

Wonders of Alaska

February 27 - March 6, 2025

Classic Travels, LLC



Thursday, February 27

Today we transfer to Chicago and fly to **Anchorage**, where we'll check into the perfectly located **Anchorage Hilton** for three nights. We'll be just a heartbeat away from the excitement of the **Fur Rendezvous Festival**, museums and shops.

Friday, February 28 (Breakfast, Dinner)

Step outside into a wonderland to discover the magic of Anchorage in winter during the **Rendezvous Festival!** Known locally as **Fur Rondy**, this 12-day event celebrates winter and the pioneering spirit of Alaskans. Cultural exhibitions, sporting activities, and many special events offer wonderful, wacky, winter fun! Stop by the **Fur Rondy Headquarters** to shop for festival gear or visit the **Alaska Public Lands Information Center** to view exhibits representing natural, historical, and cultural features throughout the state. This morning you may take an incredible, *optional (additional fee applies)*, 90-minute flightseeing excursion into the Chugach Mountains for up-close views of Alaskan wildlife and the impressive Knik Glacier, boasting a five-mile-wide face and 400-foot ice walls. This afternoon we'll take a **guided tour of Anchorage** that includes visits to Earthquake Park and Lake Hood, the world's busiest seaplane base. We'll visit the **William Jack Hernandez Fish Hatchery** to marvel at the sight of thousands of fish schooling in gigantic tanks, educational displays, and beautiful salmon-inspired artwork. We'll also stop to view artistic masterpieces carved from huge blocks of compressed snow at the **GCI Snow Sculpture Competition**. At the **Ulu Factory** we'll see how Native Alaskans have used ulu knives for thousands of years. Indulge in a typical Alaskan feast tonight at the **Glacier Brewhouse**.



Saturday, March 1 (Breakfast, Dinner)

After breakfast at the hotel, experience the incredible excitement of the **Iditarod Ceremonial Start!** Visit with mushers, pet the dogs, and then cheer as each sled team gets introduced every few minutes. Watch or participate in the exciting **Fur Auction**, held in honor of the historic economic importance of the Alaska fur trade. Explore the **Fur Rondy Carnival** with its rides, games, and treats. Tasty lunch options abound including food carts offering local cuisine such as reindeer sausage. Don't miss the hilarious **Run with the Reindeer Race**, where locals and visitors dress in hilarious costumes to make a mad dash through town with caribou at their heels. Dinner will be at the **49th State Brewing Company**, known for its specialty Alaskan foods, followed by the **Fur Rondy Melodrama**. Throw popcorn, clap, cheer, hiss and boo at the zany cast as they sing and dance their way directly into your funny bone.

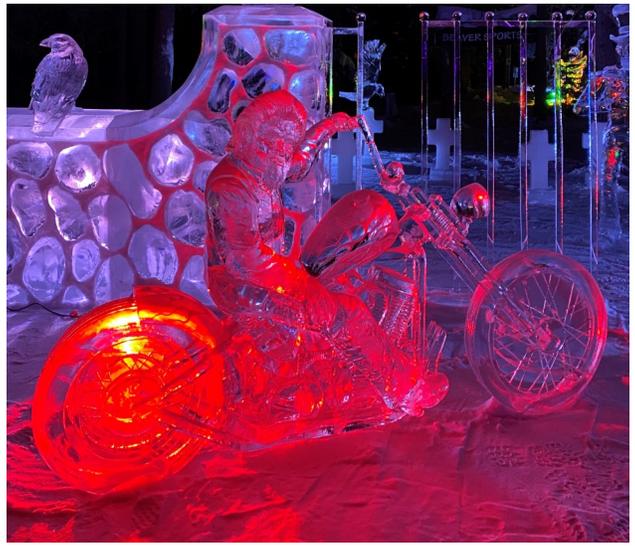
Sunday, March 2 (Breakfast, Dinner)

Today we travel to **Talkeetna**, an authentic Alaskan town used as the model for the TV show *Northern Exposure*. Have lunch at one of the local eateries and look for authentic souvenirs in the unique shops, including Nagley's General Store, where miner and trapper history lines the walls. Stop at Aurora Dora's log cabin to see her gallery of amazing northern lights photography. We'll check into the **Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge** where it's all about the view! The lodge is built atop a high bluff and overlooks the entire Alaska Range, with **Denali** right in the middle. We'll gather in the hotel's restaurant for dinner tonight. Northern lights wake-up calls are offered upon request, so when the **Aurora Borealis** comes into view, the hotel will call your room. This is a great opportunity to see the dramatic northern lights with Denali as the backdrop.



Monday, March 3 (Breakfast, Dinner)

Today our flight to **Fairbanks** takes us over **Denali National Park**, affording us amazing views! After checking into the **Springhill Suites**, you are free to visit the shops and galleries filled with Alaska Native art and jewelry. Visit the Yukon Quest Cabin that highlights the Yukon Quest, a challenging 1,000-mile International Sled Dog Race that starts in Fairbanks. We'll enjoy a delicious dinner at **Lavelle's Bistro**. This evening we will head to the **World Ice Art Championship** to view hundreds of amazing ice sculptures created by more than 100 sculptors from 30 different countries! With our Alaskan sense of adventure in high gear, we're off to "**hunt the Aurora.**" The Aurora Borealis can be seen on clear nights when electrically charged particles from the sun strike atoms within the Earth's atmosphere. Without light pollution from the city, we'll have an excellent chance of seeing the **northern lights** while waiting inside our warm activity center.



Tuesday, March 4 (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

We'll have a leisurely morning where you can relax at the hotel or explore downtown Fairbanks, where you'll have time to get an early lunch. Then comes the *Authentic Alaska* experience! Just imagine gliding silently along a stunning wooded trail on a **sled powered by a team of dogs**. Our experienced guides and teams of eager Alaskan huskies will make this a memory of a lifetime! After enjoying a group **lunch** in Fairbanks, we'll check into the **Chena Hot Springs Resort**, world-renowned for being one of the best places on Earth to see the Aurora Borealis due to its location under the most active band of northern lights. We'll tour the **Aurora Ice Museum**, the world's largest year-round ice environment, filled with amazing ice sculptures. It was created from over 1,000 tons of ice and snow and is kept at a cool 25° F. Before or after dinner at the resort, you'll have time to experience the **Chena Natural Hot Springs Pool**. The thermal waters, rising steam, and glorious winter sky create a unique and memorable experience! Later that evening, you'll have a third opportunity to view the northern lights as you soak in the hot springs or stay warm inside the resort's activity center until the **Aurora Borealis** is in view.



Wednesday, March 5 (Breakfast, Dinner)

After a delicious breakfast at the resort, we depart for the **Trans-Alaska Pipeline Viewpoint**, where we're able to walk *under* the pipeline itself! After a quick flight back down to Anchorage we'll visit the **Anchorage Museum**, which tells the story of Alaska and the North. Explore masterworks of Alaska native art and design from the collections of the Smithsonian Institution. Tonight's dinner will be at **Simon & Seafort's**, an Alaska landmark with panoramic views overlooking Cook Inlet and the Alaska Range, before heading to the Anchorage airport for our overnight flight home.

Thursday, March 6

Arrive home today filled with wonderful memories of our fabulous Alaskan adventure!



TOUR COST PER PERSON: \$4,999 DOUBLE \$5,599 SINGLE \$4,789 TRIPLE

PLEASE NOTE: TOUR PRICES REFLECT A CASH/CHECK DISCOUNT. CREDIT CARDS MAY BE USED FOR FINAL PAYMENT ONLY AND WILL INCUR A 3% SERVICE CHARGE.



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INCLUDED:

- ROUND TRIP LOCAL AIRPORT TRANSFERS
- ROUND TRIP AND INTRA-ALASKA AIRFARE
- DELUXE MOTOR COACH TRANSPORTATION
- SIX NIGHTS HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
- BAGGAGE HANDLING (WHERE AVAILABLE)
- SIX BREAKFASTS, ONE LUNCH, AND SIX DINNERS
- ALL ACTIVITIES AND ADMISSIONS AS LISTED
- ALL TOUR RELATED TAXES AND GRATUITIES
- SERVICES OF A CLASSIC TRAVELS, LLC REPRESENTATIVE
- SERVICES OF A CRUISES AND TOURS WORLDWIDE TOUR MANAGER

NOT INCLUDED:

- OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION; CHECKED LUGGAGE FEES

RESERVATIONS:

Please complete a reservation form and mail it with your **\$100 per person deposit plus travel protection premium**, if desired, to:

Classic Travels, LLC Phone: 563-332-0014
3371 Eastridge Drive FAX: 563-332-4411
Bettendorf, IA 52722
Email: jill@classictravelsllc.com

Please make checks payable to: ***Classic Travels, LLC***

BALANCE DUE: NOVEMBER 8, 2024

TRAVEL PROTECTION: An Optional Travel Protection Premium is available for **\$360** per person in double occupancy, **\$403** per person in single occupancy, and **\$345** per person in triple occupancy.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: All travelers must carry a **REAL ID compliant driver's license** or valid passport. It is each traveler's responsibility to make sure that their government-issued photo I.D. is compliant with TSA requirements. See the TSA's website - **www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification** for a list of acceptable forms of identification. Cruises and Tours Worldwide and Classic Travels cannot be held responsible for travelers who are not permitted to fly due to non-compliance.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All payments are fully refundable for cancellations received by **November 8, 2024**. Although every effort will be made to refund passenger payments, cancellations received after this date will be subject to the penalties imposed by our suppliers including, but not exclusive to, the airline used to purchase non-refundable air tickets, as well as a \$150 cancellation fee. It is highly suggested that all travelers help protect their vacation investment by purchasing an optional travel protection plan. Your group representative can provide information on a plan offered by Travel Guard. Should the passenger purchase travel protection and need to cancel after **November 8, 2024**, a travel protection claim must be filed with Travel Guard. Please note that we encourage all travelers to purchase a plan at the time of initial trip deposit and that the premium is refundable for cancellations received before **November 8, 2024**.

* Insurance is underwritten by National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa. a Pennsylvania Insurance Company (NAIC #19445), currently authorized to transact business in all states and the District of Columbia.

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