

## TRIP START DATES

2023	2024
MAY   15, 22	MAY   20, 27
JUN   05, 12, 26	JUN   03, 10, 24
JUL   03, 10, 17, 24, 31	JUL   01, 08, 15, 22, 29
AUG   07, 14, 28	AUG   05, 12, 19, 26
SEP   04	SEP   02

For full dates and prices, and to choose your group size, visit [insightvacations.com/jewelsalaska](https://insightvacations.com/jewelsalaska)

### REGIONAL JOURNEY

ACTIVITY LEVEL: BALANCED

7 DAYS

1 COUNTRY

11 MEALS

9 INCLUDED EXPERIENCES

**feefo** 4.7 /5

GUEST REVIEW ★★★★★

### MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

**Anchorage:** Experience a guided visit of the Alaska Native Heritage Centre, a renowned cultural centre and museum where people come to expand their understanding of Alaska's indigenous people.

### INSIGHT EXPERIENCE

**Denali National Park:** Meet a local climber at a private presentation in Denali National Park and hear first-hand about their experience climbing the highest peak in North America.

**Anchorage:** Enjoy an exclusive Agutak (Inuit ice cream) making demonstration during a visit to the renowned Alaska Native Heritage Centre.

### AUTHENTIC DINING

Begin your vacation in culinary style at MUSE, a bespoke restaurant and atrium café located within the Anchorage Museum.

In the evening, join your Travel Director for a wonderful Celebration Dinner, complete with wine and good cheer.

### TOP RATED HIGHLIGHTS

**Talkeetna:** Enjoy a jet Boat Tour up the Chulitna River and visit a Trappers Cabin. Learn about the fascinating lifestyle of hunting and trapping in Interior Alaska.

**Whittier:** Travel to Whittier to board the 26 Glacier Cruise for a 100-mile boat tour of Prince William Sound and into the College Fjord where you will come up close and personal to the glaciers. Visit with the Captain in the wheelhouse and enjoy an included lunch.

# JEWELS OF ALASKA

## WITH GLACIER DISCOVERY CRUISE OPTION

"One experience not to be missed on this trip is taking a coach tour into Denali National Park. That's because other than hiking in, this is the only way to experience the 6 million acre Denali National Park." - Joel, Travel Director



DENALI NATIONAL PARK, ALASKA



MATANUSKA VALLEY FARM



IDITAROD RACER HUSKIES



## DAY 1 ANCHORAGE, THE CITY OF LIGHTS AND FLOWERS

Welcome to Alaska, an adventurous land of wildlife, mountains, national parks and glaciers.

Join your Travel Director and fellow travellers for a Welcome Dinner. (DW)

Sheraton Anchorage Hotel and Spa.

## DAY 2 ANCHORAGE SIGHTSEEING AND THE MATANUSKA VALLEY

Get acquainted with Anchorage on an immersive city tour.

Join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER \* Experience at the Alaska Native Heritage Centre and discover how the culinary traditions passed on by generations of Alaska's first people, became a key component in the survival of the culture. Witness firsthand a private demonstration of Agutak ice cream making and how this culinary link to the past helps breathe new life into the indigenous culture of today. This afternoon, travel through the fertile Matanuska Valley and stop at a local farm to see how the long summer days and glacial silt create the perfect environment for growing vegetables and flowers.

Head to the quaint community of Talkeetna, nestled at the base of Mount Denali, North America's tallest peak. The evening is yours at leisure. Feel free to ask your Travel Director for suggestions on the best spots to grab a bite. (B) Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge.

## DAY 3 TALKEETNA SIGHTSEEING

This morning, enjoy an immersive jet boat tour up the Chulitna River and make a visit to a trapper's cabin. Learn about the fascinating lifestyle of hunting and trapping in Interior Alaska. The rest of the day is yours to explore, perhaps discovering more of Talkeetna or joining an optional experience such as a flightseeing tour of the Alaska Range, or a dryland dog sledding ride(B)

## DAY 4 JOURNEY ALONG THE ALASKAN RAILROAD

**Relaxed Start.** Enjoy a Relaxed Start this morning before boarding the world-famous Alaska Railroad train for a spectacular journey over swift, rushing streams, toward Denali National Park and Preserve. View the majestic surroundings from the comfort of your glass-domed rail car. Later, meet a local climber who will share stories about what it's like to a climb up one of the most daunting and tallest land-based mountains in the world, Denali. A trek that begins deep in the heart of the Alaskan Range and where conditions only get tougher further into the journey, forcing climbers to build snow walls for protection from the harsh elements. The climb which takes approximately 17-18 days round trip, takes incredible physical and mental fortitude.

*For tonight's dinner with wine, the choice is yours between a charming local brewery or the lodge's rustic restaurant during your Dine-Around evening.* (B) (DW)

Grande Denali Lodge, Denali National Park.

## DAY 5 DENALI NATIONAL PARK, THE CROWN JEWEL OF THE ALASKAN WILDERNESS

**Relaxed Start.** With the Denali National Park and Preserve just a short drive away from your hotel, you'll find a number of ways to enjoy the Alaskan wilderness on your own or spend the day partaking in one of our optional activities. From a blissful stroll through one of the meadows, to a rewarding hike, this park is for everyone. You will also find that to be true with the exciting optional experiences which include a rafting trip down the Nenana River, (waiver required) to a helicopter flightseeing tour or a Denali Wilderness walking tour, the choice is yours – just don't forget your camera! End the day back at your lodge where you'll enjoy panoramic views of your surroundings under the star filled night. (B)

## DAY 6 GIRWOOD AND MOUNT ALYESKA

Enjoy a scenic journey along the George Parks Highway. Stop in Big Lake, AK and visit four-time Iditarod winner Martin Buser at his own home. Arriving at the kennel, you will be greeted by

between thirty and sixty excited sled dogs. Spend time with Martin and learn about the many challenges faced on the 1,049-mile dogsled race. Take a virtual trip along the Iditarod trail alongside Martin's narration including countless stories from his thirty-five years of racing, as well as a great deal of Iditarod history. A true insider experience into the world of the Iditarod, that very few get to experience.

Journey on the Seward Highway along Turnagain Arm with its dramatic views, before arriving in the town of Girdwood, home of the Alyeska Resort.

*In the evening, join your Travel Director for a wonderful Celebration Dinner, complete with wine and good cheer.*(B) (L) (DW)

The Hotel Alyeska, Girdwood.

## DAY 7 PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND CRUISE AND DEPART ANCHORAGE

**Relaxed Start.** Take this morning to enjoy the surroundings and amenities at the beautiful Alyeska resort.

Travel to Whittier to board the 26 Glacier Cruise for a 100-mile (160-kilometre) boat tour of Prince William Sound and into the College Fjord with the chance to see the glaciers up close.

Visit with the Captain in the wheelhouse to learn how he expertly navigates the icy waterways and sit down to a sumptuous lunch against an incredible backdrop.

For those saying farewell today, travel back to Anchorage where you will arrive at the Anchorage Airport at approximately 20:00. (B) (L)

## POST TRIP CRUISE OPTION

## DAYS 7 - 14 YOUR GLACIER DISCOVERY SOUTHBOUND CRUISE:

If you're continuing your journey on the Glacier Discovery Cruise from Whittier, you will be transferred to the ship pier to board the MS Nieuw Amsterdam or MS Noordam, where you'll enjoy dinner and set sail in the evening. While on board, the cruise line will provide you with options and activities for the day. Whether you want to stay on the ship or explore more on land, the choice is yours. You'll also have a wide range of meal options to choose from throughout your journey. Enjoy your ship's facilities over the next week as you watch the ever-changing panorama. Behold Glacier Bay National Park, its Sitka-spruce forests alive with grizzlies and wolves. You'll be struck by the thunderous boom of building-size icebergs calving into the sea from vast rivers of ice. Explore the Inside Passage community of Skagway and browse the rustic shops and gold rush era saloons of Juneau. At Ketchikan, hear the stories behind the collection of native totem poles. A range of optional shore excursions and additional sightseeing will also be offered and can be pre-booked online with Holland America Line before your cruise begins. Arrival to Vancouver port is at approximately 9:30am.

## KEY

✈ Join/Leave Options

UNESCO Heritage Site

1 Central Hotels + Nights

1 Scenic Hotels + Nights

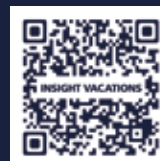
● Place Visited

Train

Cruise

## CHOOSE YOUR GROUP SIZE

This trip operates both classic and small group departures. You can also book your own private group with as few as 12 travellers.



Use the camera on your smart phone to view the full details of this trip on our website.