



# Denali Discovery Adventure

~~June 22-29, 2025 (Full)~~

June 11-18, 2026

2025 / 2026 August Departures >



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## Trip Highlights

**EXPLORE** Denali National Park and its magnificent surroundings on foot, by river raft, and from plane and helicopter.

**FLY** in over the incredible Alaska Range.

**SEE** incredible nature and seek wildlife such as moose, bears, eagles, and the iconic Dall sheep.

**LAND** on a glacier after taking in a bird's eye view of the magnificent peaks, glaciers, and valleys.

**RIDE** the famed Alaska Railroad from Denali to Talkeetna, taking in fabulous views along the way.

**BOARD** a motorized boat and explore many miles of remote whitewater and beautiful scenery.

**ENJOY** great food throughout the tour, from hearty lodge breakfasts to fresh seafood or tender cuts of meat cooked to perfection.



## Tour Dates & Prices

~~June 22-29, 2025~~ (Full)

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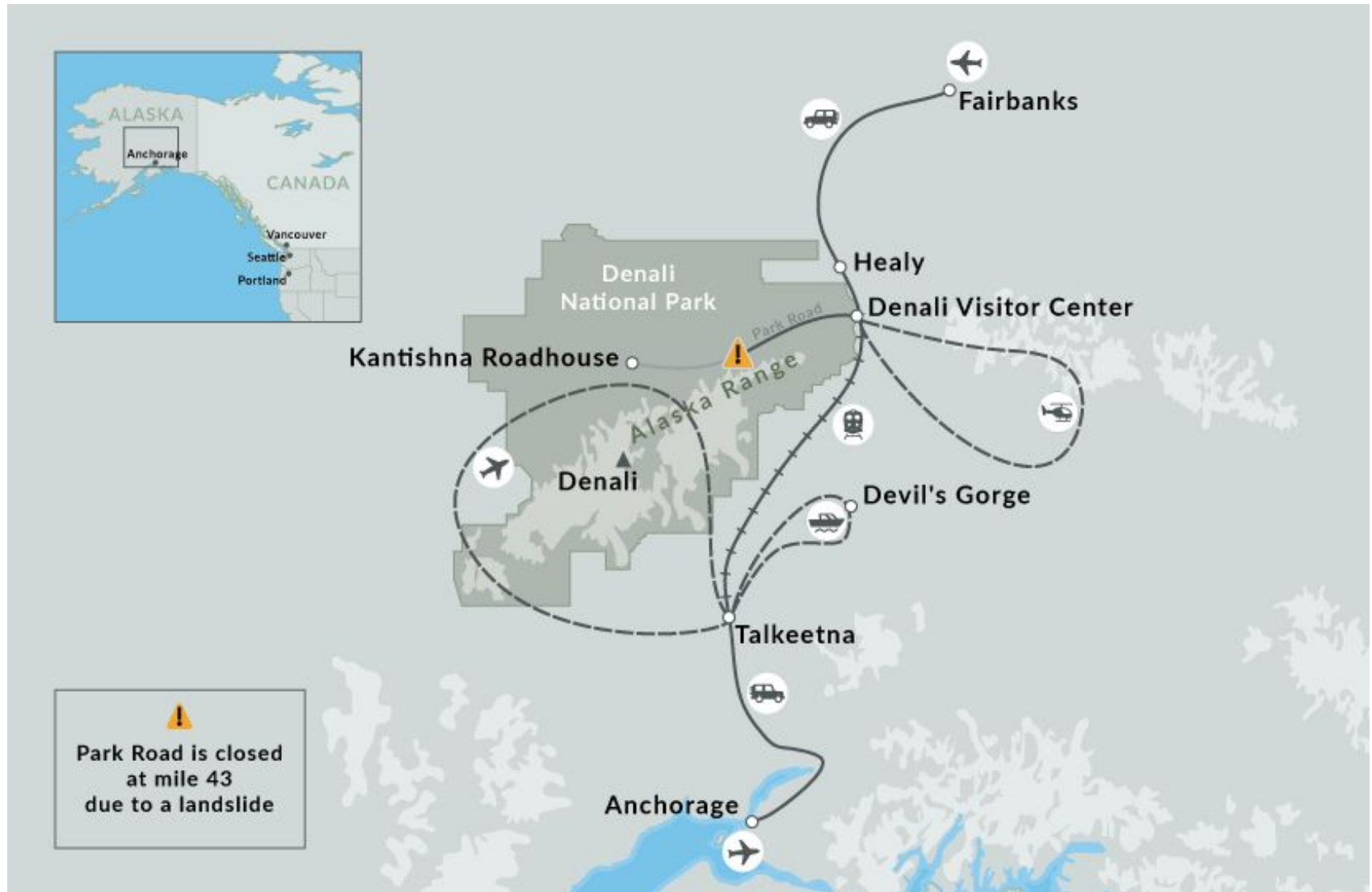
Price: \$6,995 USD per person  
(double occupancy).

Single supplement of \$699 added for  
solo travelers.

Looking for additional tour dates?

[2025 / 2026 August Departures >](#)







## What's Included

- Accommodations for 7 nights
- Transportation by minibus and/or van
- All your guides (24/7 local guides and activity day guides)
- Flightseeing and helicopter experiences over the Alaska Range and Denali National Park
- Train from Denali to Talkeetna with the Alaska Railroad in their GoldStar Service class
- Rafting on the Nenana River
- Interpretive hikes and walks
- All meals
- Tips for all restaurants, activity guides, and hotels are included (except for Gondwana guides)
- To minimize our trip's impact on the environment we pay to carbon neutralize the entire tour and activities





## TOUR ITINERARY

Note that we reserve the right to slightly alter the itinerary due to seasonality, weather or availability





## Day One

After you arrive in Fairbanks and collect your luggage, you'll board a shuttle to Pike's Waterfront Lodge. The hotel is conveniently located in on the Chena River and a short drive from downtown Fairbanks, so if you arrive early in the day you may choose to either relax from your travels or explore downtown.

Join the guide and the rest of the group for an informal Meet & Greet in the evening. You'll learn more details about the week ahead and we'll provide some food and beverages.

**Charcuterie included.**

## Day Two

After breakfast at the hotel, we'll start the beautiful drive towards Denali National Park. In the afternoon, we'll take a helicopter\* ride through the peaks and valleys that make up the Denali National Preserve on our way to the Yanert Glacier. Look below for wildlife like caribou, moose, bear, and Dall sheep or keep your eyes on the horizon to enjoy the impressive views of snow-capped peaks and glaciers.

We touch down on a river of ice to enjoy some glacial exploration. Our afternoon adventure concludes with a short, yet incredible flight back to our Denali heliport. Afterwards, we will check into Denali Grizzly Bear Resort for a restful evening.

**Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included.**

*\*Due to operational restrictions, individual helicopter passengers, including footwear and clothing, cannot weigh more than 400 lbs.*





## Day Three

Following breakfast, we'll suit up for a rafting adventure on the Nenana River! After a safety briefing, we'll board the rafts. A dry suit\* is provided for this trip and the glacial facial is complimentary!

Experience a gentle rafting introduction that travels along the natural boundary of Denali National Park. Float through glacially carved valleys and incredible vistas, with panoramic views of Mount Fellows and Top mountain. You may encounter the occasional rapid but keep your eyes open as you may spot wildlife like moose, sheep, caribou and bears along the way!

After the rafting, enjoy meeting and learning about sled dogs during a visit to Husky Homestead at Denali National Park headquarters, the only park in the country with its own sled dogs.

**Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included.**

*\*Due to operational restrictions, dry suits only accommodate guests up to 260 lbs or 265 lbs for those 6'4 and taller.*





## Day Four

After breakfast, we'll board a bus near the park entrance and enter the National Park to begin an idyllic and informative drive. We'll stop for views and chance wildlife encounters such as bears, moose, and Dall sheep. Due to a major landslide and consequent road closure\*, we'll turn around near mile marker 43 and head back to the park entrance.

We return in the late afternoon and we'll be staying at Denali Grizzly Bear Resort tonight, which boasts picturesque views on its property.

### **Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included.**

*\*As of writing, the reopening date for this road is scheduled for 2026.*

“

My favorite part was getting to experience Alaska with a bunch of strangers. By the end, we were all friends. Did not expect that out of the trip.

Least favorite was leaving, to be honest...every single excursion was full of interesting tidbits that i would never have learned/experienced had I just come on my own.

- Matt F.



## Day Five

Following an early breakfast, we'll embark on a group walk at Horseshoe Lake Trail (3-mile loop, 200 ft. elevation gain), near mile marker 1. Start on a developed trail leading to the lake before a steeper drop to lake level at the overlook bench. Throughout the walk, enjoy panoramic views of the Nenana River, the development called "Glitter Gulch" right outside the park, and the surrounding mountains. Spot the beaver dam and lodge in the Oxbow Lake and learn more about their contributions to the ecosystem.

After the walk, we head to the nearby Alaska Railroad station, where we'll catch a 12:30 pm departure.

Enjoy a scenic ride from the GoldStar class and lunch with views before we stop at Talkeetna. We'll explore the community for the rest of the afternoon. We're staying at Susitna River Lodge tonight.

**Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included.**







## Day Six

After breakfast, our first destination is an airstrip in Talkeetna where we'll get weighed in and boarded for a scenic flightseeing experience. The flight offers an incredible perspective of Mount Denali, which is part of the 300-mile-long Alaska Range. Tectonic plates uplift 20,000 feet of granite rock from the neighboring tundra valleys, creating one of the more dramatic mountain views on the planet. We'll land on a glacier, leaving time to walk around and take photos before our return flight.

After, explore Talkeetna's best trail in the afternoon with your guide. A new scene of beauty unfolds around every turn on this three-mile moderate hike, with an elevation gain of 200 ft. We will offer a shorter walk for those who prefer. Look for loons and kingfishers on the lakes, moose and bears in the woods, and Mt. Denali in clear weather on the horizon. This lush old-growth forest is alive with songbirds, wildflowers, berries, and mushrooms.

We're staying at Susitna River Lodge tonight.

**Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included.**



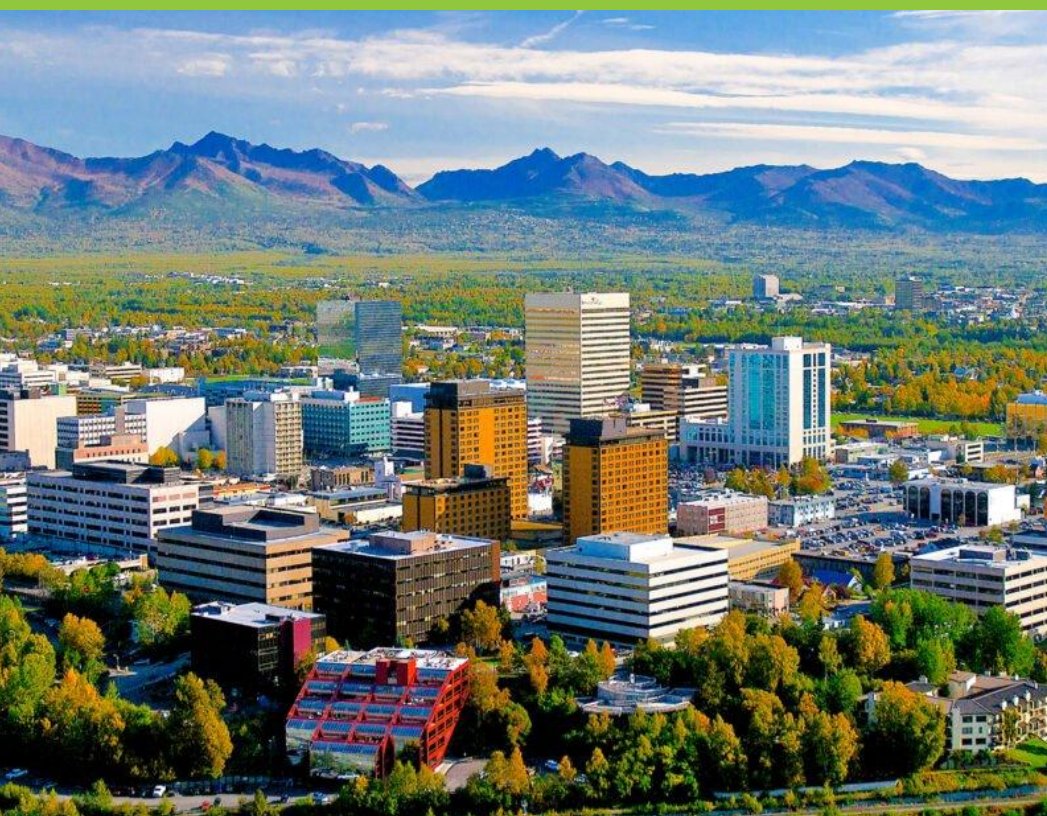


## Day Seven

Following breakfast, we depart for a river adventure on a motorized boat. Over the course of five hours, we'll cover 130 miles on the river through Denali State Park and into the nationally registered Wild River Park of "Devil's Gorge." This journey offers a safe, dry and comfortable way to experience quite remote whitewater and beautiful scenery.

Upon our return you'll have some free time to relax or explore Talkeetna in the afternoon, followed by our farewell dinner. We'll be staying at the Susitna River Lodge again this evening.

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner included.**



## Day Eight

Following breakfast, we'll board our minibus for the last time and drive 120 miles south to Anchorage. We'll visit the Native Heritage Center where you'll have the opportunity to learn about the traditional and contemporary ways of Alaska's Indigenous cultures. Explore Native history and culture through art, dance, exhibits, films, and more.

Depending on your onward plans, we'll either drop you off at the airport or at a downtown hotel of your choosing. Please plan on departure times for 2 p.m. or later.

**Breakfast included.**





## ACCOMMODATIONS





## Pike's Waterfront Lodge

### Night 1

Pike's Waterfront Lodge is a family-run, historic property located on the Chena River in Fairbanks. The lodge offers modern amenities such as flat-screen televisions, a 24-hour fitness room, and an on-site convenience store and restaurant. Enjoy the outdoors with natural gas firepits, a garden, a mini miniature golf course, and bocce ball courts.

Its comfortable rooms make for a great place to relax after a long day of traveling.

As is common with boutique hotels, room sizes and views often differ within the same property. Please note that we assign guest rooms on a first-come, first-served basis. No exceptions.



## Denali Grizzly Bear Resort

### Nights 2 - 4

Overlooking the Nenana River and surrounded by stunning mountains, the Denali Grizzly Bear Resort is a cozy retreat in the heart of Alaskan wilderness. Located on the Parks Highway at the south entrance to Denali National Park, the property offers convenient access to outdoor adventures.

Relax in cedar-furnished rooms, with in-room coffee and tea, cable TV, and more. Its property features an on-site general store, a local food truck court, and scenic food pavilions.





## Susitna River Lodge

### Nights 5 - 7

The Susitna River Lodge is located on the east bank of Susitna River within walking distance to the historic village center of Talkeetna.

We're staying in a combination of cabins and suites in the lodge. Susitna River Lodge is a beautiful property and a nice place to relax in between our activities in the Talkeetna area.



“

The guides with Gondwana know exactly what's worth seeing, eating and drinking, and when to go!  
I can't recommend this company enough.

- Emily Y.

*\*We reserve accommodations for our tours up to two years in advance. However, in rare cases, hotels or lodges may overbook, change ownership, or no longer meet our quality standards. If this happens, we reserve the right to provide a suitable alternative of similar quality. We will notify you via email if we need to change your accommodations. Thank you in advance for your understanding and flexibility.*





## RESTAURANTS



Note that these are sample restaurants that we often visit on this tour and not guaranteed visits.



## Alpenglow Restaurant

Located within Grande Denali Lodge, Alpenglow Restaurant offers a varied menu made with Alaska-sourced ingredients whenever possible. Soups, steaks, salad, and a good selection of Alaskan seafood are on offer. Every table offers majestic views of the outdoors.

## Foraker Restaurant

Located in Talkeetna, the restaurant offers fine dining with a view of Denali. The effect is especially wonderful in August, when the sun sets directly behind North America's tallest peak.

## 49th State Brewing Company

Whether ordering a yak burger the size of your head, Alaskan-raised pork ribs, or a local organic salad, the food at 49th State delivers taste as big as its portions. And its renowned craft beer is brewed on premises. While you wait for your food, check out the bus from Into the Wild, which was relocated from the backcountry to the brewery's beer garden!

## Prospectors Pizzeria

The dining room is decorated with old maps, historic black and white photographs, and furs. The pizzas are hand-tossed, wood-fired, and delicious! Toppings range from the traditional to the regional such as elk, salmon, reindeer, and even Alaskan King Crab.







## Our Guides

We work with a carefully selected crew of expert guides. Our guides know this part of Alaska very well and are familiar with the area's geography, natural history, flora, fauna, and some also have in-depth knowledge about the Alaska Natives' history and customs. All of our guides are personable, professional, courteous, friendly, and excited to show our guests some of the most incredible parts of Alaska. All of our guides are vetted, trained, and hold relevant certifications such as CDL, Wilderness Medicine, and / or First Responder.

We typically assign guides to specific departure dates a few months out and you'll receive more information about your specific guide or guides before you travel. For tours with less than eight guests we typically have one guide. On tours with nine to eighteen guests, we have two guides.





# GENERAL INFORMATION



## FAQ - GETTING THERE AND BACK

### Is This Trip For Me?

- Our Denali Discovery Adventure requires moderate mobility and physical fitness. You should be able to walk on uneven, natural terrain hiking trails for at least three miles unassisted, walk with moderate elevation gains to 200 feet (61 meters), and enter and exit vans, buses, small aircraft, rafts, and boats without assistance. The itinerary includes a scenic flight using a safe, but small aircraft. If you are uncomfortable with small aircraft or helicopters, you are welcome to sit out the experience(s) and relax at the lodge instead.

Please note that the minimum age for all of our tours is 12. Some activities may also have specific age restrictions. However, we may be able to make exceptions in certain cases. For more information or to inquire about younger participants, please email our Guest Services department at [info@gondwanaecotours.com](mailto:info@gondwanaecotours.com).

### Can you cater to my dietary restrictions?

- We cater to common dietary restrictions and can accommodate most common diets with advanced notice. After registering for a tour, we provide a Registration Form to collect your dietary information, which we share with our vendors to make necessary accommodations. If you have specific questions about an uncommon dietary restriction, please email our Guest Services department at [info@gondwanaecotours.com](mailto:info@gondwanaecotours.com), and we will explore possible options to match your needs.

### How do I sign up?

- Secure your spots with a \$500 per person deposit (via phone, email, or on our [website](#)) that is fully refundable within 30 days of payment, provided your trip starts at least 121 days from the time of booking. The remaining balance is due 120 days before the tour departs. Read our complete [Booking Agreement here >](#)
- After signing up, we will send you a confirmation message and valuable information to prepare you for the trip. We will also send you two easy forms to submit with your registration information and flight details.



## WHY TRAVEL WITH US?

Our promise is to deliver custom crafted and authentically local travel experiences that send you home with lifelong memories of your unique adventure. We strive to put our values into practice with every Ecotour that we create.

**SMALL-GROUP SIZE** We limit our group to 18 so you can have a unique and personalized experience.

**LOCAL GUIDES** Enjoy the company of local guides who share their culture and customs with you for an unbeatable authentic experience.

**FIVE-STAR REVIEWS** We take pride in our commitment to quality, service, and unforgettable adventures, all of which have earned us glowing reviews from guests. We're honored by the [kind words they share](#) about their positive experiences.

**CARBON NEUTRAL** To minimize our trip's impact on the environment we pay to carbon neutralize the entire tour and activities. Good for our conscience and good for our planet.

**LOW IMPACT** Our ecotours leave a relatively small impact on the environment because of the accommodations, restaurants, small group size of 18, and the activities.

**UNIQUE LODGING** Feel the heart of the destination by staying at several unique hotels that are locally owned and/or eco-friendly.

**ONE-OF-A-KIND ACTIVITIES** Many of our activities have been created by our passionate local guides and our founder exclusively for our guests; you truly cannot get these experiences with any other company.





## We hope you'll join us on an upcoming Denali Discovery Adventure!

A \$500 per person deposit is all that's needed to reserve this tour. Contact us via phone, email, or simply use the Deposit button to reserve your spot!

(877) 587-8479

[info@gondwanaecotours.com](mailto:info@gondwanaecotours.com)

[PAY DEPOSIT >](#)

Visit us anytime at [GondwanaEcotours.com](http://GondwanaEcotours.com) to plan your next vacation!