

CULTURAL WALKING ADVENTURE

# Winter Alaska

## Northern Lights of the Last Frontier

CLASSIC JOURNEYS

THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS



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*Classic Journeys  
provides unbeatable  
access to experiences  
around the globe.”*

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TRAVEL + LEISURE

## Northern Lights Exploration

Nothing can prepare you for your first sighting of the Northern Lights. The way they swirl through star-studded skies. The neon colors. The majestic silence. And the same goes for Alaska’s winter landscape. The Last Frontier state is a wildlife wonderland—wolf packs, grizzlies, foxes and hares roam free while eagles soar overhead—and from electric blue glaciers to cinematic fjords and bubbling hot springs, Mother Nature has truly outdone herself (no wonder Santa chose to live here, we wish we did too).

## The Classic Journeys Difference

- ACTIVE HIKING & WALKING
- LOCAL WELL-CONNECTED GUIDES
- PREMIERE HOTELS
- FOODIE FOCUSED
- HANDCRAFTED TRIP DESIGN
- MORE IS INCLUDED

## What's Included

- All breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

### → INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately. No waiting – no tipping.

### → PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

## Terrain

Easy to moderate on good trails, with mini-van support.

CLASSIC JOURNEYS ITINERARIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO SLIGHT CHANGES, HOTEL SUBSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER MODIFICATIONS.

DAY 1 »

## Fairbanks

Welcome to "The Last Frontier", as Alaska is affectionately known. Your week begins in Fairbanks with an insightful visit to the University of Alaska's Museum of the North. Explore the exhibits to learn about Alaska Native cultures, natural wonders, diverse wildlife, and fascinating Arctic dinosaur fossils. Take in over 2,000 years of Alaska art as well as in-depth research on whales, artifacts, the aurora, and much more.

Next, you'll head north into the winter wonderland for an unforgettable evening of Aurora viewing. Excitement builds as your expert local guide ushers you to your Arctic Cube. Nightfall is when the real magic begins in Fairbanks, thanks to its prime position within the Auroral Oval. You'll spend the evening in astral awe as clear winter nights reveal radiant constellations and the iridescent glow of aurora borealis. Marvel at the stunning sky while you enjoy dinner in a craftsman-built yurt with Wickersham Dome and the White Mountains in the distance.

D BOREALIS BASECAMP

DAY 2 »

## Borealis Basecamp

This morning you'll meet with some of the world's most impressively accomplished — and irresistibly adorable — athletes. Huskies. Dog sledding is more than a tradition in Alaska. It's part of life, celebrated annually at the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. Meet pro mushers who'll recount their experiences of the harsh landscape and extreme weather synonymous with "The Last Great Race on Earth" and enjoy plenty of time petting their four-legged teammates, from roly-poly puppies you'll want to take home with you, to championship veterans with impressive accomplishments.

Then hop in your sled as a musher takes the reins and your new furry friends show you their favorite pastime. The excitement of the dogs is palpable as they prepare, and once they're off, it'll only take seconds — speeding through crisp air and utterly silent, snow-white forest — to realize why Alaskans fell so in love with this sport.

After a delicious local lunch, you'll hit the trail to experience the Alaska backcountry. Join your guide on a walk or fat tire bike ride through maintained trails throughout the property. Take in the winter wonderland at your own pace before enjoying more Aurora viewing this evening.

B, L, D BOREALIS BASECAMP



DAY 3 »

## Anchorage / Glacier View

This morning you'll depart Fairbanks with a quick flight to Anchorage. Did you know that Alaska has over 12,000 rivers? You'll pass several of them as you make your way along the picturesque valleys before stopping for lunch at Long Rifle Lodge. Enjoy an Alaskan-crafted microbrew as you dine with a view of Matanuska Glacier at this truly unique spot.

After checking into your charming and handcrafted cabin at Sheep Mountain Lodge, enjoy snowshoeing around the scenic property. Take in this stunning wonderland as you make tracks through the pristine snow. The tall trees and silent surroundings make for a picture-perfect backdrop. You'll work up an appetite for tonight's dinner featuring fresh seafood and steaks as well as homemade soups.

B, L, D

GLACIER VIEW

DAY 4 »

## Matanuska Glacier

Have you ever wanted to experience crystal clear blue ice on a glacier? Then get ready for today's excursion, which includes a short scenic flight around the jaw dropping Matanuska Valley and a walk on the ice through a glacier slot canyon. You'll see Matanuska Glacier, a mammoth 27-mile river of ice pouring from Chugach peaks. With your expert guide in the lead, you'll walk a cinematic route across this ancient natural phenomenon, passing ice-formed caves, spires, crevices, and curvatures of unfathomably bright white and electric blue. All of your equipment will be provided, as well as a delicious lunch at a local eatery. From salmon to venison and potatoes to wild berries, Alaska's fresh produce makes for magnificent mealtimes throughout this trip.

Later, you'll head indoors to learn about Alaska's Indigenous cultures at the Alaska Native Heritage Center. Enjoy a guided private tour that offers a unique experience for you to explore the traditional and contemporary ways of Alaska's Indigenous cultures.

B, L

ANCHORAGE

DAY 5 »

## Girdwood / Mt. Alyeska

Today you'll explore the gold mining-turned-ski-town of Girdwood. Formerly known as Glacier City, it borders the half million acres of gorgeous glacial wilderness that makes up the Chugach State Park. You'll soon be peering over the park's vast majesty from above, after a ride on Girdwood's famous tramway. Up at the top of Mt. Alyeska, you're 2300 feet above sea level, turning in every direction for soaring sights of hanging glaciers, endless wilderness and the Turnagain Arm below. You'll immediately see what Captain Cook couldn't see from the water — that the passageway to Europe doesn't exist (Cook eventually turned back, hence the name, Turnagain).

Your afternoon adventure will be learning about (and spotting) animals at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center. Such starkness and silence surround you that it's hard to imagine how Alaska's wildlife exists. Spanning 200 acres and guarded by the Chugach peaks on the shore of the Turnagain Arm, the center is dedicated to preserving, protecting and providing a home for Alaska's orphaned, injured, and endangered wildlife. Watch playful bears, crafty foxes, and skulking lynx, and see just how enormous wood bison grow as you explore the grounds. You'll also meet the amazing people who care for them and hear some incredibly daring rescue stories.

B, D

ANCHORAGE

DAY 6 »

## Anchorage / Depart

After breakfast, you'll transfer independently to the Anchorage airport for onward travel with fun memories and shared experiences of your time in Alaska.

B

## Tour Hotels



### [Borealis Basecamp](#)

Located on 100 acres of pristine forest outside of Fairbanks, Borealis Basecamp immerses you in the Alaskan wilderness. At night, enjoy prime viewing of the Northern Lights while staying cozy with all the modern amenities.

NIGHTS: 2 nights



### [Sheep Mountain Lodge](#)

The Sheep Mountain Lodge is surrounded by Alaskan wildlife and offers stunning views of the nearby mountains. Enjoy a cozy room in a handcrafted cabin, modern amenities and warm Alaskan hospitality.

NIGHTS: 1 nights



### [Hotel Captain Cook](#)

This luxury hotel sits in the heart of downtown Anchorage within an easy walk of restaurants, shops and museums. Rooms boast spectacular views of Cook Inlet, the Chugach Mountains and Mt. McKinley. Amenities include an indoor swimming pool and spa.

NIGHTS: 2 nights

# Arrival & Departure

## → ARRIVAL DETAILS

START LOCATION: **Lobby of Pike's Waterfront Lodge**  
START CITY: **Fairbanks**  
START TIME: **1:00 PM**

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## → DEPARTURE DETAILS

END LOCATION: **Lobby of Hotel Captain Cook**  
END CITY: **Anchorage**  
END TIME: **9:00 AM**