

Viking Travel, Inc.

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Alaska Ferry Vacations Pre-Season 5 Day Denali Special

Reference ID : 5074

Travel Arrangements starting at US\$925.00 per person and is based on Double Occupancy

Single, Triple, and Quad Occupancy rates available upon request

2020: Departures: Weekly Fridays from May 18 to May 30 ONLY!

Do you have Alaska Airlines miles sitting around begging to be used? Our agents are happy to help book your flights either with your miles or using our Tour Airfares from home to Alaska and back.

BOOK EARLY & SAVE!

Day One:

Accommodation for 1 night in Anchorage

Check out: **Day 2**

Your tour features an Anchorage hotel in downtown near the Alaska Railroad Depot. Ideally located on the banks of Ship Creek, the property is within walking distance of lovely downtown Anchorage. Attractions that are just minutes away include the Alaska Railroad and the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

Anchorage



Alaska's largest city, Anchorage, lies between the mountains and the sea and yet is no stranger to the wilderness. There is no other urban area like it.

Among the northernmost cities on Earth, Anchorage is a place with big-city amenities: fine restaurants, museums, theaters and an excellent music scene. Creating the backdrop are the salmon-rich waters of Cook Inlet and the 5,000-foot-plus peaks of Chugach State Park. Within a short drive from downtown are dozens of wilderness adventures and a short plane ride opens up the possibility of almost any type adventure. That's one reason why Anchorage's Lake Hood is the world's busiest floatplane base. Anchorage's 284,994 residents embrace both the urban amenities and the wilderness beyond it.

Anchorage features dozens of parks and 122 miles of paved bike paths. Warmed by a maritime climate, you can spend the day fishing Ship Creek downtown, hiking the nearby mountains, photographing glaciers and dining at a four-star restaurant. Within a 15-minute drive from downtown is the tree-lined trailhead of Anchorage's most popular hike, Flattop Mountain. In winter, the city transforms into fluffy white playground, with 130 kilometers of maintained Nordic ski trails, dog sledding, ice skating, snowmobiling, ice sculptures and more. Just 45 minutes away is Alaska's premier alpine ski resort, Alyeska Resort.

Anchorage wasn't officially founded until 1915, even though British explorer Captain James Cook sailed past the site in 1779 and gold prospectors discovered the bounty of Ship Creek in the late 1800s. It wasn't until the Alaska Railroad set up a construction camp in 1915 that Anchorage was established and became a booming tent city of 2,000 people. Anchorage proved to be the ideal center for Alaska's rail, air and highway systems with the military build up of World War II and the discovery of oil in Cook Inlet in the 1950s, adding to its steady growth. After the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake, the city was rebuilding itself when another opportunity arose: the discovery of a \$10-billion oil reserve in Prudhoe Bay. Though the Trans-Alaska Pipeline doesn't come within 185 miles of Anchorage, the city became the headquarters of various petroleum and service companies.

Day Two:

Train from Anchorage to Denali - Adventure Class

Duration: 7 Hours, Morning Departure and Afternoon Arrival

The Denali Star, the Alaska Railroad's flagship train, links Anchorage to Fairbanks with stops in Wasilla, Talkeetna, and Denali Park.



Accommodation for 2 nights in Denali National Park

Check out: **Day Four**

Your accommodations are nestled within a colorful tapestry of spruce and birch trees on the slopes of Sugarloaf Mountain, the hotel provides the ideal jumping off point for your special Alaskan adventures. Featuring comfortable guest rooms situated in 12 buildings tucked into the forest on the gently sloping hillside. The inviting main lodge features a log-beamed great room bathed in natural light with a stone fireplace and traditional Alaskan art.

Denali



The towering granite spires and snowy summits of Denali National Park and Preserve straddles 160 miles of the Alaska Range and display so much elevation they are often lost in the clouds. Dominating this skyline is North America's highest peak; Denali standing tall at 20,237 feet and one of the most amazing sights in Alaska.

But it's not just the mountain that makes Denali National Park a special place. The park is also home to 37 species of mammals, ranging from lynx, marmots and Dall sheep, to foxes and snowshoe hares, while 130 different bird species have been spotted here, including the impressive golden eagle. Most visitors, however, want to see four animals in particular: moose, caribou, wolf and everybody's favorite: the brown, or grizzly, bear. Here at Denali, unlike most wilderness areas in the country, you don't have to be a backpacker to see this wildlife - people who never sleep in a tent have excellent once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to get a close look at these magnificent creatures roaming free in their natural habitat.

Not surprisingly then, visitors come here in droves; the park is a popular place, attracting 432,000 visitors annually. Over the years the National Park Service (NPS) has developed unique visitor-management strategies, including closing its only road to most vehicles. As a result Denali National Park is still the great wilderness it was 20 years ago. The entrance has changed, but the park itself hasn't, and a brown bear meandering on a tundra ridge still provides the same quiet thrill as it did when the park first opened in 1917.

Although generations of Athabascans had wandered through what is now the park, the first permanent settlement was established in 1905, when a gold miners' rush gave birth to the town of Kantishna. A year later, naturalist and noted hunter Charles Sheldon was stunned by the beauty of the land and horrified at the reckless abandon of the miners and big-game hunters. Sheldon returned in 1907 and traveled the area with guide Harry Karstens in an effort to set up boundaries for a proposed national park. Sheldon was successful as the area was established as Mount McKinley National Park in 1917 with Karstens serving as the park's first superintendent. As a result of the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the park was enlarged to more than 6 million acres and renamed Denali National Park and Preserve. Denali now comprises an area slightly larger than the state of Massachusetts and is generally ranked as one of Alaska's top attractions.

Day Three:

Tundra Wilderness Tour

Duration: 7-8 Hours

The Tundra Wilderness Tour is a 6-8 Hour fully narrated tour that travels 53 miles into the Denali Park and Preserve. This tour includes a snack and beverage. The Tour has departure points from all the major area hotels. Departure times are announced the day before your tour and are available from the desk in the lobby upon arrival. Check in is 30 minutes prior to departure.



Day Four:

Denali To Anchorage Motorcoach

Duration: 8 Hours, Morning Departure w/ Afternoon Arrival

Motorcoach transportation from Denali National Park to Anchorage. Time permitting, photo and restroom stops will be made on your 237-mile trip. A 15-minute stop will be made at the McKinley Princess Lodge allowing great views of Denali, weather permitting, and the ability to purchase "to-go" coffee, soda and snacks. Please note length of stops and arrivals may vary based on traffic and road delays.

Accommodation for 1 night in Anchorage

Check out: **Day 5**

Your tour features an Anchorage hotel in downtown near the Alaska Railroad Depot. Ideally located on the banks of Ship Creek, the property is within walking distance of lovely downtown Anchorage. Attractions that are just minutes away include the Alaska Railroad and the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS ALASKA TOURS

A "**plan-to-go**" deposit may be required after initial consultation. Usually we spend up to an hour planning alternative options for you for free. Then we request a small fee (and apply it to the cost of your tour) to cover the time our Alaska Tour Planning Specialists spend further customizing your tour to your timeframe and budget. This fee usually is \$50 per adult.

Reservations are recommended as early as possible to confirm specific departures. A deposit of \$500 per person or 50% of the total tour, whichever is greater is required at time of booking. Full payment is required 60 days prior to departure. Components are presented as a package tour and the individual prices will not be broken out due to contractual arrangements with our vendors.

Cancellations and refunds: Deposits and other payments are non-refundable.

Late reservations: Reservations booked within 30 days of departure are on a request basis and are subject to availability. Late reservations are subject to a \$25 Express Handling fee.

Due to weather cancellation or change of some of tour components may be necessary and are non-refundable.

Insurance: Trip Cancellation, Baggage, Personal Accident, Injury and Liability Insurance is highly recommended at time of booking. Ask your reservations agent about the policies available from Viking Travel, Inc. or consult your insurance agent.

Responsibility: Viking Travel, Inc. acts as agents only and shall not be liable for any inconvenience, loss, damage, injury, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of defect or through the act of omissions of any person or company performing or rendering services. Viking Travel, Inc. uses independent contractors who are not servants or joint ventures with Viking Travel, Inc.