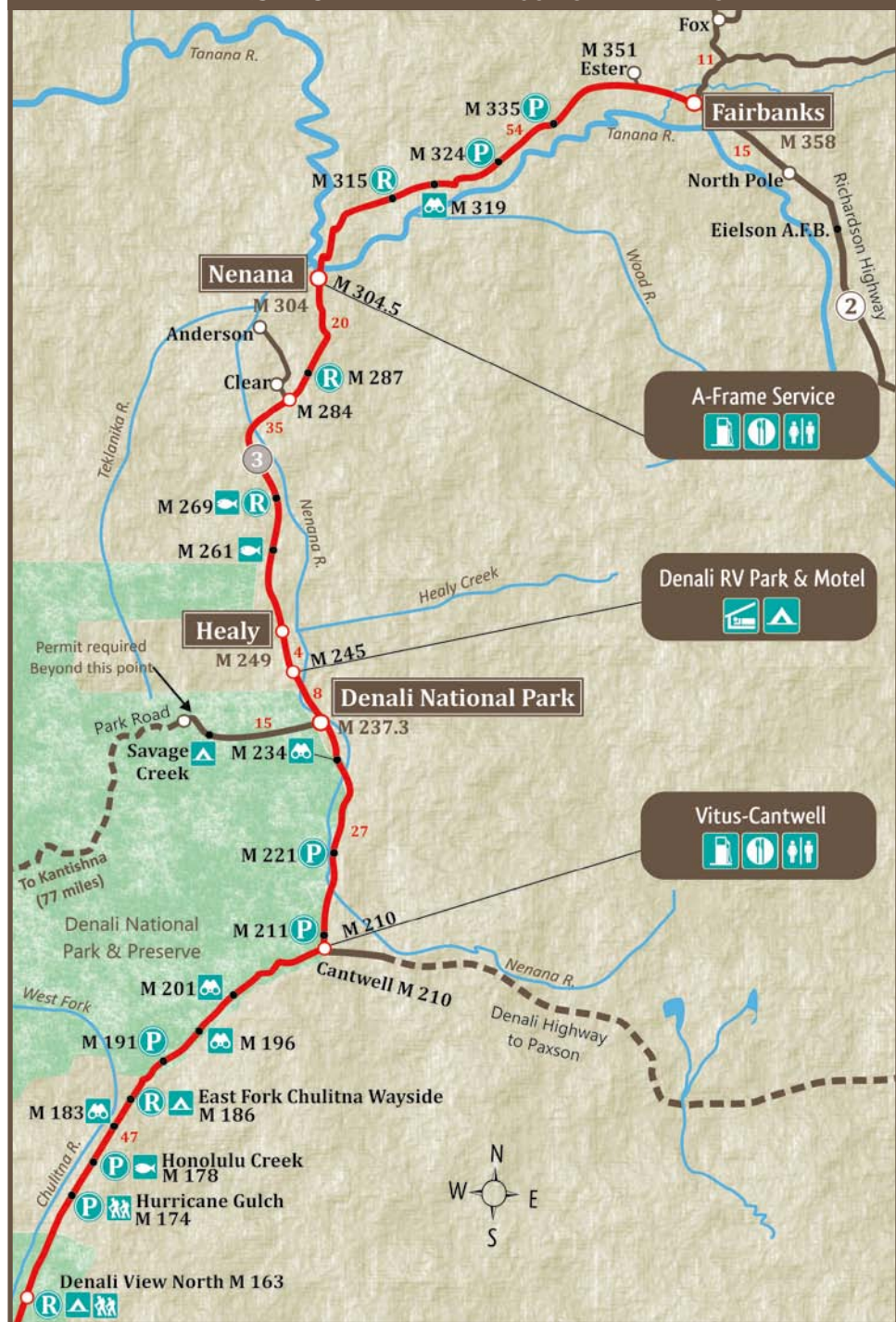
Midway between Anchorage and Denali National Park
Mile 87.9 Parks Hwy, Willow Alaska

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PARKS HIGHWAY – ANCHORAGE TO MILE 163



PARKS HIGHWAY - MILE 163 TO FAIRBANKS



RICHARDSON HIGHWAY



The Richardson Highway connects Valdez and Fairbanks and is Alaska's oldest highway. In 1898 a trail was pushed from Valdez to Eagle in the Interior of Alaska. The Territorial government had requested money from Congress to improve the trail but by the time approval came through, the gold production in the Eagle area had declined. The funds were used instead to improve the Fairbanks portion because of the Felix Pedro find in Fairbanks. Major Wilds P. Richardson worked to upgrade the trail to a wagon road in 1910 after the Fairbanks Gold Rush. It was made suitable for vehicles in the 1920s and paved in 1957.

The Richardson Highway also connects visitors to the Alaska Marine Highway ferry system in Valdez. The entire ferry system is considered a National Scenic Byway and is a wonderful way to see some of Alaska's beautiful coastline. From Valdez, ferries connect to Cordova and Whittier. Whittier is 1.5 hours south of Anchorage and the closest ferry terminal to Alaska's largest city.

Starting in Valdez, mile 0, the drive will take you through the spectacular and narrow Keystone Canyon and across the Thompson Pass, which is the highest summit on the highway at 2,805 ft. There is a large paved turnout, at mile 14 in Keystone Canyon, where you can view the spectacular 600 ft Bridal Veil Falls.

Blueberry Lake State Recreation Site at mile 24 has dry camping sites for small RV's and tents. Potable water and toilets are available.

Worthington Glacier, a National Natural Landmark, is another incredible Alaskan glacier that is easily accessible by vehicle. The **Worthington Glacier State Recreation Site** at mile 28.7 gives visitors direct access to the glacier. There is parking next to the highway as well as an access road that leads 0.4 miles to another large parking area with viewing telescopes, interpretive signs and restrooms. There is no camping available.

From Valdez to Delta Junction there are many opportunities to view the Trans-Alaska (Alyeska) pipeline, which parallels the highway. The pipeline is 800 miles/1287 km and stretches from Prudhoe Bay on the Arctic Sea to its terminus at Port of Valdez, in Prince William Sound. There are pipeline viewpoints along the Richardson Highway at mile 215, mile 244 and mile 275.5. At mile 64, the highway passes

the Alyeska Pipeline Pump Station #12, the final pump station before Valdez. There is no public access.

The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park is the largest National Park in the U.S. and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. If you want to drive into the park, take the Edgerton Highway, at mile 82.5, to Chitna. The road is good to Chitna but the McCarthy Road from Chitna to McCarthy/Kennecott is rough and challenging. Our recommendation is that you fly in with Wrangell Mountain Air. They offer daily scheduled air service and day tours to McCarthy from the airports at Chitna and Glennallen. Call 907-258-2350 or 800-478-1160 for reservations.



Lowe River in Keystone Canyon

Copper Center, accessed via a loop road at mile 100 or mile 106, is one of the oldest white communities in Alaska's Interior and served prospectors heading north during the gold rush days. The **Copper Center Visitor Center Complex** is at mile 107 of the Richardson Highway. It includes a bookstore, exhibit hall, theatre, scenic overlook and hiking trails. This is an excellent Visitor Center for those looking for information on visiting Wrangell-St Elias National Park. Open mid-May through September. 907-822-7250

At mile 115, the Richardson Highway junctions with Glenn Highway, leading to **Glennallen**. This is the center of the Copper River Basin, one of Alaska's best outdoor recreation areas for hunting, fishing and off road exploration.

Paxson, at mile 186, is the junction with the **Denali Highway**. This 133 mile, mostly gravel road, connects to Cantwell

at mile 210 on the Parks Highway, 27 miles south of the entrance to Denali National Park. It is a very scenic drive, with excellent views of Denali, however, many rental companies will not allow their vehicles to drive the Denali Highway.

Delta Junction is the junction of the Richardson and Alaska Highways. At Delta Junction, the Richardson Highway number changes from Route 4 to Route 2. Delta Junction is the end of the Alaska Highway.

Big Delta State Historical Park on the north end of Delta Junction is a 10 acre park with RV camping, picnic area, toilets, water and an RV dump station, located at mile 275. There are a number of historical buildings on the grounds, including a



Unfinished railroad tunnel in Keystone Canyon

Telegraph Station and Museum. The centerpiece of the park is undoubtedly, **Rika's Roadhouse**. This historic roadhouse was started in 1909 by John Hajdukovich, a Yugoslavian entrepreneur, as a stop for trappers, prospectors and local Athabascan people. In 1918 Rika Wallen took over the roadhouse and ran it until the 1950s.

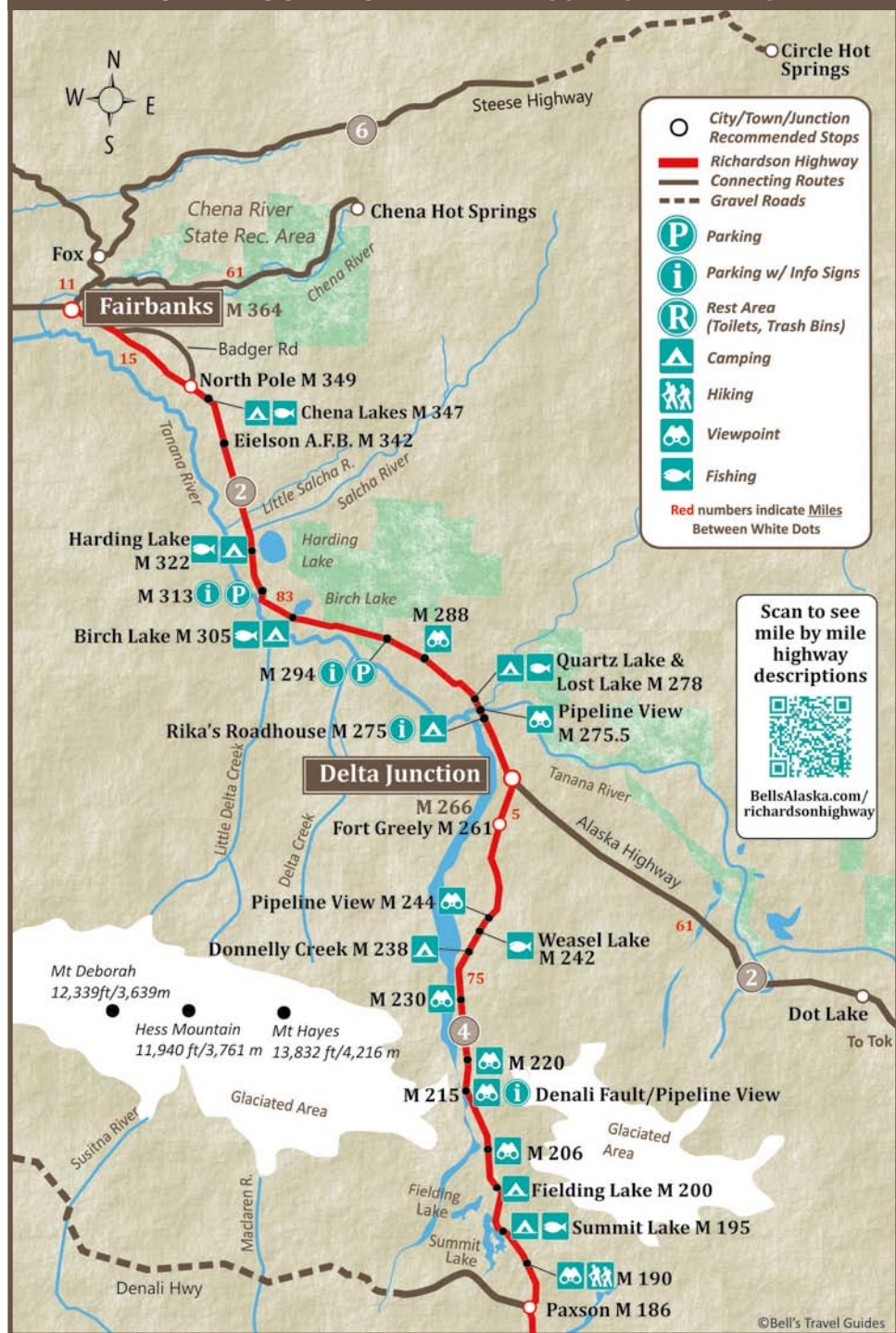
Chena Lakes Recreation Area at mile 347, has two campgrounds, one at the Lake Park and one at the River Park with a combined total of 80 campsites (some pull-throughs). There are restrooms, picnic areas, volleyball courts, a boat launch and canoe & kayak rentals. 907-488-1655

Fairbanks, mile 364, is the end of the Richardson Highway and the second largest city in Alaska. It is rich in natural resources and has an Army and Air Force base that form an integral part of the community. Here you can connect to the Parks Highway and the Dalton Highway to the Arctic.

RICHARDSON HIGHWAY - VALDEZ TO PAXSON



RICHARDSON HIGHWAY - PAXSON TO FAIRBANKS





Mentasta Lake

The 125-mile Tok Cut-off connects the Alaska Highway and the Richardson Highway at Gakona Junction. The Tok Cut-off is part of Alaska Route 1, which stretches from Homer, on the tip of the Kenai Peninsula to Tok in the Interior. Spectacular views of the Wrangell-St-Elias Mountains can be seen on this stretch of highway between the Richardson Highway and mile 63.

Chistochina, at mile 33, is a small community that was settled by homesteaders, but has remained a traditional Native village of the Ahtna People. Chistochina lodge was built here in 1897 to serve prospectors and trappers travelling the Valdez-Eagle Trail. It stood for 102 years until burning down in 1999.

The Nabesna Road at mile 60, leads 43 miles into the Wrangell-St Elias National Park. The community of Slana, at mile 0.5, has a post office and school. This is one of only two roads that visitors can use to access the National Park, the other is the Edgerton Highway off the Richardson Highway. The Nabesna Road was originally built to access the Nabesna Gold Mine which operated from 1925-1945. Many of the mine structures are still visible, but are located on private property and not available to park visitors. There is no food or gas available on the road but there are a number of rustic campsites and scenic hiking trails. The road is paved or chip sealed for the first 16 miles and then gravel and dirt for the remaining 27 miles.

There is limited cell service in this part of Alaska. Stop at the Ranger station near the junction with the Tok Cut-off to check road conditions, purchase permits and inquire about summer Ranger programs for visitors.

At mile 81 of the Tok Cut-off a 6 mile spur road leads to the unincorporated community of Mentasta Lake. This small, primarily Athabaskan community, has no visitor services, however, on a clear day, it can offer stunning views of the lake and surrounding mountains. The turn off is one mile before the Mentasta Summit, which has an elevation of 2,434 ft.

Eagle Trail State Recreation Site is at mile 109.5. There are 35 campsites, five of which will accommodate large RV's. Enjoy a walk on the one mile nature trail or the 2.5 mile hiking trail with a view over the Tok River Valley and the surrounding mountains. The Eagle Trail offers visitors a great opportunity to explore the Alaska Range.

Sourdough Campground is on the outskirts of Tok at mile 122.8. It has wide, level, full and partial hookups, great tent sites & free Wi-fi. They serve an authentic sourdough pancake breakfast including reindeer sausage and nightly dinner specials. There is an open-air museum with gold rush memorabilia. 907-883-5543

TOK CUT-OFF - TOK TO GAKONA JUNCTION



GLENN HIGHWAY



The Glenn Highway traverses the 189 miles from Anchorage to Glennallen and is part of Alaska Route 1. Bear, moose, caribou and dall sheep populate the area and there is excellent grayling, trout & salmon fishing in many streams and rivers. There are great campgrounds and incredible mountain views along the way. The section of highway from Anchorage to mile 139 is designated as a National Scenic Byway.

Palmer, at mile 42, is a unique community in Alaska and has much to offer the visitor. Nestled at the foot of Pioneer Peak, it has great accommodations, camping and dining (see pg 82).

Independence Mine State Historical Park at Hatcher Pass can be reached via the Palmer-Fishhook Road at mile 49.5 of the Glenn Highway or the Hatcher Pass road at mile 71.2 of the Parks Highway. Independence Mine offers glimpses of what life was like during the gold rush era. A guided tour will take you inside some of the mining camp's historic buildings. Open daily from mid-June through Labor Day.

At mile 50 you will find the **Musk Ox Farm** nestled in the Matanuska Valley just outside Palmer. The farm has been raising musk oxen for their incredibly soft underwool called Qiviut for 55 years. Visiting the Musk Ox Farm is a must do on your trip to Alaska.

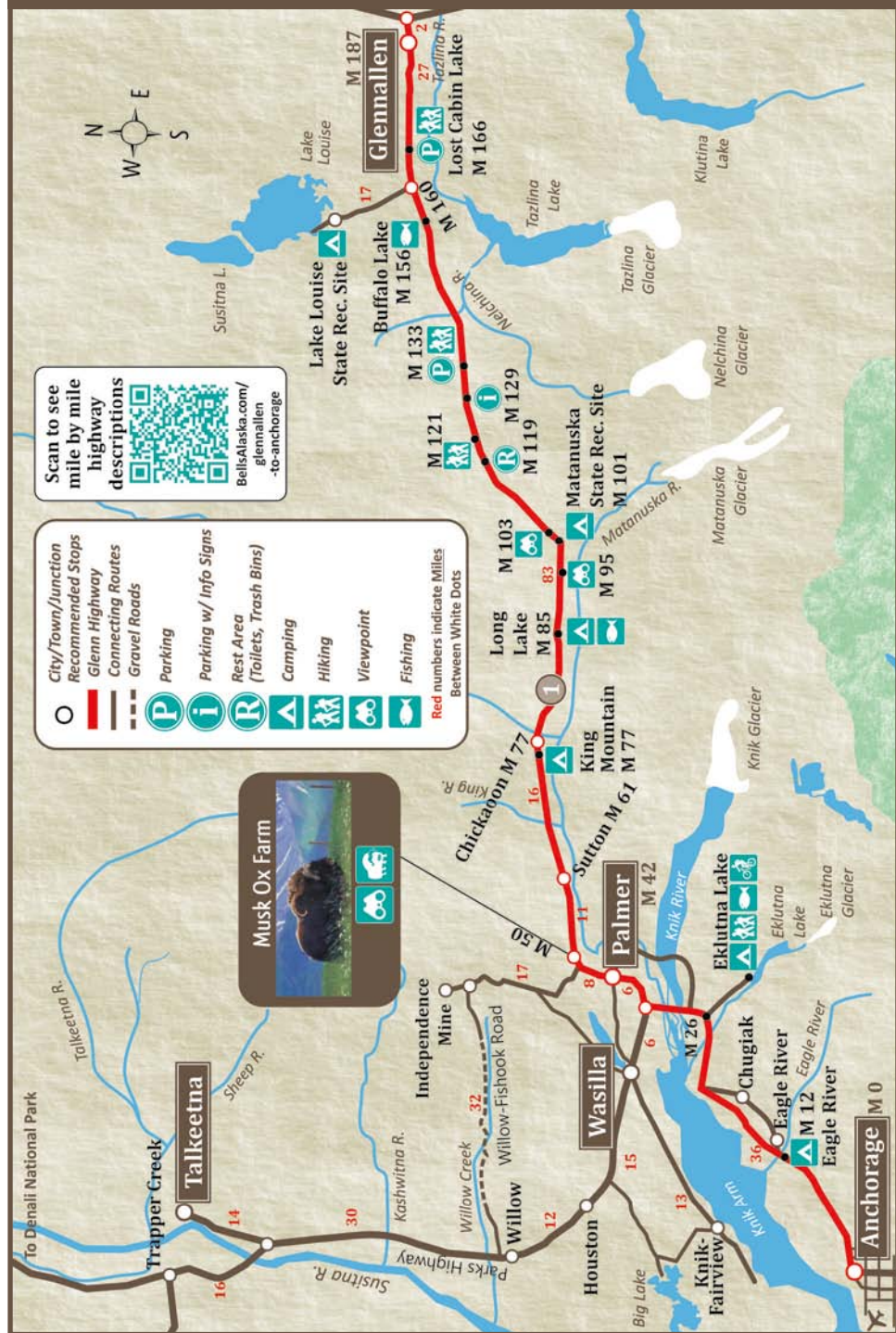
The Matanuska Glacier is the largest glacier in Alaska that can be accessed by road. It can be seen from the Glenn Highway between miles 100 and 110. There are a number of rest areas and pull-outs for visitors to stop and take photos including the closest pullout to the glacier at mile 103. The Matanuska Glacier is 26 miles long and 4 miles wide. There hasn't been a significant change in size for almost two decades.

The Matanuska Glacier State Recreation Site at mile 101 has a campground, day use area and scenic viewpoint of the Matanuska Glacier. The campground has 12 sites, water and toilets. The day use area has picnic tables, toilets, information boards and telescopes for glacier viewing. The Edge Nature Trail leads 20 minutes to glacier viewing platforms. There is no access to Matanuska Glacier from the State Recreation Site.

Lake Louise State Recreation Area is reached via a 17 mile spur road from mile 160 of the Glenn Highway. Lake Louise is a favorite destination for local Alaskans looking for fishing, boating, hiking and bird watching. There is excellent fishing for lake trout, whitefish, burbot and arctic grayling.

Glennallen, at mile 187, is at the end of the Glenn Highway, where the road junctions with the Richardson Highway. Glennallen is the gateway to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, the largest National Park in the United States.

GLENN HIGHWAY - ANCHORAGE TO GLENNALLEN



✓ Bucket List

- ☐ Ride the Alaska Railroad
- ☐ Visit Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
- ☐ Hike on a Glacier
- ☐ Shop for Alaskan Made Souvenirs



Southcentral is considered by visitors and locals alike to be the crown jewel of Alaska. Towering mountains, deep fjords, beautiful lakes and rivers make this a spectacular area even in a State as magnificent as Alaska. It is a playground of activities from world-class fishing and hiking to wildlife viewing. Record sized rainbow trout and salmon attract anglers from all over the world. With so many mountains and lakes, Southcentral offers travelers the experience of a remote wilderness adventure with big city conveniences nearby.

The Southcentral region is comprised of the Matanuska Susitna Valley, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, Prince William Sound and the Copper River Basin, all of which are within a few hours drive of Anchorage, Alaska's largest city. More than half of the State's residents live here. The military, tourism, fisheries and petroleum production are the mainstays of the economy. Over the past 50 years, the petroleum industry has invested billions of dollars to tap the oil and gas resources of the area, drilling wells on land and throughout the waters of Cook Inlet.



ANCHORAGE

WHERE ADVENTURE BEGINS

Embraced by mountain ranges and warmed by a maritime climate, Anchorage is alive year-round with adventure, recreation, seasonal festivities, sporting events and more.

Recognized as a four-time All-American City, it is Alaska's largest city and is surrounded by spectacular wilderness.

The area was originally a summer camp of the Dena'ina Athabascans who have fished and trapped here for over 8,000 years. Europeans first arrived in 1778, when the British explorer James Cook arrived in the area on his third voyage to North America. Anchorage, however, didn't get its start as a city until 1915, when the area was selected by President Woodrow Wilson as the headquarters of the Alaska Railroad. 2021 marks over 106 years of growth and prosperity for this vibrant city.

Anchorage has much to offer visitors and is an excellent place to stay as you explore the myriad of things to do nearby. In summer months, enjoy endless hours of fun under the midnight sun. Flightsee over snowcapped mountains, cruise cobalt waters to see Alaska's abundant sealife, reel in a wild Alaska salmon right downtown or hike a mountain trail just a few minutes from your door.

There is parking for RV's at the AC Couplet lot on 3rd Avenue between A & C St. and the terminal lot near the Alaska Railroad Depot or any of the shopping malls.

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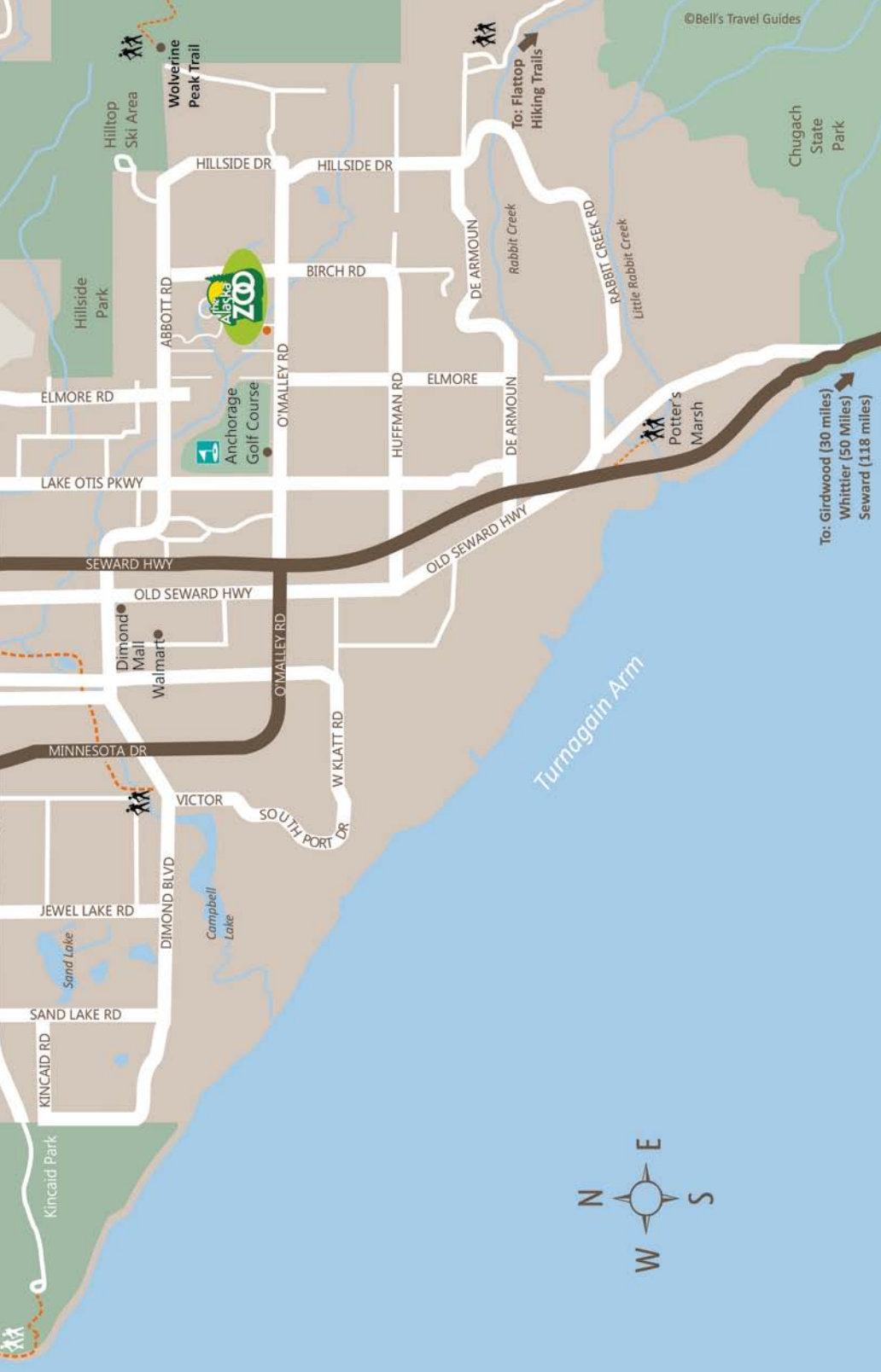
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Anchorage





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HILLSIDE DR

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DIMOND BLVD

Campbell Lake

SOUTH PORT DR

O'MALLEY RD

W KLATT RD

HUFFMAN RD

ELMORE

DE ARMOUN

DE ARMOUN

Rabbit Creek

RABBIT CREEK RD

Little Rabbit Creek

Potter's Marsh

Chugach State Park

To: Flattop Hiking Trails

To: Girdwood (30 miles)
Whittier (50 Miles)
Seward (118 miles)





VISITOR INFO

Log Cabin Information Center is open seven days a week year-round. 4th Avenue & F Street. 907-257-2363

The Ted Stevens International Airport Visitor Centers are at the International and Domestic Terminals. All are operated by Visit Anchorage. 907-276-4118



ACCOMMODATION

Creekwood Inn Motel is conveniently located in midtown near shopping, restaurants, theatres and is the closest facility to Sullivan Arena. Get the down home comfort and quality of a truly Alaskan hotel. Single, double & kitchenette rooms. Free Wi-fi. 2150 Seward Highway. 907-258-6006 or 800-478-6008

Westmark Anchorage Hotel. Located in the heart of downtown Anchorage, is a perfect blend of comfort and convenience.

Premier accommodations include private balconies in every room. Enjoy panoramic views of the Chugach Mountains and Cook Inlet and join in all the exciting Anchorage activities. 800-544-0970 or visit westmarkhotels.com

Alaska Backcountry Cottages will take you out of the city and into the beautiful Mat-Su Valley. These cottages are near Palmer, at the foot of the Chugach Mountains giving guests amazing views and the opportunity to explore the real Alaska. Your hosts are long time Alaskans who love helping guests create the vacation of a lifetime. 3901 S Lindsey Circle B in Palmer. 907-982-7669 (See ad pg 83)



CAMPING

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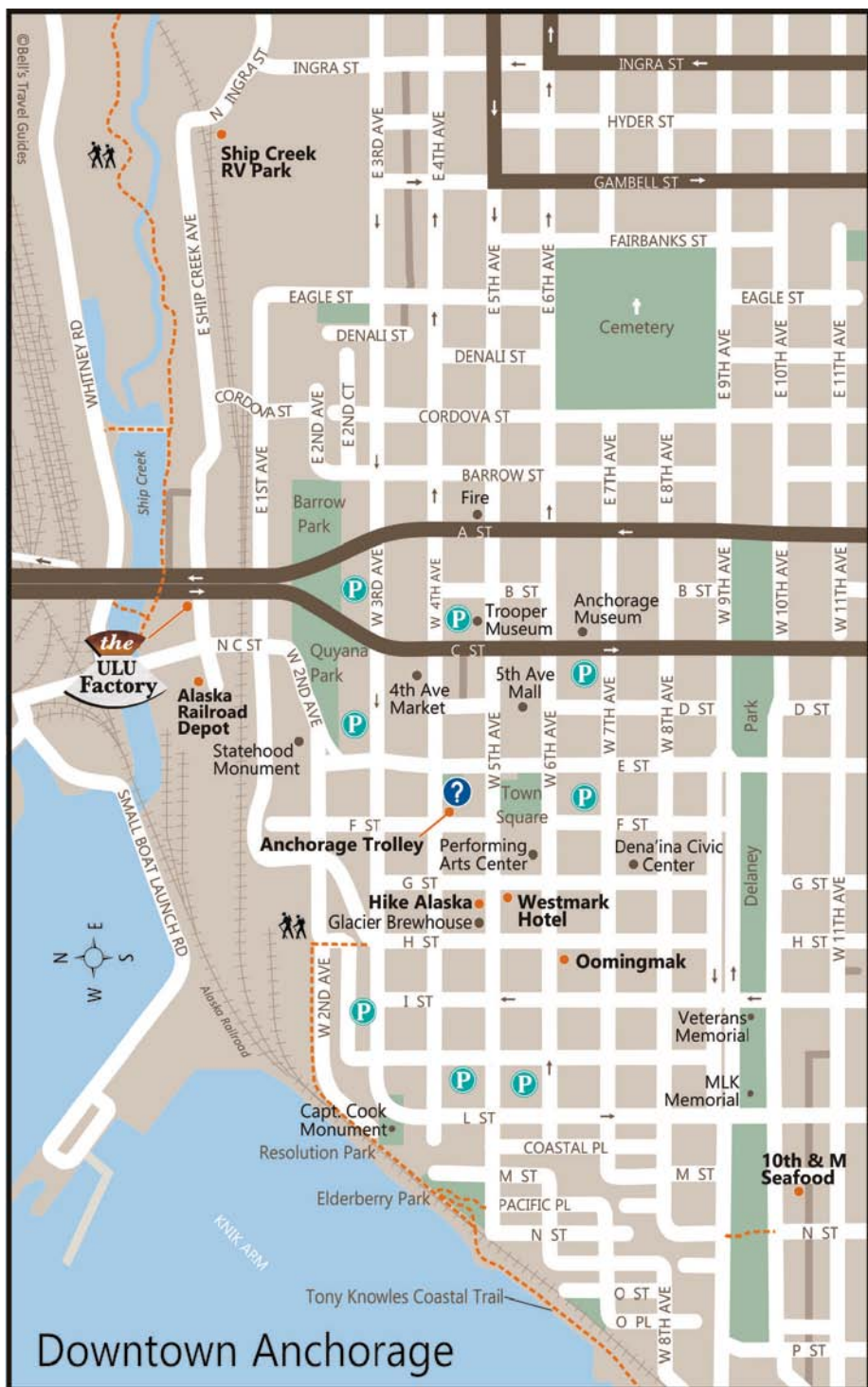
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Downtown Anchorage

Creekwood also has an RV dump station. Call for reservations. 2150 Seward Highway. 907-258-6006 or 800-478-6008

Anchorage Ship Creek RV Park is just a few blocks from downtown and many of Anchorage's best attractions. Full hookups, dry sites, tent sites, Wi-fi, Laundromat, clean showers, restrooms and dump station. Local tour desk to conveniently book your adventures. 150 N. Ingra Street. 907-277-0877

Eagle River State Campground Operated by Lifetime Adventures. Campsites suitable for large RV's and tent camping. Picnic pavilion available for rental, day use parking and dump station. Take Hiland Road Exit at mile 12 of the Glenn Highway. 907-746-4644



SHOPPING

Anchorage has excellent shopping for those looking to find a unique gift for a loved one. You will find interesting, locally made products like ulu knives, wild berry

chocolates, plus scarves and hats made from a cashmere-like wool called Qiviut.

The Ulu Factory The Alaska ulu knife (pronounced oo-loo) has been used for centuries by Native people of the Arctic. Ulus were first shaped from slate – a stone that can often be found, in its natural shape, curved or tapered to a fine edge. Used to skin, fillet, sew, and eat, the ulu was and still is, their most popular cutting tool.

Today, the ulu has become a familiar sight in many modern kitchens, and its uses are as varied as the people who use it. From chopping nuts to slicing cheese and meats, the unique design of the ulu increases dexterity and leverage. The finely crafted ulu is sure to become one of your most valuable kitchen aids.

Visit The Ulu Factory where you'll find the best selection of real ulu knives and bowls, made right at the factory. They also carry other Alaskan made gifts you won't want to miss. When you're there, take a tour and learn how the ulus are made and used.

THE ULU FACTORY

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While downtown Anchorage, look for "Lolley" The Ulu Factory Trolley. This is a free shuttle service during the summer with service to and from The Ulu Factory. A visit to The Ulu Factory is "sharp" shopping!" 211 W. Ship Creek Ave. 907-276-3119 **Alaska Wild Berry Products** has the largest selection of original Alaskan souvenirs in the State. Sample the delicious wild berry chocolates and take a kitchen tour to watch how they are made. Take time to check out the world's largest chocolate fall in one of the biggest gift shops in Anchorage; souvenir gifts, clothing, Alaskan made foods and more. Take care of all those hard to find gifts in one stop. 5225 Juneau Street. Alaska Wild Berry also has a location downtown Anchorage in the 5th Avenue Mall. 907-562-8858

Alaska Sausage & Seafood Company To taste the best wild Alaskan smoked salmon and gourmet sausages with Reindeer, stop by this uniquely Alaskan store. Since 1963, this family business has emphasized top quality products and excellent customer

service. Pick up a treat for yourself or send home a gourmet gift package. Your senses will be delighted by the tastes and aromas of the freshly smoked sausage & seafood. 2914 Arctic Blvd. 907-562-3636 **Musk Ox Producer's Cooperative** Warmth, lightness and silky softness define Qiviut (ki-vee-ute), the under wool of the Musk Ox. This is one of the most sought after gifts by shoppers looking for that perfect Alaskan present. This unique cooperative is made up of over 250 Native Alaskan women who knit scarves, hats, and tunics by hand which can all be purchased at Oomingmak. 604 H St. 907-272-9225

From the pure waters of the 49th state, **10th and M Seafoods** supplies a wide variety of the finest seafood. Alaskan king crab, halibut, salmon, scallops, shrimp, smoked products and more are processed in fresh or frozen packs for Alaska's best restaurants and retail customers. Overnight shipping is available direct to your door. Locations at 1020 M St and 301 Muldoon Rd. 907-272-3474

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*"Lolley" the ULU Factory
Trolley offers free rides from downtown*



THINGS TO DO

Alaska Aviation Museum has dozens of historic aircraft displayed indoors and outdoors. Enjoy flight simulators and a historic control tower offering spectacular views of float plane operations. Located near the Anchorage Airport at the largest float plane base in the world. Open Tuesday - Sunday 10am to 5pm.

Anchorage City Trolley Tour departs downtown Anchorage, on the corner of 4th & F Street, in front of the Log Cabin Visitor Information Center. One of the best city tours in the State according to its many happy customers. Enjoy a fun, informative sightseeing tour of historic Anchorage and all from the comfort of the original red trolley. Tours leave every 30 to 60 minutes. Call for reservations, 907-276-5603 or 888-917-8687



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Alaska Backcountry Adventure Tours are designed with every type of enthusiast in mind. From beginner to expert they provide an unforgettable experience when you join them on one of their tours. Summer ATV and winter snowmobile tours are available. Day trips and multi-day safaris into the Alaska backcountry. Open Monday through Saturday, year-round. Adventures depart from Palmer, less than an hour outside of Anchorage. 907-745-2505 or 800-478-2506 (See ad pg 83)

The Alaska Culture Pass provides discounted joint admission to both the Alaska Native Heritage Center and the Anchorage Museum. There is also a free shuttle between the two locations.

The Alaska Native Heritage Center is a premier cultural center sharing the rich heritage of Alaska's eleven major cultural groups. Visitors to Alaska are introduced to

Native traditions and experience firsthand engaging storytelling, authentic Native song and dance, art and Native game demonstrations. Offering an engaging and enlightening educational experience for young and old alike. The Alaska Native Heritage Center is located off the Glenn Highway at 8800 Heritage Center Dr. 907-330-8000

Alaska's largest museum, the **Anchorage Museum**, explores the full diversity of Alaska Native cultures, including masterworks of Alaska Native art and design from the collections of the Smithsonian Institution. A hands-on science discovery center has marine life tanks, a planetarium and more. The Anchorage Museum is located in downtown Anchorage on the corner of 6th Ave and C St. Open daily May 1 to Sept 30. Winter hours take effect Oct 1 - April 30.



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DINING IN ANCHORAGE

Snow City Cafe A popular downtown brunch spot where the staff is friendly, the food is tasty and breakfast is served all day. The menu includes vegan and gluten free choices. Voted best breakfast in Anchorage since 2003. 1034 W 4th Avenue. 907-272-2489

Matanuska Brewing Company in Midtown. They offer their complete selection of beers, a full service menu on the weekends as well as live music, cocktails and great company. Find them at 2830 C Street in Anchorage or at their Eagle River and Palmer locations. 907-677-2531

The Glacier Brewhouse is a longtime Anchorage favorite. There is a large rustic dining area, with a fireplace in the center that creates a warm and friendly atmosphere. Enjoy fresh seafood, rotisserie roasted meats and handcrafted ales. The Brewhouse is very popular, so call ahead. 737 W 5th Avenue. 907-274-2739

Zorba's Gyros has taken drive-through to another level! Authentic, and fresh, these are the best gyros in the State. Eat where the locals eat. 2700 Blueberry Road next to the Wells Fargo on Northern Lights Blvd. 907-227-1855



The Anchorage City Trolley



Fishing in Ship Creek

©Ken Graham/Visit Anchorage



Kayaking at Eklutna Lake

©Jody O'Photos/Visit Anchorage

Alaska Railroad For over 90 years, the Alaska Railroad has connected over 500 miles of Southcentral and Interior Alaska, serving Anchorage, Talkeetna, Denali National Park, Fairbanks, Spencer Glacier, Seward and more. Enjoy excellent service on a relaxing rail journey as you travel between many of Alaska's most popular destinations.

The Alaska Railroad offers two levels of passenger service, both of which include knowledgeable Alaskan tour guides sharing the stories behind the sights. *Adventure Class* offers comfortable seating, large picture windows and available dining. *GoldStar Service* features double-deck glass dome cars, an upper-level outdoor viewing platform, included meals and two complimentary adult beverages.

Additionally, the Railroad offers unique day trips and customized multi-day vacation packages, combining rail travel with memorable excursions and fine accommodations.

Plan a rail vacation to visit two of Alaska's premier national parks; Denali National Park to the north, and Kenai Fjords National Park, located just beyond the Railroad's southern terminus in the

Port of Seward. Denali is famous for its grizzlies, moose, caribou, and North America's tallest mountain, while Kenai Fjords National Park is home to massive tidewater glaciers and abundant marine wildlife.

Open year-round, the Alaska Railroad operates daily service mid-May to mid-September. During the winter, trains run on weekends between Anchorage and Fairbanks as well as select mid-week departures from November to March. No matter the season, the Railroad's reservation experts are able to help plan a custom rail journey. Visit www.alaskarailroad.com or call 800-544-0552.

Lifetime Adventures is a diversified adventure tour company based in Anchorage. They also operate an office at Eklutna Lake State Recreation Area, just 40 minutes from downtown. Lifetime Adventures have guided tours, bike and kayak rentals, or you can just go for a hike on the 26 miles of marked trails. They also offer kayak lessons on the beautiful, calm Eklutna Lake. This is a spectacular area and is a highly recommended day trip from Anchorage. Take the Glenn Highway east to the Eklutna exit at mile 26 and follow the signs. 907-746-4644



Photo by John Gomes



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Anchorage 99507
907.346.3242**

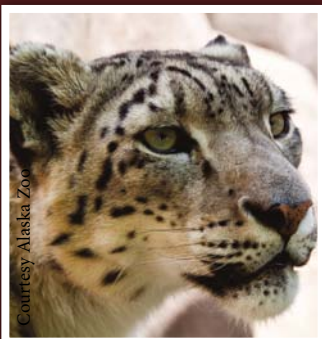
Alaska Zoo invites you to take a walk on the wild side! The Zoo, located just 15 minutes south of downtown Anchorage in a park like setting, is home to more than 100 animals representing 49 species.

The Alaska Zoo is open daily and exhibits an array of animals including polar bear, brown bears and black bears, tigers, moose, wolves, snow leopards,

lynx and caribou. That just names a few of the species and doesn't even mention the many ravens, eagles, hawks and owls that call the Zoo home. The Alaska Zoo is a private nonprofit, providing a home for orphaned, injured and endangered animals. At the foothills of the Chugach Mountains, the 20-acre zoological park includes native and exotic flora. While it is a great place to "wander and watch," many visitors take advantage of the "discovery tour," a guided behind-the-scenes program available daily between Memorial

Day and Labor Day. For more information about the Alaska Zoo, programs, special events and opportunities to support the Zoo visit their website at: www.alaskazoo.org

The Alaska Zoo is open year-round. For current hours and information call the 24 hour recording at 907-346-3242.



Courtesy Alaska Zoo



Courtesy Alaska Zoo

Portage Glacier Cruise Experience the best value and closest glacier cruise to Anchorage. Board Gray Line Alaska's exclusive day boat and cruise iceberg-dotted Portage Lake to within 300 yards of the glacier. Choose a seat in the enclosed lounge or take a stroll on the open-air observation deck. You'll enjoy informative narration from a representative of the U.S. Forest Service. Nature willing, you will witness the "calving" of ice from the face of Portage Glacier. Portage Glacier Cruises operates 5 times a day, between 10:30am and 4:30pm, mid-May through mid-Sept. \$45 adult/\$25 child. Call 800-544-2206 or book online. Guests can pre-book or purchase same day tickets on site at the Portage Glacier Cafe.

Gray Line Alaska has been showing the Great Land to travelers for over 70 years. Whether it's via motor coach, day boat, glass-domed railcar or self-drive options, they offer complete destination experiences throughout Alaska from sightseeing

and multi-day vacations to pre and post-cruise options. Let them show you the highlights such as Prince William Sound, Denali National Park, the Alaska Highway, and Kenai Fjords National Park. With several locations throughout the State there's always someone to assist in planning an amazing Alaska vacation. View tour options online at graylinealaska.com or call 800-544-2206 and speak to an Alaska specialist.



CAR WASH

Mountain View Car Wash is one of the best self-service car washes in the state. There are several wash bays including a large one for RV's and a free RV dump station. Use cash or credit cards right in the bay or purchase a pre-paid "Wash Card" and get 5% Bonus Value. The car wash is open 24 hours, every day of the year. Located at 3433 Commercial Drive. 907-279-4819

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Eklutna Lake, Anchorage

BIG ICE



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little price \$45

Cruise on the *mv Ptarmigan* to within 300 yards of spectacular Portage Glacier, a relic of the last ice age. This attraction is just 60 minutes from Anchorage and only \$45 per adult!

One hour cruise departing five times a day mid-May to mid-Sept.



Portage Glacier Cruises operates on National Forest Service lands of the Chugach National Forest and is operated under special-use permit from the USDA Forest Service.



The Alaska Railroad parallels the Seward Highway on the shoreline of Turnagain Arm



TRANSPORTATION

Airlink's Alaska/Yukon Trails makes traveling through Alaska & The Yukon easy and economical. Vans/mini coaches depart daily from Anchorage for Talkeetna, Denali National Park and Fairbanks via the Parks Highway. Guests can continue from Fairbanks to Dawson City via the Top-of-the-World Highway when International borders are open. Schedule and pricing available online. 907-452-3337

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Alamo/National Car Rental at Anchorage International Airport. 800-G0-ALAMO or 800-CAR-RENT

Enterprise Rent-a-Car has three locations in town. 800-Rent-A-Car

Avis Car Rental At the Anchorage International airport. 5533 Airport Road 907-249-8260

Thrifty Car Rental 4940 West International Airport Road. 907-276-2855



RV PARTS & SERVICES

Six Robblees is known as the number one RV parts store in Alaska. They carry an excellent selection of parts and accessories for almost all Recreational Vehicles. There are two locations in Fairbanks and Wasilla. 3000 Commercial Drive. 907-276-5171

Suburban Propane For all of your propane needs from fill ups to repairs. 1200 E. Whitney Road. 907-272-7581

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3000 Commercial Dr., Anchorage

TAKE A



Local hiking guide Matt Worden is the owner and lead guide for Hike Alaska. We asked him to give visitors a run down on all the amazing hiking in the Anchorage area. Here is his expert advice:

I started Hike Alaska with a vision of offering accessible, affordable, world-class day hiking and snowshoeing opportunities in the Chugach State Park just minutes outside of Anchorage and for the past few years, that is what we've done. Anchorage is a day-hiker's dreamland. It boasts more than 300 miles of accessible hiking and biking trails. The Chugach State Park is just minutes away from the city, and offers world-class hiking. We like to tell people that when you come to Anchorage, you don't have to go very far to experience true wilderness. Here are a few of our favorite hikes for you to consider during your stay. **The Glen Alps** is the most popular day hiking area in Anchorage. Here you will find Flattop, the most hiked peak in all Alaska. For experienced hikers, it is a moderate 1.5 mile hike to the flat summit, which was created by glaciation. At the top you'll be rewarded with picturesque views of Anchorage, the Cook Inlet, and the Chugach Mountains. There are also options for less experienced hikers. If you need transportation, call the Flattop Mountain Shuttle, available for pick up and return to downtown Anchorage. 907-279-3334 **Kincaid Park** is a pristine, 1400-acre coastal rain forest on the western tip of Anchorage. It sits on a glacial moraine and is one of America's top trail systems. The 6-mile Lekisch Loop is the hilliest competition-certified 10K in the country. Park at the Kincaid Outdoor Center. 9401 Raspberry Road. 907-343-6397

HIKE IN ANCHORAGE



Courtesy Hike Alaska



Courtesy Hike Alaska

The iconic **Tony Knowles Coastal Trail** stretches 11 miles from Kincaid Park to 2nd Avenue. Along the way, you will see Fire Island and "Sleeping Lady," a mountain named for its resemblance of a recumbent woman. You can also take a self-guided interpretive hike through the intriguing Earthquake Park, which details the devastating 9.2 earthquake that struck Alaska in 1964.

The paved **Ship Creek Trail** begins at the Alaska Railroad depot (on 1st Ave) and travels 2.6 miles along crystal-clear waters. View several species of salmon with anglers wading in the midst of the stream.

Rendezvous Peak is an easy-to-moderate trail, beginning at the end of Arctic Valley Road near the Alpenglow ski area. You will witness immaculate Alpine landscape featuring dramatic views, berries, and wildflowers galore. This area is gorgeous. Head east on the Glenn Highway until you see the Arctic Valley exit and follow the road 7 miles to the trailhead.

For adventurous souls looking to "bag a peak", check out Rainbow Peak along the Turnagain Arm. This 4.5 mile trail is packed with berries, wildflowers, and magnificent scenery of the Turnagain Arm. You will work your way from sea level, climbing close to 3,500 feet in just over 2.75 miles! Not for the faint of heart, yet still rewarding even if you don't reach the summit.

Many of the parking lots require \$5 parking fees, so if you are planning on visiting several trailheads you may be better off getting an annual pass for \$54. They are available at the Federal Building on 4th and F Street or the Atwood Building on 7th and E Street, 12th Floor. You can also purchase online at: <https://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/passes>.

If you are seeking a guided hike, there are several top-notch outfitters ready and willing to serve you. **The Alaska Railroad** offers several options involving hiking, a train ride and a walk on a glacier with Ascending Path. You can always contact us at **Hike Alaska** for a one-of-a-kind experience with options ranging from a 2.5-hour flora & fauna nature walk, to a 7-hour mini expedition. Call us at 907-444-9008 or stop by at 737 W. 5th Ave, Suite 208 if you need help with directions or suggestions on where to go. Come explore your wild in Anchorage!





GLENNALLEN

WILD AND AUTHENTIC

Glennallen is known for its outstanding scenery, great fishing and of course, its friendly people. It is located in the Copper River Basin, at the junction of the Glenn and Richardson Highways. Glennallen is the gateway to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, the largest National Park in the United States. There are regular flightsee-

ing tours leaving Glennallen that will take you over the rugged and glaciated terrain and leave you in awe of the vastness of the park. Alternatively, you can drive the 126 miles into McCarthy or take a private transport that leaves daily from Glennallen during the summer. Keep in mind that the last 60 miles of the McCarthy Road can be very rough and will take at least 2 hours.

ON THE EDGE OF WRANGELL ST. ELIAS NATIONAL PARK

THE CARIBOU HOTEL

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 907-822-3302

As the major population center of the Copper River Basin, Glennallen is a great basecamp for exploring the area. The 290 mile Copper River, the tenth longest river in the United States, winds through the region. It is best known for Copper River Salmon which is served in some of the finest restaurants in North America.



CAMPING

Caribou Hotel RV Park has 12 full hook-up sites available. Mile 187 Glenn Highway. 907-822-3302

Dry Creek State Recreation Site at mile 117.5 of the Richardson Highway. 50 campsites, picnic area, hiking trails and fishing. Toilets, water & handicap accessible.



SHOPPING

Copper Valley IGA is a full service grocery store with a butcher shop, deli, an excellent produce aisle and Espresso Café and made to order sandwiches. Mile 187 Glenn Highway. 907-822-3334

Caribou Gift Shop in the log cabin near Caribou Hotel. It has a wide range of Alaskan made gifts, from clothing to jewelry.



THINGS TO DO

Wrangell Mountain Air has been the leading provider of flight services in



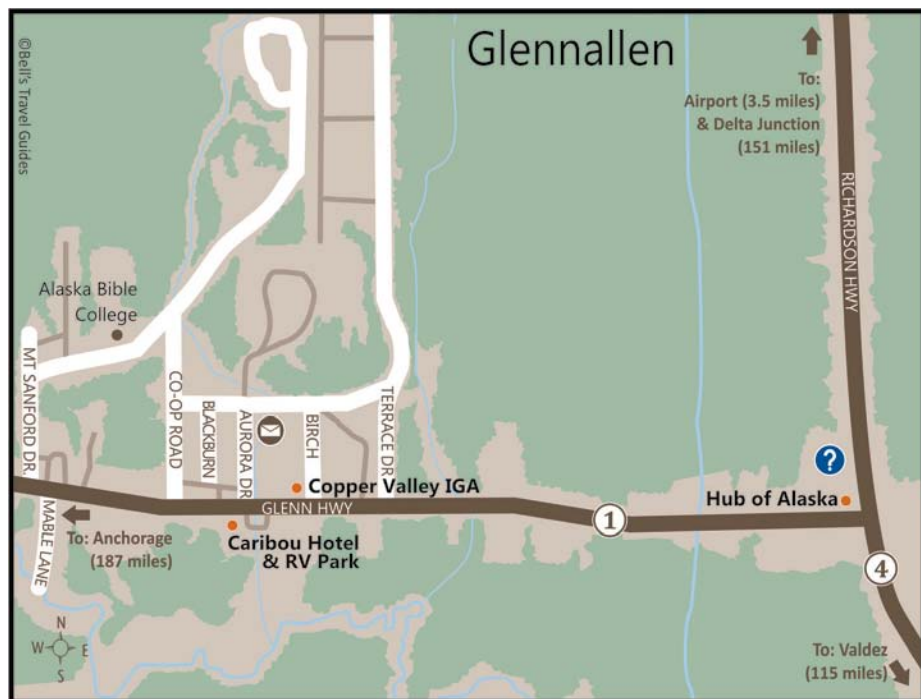
VISITOR INFO

Copper Valley Visitor Center at the junction of the Glenn and Richardson Hwys, beside the Hub of Alaska. Find information on camping, fishing and exploring the Copper Valley. 907-822-5555



ACCOMMODATION

Caribou Hotel has two bedroom suites with kitchens available, whirlpool baths, Sealy mattresses and is handicap accessible. Standard rooms have DIRECTV, 40" flat screen TV, microwave and mini-fridge. The on-site restaurant serves delicious food. Mile 187 Glenn Highway. 907-822-3302



Wrangell-St. Elias National Park since 1992. WMA offers scheduled air service and day tours to the Park from Chitina and Glennallen. This is the recommended way to reach the park as the road access via the Edgerton Highway can be very rough from Chitna to McCarthy. Reservations required. For reservations call 907-258-2350 or 800-478-1160



SERVICES

Hub of Alaska at the junction of Glenn and Richardson Highways has Tesoro gas and diesel. The Hub store carries a full line of groceries, hot sandwiches, Alaskan gifts as well as fishing tackle, hunting & fishing licenses and an ATM. 907-822-3555




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Junction of Richardson & Glenn Highways at Glennallen



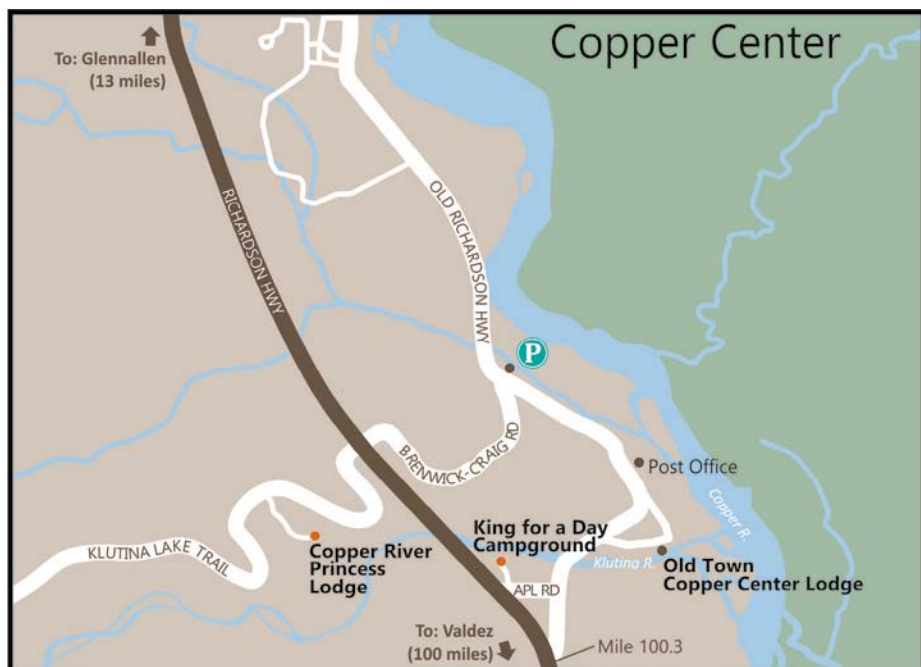
COPPER CENTER

Copper Center is found at the confluence of the Copper and Klutina Rivers. It is one of the oldest European communities in Alaska's Interior. Andrew Holman was the leader of a group of Scandinavians who founded Copper Center. In 1898, Holman established a townsite and temporary tent hotel to provide shelter for prospectors traveling to the Klondike Gold Rush over the Valdez Eagle Trail.



ACCOMMODATION

Copper River Princess Wilderness Lodge
Overlooking the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, this lodge features a true wilderness experience. River rafting, hiking, fishing and excursions into the historic Kennecott mining district. Restaurant, bar & grill, espresso bar, gift shop and tour desk. Mile 102 Richardson Highway,



1 Brenwick Craig Road. Call 907-822-4000 or 800-426-0500 for reservations or visit princesslodges.com. Open mid-May to mid-September.

Old Town Copper Center Inn & Restaurant has offered friendly service and fine dining for more than 68 years. Queen beds, flat screen TV, and Wi-fi. The rustic restaurant serves delicious homemade meals for breakfast lunch and dinner.



CAMPING

King For A Day Campground is situated on the shores of the Klutina River, home to some of the world's best red and king salmon fishing. Full hookups, dry and tent camping sites and two cabins available. Showers, laundry, firewood and freezer space can be rented for your daily catch. Fishing charters, river tours and rafting can be booked. Mile 100.5 Richardson Highway. 907-822-3092



THINGS TO DO

George Ashby Memorial Museum offers visitors a look at the varied past of the Copper River Valley. Exhibits include items from the Kennecott Copper Mine and Native cultural history.

King For A Day Charters takes you to the best fishing spots on the Klutina River. Half day and full day charters fishing for king and red salmon. Scenic river tours on a raft or Jetboat are also available for those who don't want to fish. 907-822-3092

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WRANGELL-ST. ELIAS

The Chugach, Wrangell, and St. Elias mountain ranges converge here in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, which includes 9 of the 16 highest peaks in the United States. This is the largest National Park in the U.S. and is the size of six Yellowstone. The high country is covered with snow year-round, resulting in extensive ice fields and glaciers. The Bagley Ice Field is the largest sub polar ice field in North America. Wrangell-St. Elias and the adjoining Kluane National Park in Canada form a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Wrangell-St. Elias can be reached via two roads. The Edgerton Highway from mile 82.5 of the Richardson Highway is 33 miles long and ends at Chitna. From Chitna to Kennecott & McCarthy it is 60 miles on a rough gravel road. The Nebesna road is at mile 60 of the Tok Cut-off and travels 43 miles to Nabesna, providing access to the northern portion of the park.

You may notice two spellings of Kennicott. Kennicott, with an "i" is the spelling of the glacier, river and valley, named after naturalist Robert Kennicott. However, when the town and mine were named, a clerical error was made, and they were forever spelled Kennecott, with an "e".



VISITOR INFO

Copper Center Visitor Complex is at mile 107 of the Richardson Highway. It includes a bookstore, exhibit hall, theatre, scenic overlook and hiking trails. Open mid May through September. 907-822-7250
Kennecott Visitor Center in Kennecott, 5 miles north of McCarthy. Backcountry trip planning info and the best place to learn about the Kennecott Mines National Historic Landmark. Open Memorial Day to Labor Day. 907-205-7106



ALASKA'S WILDERNESS MADE ACCESSIBLE

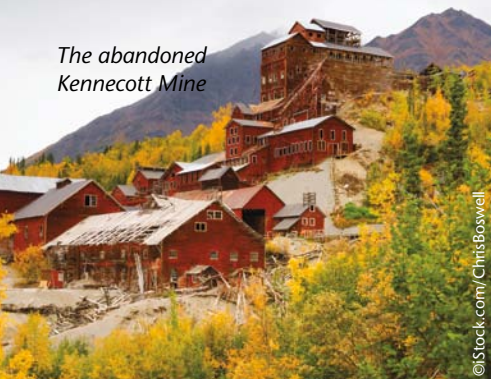
Wrangell Mountain Air provides guests with the highlight of their Alaska vacation in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

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The abandoned
Kennecott Mine



CAMPING

There are two campgrounds near the end of the McCarthy Road for tents and RV's. No hookups but water and outhouses are available. **Copper River Campground**, operated by the State of Alaska and the privately owned **Glacier View Campground**.



THINGS TO DO



ACCOMMODATION

Kennicott Glacier Lodge is located at the center of America's largest National Park at the National Historic Landmark of the Kennecott Copper Mine. The family owned Lodge features 43 comfortable guest rooms, a full service restaurant, breathtaking Alaska scenery, and access to lots of outdoor activities. Walk on the Root Glacier, learn about the historic town, or go flightseeing, alpine hiking and river rafting. 907-258-2350 or 800-582-5128

Wrangell Mountain Air is your ticket to the wonders of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Based at McCarthy near the center of the park, the company offers fly-in day trips to Kennicott National Historic Landmark with optional guided history tours or glacier hiking and world class flightseeing in what has been described as the Himalayas of North America. They specialize in hiking, backpacking and river trip drop offs, which are a great way to experience the backcountry. Three scheduled flights daily from Chitina to McCarthy. Reservations required. 907-554-4411 or 800-478-1160

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



VALDEZ

MOTHER NATURE'S PLAYGROUND

Valdez is a year-round playground that should be on every visitor's list of must do's. It has a spectacular mix of tidewater glaciers, rain forests and mountains that offer visitors incredible recreational opportunities throughout the year. After you see the breathtaking mountain scenery, experience wildlife and glacier viewing in Prince William Sound, you will understand that even Mother Nature has her favorites. Valdez is located on the north shore of a deepwater fjord off Prince William Sound. It is 120 air miles east of Anchorage or 305 miles by road via the Richardson and Glenn Highways.

The March 1964 Good Friday earthquake was the second most powerful earthquake ever recorded (9.2 magnitude) and the resulting tsunami destroyed the original city of Valdez, killing 30 people. The City was rebuilt in its current, more protected, location about 4 miles from the original site.

Valdez was named in 1790 by Senor Fidalgo for the celebrated Spanish naval officer Antonio Valdez y Basan. In 1898 it became a debarkation point for prospectors seeking an alternate route to Dawson City and the Klondike gold fields. Gold was discovered in the area and Valdez was incorporated as a city in 1901.

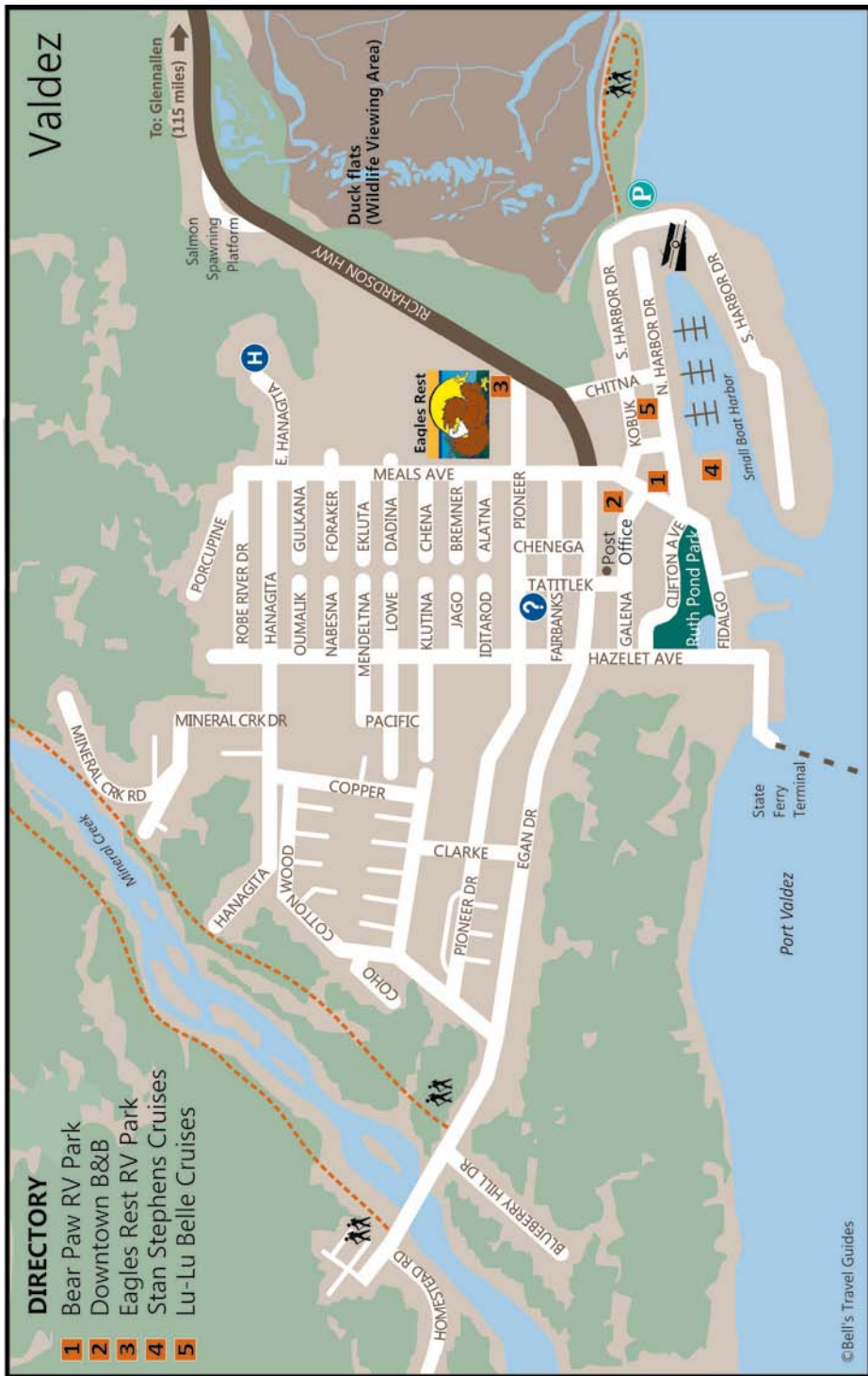
Valdez is the southern terminus of the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline. Construction of the pipeline terminal and other cargo transportation facilities brought rapid growth to the region in the 1970s.

Valdez is a travelers dream with excellent campgrounds, hotels and numerous restaurants. It has so many incredible tours and attractions that is impossible to choose a favorite. However, any tour that gets you up close to the nearby glaciers in Prince William Sound is bound to be the highlight of any Alaska vacation.



VISITOR INFO

Valdez Convention & Visitor Bureau A great place to find local information. Open year round. 309 Fairbanks Drive. 907-835-2984





*Cruise through beautiful
Prince William Sound*



ACCOMMODATION

Downtown B&B Inn Cozy, clean rooms, private bathrooms, Wi-fi, and great continental breakfasts during the summer. Perfect for visitors interested in a home base while fishing, sightseeing or taking a glacier tour to Prince William Sound. 113 Galena Drive. 1-800-478-2791, 907-835-2791

Totem Hotel & Suites has standard rooms, business class suites with full kitchens and 10 cabins. One block from the boat harbor, next to the Valdez welcome arch. 144 East Egan Drive. 888-808-4431

Best Western Valdez Harbour Inn on the picturesque Valdez waterfront. Spacious modern hotel rooms offer cable TV and free Wi-fi. On-site restaurant and lounge. 100 Harbor Dr. 907-835-3434

Downtown B&B Inn



Motel
Accommodations



Deluxe Continental
Breakfast



Families Welcome

Private & Shared Baths Free WiFi Reasonable Rates
Close to Small Boat Harbor, Ferry Terminal & Shopping
Open Year Round

www.valdezdowntowninn.com

113 Galena Dr., Valdez 800-478-2791 907-835-2791



CAMPING



DINING

Bear Paw RV Park Full hookups, separate tenting area, clean, hot unmetered showers, cable TV, free Wi-fi, Laundromat and dump station. Centrally located across from the small boat harbor and less than a block to most shops and tours. An adult only RV park on the waterfront is also available. 101 N. Harbor Drive. 907-835-2530

Eagle's Rest RV Park A Good Sam RV Park with full hookups (20 to 50 amp), 70 foot pull throughs, separate tent camping area, cabin rentals, clean hot showers, laundromat and dump station. The tour desk has tickets for local attractions. Located off the Richardson Highway on the right, as you enter Valdez. 907-835-2373 or 800-553-7275

Allison Point Campground has 49 RV and tent camping sites at this popular fishing area across the bay. Toilets, no electric or sewer. Located near the end of Dayville Rd.


Mike's Palace has long been a Valdez favorite, featuring delicious seafood, burgers and their famous pizzas. All served in a relaxing and casual atmosphere. Dine in or take out. 210 North Harbor Dr. 907-835-2365

Old Town Diner next to Eagle's Rest RV Park serves excellent burgers and casual food. Great pricing and service. 139 E. Pioneer Drive. 907-461-835

Fu Kung Chinese Restaurant serves outstanding Chinese food, sushi and Thai dishes. Free delivery available. 207 Kobuk Drive. 907-835-5255

The Stampmill specializes in delicious stone baked pizza, sandwiches and salads. They only use the finest ingredients. 328 Egan Drive. 907-835-1913

The Fat Mermaid is a delicious casual restaurant on the Valdez harbor. Excellent food and views. 143 N. Harbor Dr.



BEAR PAW CAMPER PARK
ON THE SMALL BOAT HARBOR

- Full Hookups
- Clean, Hot, Unmetered Showers
- Laundromat
- Free WiFi Available
- Cable TV
- Separate Adult RV & Tent Areas

Relax and let us arrange your Stan Stephens Glacier Cruise, Rafting, or Flightseeing Tours.

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Free booking service for all the BEST attractions in Valdez.

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907-835-2373 • 800-553-7275

First RV Park on your right as you enter Valdez





THINGS TO DO

Lu-Lu Belle/Glacier Wildlife Cruises and Captain Fred Rodolf have been showing visitors the wildlife of Prince William Sound and the Columbia Glacier since 1979. Experience spectacular calving events as the ice falls into Columbia Bay, just 1/4 mile from the boat. There is an excellent chance of a close encounter with the wildlife of Prince William Sound on this amazing tour. 907-835-5141 or 800-411-0090

Stan Stephens Glacier & Wildlife Cruises provides visitors with a chance to experience it all. Awe-inspiring glaciers, exciting wildlife, and fascinating history all in the calm waters of Prince William Sound. They operate the *Glacier Spirit* to the Columbia Glacier and the *Valdez Spirit* to the Mearns Glacier. Both vessels were custom built to offer guests comfort in heated cabins with large viewing windows.



Stan Stephens passengers take in dramatic glacier views

The Stephens family has been sharing the fjords and passageways of Prince William Sound with guests for over 40 years and offer one of the best tours of its kind in Alaska. 907-835-4731 or 866-867-1297

VSHelicopters Glacier Tours See Alaska from a different perspective. Glacier landings and flightseeing tours of Prince William Sound and the Chugach Mountains. 907-831-0643

Valdez Fish Derbies holds several derbies and awards thousands of dollars in cash and prizes. The Halibut Derby runs mid May to early September and features 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for the largest halibut. The Silver Salmon Derby runs the end of July to early September with daily 1st and 2nd place prizes as well as three cash prizes for biggest fish. A Kids Pink Salmon Derby is held in July and the Valdez Women's Silver Salmon Derby in August. For more information visit their website.

VALDEZFISHDERBIES.COM

Valdez FISH DERBIES

- HALIBUT** - May 22 - Sept 5
- SILVER SALMON** - July 24 - Sept 5
- KID'S PINK SALMON** - July 24
- WOMEN'S SILVER SALMON** - Aug 14

1st place winner in Valdez Kids Pink Salmon Derby

\$10 ticket could WIN \$10K!

Captain Fred shares his knowledge and enthusiasm aboard the "Limousine of Prince William Sound" on the most entertaining glacier/wildlife cruise in Alaska...

...it's simply the BEST!

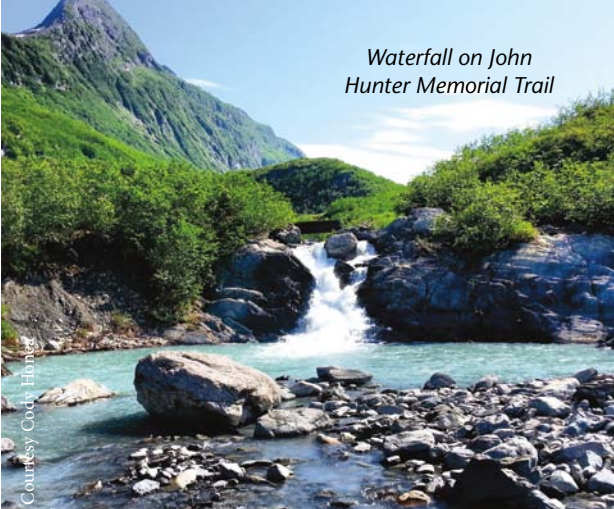


Lu-Lu Belle
Glacier Wildlife Cruises

For more information:
P.O. Box 1832
Valdez, AK 99686
907-835-5141

www.lulubelletours.com Reservations 1-800-411-0090

*Waterfall on John
Hunter Memorial Trail*



Courtesy Cody Hunter

*Frieda Wiley poses
with her record halibut*



Courtesy Valdez Fish Derbies

Valdez Museum brings the stories of the Valdez community's history to life. Visit them at their two locations: 217 Egan Drive and on the waterfront at 436 S. Hazelet. **Solomon Gulch Salmon Hatchery** has been in operation since 1982. The hatchery is run by the Valdez Fisheries Development Association, which was organized for the purpose of raising more salmon for local fishermen after natural salmon runs were adversely affected by very cold winters in the early 1970s. The current hatchery program aims for an annual return of 10 million pink salmon and 100,000 coho salmon. Located outside of Valdez on Dayville Road, the hatchery is open daily during the summer for unguided walking tours. This is also an outstanding place for wildlife viewing as the spawning salmon attract birds, sea lions, bears and more. If bears are spotted stay in your vehicle and use common sense. Never approach bears for any reason and always be aware of your surroundings. 1567 Dayville Road. **Allison Point** on Dayville Road is probably the most popular fishing spot in all of Valdez. Near the Solomon Gulch Salmon Hatchery, anglers can fish from the shore of Allison Point and are sure to catch pink salmon during the July & August return of millions of salmon. If you're going to be fishing in Valdez this summer, make sure you have a Valdez Fish Derby ticket, so your record setting catch isn't left out of the prizes.



HIKING

Mineral Creek Valley is a scenic drive and hike. Follow the gravel road at the end of Mineral Creek Drive for 5.5 miles to reach the trailhead. Halfway up the road splits. The right fork leads to the creek where a small tram was used to service the McIntosh Roadhouse (cira 1912). The left fork continues up the valley to a gate and parking area. From there a trail leads 0.8 miles to the W.L. Smith Stamp Mill, built in 1913 and used in conjunction with the Mountain King Mine.

John Hunter Memorial Trail (Formerly Solomon Gulch Trail) climbs through a beautiful forested area and then briefly joins with the Pipeline Service Road before it continues up Solomon Gulch. In 1915 an aerial tram ran 5.2 miles up Solomon Gulch, from the beach to the Midas Mine. At the end of the trail you'll see the Hydro Dam that provides power for the Valdez area. To reach the trailhead, take Dayville Road to the first parking area at Allison Point. The 3.8 miles will take between 2 and 2 1/2 hours.

The Dock Point Trail is a loop trail near the small boat harbor. Great views of the nearby grass and wildflower meadow from the boardwalk. The overlooks give unobstructed views across Valdez Bay. Parking is available on Kobuk Drive across from the boat launch ramp.

✓ Bucket List

- ☐ Explore Kenai Fjords National Park
- ☐ Visit the Alaska SeaLife Center
- ☐ Ride the Alyeska Tram
- ☐ Go White Water Rafting



*Rafters take on Six Mile Creek rapids
With Chugach Outdoor Center*

The Kenai Peninsula is over 25,000 square miles of scenic parklands, forests, volcanoes and glaciers. It has long been known for its exceptional scenery, fishing, and wilderness lakes and rivers.

Twisting and turning along the shores of Turnagain Arm, the 127 mile Seward Highway is a beautiful drive and has been designated a National Forest Scenic Byway. It travels past saltwater bays, ice-blue glaciers, and alpine valleys. Turnagain Arm sees massive 37-foot tides, second only to Nova Scotia's Bay of Fundy.

The Alaska Railroad stretches from Anchorage to Seward, paralleling the highway for much of the way. There is a branch line to Whittier, a port city for the Alaska Marine Highway Ferry System and many of the cruise ships that serve Alaska.

The Portage/Whittier Highway is found at mile 79 of the Seward Highway. It is 11.5 miles from this junction to Whittier

and along the way you will find two excellent Forest Service campgrounds. **Black Bear Campground** is 3 miles from the junction and has 12 sites, water pump, picnic tables and vault toilets and is not recommended for large RV's.

Williwaw Campground is 4 miles from the junction and has 60 sites (some pull-throughs), water, picnic tables and restroom facilities.

Begich Boggs Visitor Center and Portage Glacier is at mile 5. The town of Whittier is a further 6 miles and is accessed by the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel. At 2.5 miles long it is the 2nd longest highway tunnel in North America. This is a toll tunnel, but well worth the expense to access beautiful Prince William Sound and the town of Whittier. Tolls are \$13 return for RV's up to 28 ft. Access is every 30 minutes from 5:30am to 11pm during the summer. For more detailed information visit: www.dot.alaska.gov/creg/whittiertunnel



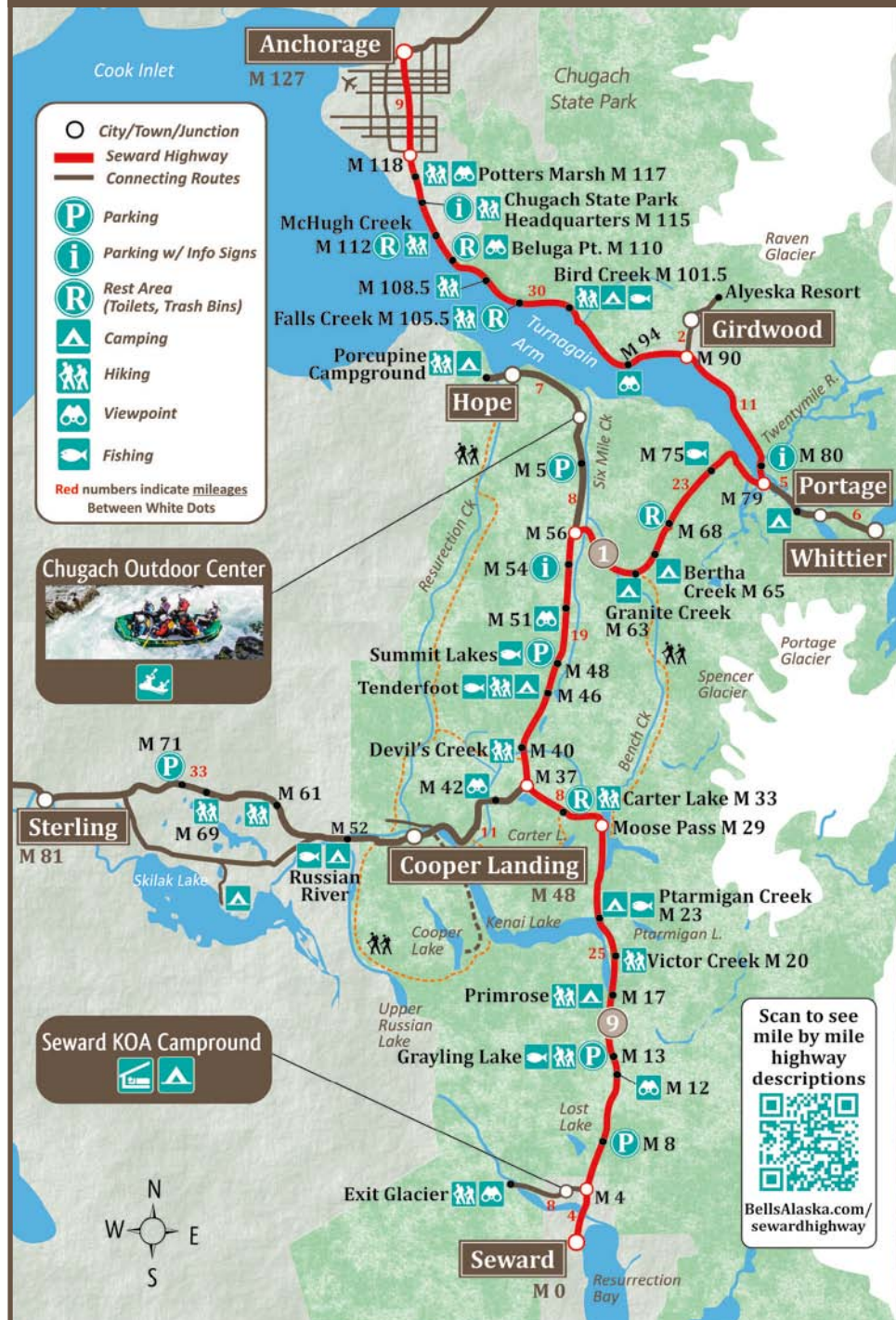
Open Year Round

*Check website for hours
and purchase tickets NOW!*

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Downtown Seward, Alaska • 1-888-378-2525
www.alaskasealife.org

SEWARD HIGHWAY - ANCHORAGE TO SEWARD





GIRDWOOD

Girdwood is a small, mountain community located 40 miles south of Anchorage along scenic Turnagain Arm. As with many towns in Alaska, Girdwood began as a gold mining town but has evolved into Alaska's only year-round resort community. It is in the northernmost rainforest in the world and is surrounded by mountains and seven incredible glaciers.

The Good Friday earthquake of 1964, dropped the coastal edges along Turnagain Arm 8 to 10 feet, putting most of the original town below water. Consequently, the town site of Girdwood was moved 2.5 miles up the valley to its present location.

The town has much to offer, including gift shops, world class restaurants, a variety of B&B's, the Alyeska Resort and aerial tram which accesses the high alpine year-round. The side trip to Girdwood is highly recommended for visitors traveling the Seward Highway.



DINING

Seven Glaciers is Alyeska Resort's luxury mountaintop restaurant. Chefs carefully craft the menus with an emphasis on locally available produce, seafood and game. Reservations are recommended and include complimentary Alyeska Tram tickets.

The Double Musky Inn is world famous, having served Heads of State, movie stars and politicians alongside its regular local crowd. It has been called the "Last great American roadhouse" and "The best steak house in America" by guests and food critics. Mile .3 Crow Creek Rd. 907-783-2822



THINGS TO DO

The Alyeska Tram at Alyeska Resort is a short ride to a viewing deck at 2300 ft. With breathtaking panoramic views of mountains, hanging glaciers and an abundance of wildlife, this is a great opportunity to see Alaska from the top.

Crow Creek Trail is a 21 mile trail that can be difficult as there are several water crossings. If you're not up for hiking the whole trail, the four-mile hike to Crow Pass is a great alpine hike with magnificent views. The trailhead is found at the end of Crow Creek Road.



ACCOMMODATION

Alyeska Resort is the perfect base camp for your Alaskan adventures. It is Alaska's premier year-round destination, featuring the luxurious Hotel Alyeska. Take a scenic Aerial Tram ride, indulge in a hot stone massage, go for a wilderness hike or find adventure in the Alyeska Bike Park.

PORTAGE RECREATION AREA

Portage Glacier Recreation Area is accessed via a 5 mile paved road at mile 79 of the Seward Highway. The road ends at a large parking lot next to Portage Lake with excellent views of the floating icebergs.

The first stop at Portage Glacier should be the Begich-Boggs Visitor Center, which contains a number of exhibits as well as their excellent film, "Retreat and Renewal: Stories from Alaska's Chugach National Forest." The Glacier has receded over three miles in the past century and is no longer visible from the Visitor Center, which was built in 1986. It is open daily in summer 9am to 6pm. 907-783-2326



Hiking Portage Pass

The Spencer Glacier Whistle Stop and Grandview Valley are only accessible via the Glacier Discovery Train, which makes daily summer stops at Portage before taking guests off the beaten path and away from the crowds. At the Spencer Glacier Whistle Stop, choose from a wide variety of world-class recreational opportunities. These may include joining a Guide/Interpreter at the Info Kiosk for a guided hike to Spencer Glacier Lake. The 2.6 mile round-trip trail is easily accessible, affording incredible views of picturesque Spencer Glacier. For the more adventurous types, there is a self-guided hike to the face of the glacier (6.2 miles round trip). In addition to the trail, the site contains waiting shelters with historical themes, interpretive kiosks, a campsite, and restroom facilities.

Join a guided raft trip to float among the icebergs at Spencer Lake and down the gentle Placer River or explore the lake in a modern version of an Alaska Native canoe. You'll paddle these sleek and elegant craft to the face of Spencer Glacier and, conditions permitting, you may stop on shore for a short hike up to the glacier. Deli-style lunch and rain gear are provided.

Another popular trip is to stay on the Glacier Discovery Train to the Grandview Valley and the historic "loop district" where you'll be surrounded by alpine meadows, wildlife and wildflowers.

The Alaska Railroad and Chugach National Forest have worked together to create the Chugach Whistle Stop Project. It will eventually include five whistle stop stations, over 30 miles of new trails, cabins and campsites in the rugged Kenai Mountains. Visit alaskarailroad.com or call 800-544-0552 for booking and info.

Byron Glacier Trail The trailhead is in the parking lot about halfway between the Visitors Center and the boat dock. The trail is an easy hike and will get you up close to the glacier with great views of the surrounding mountains.



THINGS TO DO

Portage Glacier Cruises sets sail to Alaska's most visited attraction! Board Gray Line of Alaska's exclusive day boat and cruise to within 300 yards of the glacier from the comfort of the mv Ptarmigan! Nature willing, you will witness the "calving" of the ice from the face of Portage Glacier. It is a one hour cruise and operates 5 times a day between 10:30am and 4:30pm, mid-May to mid-September. This is a highly recommended excursion and consistently rates high on TripAdvisor and other rating sites. (See ad in Anchorage pg 32)

The Alaska Railroad and the U.S. Forest Service formed a partnership to provide a unique way to explore remote areas of the Chugach National Forest:



WHITTIER EXPERIENCE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

Surrounded by three magnificent glaciers, Whittier is an adventure lovers paradise. Each summer the 220 residents of this bustling community welcome thousands of visitors arriving by road, cruise ships and ferries.

In 1941 the U.S. Army built a railroad tunnel to transport fuel and other supplies from Whittier to Anchorage. On November 20, 1942, the “holing through” ceremonies were held and the first train passed through the tunnels on March 10, 1943. The Portage tunnel is 0.9 miles long and Whittier tunnel is 2.5 miles.

Change came in 2000, when for the first time ever residents were able to reach Whittier by road. The State of Alaska transformed the existing railroad tunnel into a one-lane, combination highway and railway tunnel. This created the longest combined

rail and highway tunnel in North America. The toll for the Whittier tunnel is \$13 for cars, motorcycles and RV’s less than 28 ft.



VISITOR INFO

Whittier Chamber of Commerce Uncover the great adventures of Prince William Sound in Whittier. Hiking, kayaking, glacier cruising, wildlife watching, fishing, cabin cruising and sitting enjoying the awe inspiring views of Prince William Sound.



ACCOMMODATION

The Inn at Whittier is a full service hotel with 25 rooms and two townhouse suites. This beautifully designed hotel sits overlooking the Whittier Harbor. TV, free Wi-fi, fridge and microwave. 907-472-3200

THE GATEWAY TO PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND

WHITTIER

ALASKA

WhittierAlaskaChamber.org



July 3 | Fireworks at midnight

July 4 | Celebration FREE!

Hiking, Glaciers, Fishing, Cruises,
Kayaking, Museum, Shops, Dining



CAMPING

Whittier Parking and Camping offers secure parking in the center of town and a separate campground with 50 unserviced sites, some adjacent to Whittier Creek. No reservations. Open mid-May to October.



THINGS TO DO

Lazy Otter Charters is family owned and operated since 1994 and will take you on a customized Prince William Sound adventure. Small boat glacier and wildlife cruises offering exclusive departures for 2 to 27 people, which includes a beach landing and shore walk. Also offering guided kayaking and water taxi services to remote areas of the Sound.

Visit their whimsical and charming café on the harbor serving espresso, baked goods, and soft serve ice cream. Try the world famous salmon spread. 907-694-6887 or 907-529-0235

Glacier Jetski Adventures is glacier viewing for the adventurous. An experienced guide takes guests on SEADOO watercraft through Blackstone Bay. Explore the waters, marine life and glaciers with the freedom of your own jetski. Drysuits & helmets are provided. Call for reservations. 907-830-4001

The Alaska Railroad's Glacier Discovery Train departs Anchorage at 10am and arrives in Whittier at 12:20pm, in time for a glacier & wildlife day cruise in Prince William Sound before returning to Anchorage the same day.

Prince William Sound Museum is a tribute to the men and women who pioneered and served in the Territory of Alaska. There are 32 exhibits that explore Whittier's history as a military port and a rail terminal. This small but fascinating museum is located in the historic Anchor Inn. Open daily, \$5 donation for admission.

**BEST OF PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
FROM WHITTIER!**



**LAZY
OTTER**

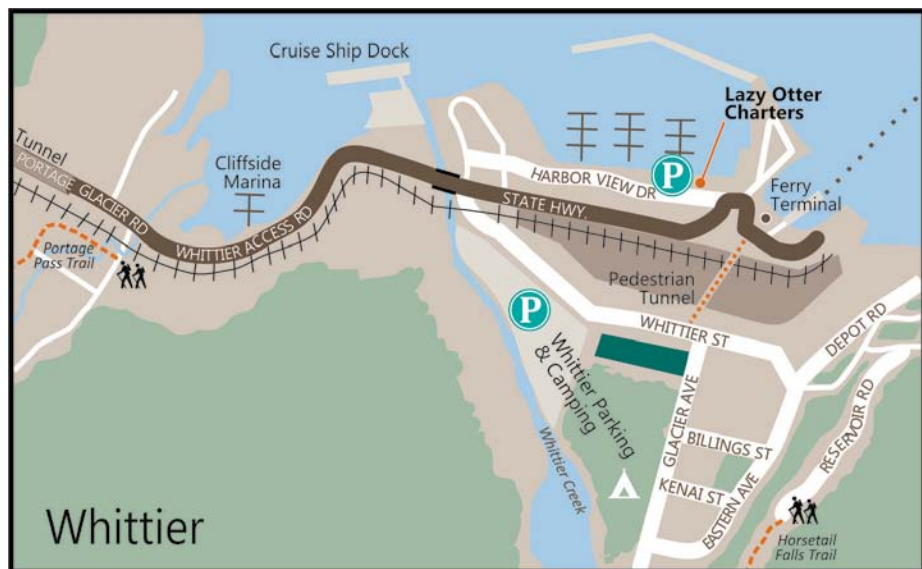
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HOPE

Hope is reached by a scenic 16-mile side road from mile 56 of the Seward Highway. It was one of Alaska's first gold rush towns. In 1889, before gold was found in either Dawson City or Nome, a man named King discovered gold in Resurrection Creek and prospectors rushed to stake their claims. Miners discovered gold nearby in Sixmile Creek and the new tent community swelled to 3,000 people long before Anchorage existed.

In 1889, a group of gold miners were searching for a name to call their fast growing community. It was agreed that the town would be named for the next person to step off one of the boats shuttling newcomers to the area. Along came young Percy Hope and an Alaskan town was born. Some of the buildings still standing in Hope were built during the gold rush.

SCENIC GOLD RUSH TOWN

Take the time to wander around the charming historic district and you will find a hundred year old bar, which is still open for business, a museum chronicling the life of early settlers, an art gallery, and restaurants. The people of Hope are happy to welcome you to their unhurried community and way of life.

Hope has plenty of activities to please the outdoor enthusiast including hiking, camping and whitewater rafting.



CAMPING

Porcupine Campground has dry camping for RV's and tents as well as water, toilets and firewood. Excellent hiking and mountain biking on Gull Rock Trail along the shore of Turnagain Arm. Located at the end of the Hope Road, just past town.



THINGS TO DO

Chugach Outdoor Center, on Sixmile Creek near Hope, offers one of the best whitewater trips in Alaska. Dropping over 50 feet per mile, the Sixmile flows out of the Chugach Mountains and cuts through three separate canyons. Towering walls with cascading waterfalls and awesome whitewater make this a river runner's dream. It is a highly technical river and requires physically fit participants. Chugach offers other less demanding trips so be sure to check them out at mile 7.5 on the Hope Road. 907-277-7238



Courtesy Seward Chamber of Commerce

SEWARD

GATEWAY TO KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK

Seward is a charming coastal town 127 miles south of Anchorage. It is one of Alaska's oldest and most scenic communities. Abrupt mountain slopes cloaked in shaggy summer greens and snow form an impressive backdrop for this progressive city of 2,700 people. Tourism, shipping and fishing are the mainstays of Seward's vibrant economy.

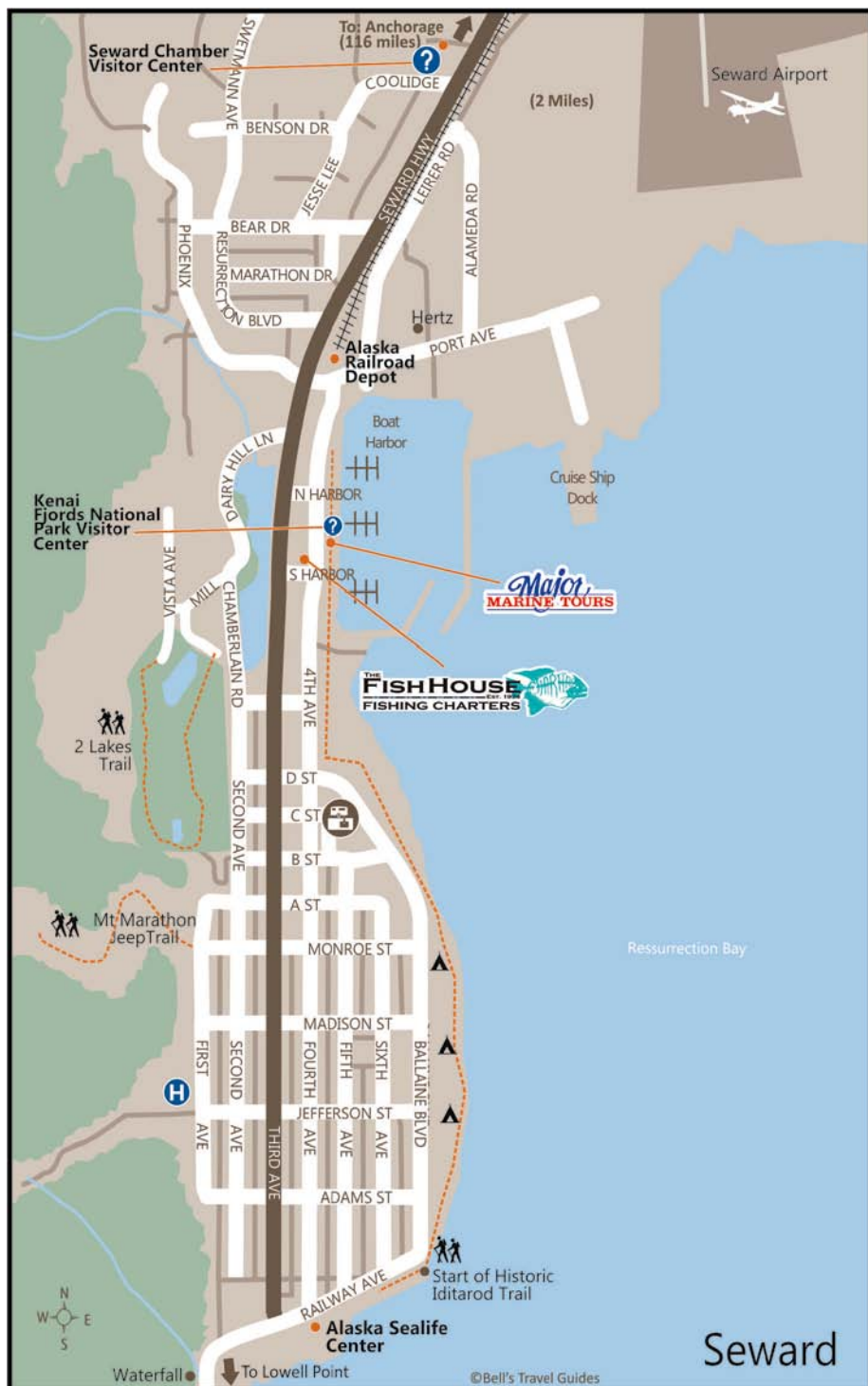
Known as the "Gateway to Kenai Fjords National Park," Seward is home to a number of world-class boat tours that explore the stunning scenery and abundant wildlife of the National Park. The Kenai Fjords National Park is one of the most visited areas in all of Alaska because of its incredible natural wonders and the popularity of Seward as a cruise ship destination. As the first or last port of call for many cruise passengers, it's easy to add a day or two of activities in this beautiful town.

Seward is at the head of Resurrection Bay, named by explorer Alexander Baranof, in the 18th century, when he took shelter in the bay over Easter. This is also one of the northernmost ice free ports in North America making it an important connection between sea and rail.

Resurrection Bay's rugged scenery and variety of wildlife can be enjoyed by water taxis, rented kayaks or taking a guided, all-inclusive, boat tour.

Nearby Exit Glacier is one of the most visited glaciers in the State and is the only part of the Kenai Fjords National Park that is accessible by road. The area around the glacier is great for a hike.

Seward is most famous for two summertime events. First is the famous 4th of July Mt. Marathon Race, one of the oldest mountain races in North America. The total length of the race is three miles, with an elevation gain of 3,000 feet.



Harding Icefield
Trail



Holgate Glacier



Photos Courtesy Seward Chamber of Commerce



*Kayaking the calm waters
of Resurrection Bay*

In 2019 the winner took 43 min. 39 seconds to run to the top and back down. The second event that draws many visitors to Seward is the Silver Salmon Derby in August. Huge cash prizes attract anglers from across Alaska. If you're going fishing in Seward, make sure you have a Derby entry.

Excellent accommodations, restaurants, and camping are available in Seward, so it's no surprise Seward has been voted All American City in 1963, 1965 and 2005.



VISITOR INFO

Seward Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center is open daily in the summer at mile 2 of the Seward Highway. 907-224-8051



ACCOMMODATION

Seward Harbor 360 Hotel on the water-front offers guests stunning views of Resurrection Bay and the surrounding mountains. Wi-fi, laundry & free breakfast. 1412 4th Ave. 888-514-8687

Seward Windsong Lodge, located just outside the city of Seward on Exit Glacier Rd. The Lodge offers 216 beautiful rooms and 18 cabins, each nestled throughout the property. End your day at Resurrection Roadhouse Restaurant, for an amazing dining experience. Call 800-808-8068 to book your stay today.

Exit Glacier Seward, AK

- Full Hookups
- Store & Gifts
- WiFi
- Showers
- Laundry
- Dog Park
- Playground
- Espresso Bar

31702 Herman Leirer Rd • 907-224-4887
koa.com/campgrounds/seward

The KOA logo, featuring a stylized red 'X' with a black dot in the center, above the letters 'KOA' in a bold, black font.A photograph of the KOA campground building, a small wooden structure with a gabled roof and a sign that says 'KOA'.



Courtesy Seward Chamber of Commerce

calving glaciers along five unique routes. Plus, there's the opportunity to stop at Fox Island. Both morning and evening departures are offered. Book online and save! 888-478-3346

Major Marine Tours takes you to some of the most spectacular places in Kenai Fjords National Park and Resurrection Bay. With seven full-day and half-day wildlife and glacier cruise options, they have the cruise for you! Visit actively calving tidewater glaciers and view abundant wildlife such as whales, otters, and puffins. Major Marine Tours is a locally-owned and operated company in Seward, Alaska. Call ahead to make reservations as there is limited capacity in 2021. 907-224-8030.



CAMPING

Seward KOA Campground has spacious pull through sites, water, electric (50 amps) and sewer at sites. Big rig friendly sites, deluxe tent sites, and camping cabins. Conveniently located 5 minutes from downtown Seward and only 5 minutes to Exit Glacier. Free Wi-fi, dog park and tour shuttle. Their on-site free concierge desk can book any tours in the Seward area for you. Located one mile off the main highway, next to Resurrection River, 31702 Herman Leirer Road (Known locally as Exit Glacier Rd). 800-562-9105, 907-224-4887

City Campgrounds There are 500 water-front spaces with 99 electric hookups. Water, toilets and a public dump station are available. Arrive early in the day as the spaces are first come, first served.



THINGS TO DO

Kenai Fjords Tours has been connecting guests with the pure wilderness of Kenai Fjords National Park since 1974. Tours trace the paths of marine wildlife and

BIG SIGHTS. BIG ADVENTURES!

KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK CRUISES



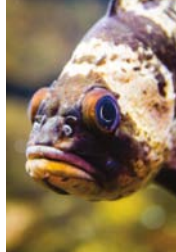
DAILY DEPARTURES FROM SEWARD
CRUISES NARRATED BY A NATIONAL PARK RANGER
CRUISE & HOTEL PACKAGES AT HARBOR 360 HOTEL
LOCALLY OWNED

Major
MARINE TOURS
THE CRUISE ALASKANS CHOOSE

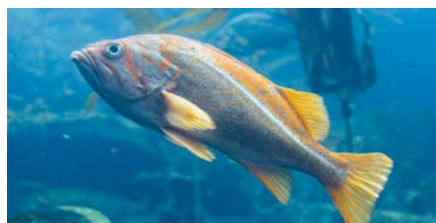
» MAJORMARINE.COM | 907.274.7300

Exit Glacier is part of the Harding Icefield. This easily accessible glacier is only 15 minutes from downtown. Learn about the glaciers retreat and the return of vegetation to the valley floor at the Nature Center. The hike from the Nature Center to the glacier is around 15-20 minutes of mostly flat trails. Visitors can head off on their own, or join one of the daily Ranger lead hikes. The Lower Trail takes you closest to the ice of Exit Glacier, while the Upper Trail is a challenging trek up 3,500 ft. that offers incredible views overlooking the glacier. If you want to hike "on" the glacier, you will need to hire a private tour company with the experience and safety equipment needed. Take Herman Leirer Road (often called Exit Glacier Rd.), at mile 3 of the Seward Highway, for 8.4 miles.

The Fish House is your one stop shop in Seward for; halibut & silver salmon fishing charters, fishing tackle, outdoor clothing, camping supplies, RV supplies, fishing & hunting licenses. ATM on the premises. 1303 4th Avenue. 907-224-3674



Alaska SeaLife Center
Aquarium



Stoney Creek Canopy Adventures makes it easy to journey into the exquisite canopy of the Northern Pacific coastal temperate rainforest. Explore the lush ecosystem nestled within the glacial valleys by zip-ping over mossy forest floors. Connect to your wild side on suspension bridges within the old growth forest and take in views of the Kenai Mountains on aerial platforms. Every aspect of this course was carefully constructed for safety & excitement while minimizing their ecological footprint. 907-224-3662

The Alaska SeaLife Center is the only public aquarium in Alaska that is a combined marine research, education, and wildlife response facility. Explore an under-sea kelp forest, meet the birds in the aviary, and enjoy the antics of sea lions and seals in the Rocky Coast exhibit. Don't miss our NEW Rocky Coast Discovery Pool Exhibit! This new exhibit features six main pools and three small feature tanks for guests to enjoy an up-close and hands-on-learning experience. Then head to the Nose2Nose






Full Day & Half Day Salmon Trips

Full Day Halibut Trips

Combination Trips

907-224-3674

Seward, AK 99664

Call Toll Free

1-800-257-7760

www.TheFishHouse.net



Courtesy Seward Chamber of Commerce



underwater viewing exhibits for more interactive educational fun. Marvel at the grace, speed, and playful personalities of seals and sea lions and a fascinating and diverse array of fish and deep diving sea birds. Check the daily schedule at www.alaskasealife.org for tours, encounters and to purchase your admission tickets. Open year-round and located at 301 Railway Avenue. Reservations recommended for general admission due to limited capacity. Call for more information 88-378-2525. (See ad pg 51)



DINING

Rays Waterfront specializes in serving fresh seafood including jumbo king crab, salmon, Alaskan halibut and scallops. Located on the Small Boat Harbor. 907-224-5606
Exit Glacier Salmon Bake Restaurant. This authentic Alaskan restaurant and pub is one of Seward's best kept secrets. Specializing in fresh Alaskan salmon, red snapper, steaks and burger. They also

serve a great selection of wine and Alaskan microbrews. Find them on Herman Leirer Road, on the way to Exit Glacier.

Seward Brewing Company Stop in and sample great beer and tasty food at Seward's only Microbrewery. 139 4th Avenue. 907-422-0337



TRANSPORTATION

The Alaska Railroad's Coastal Classic Train provides daily round-trip service from Anchorage to Seward. Along the way, the train enjoys dramatic coastal views of Turnagain Arm, traverses the Placer River Valley and winds alongside three major glaciers. Departing early from Anchorage, the train arrives in Seward just after 11 am, allowing for a full day of exploring Seward or the nearby Kenai Fjords National Park. The return journey to Anchorage leaves at 6pm. This is the perfect way to connect to Anchorage for cruises departing or terminating in Seward. Visit alaskarailroad.com 800-544-0552



Bucket List

- ☐ Fish for Salmon on the Kenai River
- ☐ Camp in Pristine Wilderness
- ☐ Reel in a Giant Halibut in Homer



The Sterling highway begins at mile 37 of the Seward Highway (Seward is still considered Mile 0) and travels 142 miles to Homer at the southwest end of the Kenai Peninsula. It provides access to the towns of Cooper Landing, Sterling, Soldotna, Kenai, Clam Gulch, Ninilchik and Anchor Point. First opened in 1951, the Sterling Highway was one of many roads in Alaska surveyed by Hawley Sterling. Some of the best camping, birding, hiking and fishing anywhere in the world can be found on the Kenai Peninsula. So, it's not surprising that the world record king salmon (caught with a rod & reel) was from the Kenai River.

After taking you through the Chugach National Forest and the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge, the Sterling Highway runs parallel to Cook Inlet and offers breathtaking views. Across the water, three active volcanoes are visible; Mt. Iliamna, Mt. Redoubt, and Mt. Augustine. Mt. Augustine last erupted in 2006 creating spectacular ash plumes that reached eight miles high.

With over 15,000 square miles of extraordinary adventure and excitement to choose from, people from all over the world come to what is known as "Alaska's Playground."

Campgrounds are plentiful in the Kenai and when the fish are running, competition for campsites and fishing space can be even more challenging than reeling in a prize salmon. The Russian River and Kenai confluence is especially busy when the red salmon are running. The Kenai is also famous for clamming. However, due to a devastating storm that washed out the clam beds there has been a total ban for harvesting clams on Cook Inlet's east side beaches since 2015 and the ban continues for the 7th straight year in 2021.

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge's main Visitor Center is in Soldotna at 1 Ski Hill Road, but there is a visitor contact station at mile 60 of the Sterling Highway.



HIKING

Crescent Creek and Carter Lake Trail is an 18 mile trail joining the Seward and Sterling Highways. It is great for a multi-day trip although the trail from Crescent to Carter is unmarked and difficult. Trailheads are at mile 45 on the Sterling Highway and mile 33 on the Seward Highway. Going up and back to either lake is a great hike. It is an 8 mile return trip to Carter Lake from the Seward Hwy and 13 miles round trip to Crescent Creek from the Sterling Hwy.

STERLING HIGHWAY – SEWARD HIGHWAY JUNCTION TO HOMER





*Anglers dot the banks
of the Kenai River*

COOPER LANDING

Cooper Landing is nestled in the majestic Kenai Mountains beside the beautiful turquoise waters of Kenai Lake, the Upper Kenai and Russian Rivers. This area has been inhabited as far back as 2000 BC when the Kachemak Riverine tribe established fish camps along the rivers. The Dena'ina Athabaskan Indians arrived in approximately 1000 AD and dominated the area until just over a century ago.

Cooper Landing is surrounded by the Chugach National Forest and the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. The area's convergence of scenic mountains, rivers, well-maintained hiking trails, spectacular sport fishing and plentiful wildlife make it a favorite outdoor recreation destination for Alaskans and visitors looking for an adventure.

The town was originally called Coopers Landing, named after Joseph Cooper who arrived in 1884 to search for gold on the Russian River and nearby creeks.

The Kenai River served as the principal means of transportation in the area. A road from Seward to Anchorage was built in 1938 but before that, only the railroad connected the towns. It was not until 1950 that the Sterling Highway was completed and it connected the rest of the Kenai Peninsula to Anchorage.

Cooper Landing is home to some of the best sport fishing in the world with easy access to the Russian and Upper Kenai Rivers. These two rivers provide anglers with some of Alaska's finest yet affordable sport fishing opportunities.

The Russian River Ferry at mile 55, crosses the Kenai River to allow anglers to access the Kenai & Russian Rivers Confluence, which is the most productive sockeye (red) salmon sport fishery on earth.



VISITOR INFO

Cooper Landing Visitor Info Cabin at Mile 48.6 Sterling Highway.

Rafting fun for the whole family!



Kenai River Trips

ALASKA WILDLAND ADVENTURES

800.478.4100

www.alaskawildland.com/bells

Guiding on the Kenai Since 1977!



Kenai Riverside Fishing

ALASKA WILDLAND ADVENTURES

800.478.4100

www.alaskawildland.com/bellsguide



ACCOMMODATION

Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge This true Alaska lodge overlooking the Kenai River is just two hours from Anchorage. Private hillside bungalow-style rooms with wood-stoves, seating areas & porches. Lodge amenities include a restaurant, lounge, espresso bar, outdoor deck and gift shop. Mile 47.7 Sterling Highway, 17245 Frontier Circle, in Cooper Landing. Open mid-May through mid-September. Princess Lodges often runs special summer rates and packages. Call 800-426-0500 for reservations or visit princesslodges.com for the most up to date information.



CAMPING

The forest service campgrounds in the area are almost always full in the summer when fish are running, so plan ahead.

Cooper Creek USFS Campground Water, tables, firepits and toilets. Mile 50.5



THINGS TO DO

Alaska Wildland Adventures has been guiding in the Kenai since 1977. Don't miss out on the Kenai Peninsula's most spectacular day trips. Join a scenic natural history float (4 departures daily), a full-day Kenai Canyon rafting trip, or premium fishing for the Kenai's world famous salmon and rainbow trout. Gear provided. Look for the sign at milepost 50.1. 800-478-4100

Kenai Riverside Fishing should be your destination if Alaska's best sport fishing and fly fishing experience is what you are searching for! Alaska Wildland Adventures has been guiding fly fishing and sport fishing on the Kenai River for over 40 years and are recognized as one of Alaska's best. **K'Beq Interpretive Site** In 1984 Archaeologists discovered Indian and Eskimo graves along with prehistoric artifacts near mile 55 of the Sterling Highway. The Chugach National Forest has partnered with the Kenaitze Indian Tribe to preserve and protect this site. Visitors can participate in interpretive walks with tribal members.

STERLING

Sterling, a small highway community at the confluence of the Kenai and Moose Rivers, was originally settled in 1947 as "Naptowne." In 1954, after the opening of the Post Office, it was renamed in honor of the Sterling Highway. The excellent fishing in Sterling has attracted a number of local fishing guides, campgrounds and businesses that cater to visitors.



CAMPING

Bing's Landing State Recreation Site has 36 dry campsites. Facilities include toilets, water, hiking trails, firepits & a boat launch. Mile 80 Sterling Highway.



THINGS TO DO

The Swan Lake and Swanson River Canoe Routes can be accessed from Sterling via Swanson River Road. These canoe routes are ideal for paddlers of all abilities.



SERVICES

Vitus-Sterling The Vitus Energy Convenience Store at Sterling is conveniently on the way to Kenai and Homer at Mile 88.6. This newly remodeled store offers 24-hour fuel, food mart, clean restrooms, ATM service and a liquor store.



Vitus

M 88.6 Sterling Hwy

24 Hour Fuel

Restrooms

ATM

Liquor Store

Sterling, Alaska



SOLDOTNA

WORLD CLASS FISHING

Soldotna is the central hub of the Kenai Peninsula and is located just 150 miles from Anchorage via the Seward and Sterling Highways. Unlike most towns in Alaska, which were founded during the gold rushes, Soldotna was settled around 1947 by homesteaders.

The world famous Kenai River is one of Soldotna's main attractions. In 1985, local resident, Les Anderson, caught a rod-and-reel world-record king salmon in the Kenai River. It weighed in at 97 pounds, four ounces and is on display at the Soldotna Visitor Center.

While visiting Soldotna, stop by one of three open air markets to get a taste of life on the Kenai Peninsula. Tuesday is the Farmers Fresh Market, 3am-6pm at 33955 Community College Dr. The Wednesday

Market is 11am-9pm at Soldotna Creek Park, with a free concert from 6-9pm. Saturday is the Central Kenai Peninsula Farmers Market from 10am-2pm at the corner of the Spur Hwy and Corral Street.



VISITOR INFO

Soldotna Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center is just south of the Kenai River Bridge. They have unique wildlife displays as well as brochures, maps and information on local activities and events. The Visitor Center offers a fishing rod & binocular loan program. Open 9am-7pm, daily in the summer. Also located within the Visitor Center is the Logo Shop with souvenirs, Soldotna logo apparel and more. 907-262-9814

WELCOME TO SOLDOTNA, ALASKA!



200+ Riverside Campsites on the World Famous Kenai River. Stop by the Visitor Center at 44790 Sterling Hwy. for information and brochures on the area, and view a variety of exhibits, including the world-record King Salmon.

907.262.9814

www.visitsoldotna.com





ACCOMMODATION

Diamond M Ranch Resort offers a variety of cabins and suites. Located halfway between Kenai & Soldotna and close to the famous Kenai River. With easy day trips to Homer & Seward it's the perfect "home-base" during your Alaskan adventure. Wi-fi, showers, laundry, freezers, fire pits, picnic tables, fish cleaning stations, wildlife viewing, socials, charters & tours. 907-283-9424

Soldotna Inn Standard rooms and fully equipped apartments. Free Wi-fi. Complimentary continental breakfast. 35041 Kenai Spur Highway. 907-262-9169 or 866-262-9169



DINING

Mykel's Restaurant in the Soldotna Inn. Fine dining, featuring local seafood & steaks as well as a praiseworthy wine list & Alaskan tap beers. Enjoy the quiet dining room or the relaxing lounge. 907-262-4305



LODGING RV PARK TOUR DESK

SUITE RENTALS
FREE WIFI

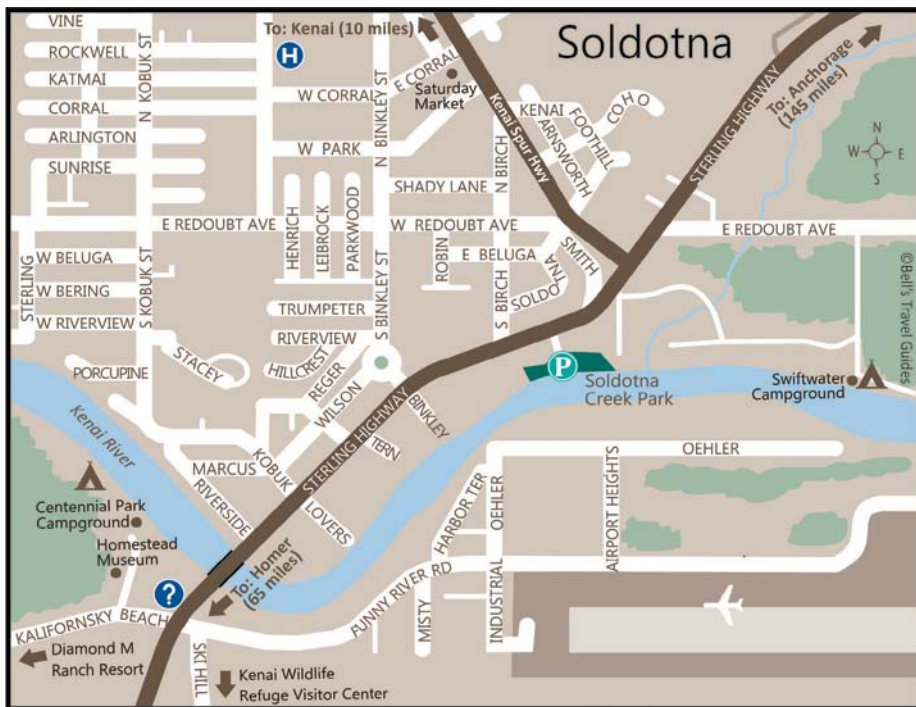
FULL SERVICE
GREAT AMENITIES

FISHING, WILDLIFE
AND ADVENTURE



48500 DIAMOND M RANCH ROAD

907-283-9424 • KENAI, ALASKA
www.diamondmranchresort.com





Kenai River Brewing Company This craft brewery has a large taproom to try their lovingly crafted beers and enjoy some delicious food. They offer a full menu, ranging from quick bites to brunch or dinner and dessert. 308 Homestead Lane. 907-262-BEER (2337)



CAMPING

Swiftwater Campground 40 campsites, firepits, toilets, dump station and fishwalk platforms. Take E. Redoubt Ave near the junction of the Sterling and Kenai Spur Hwy.

Diamond M Ranch Resort offers super-size, pull through RV sites and tent camping. Clean bathrooms, free showers, Wi-fi, laundry, picnic tables, fish cleaning stations, freezers, socials, charters & tours. Located between Kenai & Soldotna. 907-283-9424

Centennial Park Campground 176 campsites, tables, firepits, toilets, water, dump station, boat launch & fishwalk. On the Kenai River behind the Visitor Center. There are literally hundreds of trails in the area for hiking and or biking.



HIKING

The Centennial and Keen Eye Trail System in Soldotna, is a 3 mile loop with interpretive signs along the trail and a viewing deck on Headquarters Lake. From the Sterling Hwy, turn east on Funny River

Road and then right on Ski Hill Road to the parking area at the headquarters of the Kenai Wildlife Refuge.

The 7 Lakes Trail leads from the Kelly Lake Campground on the Sterling Highway at mile 68.3 and travels cross country to the Skilak Lake Road. It is 4.4 miles each way and passes near the shore lines of 4 lakes. Bring your bug spray!

Fuller Lakes Trail climbs steeply to Lower Fuller Lake. It is an easy hike and the trail to one of the ridges is definitely worth it. Trailhead is at mile 57 of the Sterling Highway.



THINGS TO DO

Soldotna Homestead Museum The homesteaders arrived in 1947 and a visit to this museum will give you an idea of how they lived. It is often staffed by homesteaders or their descendants who have first hand knowledge of the local history.

Kenai National Wildlife Refuge is nearly 2 million acres of diverse wilderness habitats and wildlife. First established in 1941, it exists to protect wildlife populations in the area. 2021 marks the 80th year of wildlife conservation at the Refuge. The Visitor Center at 1 Ski Hill Road in Soldotna is the perfect place to learn about the refuge and the available activities, such hiking, camping, fishing and exploring. Take a hike or join a guided program at the Visitor Center. 907-260-2820



CITY OF KENAI

Surrounded by spectacular scenery, wildlife, and a rich cultural history of Native and Russian settlements, Kenai is the heart of Alaskan adventure providing something for everyone. Originally settled as early as 1000 A.D. by Dena'ina Athabaskans, Kenai grew with the influx of Russian fur traders in 1791.

Just 11 miles from Soldotna, via the Kenai Spur Highway, Kenai is easily accessible from Anchorage via a 30-minute flight or 3-hour scenic drive. Stroll sandy beaches with a spectacular view of Cook Inlet, or experience the history of Kenai by taking a self-guided walking tour through historic "Old Town."

The City of Kenai is on Cook Inlet, 156 miles south of Anchorage and 90 miles north of Homer. It is the largest city on the Kenai Peninsula (pop. 7,800) and is home to the peninsula's biggest and busiest airport. Its industries include oil, natural gas, commercial fishing and tourism. It has been dubbed the "oil capital of Alaska" because of the extensive oil and gas discoveries nearby and in Cook Inlet.

The City of Kenai boasts magnificent views across Cook Inlet and on a clear day you will see three active volcanoes; Mt. Redoubt, Mt. Spur and Mt. Iliamna.

At the end of the Kenai Spur Road is Captain Cook State Park, the western end of the Swanson River canoe system, which is recognized as one of the best in the state.



VISITOR INFO

The Kenai Visitors & Cultural Center houses an impressive permanent collection of Native Alaskan and local artifacts, art exhibits, and is home to the largest collection of mounted bald eagles in North America. It is committed to bringing a mix of high-quality, stimulating, educational and cultural programming to Kenai. 11471 Kenai Spur Highway. 907-283-1991



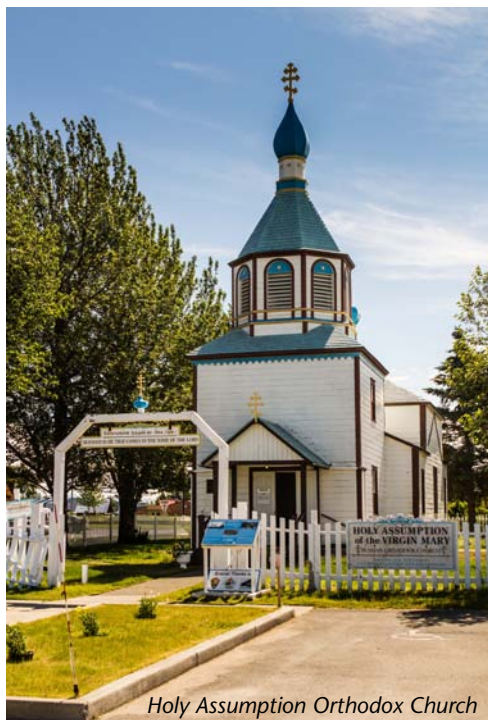
ACCOMMODATION

Diamond M Ranch Resort offers a variety of cabins and suites located between Kenai & Soldotna on Kalifornsky Beach Rd. Wi-fi, firepits, picnic tables, fish cleaning stations, wildlife viewing, socials, charters & tours. 907-283-9424



CAMPING

Diamond M Ranch Resort offers super-size, pull-through, RV sites and tent camping. Known for their beautifully clean bathrooms, free showers, Wi-fi, and laundry. Other amenities include picnic tables, firepits, fish cleaning stations, freezers, socials, charters & tours. Located between Kenai & Soldotna off Kalifornsky Beach Road on Diamond M Ranch Road. 907-283-9424



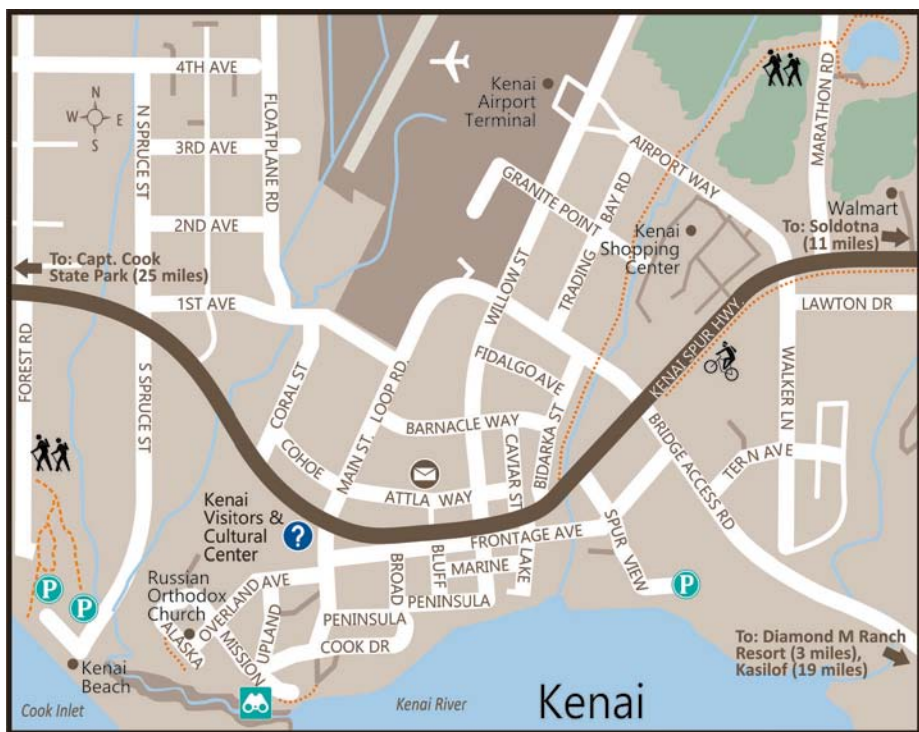
Holy Assumption Orthodox Church



Moosemeat John's Cabin



Captain Cook State Park



Beluga Lookout Lodge & RV Park in old Town Kenai. View sites overlooking Cook Inlet and the Kenai River. Full hookups, pull-throughs, free Wi-fi, TV. 929 Mission Ave. 907-283-5999



DINING

Kassik's Brewery is a popular microbrewery that has been in business since 2006. Stop by to sample beers and take a tour. Located at mile 19.1 of the Kenai Spur Highway.



THINGS TO DO

Explore the City of Kenai's 350 acres of parks and open spaces or spend a day fishing the world-famous Kenai River.

Self-guided Old Town Walking Tour starts at the Visitors Center and features American and Russian landmarks. It will take you through Old Town Kenai to explore its history and culture including these highlights: **The Russian Orthodox Church**, a National Historic Landmark, which was built in 1894 and is still used for regular services today. This is the oldest Orthodox Church on mainland Alaska. **Kenai Cabin Park** consists of five historical cabins moved here and lovingly restored by members of the Kenai Historical Society. The cabins contain photos and objects of historical significance. The **75 mm Howitzer** cannon from World War 1, on display near the cabins, was given to the city of Kenai by the Wildwood Military base, which has since become a Correctional facility. **Moosemeat John's Cabin** is near the Visitor Center and also part of the walking tour. Named for the owner's success in hunting moose to feed his family of 13 children. **Fort Kenay** was built by the U.S. Army in 1869 and housed more than 100 soldiers. In 1967 the fort was reconstructed as part of the Alaska Centennial celebrations.

Kenai Beach is a popular spot for dipnet fishing, which is only allowed for Alaska residents in July. Camping on the beach is available at the same time. Located at the end of Spruce Street.

NINILCHIK

Ninilchik lies on the west coast of the Kenai Peninsula on the Sterling Highway.

The first permanent European residents of Ninilchik were Russians who moved here in 1847 from Kodiak. A school was built nine years later and a church was established. The existing church was designed and built in its present location, in 1901, to replace the original.



Several old boats on the beach are a testament to Ninilchik's fishing history

The panoramic view across Cook Inlet takes in an active volcano range. On a clear day, Mt. Augustine is seen to the far left, with Mt. Iliamna, Mt. Redoubt, and Mt. Spur to the right.

Beaches, rivers and boat launches provide access to Cook Inlet for salmon and halibut fishing. There are several excellent charter services available to help you access some of the best saltwater fishing in Alaska.

The Ninilchik of today combines the rich heritage of its original families and homesteaders. Residents enjoy the small town pace of life as well as the beautiful scenery, and the freedom to be Alaskans.

Russian Orthodox Church in Ninilchik



VISITOR INFO

Ninilchik Chamber of Commerce Visit ninilchikchamber.com for a list of local events taking place during the summer. 907-567-3571



CAMPING

Deep Creek Campground has 100 dry camping sites on the shores of Cook Inlet, at the mouth of Deep Creek. Mile 137.3 **Ninilchik State Recreation Site** is on the bluff overlooking the Inlet. Mile 135



THINGS TO DO

Take a trip to the small boat harbor to watch the fishing boats “off-load” their catch, or try fishing for trout, steelhead or salmon from the banks of the Ninilchik River or Deep Creek, two excellent freshwater creeks found in the area.

The Russian Orthodox Church and cemetery, sits on top of the hill overlooking the historical Ninilchik Village. The graveyard attached to the church is like a walk back in time. Please treat it with respect as it is not meant to be a visitor attraction.

Make sure you visit the Kenai Peninsula State Fair held in Ninilchik in August.

ANCHOR POINT

Anchor Point, 200 miles south of Anchorage, has the distinction of being North America’s most westerly highway point.

You will find plenty of recreational opportunities including some incredible fishing, hiking and camping.



VISITOR INFO

Anchor Point Chamber of Commerce 34175 Sterling Highway. 907-235-2600



ACCOMMODATION

Anchor River Inn has standard rooms, a restaurant, convenience store and gift shop. 800-435-8531



CAMPING

Stariski State Recreation Site overlooks the Cook Inlet with spectacular views of Mount Augustine, Mount Iliamna, and Mount Redoubt. The park is five miles north of Anchor Point with nine individual campsites. Mile 152 Sterling Highway.



HOMER HALIBUT FISHING CAPITAL OF ALASKA

Homer —At the “End of the Road” – The Adventure Begins!

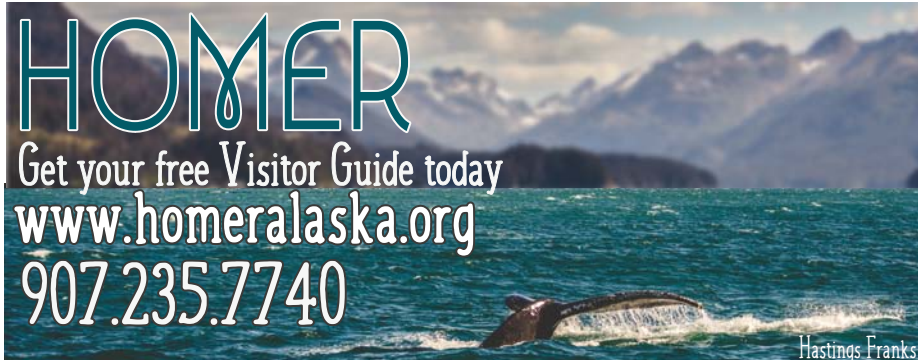
An awe inspiring 225 miles drive south of Anchorage on the Sterling highway, brings you to Homer, on the shores of Kachemak Bay. It is one of the few places in the world where several glaciers and active volcanoes can be viewed at the same time. It is a fishing, kayaking, bear viewing and hiking paradise.

It also has the distinction of having the 2nd longest “Spit” in the world. The “Spit” is a natural geological phenomenon formed initially by terminal glacial moraine that juts 5 miles out into Kachemak Bay. It is a great place for camping, shopping, fishing and taking off across Kachemak Bay in search of adventure.

Homer was named for Homer Pennock, a gold miner and con man who established the first development on the Homer Spit in 1896. Today it is a thriving community of approximately 5,800 residents. A stroll through Homer’s historic town center will be rewarded with a dozen historic buildings, art galleries, the Pratt Museum and a number of local restaurants.

The Homer harbor is home to vessels of all shapes and sizes, including the “Time Bandit,” made famous on the TV show “The Deadliest Catch.”

Several local ferry operators provide service to the nearby town of Seldovia as well as Kachemak Bay State Park and State Wilderness Park. This is Alaska’s first state park and only wilderness park.





VISITOR INFO

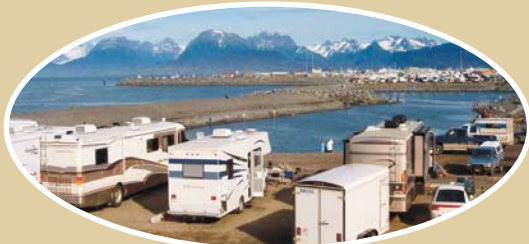


ACCOMMODATION

Visitor Information Center on your right as you enter town. The center is open year-round and has very helpful staff. Ask about taking a self-guided walking tour or tackling Homer's Bucket List of activities. Open daily 9am to 6pm during the summer with reduced hours in the winter. 201 Sterling Highway. 907-235-7740

Pioneer Inn Large suites with fully furnished kitchens and private baths. All rooms are immaculate. One of the most convenient locations in downtown Homer. It is next door to the Pratt Museum and within walking distance of restaurants, attractions, shopping and the beach. 907-235-5670

HERITAGE RV PARK



107 Spacious Sites
50 Amp
WiFi & SAT TV
Laundry & Showers
Espresso Bar
Gift Shop

Secure Online Reservations
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907-226-4500



On the Homer Spit at the "Fishing Hole"

3350 Homer Spit Road



Ocean Shores Resort Beachfront Hotel, RV Park and the Kannery Grill and Bar. Terraced property with beachcombing, spectacular ocean, mountain and glacier views from all rooms, RV sites and the restaurant. All this and only 2 blocks to the shops and art galleries of downtown Homer. Recommended by New York Times. 451 Sterling Highway. 907-235-7775 or 800-770-7775



DINING

Kannery Grill & Bar Located on the Bluff in 'Old Town Homer' at Ocean Shores Resort. Enjoy locally sourced seafood, great steaks and incredible views. 451 Sterling Highway 907-435-0949.

Captain Pattie's is one of the best restaurants in Homer. They specialize in local seafood and pride themselves on using only the freshest of ingredients. On the boardwalk on the Spit. 907 235-5135

Salty Dawg Saloon is a local icon. Stop by to have a drink at the saloon and discover it's amazing history. On the Homer Spit.



CAMPING

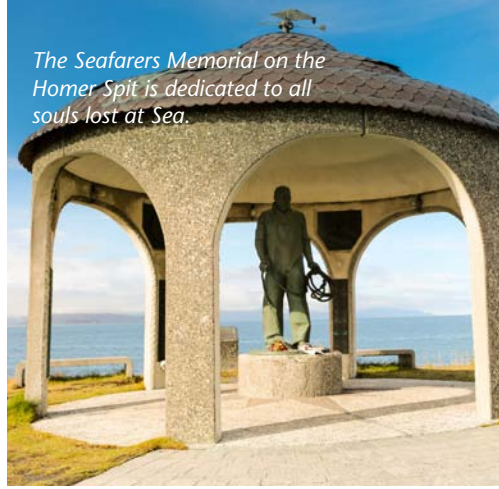
Heritage RV Park Beachfront RV Park on the Homer Spit with 107 spacious, first-class camping sites. All sites include 50 amp, SAT TV, free Wi-fi, laundry & showers. 24-hr office, espresso bar and gift shop. Securely book on their website or call 907-226-4500.

Ocean Shores RV Park has full & partial hook-ups with 20/30 amp power & some with 50 Amp power. Large pull-through sites with cable TV and free Wi-fi as well as tent sites. Spectacular panoramic ocean view of Kachemak Bay and Beach Access. 451 Sterling Highway. 907-235-7775

Homer Spit There are both private and city owned campgrounds on the beach. The city campgrounds are open mid-May to October and have restrooms and water.

There is day parking for RVs in downtown and Old Town Homer at the HERC building parking lot on the corner of the Sterling Highway and Pioneer Avenue.

The Seafarers Memorial on the Homer Spit is dedicated to all souls lost at Sea.



Dump stations are located on the Homer Bypass near Goldmine Gifts and near the fishing hole on the Homer Spit (\$15).



*The Salty Dawg Saloon
on the Homer Spit*



SHOPPING

Gold Mine Gifts & Fine Jewelry is Alaska's largest and most interesting gift store & museum. Inside is a 1957 Corvette, chainsaw carvings, dinosaur eggs, mineral specimens and many "made in Alaska" items. Alaskan gold nugget jewelry, jade, ivory, furs, Eskimo dolls, slippers, figurines, salmon, jackets, T-shirts and sweats, hand-dipped Alaskan ice cream, old fashion milk shakes and sundaes. 3695 Lake Street. 907-235-6886 or 888-262-1064

Ulmer's Drug & Hardware has grown into Homer's largest variety store over the past 40 years. It still retains the small-town charm of a local hardware store while offering everything from fishing and camping supplies, RV/auto parts, Alaska gifts, prescription & OTC medications, clothing, electronics, snacks, toys and even fabric. Stop by for friendly, helpful customer service. Open seven days a week. 907-235-8594



THINGS TO DO

Alaska Islands and Ocean Center gives visitors a window into the world of sea-birds, marine mammals, and their habitats in Alaska. View daily films, explore the exhibits or join Ranger led activities. Admission is free to this fantastic exhibit. Located at 95 Sterling Highway. 907-235-6961

Kachemak Bay State Park is over 400,000 acres of forests, mountains, glaciers and ocean that can only be reached by air or water taxi from Homer. There is excellent hiking, kayaking and camping options. Many visitors will discover the park with professional guides or tour companies authorized to operate in the park.

Homer Ocean Charters has been offering fishing charters since 1979. They also provide water taxi service to Kachemak Bay State Park and guided sea kayaking. Located on the Homer Spit Boardwalk. 907-235-6212

The Pratt Museum motto is "art, science, and culture of Kachemak Bay." From early Alaskan homesteaders to the modern day fishing culture of Homer, the museum does an excellent job of showcasing the area. Indoor exhibits range from Native cultures and natural history, to marine ecology. Outdoors, visitors can explore the Harrington Historical Cabin, and the botanical garden. The museum just has just reopened after a major renovation in 2019. 3779 Bartlett Street. 907-235-8635



HIKING

Homer has several good hiking & walking trails within the city. A complete list of trails is available from the Visitor Center.

Bishops Beach A great place to go beach combing and exploring the many tidal pools. Be sure to pick up a tide book and be aware of the fast rising tide. There is a picnic shelter with grills and restrooms at the beach. At the end of Bunnell Street in Old Towne.

The Homestead Trail is a well maintained 6.7 mile long path with spectacular views of Mount Iliamna and Mount Redoubt. From the Sterling Highway near the Bay View Motel, turn on Rogers Loop Road to access the trailhead. There are two other access points on this trail so we recommend picking up a trail map from the Visitor Center.

Beluga Slough Trail is a short hike that winds along lower Beluga Slough. The trail has some gravel, but is mostly on raised walkways with interpretive signs along the pathway. You will find many varieties of plant life and will likely spot several species of birds, such as cranes, gulls and sandpipers. The trail connects the Islands & Oceans Visitor Center to Bishops Beach.

The Homer Spit Trail is a 4 mile long paved trail that runs parallel to the road that leads to the end of the Homer Spit. It is a multi-use trail and can be used by everyone except motorized vehicles. It is a local favorite frequented by joggers, bicyclists and roller bladers.

Homer's Goldmine Gifts & Fine Jewelry

"Probably the best place for gifts and certainly the best place for ice cream on the Kenai. Good prices and great people."

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- * 409lb Halibut
- * 73" Head Mount Moose Antlers

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Bucket List

- ☐ Explore Independence Mine
- ☐ Visit the Historic Town of Talkeetna
- ☐ Discover the Pre-Historic Musk Ox



*Independence Mine State Historical
Park at Hatcher Pass*

The Matanuska-Susitna Valley, known as the Mat-Su, is one of Alaska's foremost recreation areas. It has over 23,000 square miles of unspoiled mountains, lakes, and glaciers with unlimited opportunity for camping, hiking and adventures. On a typical weekend, Anchorage residents desert that bustling "metropolis" in droves to converge on the Mat-Su.

Palmer and Wasilla are the two largest towns in the Matanuska Valley. Talkeetna is a charming town, full of great restaurants and fun things to do. It is also used as a base camp for tourists and climbers alike to access North America's tallest peak, Denali (Mt. McKinley). A flightseeing trip to Denali will undoubtedly be a highlight of your trip. Wasilla is also home to the Iditarod Headquarters, where you can learn about the Musher's and their dogs who compete in this incredible annual race.

The many local farms will convince you this is the state's agricultural center, yielding almost two-thirds of Alaska's produce.

The fertile area is known for growing huge, award winning vegetables, many of which can be seen each year at the Alaska State Fair, held in Palmer in the Fall.

In 1935, as part of the New Deal, 203 families from the Midwest traveled to Alaska and started the Matanuska Valley Colony. Families were specifically chosen from the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, due to their similarly cold winter climates. Many of these families still have descendants in the area.



CAMPING

Alaska State Parks in the area include Denali State Park and Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. Smaller parks are the Matanuska River Park in Palmer, which has a very nice campground, Lake Lucille Park in Wasilla and Little Susitna River in Houston. **Eagle River Campground** near Anchorage has 57 campsites. Large RV's welcome, firepits, water, flush toilets & dump station. Reservations must be made 7 or more days in advance. Mile 12 Glenn Highway.



THINGS TO DO



HIKING

Iditarod Trail Headquarters Explore the world of "The Last Great Race." There is a museum and a gift shop. 2100 S Knik-Goose Bay Road, Wasilla. 907-376-5155

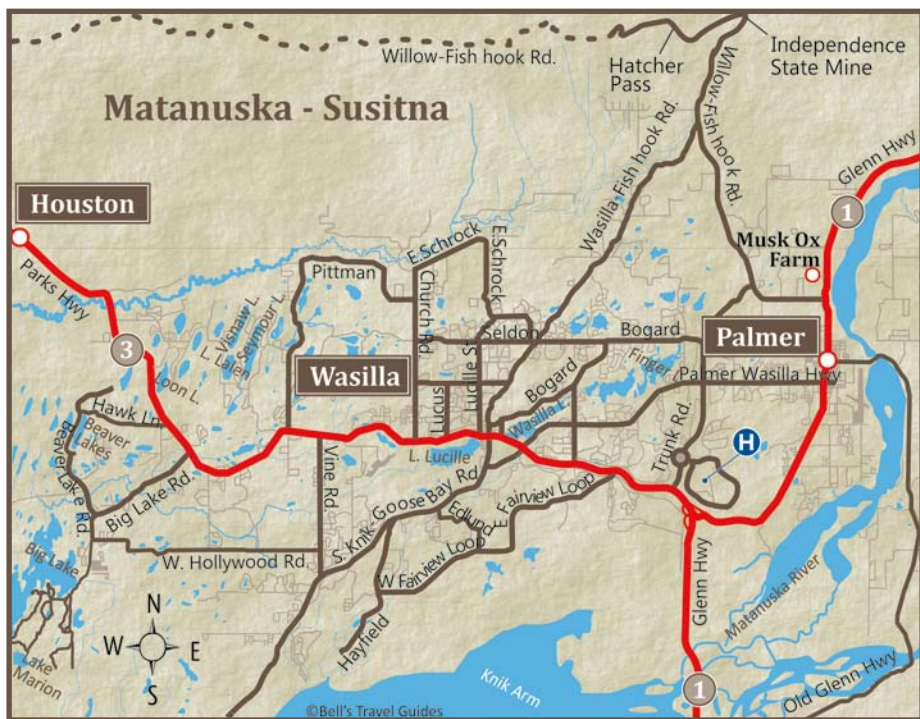
The Willow Fishhook Road is a scenic loop road that connects Willow and Palmer via Hatcher Pass. It is approximately 49 miles long, about 14 miles of which are gravel. The road is steep and winding and the gravel portion can be rough. It is not recommended for RV's or towed vehicles to travel between Willow and Hatcher Pass.

Independence Mine State Historical Park at Hatcher Pass is operated by Alaska State Parks and offers glimpses of what life was like during the gold rush. A guided tour will take you inside some of the mining camp's historic buildings where you'll discover the Independence Mine story. Open daily from mid-June through Labor Day from 11am to 6pm. Best access is from Palmer as the road is paved and open year-round as far as Hatcher Pass.

There are more than 2000 miles of hiking and biking trails in the Mat-Su Valley. Check with the Palmer or Wasilla Visitor Centers for maps and the most up-to-date information.

The Eska Creek Falls Trail is moderately difficult as the trail climbs 1300 feet in 2.5 miles. At the 1600 foot elevation the trail crosses into the alpine tundra with excellent views of the Matanuska River Valley. From the Glenn Highway in Sutton go north on the Jonesville Road. At Coyote Lake Park, go left for 1 mile and stay to the left for the parking area.

West Bodenburg Butte Trail Great views of the Matanuska Valley, Knik Glacier, Pioneer Peak and the Talkeetna Mountains. This trail is moderately difficult and includes a steep section that gains 700 ft in under a mile. From Anchorage turn on the Old Glenn Hwy, then turn on Bodenburg loop road after passing the butte, then left on Mothershead Lane to the parking area.





PALMER

HOME OF THE ALASKA STATE FAIR

Surrounded by Alaska's rich history and lore, Palmer is a quiet town, with a population of 7,300. It was originally settled by the Dena'ina and Ahtna Athabaskans who lived in the area for thousands of years. They practiced a subsistence lifestyle and traded with other local native groups.

The first white settlers were homesteaders who carved a permanent community out of the Alaska wilderness. Construction of the road system and the Alaska Railroad fueled population growth and Palmer is now a bedroom community for Anchorage. Whether you want to golf, fish, hike the many trails in the area or eat a fantastic meal, Palmer is the place for you. The pedestrian-friendly downtown is filled with small shops offering books, gifts, arts and crafts from the area's artisans. From just about any point in Palmer you are ringed by majestic mountain peaks.



VISITOR INFO

Palmer Museum & Visitor Center in the rustic log cabin downtown. Items depicting Palmer's history and culture are displayed in the museum with an adjacent showcase garden. Open year-round. 723 South Valley Way. 907-746-7668



ACCOMMODATION

Alaska Backcountry Cottages has three beautiful, newly built cottages on the outskirts of Palmer, at the foot of the Chugach Mountains. Each cottage has 2 or 3 queen beds, a fully stocked kitchen and living space. Guests will have amazing views and the opportunity to explore the real Alaska. Your hosts are long time Alaskans who love helping guests create the vacation of a lifetime. 3901 S Lindsey Circle in Palmer. 907-746-2225

Visit us at the log cabin right in downtown Palmer for:

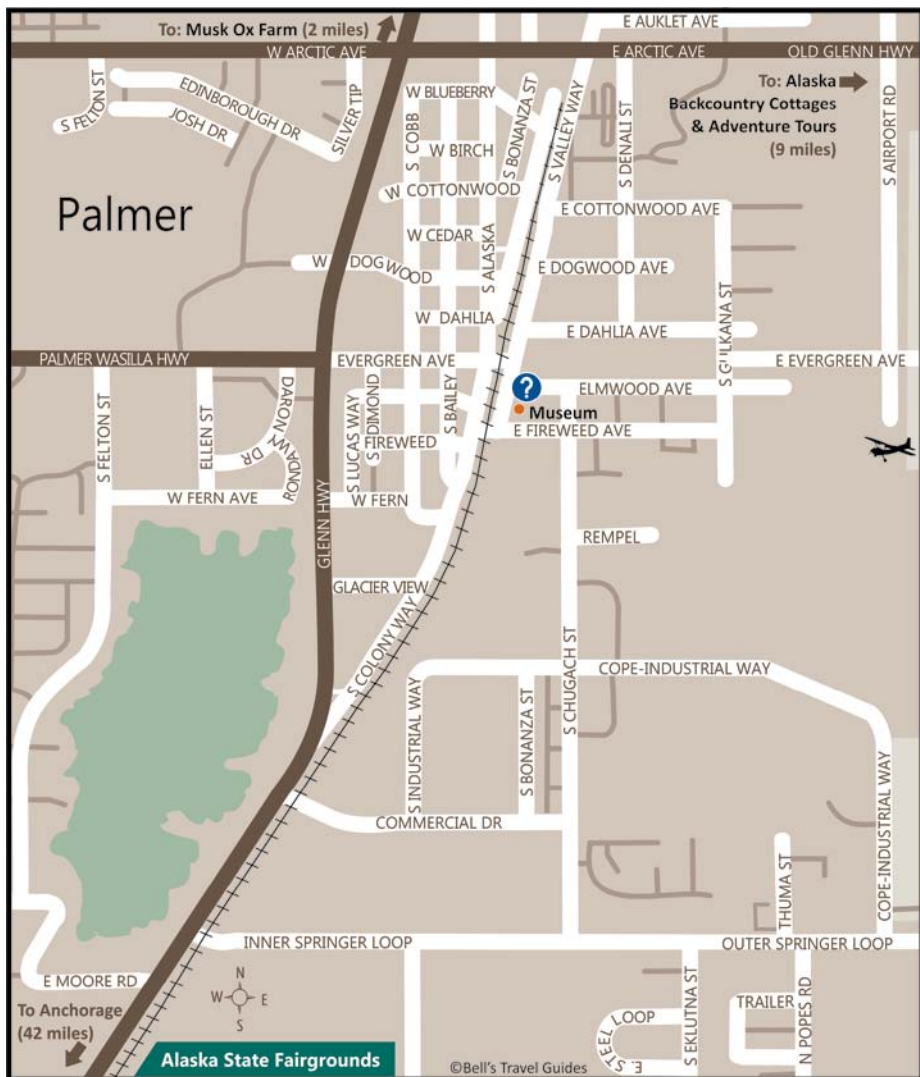
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Pioneer Peak towers over the Mat-Su Valley



CAMPING

Matanuska River Park 86 RV sites, flush toilets, hot showers, RV dump station, picnic tables. Mile 17 Old Glenn Highway.
Finger Lake State Recreation Area 24 camping sites, water, toilets, boat launch, picnic sites and fishing. Mile 0.7 Bogard Road, between Palmer and Wasilla.



THINGS TO DO

Alaska Backcountry Adventure Tours are designed with every type of enthusiast in mind. From beginner to expert they provide an unforgettable experience when you join them on one of their tours. Summer ATV tours and winter snowmobile tours are available. Day trips and multi-day safaris into the Alaska backcountry. Open Monday - Saturday year-round. 907-745-2505 or 855-452-2879

The Alaska State Fair is known for world record sized vegetables, Country Music Stars and many other fun events. Held annually in Palmer during the last week of August.

Musk Ox Farm For 55 years this nonprofit has been practicing gentle, low-stress animal handling in raising musk oxen for their incredible underwool - Qiviut. Qiviut is 8 times warmer than wool and softer than cashmere. Brand-new educational center and daily tours. Huge pull-through parking for all size RV's. Open mid-May to mid-Sept. 10am to 6pm. 12850 E. Archie Rd. (mile 50.1 Glenn Hwy). 907-745-4151



DINING

Open Cafe in the Valley Hotel is open 24/7, 365 days a year serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. 606 S Alaska St. 907-745-3330

Inn Cafe at the Colony Inn serves delicious food and is worth a visit. 907-746-6118

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TALKEETNA

BASE CAMP FOR ADVENTURE

Talkeetna was established as a mining town and trading post before Wasilla or Anchorage existed. The Talkeetna and Chulitna Rivers join the Susitna River at the end of Main Street and the town takes its name from an Indian word K'Dalkitnu, meaning, "rivers of plenty."

Legends, lore and history abound in Talkeetna. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and several of its buildings are historical landmarks. Discover fascinating stories of Talkeetna's past, Denali climbers, and frontier living as you stroll through the Downtown Historic District. Perhaps stop in at the Fairview Inn to whet your whistle, where President Harding did as much when he paid the town a visit in 1923 on his tour through Alaska. Now, many artisans, crafters and musicians make Talkeetna their home.

Summer events include 'Moose on Parade', which has local residents decorate moose cut outs and place them around Talkeetna. Pick up a map marking loca-

tions of the moose from one of the stores in town or at the Chamber's Info Kiosk. The event ends with a 'Moose Art' parade on the 4th of July followed by an auction.

Mountain climbers from all over the world come to Talkeetna to challenge Denali (Formerly Mt. McKinley), adding an international flavor to the town. Scenic flights are offered by local air services, giving visitors the opportunity to see North America's tallest mountain up close or even make a glacier landing.



VISITOR INFO

Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station has information on climbing Denali (Mt. McKinley) and backcountry access to the National Park. Visitor services, as well as interpretive programs are offered during the summer. An excellent climbing video is shown throughout the day. For those looking to climb Denali, this is where to purchase your permit. Open year-round and Located on B street. 907-733-2231



ACCOMMODATION

Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge is set on a ridge above the town of Talkeetna and offers majestic views of Denali and the Alaska Range. Relax in one of the 212 comfortable guest rooms or next to the 46-foot fireplace. The lodge offers unique Alaska cuisine and is minutes from the adventures of a lifetime. Call 800-808-8068 to book your stay today.

Talkeetna Inn Built in the early 60's, is known for its casual atmosphere and wonderful hospitality. Just off Main Street, in a quiet setting on the west side of town. Comfortable, convenient and affordable with all modern day amenities in an old Talkeetna setting. For reservations call 907-733-2323 or 877-486-2323.



DINING

Mountain High Pizza The lively purple pizzeria nestled at the foot of the towering peaks of the Alaska Range. The menu is a collaboration of countless family recipes. Internationally acclaimed Pizza Pie, home-made Flat Breads, soups with vegetables from their garden, and the legendary Mountain High sauce are a reflection of

their dedication to bring the freshest food from their kitchen to your table. Look for it on Main Street. 907-733-1234

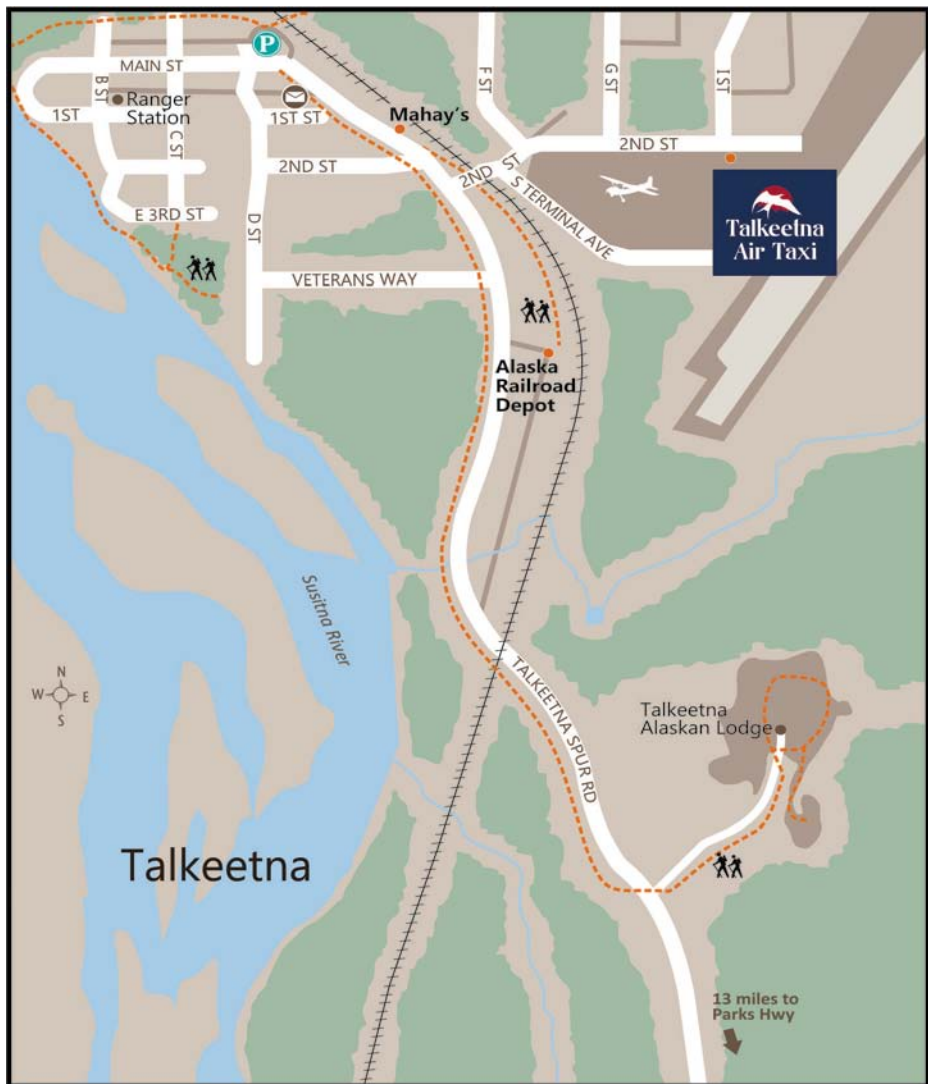
Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge is in a class by itself. Enjoy the endless wilderness stretching from the lodge to the base of Denali while dining on award-winning fresh Alaska seafood and game. Dining options range from fine dining to casual, lighter fare.

Subway® has RV friendly locations open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Get a 6-inch or Footlong Sub and add chips and a drink for your adventure! Stop and fuel up at Subway® at the Talkeetna Spur Road junction. Order online at Subway.com or on the Subway® APP.



Mile 99 Parks Hwy & on the boardwalk in Denali

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DENALI FLIGHTS & GLACIER LANDINGS



CAMPING

Talkeetna Camper Park is a full service RV park at mile 13.7 Talkeetna Spur Road. Full & partial hookups, hot showers, laundry, RV dump station. Near the Alaska Railroad Depot and close to town. Open April to October. 907-733-2693

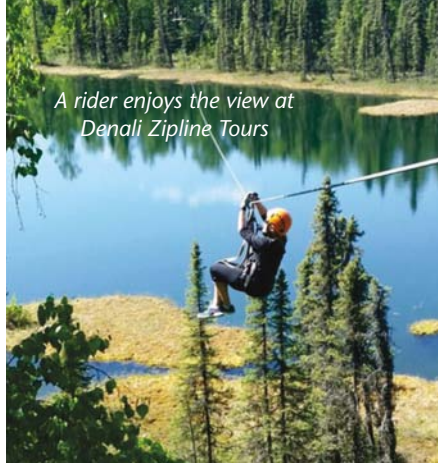
Talkeetna RV & Boat Launch provides wilderness camping within walking distance of town. Dry camping only. Water, showers, restrooms, picnic tables and free Wi-fi is available. 21889 F Street. 907-733-2604



THINGS TO DO

Denali Zipline Tours Fly through the forest canopy and catch glimpses of magnificent Denali as you traverse down a ridge line through an enchanting boreal forest on this fully guided 3 hour tour. From the platforms you can take in the entire Alaska Range while overlooking the Susitna & Chulitna Valleys. The beautifully designed course, exceptional employees, and eco-friendly tour will play a small part in helping you experience this amazing piece of Alaska. 907-733-3988

Mahay's Jet Boat Adventures where you can experience remote Alaska wilderness aboard an enclosed safe and comfortable jetboat with panoramic views of Denali



A rider enjoys the view at Denali Zipline Tours

Courtesy Denali Zipline



(weather permitting). If you crave adventure choose the Devil's Canyon tour with Class V whitewater; soft adventure with a hard adventure feel. If something calmer and shorter is your wish, Mahay's offers many different tours of varying lengths. See how Dena'ina Indians and early



- Devil's Canyon Tour
- Chulitna Gorge Journey
- Natural History Tours
- River, Rail & Trail



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*Flightseeing over Denali with
Talkeetna Air Taxi should not
be missed*



trappers lived while on the quarter-mile nature walk, which is included in all trips. 907-733-2223

Talkeetna Air Taxi Discover the ultimate Alaska tour when you go flightseeing over the Alaska Range. Explore the ice age world of Denali National Park by landing on a glacier amidst spectacular mountains, sapphire ice pools, and gigantic rock formations. Talkeetna Air Taxi is Rated #1 on TripAdvisor and will be your guide to the most amazing experience of your vacation. Located at 14212 E. 2nd Street. For reservations call 907-733-2218 or 800-533-2219.

The Alaska Railroad is famous for its fun atmosphere, casual dining, passenger comfort and spectacular scenery. Alaska Railroad passenger trains feature large picture windows, friendly onboard hosts, forward-facing reclining seats, open-air vestibules, onboard dining and reserved seats. Lifelong Alaskan tour guides inform and entertain with an insiders look at the

Great State of Alaska. Alaska Railroad has daily summer service to Talkeetna from Anchorage, continuing on to Denali National Park and Fairbanks. Board the train at the Anchorage Depot for a beautiful three-hour trip north to Talkeetna. Combine your rail journey with a Mahay's Jet Boat Adventures for a two-hour riverboat trip aboard the "Talkeetna Queen." Tour includes a guided quarter-mile wilderness walk, panoramic views of Denali (Mt McKinley) and a visit to an authentic trapper's cabin. Your chances of seeing wildlife on this trip are excellent. 907-265-2494 or 800-544-0552

Talkeetna Historical Society Museum is housed in the Little Red School House on Main Street. The museum, first used as a schoolhouse in the 1930s, explores the history of this rural town. There is also a room sized model of Denali (Mt. McKinley) built to scale. During the summer months Talkeetna's National Park Service Rangers host daily interpretive talks.

*Dog cart rides at the world famous
Iditarod race Headquarters*



©Tom Bol/Mat-Su CVB

WASILLA HEADQUARTERS OF THE IDITAROD

Wasilla is situated between the Matanuska and Susitna valleys of south-central Alaska. The surrounding lakes and mountains not only provide stunning scenery, but endless opportunities for outdoor recreation.

In 1917 the Alaska Railroad was extended to Interior Alaska. The Wasilla townsite was established where the railroad crossed the Carle Wagon Road, the main supply road for the nearby mining district. The town was named after respected local Dena'ina Athabascan Indian Chief Wasilla. There have been as many as 50 active mines over the years, however, the majority of the activity took place between 1909 - 1950.

The building of the George Parks Highway to Fairbanks in the early 1970s passed through Wasilla and spurred the town's expansion. After formally incorporating in 1973, Wasilla has continued to grow. Over the past several years, it has been one of America's fastest growing cities and is the fifth largest city in the state with a population of around 10,500.

Wasilla is also the headquarters for the Iditarod Sled Dog Race that is a commemoration of Alaska's colorful past. The Iditarod Trail, which is now a national historical trail, had its beginnings as a mail and supply route from the coastal towns of Seward and Knik to the west coast villages of Nome and Teller.

**Best Western | Lake Lucille Inn**

Premier hotel on beautiful Lake Lucille, with breathtaking views of the Chugach Mountains. Only 45 minutes north of Anchorage, and on the way to Denali National Park.

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VISITOR INFO

The Wasilla Museum and Visitor Center showcases gold mining, Alaska wildlife, homesteading and dog mushing. The Visitor Center provides maps and information on the local stops and shops in and around town. Open year-round, Tuesday to Friday from 10am–3pm.

Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce Located in the 1917 Alaska Railroad Depot building. 415 E Railroad Ave. 907-376-1299



ACCOMMODATION

Best Western Lake Lucille Inn is the Valley's premier hotel and has been recently renovated. Located on Lake Lucille with breathtaking views of the Chugach Range; only 45 miles from Anchorage. They have banquet and meeting facilities, fitness room, free Wi-fi and an excellent complimentary hot breakfast bar. 1300 W. Lake Lucille Drive. 800-897-1776



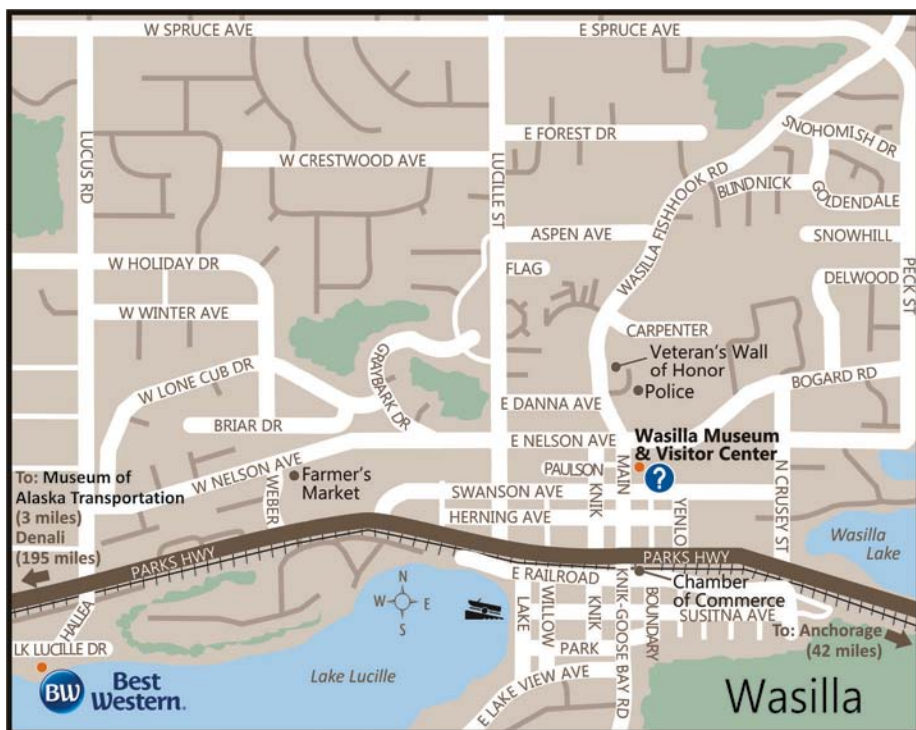
CAMPING

Lake Lucille Park has fifty-seven spaces for tents or RV's. This 80-acre park provides non-motorized lake access, a boardwalk and fishing deck, restrooms and drinking water, trails, day use area, firepits and group camping. This is a fee area. Located at the end of Endeavor Street at mile 2.4 Knik-Goose Bay Road, south of Wasilla. 907-745-9690



Wasilla Museum VISITOR CENTER

Open Year Round • Tues - Fri 10 to 3
391 N Main Street, Wasilla





Historic Buildings at the Wasilla Museum



THINGS TO DO

The Wasilla Museum and Visitor Center

Discover exhibits on gold mining, wildlife, homesteading and dog mushing. Visitors can view exciting traveling exhibitions, learn local history and wander through historic homes and buildings. The 1931 Community Building, the 1917 Herning Mercantile and the 1917 School House are all listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Wasilla Museum offers tours and events year-round. Check out their website, Facebook or Instagram for current listing of events and activities.

Iditarod Headquarters is the best place to learn more about Iditarod race history including past and present mushers. There is a museum with trophies and equipment on display. Meet the dogs and take a ride on a wheeled cart. Daily video showings and gift shop. Mile 2.2 Knik Goose Bay Rd. 907-376-5155

www.museumofalaska.org

\$8 Adult

\$5 Seniors/Children

\$18 Family

7 Days a Week 10-5

Mother's Day to Labor Day



3800 W Museum Drive • Wasilla • 907-376-1211
(turn off at Mile 47 Parks Highway)

Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry gives an historical perspective of the inventiveness, ingenuity, adaptability and pioneer spirit necessary to tame the "Last Frontier." Handmade autos, trains, snow machines, boats, military planes, and mining, are just some of the historical exhibits on this 20 acre indoor and outdoor museum. Stop along the Parks Hwy and see the museum, have a picnic and relax. 3800 W. Museum Dr. (Mile 47 Parks Highway)

The Veterans Wall of Honor in Wasilla is designed to resemble the Vietnam Wall in Washington D.C. The wall is inscribed with the names of veterans, living and deceased as well as active military members. Located at the Police Station on Wasilla-Fishhook Rd.

The Wasilla Farmers Market takes place every Wednesday from June through mid Sept. Shop local farmers, gardeners, bakers and artisans and get a taste of Alaska. At the corner of Nelson Ave. & Weber St.



DINING

Krazy Moose Subs is a local favorite that serves a wide variety of hot and cold subs, soups and salads. They are located in the restored Herning-Teeland-Mead building, originally built in 1918. Located at 405 E. Hearnung Avenue.

Matsu Family Restaurant is a locally owned diner that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Stop by for a delicious meal. 401 W. Parks Highway. 907-357-7017



Bucket List

- ☐ Go River Rafting in Denali Park
- ☐ Fly to America's Tallest Mountain
- ☐ Try your Hand at Gold Panning
- ☐ Take a Cruise on an Authentic Riverboat

INTERIOR ALASKA



Alaska's Interior is a huge plain that stretches over the majority of the state. From the Canadian border it extends west, almost to the Bering Sea. The Alaska Range borders it on the south, and the Brooks Range on the north. Denali (Mount McKinley), North America's highest peak, is part of the Alaska Range and one of the "Crown Jewels" of the Interior region.

Fairbanks is the largest city in the region and is often referred to as the "Golden Heart City." This accolade is as much about the people as it is about its gold rush history. Other towns of the Interior include Delta Junction, Tok, Chicken, Healy, Nenana, North Pole and Denali National Park.

Interior Alaska draws people from all over the world to enjoy the spectacle of the Aurora Borealis, which can be seen dancing in the sky from late August through April. Like all subarctic regions, you will experience an average of 21 hours of daylight between early May and late July, while the months of November to January average less than 4 hours of daylight.

Summer temperatures can reach highs of 95°, while Winter temps can drop as low as minus 60° Fahrenheit. Both the highest and lowest temperature records for the State were set in the Interior, with 100 °F (38 °C) reached in Fort Yukon and a bone chilling -80 °F (-64 °C) in Prospect Creek.

All in all, Alaska's Interior is one of the most diverse and interesting areas in a State already filled with incredible places to visit.



©iStock.com/TT

DENALI NATIONAL PARK

Denali, the “High One,” is the name the Koyukon Athabaskan people gave the massive peak that crowns the 600-mile-long Alaska Range. At 20,310 feet, Denali is the highest peak in North America and the number one visitor attraction in the State.

The mountain was named Mount McKinley by a prospector in 1897 in honor of soon to be President William McKinley. Congress officially confirmed the name in 1917, however, this peak’s name remained controversial. In 1975 the Alaska Board of Geographic names officially changed the name of the mountain to “Denali.” Ever since then it had petitioned for the Federal Government to do the same. Finally, in 2015 the U.S. Department of the interior officially changed the name from Mount McKinley to Denali.

Mount McKinley National Park became Denali National Park and Preserve in 1980 and was tripled in size to six million acres, which is larger than New Hampshire.

Denali exemplifies Interior Alaska’s character as one of the world’s last great frontiers for wilderness adventure and remains largely wild, unspoiled and beautiful.

Denali is readily accessible by car or RV on the Parks Highway or on the Alaska Railroad from either Anchorage or Fairbanks. In summer a number of private bus and van services operate daily from Anchorage and Fairbanks.



VISITOR INFO

There are four Visitor Centers in the Park. **Denali National Park & Preserve Information Center** is at mile 1.5 of the Denali Park Road and provides natural and cultural history exhibits, Ranger programs, and screenings of the award-winning park film “Heartbeats of Denali.” 907-683-2294

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245.1 Parks Hwy

The Wilderness Access Center & Backcountry Information Center is located at mile one of the Denali Park Road. It provides information, reservations and permits for park campgrounds, tour and shuttle bus tickets and overnight backcountry trip-planning resources.

The Murie Science and Learning Center is run by the National Park Service in partnership with Alaska Geographic and other organizations. Its goal is to increase scientific literacy by showcasing research from living laboratories like Denali National Park.

Eielson Visitor Center at mile 66 on the Park Road. You can reach Eielson Visitor Center by shuttle bus. The center has incredible views of Denali on a clear day. It has artistic and interactive exhibits. Rangers are on hand to answer questions.



ACCOMMODATION

Cabins at Denali Overlooking the Nenana River, these cabins are perfect for anyone wanting more space than a traditional

hotel room. Located near all of Denali's amenities, they are also the closest lodging to the park entrance. Only 2 cabins, 3 mini-condos and a loft are available. When heading north, turn right immediately after crossing the Nenana River Bridge. Mile 238 Parks Highway. 800-789-7238.

Denali RV Park and Motel Rooms with a double and single bed from \$109 or a 4 bed family unit with kitchen is \$189. All rooms have private bathrooms, free satellite TV and Wi-fi. There is a gift shop with Alaskan souvenirs, nearby hiking trails and panoramic views in all directions. Open late May to September. Mile 245.1 Parks Highway. Eight miles north of the Denali National Park entrance. 907-683-1500

Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge offers modern accommodations on the banks of the Nenana River. Less than two miles from the park entrance, it boasts spacious outdoor decks, a fine dining restaurant, casual restaurant, pizza parlor, pub, espresso bar, tour desk, gift shop and Wi-fi access in the common areas.

The comforts of home in the shadow of Denali

TOTEM INN

Located just 12 scenic miles north of the Denali Park entrance

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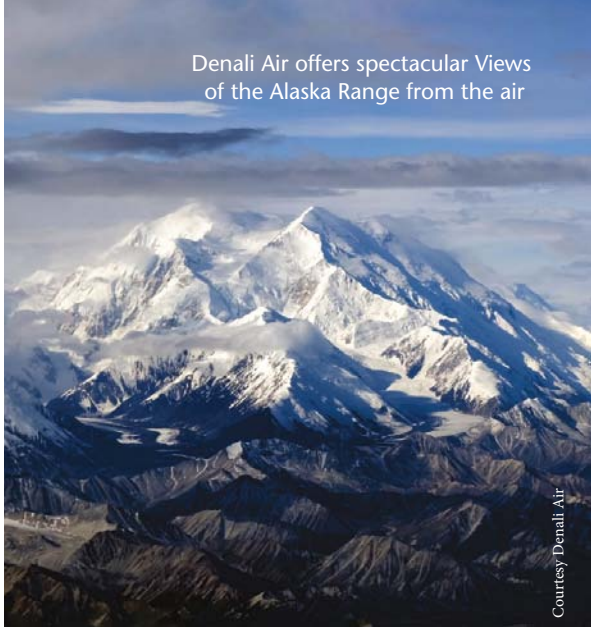
Mile 248.7 Parks Highway • totem-in@mtaonline.net



Shuttle service to the rail depot and Park Visitors Center available. Open mid-May to mid-September. Mile 238.5 Parks Highway. Princesslodge.com 800-426-0500
Denali Rainbow Village Motel Suites and new motel rooms with Wi-fi & cable TV, some with kitchens. Adjacent to Boardwalk Mall with services and activities. Located at mile 238.6 Parks Highway, one mile north of Denali National Park entrance. 907-683-7777

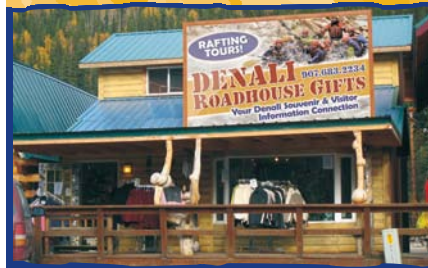
Denali Grizzly Bear Resort on the south boundary of the Park. Pioneer family owned and operated. Each room of the Cedar Hotel has a private deck on the river, cable TV, in room coffee and Wi-fi for a fee. Charming, affordable cabins, with spectacular views. Mile 231.1. 866-583-2696

Denali Air offers spectacular Views of the Alaska Range from the air



McKinley Chalet Resort situated in the heart of the Denali Canyon, on the banks of the Nenana River. Featuring modern amenities, comfortable accommodations, inviting dining options and a selection of tours. The resort is less than two miles from the entrance to Denali National Park and welcomes all visitors with warm, northern hospitality. Shuttle available from the resort to the park entrance. Mile 238.9 Parks Hwy. 800-544-0970 westmarkhotels.com
Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge south of Denali in Denali State Park, this lodge features spectacular views of Denali and the Alaska Range. There are a variety of dining venues from upscale dining to a mid-scale restaurant, Lounge and Espresso Bar.

DENALI ROADHOUSE GIFTS



On the Rainbow Village Boardwalk

Souvenirs for the Whole Family!

Denali/Alaska Christmas Ornaments
Denali Warm Clothes • Nesting Dolls
Humorous T-Shirts • Stuffed Animals

Open Mid-May to Mid September

Visitor Information • We Ship Anywhere

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Denali Rainbow Village

Motel, RV Park & Boardwalk Mall



In the Heart of Denali's Shopping & Activities

Full & Partial Hookups • 30-50 amp • TV • WiFi • Showers • Laundry

Fantastic New Motel Rooms • Best Deal in Denali

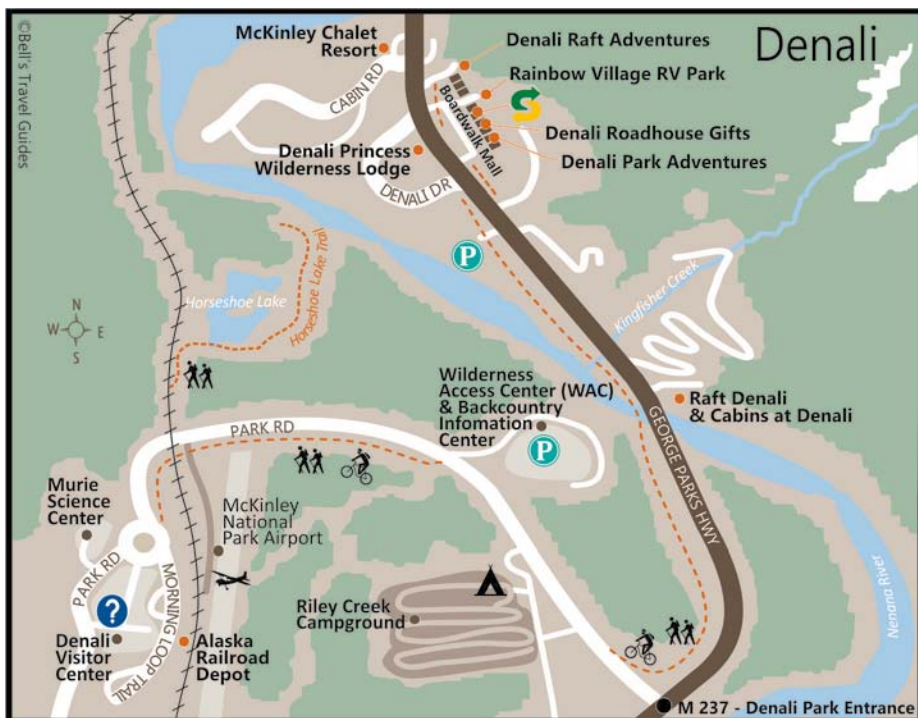
Private Baths • TV • WiFi • Some Kitchens

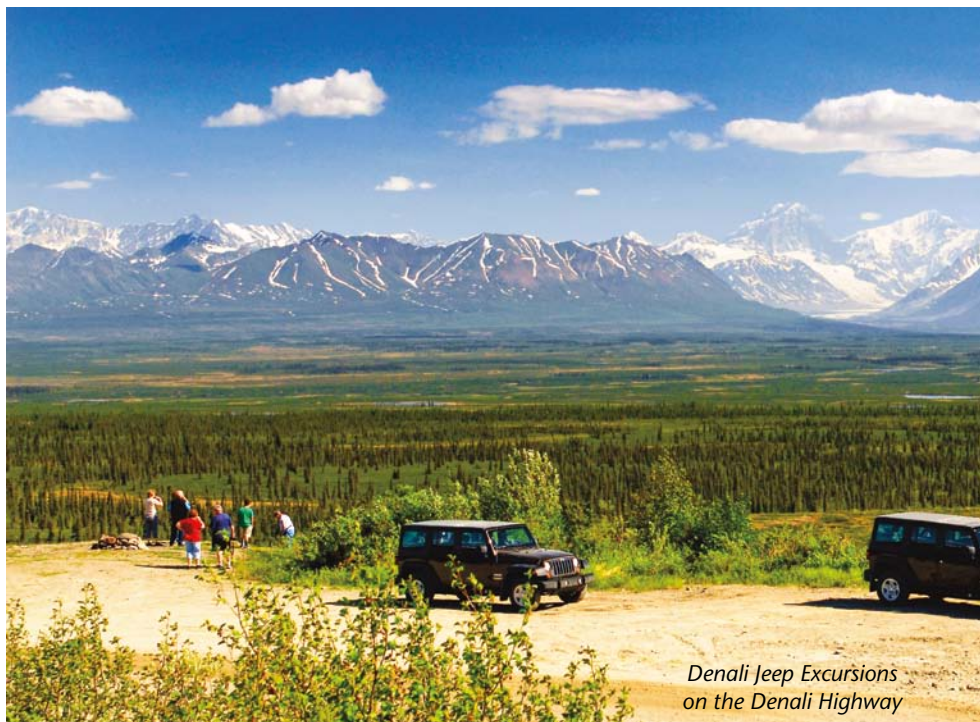
907-683-7777



Mile 238.6 Parks Highway - One Mile North of Denali Park Entrance
denalirainbow@mtaonline.net

www.denalirv.com





*Denali Jeep Excursions
on the Denali Highway*

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Mile 238.6 Parks Hwy in the Rainbow Village RV Park

Not valid with any other Special
**SAVE 10%
WITH
THIS AD!**
Must be redeemed directly by holder

The main lodge boasts mountain views from the expansive deck, a gift shop, tour desk, Wi-fi and two main common areas. The spacious guest rooms feature cable TV, hair dryer, phone and coffee maker. Open mid-May through mid-September. The Lodge often runs special summer rates so be sure to call ahead. Mile 133 Parks Highway, Denali State Park. Call 800-426-0500 for reservations or visit princisslodges.com for special rates and offers.



CAMPING

There are six park service campgrounds in Denali. Registration is at the Riley Creek Mercantile or the Wilderness Access Center. No hookups for RVs at these wilderness parks.

Denali Rainbow Village RV Park has full and partial hookups, pull-throughs, cable TV, Tengo Wi-fi, clean showers, laundry and dump station. Good Sam RV Park. Mile 238.6, one mile north of the Denali Park entrance. 907-683-7777



DINING

King Salmon Restaurant at the Denali Princess Wilderness Lodge specializes in fresh Alaskan seafood. Try amazing king crab legs, halibut or a variety of wild Alaskan salmon dishes. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner during the summer. Mile 238.5 Parks Highway.

Subway® has RV friendly locations open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Get a 6-inch or Footlong Sub and add chips and a drink for your adventure! Stop and fuel up at Subway® at the Denali Rainbow Village, order online at www.Subway.com or on the Subway® APP.



THINGS TO DO

Denali Air Fly with the original flightseeing company in Denali for your best odds of seeing the mountain while circling it "face to face." Passengers on this flight see more of Denali, more often. Fly from their exclusive private airstrip for stunning aerial views of Denali National Park in the comfort and safety of twin engine aircraft; all seats are window seats for optimal viewing. See the spine of the Alaska Range, spectacular glaciers and Denali's elusive north and south peaks. Don't miss your chance to see it all. Book today by calling 907-683-2261.

Denali Backcountry Adventure is a 92-mile journey through the rugged backcountry of Denali National Park. Denali Backcountry Adventure gives

Denali RV Park & Motel has bargain prices on 80 RV sites. \$57 full hookup sites/\$63 pull-throughs with satellite & cable TV and free Wi-fi. Dog walking available. Gift shop, outdoor cooking area and friendly staff. Mile 245.1 Parks Highway. 907-683-1500 or 800-478-1501

Denali Grizzly Bear Resort Wooded RV sites, water, electric (20/30 amp) and secluded riverside tenting. Wi-fi available for a fee, cable TV, laundromat, gifts & propane. Mile 231.1. 866-583-2696



SHOPPING

Denali Roadhouse Gifts on the Rainbow Village Boardwalk. They carry a large selection of Denali/Alaska Christmas ornaments, Russian made crafts including nested dolls, humorous T-shirts, fun stuffed Alaska animals, souvenirs for children and a fine assortment of other Denali Park souvenirs. They will ship your gift purchases anywhere in the world. Open mid-May to mid-Sept. Call 907-683-2234.



Mile 99 Parks Hwy & on the boardwalk in Denali

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Rafters experience the thrill of whitewater with Denali Raft Adventures

Courtesy Denali Raft Adventures

guests a true taste of Alaska wilderness by venturing into the heart of the park, going 50 percent farther than most park tours. During the 13 hour adventure, local guides will point out legendary landmarks and rugged wildlife habitats. Stop in Kantishna for lunch before trying gold panning or joining a guided botany walk. For reservations call 800-808-8068 and book your tour.

Denali Raft Adventures located at Denali National Park, 1/2 mile north of the Nenana River bridge in the Denali Rainbow Village Mall behind the Thai/Chinese Restaurant. Choose a two hour exhilarating whitewater excursion or a mild water trip with stunning scenery. Enjoy both options with the 4 hour combined trip. Help paddle in a guided raft or just ride in an oar raft while your guide rows.

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No matter which you choose, you'll ride in comfort in protective Gortex drysuits. 10% Discount on rafting with this ad or check their website for specials. 907-683-2234 or toll free 888-683-2234

Denali Park Adventures Experience all of Denali with three fun and exciting tours. Ride ATVs into Denali Park, drive Jeeps down the Denali Highway or zipline through the Boreal forest. Visit the Denali Park Adventures office on the Boardwalk at Denali Rainbow Mall. **Denali ATV Adventures** offers four tours traveling deep into the Alaskan bush. 2½ to 3½ hours and even a midnight sun trip. Single ATVs and 2-6 rider side-by-side ATVs available. Professional guides give the history of the area and show you the beautiful scenery and wildlife! 907-683-4288

Denali Park Zipline Tours is Denali area's only Zipline tour - designed and built for maximum enjoyment for all participants. No need to hand brake or worry about getting stuck, just relax and enjoy the views during your thrill ride. Certified

guides lead you along six suspension bridges and seven ziplines. 907-683-2947 **Denali Jeep Excursions** gives you the opportunity to drive a 4-door, 4x4 Jeep Wrangler on the scenic Denali Highway, experiencing views of Denali, the Alaska Range, glaciers, & wildlife! This guided tour is 4 hours long and provides drinks & snacks. 907-683-5337

Nenana Raft Adventures has a rafting experience for everyone; from exhilarating trips through the Nenana Gorge or a serene journey on the Upper Nenana. Scenic trips have beginning level white-water (Class II/III) but are still suitable for children 5 and older while Nenana Gorge trips require children be at least 10 years old. The Gorge trips are Class III/IV whitewater with both Oar rafts or Paddle rafts. Dry suits and all safety equipment is provided. Multiple departures daily in the summer. Allow 3-4 hours for your river adventure. Multi-day trips on the Nenana River and other Alaska rivers can also be arranged. Call 1-800-789-7238

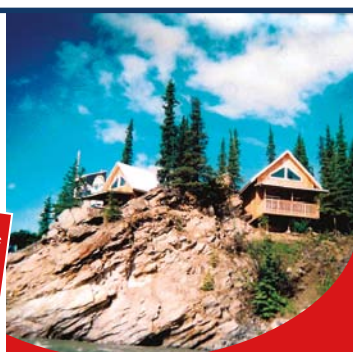


800-789-RAFT

In Denali Call 907-683-RAFT (7238)

www.raftdenali.com

Visit our office next to the bridge at
the Main Entrance to Denali
National Park, Milepost 238 Parks Hwy.



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Denali National Park
Entrance Area

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www.cabinsatdenali.com



TAKE A HIKE IN DENALI NATIONAL PARK

As you might imagine there are a lot of hiking options in Denali. What there isn't, however, is a great number of designated trails in the Park, but you can go off trail in most areas. The first two hikes listed below are easy guided walks by the National Park Service (NPS). Bears are common throughout Denali National Park, so be prepared. Always carry bear spray when hiking in the Alaskan wilderness, make noise and talk to the staff and Rangers at the Visitor Center for the best advice on staying safe, while enjoying the Denali wilderness.

Horseshoe Lake Trail is an easy to moderate trail that climbs about 250 ft. and takes three hours. Your guide will explain the flora and fauna of the area and identify landmarks.

The McKinley Station Walk traverses an area used by early pioneers in the Park. The trail follows Riley Creek and ends at the campground where shuttle buses return you to the Visitor Center. It covers 2.6 miles and is an easy two hour walk.

Mount Healy Trail is one of our favorites because it offers a guided portion and then the option to explore on your own. Monday to Saturday you can join a Ranger at 10am for the first two hours of this trail. At the end of the Ranger led portion you can extend the hike on your own or return with the guide. This is a challenging trail as there is a 1000 ft. elevation gain.

Savage River Loop Trail is at mile 15 of the Denali Park Road and can be accessed by car, RV or the free Savage River Shuttle that departs from the Visitor Center. The trailhead is at the end of the publicly accessible portion of the Denali Park Road. This is an easy 1.7 mile loop that follows the Savage River. There is very little elevation change and should take around 1 hour to complete. This area can get very windy and see sudden changes in weather, so be prepared.

Wonder Lake at mile 85 of the Park Road (only accessible by shuttle bus). If you're planning to travel to the end of the Park Road, you will be rewarded with the closest and most spectacular views of Denali. The Wonder Lake trailhead is at the Wonder Lake Campground. The trail is an easy 2 mile trek to McKinley River at the foot of incredible mountain scenery. This trail was part of the original access route mountaineers used to begin their summit attempts on Denali.

Triple Lakes Trail is accessed from the Visitor Center via the McKinley Bar Trail. It is the longest established trail in Denali at 9.5 miles and has 1000 ft of elevation gain, making it a challenging hike. The south trailhead is at a small parking lot on the Parks Highway near mile 231.5. The trail passes through spectacular wilderness and encounters three beautiful lakes.

HEALY

Healy is 12 miles north of Denali National Park at mile 249 Parks Highway. It has numerous hotels, lodges and bed and breakfasts. Because of its proximity to Denali National Park, many visitors prefer to base themselves in Healy. The town lies along the Nenana River on the northeast border of the Park. Healy is also home to the state's only commercial coal mine.

In 1914, a railroad workers camp was built near the Healy Forks junction to build the rail line to Fairbanks. Coal was discovered and in a very short time, dozens of underground coal mines were opened along the river. They provided coal to the growing townsite and other communities in Alaska. The growing economy lured other entrepreneurs and among them was Emil Usibelli, an Italian immigrant who founded Usibelli Coal Mine (UCM) in 1943. It is now the only operational coal mine in Alaska. It has a work force of about 130 employees and operates year-round. Usibelli coal is among the lowest sulfur coal produced in the world. UCM's success

in a harsh climate and remote location can be attributed to innovation and state-of-the-art equipment used to maximize efficiency. Currently, an average of two million tons of coal is produced annually, supplying six Alaska power plants.



VISITOR INFO

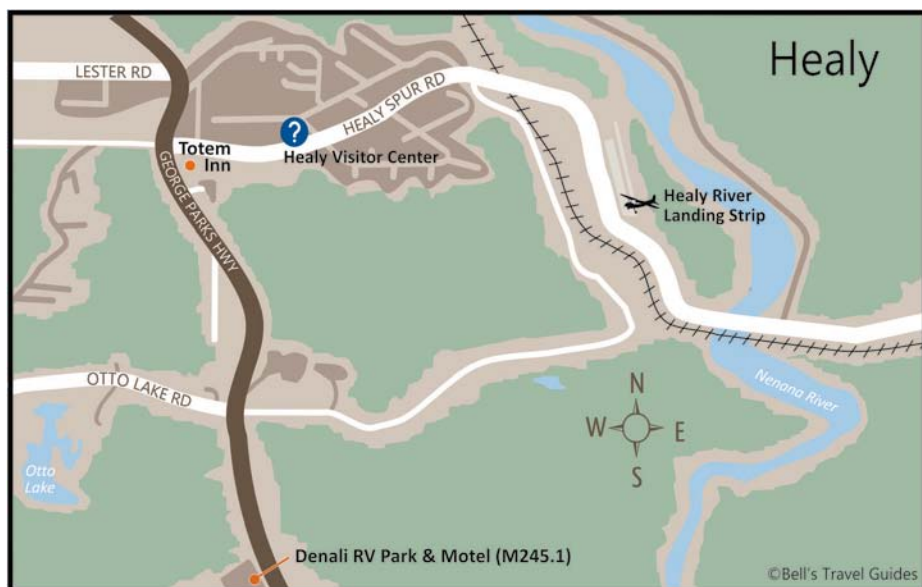
Healy/Denali Chamber of Commerce at mile 0.6 Healy Spur Road. 907-683-4636



ACCOMMODATION

Totem Inn All rooms include free Wi-fi, microwaves, TV's and memory foam mattress. Hot Breakfast included. Restaurant & Sports Bar with big screen TV. Totem Inn is at mile 248.7 of the Parks Hwy. 907-683-6500 (see ad in Denali pg 95)

Denali RV Park & Motel offers the best value in the Denali area with bargain prices on motel rooms and RV sites. Rooms include doubles, singles, or a 4-bed family suite, all with private baths. 80 RV sites with full and partial hookups, satellite & cable TV, and free Wi-fi. Discounts for Good Sam members, seniors and military. Mile 245.1 Parks Hwy. 907-683-1500 or 800-478-1501 (see ad in Denali pg 94)



NENANA

The village of Nenana is situated at the confluence of the Nenana and Tanana Rivers about halfway between Fairbanks and Denali National Park. It was originally known as Tortella by the white community as they had difficulty with the pronunciation of the native word "Toghotthele," which means "hill on the water." The name was changed to Nenana, an Athabascan word which means "a good place to camp between the rivers."

In 1902 the discovery of gold in Fairbanks brought increased activity to Nenana, and in 1903 Jim Duke built a trading post/roadhouse to service the river traffic and trade with the native community.



The Alaska Railroad Depot is now a Museum

Nenana's population grew dramatically with the building of the Alaska Railroad. The first surveyors arrived in 1916 and began building a dock to service the boat traffic on the two rivers.

President Warren J. Harding drove the golden spike at the north end of the Nenana rail bridge on July 15, 1923. After the completion of the railroad, there were 5,000 residents living in Nenana, however, an economic slump soon followed and by 1930 there were only 291. Today the economy is still based on its role as the center of rail-to-river barge transportation for the Interior of Alaska.

Nenana is famous for its Ice Classic, a lottery based on guessing when the ice in the Nenana River will break up in April or May of each year; a tradition since 1917.



VISITOR INFO

Nenana Visitor Information Center log cabin is located at the corner of Parks Highway and the entrance to Nenana.



THINGS TO DO

Nenana has a number of attractions visitors will be interested in such as the Alaska Railroad Museum, the Golden Railroad Spike Historic Park and Interpretive Center, the historical St. Mark's Episcopal Church (built in 1905), Iditarod dog kennels, and a replica of the Sternwheeler Nenana. A heritage center features displays of local culture and history and is open from May to September.

Alaska Railroad Museum Built in 1922, is one of only three original railroad depots left in Alaska. It is home to a great collection of railroad memorabilia and artifacts. The monument that commemorates the golden spike is nearby, at the end of A Street. **Alfred Starr Cultural Center & Museum** Explore the history and culture of the Natives who made their camps here. See how the Ice Classic got its start. Gift shop with locally crafted items.



SERVICES

A Frame Services Chevron gas and diesel available in easy access pumps. Convenience store with snacks, deli items and Cafe. Mile 304.5 Parks Highway. 907-832-5823



Nenana

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MILE 304.5 PARKS HWY 907-832-5823



*Riverboat Discovery on
the Chena River*

FAIRBANKS

THE GOLDEN HEART CITY

The small-town hospitality and pioneer spirit will make your stay in Fairbanks one to remember. It is Alaska's second largest city with a population of 31,500 and the Fairbanks North Star Borough has a population of almost 100,000, including the nearby military bases.

In 1901 Captain E.T. Barnette disembarked from the steamship, Lavelle Young, and set up a temporary trading post on the banks of the Chena River. His temporary post became permanent the following year when Felix Pedro discovered gold in the nearby hills. The gold rush was on and Fairbanks was flooded with miners from all over the world determined to strike it rich. In 1903 Fairbanks was incorporated as a City and was named after Indiana Senator Charles Fairbanks, who later became Vice President.

Now, "discovery day" is commemorated each year with a celebration in July called Golden Days. Locals dress in period costumes and there is even a roaming jail that may arrest you if you're not wearing a Golden Days pin or a garter!

There is still active mining in the area and glimpses of the former bonanzas can be seen along the Steese Highway in the huge tailing piles leftover by the gold dredges.

Fairbanks is also the home of several outstanding attractions. The Riverboat Discovery is consistently rated the number one boat tour in Alaska and Gold Dredge 8 is also a visitor favorite. The University of Alaska 'Museum of the North' is highly rated and gives visitors a glimpse into Alaska's fascinating history. The Antique Auto Museum at Wedgewood Resort has such a fantastic collection of vintage automobiles, period fashion and historical photos that it is ranked by TripAdvisor as the number one attraction in Fairbanks.



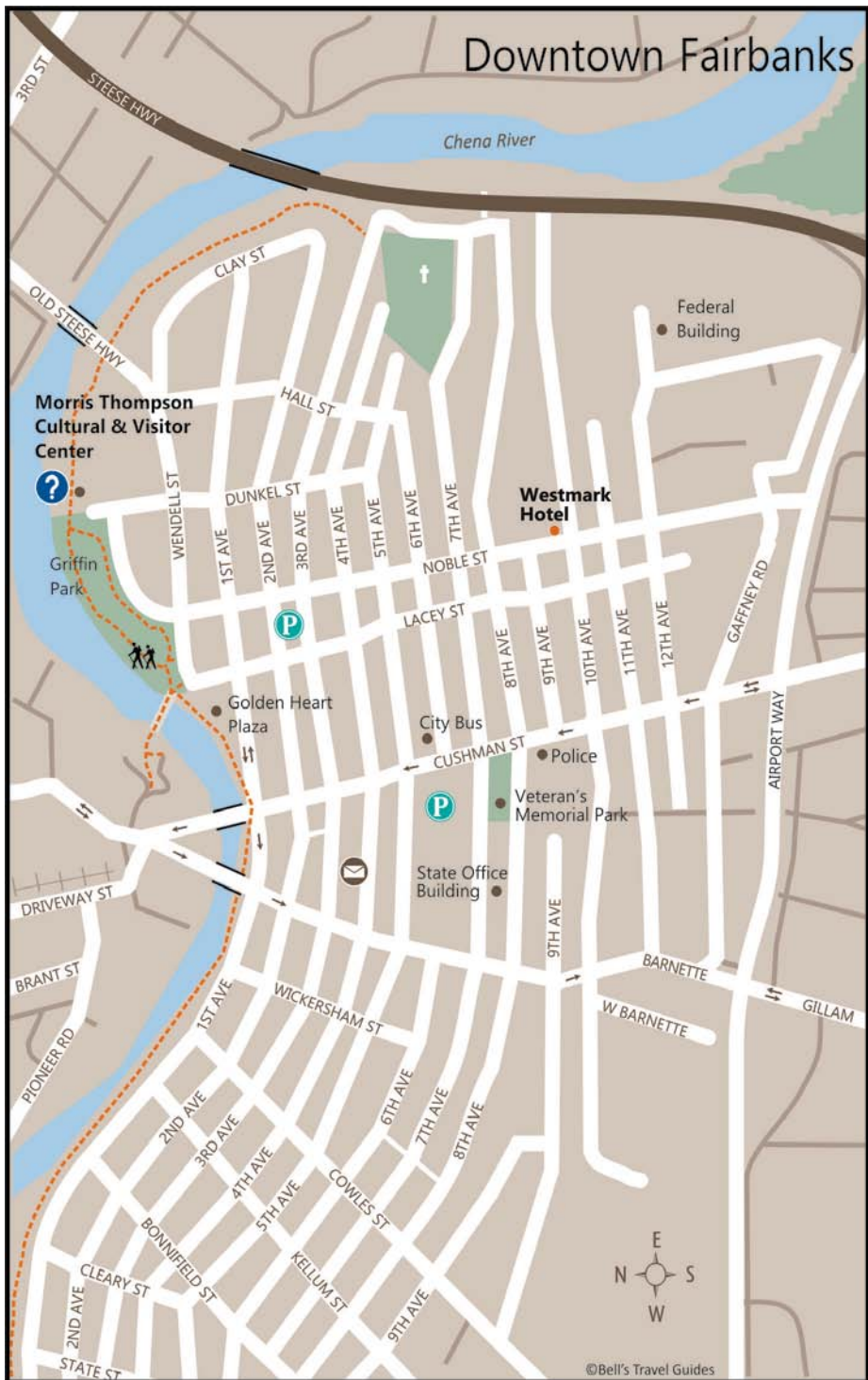
VISITOR INFO

The Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center is home to Explore Fairbanks the organization that oversees the Visitor Center. The 9,000 square-feet of interpretive space features exhibits on the land, the seasons and the peoples of Fairbanks, Interior Alaska and the Arctic.

The MTCVC is open seven days a week from 8am to 9pm in summer and 8am to 5pm in the winter. Free Wi-fi. In historic downtown Fairbanks at 101 Dunkel Street. 907-456-5774 or 800-327-5774

Fairbanks Alaska Public Lands Information Center Information on accessing public lands in Alaska state and federal parks, forests and refuges. 101 Dunkel Street. 907-459-3730





Tanana Valley Farmers Market is open
Wednesday and Saturdays during the Summer



Courtesy Bill Wright

Statue of 'Unknown First Family' in
Golden Heart Plaza



Courtesy Angie Cerny



ACCOMMODATION

7 Gables Inn & Suites Centrally located near major attractions. Efficiency apartments and one & two room suites all with kitchens. Gourmet breakfast served daily. Jacuzzis, laundry, cable TV, & free Wi-fi. 4312 Birch Lane. 907-479-0751

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Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge Located on the banks of the Chena River, Fairbanks Princess Lodge is the choice of experienced travelers. The Edgewater Dining Room and Trackers Bar & Grill

have great food plus a large outdoor deck extending to the edge of the Chena River. Gift shop, espresso bar & fitness center, free Wi-fi, and a seasonal tour desk. 4477 Pikes Landing Road. 800-426-0500 or 907-455-4477 or princesslodges.com.

Fountainhead Hotels has three outstanding properties in Fairbanks. **Wedgewood Resort** offers condo-style 1, 2 & 3 bedroom suites, perfect for both nightly visits and extended stays. The Resort is located minutes from downtown Fairbanks and the University of Alaska.

Bear Lodge at Wedgewood Resort offers large guest rooms in quiet surroundings from mid-May to mid-September. Enjoy the complimentary fitness center, Wi-fi, 24 hour courtesy van to the airport or Railroad Depot and the on-site, world-class, Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum. Finally, **Sophie Station Suites** is well known to locals and visitors for providing outstanding guest service, spacious suites, a 24-hour fitness room and an ideal location. Zach's Restaurant serves traditional Alaskan specialties and offers an extensive wine list. For reservations at all properties call 907-456-3642 or 800-528-4916.

Westmark Fairbanks Hotel sets the standard for comfort and hospitality. With a convenient downtown location, the hotel is prepared to meet your every need. 813 Noble Street. 907-456-7722 or 800-544-0970 or westmarkhotels.com

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Take a ride into history
on the narrow gauge
train at Gold Dredge 8



CAMPING

Chena Lakes Recreation Area has two campgrounds, one at the Lake Park and one at the River Park. Each campground has two camping loops and a combined total of 80 campsites (some pull throughs). Both camping loops have potable water and restroom facilities, picnic areas, covered pavilions and volleyball courts available during the summer and early fall. The Lake Park has designated swimming areas and a sandy beach. There are canoes, kayaks and stand-up paddle boards for rent. Located south of Fairbanks on Laurence Road (mile 347 Richardson Highway). 907-488-1655

River's Edge Resort & RV Park is on the banks of the Chena River. Large pull-through sites with full and partial hook-ups. Tent sites available. Cable TV at most sites, free Wi-fi, laundry, restrooms and free showers. Tour information and ticket purchase for local attractions. 4200 Boat Street. 907-474-0286

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SS Nenana in
Pioneer Park



SHOPPING

Pioneer Park is home to several small cabins that house local artisans, photographers and gift shops. Most of these original 'frontier era' cabins were moved here from around the Fairbanks area when the park was built. Pioneer Park is at 2300 Airport Way.

The Tanana Valley Farmers Market showcases a wide variety of Alaska grown produce and Made in Alaska crafts.

From mid-May to mid-Sept. the market operates on Wednesdays 11 am - 4pm and Saturdays 9am - 4pm at 2600 College Rd.

The Great Alaskan Bowl Company is one of America's last bowl mills. They manufacture solid one-piece wooden bowls from Alaskan Birch that is harvested in a sustainable manner. Browse over 1500 different Alaskan gifts from cutting boards to birch syrup. Shop online or visit the Factory Store and watch them create these beautiful wood bowls. 4630 Old Airport Way. 907-770-4222

44-acre park showcasing the history of Fairbanks

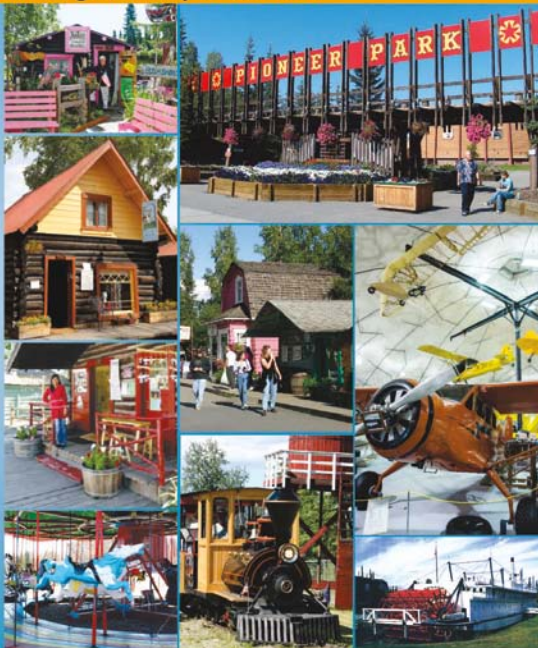
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**Gold
Dredge8**



The Harding Railcar in Pioneer Park



Vintage automobiles and historic fashion make Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum a fun stop for the whole family



THINGS TO DO

Gold Dredge 8 After viewing the TransAlaska pipeline, ride an original narrow-gauge train a short distance to the mine. There you will view various types of mining equipment that was used during the gold rush and what is used today.

An explanation of how the gold dredge was used to recover massive amounts of the precious metal will surprise you. After a short course in gold panning you're given a chance to pan for gold and keep the gold you are guaranteed to find. There is a gift shop with many souvenir choices. The tour takes approximately two hours

and operates daily. Handicap accessible. Follow the Steese Expressway north, take a left at Goldstream and left onto Old Steese Highway. 1803 Old Steese Highway. Call 907-479-6673 or 866-479-6673 for reservations, pickup locations and times.

Riverboat Discovery Captain Charlie Binkley first arrived in Fairbanks in 1898 with dreams of piloting Sternwheelers on the great river systems of Alaska and the Yukon. A great family tradition was founded in Fairbanks and over 90 years later his descendants still continue to carry passengers on Alaska's rivers. The Discovery Sternwheeler is the only remaining authentic sternwheeler left in the State.

Consistently rated as one of the best tours in Alaska by international travel writers, the Riverboat is one tour that you don't want to miss. 1975 Discovery Drive.

For reservations and shuttle service, pickup locations and times call 907-479-6673 or 866-479-6673.

Pioneer Park is a 44 acre theme park that commemorates early Alaskan history with a number of interesting attractions. Located at 2300 Airport Way. Entrance to the Park is free, however, some attractions charge a fee. You'll discover: Gold Rush Town, which has 35 restored buildings

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that have been moved here from around the area and most are now gift shops. You can see the SS Nenana, a Sternwheeler that carried passengers and cargo on the Chena River from 1933 to 1954. It is the second-largest wooden-hulled ship still in existence. Step onto the rail car used by President Warren G. Harding during his visit to Alaska in 1923. Visit the Pioneer Air Museum and see full size aircraft with significant importance to Alaska history. Stop by the Pioneer Museum to see artifacts from Alaskan life during the gold rush.

During your visit make plans to have dinner at the Alaska Salmon Bake and take in the Palace Theatre Show that presents a fun Vaudeville-style history of Fairbanks during the gold rush era. Take a ride on the Crooked Creek narrow gauge railroad that travels through the Park or visit Mining Valley, which has a working replica of a gold rush-era sluice gate.

Pioneer Park is home to the Fairbanks Folk School, in Cabin No. 66, behind the Centennial Center. This is a non-profit organization offering classes for all ages. **Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum** This TripAdvisor review said it best: "Absolutely the best museum we have ever been to - both for autos as well as regional

history and vintage fashion. Do yourself a favor and go to this museum! You will not be disappointed!!" This unexpected gem at Wedgewood Resort features a remarkable collection of antique cars and historic fashions, plus entertaining displays on Alaska motoring history. There are also over 150 historic costumes exhibited alongside these automotive works of art. This nationally acclaimed auto museum earned top ratings from TripAdvisor, MSNBC.com, and Lonely Planet.

The Fountainhead Museum's automobile collection features over 95 American-made vehicles, including beautifully restored horseless carriages, nickel touring cars, rakish speedsters, elegant classics, and 1930s midget race cars. From rare marquees like Compound and Argonne to well-known names like Packard and Stutz, visitors will be thrilled at the beauty, innovation, and history of these rolling masterpieces. Amazingly, all but a few of the automobiles are driven each summer, making this a true "living museum."

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DINING

Princess Hotels has two excellent options for dining. **The Edgewater Dining Room** overlooks the Chena River and offers an extensive menu. Open May - September. **Trackers Bar & Grill** has a casual atmosphere featuring wild Alaska seafood, great burgers and sandwiches. Both have the quality and the atmosphere that one comes to expect from Alaska's premium lodging provider.

Chena's Alaskan Grill is a full service restaurant, serving great burgers, pizza, steaks and seafood. Enjoy the casual dining on the riverside deck. Daily specials on Facebook. 4200 Boat St. 907-474-0286

The Pump House serves fresh Seafood, smoked ribs and has the world's most northern Oyster Bar. One of Fairbanks best known restaurants for quality food and a great atmosphere. Spend an afternoon on the deck overlooking the Chena River. Mile 1.3 Chena Pump Rd. 907-479-8452

The Crepery not only offers sweet and savory crepes, but delicious coffee as well. Known in Fairbanks for amazing crepe creations like the Carmel Banana Cheesecake Crepe or the Spicy Meat Lovers Crepe. 535 2nd Ave. 907-450-9192

The Fudge Pot is famous for over 30 flavors of homemade fudge as well as sandwiches, soups, espresso and ice cream. Open year-round. 515 1st. Ave. 907-456-3834

The Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum is also home to more than 1000 textiles from the 18th to the mid-20th Century, the museum presents one of the largest historic fashion collections on permanent display in the Western United States. The exhibits include enchanting examples of men's, women's and children's fashions, from silk bustle dresses and motoring dusters to shimmering flapper shifts and dapper tuxedos. Antique accessories including historic hats, shoes and jewelry complete the scores of vintage elegance.

Historic photos and videos located throughout the galleries vividly illustrate the extreme circumstances faced by Alaska's pioneering motorists. Although dreadful road conditions and severe climate were unkind to their vehicles, some of these early autos survived and several are exhibited in the Alaska Gallery. These include the Territory's first automobile, built in 1905 by a man who had never seen a car before! At the Sourdough Roadhouse, children and adults can don period clothing and climb aboard a 1911 automobile for photographs along the Old Valdez Trail.

Other museum attractions include a bicycle exhibit, gift shop and on-going projects in the automotive shop. There are self-guided tours with headsets as well as group and docent guided tours available.

For more information or to book a tour, call 907-450-2100. Visit the museum at 212 Wedgewood Drive.

Georgeson Botanical Garden This five acre garden conducts a variety of research and educational programs in subarctic horticulture. Admission is by donation. Open Memorial Day to Labor Day from 8am - 8pm. 2178 West Tanana Drive on the University of Alaska Campus. 907-474-7222

University of Alaska Museum of the North is the only research and teaching museum in Alaska. Its artifacts represent thousands of years of cultural traditions in the North. Exhibits in The Rose Berry Alaska Art Gallery include art that spans 2000 years, showcasing everything from

ancient ivory carvings to contemporary paintings and sculpture. They also have the state's largest public display of gold and 'Blue Babe' a 36,000-year-old mummified steppe bison. Exhibits change regularly, however, they currently include: 'Expedition Alaska: Adventures in Museum Science,' and other outdoor art exhibits. Located on the University Campus at 1962 Yukon Drive. 907-474-7505



TOURS

Northern Alaska Tour Company is Alaskan-owned and operated and is consistently rated very highly by its clients. They specialize in sightseeing excursions throughout Alaska's Arctic, utilizing a fleet of first-class touring vans, 25-passenger coaches and flightseeing aircraft. One day and multi-day excursions are available during both summer and winter. The diversity of Northern Alaska Tour Company's multiple transportation options allow the traveler to experience this vast region in a comprehensive yet economical way. 907-474-8600 or 800-474-1986



TRANSPORTATION

Airlink's Alaska/Yukon Trails makes traveling through Alaska & The Yukon easy and economical. Vans/mini coaches depart daily from Fairbanks to Denali National Park, Talkeetna and Anchorage via the Parks Highway. Shuttles leave for Dawson City via the Top-of-the-World Highway when International borders are open. Schedule and pricing available online. 907-452-3337



SERVICES

Arctic RV has a huge selection of high quality RV parts and accessories in stock. Certified technicians can service campers, trailers and toy haulers. They are a Factory authorized service center for Duotherm, Suburban, Atwood, Norcold, Dometic, Hydroflame & Thetford. 3013 Peger Road. 907-451-8356



HIKING

There are over 350 bike and multi-use paths in Fairbanks. A good trail guide is available from the Alaska Public Lands Center in the Morris Thompson Visitor Center at 101 Dunkel Street. There are a myriad of hikes in the Fairbanks area that range from easy to expert. Here are a few favorites.

Wedgewood Wildlife Sanctuary at the Wedgewood Resort features walking trails that wind through a 75 acre boreal forest and around Wander Lake, a model wetlands reclamation project. The trails are suitable for wheelchairs and strollers and have plenty of benches along the path to stop and watch for wildlife. More than 120 species of birds, 15 different mammals and numerous fish have been recorded in the sanctuary.

Angel Rocks trail head is a small picnic and parking area at mile 48.9 of the Chena Hot Springs Road. A 3.5 mile loop trail leads to a large granite outcropping near the north boundary of the recreation area. It is an easy day hike for most people, as the top of the rocks is less than two miles. Incredible views of the Alaska Range, Chena Dome, Far Mountain, and The Butte. This hike is also the starting point for the 8.3 mile (one-way) hike to Chena Hot Springs which is more challenging.

Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge has year-round birding and wildlife viewing. It was originally a dairy farm founded in the early 1900s. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game began management of the area in 1968. A three-mile-long network of nature trails crosses the 2,000 acre refuge, passing through boreal forest, seasonal wetlands and open fields. Observation platforms and an elevated viewing tower are great places to stop and scan for wildlife. Watch for interpretive signs with viewing tips and natural history facts on the refuge. At the Farmhouse Visitor Center learn more about the refuge and its programs and pick up a self-guided tour booklet. 1300 College Road. 907-459-7307

NORTH POLE

One of Alaska's most unique communities is North Pole, 15 miles southeast of Fairbanks. It is best known as the home of Santa Claus House but has a large number of businesses that cater to visitors. Restaurants, motels, campgrounds, supermarkets and a shopping center are located near the Richardson Highway.



World's largest Santa Claus statue at 42ft

North Pole has a population of about 2,100. This area was first homesteaded in 1944 by farmers Bon and Bernice Davis. In 1952, Dahl and Gaske Development Company purchased the Davis homestead, subdivided it and renamed it North Pole, in hopes of attracting a toy manufacturer to the area. The City was incorporated on January 15, 1953

Unlike many Alaskan towns, North Pole does not have history going back thousands of years, but that does not mean it is boring! Con Miller was a young entrepreneur who became a fur buyer and trader shortly after arriving in Alaska in 1949.

He opened a small gift store in Fairbanks and then moved it to North Pole. Miller had already developed a reputation for playing Santa Claus to the Native children in the Alaskan Villages, and so he named his new trading post Santa Claus House.

Con and his wife Nellie set about creating a dream that is still ongoing today. Realizing how exciting it was for children to get a letter from Santa, Con and Nellie decided to make it easy for them to receive a letter from the North Pole. They encouraged children to write to Santa and ensured every child got a return letter.

You can still receive one of the letters that the Millers created by going to the Santa Clause House website.

Each year the U.S. post office at North Pole receives thousands of letters from hopeful children around the world looking for a special letter with return postmark from the North Pole.



VISITOR INFO

North Pole Visitor Information Center located at 2550 Mistletoe Drive is open from the end of May to September. 907-488-2242



ACCOMMODATION

Hotel North Pole Open year-round and locally owned. Free continental breakfast and Wi-fi. Northern Lights Wake up call on request. Santa Suite available. Close to Santa Claus House and local shops and restaurants. Ideally located between military bases, only 15 minutes from Fairbanks. Inquire about local tours and Santa Package. 907-488-4800



DINING

Pagoda Restaurant is a hidden gem in North Pole. Since 1990 Chef Benny has served up delicious Asian dishes and has been voted the best steak in town! Featured on The Food Network's Diners Drive-ins and Dives. 431 Santa Claus Lane. 907-448-3338

DELTA JUNCTION

Delta Junction marks the true end of the Alaska Highway and has a population of approximately 850. This area was a traditional hunting territory of the Athabaskan Indians for thousands of years. The town is spread out around the Alaska and Richardson Highways and from here, going north or south, you will be traveling on the Richardson Highway.

In 1903, what was to become the Richardson Highway, was built from Valdez to Fairbanks because of the discovery of gold in Fairbanks. A road house was built at the junction of the Delta and Tanana Rivers to supply the gold seekers, and a telegraph station was built in 1904 to aid increased communication needs. This trail used a portion of the Valdez Eagle trail made famous by the Klondike Gold Rush.

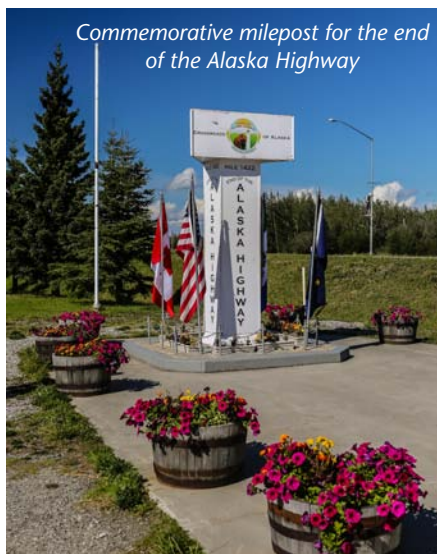
The Chisana Gold Rush of 1913 and Delta's selection in 1920 as the home of the government's buffalo importation program helped establish the town as a permanent settlement. The Bison Sanctuary is a 90,000-acre tract of land which contains a free-roaming herd of more than 500 bison.

Pogo Mine is an underground gold mine 40 air miles from Delta Junction. The mine began production in April 2007 and employs over 300 people. It was scheduled to operate for 10 years, however production is now expected to continue much longer. More than 3.8 million ounces have been mined since opening, making it the eighth largest gold mine in the U.S.



VISITOR INFO

Delta Junction Visitor Information Center
at the junction of the Richardson and the Alaska Highway. Stop in for comprehensive visitors information and a selection of souvenirs including Delta Junction pins. Open daily 8am to 8pm, from mid-May through mid-September.



The milepost monument, at the Visitor Center, marks the end of the Alaska Highway and is an excellent photo opportunity. Certificates for completing the Alaska Highway are available. 907-895-5068



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Convenience Store
Diesel, Gas and Propane
R.V. Dump Station
Easy Access for All Vehicles
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CAMPING

Delta State Recreation Site 25 campsites, picnic shelter, water and toilets. Conveniently located near town in a wilderness setting. Mile 267 Richardson Highway.

Big Delta State Historical Park has 23 camping sites. Toilets, water available and a dump station. Only 8 miles north of Delta Junction at mile 274.5 Richardson Highway.



THINGS TO DO

Deltana Fair held annually at the end of July has a parade, mud bogs and more.

Farmer's Market Wednesday & Saturday, across from the Visitors Center.

Big Delta State Historical Park is a 10 acre park with RV camping, picnic area, toilets, water and an RV dump station, located at mile 275 Richardson Hwy. There are a number of historical buildings on the grounds, including a Telegraph station and Museum. The centerpiece of the park

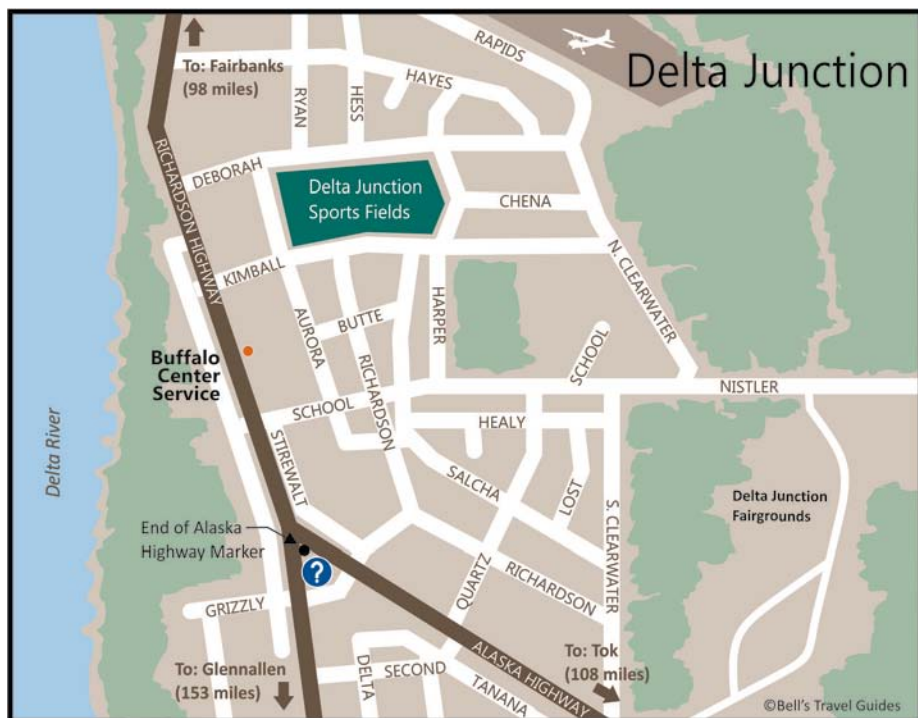
is undoubtedly, **Rika's Roadhouse**. This historic roadhouse was started in 1909 as a stop for hunters, trappers, prospectors and local Athabaskans. In 1918 Rika Wallen took over the roadhouse and ran it until the 1950s. There is a café and gift shop open during the summer.

Sullivan Roadhouse built in 1905, is the oldest roadhouse in Interior Alaska. John and Florence Sullivan operated it from 1905-1922. The museum is filled with artifacts, and equipment from the building of the Alaska Highway. It is located across from the Visitors Center and admission is free.



SERVICES

Buffalo Center Service has gas, diesel, propane as well as tire sales and service. There is a well-stocked convenience store with a large selection of merchandise. Clean restrooms, free RV dump station with a fuel fill-up and easy access for RV's. Open 5am-11pm Monday to Saturday, 8am-11pm on Sunday. 24 Hour Credit Card Fueling.





Tok

GATEWAY TO ALASKA

Tok is often referred to as the “Gateway to Alaska,” due to it being the first major community you encounter, in Alaska, when heading north. The Alaska Highway also intersects here with the Tok Cut-off, which leads to the Richardson and Glenn Highways; the main access routes to Glenallen, Valdez and Anchorage.

The area was originally settled by Athabaskan Indians and the name “Tok” is thought to be derived from an Athabaskan word meaning “water.” The origin of the town name, however, remains somewhat controversial. Some thought it came from the old mining maps from the late 1800s (long before Tok existed), which called the area “Tok/Slana.” While others have said it was named after a construction worker’s dog in the 1940s. However the name was decided, the town of Tok began as Alaska Road Commission camp built for the construction and maintenance of the Alaska Highway in 1942 and Tok has never looked back.

Today the town has a population of approximately 1,200. Its economy is based on tourism and for its size, offers more hotel rooms and campsites than any other town in the state. Despite that distinction, it is still recommended you secure reservations at least a day in advance.

The world-famous “Forty Mile Country,” which inspired many of Jack London’s stories, is to the north. He is famous for his books, *The Call of the Wild* and *White Fang* which were about this area. Residents embrace a real frontier lifestyle here, and there is plenty of camping, hiking, fishing, float trips, bird watching, and other exploring to be done.

Tok is also known as the “Sled Dog Capital of Alaska,” which is apparent from the number of dog kennels in town. Almost everyone takes part in sprint dog races, from professional mushers to the local children. The race of Champions which started here in 1954, takes place every March and has become one of the most elite sprint dog races in North America.

Old sled dog racing equipment
on display at Burnt Paw



VISITOR INFO

Mainstreet Visitor Center has statewide information. Stop in and talk to the friendly staff to learn more about the community of Tok. Don't forget to check out the museum which has displays of Alaska Highway memorabilia, rocks, gems and minerals as well as gold rush artifacts. 907-883-5775

The Alaska Public Lands Information Center is located in a combined administration building, which also houses the Alaska State Troopers. It is on Mainstreet adjacent to the Tok Visitor Center. There is a trip planning area, fish, bear and bird exhibits, along with a display of native arts and crafts. The counselors at APLIC are very well informed about the State and specifically about the remote regions to the east of Tok and into the Yukon. Open year-round. 907-883-5667



ACCOMMODATION

Snowshoe Motel has modern motel units with in-room coffee maker, fridges, microwaves and very reasonable rates. There is a new Laundromat with state-of-the-art machines. 1314 Alaska Highway. 907-883-4511 or 800-478-4511

Burnt Paw Cabins B&B Modern log cabins with sod roofs, each with its own theme. Enjoy a complimentary breakfast, free Wi-fi, satellite TV, microwave and fridge. Centrally located. 907-883-4121



CAMPING

Sourdough Campground Wide, level, full and partial hookups, great tent sites & free Wi-fi. High-pressure car wash. They serve an authentic sourdough pancake breakfast including reindeer sausage and nightly dinner specials.

Burnt Paw

Unique Log Cabins
Bed & Breakfast

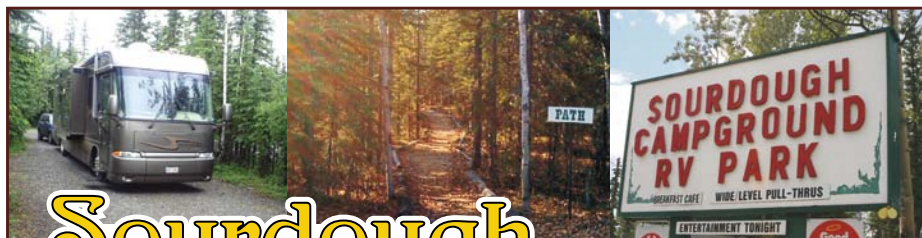
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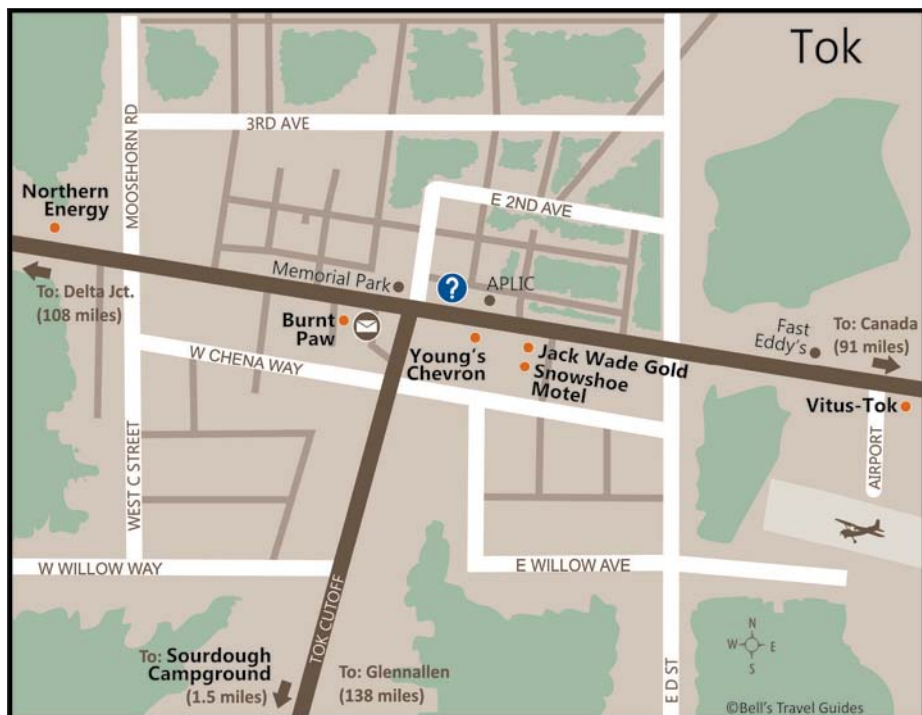


Mile 122.8 Glenn Hwy, Tok, Alaska 1 Miles toward Anchorage, on the right

Nightly Pancake Toss
Try to win a free breakfast!

Memorial Day to Labor Day

Café Open for Breakfast,
Lunch and Dinner





Sourdough Campground also has an open-air museum with gold rush memorabilia. Only 1¾ miles from Tok Visitor Center on the Tok Cut-off (Hwy 1). 907-883-5543

Eagle Trail State Recreation Site has 35 campsites, five of which will accommodate large RV's. 16 miles south of Tok at mile 109.5 of the Tok Cut-off.



SHOPPING

Burnt Paw look for the log gift shop with the sod roof beside the Post Office and you will probably find that special gift you are looking for at a reasonable price. Specializing in unique, 'Made in Alaska gifts.' 907-883-4121

Jack Wade Gold Company Bonnie Jenkins has been mining, designing & making fine gold nugget jewelry in Alaska for more than 40 years. She has displays of mining artifacts, old guns, early Alaska antiques and some very large gold nuggets. One nugget weighs a whopping 5 lbs. Stop by and see Bonnie's excellent collection. Next to Three Bears Grocery. 907-883-5887

All Alaska Gifts has a huge selection of T-shirts, gold nugget jewelry & souvenirs. Try the fresh homemade fudge. Located at the highway junction. 907-883-5081

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THINGS TO DO

Eagle Trail State Recreation Site is 16 miles south of Tok at mile 109.5 of the Tok Cut-Off. Enjoy a walk on the one mile nature trail or the 2.5 mile hiking trail with a view over the Tok River Valley and the surrounding mountains. The Eagle Trail offers most visitors to Alaska their first opportunity to explore the Alaska Range.



SERVICES

Northern Energy Tesoro gas, diesel, oil & propane. Tire sales & repair, oil changes & lube service. 24-hour fuel at pump with credit card. Self service RV wash, dump station, air & water free with fill-up. Mile 1314.8 Alaska Highway. 907-883-4251
Vitus-Tok Make the Vitus Energy Convenience store at Tok your first and last stop in Alaska. This store offers 24-hour fuel, food mart, clean restrooms, hot showers and a laundry facility. Mile 1312.8 Alaska Hwy.



Guests at Sourdough Campground participate in the nightly pancake toss.

Young's Chevron Gas, diesel, propane, convenience store, deli and espresso. Automotive and truck repairs. Tire sales and service. Car wash. Dump station and water available. At the junction of the Alaska Hwy and Tok Cut-off. 907-883-2821



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Tok, Alaska



CHICKEN

Chicken is located at mile 66.8 of the Taylor Highway and is 78 miles from Tok. It was originally going to be named Ptarmigan, due to the number of these birds in the area. However, the spelling could not be agreed on and Chicken was chosen because it was easier to spell! If you are driving to Chicken from the Alaska Highway, the road has been reconstructed and is usually in pretty good condition.

The Taylor Highway is part of the Top of the World Highway, which leads 108 miles to Dawson City, another famous town with a gold rush history.

The history of Chicken is rich and began with the discovery of gold, on Franklin Gulch, in 1886. Ten years later in 1896, Bob Mathieson made a major discovery on Upper Chicken Creek, staked his claim and built a cabin, ushering in a rush of

prospectors. 700 miners were thought to be working the area between 1896 and 1898. A post office was established in 1903 to serve a population of around 400.

The Historic Town of Chicken was a hub of activity for the southern portion of the Fortymile Mining District. Many of the original buildings still stand including “Tisha’s Schoolhouse” made famous by the book “Tisha” about Anne Purdy’s life teaching in this community in 1927.

In 1939, the F.E. Company began acquiring claims and built a camp on Nora Bench. In 1953 they bought the town site and turned it into a camp for their dredging operation. Dredge #4 (the Pedro Dredge) was moved from Fairbanks to Chicken in 1959 and was operated until 1967. In 1998, after sitting idle for 31 years, the million pound dredge was moved in one piece to its present location in town.

Chicken Gold Camp, RV Park and Outpost with rooms and cabins. The “Outpost” gift store has Alaska artisan made gifts, clothing, jewelry and more. The cafe serves homemade entrees, fresh-baked pastries, espresso drinks, wood-fired pizza and Alaska craft beers. The camp features gold panning, gold mining outings and historic tours. Chicken Gold Camp is a National Historic Site, which includes the Pedro Dredge and mining museum. 1/4 mile south on Airport Road in Chicken. 907-782-4427

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The Alaska Highway was the engineering marvel of World War II. It took more than 25,000 men and 7000 pieces of equipment less than 10 months to build the Highway, which stretches 1422 miles from Dawson Creek, BC to Delta Junction, Alaska.

The original highway was marked with mileposts in 1947 and many of the towns and highway lodges became known by their milepost number. Even today, many lodges use Historical Mileposts (HM) to refer to their location.

The Canadian portion of the highway is now marked with kilometer posts and due to highway reconstruction and re-routing over the years, the road is now 40 miles (64 km) shorter than the original Alaska Highway. Alaska, however, has not changed the original mileposts, so there is a mileage discrepancy of 40 miles when you cross the border.

From historical mile (HM) 1222 at the Alaska/Yukon Border the highway winds its way to Delta Junction at HM 1422, which is the true end of the Alaska Highway. If you continue north to Fairbanks you will be on the Richardson Highway.

This beautiful drive passes by the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center at mile 1229. The Refuge's 700,000 acres include snow capped mountains, rivers, forests, treeless tundra and an abundance of wetlands. From scenic overlooks you

can view wetlands, boreal forests and alpine habitats teeming with wildlife. Preservation of these lands represent the legacy of early conservationists who recognized the importance of this area.

Mile 1302 is the junction with the Taylor Highway which accesses Eagle and Chicken in Alaska and Dawson City, in the Yukon.



CAMPING

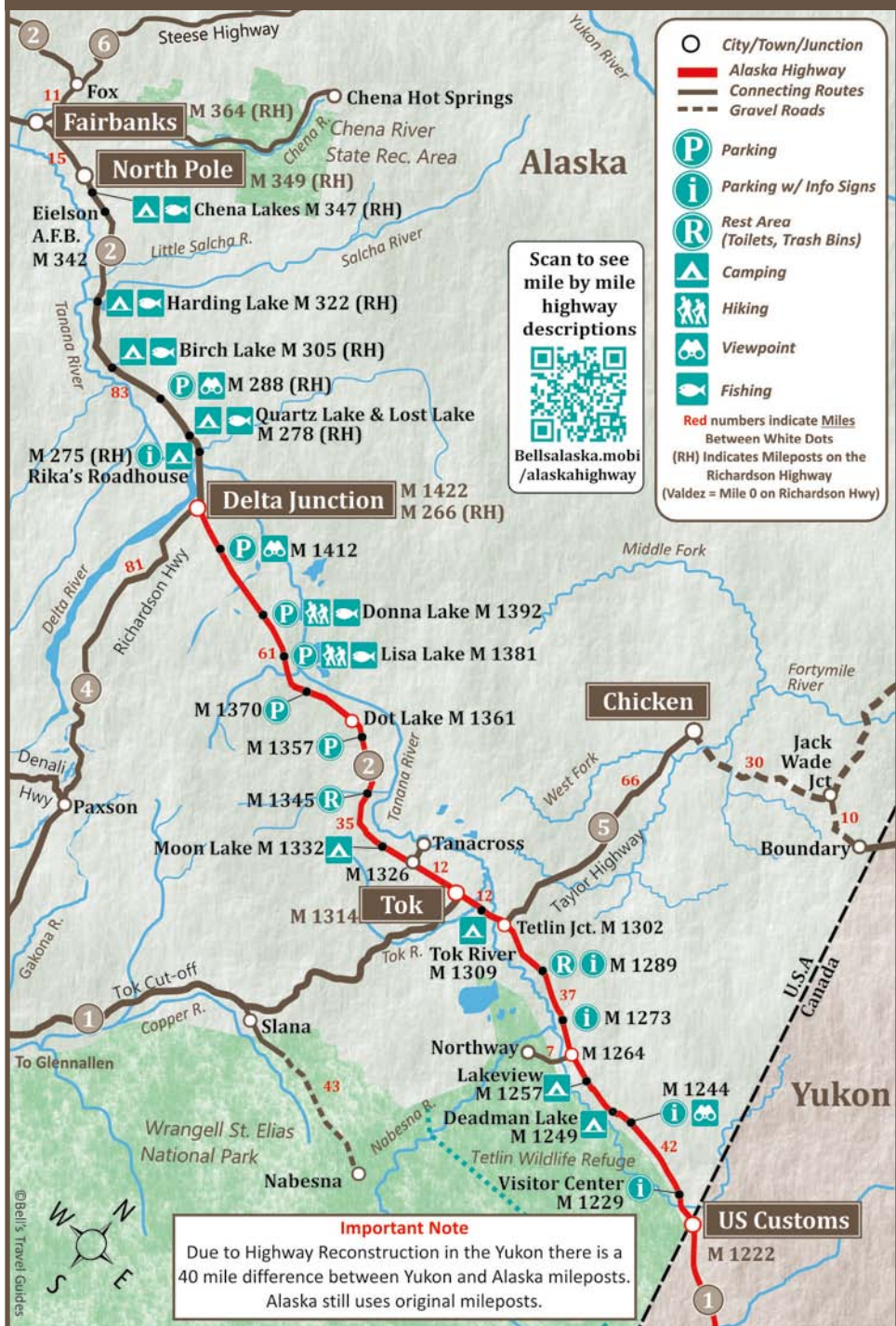
Backcountry camping is allowed throughout the Tetlin Wildlife Refuge. If you choose to camp, please keep a clean campsite and practice bear awareness. Both black and grizzly bears make their homes here. Pamphlets concerning bear safety are available at the Tetlin Visitor Center and Refuge headquarters.

The following are public campgrounds. **Deadman Lake Campground** mile 1249 has 15 campsites (4 sites are suitable for large RV's) firepits, toilets, picnic tables, boat ramp, no drinking water. There is a self-guided ¼ mile Taiga Trail walk at the campground. During the summer, Ranger lead wildlife programs are conducted Monday through Friday at 7pm.

Lakeview Campground mile 1257 has 11 campsites, tables, toilets, firepits, no drinking water.

Delta State Recreation at mile 267 Richardson Highway. 25 campsites, a picnic area, covered shelter, water & toilets.

THE ALASKA HIGHWAY - US/CANADA BORDER TO DELTA JUNCTION





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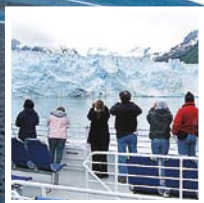

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