

# ALASKA FAMILY EXPLORER

Family Fun and Adventure at Denali National Park, Kenai Fjords National Park, and Matanuska Glacier!  
Exceptional Wildlife & Glacier-Viewing Opportunities, and  
an Exciting Variety of Included and Optional Adventure Activities!

## Lodge-Based Family Adventures 9 Days. Starts and Ends in Anchorage



### ALASKA FAMILY EXPLORER

#### Lodge-based Adventure Tours

#### 9-DAY TOUR ITINERARY

1. Seward/Kenai Fjords Natl. Park
2. Seward/Kenai Fjords Natl. Park
3. Seward/Kenai Fjords Natl. Park
4. Matanuska Glacier
5. Matanuska Glacier
6. Denali National Park
7. Denali National Park
8. Denali National Park
9. Return to Anchorage

#### 2024 TOUR DATES

##### Lodge-based tours

- ♦ June 12-20
- ♦ June 23-July 1
- ♦ August 2-10
- ♦ August 16-24
- ♦ **Additional dates** and private, Camp & Cabin-based trips may also be possible, please ask!

#### 2024 TOUR PRICES

##### Lodge-based tours

**Adults:** \$2,695 pp + 1% local tax  
**Children** ≤ 17: \$1,695 pp + 1% tax

### GET UP AND GO! TOURS

Locally Owner-Operated Since 2002

Our 23rd Season in 2024!

#### INCLUDED TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ **Professional GG! Guide**
- ♦ **All Ground Transport, Lodge, and Park Entrance Fees**
- ♦ **Most Meals**
- ♦ **Denali NP Wildlife-Viewing Bus Trip**
- ♦ **Denali NP Sled Dog Demonstration**
- ♦ **Great Wildlife Viewing, inc. visits to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center and to Alaska SeaLife Center**
- ♦ **Guided Day Hiking:** All you're up for!

**charter;** an easy 3-hour **sea kayaking paddle;** and even a **helicopter-accessed dog-mushing trip on a glacier** are additional, fun, optional activities.

*No previous experience is required to participate in any activity.*

Next we'll head north to our lodge near the huge **Matanuska Glacier**, for a two-night stay. In addition to plenty of family time, there is a highly recommended option to strap on crampons and venture out onto the blue ice on a guided **glacier trek**, or even try an introductory **ice-climbing** course! A ride on a **zip-line** is yet another exciting option.

Next we head to **Denali**, one of the world's most iconic national parks, for a three-night stay. Here you will ride on the park's **wildlife-viewing bus**, on the lookout for grizzly bears, caribou, moose, wolves, foxes, and more. There will also be optional opportunities at Denali to **take a ride in a dogsled-powered cart** at a local family's home-stead, to go **river rafting** (whitewater or calm); and to take a **scenic flight** to Mt. Denali.

On the ninth and final day of the tour we visit the famous **Denali dog sled kennels** in the morning before driving back to Anchorage, where the tour ends at ~6 pm. A final and highly recommended option is to forego the drive, and instead board the **Alaska Railroad** for a beautiful **wilderness train ride** from Denali back to Anchorage (generally arrives in Anchorage ~8 pm).

We start the tour by heading south along dramatic Turnagain Arm to the beautiful Kenai Peninsula. An included visit to the fantastic **Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center** affords great, close-up views of Alaskan wildlife, including bears. From here, it's on to Seward and stunning **Kenai Fjords National Park** for a three-night stay at our charming lakeside cabins. Here we will visit the **Alaska SeaLife Center**, walk out to the dramatic **Exit Glacier**, and take a short hike through the beautiful coastal rainforest to a pristine beach.

Optional activities in Seward include a fantastic **whale, wildlife and glacier-viewing cruise** in the fjords of the national park, on the lookout for orcas, humpbacks, porpoises, sea otters, sea lions, bald eagles, puffins, and more. A **salmon fishing**

#### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

##### NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

- ♦ **Wildlife & Glacier Day Cruise** in Kenai Fjords NP: Sensational!
- ♦ **Sea Kayaking** on Resurrection Bay
- ♦ **Salmon or Halibut Fishing** charter
- ♦ **Heli- Dog Mushing, on a Glacier!**
- ♦ **Glacier Trekking or Ice Climbing**
- ♦ **Zip-Line** at Matanuska Glacier
- ♦ **Calm or Whitewater Rafting**
- ♦ **'Flight-seeing'** to Mt. Denali
- ♦ **Alaska Railroad** wilderness train trip
- ♦ **Guided Day Hiking:** Beautiful!

## ALASKA FAMILY EXPLORER Daily Itinerary & Activities

**Notes:** This flexible tour itinerary may operate in either direction, and the tour itinerary and specific lodges mentioned are (rarely) subject to change. Specific lodgings may differ. Activities listed as optional are not included, and are available at additional cost; these may happen on days other than what is listed below. Please let us know which of these you are interested in (see page 3) well in advance, so we can reserve them for you.

### DAY 1: FROM ANCHORAGE TO SEWARD & KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK

We'll meet in the lobby of our Anchorage departure hotel/s this morning, introduce ourselves, review this tour itinerary, load up, and head out. Today's short drive is beautiful, along the scenic Turnagain Arm of Cook Inlet, to the lush Kenai Peninsula. Bald eagles, wild Dall mountain sheep, and even beluga whales are commonly seen on this drive. Along the way we'll stop at the *Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center* for closeup views of grizzlies, bison, moose, lynx, and all sorts of other Alaskan wildlife, in a beautiful, natural setting. Once in Seward, we'll walk out to the face of huge Exit Glacier, in Kenai Fjords National Park for a closeup view. And you are going to love our cozy and charming lakeside cabins with outside recreation area including fire rings and a beach! 3 nights. LD

### DAY 2: SEWARD & KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK

This morning we'll visit the *Alaska SeaLife Center*, Alaska's premier public aquarium and Alaska's only permanent marine mammal rehabilitation facility. An optional and highly recommended **wildlife & glacier-viewing day cruise** in the national park this afternoon is not to be missed! Whales, sea otters, sea lions, porpoises, seals, leaping salmon and a great variety of bird life are commonly seen on this trip, including puffins and bald eagles. Deep sea fishing is another option during your time in Seward. BL

### DAY 3: SEWARD & KENAI FJORDS NATIONAL PARK

An easy, optional **sea kayaking** trip in the calm waters of Resurrection Bay is this morning's recommended activity. Fun and beautiful, it's great being out on the water! No previous experience is necessary for this, or any activity. Alternatively, we can take an easy/moderate hike through an old-growth rainforest to a stunning Resurrection Bay beach. In late July and August, the stream there is chock full of spawning salmon, a sight to behold. There are also options this afternoon to go "**heli-mushing**" (mush your own dog sled team across a helicopter-accessed glacier!), or simply enjoy some free family time strolling around this charming, seaside town. BLD

### DAY 4: MATANUSKA GLACIER

Today we'll travel northeast to our lodge, beautifully situated near the enormous Matanuska Glacier. En route, we can go for an **easy walk on the year 'round snowfield**, and, in season, look for spawning salmon in one of the creeks. After a short walk to a great view of the Matanuska Glacier, we'll check into our lodge and enjoy a delicious family-style meal in their magnificent dining room. This lodge also features a great, grassy outdoor recreation area, with fire ring, local trails, great views, and more. 2 nights. BLD

### DAY 5: MATANUSKA GLACIER

After a hot breakfast, there is a highly recommended option to go on a **guided trek on the glacier**. Local glacier guides will fit you with crampons (spikes that you strap to your boots or sturdy shoes), helmets, and hiking poles, for an unforgettable guided walk out onto the blue and age-old glacier ice. The glacial streams, water falls, lakes, ice cliffs, and deep moulins (water-carved glacial caves) that characterize this otherwise frozen river of ice are fascinating. The especially adventurous can even sign up for an optional, all-day introductory **ice-climbing course** (minimum age 12 for ice climbing, involves a fairly long but easy hike on the moraine and ice to the climbing area). There is also the option of doing an exhilarating **zip-line** course this afternoon (minimum age 7, 60 lbs; maximum weight 235 lbs/42" hip size). Otherwise, the afternoon is free for family time, a tundra or mountain hike, or a casual stroll. BLD

### DAY 6: DENALI NATIONAL PARK

Following breakfast, we'll load up and head north to world-famous Denali National Park! We will visit the beautiful Visitor Center, possibly go on a walk in the woods, and, during July and August (when the alpine access road is snow-free), visit the historic **Independence Mine**, at Hatcher Pass, en route. We stay at another beautifully situated, creekside lodge w/ gazebo & fire ring. 3 nights. BL

### DAY 7: DENALI NATIONAL PARK

There are some great options available today, including visiting a family-operated **sled dog kennel** for a tour and **wheeled cart ride**. You can also enjoy an optional, fun calm- or **whitewater river rafting** trip this afternoon (min. age is generally 12 for whitewater, or 15 in the whitewater paddle boat; the calm water float trip is available to younger children). There is also the option to go "**flight-seeing**" over the park and right up to the face of Denali (formerly Mt. McKinley, 20,320' the tallest peak in North America) today. An easy hike to a mountain lake frequented by moose, beavers and birds is another great family activity available today or tomorrow. BL

### DAY 8: DENALI NATIONAL PARK

Get ready for wildlife, as well as incredible landscapes and views! Today you will board the park's wilderness-access shuttle bus for a **wildlife-viewing trip into the immense wilderness area of the park** (which is larger than the state of Massachusetts!). Grizzly bears, caribou, moose, Dall sheep and foxes are all commonly seen, and lucky ones may even see wolves. Unless the clouds conspire to conceal it, the magnificent, glacier and snow-draped Mt. Denali looms large over the landscape, a stunning sight! BL

### DAY 9: BACK TO ANCHORAGE

The park has been patrolled in the winter by dog sled teams and park rangers for 100+ years, and the park maintains a large kennel of sled dogs to this day, including puppies, which we will visit this morning. Along the way back to Anchorage we can watch for wildlife and stop to take a walk. The tour ends in Anchorage by 6 pm. An attractive and leisurely, optional/recommended way to cap off the trip is to return to Anchorage aboard the **Alaska Railroad**, a magnificent 7+ hour wilderness train trip, arriving in town at ~8 pm. BL

## LOOK AT ALL THAT'S INCLUDED

- ◆ **Professional Guide:** The friendly and capable services of a professional **Get Up & Go! Tours' guide**
- ◆ **All Ground Transport,** Anchorage to Anchorage (an Alaska Railroad trip from Denali back to Anchorage is optional).
- ◆ **All Included Lodges, Modern Cabins and/or Rooms,** as specified in the "Accommodations" section (below).
- ◆ **Most Meals,** as specified in the "Meals" section (below)
- ◆ **Entrance Fees** to the *Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center*, to the *Alaska SeaLife Center*, to *Matanuska Glacier Park*, and to all **National and State Parks** and public lands visited en route.
- ◆ One Day's Passage on the **Denali National Park Wildlife-Viewing/Access Shuttle Bus**, into the park's wilderness area.
- ◆ **Denali National Park Dogsled Team Demonstration**
- ◆ **Day Hiking:** The amount, length and difficulty of the hiking is customized for each group. Alaska is beautiful!
- ◆ **Tour Pre-Departure Packet**, including travel info, a packing list and everything else you need to prepare for the tour.

## NOT INCLUDED

- ◆ **Transport to and from Anchorage** (where the trip starts & ends)
- ◆ **Anchorage Lodging**, before or after the tour; we can help.
- ◆ **Non-Included Meals** (see "Meals"), and **adult beverages**
- ◆ **Optional Activities** (see below)
- ◆ **Personal Expenses**
- ◆ **Gratuities** for your hard-working guides; see page 5 of our *Tour Pre-Departure Packet* for general tipping guidelines.
- ◆ **Child Care** of any sort; you are always responsible for the care, safety and supervision of your own children.
- ◆ **Personal Travel Insurance: Highly Recommended.**

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES & PRICES\* p.p.

- ◆ **Kenai Fjords National Park Whale, Wildlife & Glacier-Viewing Cruise:** Don't miss it! Adults \$178 + tax, fuel surcharge, & port fee; Children <11: \$89 + **Highly recommended.**
- ◆ **Sea Kayaking** near Kenai Fjords National Park: ~\$125 + tax.
- ◆ **Deep-Sea Fishing Charter:** Half or whole-day: \$220-50+tax
- ◆ **Heli-Mushing:** Helicopter-accessed sled dog mushing on a glacier: fly up and mush a team of real huskies! ~\$599 adults, \$549 child 12 & under + fees. \$150 more for pax 250+ lbs.
- ◆ **Sled Dog demo and wheeled-cart ride**, at a family-owned sled dog racing kennel. Fascinating and fun! \$90 adults, \$80 children ages 10 and under. **Highly Recommended.**
- ◆ **Guided Glacier Trekking:** \$115. **Highly recommended.**
- ◆ **Introductory Ice Climbing Course:** \$249 (min. age 12)
- ◆ **Zip-Line Rides**, near Matanuska Glacier. Adults: \$99; Children ages 8-11: \$79; (minimum weight 70 lbs). Select dates only
- ◆ **Calm or Whitewater River Rafting** at Denali National Park: \$130 pp; Children 6-11 (float trip only): \$80. **Recommended.**
- ◆ **Flight-Seeing** to Mt. Denali, in Denali National Park: Adults: ~\$499+, Children <12: ~\$249+, +fees. Prices locally set.
- ◆ **Alaska Railroad Wilderness Train Trip** from Denali NP back to Anchorage. **Adventure Class:** \$193; children 11 and under \$97. **Gold Star luxury dome car service:** \$373; children 11 and under \$215 (Gold Star class includes 2 dining car meals, snacks & beverages). 7+ hours. **Highly recommended.**

## ACCOMMODATIONS

**LODGE-BASED TOURS: 9 days/ 8 nights:** All nights are spent in private rooms or cabins with private bathrooms at beautifully situated, locally owned lodges. Tour price is based on two to four family members/room/cabin. Additional rooms may be available if more privacy is desired, please inquire if interested.

## MEALS

**Note:** Vegetarians, vegans, gluten-free, lactose-free, and some other special diets can be catered to *with advance notice*, please list any dietary restrictions or preferences on your **Tour Reservation Form**.

**LODGE-BASED TOURS: All breakfasts and lunches\* and four dinners are included in the tour price.** Most breakfasts are either ordered off the regular menu or prepared by your guide. Lunches are generally buffet-style picnics or brown bag meals that we carry with us on our hikes or other activities. Non-included dinners are taken either at our lodges' restaurants, or in other local restaurants, and are paid for locally.

\*except breakfast the first morning

## GET UP AND GO!

**TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE** on this, or any of our tours, simply give us a call at **1.888.868.4147** or **1.907.245.0795**, or email us at **alaska@getupandgotours.com**. Assuming availability, all you'll need to do to confirm your reservation is to complete our **Tour Reservation Form** and return it to us with your \$500 per person/per tour deposit. We accept personal checks, money orders, international bank wire transfers, Visa, Master Card, and American Express.

*Additional and custom/private departures, as well as 'Camp & Cabin'-based tours may also be possible, please inquire.k*

\***Optional activity prices** are set by the local operators, and are **subject to change**. Some optional activities may also require the payment of local sales taxes, and/or fees or misc. surcharges (fuel surcharge, port fee, land use fee, etc, and/or full payment at the time of booking). **Note:** Minimum ages and maximum weights apply to some activities.

## CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

*"I am thrilled to recommend Get Up and Go! Our experience was amazing and it made me wish you did trips elsewhere because I would use your services again in a heartbeat!"*

*"I have been around the world and was amazed by Alaska. If we hadn't used Get Up and Go!, I think we would have missed out on so much,... they know what you can fit in, make sure you are on time, and expose you to as much as possible. I have never done a guided trip but actually started looking into them after this trip because I felt like we (as a family) got so much more out of it than we would had we tried to do it on our own."*

–Wendy Lewis, Boulder, CO

*"We can't thank you enough for the great tours and even greater guides.... Thanks a thousand times!!! They are perfect!... We really can't say enough about them!... We appreciate everything about your company."*

*"Go with Get Up and Go, you won't regret it!"* –Judy Ekman