

# ALASKA BY DESIGN

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## Best of Alaska, Trains, Wildlife & Denali - Cruise Connector

2026

Alaska Rail Vacation

4 Days / 3 Nights Whittier or Seward to Fairbanks  
Not yet on sale

### INTRODUCTION

This 4 day Alaska Railroad tour is the perfect reversible Alaska cruise connector. Departing from either Seward or Whittier cruise ship terminals, you can explore Denali National Park onboard Alaska Railroad and travel in the style and comfort of a Goldstar Railcar. Enjoy glass-domed ceilings, upper-level outdoor viewing platforms, inclusive dining, a private bar and full commentary of your journey.

#### 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
- DAY 4** Denali National Park Entrance to Fairbanks | Alaska Railroad

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Start planning your train vacation in Canada or Alaska by contacting our Rail specialists

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

Email [sales@alaskabydesign.com](mailto:sales@alaskabydesign.com) Web [www.alaskabydesign.com](http://www.alaskabydesign.com)  
Suite 1200, 675 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, V6B 1N2, Canada



## MAP



## DETAILED ITINERARY

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

### 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)

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**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 where your incredible Alaskan adventure ends. (Dinner is included on board the train today)

**INCLUDED****Package Includes:**

- Accommodation including taxes for 3 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

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- 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)
- Meals as per Itinerary

#### **Hotel & Rail Information | Moderate Grade**

- Anchorage - Hilton Anchorage Hotel | Standard Room
- Denali Park Entrance - Denali Cabins | Standard Cabins

#### **Hotel & Rail Information | Superior Grade**

- Anchorage - Hotel Captain Cook | Deluxe Room
- Denali Park Entrance - Grande Denali Lodge | Standard Room

**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
- Activities other than specified
- Portage fees

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