

ALASKA BY DESIGN

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Alaska Train Vacation with the Arctic Cruise Connector

2026

Alaska Rail Vacation

6 Days / 5 Nights Whittier or Seward to Fairbanks
Not yet on sale

INTRODUCTION

Explore Denali and Alaska's Arctic on this 6 day reversible Alaska Train Vacation cruise connector from the Seward or Whittier Cruise Ship Terminal. Traveling in the style and comfort of Alaska Railroad's Goldstar railcar, enjoy glass-domed ceilings, upper-level outdoor viewing platforms, inclusive dining, a private bar and full commentary of your journey. Flying north from Fairbanks into Alaska's remote Arctic, you'll participate in a ceremonious Arctic Circle landing at a wilderness community on the Middle Fork Koyukuk River and receive an official Arctic Circle Adventure Certificate.

Itinerary at a Glance

- DAY 1** Seward or Whittier to Anchorage
Option 1. Seward Cruise Ship Terminal to Anchorage | Small Group Tour
Option 2. Whittier Cruise Ship Terminal to Anchorage | Small Group Tour
- DAY 2** Anchorage to Denali National Park Entrance | Alaska Railroad
- DAY 3** Denali | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 4 Excursions
Option 1. Denali Highway Jeep Excursion | Self-Drive Guided 4x4 Excursion
Option 2. Tundra Wilderness Tour | Coach Tour
Option 3. Upgrade Option: Denali Summit Flightseeing | Small Aircraft
Option 4. Upgrade Option: Denali Glacier Landing | Helicopter

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Call 1 855 465 1001 Monday - Friday: 8am - 5pm PST Saturday: 8am - 4:30pm PST Sunday: 11am - 5pm PST

Email sales@alaskabydesign.com Web www.alaskabydesign.com
Suite 1200, 675 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 1N2, Canada

- DAY 4** Denali National Park Entrance to Fairbanks | Alaska Railroad
- DAY 5** Fairbanks | Arctic Circle Air Adventure Tour
- DAY 6** Fairbanks | Departure



MAP



DETAILED ITINERARY

The below itinerary reflects our recommendations for this specific trip. This itinerary is also available in the reverse direction.

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Day 1 Seward or Whittier to Anchorage*Option 1. Seward Cruise Ship Terminal to Anchorage | Small Group Tour*

Disembark the ship and begin your adventure with a short and easy walk to see views of Exit Glacier. Next, visit the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center which provides care and rehabilitation for injured and orphaned wildlife. Here you can safely observe and photograph some of Alaska's largest land animals including moose, bison, elk, deer, caribou, bears and muskox. Take an aerial tram up Alyeska Mountain for views of Turnagain Arm, up to seven "hanging" glaciers and the endless peaks of the Chugach Mountain Range, then continue to Anchorage to arrive late afternoon. (Lunch is included today)

Option 2. Whittier Cruise Ship Terminal to Anchorage | Small Group Tour

Disembark the ship to tour north through the Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel – the longest highway tunnel in North America. Visit the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Centre which provides care and rehabilitation for injured and orphaned wildlife. Here you can safely get close, observe, and photograph some of Alaska's largest land animals including moose, bison, elk, deer, caribou, bears, muskox. Then take an aerial tram up Alyeska Mountain for views of Turnagain Arm, up to seven "hanging" glaciers and the endless peaks of the Chugach Mountain Range. Continue on to Anchorage to arrive late afternoon. (Lunch is included today)

Day 2 Anchorage to Denali National Park Entrance | Alaska Railroad

Early this morning take the Denali Star, the Alaska Railroad's flagship train, in the Goldstar Railcar with service to Denali National Park. Watch for views of Denali and keep an eye out for wildlife. Arrive mid-afternoon; the rest of the day is at leisure to enjoy an optional activity. (Breakfast & lunch is included onboard the train today)

Day 3 Denali | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 4 Excursions*Option 1. Denali Highway Jeep Excursion | Self-Drive Guided 4x4 Excursion*

Ranked #2 in Drives of a Lifetime by National Geographic Traveler magazine, experience the natural wonders of Alaska's Denali Highway — this time by Jeep! This 4-hour guided excursion travels along a 135 mi (217 km) gravel road & takes you off the beaten path in a 4 x 4 to enjoy scenic views of Denali, the Alaska Range, glaciers and wildlife.

Option 2. Tundra Wilderness Tour | Coach Tour

This half day tour offers incredible scenery, a narrated history of the park road and opportunities to view the park's wildlife inhabitants. Picturesque highlights include the craggy cliffside of Cathedral Mountain, wildlife rich Sable Pass and braided wash of the East Fork River in Denali National Park.

Option 3. Upgrade Option: Denali Summit Flightseeing | Small Aircraft

Get a closer look at Alaska's majestic Denali from the comfortable window seat of a small aircraft. Slip on your provided headset to hear commentary from your guide as you fly over the snow-covered peaks, jagged ridgelines, and glacier carved valleys of Denali National Park, and get within half a mile of the mountain peak.

Option 4. Upgrade Option: Denali Glacier Landing | Helicopter

Be immersed in the vastness of the Denali National Preserve. On your way to the massive Yanert Glacier, your pilot will serve as your guide through this unique glacially-carved environment. Soar over the rolling tundra, keeping an eye out for local residents – caribou, moose, bear, and Dall sheep. Snow capped peaks and glaciers abound on this journey before you set down on a river of ice.

Day 4 Denali National Park Entrance to Fairbanks | Alaska Railroad

This morning is at leisure to enjoy optional activities such as: whitewater rafting down the Nenana River, helicopter flightseeing over the park, landing on a glacier or hiking. By early afternoon, board Alaska Railroad's Denali Star Train in the Goldstar Railcar to Fairbanks. Enjoy the late afternoon scenery as you travel north to Fairbanks. (Dinner is included on board the train today)

Day 5 Fairbanks | Arctic Circle Air Adventure Tour

An Alaska travel experience would not be complete without an opportunity to experience firsthand the vast wilderness expanses and Alaska's Arctic. Fly over the expansive Yukon River Valley, home of traditional peoples that sustain their lifestyle and culture as they have for thousands of years. Thrill at the excitement of crossing the Arctic Circle. Experience the rugged and magnificent Brooks Mountain Range as the flight route passes just south of the Gates of the Arctic National Park. Participate in a ceremonious Arctic Circle landing at a wilderness community on the Middle Fork Koyukuk River and receive an official Arctic Circle Adventure Certificate. Then bask in the long daylight hours of the Midnight Sun on the return flight to Fairbanks.

Day 6 Fairbanks | Departure

Upon check-out of your hotel, it's now time to say goodbye to your magical Alaskan adventure.

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INCLUDED

Package Includes:

- Accommodation including taxes for 5 nights
- Anchorage to Seward or Whittier Tour + lunch with the following inclusions
 - Aerial tram ride to the peak of Alyeska
 - Admission to Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center
 - Hotel or Cruise Ship pick-up & drop-off
- Alaska Railroad - Anchorage to Denali Goldstar Service
(Dome car seating, private outdoor viewing deck & Meals included onboard train)
- Denali | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 4 Excursions
- Denali Highway Jeep Excursion
- Tundra Wilderness Tour
- Upgrade Option: Denali Summit Flightseeing by Plane
- Upgrade Option: Denali Glacier Landing by Helicopter
- Alaska Railroad - Denali to Fairbanks Goldstar Service
(Dome car seating, private outdoor viewing deck & Meals included onboard train)
- Arctic Circle Air Adventure Tour
- Meals as per Itinerary

Hotel & Rail Information | Moderate Grade

- Anchorage - Hilton Anchorage Hotel | Standard Room
- Denali Park Entrance - Denali Cabins | Standard Cabins
- Fairbanks - Rivers Edge Resort | Garden Cottage

Hotel & Rail Information | Superior Grade

- Anchorage - Hotel Captain Cook | Deluxe Room
- Denali Park Entrance - Grande Denali Lodge | Standard Room
- Fairbanks - Rivers Edge Resort | River Cottage

Alaska Railroad | Goldstar All our itineraries except the Glacier Discovery Train includes Gold Star Dome Service. These railcars feature large, curved glass windows that run the full length of the car, allowing excellent 360 degree viewing plus a private outdoor viewing deck. The service is inclusive of all meals that are served in the lower-level dining room.

Not Included:

- Gratuities

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- Activities other than specified
- Portage fees

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