



# 5 Amazing Alaska Itineraries

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These 5 itineraries show you an amazing tour of Alaska, whether you have 4 days or 2 weeks.





## 10 to 14 Days - National Park Explorer

**Day 1** Begin your adventure in Alaska's largest city, Anchorage.

Anchorage has an incredible list of activities, including world class museums and tours. We recommend that visitors give themselves at least 1 or 2 days here to really get the measure of this great city.

Start your exploration of Anchorage at the Log Cabin Visitor Center in downtown. This is also the meeting point for Anchorage Trolley Tour, a fun ride around town in a bright red trolley with an entertaining conductor to narrate your tour.

The Anchorage Museum in downtown Anchorage is a Smithsonian Affiliate and celebrates Alaska Native cultures and the history of Alaska. To further explore the Native History in Alaska, visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center to learn and explore the traditional and contemporary ways of Alaska's Indigenous cultures. The Center is much more than a museum, but a place to engage and interact.

For a uniquely Alaskan Shopping experience, don't miss out on The ULU Factory and the

Alaska Wild Berry Products.

The one last, must see in Anchorage is the Alaska Zoo. Over 20 acres and 100 animals call the Zoo home. There are orphaned, injured and endangered animals including polar bears, black and brown bears, a tiger, moose, wolves and much, much more. Don't miss the chance to take a walk on the wild side.

**Day 2-4** On your first day on the road, head north on the Parks Highway to, what is probably one of the main reasons to come to Alaska... to see Denali. This beautiful, and majestic mountain will be visible from the Parks Highway if the weather is bright and clear. For the best views, stop at the Denali Viewpoints at mile 135 and mile 163.

In Denali you will find plenty of amazing activities to fill your days. For those looking to be at one with nature, join one of the National Park Ranger lead hikes that leave from the Visitor Center complex at mile 1.5 of the Park Road. Or you can take a shuttle into the park and forge your own path through Denali's wilderness.

# 10 to 14 Days - National Park Explorer

Shuttles into the Park are the easiest and most common way for people to see the sights of Denali National Park. These 'sights' of course include the closest views of Denali, anywhere short of taking a flightseeing tour over the mountain. Besides exploring the Park, there are plenty of interesting activities for visitors. These include, rafting, ziplining, ATV tours, jeep tours of the Denali Highway or just wandering around town.

**Day 5** After spending a couple of nights exploring Denali, it's time to move on. Drive south 28 miles to Cantwell and turn onto one of Alaska's most rugged and beautiful roads, the Denali Highway.

The Denali Highway is a mostly gravel road that requires patience and slow driving at times. But the views make the journey worthwhile. Only a few car and RV companies allow their vehicles to travel the Denali Highway. They include GoNorth RV Rentals and Alaska 4X4 rentals.

**Day 6-7** It's time to explore Wrangell St-Elias National Park, the largest National Park in the U.S. It is the size of six Yellowstone National Parks and it includes 9 of the 16 highest peaks in the United States. It is possible to drive into the park via the Edgerton

Highway (turn off at mile 83 of the Richardson Highway) and then take the McCarthy Road to McCarthy and Kennecott.

There is plenty to explore in the area, including the abandoned Kennecott Copper Mine and Kennicott Glacier. You can also stay at Kennicott Glacier Lodge, a beautiful lodge right in the National Park.

If you only want to explore Wrangell St-Elias on a day trip, we recommend taking a flightseeing tour from Glennallen or Chitna with Wrangell Mountain Air.

**Day 8-9** Once done exploring the park, it's time to head to the port city of Valdez. Valdez is 115 miles south of Glennallen or 83 miles from the Edgerton Highway Junction on the Richardson Highway. Valdez is a beautiful town that sits on the shores of Prince William Sound, one of the most spectacular regions of Alaska.

Valdez is famous for...a lot of reasons; It is the terminus of the Alyeska Pipeline, it was one of the worst hit towns of the 9.2 magnitude earthquake in 1964 and in 1989 the Exxon Valdez oil spill happened off it's coast in Prince William Sound.



Anchorage Trolley



Kennecott Mine in Wrangell St-Elias N.P.



Denali Highway



# 10 to 14 Days - National Park Explorer

Valdez is currently famous for its incredible scenery, and tours that share the beauty of Prince William Sound. Stan Stephen's Cruises and Glacier Wildlife Cruises on the LuLu Belle are two of the best tours in the entire state.

**Day 10-12** From Valdez, take the Alaska Marine Highway Ferry and sail through Prince William Sound, past Columbia Glacier to the port town of Whittier. Whittier is a unique town, even by Alaska standards. It is connected to the main road system via a 2.5 mile tunnel that alternates between cars and train traffic.

After leaving Whittier, drive 90 miles to Seward, on the Seward Highway. Seward is the "Gateway to Kenai Fjords National Park." The best way to see this magnificent natural wonder is to book a boat tour. Major Marine Tours offers one of the best tours of the National Park and is highly recommended.

Seward is also home to the Alaska SeaLife Center, an aquarium and marine research facility.

Exit Glacier is also in Kenai Fjords National Park. It is the only part of the park that is ac-

cessible by vehicle. There are some beautiful hikes overlooking the glacier and some private companies that will take you hiking on Exit Glacier.

**Day 12-14** When done exploring Seward, it's time to head 90 miles north to Girdwood and Alyeska Resort.

A recommended stop on your way north is at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (mile 79). The Wildlife Center will almost guarantee you sightings of some of Alaska's most famous residents...Bear, Moose, Reindeer, Bison, Musk Ox, Wolves and others.

The Alyeska Resort has a Tram that takes you up to a spectacular viewpoint, where you can see seven different glaciers. You can also dine at the award-winning restaurant at the top. An amazing way to celebrate your tour of Alaska's best National Parks.

The final day of your trip will see you drive the 35 miles back to Anchorage.



Alaska Marine Highway



Exit Glacier in Seward



## 10 to 14 Days - Alaska RV Explorer

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curved knife used by native cultures in the north, that may be the missing kitchen utensil you need! Alaska Wild Berry Products specializes in delicious souvenirs and gifts from chocolates to jams to wild Alaskan salmon. These are the kind of gifts your loved ones will appreciate and devour.

One last, must see in Anchorage is the Alaska Zoo. Over 20 acres and 100 animals call the Zoo home. There are orphaned, injured and endangered animals including polar bears, black and brown bears, a tiger, moose, wolves and much, much more. Don't miss the chance to take a walk on the wild side.



The ULU Factory and "Lolley" the ULU Trolley



# 10 to 14 Days - Alaska RV Explorer

**Day 2-4** Drive south from Anchorage on the Seward Highway, along beautiful Turnagain Arm, which has the 2nd highest tides in North America. Your drive will also pass through the Chugach National Forest on your way to the Sterling Highway. Near the start of the Sterling Highway is the community of Cooper Landing, famous for its salmon fishing on the Kenai and Russian Rivers.

For those looking for a guided tour, talk to Alaska Wildland Adventures. They offer excellent fishing and rafting tours in Cooper Landing. Continue west to the very end of the Sterling

**Day 5-7** After an enjoyable couple of days in Homer, pack up your home on wheels and head 173 miles to Seward, retracing your drive on the Sterling Highway. At the Seward Highway Junction, head south to the port of Seward. The city of Seward operates camping sites right on the water, near downtown Seward. Another wonderful Camping option, Seward KOA RV Park, is a few miles outside of town on the Road to Exit Glacier, one of Alaska's most accessible glaciers.

Seward is the "Gateway to Kenai Fjords National Park." The best way to see this magnificent natural wonder is to book a boat tour.



The 5-mile long Homer Spit

Highway, passing through Soldotna, Clam Gulch, Ninilchik and Anchor Point, while enjoying the spectacular views across Cook Inlet. At the end of the highway, you will reach Homer, the Halibut Fishing Capital of the World.

You can camp with your RV on the Homer Spit, in either the city run beach campground or Heritage RV Park, a beautiful private campground right at the water's edge. Stay in Homer for at least 2 nights so you have time take a fishing charter and try to catch one of Alaska's famous halibut.



Rock formations in Kenai Fjords National Park

Major Marine Tours offers one of the best tours of the National Park, and is recommended. The city is also home to the Alaska SeaLife Center, an aquarium and marine research, education and wildlife response facility. One of the best, family friendly activities to do in Seward.

Exit Glacier is also in Kenai Fjord National Park. It is the only part of the park that is accessible by vehicle. There are some beautiful hikes overlooking the glacier and some private companies that will take you hiking on Exit Glacier.

# 10 to 14 Days - Alaska RV Explorer

**Day 8** When done exploring Seward, it's time to head north towards Denali. But to make the drive a little more manageable, we recommend staying in Talkeetna for the night. The drive north on the Seward Highway is 127 miles to Anchorage and another 113 miles to Talkeetna.

There are a couple of short side trips you could make on your drive north, including Hope, a small town steeped in gold rush history (mile 56 Seward Highway), the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (mile 79 Seward Highway) or Alyeska Resort in Girdwood.

Talkeetna is reached by a 14-mile spur road off the Parks Highway, known as the "Talkeetna Spur Road." It is a cute frontier town with lots of character, and Characters! This is where the majority of Denali flightseeing tours take off from.

We recommend Talkeetna Air Taxi for a Denali flightseeing tour and glacier landing. There are other activities in town as well including ziplining, rafting or a jet boat tours with Mahays.

**Day 9-13** Today is the day to drive to Denali. Probably one of the main reasons to come to Alaska. This beautiful, and majestic mountain will be visible from the Parks



Flightseeing over Denali

The Wildlife Center will guarantee you sightings of some of Alaska's most famous residents...Bear, Moose, Reindeer, Bison, Musk Ox, Wolves and others.

The Alyeska Resort has a Tram that takes you up to a spectacular viewpoint, where you can see seven different glaciers. You can also dine at the award-winning restaurant at the top.



The Alyeska Tram in Girdwood

Highway if the weather is bright and clear. For the best views, stop at the Denali Viewpoints at mile 135 and mile 163. There is plenty of space at these viewpoints for RV's to park.

In Denali you will find plenty of amazing activities to fill your days. For those looking to be at one with nature, join one of the National Park Ranger lead hikes that leave from the Visitor Center complex at mile 1.5 of the Park Road. Or you can take a shuttle into the park and forge your own path through Denali's wilderness.



Shuttles into the Park are the easiest and most common way for people to see the sights of Denali National Park.

These 'sights' of course include the closest views of Denali, anywhere short of taking a flightseeing tour over the mountain. Beside exploring the Park, there are plenty of interesting activities for visitors. These include, rafting, ziplining, ATV tours, jeep tours of the Denali Highway or just wandering around town.



Denali ATV Adventures In Denali National Park

they run demonstration dog cart rides during the summer. It's also a great place to learn about the history of "The Great Race" and how modern day dog sled teams accomplish their incredible feats.

Another great stop on your return to Anchorage is Eklutna Lake, at mile 26. This recreational area is perfect for any outdoor enthusiast. There are water sports and hiking trails around beautiful Eklutna Lake.



Dog cart rides at the Iditarod Headquarter in Wasilla

**Day 14** The final day of this trip sees you returning to Anchorage via the Parks Highway (238 miles). If this day is nicer and clearer than your trip north, remember to keep an eye out for those incredible views of Denali.

The Parks Highway passes through Wasilla, which is home to the Iditarod Headquarters. This is a great stop, especially for families as



Kayaking on Eklutna Lake outside Anchorage





## 7 - 10 Days - Kenai Peninsula Explorer

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One last, must see in Anchorage is the Alaska Zoo. Over 20 acres and 100 animals call the Zoo home. There are orphaned, injured and endangered animals including polar bears, black and brown bears, a tiger, moose, wolves and much, much more. Don't miss the chance to take a walk on the wild side.

**Day 2-4** Drive south from Anchorage on the Seward Highway, along beautiful Turnagain Arm, Through the Chugach National Forest to the Sterling Highway. Near the start of the Sterling Highway is the community of Cooper Landing, famous for its salmon fishing on the Kenai and Russian Rivers.

# 7 to 10 Days - Kenai Peninsula Explorer

For those looking for a tour, talk to Alaska Wildland Adventures. They offer fishing and rafting tours in Cooper Landing.

Continue west to the very end of the Sterling Highway, passing through Soldotna, Clam Gulch, Ninilchik and Anchor Point, while enjoying the spectacular views across Cook Inlet. At the end of the highway, you will reach Homer, the Halibut Fishing Capital of the World.

Stay in Homer for at least 2 nights so you have time take a fishing charter and try to catch one of Alaska's famous halibut.



Halibut on display in Homer



The Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward



Spencer Glacier

**Day 5-7** After an enjoyable couple of days in Homer, head 173 miles to Seward, retracing your drive on the Sterling Highway. At the Seward Highway Junction, head south to the port of Seward.

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best, family friendly activities to do in Seward. Exit Glacier is also in Kenai Fjord National Park. It is the only part of the park that is accessible by vehicle. There are some beautiful hikes overlooking the glacier and some private companies that will take you hiking on Exit Glacier.

**Day 8-9** When done exploring Seward, it's time to head 65 miles north to Portage and the Portage Train Depot. Here you take the Alaska Railroad to Spencer Glacier and take a relaxing float among the icebergs of Spencer Lake and float down Spencer River.

After returning to Portage, drive 10 miles to Girdwood and the Alyeska Resort to spend the last night of your 7 night journey. The Alyeska Resort has a Tram that takes you up to a spectacular viewpoint, where you can see seven different glaciers. You can also dine at the award-winning restaurant at the top. An amazing way to celebrate your Kenai explorer tour.

A recommended stop on your way north is at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (mile 79) where you are almost guaranteed to see bear, moose, reindeer, musk ox, and more.

**Day 10** The final day of your trip will see you drive the 35 miles back to Anchorage.





## 7 - 10 Days - Anchorage to Fairbanks

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**Day 2-3** Head north on the Parks Highway to Talkeetna. Talkeetna, 113 miles from Anchorage, is reached by a 14-mile spur road off the Parks Highway, known as the "Talkeetna Spur Road." It is a cute frontier town with lots of character, and Characters!

This is where the majority of Denali flightseeing tours take off from. We recommend Talkeetna Air Taxi for a Denali flightseeing tour and glacier landing. There are other activities in town as well including ziplining or a jet boat tour with Mahays.

# 7 to 10 Days - Anchorage to Fairbanks

**Day 4-7** Today is the day to drive to Denali. Probably one of the main reasons to come to Alaska. This beautiful, and majestic mountain will be visible from the Parks Highway if the weather is bright and clear. For the best views, stop at the Denali Viewpoints at mile 135 and mile 163.

In Denali you will find plenty of amazing activities to fill your days. For those looking to be at one with nature, a hike in Denali National Park will be sure to meet your needs. There are Ranger lead hikes that leave from the Visitor Center complex at mile 1.5 of the Park Road. Or you can take a shuttle into the park and forge your own path.

Shuttles into the Park are the easiest and most common way for people to see the sights of Denali National Park. These 'sights' of course include the closest views of Denali, anywhere short of taking a flightseeing tour over the mountain. Beside exploring the Park, there are plenty of interesting activities for visitors. These include, rafting, ziplining, ATV tours, jeep tours of the Denali Highway or just wandering around town.

**Day 8-10** Leaving Denali, head north on the Parks Highway, 120 miles to Fairbanks. Fairbanks is the second largest city in Alaska and home to some of the States best attractions.

Visitors can explore Fairbanks' gold rush past at the Gold Dredge 8, The Riverboat Discovery or the Pioneer Park theme park. Fairbanks is also the closest city to the Arctic Circle and has plenty of tour options that can take you there. One of the oldest and best tour companies for trips to the Arctic Circle is Northern Alaska Tour Company.

Fairbanks has three very unique museums that should not be missed. The Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum is an incredible collection of 19th and early 20th century cars that were significant in the birth of Alaska. The Fairbanks Ice Museum showcases incredible ice carvings made annually at the International Ice Carving Championships that take place every winter in Fairbanks. Finally, the University of Alaska Museum of the North is a wonderful natural history museum with some unbelievably unique displays.



Mount Denali from the air



Amazing cars at the Fountainhead Auto Museum





## 4-6 Days - Denali by Car and Rail

**Day 1-2** Begin your adventure in Alaska's largest city, Anchorage. Anchorage has an incredible list of activities including world class museums and tours. We recommend that visitors give themselves at least 1 or 2 days here to really get the measure of this great city.

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# 4-6 Days - Denali by Car and Rail

**Day 3-5** Today is the day to drive to Denali. Probably one of the main reasons to come to Alaska. This beautiful, and majestic mountain will be visible from the Parks Highway if the weather is bright and clear. For the best views, stop at the Denali Viewpoints at mile 135 and mile 163.



Denali Viewpoint at Mile 135 Parks Highway



Rafting with Denali Raft Adventures in Denali

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**Day 6** Heading back to Anchorage can be either by car, or if you have booked a one-way car rental between Anchorage and Denali, you can return on the Alaska Railroad. This is a unique itinerary that gives you the freedom of your own car in one direction and the relaxed return journey by train. Giving you the best of both worlds in such a short itinerary.

This is a perfect add on to a cruise to see a little more of Alaska.



The Alaska Railroad glass dome cars offer comfortable seating and unobstructed views