

Alaska Northern Lights plus Iditarod

March 4-14, 2021 \$4999.00

Escorted by Linda

March 4, 2021 - Lake City to Tampa

Bus transfers from Lake City to Tampa

Overnight Tampa: SpringHill Suites or similar (hotel not included)

March 5, 2021 - Arrive Anchorage

Upon arrival to the Anchorage International Airport you will be met by your private driver and travel to your hotel for the evening.

Overnight Anchorage: Downtown Hilton or similar

March 6 – Anchorage

The day's excitement begins just blocks from your hotel on Anchorage's 4th Avenue for the Ceremonial start of the Iditarod. Here mushers will line up to begin their 1,000+ mile trek to Nome. This afternoon continue enjoying the downtown winter festivities.

Overnight Anchorage: Downtown Hilton or similar (Breakfast)

March 7 –Prince William Sound

Driving Distance: 120 Miles / 192 Kilometers Roundtrip

Travel by private vehicle to Whittier. Along the way stop at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center. The Conservation Center takes in injured and orphaned animals year-round and provides them with spacious enclosures and quality care. The Center maintains over 200-acres so the animals can display their "wild" natural behavior; visitors can spot brown bears, musk-ox roaming the grounds, and more. After arriving in Whittier board your private vessel for a day excursion into Prince William Sound. See the glaciers of Blackstone Bay along with the marine wildlife that call this area home. After your cruise head back to Anchorage. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant with your fellow travelers.

Overnight Anchorage: Downtown Hilton or similar (Breakfast, Dinner)

March 8 – Anchorage to Talkeetna

Driving Duration: 113 Miles / 181 Kilometers

This morning before departing Anchorage enjoy a city tour of Alaska's largest city. After your tour travel to Talkeetna for the evening. On a clear day, Talkeetna offers exquisite views of Denali and the rest of the Alaska Range, and is a great location for viewing the aurora as well. Enjoy the quaint town on your own or take advantage of an optional flightseeing tour (not included). Tonight enjoy a group dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight Talkeetna: Talkeetna Alaska Lodge or similar (Breakfast, Dinner)

March 9 – Talkeetna to Fairbanks

This morning is at your leisure. Pick up your included boxed lunch from the lodge before departing for the rail depot. At 11:25am board the Alaska Railroad for a ride through the winter wonderland to Fairbanks. At 8:00pm disembark the train and meet your private driver. Tonight travel outside Fairbanks to the Aurora Pointe Activity Center. Upon arrival you will be greeted by a cozy fire, hot coffee/tea and locally made snacks. As you wait for the light show learn about the aurora and why it occurs and get tips on how to take the best photos. You can monitor the aurora

activity from inside the center via webcams and tv monitors throughout. Return to your hotel around 3:00am.

Overnight Fairbanks: Springhill Suites or similar (Breakfast, Boxed Lunch)

March 10 – Fairbanks

Enjoy a relaxing morning before meeting your private driver and guide and embarking on a private Fairbanks sightseeing tour. A visit to North Pole, Alaska and the University of Alaska Museum of the North have been included. Tonight enjoy a home cooked meal and opportunity to view the northern lights all in one evening! Your tour picks up directly from your Fairbanks hotel and a short journey will get you outside of Fairbanks, away from the city lights. From the comfort of a warm Alaska yurt enjoy a home cooked meal of freshly prepared salad, goulash and warm bread with homemade jam. Conversation over dinner may include dog mushing, native stories of the northern lights, facts about the lights or any other Alaskan subject you may be interested in. At any time the lights may begin to dance and you may view them through the large north facing windows or you may step outside to enjoy the dancing overhead. Return to your hotel late this evening.

Overnight Fairbanks: Springhill Suites or similar (Breakfast, Dinner)

March 11 - Fairbanks & Chena Hot Springs

Driving Duration: 67 Miles / 108 Kilometers

For a taste of real Alaska, come join the Trail Breaker Kennel for a Chena River dog sled ride where you'll have the opportunity to meet the dogs and experience their excitement as they power down the trail. This is an interactive tour that includes handling of the huskies and teaching guests how to harness and hook up a team. Once the teams are ready, mush among snowcapped black spruce and white birch on winding trails that take us through Chena River Valley. Keep your eyes peeled for Alaska Moose—The local Willow trees are a staple of their diet! Today the group will be split into two for the kennel tour. This afternoon journey north to the Chena Hot Springs where you will spend the next two nights. Soak in the healing spring waters, the heated indoor pool or the outdoor hot tubs. This is a great place to watch the Aurora if conditions are right.

Overnight Fairbanks: Chena Hot Spring Resort or similar (Breakfast)

March 12 – Chena Hot Springs

Enjoy a relaxing morning and breakfast at your leisure. Today enjoy your day at the resort. Admission to the ice museum has been included in your stay. You may wish to partake in other activities offered at the resort (not included). Tonight, after an included group dinner ride in a military-style SUSV to the top of Charlie Dome where you will watch for the Northern Lights. You will have a 360° unobstructed view, heated yurts to warm yourself in, outhouses, and complimentary hot beverages and snacks will be provided.

Overnight Fairbanks: Chena Hot Springs Resort or similar (Breakfast, Dinner)

March 13 – Chena Hot Springs to Fairbanks / Depart Fairbanks

Driving Duration: 67 Miles / 108 Kilometers

Travel back to Fairbanks with your driver and guide. After arriving you will be taken to the Fairbanks International Airport in time for your departure. Please plan for an afternoon/evening flight. (Breakfast)

Package includes:

- Transfers from Lake City, Fl to Tampa Airport
- Round trip air fare , Tampa to Anchorage and Fairbanks to Tampa
- Meet and greet upon arrival
- Services of a private vehicle throughout the program
- 8 Nights hotel accommodations, as listed or similar, including baggage handling - Daily Breakfast
- Iditarod Ceremonial Start
- Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center Admission
- Blackstone Bay Glacier Cruise (not private)
- Group Dinner at Local Anchorage Restaurant
- Private Anchorage City Tour
- Group Dinner at Local Talkeetna Restaurant
- Boxed Lunch from the Talkeetna Alaska Lodge
- Adventure Class Rail Service from Talkeetna to Fairbanks (not private)
- Aurora Point Activity Center (not private)
- Private Fairbanks City Tour
- Museum of the North Admission
- Aurora Dinner (not private)
- Kennel Tour and Dog Sled Ride
- Chena Hot Springs Access Throughout Stay
- Ice Museum Admission
- Group Dinner at Chena Hot Springs
- Aurora Viewing Tour (not private)
- Applicable Taxes and Fees
- Services of a private English-Speaking Guide throughout the program

Package does not include:

- Springhill Suites Hotel in Tampa March 4,2021
- Driver/guide gratuity for private transfers and sightseeing touring days
- Gratuity for included activities/excursions or hotel services
- Meals other than mentioned
- Alcoholic beverages
- Optional excursions/activities

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Accommodations in Alaska: Alaska has fantastic nature to offer, however it has its limitations with accommodations. There are no 5-star hotels in Alaska. The standard of the hotels in many destinations will be rather moderate. Please note that in general any hotel standard found in Alaska may be lower than what guests are used to.
-
- Excursions/tours: unless specifically mentioned, every excursion listed is with other people and not private.
- Weather: Please note that weather plays a big role in Alaska! Most excursions will operate at rain or shine, unless weather conditions prohibit the tour from safely operating. If the tour supplier cancels the services due to inclement weather, the tour will be refunded. Guests should be prepared to participate in their excursions in all weather conditions. Should guests choose to cancel their excursions due to weather, no refunds are provided.
- Aurora Borealis Viewing: Aurora viewing cannot be guaranteed. Aurora sighting is dependent on solar activity and cloud cover and may not be visible during your visit.
- Meals: breakfasts are included and lunches and dinners as outlined.
- Guests will have a private driver/guide, however the driver/guide will not join guests on the excursions. Guests will be on the excursions themselves, unless they would like to pay for the private driver/guide to join them – additional cost would apply.
- Please read inclusions and non-inclusions carefully
- Order of services – please note that the order of services can change due to availability or any other logistical reasons.