



Northern Lights Alaska

The Aurora Borealis, also known as the northern lights, is a vivid demonstration of the Earth's magnetic field interacting with charged particles from the sun. On this 6 day adventure to Alaska you will have multiple opportunities to view the colorful spectacle while experiencing the native culture along with wonderful winter activities such as snowmobiling, dog sledding, snow shoeing, hot springs, ice fishing and more.

DAY 1: Arrive Fairbanks

Arrive in Fairbanks airport make your way to the SpringHill Suites Fairbanks. Springhill suits has a Shuttle service to the hotel from the Airport. After transferring to your hotel, the rest of the day is free to relax from your travels and explore Fairbanks on your own. There are many shops, museums, and restaurants nearby and it will be a good time to shop for any remaining gear you need for the Alaskan winter weather. Be sure to meet with the Southwest Adventure Tour Guide. The Tour Guide will be in the lobby from 4pm-6pm to give advice and answer any questions you might have. The hotel offers an "Aurora Wake-up Call", so if the aurora becomes visible from the property, each room on the list is called so you won't miss a thing! As long as it is dark and clear there is always a chance to see the Northern Lights. Remember, the more nights spent "aurora hunting" the better

the chance you'll have of seeing them.

Lodging: Springhill Suites Fairbanks

DAY 2: Fairbanks—Aurora

After breakfast, join the group for sightseeing of Fairbanks. Take a short drive to the Morris Thompson Cultural & Visitor Center (MTCVC). Be sure to get a photo at the "Antler Arch" and to pick up an aurora certificate to commemorate a successful sighting! Then head to the Museum of the North, discover Alaska Native cultures, natural wonders, diverse wildlife and Arctic dinosaurs. Explore 2,000 years of Alaska art. Learn about research by museum scientists. Original exhibits and breathtaking architecture. You will head back to the hotel where you have time for lunch on your own and a chance to enjoy a plethora of local shops and art galleries featuring local artists and craftsmen. VROOM- VROOM, Snow Machines take a trek through the

\$3,499

Prices are per person, land only

Rating: TAP Deluxe

2023 DEPARTURES:

November 6, 13

December 4, 11

2024 DEPARTURES:

January 8, 15

February 5, 12, 19, 26

March 4, 11, 18

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- ★ Small Group Tour
- ★ Fairbanks
- ★ Native Alaskan Culture
- ★ 3 Aurora Viewing excursions
- ★ Dog Sledding
- ★ Chena Hot Springs
- ★ Snow Shoeing or Cross Country Skiing
- ★ Snowmobiling
- ★ Ice Fishing
- ★ Beautiful Scenery

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- ★ Services of a Southwest Adventure Tours tour director
- ★ Comfortable transportation
- ★ 5 nights hotel accommodations
- ★ 5 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- ★ 3 Aurora Viewing excursions
- ★ Dog Sledding Adventure
- ★ Snowmobile Tour
- ★ Snowshoeing or Cross Country Skiing
- ★ Ice Fishing Experience
- ★ Entrance fees to museums and attractions as listed in the itinerary
- ★ Gratuities for included meals,
- ★ local guides and outfitters



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beautiful forest on a guided snowmobile excursion. All the gear will be provided, and your guide will teach you how to ride, so no experience is necessary. It will be a winter thrill to remember. Join the group for a late dinner at a local restaurant. Then travel north to an Aurora Viewing Lodge away from the city lights. Relax in the warmth of the lodge until the lights appear, then step outside on the large deck and soak in the view. Learn to adjust the settings on your camera with an aurora photo class and capture your very own aurora photo! If you get cold, just step back inside and help yourself to a warm drink. Viewing will continue into the early morning hours with a return to your hotel around 2:30-3:00AM. **Springhill Suites, Fairbanks, AK (B, D)**

DAY 3: Dog sledding—Chena Hot Springs—Aurora viewing

This morning, relax and sleep in after a late night. Enjoy a late breakfast, before departing Fairbanks and venturing out for a Dog Sledding Adventure. Arrive at a local kennel to meet some of Alaska's most enthusiastic athletes! These friendly Alaskan huskies will whip you around the beautiful hidden twists and turns of the trails that run through the boreal forest. You have the unique opportunity to visit ("hands-on") with the sled dogs in their home kennel and hear tales of the many years of experience with these canine athletes. Your mushers are not only long-time guides, but also have personal

stories of Alaskan expeditions and/or racing experiences to share. After saying goodbye to your dog team, continue to Chena Hot Springs Resort, where you will be staying for the next two nights. Take some time to relax, soak in the hot springs and explore the resort. This evening, join the group for a late dinner at the resort and then depart for an Aurora Viewing Excursion. Ride in a military-style SUSV (snowcat) to the top of Charlie Dome, where you will watch for the Northern Lights. You will have a 360° unobstructed view, heated yurts to warm yourself in, outhouses, and complimentary hot beverages and snacks. **Chena Hot Springs, Chena, AK (B, L, D)**

DAY 4: Aurora Ice Museum

After a leisurely morning and late breakfast, enjoy a tour of the world's largest year-round ice environment, the Aurora Ice Museum. The structure was created from over 1,000 tons of ice and snow, all harvested at the resort. Keeping the museum icy cold in the heat of summer comes from the patented absorption chiller, the first of its kind in the world used for this purpose. In the afternoon, it is time to experience the 440 beautiful acres and scenic trails of the resort under your own power. You can choose either snowshoes or cross-country skis, then get out on the trails for a quiet winter trek through the forest. The rest of the day is free to enjoy all the amenities and optional activities offered at the

resort. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for wildlife and the northern lights tonight. **Chena Hot Springs, Chena AK (B)**

DAY 5: North Pole—Ice Fishing—Aurora

Your final day is filled with wonder, Depart the hotel and enjoy fun Alaskan winter pastime, Ice Fishing! In the warmth of a comfortable icehouse, a seasoned guide will help you land a fish and will even cook what you caught for a fresh fish snack. A true Alaskan experience! After Fishing you take a short drive to the City of North Pole, where Christmas lives on, all year round! Enjoy Lunch at one of the local restaurants. Don't forget to snap a picture with Santa Claus and order letters from Santa that will arrive just before Christmas (no matter what time of year you visit). There is a shop that feature hand-made Alaskan gifts and be sure to swing by "The North Pole" for an unforgettable photo. Return to Fairbanks and check in for a final night. After a farewell dinner at a local restaurant, take one more excursion to an Aurora Viewing Lodge for a final night of the Northern Lights **Springhill Suites, Fairbanks, AK (B, L, D)**

DAY 6: Journey Home

Depending on your flight time, enjoy a late morning or possibly some last-minute shopping before transferring to the Fairbanks Airport for your departure flight home. **(B)**

Deposit

25% deposit per person is due at time of reservation - final payment due 30 days prior to departure

Arrival Instructions

Arrive to Fairbanks, AK by 4:00 PM via Fairbanks (FAI)

Departure Instructions

Depart from Fairbanks, Alaska after 8:00 am via FAI, Fairbanks, AK (FAI)

Cancellation Policy:

Please notify us in writing if you need to cancel or reschedule. * No refunds for cancellations within 30 days of departure for all multi-day tours. * Cancellations 31 days or more prior to departure receive a 10% cancellation fee the full price of the tour. * Any monies not refunded will be available to apply to a future tour or trip for 2 years from the day of the cancellation. * A 10% charge will be applied to all tours that are rescheduled within 30 days of the tour. This will be 10% of the full price of the tour.

**We offer optional insurance for cancellation, life, health, and baggage.
We strongly recommend purchase of this insurance.**