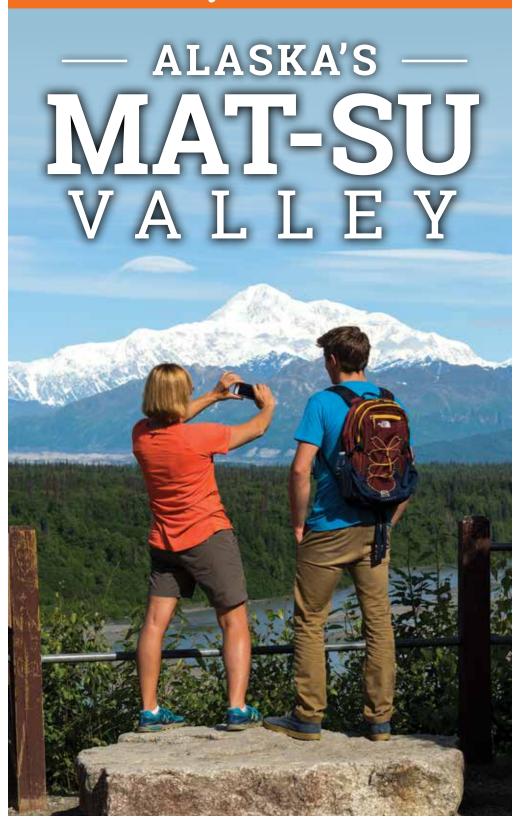
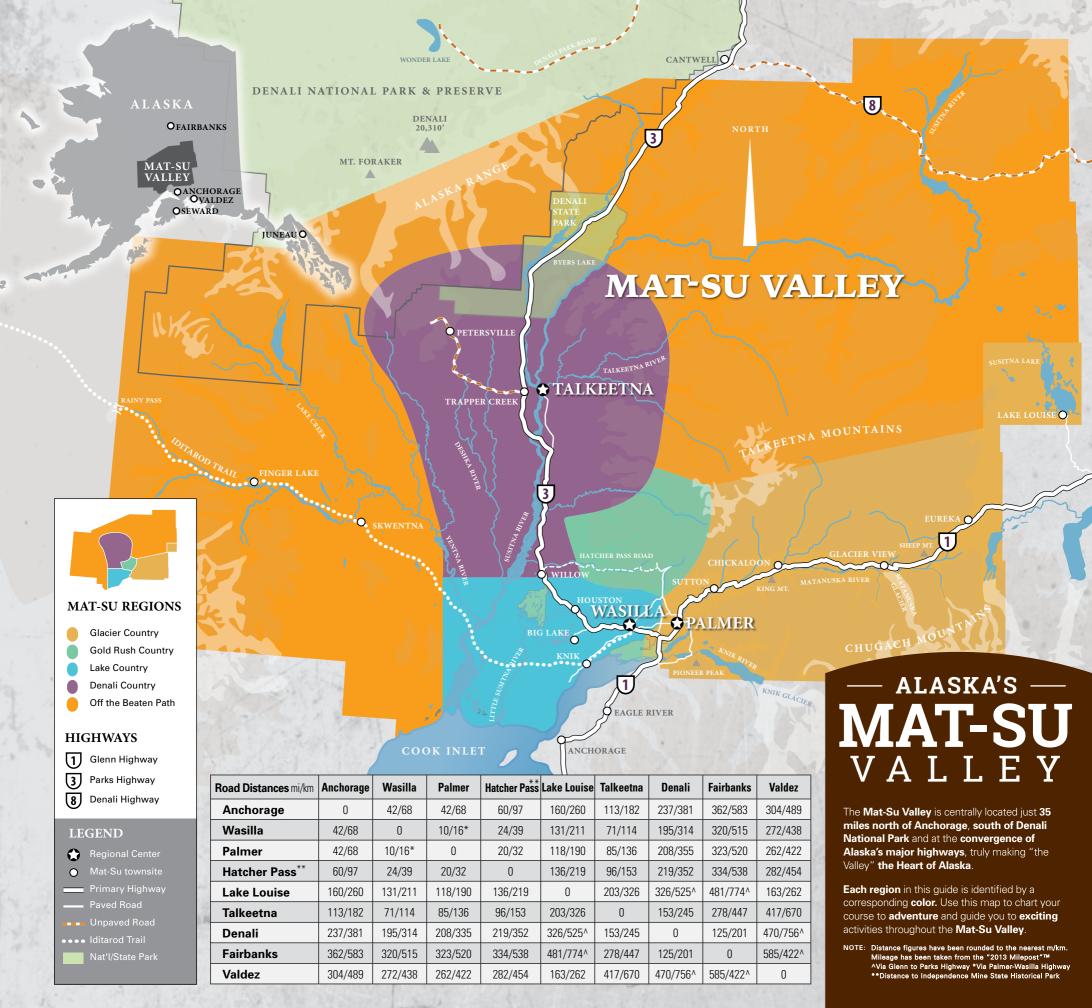
Just North of Anchorage

all the way to Denali Park



OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE | alaskavisit.com



Explore "The Valley"



The Matanuska-Susitna Valley encompasses 23,000 square miles of mountains, glaciers, rivers and lakes, and bursts with adventures at every turn in the road. Wide open spaces and the great outdoors make this area an ideal destination to relax and recharge. Locals call this region several names — "the Mat-Su Valley" or simply "The Valley" for short. Mat-Su actually is a shortened version of the proper name of the region — Matanuska-Susitna, which represents the two major rivers and valleys that form the region. The Matanuska Valley stretches along the Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway (Highway 1) all the way to Lake Louise. The Parks Highway (Highway 3) takes you north to Denali State Park in the heart of the Susitna Valley. The Valley begins just 35 miles north of Anchorage, making it a convenient destination for a day trip. Better yet, use the Mat-Su as your hub for a Southcentral Alaska adventure. Plan to stay awhile and discover all there is to see and do — you'll definitely say "Yahoo, Mat-Su!"

Passport to Adventure

While the Mat-Su Valley isn't labeled on many state maps, you can't miss it. The region is large, diverse and boasts remote wilderness and classic Alaska communities such as Palmer, Wasilla, Big Lake, Houston, Willow, Talkeetna and Glacier View. Each town anchors a distinct region or "country" within the Mat-Su Valley, worth your visit. This guide is organized by those regions, each highlighting a unique geographic draw:



GLACIER COUNTRY – Lake Louise and Matanuska Glacier south to Palmer along the Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway (Hwy. 1), including Chickaloon and Sutton



GOLD RUSH COUNTRY – Includes Hatcher Pass and Independence Mine State Historical Park



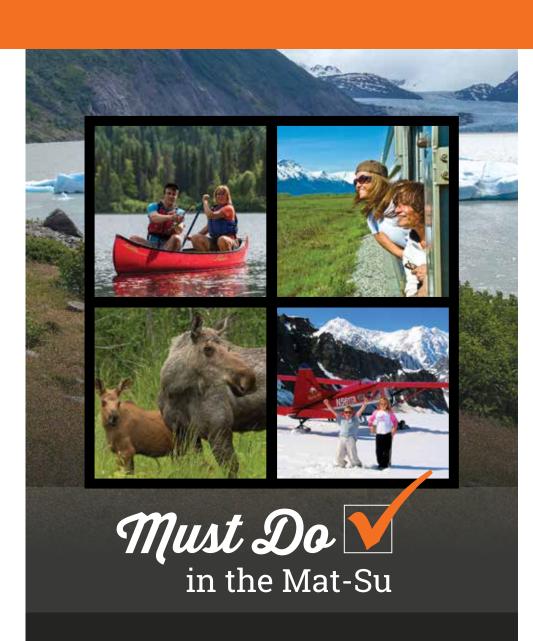
LAKE COUNTRY – Wasilla north to Big Lake and Houston along the Parks Highway (Hwy 3)



DENALI COUNTRY – Including Willow, Talkeetna and Denali State Park



OFF THE BEATEN PATH and THE REST OF ALASKA —
Begin planning your visit to each of these regions to fill your passport with adventure





Explore Denali
North America's tallest peak



Trek on timeless glacial ice



See wildlife



Enjoy

hundreds of miles of wilderness trails



Hatcher Pass

Plan Ahead

In addition to this guide, start your planning at www.AlaskaVisit.com to discover what awaits. The site is packed with information, a calendar of events, an informative blog as well as beautiful images of the area. Check out the suggested itineraries section for ideas ranging from day trips from Anchorage to multi-day adventures. When you start planning the details, use our database of member businesses to find the perfect fit for your vacation. Make sure to sign up for the e-newsletter to stay up to date.

You can request a digital version of the visitor guide, so you'll always have it on your computer or tablet. The website is mobile friendly, so you'll always be connected and just one click away from the most current information.



Connect With Us!

If you want to get a sneak peek at what you'll see, check us out on Instagram - we're @matsuvalleyak and don't forget to tag your photos with #yahoomatsu. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook. com/visitmatsu to keep up with what's going on, and check out www.alaskavisit.com/blog for unique insights on things to see and do, from an Alaskan's perspective. To really get excited, visit our expanded channel on YouTube at www.youtube.com/yahoomatsu, where you'll find videos from every corner of the region.

Visitor Information in Every Direction

The Mat-Su Valley, much like Alaska in general, is a big area and can seem overwhelming to first-time visitors. Friendly and helpful resources in every community will help make your trip a success. Stop in and talk with the locals - they can steer you in the right direction.

In Palmer, the Palmer Visitor Center and Palmer Museum of History and Art are open year-round. They have a wealth of knowledge about the Colony project and the agricultural history of Palmer. Check out their amazing garden in the summer, featuring Alaska wildflowers and vegetables. There's even a replica of a world-famous giant cabbage.

Location:

Phone: (907) 746-7668 723 S. Valley Way, Palmer

Hours:

Oct. 1-April 30, open Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. May 1-Sept. 30, open daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce

operates a visitor center in the historic train depot, where the Alaska Railroad stops daily in the summer. Stop in even if you aren't on the train for more information about the Wasilla area.

Location:

Phone:

1155 E. Depot Road, Wasilla

(907) 376-1299

Hours:

Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Also in Wasilla, the **Wasilla Museum**, formerly known as the Dorothy Page Museum, doubles as a visitor information center. You can learn about Wasilla's rich history, including touring the actual old townsite, and also get information for your next adventure.

Location:

391 N. Main St., Wasilla

Phone:

(907) 373-9071

Hours:

Open Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Along the Glenn Highway, Alpine Historical

Park at Mile 61.6 has information about the area's rich history, as well as visitor information for the Matanuska Valley. The open-air museum and historical park focuses on the early settlers and the Athabascan cultures in the Sutton and Chickaloon areas.

Location:

Phone:

Mile 61.6 Glenn Highway, (907) 745-7000 Sutton

Hours:

Open daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., mid-May through mid-September

In the small community of Talkeetna, there isn't a visitor information center, but an unmanned kiosk at the corner of Spur Road and Main Street (the main intersection) has a wealth of information about area attractions and lodging opportunities. Also, visit

talkeetnachamber.org for informative trip planning information.

Glacier View has an informational kiosk located at Mile 99 Glenn Hwv., with information about the region near Matanuska Glacier. Find out information on rafting, glacier trekking and helicopter tours, as well as lodging information.

Find Your Next Adventure

Alaska is the only state where there are no interstate highways. Three state highways frame the Mat-Su Valley, however: the Glenn (Highway 1), Parks (Highway 3) and Denali (Highway 8) highways. The Denali Highway is not paved, but the Glenn and Parks are major highways. If you're a do-it-yourself traveler, fly to Anchorage, rent a car or motorhome and drive to the Mat-Su Valley and let the area be your hub for your adventure. Or, if you prefer more guidance, let tour professionals arrange one-day and multi-day tours with transportation included. Find a list on www.alaskavisit.com.



Travel Safely

The safety of our visitors, and our communities, is paramount. Be reassured, Mat-Su businesses are going above and beyond with safety and sanitization protocols, and we are encouraging our visitors to do the same. Providing visitors a safe and memorable experience is the top priority for everyone.

Trip Planning AlaskaVisit.com | 3



Knik Glacie

Step Off The Ship And Into Adventure

Choose Mat-Su When You Cruise

The Mat-Su Valley may be miles from the nearest cruise port of call, but it can be a major part of your Alaska cruise vacation. Don't limit yourself to just the coastline when visiting Alaska via a cruise, and add on a land portion — you'll see a whole other side of Alaska! Set aside time before or after your ocean journey to explore Alaska beyond its coastlines. Many companies offer inclusive land tour options to add to your trip, either before you embark or after your cruise. It's also easy to do it yourself with some planning. The Mat-Su Valley's location is ideal to add a day trip (complete with round-trip transportation), a three-day or even week-long excursion either before or after your Alaska cruise. Take some time and explore Southcentral Alaska, including spectacular views of Denali.

Step off the ship, and in just three days, you can:

- 1. Experience Denali stay in Talkeetna and marvel at the view. The town has a vibe all its own. From Talkeetna, you can flightsee around Denali, take a jet boat trip up the many rivers, raft and hike. The quaint town may be hundreds of miles from the nearest cruise port, but it's a destination you don't want to miss on your land portion.
- **2. Walk on a glacier** you can drive to Matanuska Glacier and trek on it yourself, or hire a guide for an even better experience. If you are short on time, consider a helicopter tour to Knik Glacier.
- **3. Experience our culture** in the core area of Wasilla and Palmer, visit museums, the Musk Ox Farm and the Iditarod headquarters to find out about the regions history and culture.

Need More Ideas?

Go to **www.alaskavisit.com** to see suggested itineraries, a complete calendar of events, blog posts and listings for businesses that can assist your planning. Or call the Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau at (907) 746-5000. We look forward to seeing you in our neck of the woods.

Share Your Experiences

Share your experiences in the Mat-Su Valley with us, long after you've returned home. Stay connected to the places and people you discover during your visit on social media. Tweet at us on Twitter (@visitmatsu) or "like" us on Facebook (Visit Alaska's Mat-Su Valley). Follow us on Instagram at @matsuvalleyak and don't forget to hashtag your photos #yahoomatsu. Get excited about your visit by watching our videos on YouTube (yahoomatsu). Finally, check out www.alaskavisit.com/blog to keep up with what's happening in the Mat-Su Valley.



D Local Tips

Drive over Hatcher Pass

One of the most gorgeous drives in all of Alaska connects the Wasilla/Palmer side of Hatcher Pass to Willow. This road is unpaved, and opens for traffic around the Fourth of July. In late summer, take this drive and stop to pick fresh blueberries while enjoying amazing views. Willow Creek runs alongside the road for part of the trip.

l | Trip Planning AlaskaVisit.com | 5



Do It Yourself

Trail Mix-run, bike or hike

The Mat-Su Valley has more than 2,000 miles of trails, making it a hiker's paradise, regardless of your skill level. Take advantage of our wide open spaces by getting back to nature. Pick a destination, distance and degree of difficulty - the possibilities are limitless in all regions of the Mat-Su Valley. Take the family on a gentle, historic railroad trail near Palmer, or hike a ridge surrounding the mining region of Hatcher Pass, with views of the Matanuska Valley below. Explore the alpine wilderness of the Talkeetna Mountains on foot or ATV, or by professional guide service for even more adventure. For amazing views in just an hour, try the Butte just outside of Palmer. Denali State Park has many trails with views of the Alaska Range, including an ADA-accessible trail at Kesugi Ken Campground. You can find trail maps at

www.alaskavisit.com/trails.

Hit the water

The Mat-Su Valley is home to countless rivers, lakes, creeks and streams, so the Mat-Su has something for every water enthusiast. You can rent a canoe or kayak for a serene afternoon on a lake, or help paddle a raft down a river with an expert guide. The Lynx Lake Canoe Trail in Nancy Lake State Recreation Area off the Parks Highway in Willow offers easy portages between lakes, campgrounds and cabins for rent. Farther north in Denali State Park, you can rent canoes at Byers Lake. Lake Louise (off the Glenn Highway) is also a premier destination for water activities. Lake fishing is one of the Mat-Su Valley's best-kept secrets.

Learn about the Locals

The Mat-Su Valley's history is diverse, from a rich Native Alaskan Athabascan culture to gold mining and agriculture. Find out about this diverse history at one of the many museums.

- The Wasilla Museum (formerly known as the Dorothy Page Museum) is a great place to start. Wander through historic buildings and see exhibits that tell stories of the area's past.
- The Museum of Transportation and Industry is filled with relics from Alaska's past, including air planes, railroad cars and vintage automobiles.
- Palmer's agricultural Colony roots are on display at the Palmer Museum of History and Art and the Colony House Museum.
- Take Talkeetna's 16-site historic town walking tour and learn for yourself how the miners and trappers lived. Don't forget the Talkeetna Historical Society Museum or the Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station to learn about Alaska's mountain climbing legends.
- On the Glenn Highway, stop in at the Alpine Historical Park to learn about the Native Alaskan history of the region.

Marvel at North America's Highest Peak

20,310 ft. Denali is a spectacular sight to behold! Heading north on the Parks Highway (Hwy. 3), you'll get your first glimpse of the mountain in Willow. Farther north in Talkeetna, there are many activities focused on Denali. Walk the lakeside trail around Byers Lake or climb to K'esugi or Curry Ridge in Denali State Park for undisturbed vistas of the "High One." Parks Highway pullouts at mileposts 135 and 147 provide safe areas to capture Denali's grandeur. The Kesugi Ken Campground at Mile 135.4 offers amazing views of Denali as well with easy walking trails to viewpoints. Dramatic aerial views of Denali's lofty summit, flanking glaciers and granite canyons highlight flightseeing trips from Talkeetna. The southern views of Denali are widely considered the best in Alaska.

Scenic Drives

Leave the crowds in the city and head out on a scenic drive - the Mat-Su Valley is filled with gorgeous scenery and sweeping vistas in every region.

- Trip 1: Head north on the Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway (Hwy. 1) and enjoy the views of the Chugach and Talkeetna mountains, while the Matanuska River frames your drive. Trek on Matanuska Glacier or try an exciting raft trip through Lion's Head rapids, and stop at a local roadhouse for a tasty lunch or cozy overnight stay.
- Trip 2: Drive over Hatcher Pass Road to Willow opens to traffic around the Fourth of July and stays open until mid-September, weather permitting. Check with Alaska State Parks to confirm the road is open if you are traveling in early summer or late fall. Visit Independence Mine and Willow Creek for a scenic loop of the Susitna Valley. Keep an eye out for the abundant wildlife in the area, including moose and bear.
- Trip 3: Petersville Road runs through the rugged mining backcountry of *Trapper Creek in Denali Country -* watch for wildlife and have your camera ready! This is a rugged drive, so be sure your vehicle is capable of the drive.

Day Trips from Anchorage

Less than an hour's drive north from Anchorage, the Mat-Su Valley is perfectly situated for day trips. Enjoy our parks and trails as you get away from the crowds – you'll feel recharged after a day exploring in the great outdoors.

- Trip 1: Strike it rich head to Hatcher Pass, Independence Mine and the Willow area to see mining's historical influence on the area. Don't forget your gold pan. There are many hiking trails in the area, and the views are spectacular as well.
- *Trip 2: Get cultured -* visit Wasilla and Palmer in an afternoon you'll see the Iditarod Headquarters, a variety of museums, the Palmer Musk Ox Farm and the Reindeer Farm. Take a farm tour to see Palmer's historical roots, and stop at a local restaurant for an Alaska Grown lunch.
- *Trip 3:* Go big as in Denali. North of Wasilla on the Parks Highway, you can visit Talkeetna for an afternoon spent flightseeing, dining, shopping, rafting or just photographing Denali. It's a great way to spend a leisurely afternoon.

Family Vacations

Bring the whole family to the Mat-Su Valley for an exciting, and educational, experience.

- Trip 1: Go fossil hunting along the Glenn Highway, gold panning in Hatcher Pass, bird viewing on the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge, camping and more.
- Trip 2: There are endless hiking opportunities for people of all ages and abilities, or rent a canoe and take advantage of Nancy Lake State Recreation Area for exciting outdoor fun. Try Hatcher Pass for a great day trip with lots of views.
- Trip 3: Fun for all ages, Friday Flings, Colony Days or the Alaska State Fair are fantastic community celebrations in downtown Palmer. Don't forget about Wasilla's annual Fourth of July parade and picnic.



Wildlife and Parks

Part of Our Nature

Alaskans flock to the Mat-Su Valley for its many outdoor recreation opportunities. State parks, from Palmer to Denali, allow you to escape the crowds and enjoy the outdoors. The Mat-Su Valley is where Alaskans come to play! Keep an eye out for wildlife and the scores of migrating birds that come here to nest and raise their young. Be safe, and remember to respect the wildlife.



Moose

Winter and spring are good times to spot these large creatures on the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge. Keep an eye out along the highway, especially near rivers and ponds. Enjoy them from afar don't try to feed the moose. They are also prominent along the Glenn Highway north to the Sheep Mountain area. Knik River Road off the Old Glenn Highway is another popular spot to view moose.



Related to moose and elk, caribou live in the northern and eastern reaches of the Mat-Su Borough. Herds are frequently spotted along the Denali Highway and near Lake Louise, along Hwy. 1.



Both brown and black bears are found throughout the Mat-Su Valley. Spotting bears is easiest on a flightseeing tour or by hiking off the main road system. They're also found along creeks and streams when the salmon are spawning. Be "bear aware" and carry bear spray. When traveling in the backcountry, be sure to make noise to avoid any potential confrontations.

Birds

From Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks to songbirds and swans, a wide variety of birds travel through or spend the year in the Mat-Su. Identify them by their calls or keep an eye to the sky. The Palmer Hay Flats and Rabbit Slough, as well as the University of Alaska agriculture fields on Trunk Road, attract many migratory birds such as cranes and geese in spring. Along the Glenn Highway north, watch for migrating hawks, falcons or other raptors. Download an Alaska Birders Checklist at www.alaskavisit.com.



The best views of Denali in all of Alaska can be found in Denali State Park, the smaller and lesscrowded area south of the national park entrance. The views from Denali State Park are actually better than in the national park! Stop at the Denali Overlook (MP135.2 Parks Hwy) or hike the trail to Kesugi Ridge for incredible views. The newest campground in Alaska, K'esugi Ken, opened in 2017 and is located at Mile 135.4 Parks Hwy. It features easy hiking trails – some are ADA compliant - that have overlooks with panoramic views of Denali and the Alaska Range. Guided or self-guided nature hikes are available around Byers Lake. There are numerous opportunities for tent and RV camping, as well as

Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge

(35 minutes north of Anchorage)

The gateway to the Mat-Su Valley from Anchorage, this refuge has endless photography and recreation possibilities, including kayaking, canoeing and hiking. Birders, wildflower lovers and outdoor enthusiasts flock to the area. Access hiking trails from the Knik River exit (Reflections Lake) or Cottonwood Creek in Wasilla (Scout Ridge Trail). Reflections Lake also has fantastic recreational opportunities in the winter, with ice skating and cross-country skiing trails.

Nancy Lake State Recreation Area

(1.5 hours north of Anchorage)

Near Willow, this network of 130 lakes features camping areas, canoe rentals, and hiking and ski trails. Fish for rainbow trout, arctic char and northern pike. Reserve public-use cabins, available for rent on a nightly basis. Plan ahead and rent your cabin up to six months in advance through the Alaska State Parks' website.



Binoculars | Bird Guidebook | Camera

Other State Recreation Areas include:



- Big Lake (north and south)
- Finger Lake
- Independence Mine and Hatcher Pass
- Matanuska Lakes
- King Mountain
- Lake Louise
- Matanuska Glacier
- Willow Creek
- Summit Lake

The Mat-Su Valley encompasses an area roughly the size of West Virginia, so plan ahead and spend some time exploring. Take a couple days to explore everything there is to offer.





Hatcher Pass

Knee Deep in Winter

Seasonal Celebrations!

Talkeetna Winterfest

A month-long celebration that features various activities, including the internationally recognized Talkeetna Bachelor Society Auction & Ball and Wilderness Woman Competition, which is held the first Saturday of December. Community activities held throughout December. (907) 315-8012. www.talkeetnachamber.org

Colony Christmas in Palmer

A "Norman Rockwell"-style Christmas celebration, featuring a tree lighting ceremony, horse-drawn carriage rides, fireworks, a parade of lights and of course, Santa Claus. Held the second weekend in December. (907) 745-2880. www.palmerchamber.org

Willow Winter Carnival

A celebration of winter includes dog sled races, snowmobile racing, arts and crafts, and even outhouse races. Last weekend in January and first weekend in February. (907) 495-6800. www.waco-ak.org

Iron Dog

The world's longest snowmobile race begins on Big Lake in mid-February. Racers travel all the way to Nome, before turning around and heading back to the finish line on Big Lake, a race of more than 2,200 miles. www.irondog.org

Iditarod Trail Invitational

One of the most grueling events in the world, racers depart Knik Lake in early March and head out in the remote wilderness. Snowshoes, bikes or cross-country skis are their only modes of transportation, and the finish line is 350 miles away in McGrath, or 1,000 miles away in Nome.

www.iditarodtrailinvitational.com

World Famous Iditarod Sled Dog Race

Known around the world, the Iditarod begins on Willow Lake the first Sunday in March. Racers and their teams of dogs traverse their way to Nome. The restart is family-friendly and a great chance to meet a famous musher. (907) 376-5155. www.iditarod.com

Keep an eye out for business listings that are open year round ** **, summer only ** and winter only **. You'll be amazed by the number of things to see and do throughout the year.

Looking For Snow?

See a whole new side of Alaska by visiting in the winter. The Mat-Su Valley is an ideal winter destination An exciting new development is the Mat-Su Valley's first-ever lift access ski area, Skeetawk, located in beautiful Hatcher Pass. The ski area opened in December 2020 and operates Saturdays and Sundays, weather permitting. It features a triple chair lift based at Mile 10.6 Palmer Fishhook Road, on the way up Hatcher Pass. Visit www.skeetawk.com for current conditions, hours and more. The Hatcher Pass area gets some of Southcentral Alaska's best snow and has world-class Nordic skiing trails at Government Peak. Whether you prefer first tracks in fresh powder or groomed trails, the Mat-Su is the place to be.

Removed from city lights, our starry darkness sets the stage for the brilliant colors of the northern lights. From alpenglow sunsets on Denali to the fresh, deep snow covering our lakes and peaks, you'll find yourself inspired and invigorated by a winter visit. A guided snowmobile trip to a local glacier is an unforgettable experience. Plan a trip before it melts.

Where to go; What to do

Escape the city lights and crowds of Anchorage for a view of our spectacular **northern lights** in Hatcher Pass, Knik River Valley or Denali State Park. Clear nights, January through April, are best. Dress warm!

Follow the Iditarod - watch the restart on Willow Lake or plan a day trip to an official checkpoint such as Skwentna or Rainy Pass. Cheer on your favorite mushers and their dog teams. Packaged Iditarod tours are available

Visit a working **sled dog kennel** and find out what it takes to lead a team of huskies. Several Iditarod mushers offer sled tours throughout the year. Enjoy an exhilarating ride in the basket of the sled of an Iditarod champion, or try your hand at leading a team.

Explore our endless fields of snow by renting a snowmobile and picking up a trail map, or for a grand adventure, take a guided snowmobile excursion into Alaska's backcountry. No experience necessary. Several guided tours go right up to glaciers.

Glide on the rails of the **Alaska Railroad** and stop in Talkeetna to see Denali's towering alpenglow peak. Rail service is available northbound on Saturdays and southbound on Sundays only during the winter, with some mid-week trains available later in the winter.

Ice-fish for land-locked salmon, rainbow trout, arctic char and northern pike. Many Mat-Su Valley lakes are stocked throughout the year. Guides have all the gear and the knowledge you need to get started.

Cruise the skies on a flightseeing adventure of Knik Glacier and Chugach State Park, or Denali and the Alaska Range. Many say winter is the best time to see these peaks.

Cross-country ski at Government Peak or ski and snowboard virgin powder at Skeetawk in **Hatcher Pass.** Government Peak has a warming chalet to complement the five kilometers of world-class groomed Nordic trails.



Winter at Your Fingertips!

For more ideas or updates on the latest trail conditions, check out our website: www.alaskavisit.com/winter There is a whole section devoted to winter ideas.



Matanuska Glacier

Glaciers & Giant Veggies

The Matanuska Valley was carved by glaciers thousands of years ago, and their impact remains today. The fine, fertile silt left behind by these receding glaciers, combined with long daylight hours in the summer, makes the area perfect for growing lush hayfields and world-record veggies. The Palmer area is the agricultural hub of Alaska - look for Alaska Grown vegetables! You'll be able to taste the difference carrots are typically sweeter than those grown in the "Lower 48," for example.

- In Sutton and Chickaloon, learn about the region's rich Athabascan culture at the Alpine Historical Park.
- In the Glacier View area, explore Matanuska Glacier on a trek or ice climb. Easy to get to, it's Alaska's largest road-accessible glacier. You can do it on your own, or go out with one of the many companies who guide on the glacier – they know the best spots. Take a rafting trip down the Matanuska for a grand adventure.
- Explore the northern region of Glacier Country by visiting Lake Louise, located halfway between Anchorage and Valdez, just 19 miles off the scenic Glenn Highway. The peaceful lake is a hub of recreational opportunities in both summer and winter. The Nelchina caribou herd migrates through this area each year. Lodges, campgrounds and a public boat launch are available.
- . Closer to Palmer, boat, helicopter or take an ATV tour to Knik Glacier. This is only an hour north of Anchorage. Stop at a roadside stand or farmers market for fresh organic vegetables, wild honey or dairy products.

Palmer

Just 45 minutes north of Anchorage, this small town takes pride in its agricultural roots while nurturing a contemporary, Alaska "chic." The downtown area is very walkable and features locally-owned shops and cafes. In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt sanctioned a relocation program that brought 202 farming families to Palmer from the Midwest. Parcels of land were distributed to the "colonists" by lottery to farm and raise dairy cattle. Celebrate the anniversary of this historic event in June at Colony Days.

Start your stay at the Palmer Visitor Information Center, which has an amazing garden and replicas of those giant vegetables. Pick up a downtown walking map while you're there and tour the original Matanuska Colony. You can rent a headset for a narrated self-guided historical walking tour of the town, or take the guided tour every day at 1 p.m. On Fridays, an open-air market, featuring local artisans and growers, opens

across from the center. Just up the street, tour a restored Colony home (circa 1935). And don't forget Palmer's most celebrated attraction, the Alaska State Fair, which takes place for 12 days in late August and early September, ending on Labor Day.



Where to go; what to do

Interested in agriculture? Tour Palmer's backcountry roads to see working farms or sample locally grown products at one of Palmer's restaurants. Guided farm tours are also available. The downtown area has a feel all its own, and you can spend an afternoon visiting the quaint shops and restaurants, many of which serve Alaska Grown products on their menus. With three microbreweries, downtown Palmer is also a great place for brewery tours.

Get into the swing of things at the Palmer Golf Course, offering stunning views of the Chugach Mountains, Matanuska River and Knik Glacier.

Hike, bike or ATV one of the many trails that begin just off the Glenn Highway; loop through miles of wilderness.

Farms & Flowers

Nine Times Warmer than Wool

Learn about the prehistoric Musk Ox at the Musk Ox Farm near Palmer. Native artists use the precious underwool (giviut) to make beautiful knitted garments with superior warmth.

A Rich Athabascan Culture

The Chickaloon Native Village is a rich Ahtna Athabascan tribe in Sutton, along the Matanuska River on the Glenn Highway. The tribe has occupied the area for 10,000 years, and their culture and traditional way of life has been unwavering. In the Ahtna language, Chickaloon means "the river with the two logs across it." Stop at Alpine Historical Park to learn more about the history.

Pick Your Own

A feast for the eyes and taste buds – Alaska's freshest produce! Wasilla farmers market is held every Wednesday at the west end of the Iditapark complex. Palmer's Friday Flings market runs every Friday from late May to the end of August, across from the Palmer Visitors Center. Visit alaskavisit.com for market and u-pick farm locations and hours.



Alaska-Sized Veggies

Imagine a 138-pound giant cabbage, a 20-pound cucumber or a 65-pound cantaloupe. Amazing! These are just a few of the world records set at the Alaska State Fair. See the real thing as the huge veggies are weighed-in at the Fair in late August. World records are routinely broke for all types of vegetables.

Don't Miss the Alaska State Fair

Alaska's largest event, the Alaska State Fair, takes place in Palmer every August to early September. It's 12 days of fun, food and excitement, and there is something for every visitor.

The fair ends on Labor Day and starts 12 days prior, and is the best place to see giant vegetables for which the Palmer area is so famous. There are "weigh-off" competitions for pumpkins and cabbages at the fair, and they bring them in on giant pallets to be weighed in an arena, in front of the audience. Pumpkins weighing more than 2,000 pounds have been entered, and the world record for cabbages stands at 138-pounds.

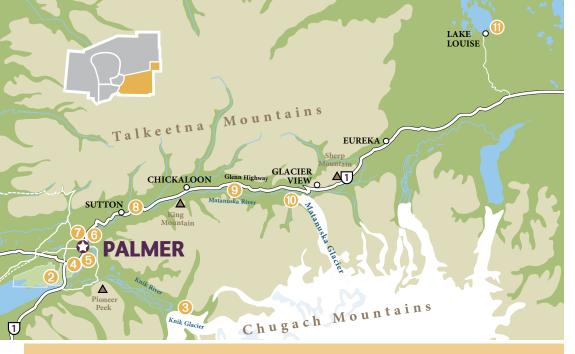
**

**

**

**

**



Glacier Country Adventures

· ·		
Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway	1	One of three national scenic byways in Alaska.
Reflections Lake & Palmer Hay Flats Game Refuge	2	Easy hike around the lake; moose and migratory bird views.
Knik Glacier & Knik River Valley	3	Try a boat ride, helicopter trip, ATV adventure, horseback tour, or airplane flight over the glacier. Just an hour from Anchorage.
Alaska State Fair	4	Late August through Labor Day. Giant Cabbage Weigh-off and other giant vegetable displays, food, entertainment, fireworks and more.
Palmer Golf Courses	5	Fore! Golf courses in Palmer boast mountain views at affordable rates.
Palmer Visitor Information Center Museum of History and Art	6	Great starting point for visitor information, Colony history, gardens and guided tours.
Musk Ox Farm and Reindeer Farm	7	See prehistoric animals on guided tours through the farm, museum and gift shop. These farms are a few miles apart, but worth the trip to see both.
Alpine Historical Park	8	Learn about the area's coal mining history, and the Ahtna Athabascan culture. Located at Mile 61.6 of the Glenn Hwy.
Raft the Matanuska or Knik Rivers	9	Guided Class IV whitewater rafting or leisure floats on scenic stretches.
Matanuska Glacier	10	Mile 101, Glenn Hwy. Drive right up to Alaska's largest road-accessible glacier. Easy guided treks and ice climbing.
Lake Louise	11	Excellent lake fishing, winter recreation and hiking opportunities. Off the Glenn Hwy. at Mile 159.8.

In addition to the giant vegetables, the Alaska State Fair features numerous exhibits, cultural celebrations, concerts, live performances and much more - you'll want to plan to stay an extra day to take it all in.

Discover Knik River Valley

The Knik River Valley is a local's favorite! It's a scenic, secluded valley nestled up against the Chugach Mountains, just a short drive from downtown Palmer. This hidden gem is an adventure seeker's delight. It features everything you dreamed Alaska would be - tall mountain peaks, wide open spaces, wilderness, rivers, glaciers and wildlife. The Knik River Valley is located off the Old Glenn Highway, with Knik River Road providing access to trails, fishing and spectacular views.

Knik Glacier is the closest glacier to Anchorage, Alaska's largest city, just an hour to the north. There are many ways to experience Knik Glacier — on a guided ATV trip, helicopter tours including dog mushing adventures and even boat tours to the glacier.

Eklutna Tailrace is one of the Mat-Su Valley's most popular fishing areas for all species of salmon. It typically gets the earliest run of fish in the summer. It has ample parking, and you can walk to the fishing hole with ease.

Knik River Road is a popular place to catch a glimpse of moose, as the large animals typically hang out in the many swampy areas along the route. Don't forget your camera!

Palmer

Attraction or Event

Alaska Horse Adventures

18810 E Walling Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 229-4445 akhorseadventures@gmail.com



Alaska State Fair

2075 Glenn Highway, Palmer, AK 99645 (800) 850-3247 (907) 745-4827 info@alaskastatefair.org www.alaskastatefair.org

The Alaska State Fair is a non-stop, 12-day party for all Alaskans, with nightly concerts featuring some of the nation's hottest entertainers, worldfamous, record-breaking giant vegetables, menus overflowing with the freshest Alaska Grown ingredients, shopping for unique only-in-Alaska arts and crafts, and lots of attractions free with Fair admission!

Friday Flings

PO Box 45, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-2880 director@palmerchamber.org

Palmer Museum of History and Art & Visitor Center 723 S. Valley Way, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-7668 vic@palmermuseum.org

Pioneer Peak Farm

4350 S. Bodenburg Loop, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-4511 info@pppfarm.net

Backcountry Adventures

Alaska Backcountry Adventure Tours

PO Box 2696/3901 S Lindsey Cir, Palmer, AK 99645 (800) 478-2506 (907) 745-2505 reservations@alaska.global

Maiestic Heli Ski

16162 W Glenn Hwy, Sutton, AK 99674 (800) 559-8691 (970) 319-7885 info@majesticheliski.com MajesticHeliSki.com

The Alaska Experience Company

3901 S Lindsey Circle #E, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 414-4325 myakadventure@gmail.com Year-round all inclusive multi-day and day trip Alaska adventures. Glacier dog sledding, helicopter flightseeing, Denali, ATV, snowmobile, lodging and van tours. The best of Alaska all in one place! Visit myalaskaadventure com

Bed & Breakfast/Inn

Alaska Garden Gate Bed & Breakfast

950 S. Trunk Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-2333 info@gardengatebnb.com

Alaska Knotty Pine Bed & Breakfast

3525 N Clark Woverine Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 232-7674 alaskaknottypine@gmail.com www.alaskaknottypine.com

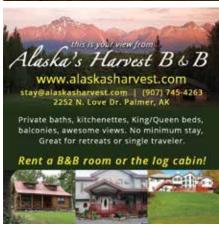
Alaska's Harvest Bed & Breakfast

PO Box 2092, Palmer, AK 99645 (877) 745-4263 (907) 745-4263 stay@alaskasharvest.com



*Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

AlaskaVisit.com



Our Alaskan Dream B&B

4504 N Heaton, Palmer, AK 99645 (801) 791-0576 ouralaskadream@gmail.com ouralaskandream.com

Come as strangers, leave as friends! Visit a home away from home. Relax. Watch a movie in the media room or read a book in the library. Enjoy homemade treats. Sit on the deck and watch the moose wander through the property or stash your stuff and wander off to all the adventures Alaska

Brewery

Matanuska Brewing Company

513 S Valley Way, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-2337

Business Services



Over 25,000 RV Parts in Stock! Custom Built Campers & Canopies

RV Parts & Repair Year-Round 745-4061



**

On Bogard Rd. across from the fire station near Trunk Rd.

Cache Camper Manufacturing Inc.

PO Box 2063, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-4061 cachecamper@live.com www.cachecamper.com

Wolf Architecture, Inc.

625 S Cobb St. Ste 200, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-6670 info@wolfarchitecture.com

Alaska Backcountry Cottages

Cabin/Vacation Home

PO Box 2696/3901 S Lindsey Cir B, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-2505 reservations@alaska.global



Alaska's Caribou Cabins

PO Box 378, Palmer, AK 99645 (888) 408-2246 (907) 746-6881

Canoe Lake Chalet

2280 S. Killarney Dr., Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 715-7891 canoe.lake@yahoo.com

Hatcher Pass Cahins

9000 N. Palmer-Fishhook Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-6788 stay@hpcabins.com



Knik River Lodge

**

**

29979 E Knik River Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (877) 745-4575 (907) 745-5002 info@knikriverlodge.com



Rose Ridge Vacation Chalets

7242 N. Palmer Fishhook Rd, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-8604 stay@alaskavacationchalet.com

Campground/RV Park

Fox Run Lodge, RV Campground, & Restaurant 4466 S. Glenn Highway, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-6120



E Kepler Dr, Mi 37.4 Glenn Hwy, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-3053 keplerpark@gmail.com

Catering Services

Alaskan Events & Catering LLC

8086 E Timb Circle, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 746-4181 info@cateralaska.com cateralaska.com

**

Conference Centers/Meeting Facilities

Government Peak Chalet

7362 W Parks Hwy, Wasilla, AK 99623 (907) 354-5016 info@governmentpeakchalet www.governmentpeakchalet.com

Dining

Colony Kitchen

1890 Glenn Highway, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-4600 noisygoosecafe.com

Palmer Alehouse

320 E Dahlia Street, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-2537



Turkey Red

Summer

550 S Alaska Street, 100, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-5544 turkeyredak@gmail.com Turkey Red serves fresh, high quality ingredients prepared in traditional ways with care & creativity. We serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, Monday through Saturday. We have fresh breads, pastries & pizza baked in our stone hearth oven as well as steak, Alaska seafood, espresso, teas, craft beer & fine wine. We also use Alaska Grown produce!

Entertainment

Alaska Raceway Park

5599 S Race Way, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-7223 info@raceak.com

Flightseeing

**

Fly Around Alaska, LLC

821 Airport Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (888) 893-9329 (907) 746-2290 kenm@flyaroundalaska.com

Golf Resorts

Palmer Golf Course

PO Box 4773, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-4653 eaglegolf@mtaonline.net

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Colony Inn

Box 118, Palmer, AK 99645 (800) 478-7666 (907) 745-3330 akcolonvinn.com Book direct & save!

775 W. Evergreen Street, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-5757 peakinn@msn.com

Pioneer Motel and Apartments

124 W. Arctic, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-3425 info@thepioneermotel.com



Valley Hotel

606 S. Alaska Street, Palmer, AK 99645 (800) 478-7666 (907) 745-3330 akvalleyhotel.com Book direct & save! We have it all. Historic hotel, 43 clean and affordable rooms, open 24/7 365 days. 24-hour cafe, excellent food, bar and grill, 21-hour liquor store, laundry facilities, phones and cable.



*Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

Summer ** Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

lacier

**

**

Land/Wildlife Conservation The Musk Ox Farm (907) 745-4151 Mi 50.1 Glenn Hwy - 1280 F. Archie Rd, Palmer www.MuskOxFarm.org Open Mothers Day thru mid September

12850 Archie Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-4151 info@muskoxfarm.org Visit the nonprofit Musk Ox Farm. Gentle, low-stress animal handling has guided this nonprofit for over 55 years raising musk oxen for their incredible underwool-qiviut. Gently hand-combed qiviut is 8 times warmer than wool and softer than cashmere. Visit our brand-new world class educational center too! Huge pull-through parking for all size rigs. Open Mother's Day-Mid September 10-6 daily. Abbreviated winter hours, please call for

Medical Services

Mat-Su Regional Medical Center

2500 S. Woodworth Loop, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 861-6000

Outfitters/Galleries/Gift Shops



AKtive Soles Performance Footwear

642 S Alaska St #100, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-0600 info@aktivesoles.com www.aktiveak.com

Sightseeing/Custom/Package Tours



Alaska Farm Tours

642 S Alaska Street, Palmer, AK 99645. (907) 519-7067 info@alaskafarmtours.com



**

Golony Inn

Historic Charm in the Heart of Palmer

Enjoy a sense of American history at the Colony Inn. Relax in your individually decorated room with views of the surrounding mountains, amenities include Whirlpool tub, TV, free Wi-Fi, & coffee bar in the upstairs hall. Read a book in

the cozy great room. Guests Check in at

Valley Hotel 606 S. Alaska Street.

Stroll along the self-guided walking tour, visit the local museums, Reindeer Farm or cute baby Musk Ox just down the highway. Take in hiking trails along Lazy Mountain or Hatcher's Pass. Visiting during the winter? Palmer offers amazing cross-country skiing trails at Government Peak, sledding hills and alpine skiing in Hatcher's.

akcolonyinn.com . 325 E. Elmwood, Palmer, AK. 99645 . (907)-745-3330 . Reserve Today!

Summer & Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Mat-Su CHARR

PO Box 3910, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 830-1858 matsucharr@gmail.com

Mat-Su Convention & Visitors Bureau

610 S Bailey St, Suite 201, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-5000 info@alaskavisit.com www.alaskavisit.com

Whether its mountains and glaciers, gold mines and history, or wildlife and wilderness, the Mat-Su Valley has everything on your Alaska bucket list. Let us help you plan an unforgettable multiple day visit to the heart of Alaska. Visit our website or find us on Facebook at "Visit Alaska's Mat-Su Valley."



Summer Hours: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Winter Hours: Wed - Fri 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Call (907) 746-7668 www.palmermuseum.org

**

**

Palmer Museum of History and Art & Visitor Center 723 S. Valley Way, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-7668 vic@palmermuseum.org

Sutton

Attraction or Event

Alpine Historical Park PO Box 266, Sutton, AK 99674 (907) 745-7000 alpinehistoricalpark.org

Chickaloon

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Chickaloon Village Traditional Council

PO Box 1105, Chickaloon, AK 99674 (907) 745-0749 cvadmin@chickaloon-nsn.gov www.chickaloon-nsn.gov

Matanuska Glacier Area

Attraction or Event

66500 S Glacier Park Road, Sutton, AK 99674 (907) 745-2534 (907) 232-9046





(907) 351-7587

MICAGUIDES.COM

MICA Guides 200 W. 34th Avenue #82, Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 351-7587 info@micaguides.com www.micaguides.com

Guided glacier hiking and ice climbing on the spectacular Matanuska Glacier. Helicopter tours with glacier landings, scenic flights and the fastest zipline in Alaska. No experience necessary.

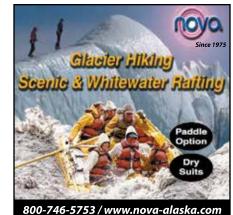
Backcountry Adventures

AK Mountain Tours

17701 W. Glenn Highway, Sutton, AK 99674 (877) 645-5121 (907) 745-5121 info@sheepmountain.com Location: Mile 113.5 Glenn Highway

Alaska Backcountry Adventure Tours

PO Box 2696/3901 S Lindsey Cir, Palmer, AK 99645 (800) 478-2506 (907) 745-2505 reservations@alaska.global



Glacier

NOVA River Runners Inc.

PO Box 1129, Chickaloon, AK 99674 (800) 746-5753 (907) 745-5753 info@nova-alaska.com www.nova-alaska.com

Scenic family float, Lionshead and Six Mile Creek whitewater rafting, guided glacier hikes on the Matanuska Glacier. Multi-day river trips. Alaska's guides to Alaska's rivers since 1975. Trips Daily.

Bed & Breakfast/Inn

Alpenglow Luxury Camping

200 W 34th Ave #82, Anchorage, AK 99503 (330) 314-3633 info@alpenglowluxurycamping.com www.alpenglowluxurycamping.com Location: Mile Post 102.5 Glenn Hwy

Campground/RV Park

Slide Mountain Cabins & RV Park

HC 1 Box 2292, Glennallen, AK 99588 (907) 822-3883 slidemountaincabins@gmail.com www.slidemountain.net Location: Mile 135 Glenn Highway

Flightseeing

Sheep Mountain Air

** 17701 W. Glenn Highway, Sutton. AK 99674 (877) 645-5121 (907) 745-5121 info@sheepmountain.com sheepmountainair.com Location: Mile 113.5 Glenn Highway

Hotel/Motel/Resort



Relax in a beautiful cabin and take in our scenic mountain views. Enjoy everything from fresh baked sourdough bread and homemade pie to a full meal of local salmon paired with Alaskan beer on tap at our on-site restaurant.

Mile 113.5 Glenn Hwy SHEEPMOUNTAIN.COM 1.877.645.5121



Sheep Mountain Lodge

17701 W. Glenn Highway, Sutton, AK 99674 (877) 645-5121 (907) 745-5121 info@sheepmountain.com Location: Mile 113.5 Glenn Highway

Summer ** Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

**



Majestic Valley Wilderness Lodge

16162 W. Glenn Hwy, Sutton, AK 99674 (907) 746-2930 info@majesticvalleylodge.com majesticvalleylodge.com

Handcrafted log lodge at the base of the Talkeetna and Chuqach mountains offers gourmet meals, cabins and rooms with private baths and spectacular views, hiking trails, wildlife viewing, high speed internet and TV.

Mat-Su Events 2021

Markets, Festivals, Races, Celebrations

Alaska State Fair

Alaska's largest event combines delicious food booths, legendary giant vegetables and nonstop entertainment for the whole family. Twelve days of fair fun ending on Labor Day. (800) 850-FAIR

www.alaskastatefair.org

Farmer's Markets

Wasilla/Houston/Willow/ Talkeetna/Palmer

Purchase Alaska Grown produce, flowers and crafts at one of the Valley's weekly markets throughout the summer months, including Friday Flings in downtown Palmer.

Lake Louise

Wilderness Lodge

Lake Louise Lodge

Mile 16.1 Lake Louise Road, Glennallen, AK 99588

D'Local Tips

Lake Louise

The community of Lake Louise, located 17 miles off the Glenn Highway at Mile 158, is an outdoor recreation favorite among Alaskans. In the summer, the lake has great fishing, a state campground and hiking trails. In the winter, snowmobiling, ice fishing and aurora viewing are top activities. A little known fact is that Lake Louise and the surrounding area are home to a great variety of wildlife and birds. It is the only known recorded freshwater nesting site for cormorants. This nesting site, known as Bird Island is also a rare inland nesting site for gulls. The Lake Louise area is the summer home to trumpeter swans, loons and many other waterfowl.

Mat-Su Hawkwatch

Glenn Highway, Glacier View area Mid- to late-April, Mile 120 Glenn Hwy. Matsubirders.org

Palmer Colony Days

A festival honoring the 1935 Colonists who started the Matanuska farming community. Events include a car rally, parade, craft fairs, farmers market, carnival rides, fun run, parade and live entertainment. Second weekend in June annually. (907) 745-2880.

www.palmerchamber.org

🗹 Local Tips

Beautiful berries

The Mat-Su Valley is a popular place to pick wild berries toward the end of summer. Blueberries and cranberries are among the most popular, and can be found throughout the region. Hatcher Pass is one of the most popular spots to pick berries - when in season, you'll often find people lining the hillsides carrying buckets as they pick berries. Remember that animals also like berries, so be bear aware when picking!



The Mat-Su Valley is a hiker's paradise, with thousands of miles of trails in seemingly every direction. The Mat-Su Valley spans 23,000 square miles, so if hiking in Alaska is your dream, the Mat-Su Valley is the place for you.

No matter which region of the Mat-Su Valley you find yourself in, there are amazing trails. Here are a few of the more popular trails in every region

Denali Country

- Kesugi Ridge is a very popular multi-day trek for hikers with lots of experience. It has expansive views of Denali, Mount Hunter, Mount Foraker and the rest of the Alaska Range.
- Kesugi Ken Campground at Mile 135 Parks Highway (Hwy. 3) offers an easy hike with great views. The loop is even ADA compliant.
- Talkeenta trails include the popular Talkeetna Lakes that offers an easy hike with great views.

Lake Country

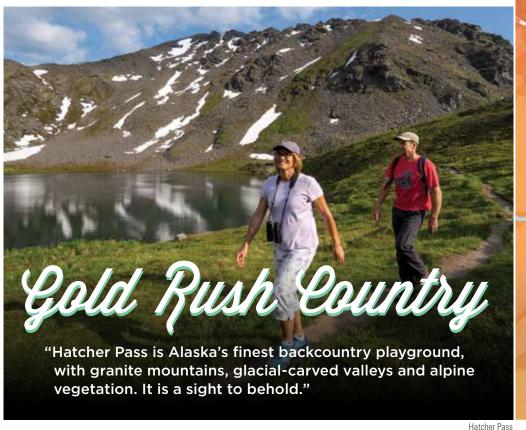
- Lake Lucille Park has a series of trails ideal for day hikers, located just north of Wasilla.
- Settlers Bay Coastal Park has a series of trails that lead to sweeping views of Cook Inlet. This is the newest trail system in the Mat-Su Valley.
- Scout Ridge Trail is part of the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge and is an easy 1.25-mile loop.

Glacier Country

- The Butte is located near Palmer and includes a 900-foot vertical hike with a stair system. Once on top, you are treated to 360-degree views of the Matanuska Valley.
- Matanuska Greenbelt is a series of interconnected trails that go from Matanuska Lakes Park to the Crevasse-Moraine trail system.
- Reflections Lake has a 1-mile trail around the lake, along with a wildlife viewing platform where you can spot moose and migratory birds.
- Around Matanuska Glacier, try the Sheep Mountain trail system or the loop at the Matanuska Glacier State Recreation Area.

Gold Rush Country

- Gold Mint, Gold Cord and Reed Lakes are popular hikes in Hatcher Pass with views of the Matanuska Vallev.
- Government Peak Trails are located at the base of Hatcher Pass and have a series of loops that are ideal for mountain biking.
- Independence Mine has paved walkways around an abandoned gold mine. Guided hikes are available.
- 🌞 Summer 🛮 🏶 Winter 📕 Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.



Hatcher Pass

Just 1.5 hours from Anchorage, Hatcher Pass is a locals' favorite. The area is home to Independence Mine State Historical Park, but also features a wealth of year-round multi-use trails and limitless alpine terrain. Hike, bike or snowmobile. Some hot spots include Reed Lakes, Craigie Creek, Gold Mint and Gold Cord trails. The area offers world-class hiking with breathtaking views of the valley below. With the headwaters of the Little Susitna River originating here, avid kayakers will find the excitement of Class V whitewater appealing.

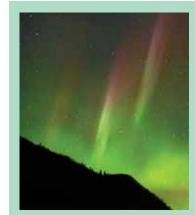
Winter sports enthusiasts flock to Hatcher Pass. The winter of 2020-21 features the inaugural season at Skeetawk, the Mat-Su Valley's first-ever lift access downhill skiing area. The Government Peak Recreation Area, at the base of Hatcher Pass, offers 6.5 kilometers of Nordic skiing trails designed by a former Olympian. Snowmobiling is permitted in designated areas and is very popular west of the pass.



Decut Tips

A Local Secret

Within an hour's drive of Palmer and Wasilla, you'll find more than 80 lakes that offer rainbow trout, pike and landlocked silver salmon. Within six minutes you can hop to new lakes and catch a different experience: semi-remote lakes, hike-in lakes, drive-to lakes. With this kind of opportunity, the Mat-Su is known as the Stillwater Fishing Capital of Alaska! Of course, true fishermen and women not only enjoy warm summer days, but return for winter ice fishing. Wet your line and get hooked in the Mat-Su. Many lakes are stocked by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, giving you great odds of hooking into a fish.



Where to go; What to do

Pick blueberries in the alpine fields or photograph spectacular wildflowers. Berry picking is at its peak in late summer and early fall.

Deep snow and treeless slopes provide perfect terrain for backcountry winter enthusiasts on both sides of Hatcher Pass. The northern lights are best viewed here.

Explore abandoned buildings and machinery from a 200-worker camp and gold mining operation, one of Alaska's biggest gold producers until World War II.

Independence Mine

Once a bustling mining camp, Independence Mine is now on the National Register of Historic Places. You can wander amid the preserved ruins. Independence Mine covers 271 acres and includes restored structures and interpretive displays connected by easily accessible, paved walking paths. Several historic buildings are open to the public, and daily tours of the park area available from June through September.





Gold Fever!

Gold played a pivotal role in establishing many of Alaska's communities, including Hatcher Pass. One of the first discoveries in the Mat-Su happened in 1896 by Robert Lee Hatcher. In 1941, with 83 mining claims, the Alaska-Pacific Consolidated Mining Co. was the largest producer in the mining district, employing more than 200 workers, opening nearly a dozen miles of tunnels, and producing more than 34,000 ounces of gold. Today you can catch a glimpse of what mining was like at the Independence Mine State Historical Park located in Hatcher Pass. Grab your gold pan and see if you have



Gold Rush Country AlaskaVisit.com | 23



Gold Rush Lountry Adventures

Little Susitna River	1	: Along Hatcher Pass Road from Mile 7-15. Watch for wildlife and pan for gold.
Archangel Valley/ Reed Lakes	2	Mile 16 Hatcher Pass Road. Hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing and winter sports.
Lodges	3	Premium meals, lodging, seasonal amenities, event venues.
Independence Mine State Historical Park	4	Gold! Mile 18 Hatcher Pass Road. Open daily June through Sept. Guided tours available in the summer.
Summit Lake Recreation Area	5	Mile 19 Hatcher Pass Road. Berry picking, ridgetop hiking. Pass road opens around July 4th until first snow.
Summer Recreation		Hiking, berry picking, recreational gold panning, mountain biking.
Winter Recreation		Cross-country and backcountry skiing, Skeetawk downhill ski area, Government Peak Nordic trails, sledding.



Y Lycul Tips

Public-use cabins

There are a number of public-use cabins available for rent through the Alaska State Parks. These remote cabins are rustic but offer a true Alaska experience in the outdoors. Some are walk-in accessible, while others you can rent a canoe to access them. Don't delay, though – they rent up to six months in advance online. www.alaskastateparks.org



Hatcher Pass

**

**

Hatcher Pass Area

Attraction or Event

Independence Mine State Historical Park

23264 Gold Cord Road, Palmer AK 99645 (907) 278-3572 reservations@salmonberrytours.com salmonberrytours.com Location: 23264 Gold Cord Rd., Palmer

Backcountry Adventures



Skeetawk Alpine Ski Area

PO Box 924, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-7277 info@skeetawk.com

Skeetawk Ski Area is located at mi 10.6 of Palmer-Fishhook Road in the beautiful Hatcher Pass region outside of Palmer. Our new triple-chairlift whisks you to the top of nine groomed trails with access to the backcountry Don't hesitate to visit in summer as well for the miles of trails, wildflowers, blueberries, wildlife and vistas. Find out more at skeetawk.com!

Cabin/Vacation Home

Alaska's Caribou Cabins PO Box 378, Palmer, AK 99645 (888) 408-2246 (907) 746-6881



9000 N. Palmer-Fishhook Road, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-6788 stay@hpcabins.com

Conference Centers/Meeting Facilities

Government Peak Chalet

7362 W Parks Hwy, Wasilla, AK 99623 (907) 354-5016 info@governmentpeakchalet www.governmentpeakchalet.com

Hotel/Motel/Resort

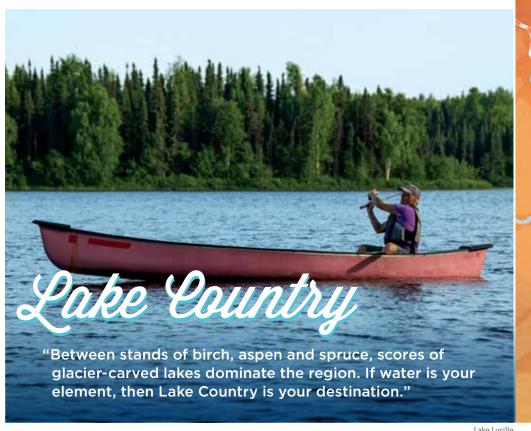
Meier Lake

6059 Wasilla Fishhook Road, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 315-9760 info@meierlake.com



₩Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

AlaskaVisit.com



Lake Lucille



Wasilla

Nestled between Lake Lucille and Wasilla Lake, Wasilla is a bustling community that is home to the world-famous Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race headquarters.

Wasilla is the largest city in the Mat-Su Valley and is a hub of commerce, as a variety of national and local retailers can be found. Fresh produce is available weekly at a farmers market.

Wasilla was originally founded to be a supply crossroads for gold mines at Willow Creek Mining District. The Alaska Railroad built lines through the town to Fairbanks in 1917, providing an immediate "boom" to the area. Today, Wasilla remains one of the fastest-growing communities in Alaska.



V Lycul Tips

Settlers Bay Coastal Park

One of the Valley's newest trail systems is also one of its most accessible - Settlers Bay Coastal Park. Take Knik-Goose Bay Road eight miles to Settlers Bay, then follow Settlers Bay Road to the trailhead (follow the signs). This trail system leads to the Palmer Hay Flats with amazing views of the Chugach Mountains. Keep a lookout for moose, migratory birds and salmon spawning in the streams.



Big Lake

With 67 miles of shoreline, the size of this lake is downright remarkable. Big Lake is a local favorite because of its many recreational opportunities, both in summer and winter. Boating, fishing and riding personal watercraft highlight summer activities. In the winter, the frozen lake allows for Alaska activities such as snowmobiling, dog mushing and cross-country skiing. Terrific views north, east and west toward the towering Alaska and Talkeetna ranges abound. Camp under the midnight sun or stay and dine at one of several area lodges and bed-and-breakfasts.

Houston

Located on the banks of the Little Susitna River along the Parks Highway, this colorful town offers a gentle river to float with great salmon fishing. In the winter, come back and give a snowmobile or sled dog tour a go to feel the crisp air as you zip through the countryside blanketed with pristine snow.



Where to go; What to do

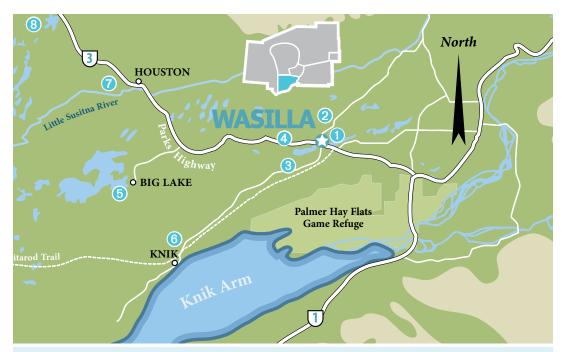
Learn about the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race and take a dog sled ride at Iditarod Trail Headquarters.

Step back in time at the Wasilla Museum, where some of the original townsite has been restored.

The Museum of Alaska Transportation & Industry is filled with exhibits, planes, railroad cars and vintage automobiles.



26 | Lake Country AlaskaVisit.com | 27



Lake Country Adventures

Wasilla Area Lakes	1	Fish, ride personal watercraft and bird-watch at Lake Lucille, Wasilla Lake and more just off the Parks Hwy.
Wasilla Museum	2	Variety of exhibits showcasing the area's trading post history and original town buildings. Self-guided tours available.
Iditarod Headquarters	3	Mile 2.2 Knik-Goose Bay Rd. Museum, gift shop, summer dog sled rides.
Museum of Transportation & Industry	4	Home to Alaska's transportation and industrial relics. Airplanes, trains, steam engines and more.
Big Lake	5	Haven for boating and snowmobiling - year-round recreation. Campgrounds and lodging available.
Knik Museum & Townsite	6	Mile 13.9 Knik-Goose Bay Rd. Built in 1910, is now a muse- um and holds the Musher's Hall of Fame.
Little Su River & Lakes	7	Excellent salmon fishing in the summer and ice fishing in the winter.
Susitna River Drainage	8	Salmon and trout fishing. Guided fishing trips available. Canoeing and camping.







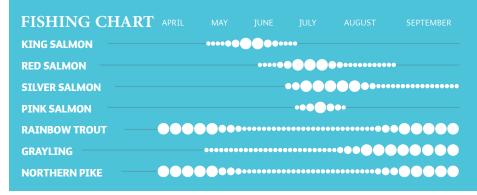
Eklutna Tailrace

Get Hooked!

Mat-Su: Fish-On!

The Mat-Su Valley has several thousand miles of fishable rivers, streams and lakes. Best of all, our fishing is accessible – bank-side off the road, by air taxi to remote spots or contact one of our local expert fishing guides.

The Susitna River drainage has several small creeks and tributaries that are easily accessible via the Parks Highway (Hwy. 3) and feature salmon as well as rainbow trout, grayling and pike. At many of these places, you can walk right up to a fishing hole. Spirited silver salmon run strong in the drainage in mid- to late- summer. In the fall, rainbow trout fishing is exceptional. Make sure you check local regulations before heading out, and purchase a fishing license. Use the chart below to gauge when the fish will be running.





**

**

ake

Country

**

**

**

**

Wasilla

Attraction or Event

Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race

2100 S. Knik-Goose Bay Rd, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-5155 x-108

Museum of Alaska Transportation & Industry

3800 W. Museum Drive, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-1211 mati@mtaonline.net www.museumofalaska.org

Wasilla Museum & Visitor Center

391 N. Main Street, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 373-9071 museum@ci.wasilla.aK.us www.cityofwasilla.com/museum

Wasilla-Knik Historical Society

300 N. Boundary Street, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-7755 wkhsociety@yahoo.com Visit the old Knik Townsite and Museum along the Iditarod Trail, Mile 13.9 Knik Goose Bay Road. Open 1-6 pm Wed-Sun, all summer, off season by appointment. While in Wasilla, visit the historic Herning-Teeland-Mead-Building at 405 E Herning, now home to Krazy Moose Subs. Stroll the Farmers' Market on Wednesdays in the west end of Iditapark, Weber Drive

Bed & Breakfast/Inn

Alaska's Lake Lucille Bed & Breakfast

South shore of Lake Lucille, Wasilla, AK 99687 (888) 353-0352 (907) 357-0352

Lady Gray Bed & Breakfast

1151 E. Glenwood Ave., Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 355-8454 ladygray@mtaonline.net ladygraybnb.com

Pioneer Ridge B&B Inn

2221 S. Yukon Circle, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-7472 info@pioneerridge.com Renovated from a former cattle barn, this 5-room/1-suite bed and breakfast offers early Alaska memorabilia and a full hot breakfast for your enjoyment. Reserve at www.pioneerridge.com.

The Gathering Place

5159 S Snowshoe Pkwy, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 315-6150 thegatheringplace2b@gmail.com

Brewery

The Last Frontier Brewing Company

238 N Boundary Street, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 357-7200 LFBrew58@gmail.com

Business Services

Tegeler & Associates, CPA

2801 E Palmer-Wasilla Hwy Ste B, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-4925 wes@tegelercpa.com

Cabin/Vacation Home

Alaskan Hillside Cabins

PO Box 871748, Wasilla, AK 99687 (907) 376-4912

Campground/RV Park

Big Bear Campground & RV Park

2010 S. Church Street, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-7445 bigbear@mtaonline.net bigbearry.net



**

Settlers Bay Golf Course

7307 S Frontier Dr, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-5466 customerservice@settlersbay.com

Dining

1875 E Palmer-Wasilla Hwy, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 357-1368

Evangelo's Restaurant

PO Box 875609, Wasilla, AK 99687 (907) 376-1249

Everrett's Dining • Bar • Bistro

1850 E Bogard Road, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 357-5000 info@mat-suresort.com www.Mat-SuResort.com

Locals Pub & Pizza

**

**

**

**

**

**

**

**

3100 E Parks Hwy, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 357-3100



Settlers Bay Lodge

PO Box 877869, Wasilla, AK 99687 (907) 357-5678 contact@settlersbaylodge.com www.settlersbaylodge.com



The Albatross @ Settlers Bay Golf Course

7307 S Frontier Dr. Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-5833 customerservice@settlersbay.com



322 N. Boundary St. Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-8466 grapetapak@gmail.com

The Grill

2900 E. Parks Highway, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 352-1777 thegrillgv@gmail.com

Entertainment

Brown Jug Friendly Spirits

2521 E. Mtn. Village Road / Lowes, Wasilla, AK 99654 (800) 478-2413 (907) 376-2300



Extreme Fun Center & Valley Cinema

3501 E Old Matanuska Road, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 770-RACE (7223) wasilla@extremefuncenters.com www.extremefuncenters.com Alaska's favorite indoor entertainment! Electric cart racing, laser tag,

arcade, climbing wall, soft play, bumper cars, XD DARK RIDE, event facilities and more! Extreme Café featuring pizza, foods & beverages. Enjoy the Sky Lounge's craft beers and wine selection.

Fishing

**

**



Alaska Chinook Charters

950 N Balsam Circle Wasilla AK 99654 (907) 748-0095 infoalaskachinookcharters@gmail.com www.alaskachinookcharters.com

Drill Team 6 Fishing Excursions, LLC

Wasilla (702) 465-4747 dt6fishingexcursionsllc@gmail.com www.dt6fishingexcursions.com

Year-round guided Alaska fishing excursions. Salmon & lake fishing boat charters. Ice fishing with heated shelters. Gear, bait, tackle & fish processing included in cost. Veteran/1st Responder discounts.



Fishtale River Guides

PO Box 155, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-2199 fishing@fish4salmon.com Alaska Fishing Guides charter to Little Susitna and Deshka River salmon fishing. Helpful instruction, quality tackle, roomy boats, fish filleting provided. Fun winter ice fishing trips to Mat-Su Valley lakes near Palmer, Wasilla Anchorage Visit www.fish4salmon.com.for.free.fishing.reports pictures, information and map. Catch your Alaskan fishing dream!

Flightseeing

Neacola Mountain Air

6200 East Beechcraft Road, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 350-3982 neacolamtnair.com

Golf Resorts



Settlers Bay Golf Course

7307 S Frontier Dr, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-5466 customerservice@settlersbay.com

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Alaska's Select Inn Motel

3451 E. Palmdale Drive, Wasilla, AK 99654 (888) 357-4768 (907) 357-4768

Best Western Lake Lucille Inn

1300 W. Lake Lucille Dr., Wasilla, AK 99654 (800) 897-1776 (907) 373-1776 hestwesternlakelucilleinn@outlook.com www.BestWestern.com/LakeLucilleInn Superb location on beautiful Lake Lucille with breathtaking views of the Chugach Mountains. Complimentary hot breakfast bar, free wifi and fitness room

Grand View Inn & Suites

2900 E. Parks Highway, Wasilla, AK 99654 (866) 710-7666 (907) 352-1700 grandview@ak.net

Mat-Su Resort

**

**

**

1850 E Bogard Road, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 357-5000 info@mat-suresort.com

Outfitters/Galleries/Gift Shops

Gold Rush Jewelers

212 N. Boundary Street, Wasilla, AK 99654 (800) 770-3650 (907) 376-4912



Sylvia's Quilt Depot

1261 Seward Meridian Road, Suite E, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-6468 Sylvia@sylviasquiltdepot.com www.sylviasquiltdepot.com

Rail



Alaska Railroad

PO Box 107500, Anchorage, AK 99510 (800) 544-0552 (907) 265-2494 reservations@akrr.com Since 1923, the Alaska Railroad has connected Alaska's most popular destinations: Anchorage, Denali, Seward, Fairbanks, Talkeetna and more Take advantage of daily summer service to see glaciers, mountains, wildlife and incredible views from our comfortable railcars (ask about our premium GoldStar Service). Ideal for day trips or travel packages; open year-round.

Travel Agency/Reservations

ABC Travel Services

191 E. Swanson Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-5231 donna@travelservicesinc.com Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

City of Wasilla

290 E. Herning Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 373-9055 cityofwasilla@ci.wasilla.aK.us Wasilla Public Library, Wasilla Museum, Menard Sports & Events Center, eight community parks, small craft airport. The ideal community to work, live and raise a family!





On the way to Denali National Park. Superb location on beautiful Lake Lucille

- Premier Hotel with Breathtaking views of the Chugach Mountains
- Free Deluxe Hot Breakfast Bar
- Free Wireless Internet
- · Fitness Room

1300 W. Lake Lucille Dr., Wasilla, AK 99654 · Tel: 907.373.1776 · Fax: 907.376.6199 (800) 897-1776 www.BestWestern.com/LakeLucilleInn •



🌞 Summer 🛮 🎇 Winter 📗 Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce

1155 E Depot Road, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 376-1299 contact@wasillachamber.org

Big Lake

Business Services

** Lakeshore Entertaining & Event Management PO Box 521847, Big Lake, AK 99652 (907) 230-0935 lakeshoreentertaining@alaska.net

Cabin/Vacation Home

Alaska Sunset View Resort PO Box 521402, Big Lake, AK 99652 (907) 892-8885 stay@alaskasunsetviewresort.com Location: 5322 S. Big Lake Road

Shirley's End of the Road Cafe

Big Lake, AK 99652(907) 892-2837 shirleyinman62@gmail.com

Dog Sledding

Alaska Mushing School

(907) 793-0647 mushingschool@gmail.com alaskamushingschool.com Location: Big Lake/Willow

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Big Lake Chamber of Commerce PO Box 520067, Big Lake, AK 99652 (907) 892-6109

Houston

**

**

Cabin/Vacation Home

Creekside Lodge

977 S Kenlar Road Houston, AK 99654 (907) 315-9545 creeksidelodgeak@gmail.com

Entertainment

Gorilla Fireworks

PO Box 871906, Wasilla, AK 99687 (907) 892-6557



Stay Connected

Share your vacation photos of the Mat-Su Valley with us on Social Media



Instagram - @matsuvalleyak



Facebook - Visit Alaska's Mat-Su Valley



Twitter - @visitmatsu





🌞 Summer 🛮 🎇 Winter 📗 Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.



**



Peony Farming

The Mat-Su Valley has always been known as the agricultural hub of Alaska, with giant cabbages, potatoes and carrots being some of the best-known products. In the last few years, however, peony farming has become a major part of the growing scene, with their giant, blooming flowers appearing on farmlands around Southcentral Alaska.

What started out small a decade ago has grown into a major crop in Alaska today. There are now more than 100 peony growers around the state, and many of them are in the Mat-Su Valley. Why are Alaska peonies in high demand? Because of the growing season, the conditions and the timing of their bloom.

Peonies typically bloom very early in the summer season in the Lower 48, ahead of "wedding season." In Alaska, they tend to bloom much later - around the Fourth of July. Our cooler growing season, combined with cool soils provide ideal conditions.

Alaska peonies tend to be bigger and brighter than Lower 48 flowers. By cultivating them right before they bloom, in the bud stage, and putting them in controlled cold storage for an additional six to eight weeks, Alaska peonies can be shipped around the world for weddings and outdoor ceremonies throughout the entire summer.



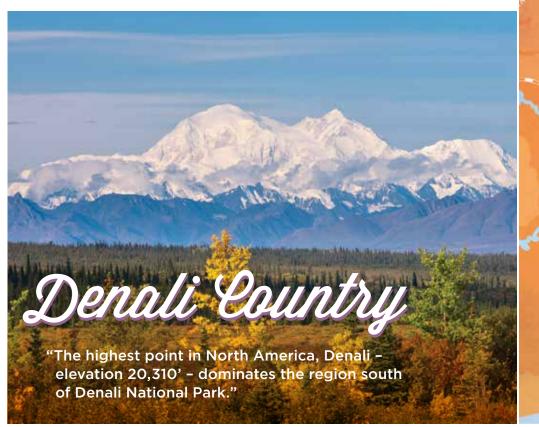
I Local Tips

Birch syrup capital

With birch trees everywhere, the Mat-Su Valley is one of the world's leading producers of birch syrup. The birch syrup is used in everything from candies to soaps. It takes up to 110 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of syrup. The sap is harvested in the spring when the snow starts to melt. In Talkeetna, you can tour a birch syrup production facility. Take home a piece of the Mat-Su Valley with a box of birch caramels.

Summer & Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

Lake Country



Denali State Park

Towering Peaks, Abundant Wildlife, Iconic Towns

Willow

The first grand views of Denali are along the Parks Highway (Hwy. 3) on the way to Willow. While you're there, take advantage of the campgrounds, fishing streams, snowmobile trails and dog mushing tours (yes, even in the summer). Paddle the Nancy Lake State Recreation Area canoe trail and spend a night in a public-use cabin. This area is very popular among locals for the many outdoor recreational opportunities.



Talkeetna

Talkeetna has a unique vibe all its own. This small town is the staging area for the more than 1,000 climbers who attempt to climb Denali each spring. On average, only 50 percent of them make the summit. In May and June, you can spot climbers milling around town or having breakfast at Talkeetna Roadhouse. The first successful summit of Denali was June 7, 1913 by a party led by Hudson Stuck. Alaska Native Walter Harper became the first to reach the summit in that party, and the Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station bears his name today. They ascended via the Muldrow Glacier route, which is still a popular route. Located at the confluence of three major rivers, Talkeetna keeps its mining history alive with renovated miners' cabins used as lodging, shops and restaurants. Here you'll find one of Alaska's top breweries, a number of great restaurants and shops that sell goods made by local artists.

The rivers also lend to a multitude of activities such as guided river rafting, boat tours and sport fishing. The Alaska Railroad stops daily in the summer and weekly in winter. Spend a day perusing the many shops that feature local artisans. Flightseeing trips around Denali are spectacular, and depart from Talkeetna daily.

Trapper Creek/Petersville

Petersville Road extends nearly 35 miles from Trapper Creek into the Dutch Hills, offering spectacular views of Denali. The rugged, scenic gravel road is ideal for mountain biking or snowmobiling in the winter. (In the summer, 4-wheel drive vehicles are recommended after first 10 miles.)



Denali State Park

Adjacent to Denali National Park, this 325,000-acre wildland boasts stunning and accessible recreational opportunities. Whether camping here or just stopping for the view, don't miss this gem of the Alaska State Parks system. Camp, canoe and explore amidst stunning views of Denali from the ridgeline or from Byers Lake. While Denali National Park & Preserve offers the wilderness and wildlife experience, don't miss Denali State Park for the ultimate scenic Denali experience. Kesugi Ken Campground is located at Mile 135.4 Parks Highway (Hwy. 3) and has an easy .5-mile hike to a spectacular Denali overlook. With RV and tent sites as well an interpretive center and public-use cabins, the campground is a popular spot for those looking for peace and quiet away from the crowds.



Where to go; What to do

Rent a kayak or canoe on Byers Lake and paddle to schools of spawning red salmon. Watch for swans, loons and feeding bears.

Take a flightseeing trip around Denali, and land on a glacier high in the Alaska Range. Most visitors rank this as their most impressive Alaska experience.

Explore the rivers with a jet boat or rafting trip.

Feast on the Alaska-sized breakfast at the local roadhouse – a favorite among returning climbers.

Come back this winter for the restart of the world-famous Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Learn about the area's Denali climbing history at the Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station.

AlaskaVisit.com | 35



Y Lucul Tips

Birding

The Mat-Su Valley is a birder's paradise, with opportunities to see hundreds of species of birds throughout the year. Thousands of migratory birds come through the Mat-Su Valley each year, while countless others call the Valley home full time. Keep your eyes to the skies, as you'll undoubtedly see eagles and ravens, as well as a wide variety of other species. The Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge is one of the most popular birding spots in all of Alaska. Raptors such as the Northern Harrier, Rough-legged Hawk and Short-eared Owl can be seen regularly during migration. Additionally, warblers, sparrows, thrushes and other songbirds frequent the area. This area has been designated as an Important Bird Area by the International BirdLife and National Audobon Society. Further north on the Glenn Highway National Scenic Byway, the Sheep Mountain area is popular, particularly during late April when the annual Hawkwatch takes place. Some difficult to find species that occur in the area include the Arctic Warbler, Gyrfalcon, White-winged Crossbill and the Northern Hawk Owl.

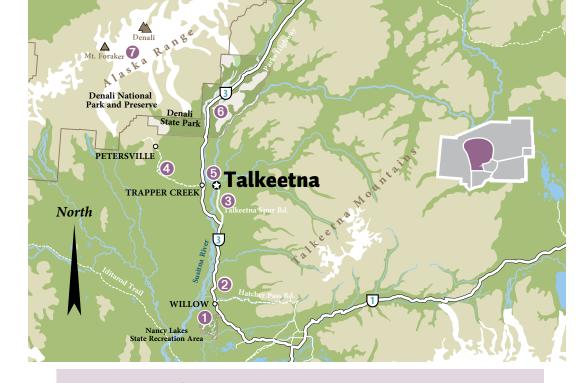


THE High One

What's in a Name

For centuries, Koyukon Athabaskans referred to the mountain as Denali or Deenaalee, which translates to "the High One." However, in 1896 a gold prospector named the mountain McKinley as a political statement in support of presidential candidate William McKinley. In 1917, the Mount McKinley National Park Act made the name official. Alaska leaders began petitioning for a name change in 1975 and in 1980 the national park surrounding the peak was given the name Denali, but federal lawmakers, particularly from McKinley's home state of Ohio, refused to budge on the name Mount McKinley. It remained until 2015, when President Barack Obama officially changed the name to Denali.





Denali Country Adventures

Nancy Lake Recreation Area	1	Mile 67.2 Parks Hwy. 130 interconnected lakes. Lynx Lake Canoe Trail. Link to canoe rental information at www.alaskavisit.com.
Dog Sledding	2	Mush your own team of huskies, ride the runners or sit in the sled.
Talkeetna Historic District	3	Historic walking tour — museum, log cabins, school, roadhouse, inn and other mining-era structures dating to 1916. Food, tours, lodging and shopping. Year-round Alaska Railroad stop.
Petersville Road	4	Mile 114.8 Parks Hwy. 35-mile road has great biking, hiking, and fishing.
Susitna, Chulitna, Talkeetna Rivers	5	Boat, camp, fish and explore these glacial rivers. Guided tours, rafting and fishing available.
Denali State Park	6	See Denali and visit the Veterans Memorial, or stay at the K'esugi Ken Campground. Camping, kayaking, fishing and nature walks. Access to Kesugi and Curry Ridge trailheads.
Denali	7	Flightsee the Alaska Range and view glaciers, sheer rock faces, rivers and wildlife.



(907) 414-4547 snowhookkennel@gmail.com

Backcountry Adventures Fishing at its best! Fishtale River Guides www.fish4salmon.com

Fishtale River Guides PO Box 155, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 746-2199 fishing@fish4salmon.com

Summer ** Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

Montana Creek Campground

HC 89 Box 543, Willow, AK 99688 (877) 475-CAMP (907) 733-5267 montanacreek@mtaonline.net

Wilderness Lodge



PO Box 871806, Wasilla, AK 99687 (907) 232-6773 info@iditarodlodging.com

Talkeetna

Apartment/Cabin/Chalet Rentals

Willow, Talkeetna

26344 South Wolf Trek Road, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-4734 info@talkeetnachalet.net

Attraction or Event



Alaska Wild Harvest **Birch Syrup & Berry Products**

38139 (mi 1 1) Talkeetna Spur Road, Talkeetna, AK (800) 380-7457 (907) 733-1409 info@alaskabirchsyrup.com



**

PO Box 372, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (855) 733-3988 (907) 733-3988 info@denaliziplinetours.com www.denaliziplinetours.com

Soar through the boreal forest with stunning views of Denali and the Alaska Range via suspension bridges and aerial platforms. Entertaining local guides share history and plant lore on a world class zipline course.

Talkeetna Historical Society Museum

PO Box 76, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2487 info@talkeetnahistoricalsociety.org

Backcountry Adventures



Alaska Off-road Adventures

PO Box 13262, Trapper Creek, AK 99683 (907) 360-2651 alaskaoffroadadventures@gmail.com www.alaskaoffroadadventures.com

North Shore Cyclery

14008 E 2nd Street, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-9999 shawn@northshorecylcery.bike northshorecyclery.bike

Bed & Breakfast/Inn

Denali Overlook Inn

**

PO Box 1023, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (855) 733-3555 (907) 733-3555 Perfectly positioned on a bluff just 5 miles from downtown Talkeetna, The Denali Overlook Inn features spectacular views of Denali and the Alaska Range, Tortrillo Mountain Range, Talkeetna Mountain Range, and The

**

Boat Excursions

Denali View Raft Adventures

PO Box 747, Talkeetna, Alaska 99676 (907) 957-1391 raft@denaliviewraft.com

Aurora Borealis all from the comfort of your bed!

Mahay's Jet Boat Adventures

PO Box 705, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2223 mahays@mahaysjetboat.com mahavsietboat.com

Experience remote, wilderness Alaska. Tour on an enclosed jetboat into Class V whitewater, entering Devil's Canyon, where few have ventured or take another one of our tours of varying lengths. All tours include natural history of the local area. Panoramic views of Denali make these trips unique and unforgettable. See bottom of page.



🌞 Summer 🛮 🛊 Winter 📙 Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

Talkeetna River Guides

PO Box 563, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (800) 353-2677 (907) 733-2677 www.talkeetnariverguides.com

Brewery

Denali Brewing Company PO Box 1021, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2540 www.denalibrewing.com

Bus/Shuttle/Limo/Taxi



Park Connection Motorcoach Service

3900 Arctic Blvd Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 208-0200 (907) 245-0200 experts@alaskatravel.com Daily deluxe motorcoach service between Talkeetna, Denali, Anchorage, Seward. Travel in comfort. Spacious seating, large picture windows, and onboard restrooms. Offering the only same-day scheduled service between Denali and Seward

Cabin/Vacation Home



Meandering Moose Lodge

PO Box 202, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-1000 kathy@meandering-moose-lodging.com www.meandering-moose-lodging.com

Susitna River Lodging

23094 S. Talkeetna Spur Road (Mile 13.5). Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-0505 lodging@mtaonline.net www.SusitnaRiverLodge.com

PO Box 147 Talkeetna AK 99676 (907) 733-2227 reservations@talkeetnacabins.org

Campground/RV Park



Talkeetna Camper Park

Mile 13.7 Talkeetna Spur Road, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2693 info@talkeetnacamper.com www.talkeetnacamper.com

Dining

Denali Brewpub

PO Box 1021, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2537 www.denalibrewing.com

Shirley's Gourmet Ice Cream

5455 East Aspen Street, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 315-8838 shirleyinman62@gmail.com Location: On the corner of Main Street Talkeetna

Dog Sledding



AK Sled Dog Tours

HC 89 Box 8620, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 947-4210 info@aksleddogtours.com www.sleddogtours.com

Fishing



**

**

**

**

**

en

0

Country

Phantom Tri River Charters

PO Box 312, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2400 phantomsalmon@mtaonline.net phantomsalmoncharters.com

Flightseeing

PO Box 545, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (800) 764-2291 (907) 733-2291 info@flyk2.com www.flvk2.com

N2 Alaska II C

P.O. Box 184, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 616-1010 flyn2alaska@gmail.com

Talkeetna Air Taxi, Inc.

14212 E 2nd Street, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (800) 533-2219 (907) 733-2218 info@talkeetnaair.com www.talkeetnaair.com

Explore Denali and Denali National Park with extraordinary flights and glacier landings in a spectacular world of towering peaks and vast gorges Continuously voted the #1 tour activity on trip advisor.

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Latitude 62 Lodge/Motel

PO Box 478, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2262 lat62@alaska.net

Swiss Alaska Inn

PO Box 565, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2424 vern@swissalaska.com



Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge

509 W 4th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501 (800) 808-8068 info@talkeetnalodge.com www.talkeetnalodge.com

Experience Talkeetna's frontier spirit and history from Denali's south side. Stay in luxurious comfort with panoramic views of breathtaking Denali. First-class accommodations and meeting facilities. Two hours from Anchorage. Wine Spectator, Trip Advisor awards. Complimentary daytime shuttle. Free parking. Activities: nature trails, jetboating, rafting, flightseeing with glacier landings, ziplining.

🌞 Summer 🛮 🕸 Winter 📘 Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

**



Talkeetna Inn

PO Box 256, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2323 info@talkeetnainn.com www.talkeetnainn.com

PO Box 604, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-1351 reservations@talkeetnaroadhouse.com



PO Box 107500, Anchorage, AK 99510 (800) 544-0552 (907) 265-2494 reservations@akrr.com Since 1923, the Alaska Railroad has connected Alaska's most popular destinations: Anchorage, Denali, Seward, Fairbanks, Talkeetna and more. Take advantage of daily summer service to see glaciers, mountains, wildlife and incredible views from our comfortable railcars (ask about our premium GoldStar Service). Ideal for day trips or travel packages; open year-round.



AlaskaTrain com

3900 Arctic Blvd Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 266-8625 (907) 245-0200 info@AlaskaTrain.com Online reservations for Alaska Railroad GoldStar and Adventure Class, plus private dome rail and deluxe motorcoaches. Travel to Talkeetna, Denali, Seward, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Whittier, Book your Whittier/Seward cruise

Sightseeing/Custom/Package Tours

Alaska Edge Wilderness Tour

42800 South Parks Highway, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (866) 302-7623 (907) 733-7774 Fred@AlaskaEdge.com



Alaska Tour & Travel

3900 Arctic Blvd Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 208-0200 (907) 245-0200 experts@alaskatravel.com Your Alaska Travel Experts. Specializing in custom vacations to Alaska's most spectacular destinations including Denali, Talkeetna, Seward.



Mahav's Jet Boat Adventures

PO Box 705, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 733-2223 mahays@mahaysjetboat.com mahavsietboat.com

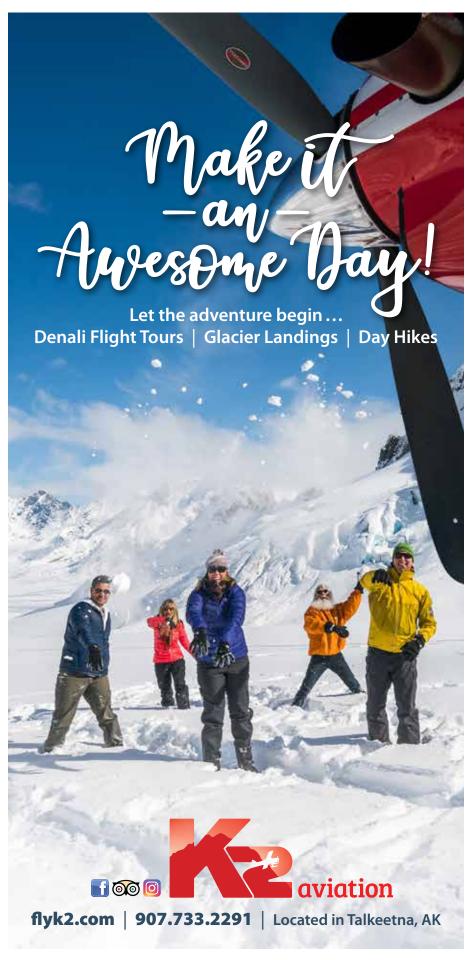
Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 334, Talkeetna, AK 99676 (907) 414-0376 info@talkeetnachamber.org Wilderness Lodge

Summer & Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

**



| Denali Country

**

**



Caribou Lodge Alaska

PO Box 4257, Palmer, AK 99645 (877) 700-2875 (907) 733-2163 info@cariboulodgealaska.com A fly-in remote wilderness lodge located southeast of Talkeetna with unmatched views of Denali. We offer Guided Hiking, Camping, Kayaking, Canoeing, Wildlife Viewing, Northern Lights Viewing, Snowshoeing, and Skiing. Day trips available. Get away from the crowds and come enjoy the Alaska wilderness for an experience of a lifetime.

Denali State Park

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge

Milepost 133 Parks Hwy, Denali State Park, AK 99683 (800) 426-0500 (907) 733-2900 aklodges@princesscruises.com www.princesslodges.com

Boasting an incredible view of Denali, the lodge offers vaulted ceilings, a massive stone fireplace. Hudson Theater, naturalist-led presentations. treehouse, outdoor hot tubs and nature trails that stretch for miles. Enjoy delicious cuisine from our three dining venues or choose your next enture at the Guest Service Desk

Denali Highway

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Maclaren River Lodge

Mile 42 Denali Highway (907) 388-6361 maclarenlodge@wildblue.net www.maclarenlodge.com

Denali National Park

Bus/Shuttle/Limo/Taxi



Park Connection Motorcoach Service

3900 Arctic Blvd Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 208-0200 (907) 245-0200 experts@alaskatravel.com Offering the only same-day scheduled service between Denali and Seward! Daily deluxe motorcoach service between Denali, Talkeetna, Anchorage, Seward. Travel in comfort. Spacious seating, large picture windows, and

Cabin/Vacation Home

Park's Edge

PO Box 41, Healy, AK 99734 (907) 683-4343 lodging@parks-edge.com www.parks-edge.com Park's Edge offers comfortable log cabins accommodations near Denali

National Park. Off MP247 behind golf course. Cabins sleep 2-6 with private baths and individual decks. See www.parks-edge.com for more information.

Flightseeing

Mile 229.5 Parks Highway, Denali National Park, AK 99755 (907) 683-2261 flightseeing@denaliair.com www.DenaliAir.com



TEMSCO Helicopters

1 Glacier Way, Denali National Park, AK 99755 (907) 683-0683 denali tours@temscoair.com www.temscoair.com

Hotel/Motel/Resort



Alaska Tour & Travel

3900 Arctic Blyd Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 208-0200 (907) 245-0200 experts@alaskatravel.com Book Denali National Park wilderness lodges, cabins, hotels PLUS tours and transportation in one place. Specializing in custom vacations, convenient planning, great value. Let an Alaskan plan your Alaska vacation.



Best Western Lake Lucille Inn

room. See our ad on page 31.

1300 W. Lake Lucille Dr., Wasilla, AK 99654 (800) 897-1776 (907) 373-1776 bestwesternlakelucilleinn@outlook.com www.BestWestern.com/LakeLucilleInn Superb location on beautiful Lake Lucille with breathtaking views of the Chugach Mountains. Complimentary hot breakfast bar, free wifi and fitness

BACKCOUNTRY LODGE

Denali Backcountry Lodge 509 W 4th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501

(800) 808-8068 info@denalibackcountrylodge.com www.denalibackcountrylodge.com Escape to rustic comfort in your own private cabin in Kantishna, in the heartland of Denali National Park and Preserve. Enjoy warm Alaskan hospitality and all the comforts of an all-inclusive stay, with ample opportunity to explore the ruggedly wondrous backcountry with guided hikes, gold panning, spa services and more.

Denali Bluffs Hotel

PO Box 8, Denali, AK 99755 (855) 683-8600 (907) 683-7000 reservations@denalialaska.com

Nestled into Sugarloaf Mountain, with views of Denali National Park! Enjoy hearty BBQ at Mountaineer Grill and Bar or tasty treats at Perky Moose Cafe, 112 Hillside and 64 RiverView rooms, All have Wi-Fi, coffee maker and fridge: RiverView rooms have verandas and a/c. Tour desk, free shuttle, on-site laundry.



Denali Cabins

509 W 4th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501 (800) 808-8068 info@denali-cabins.com www.denali-cabins.com

Located in the vibrant landscapes of Denali National Park and Preserve, just eight miles south of the National Park entrance, the Denali Cabins are a favorite retreat among the local Alaskans. With the Prey Bar & Eatery, it's the perfect base camp to embark on all your Denali adventures.

Denali Grizzly Bear Resort PO Box 7, Denali Park, AK 99755

(866) 583-2696 (907) 683-2696 info@denaligrizzlybear.com www.denaligrizzlybear.com

3000 C Street, Ste 101, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 276-7234 (907) 683-8900 denalireservations@aramark.com

Grande Denali Lodge PO Box 8, Denali, AK 99755 (855) 683-8600 (907) 683-5100 reservations@denalialaska.com

Located at the entrance of Denali National Park and perched on Sugarloaf Mountain. The hotel offers 160 quest rooms, 6 cozy cabins, and a private meeting room. Rooms include Wi-Fi, A/C, fridge. Enjoy award-winning dining at the Alpenglow Restaurant or cocktails at the Peak Spirits. Tour desk, free shuttle, on-site laundry,

Ridgetop Cabins
PO Box 81512, Fairbanks, AK 99708 (866) 680-2440 (907) 683-2448 ridgetop@mtaonline.net www.denaliridgetopcabins.com

Six private cabins on 80 acres on the north boundary of Denali National Park. Located just 16 miles north of the entrance to Denali National Park, our cabins provide an expectations-exceeding wilderness lodging experience by night and easy access to all that Denali National Park has

Rail



AlaskaTrain com

3900 Arctic Blvd Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 266-8625 (907) 245-0200 info@AlaskaTrain.com Online reservations for Alaska Railroad GoldStar and Adventure Class, plus private dome rail and deluxe motorcoaches. Travel to Denali, Seward, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Talkeetna, Whittier. Book your Whittier/Seward cruise transfers, too!

Sightseeing/Custom/Package Tours

Alaska Railroad

PO Box 107500, Anchorage, AK 99510 (800) 544-0552 (907) 265-2494 reservations@akrr.com www.AlaskaRailroad.com

Location: Mile 1.25 Denali National Park Road The Alaska Railroad is your ticket to Alaska adventure, offering daily summer service to destinations including Denali National Park, Talkeetna, Seward Anchorage Fairbanks and more Choose from our travel packages for day trips, short getaways or multi-day itineraries, or work with our local reservation agents to build your own Alaska trip.

Alaska Tour & Travel

3900 Arctic Blvd Suite 304, Anchorage, AK 99503 (800) 208-0200 (907) 245-0200 experts@alaskatravel.com Book all Denali National Park cabins, lodges, tours, and transportation with us. Specializing in custom vacations, convenient planning, a great value for you. Let an Alaskan plan your Alaska vacation

Alaska Travel Connections

1125 W Balboa Drive, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 315-3026 info@alaskatravelconnections.com



Denali Backcountry Adventure

509 W 4th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501 (800) 808-8068 info@denalibackcountryadventure.com www.denalibackcountryadventure.com/adventure Adventure of a lifetime in just one day Denali Backcountry Adventure is a narrated day trip to Denali Backcountry Lodge deep inside Denali National Park. Call us today to book your adventure.



🌞 Summer 🛮 🎎 Winter 📗 Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.



Northern Alaska Tour Company

PO Box 82991, Fairbanks, AK 99708 (800) 474-1986 (907) 474-8600 adventure@northernalaska.com www.northernalaska.com

Experience Denali and Alaska's Arctic by air. Denali Summit Flight: Get a dramatic view of Denali and the surrounding peaks and glaciers as your aircraft climbs to nearly 21,000 feet. Arctic Circle Air Adventure: Cross the Arctic Circle, explore the Brooks Mountain Range and earn an Arctic Circle Travel Agency/Reservations



Alaska Collection by Pursuit 509 W 4th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501 (800) 808-8068 info@PursuitAlaska.com www.AlaskaCollection.com



V Local Tips

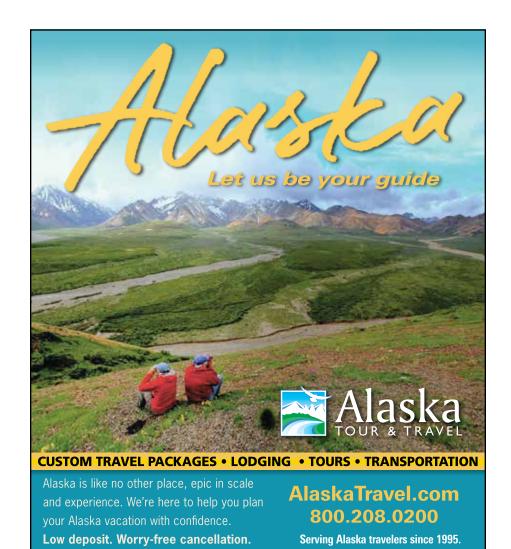
A Local Secret

The Nancy Lakes State Recreation Area is a paradise for canoers and kayakers. Located along the Parks Highway (Hwy. 3) at Mile 67.3 The Nancy Lake system is a series of inter-connected lakes. Some of the larger lakes include Nancy Lake, Red Shirt Lake, Lynx Lake, Bald Lake and James Lake. Smaller lakes are scattered throughout the nearly 23,000-acre park. If you don't have a canoe, they can be rented by a private company located at Mile 6.5 Nancy Lake Parkway. One of Nancy Lake State Recreation Area's biggest attractions is the Lynx Lake Canoe Trail, which travels through an eight-mile chain of lakes. The lakes are connected, so easy portages are available for canoeists and kayakers. There are also 13 public-use cabins available for rent from the Alaska State Parks.



For a virtual visit to the Mat-Su Valley, head to our YouTube Channel for videos of exciting tours.

Search for YahooMatSu



SERVICE TO - DENALI PARK • TALKEETNA • ANCHORAGE • WHITTIER • SEWARD • FAIRBANKS



DAILY SCHEDULED MOTORCOACH SERVICE TO ALASKA'S TOP DESTINATIONS

Offering the only same-day transportation service between Seward and Denali Park.



Book online at AlaskaCoach.com or call 800.266.8625



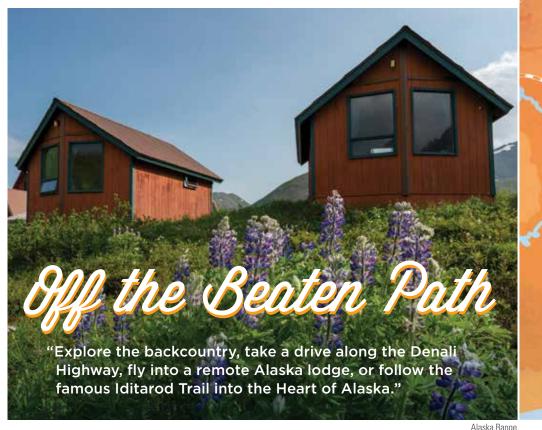
ALASKA RAILROAD PRIVATE DOME CARS ALL TRAIN SERVICES

From Seward to Fairbanks including Denali, climb aboard a true Alaska adventure.



Book online at AlaskaTrain.com or call 800.266.8625

| Denali Country | AlaskaVisit.com | 45



Exclusively Alaska

With only three highways in an area that encompasses 23,000 square miles, there is a lot of country in the Mat-Su Valley that is off the beaten path. Throughout this untamed wilderness, there are many remote wilderness lodges only accessible by boat or from various air taxi hubs such as Anchorage, Willow and Talkeetna. A short plane ride will transport you to another world of solitude. Enjoy fresh, seasonal food and diverse activities from float trips and berry picking to spa treatments and culinary schools. In the winter, heli-skiing opportunities abound. Spend a day, a night or more off the beaten path in this quintessential Alaska environment.



Where to go; What to do

Camp, hike, float the rivers, photograph a wide variety of birds, look for caribou, moose, black and brown bears.

Dine on seasonal, Alaska delights served fresh from the river or garden.

Cheer on the leaders of the **Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race** as they pass along the trail heading toward Rainy Pass.





CAdventures			
Iditarod Trail	1	Chase the race along trail checkpoints from Skwentna to Rainy Pass. Lodges and operators offer opportunities for getting close to the action.	
Fly in to Remote Lakes	2	For the ultimate fishing experience. Day trips also available.	
Eastern Alaska Range	3	Mount Deborah, Hess and Hayes. Explore the glaciated landscape. Marvel at Pyramid Peak and the Clearwater Mountains.	
Denali Highway		This rugged road offers stunning views — 136 miles from Paxson to Cantwell, open mid-May through Oct. 1.	



1 Local Tips

Denali State Park

While Denali National Park & Preserve is well known by visitors, locals will tell you that you don't want to miss Denali State Park, which is further south. The views of the Alaska Range and Denali are actually much better in the state park than the national park, and there's a ton of activity – from camping at Kesugi Ken Campground to hiking Kesugi Ridge and paddling at Byers Lake. On a clear day, there's no better view of Denali than from the Denali Viewpoint South pullout at Mile 135 of the Parks Highway.

Off The Beaten Path

Cabin/Vacation Home

Knik River Lodge/Helicopter Tours

29979 F Knik River Road Palmer AK 99645 (877) 745-4575 (907) 745-5002 info@knikriverlodge.com knikriverlodge.com

Wilderness Lodge

Caribou Lodge Alaska

PO Box 4257 Palmer AK 99645

(877) 700-2875 (907) 733-2163 info@cariboulodgealaska.com A fly-in remote wilderness lodge located southeast of Talkeetna with unmatched views of Denali. We offer Guided Hiking, Camping, Kayaking, Canoeing, Wildlife Viewing, Northern Lights Viewing, Snowshoeing, and Skiing. Day trips available. Get away from the crowds and come enjoy the Alaska wilderness for an experience of a lifetime

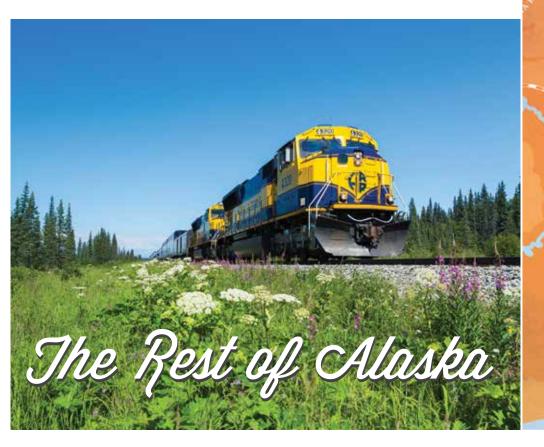


Wilderness Place Lodge

PO Box 190243, Anchorage, AK 99519 (877) 753-3474 (907) 733-2051 wildernessplacelodge@gmail.com www.wildernessplacelodge.com

Within The Wild Adventure Company PO Box 91419, Anchorage, AK 99509 (907) 274-2710

Summer ** Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.



Anchorage

Attraction or Event

Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center

PO Box 949, Girdwood, AK 99587 (907) 783-2025 info@alaskawildlife.org

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center

625 C Street, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 929-9200 museum@anchoragemuseum.org www.anchoragemuseum.org Alaska's largest museum, The Anchorage Museum tells the story of

Alaska, a multifaceted story that weaves together social, political, cultural, scientific, historic and artistic threads. Come explore!

Fishing

Drill Team 6 Fishing Excursions, LLC

Wasilla (702) 465-4747 dt6fishingexcursionsllc@gmail.com www.dt6fishingexcursions.com Year-round guided Alaska fishing excursions. Salmon & lake fishing

boat charters, Ice fishing with heated shelters, Gear, bait, tackle & fish processing included in cost. Veteran/1st Responder discounts.

Flightseeing

Alaska Helicopter Tours

1842 Merrill Field Dr., Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 272-7777 info@alaskahelicoptertours.com alaskahelicoptertours.com

Come and experience Alaska away from the crowds. At Alaska Helicopter Tours, we offer summer dogsled tours in real snow, glacier landings and heli hiking tours, suitable for the whole family. Perfect safety record, small groups and consistent 5-star reviews. See blue glacier pools and massive icebergs. Call today!

Rust's Flying Service

PO Box 190867, Anchorage, AK 99519 (800) 544-2299 (907) 243-1595 info@flyrusts.com

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Alveska Resort

** PO Box 249, Girdwood, AK 99587 (800) 880-3880 (907) 754-1111 info@alyeskaresort.com

Outfitters/Galleries/Gift Shops

Oomingmak Musk Ox Producers' Co-Op

604 H Street, Anchorage, AK 99501 (888) 360-9665 (907) 272-9225 qiviut@gci.net

Sightseeing/Custom/Package Tours

Anchorage Trolley Tours

546 W 4th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 276-5603 sales@anchoragetrolley.com anchoragetrolley.com

Greatland Adventures

**

**

**

**

**

410 K Street, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 980-8179 info@greatlandadventures.com



Salmon Berry Travel & Tours

515 W 4th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 278-3572 reservations@salmonberrytours.com www.salmonberrytours.com

**

Travel Agency/Reservations

Alaska.org & The Alaska App

PO Box 100519, Anchorage, AK 99510 (907) 777-7700 yael@alaska.org

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Anchorage Chamber of Commerce

1016 W. 6th Avenue Suite 303, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 272-2401 info@anchoragechamber.org

Visit Anchorage

524 W. Fourth Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501 (800) 478-1255 (907) 257-2363 info@anchorage.net www.anchorage.net

Anchorage is the best of Alaska, all in one place. Towering mountains, sparkling glaciers and amazing wildlife: Anchorage is the key to an unforgettable Alaska visit. Discover a place pairing 1,500 moose and hundreds of miles of hiking trails with Alaska's best hotels, diverse dining, and tax-free shopping.

Eagle River

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Chuqiak-Eagle River Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 770353, Eagle River, AK 99577 (907) 694-4702 info@cer.org

Fairbanks/Interior

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Fountainhead Hotels & Resort

Fairbanks, AK 99701(800) 528-4916 (907) 456-3642 askus@fountainheadhotels.com

Pike's Waterfront Lodge

1850 Hoselton Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709 (877) 774-2400 (907) 456-4500 info@pikeslodge.com

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency



Explore Fairbanks

101 Dunkel St. Suite 111, Fairbanks, AK 99701 (800) 327-5774 (907) 456-5774 info@explorefairbanks.com www.explorefairbanks.com

www.explorefairbanks.com

Be inspired by the light of the Aurora Borealis. Renew your energy under the Midnight Sun. Experience the warmth of Fairbanks - the basecamp to Denali, Interior and Arctic Alaska. Call or visit the website to request your free Fairbanks Visitors Guide or Winter Guide. Imagine Yourself Here. Explore Fairbanks responsibly.

Glennallen

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Copper Valley Visitor Information Center

PO Box 469, Glennallen, AK 99588 (907) 822-5555 chamber@cvinternet.net

Kenai Peninsula

Attraction or Event

Alaska SeaLife Center

PO Box 1329, Seward, AK 99664 (888) 378-2525 (907) 224-6300 visit@alaskasealife.org

Boat Excursions



Kenai Fjords Tours

509 W. 4th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 (888) 478-3346 info@kenaifjords.com www.KenaiFjords.com

Alaska's # 1 Wildlife & Glacier Cruise. Explore spectacular scenery, tidewater glaciers and abundant wildlife in Kenai Fjords National Park with local experts. Cruise on custom sightseeing vessels, built for your comfort. Visit our exclusive Fox Island lodge for a free lunch, including prime rib and wild Alaska salmon.

Major Marine Tours

9170 Jewel Lake Road Ste. 202, Anchorage, AK 99502 (800) 764-7300 (907) 274-7300 info@majormarine.com www.majormarine.com

Location: 1412 4th Ave, Seward AK

Glacier and wildlife cruises into Kenai Fjords National Park departing from Seward. See whales, otters, puffins and more! Cruises feature salmon and prime rib buffet and park ranger narration.

**

**

**

Fishing

**

**

Drifter's Lodge

PO Box 746, Cooper Landing, AK 99572 (866) 595-5959 (907) 595-5555

Hotel/Motel/Resort

Harbor 360 Hotel

9170 Jewel Lake Road Suite 202, Anchorage, AK 99502 (888) 514-8687 (907) 865-6224 reservations@harbor360hotel.com

harbor360hotel.com Location: 1412 4th Ave, Seward AK

Seward's premier waterfront hotel located on the harbor. Indoor pool and hot tub, free breakfast, walking distance to restaurants and shops. On-site check-in and boarding for glacier and wildlife cruises.



Seward Windsong Lodge

509 W. 4th Ave. Anchorage, AK 99501 (800) 808-8068 info@sewardwindsong.com www.SewardWindsong.com

Seward's only full-service lodge offers relaxed atmosphere in a stunning glacial river valley. On-site restaurant, Resurrection Roadhouse, features fresh Alaska seafood, gourmet burgers and pizza, numerous drafts and specialty cocktails. Wine Spectator and Trip Advisor awards. Meeting facilities. Complimentary shuttle. Guided hikes to Exit Glacier depart daily from the lobby

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Homer Chamber of Commerce

201 Sterling Highway, Homer, AK 99603 (907) 235-7740

Kenai Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center

11471 Kenai Spur Highway, Kenai, AK 99611 (907) 283-1991 info@visitkenai.com

Wilderness Lodge

**

**



Kenai Fjords Wilderness Lodge

1304 4th Avenue, Seward, AK 99664 (800) 808-8068 info@kenaifjordslodge.com www.kenaifjordslodge.com

Enjoy Alaska's remote wilderness and unplug from all electronics in your private waterfront cabin. Cruise with Kenai Fjords Tours to Fox Island in Resurrection Bay and explore the ultimate island escape. Kayak, beachcomb. or hike while the executive chef prepares gourmet cuisine, and then unwind with a glass of wine

*Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.





The Rest of Alaska

Prince William Sound

Boat Excursions

Phillips Cruises and Tours/26 Glacier Cruise

519 W. 4th Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501 (800) 544-0529 (907) 276-8023 info@26glaciers.com www.26glaciers.com

26 Glacier Cruise/Glacier Quest - Whittier. Cruise the calm, pristine waters of Prince William Sound aboard stable catamarans. See massive tidewater glaciers and amazing wildlife. Hot meal included. No seasickness guarantee. Narration by Chugach Forest Service Rangers



Stan Stephens Glacier & Wildlife Cruises PO Box 1297, Valdez, AK 99686

(866) 867-1297 (907) 835-4731 info@stephenscruises.com www.stanstephenscruises.com Location: 112 N Harbor Dr. Valdez, AK

Discover Prince William Sound from Valdez! Relax on board our comfortable vessels as you visit Columbia or Meares Glacier. See amazing wildlife. Tours are fully parrated by our Alaskan staff

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Greater Whittier Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 607, Whittier, AK 99693

Valdez Convention & Visitors Bureau PO Box 1603, Valdez, AK 99686

(907) 835-2984 info@valdezalaska.org

Southeast Alaska

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Haines Convention & Visitors Bureau Box 530, Haines, AK 99827

(800) 458-3579 (907) 766-2234 hcvb@haines.aK.us.

Ketchikan Visitors Bureau

50 Front St., Ste. 203, Ketchikan, AK 99901 (800) 770-3300 (907) 225-6166 info@visit-ketchikan.com

Travel Juneau

800 Glacier Ave, Ste 201, Juneau, AK 99801 (888) 581-2201 (907) 586-2201 info@traveljuneau.com

Southwest Alaska

Visitor Center/Chamber/Gov't Agency

Discover Kodiak

100 Marine Way, Suite 200, Kodiak, AK 99612 (800) 789-4782 (907) 486-4782 visit@kodiak.org

Unalaska/Dutch Harbor Convention & Visitors Bureau PO Box 545, Unalaska, AK 99685 (877) 581-2612 (907) 581-2612

**

**

**

Areawide Services

Airlines

Alaska Airlines

3600 International Airport Rd., Anchorage, AK 99502

Backcountry Adventures



Alaska ATV Adventures

17023 Kantishna Drive, Eagle River, AK 99577 (907) 694-4294

Bus/Shuttle/Limo/Taxi

Magic Bus

**

**

**

PO Box 212435, Anchorage, AK 99521 (907) 230-6773 info@themagicbus.com

Business Services

Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman

5751 E. Mayflower Court, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 352-2250 news@frontiersman.com

Matanuska Valley Federal Credit Union

1020 S. Bailey Street, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 745-4891

Campground/RV Park

Alaska Campground Owners Association (ACOA)

PO Box 111005, Anchorage, AK 99511 (866) 339-9082 (907) 339-9082 alaskacampgrounds@gmail.com www.alaskacampgrounds.net

Lifetime Adventures

PO Box 1205, Palmer, AK 99645 (800) 9KA-TMAI (907) 746-4644 info@lifetimeadventure.net Visit lifetimeadventure.net! Enjoy the scenery of Eklutna Lake with a kayak or bike rental or tour. Located midway between Mat-Su Valley and

Car/RV Rental

ABC Motorhome & Car Rental

3875 Old Int'l Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99502 (800) 421-7456 (907) 279-2000



Catering Services

Alaskan Events & Catering LLC

8086 E Timb Circle, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 746-4181 info@cateralaska.com cateralaska.com

Outfitters/Galleries/Gift Shops

Made in Alaska

550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 1650, Anchorage, AK 99501 (907) 269-4501 madeinalaska@alaska.gov

Personal Services

1740 S. Chugach Street, Palmer, AK 99645 (800) 478-3211 (907) 745-3211

Sightseeing/Custom/Package Tours

Alaska Adventure Unlimited & Chalets

PO Box 871723, Wasilla, AK 99687 (800) 580-3494 (907) 373-3494 info@alaskaadventureunlimited.com www.alaskalandtours.com

AAU small group adventures operate premier hands-on discovery tours w/ resident guides, sharing first-hand knowledge of local destination secrets. Our multi-day adventures offer flexibility and comfort, in our 13-seat mini-executive coaches. Highlights include Denali flightseeing, Kenai Fiords Whale Watching & Wilderness Wildlife Viewing all accommodating different skill levels and interests. AAU also offers 2-bdrm/2-bath Alaskan chalets, rentable year-round.

Alaska Private Touring 600 Barrow Street, Ste 200B, Anchorage, AK 99501 (888) 868-7259 (907) 375-6582 experts@alaskaprivatetouring.com alaskaprivatetouring.com

Alaska Railmad

PO Box 107500, Anchorage, AK 99510 (800) 544-0552 (907) 265-2494 reservations@akrr.com www.AlaskaRailroad.com

Location: Mile 1.25 Denali National Park Road The Alaska Railroad is your ticket to Alaska adventure, offering daily summer service to destinations including Denali National Park, Talkeetna Seward, Anchorage, Fairbanks and more. Choose from our travel packages for day trips, short getaways or multi-day itineraries, or work with our local reservation agents to build your own Alaska trip.

Alaska Wildland Adventures

PO Box 389, Girdwood, AK 99587 (800) 334-8730 (907) 783-2928

Premier Alaska Tours, Inc.

**

**

**

1900 Premier Court, Anchorage, AK 99502 (888) 486-8725 (907) 279-0001 www.PremierAlaskaTours.com

The Alaska Experience Company

3901 S Lindsey Circle #E, Palmer, AK 99645 (907) 414-4325 myakadventure@gmail.com Year-round all inclusive multi-day and day trip Alaska adventures. Glacier dog sledding, helicopter flightseeing, Denali, ATV, snowmobile, lodging and van tours. The best of Alaska all in one place!

**

**

**



Wild Journeys

17023 Kantishna Drive, Eagle River, AK 99577 (907) 726-3136 wildjourneysak@gmail.com www.wildiournevsalaska.com

Wild Journeys Alaska specializes in custom tour options with exclusive transportation. Your private guide will show you just what you came to our great state to experience. Wild Journeys has several options to choose from. Call us today so we can begin creating your personal journey! Create your story, Dream, Explore, Discover,

Travel Guides

KTUU Channel 2

501 East 40th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 762-9202 njohnson@ktuu.com



Social Distancing, Alaska Style

You could say Alaska has been socially distancing forever. With wide open spaces and a small population, Alaska is the perfect destination to explore.

The Alaska State Parks system is a jewel in the state and offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy thousands of miles of trails and rivers, endless acres of wilderness and outdoor recreation opportunities from hiking to boating. Many are easily accessible along the road system, including Denali State Park, Hatcher Pass and Matanuska Glacier State Recreation Area.

Alaska businesses and organizations are going above and beyond to ensure your safety when visiting our state. Enhanced safety protocols and sanitation procedures are in place to give our visitors the best experience in a safe environment.

Summer ** Winter | Look for these businesses on your favorite social media platforms.

The Rest of Alaska

CAdvertiser's index



DENIAL I COLLINTRY





CLACIED COLINTRY

GLACIER COUNTRY		DENALI COUNTRY	
AKtive Soles Performance Footwear	(3) 18	AK Sled Dog Tours	39
Alaska Farm Tours	(3) 18	Alaska Collection by Pursuit	44
Alaska Horse Adventure	(j) 15	Alaska Off-Road Adventures	38
Alaska Knotty Pine Bed & Breakfast	(16	Alaska Railroad	6 40, 43
Alaska State Fair	(3) 15	Alaska Tour & Travel	6 40, 42, 45
Alaska's Caribou Cabins	<u></u> 16	Alaska Travel Connection	43
Alaska's Harvest Bed & Breakfast	(16	Alaska Wild Harvest/Birch Syrup & Berry Products	38
Cache Camper Manufacturing Inc.	3 16	AlaskaTrain.com	6 40, 43, 45
Colony Inn	(18	Best Western Lake Lucille Inn	42
The Historic Valley Hotel	(18	Caribou Lodge Alaska	42
Kepler Park	(16	Denali Backcountry Adventure	43
Knik River Lodge	(16	Denali Backcountry Lodge	43
Majestic Valley Wilderness Lodge	← 20	Denali Cabins	43
Mica Guides	(3) 19	Denali Overlook Inn	37
Musk Ox Farm	(3) 18	Denali Zipline Tours	38
NOVA River Runners, Inc.	(3) 19	Fishtale River Guides	37
Palmer Museum of History and Art & Visitor Center	(3) 19	Iditarod Trailside Lodging	38
Pioneer Motel and Apartments	(17	K2 Aviation	41
Rose Ridge Vacation Chalets	(16	Mahay's Jet boat Adventures	38, 40
Sheep Mountain Lodge	(19	Meandering Moose Lodge	39
Turkey Red	(3) 17	Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness Lodge	42
Valley Hotel	(17	Park Connection Motorcoach Service	39, 42, 45
		Phantom Tri River Charters	39
		Talkeetna Air Taxi, Inc.	40
GOLD RUSH COUNTRY		Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge	39
Alaska's Premier Luxury Resort	25	Talkeetna Camper Park	39
Hatcher Pass Cabins	25	Talkeetna River Guides	39
Skeetawk Alpine Ski Area	(3) 25	TEMSCO Helicopters	42

32

LAKE COUNTRY

Alaska Chinook Charters
Alaska Railroad
Alaska Sunset View Resort
Best Western Lake Lucille Inn
Extreme Fun Center & Valley Cinema
Fishtale River Guides
Settlers Bay Golf Course
Settlers Bay Lodge
Sylvia's Quilt Depot
The Albatross @ Settlers Bay Golf Cour
The Grape Tap

OFF THE BEATEN PATH

63	31	Caribou Lodge Alaska	0	
63	31			

THE REST OF ALASKA

	01			
6	30	Alaska ATV Adventure	0	50
()	31	Alaska Railroad	0	50
(3	30, 31	Explore Fairbanks	(j)	49
6	30	Kenai Fjords Tours	0	49
()	31	Kenai Fjords Wilderness Lodge		49
()	30	Salmon Berry Travel & Tours	0	48
6	30	Seward Windsong Lodge	Θ	49
		Stan Stephans Glacier & Wildlife Cruises	0	50
		Wild Journeys	(j)	51

Denali Backcountry Adventure Inside Back Cover



NEED MORE INFO?

Mat-Su CVB Office (907) 746-5000 alaskavisit.com

Public Use Cabins

(907) 745-3975 dnr.alaska.gov/parks/cabins

Fishing Report

adfg.alaska.gov/sf/fishingreports Alaska Marine Highway

(800) 642-0066 ferryalaska.com

> Statewide Info (907) 929-2842 travelalaska.com

Highway Conditions 511 or (866) 282-7577

511.alaska.gov **Time and Temperature** The Matanuska-Susitna Convention and Visitors Bureau (Mat-Su CVB) has made its best effort to provide accurate listings but does not guarantee accuracy, service or quality of the listings presented. Requests for more information should be made to the company in the listing. Mat-Su CVB is not responsible for goods or services provided by firms or organizations listed in this visitor guide.

No portion of this publication may be reproduced without express written consent from Mat-Su CVB. Updated or new information, as well as suggestions for improvement, should be made to Mat-Su CVB. (907) 746-5000.

DESIGN

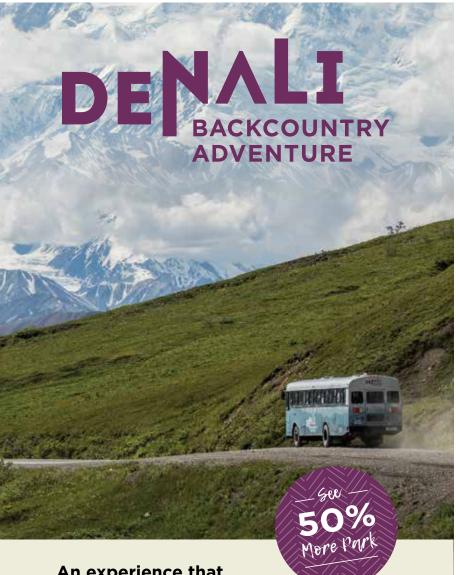
Brilliant Media Strategies

PHOTOS

©Tom Bol, Tom Bol Photography ©State of Alaska/Michael DeYoung, Matt Hage, Reinhard Pantke, Thomas Sbampato, Chris McLennan

COVER PHOTO

©Tom Bol/Tom Bol Photography



An experience that goes beyond the bus

When you visit the Denali backcountry, you don't just want to see it – you want to experience it. Our guided tour gives you ample opportunities to get off the bus, stretch your legs and take in some of the park's signature activities, such as:

- · Panning for gold
- · A backcountry botany walk
- Kantishna history tour
- A delicious lunch with snacks and beverages to fuel the day
- · Wildlife spotting



Book your adventure today!

denalibackcountryadventure.com | 800.808.8068













U.S. TRAVEL



AMERICAN BUS ASSOCIATION

