



# **Domestic Market Report (DMR)**

## **Alaska Travel and Tourism Industry Sector**

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Greetings from Alaska! Enclosed you will find information about America's "Last Frontier". In our efforts to promote and encourage tourist activity we have summarized and compiled pertinent information about our state that we believe you will find helpful for the inbound tourist. We invite you to distribute this information to your clientele and to contact us for more information.

The following highlights just a few examples of the diverse activities and attractions that Alaska has to offer. Please feel free to communicate your suggestions and recommendations. You may contact our office by calling (907) 271-6237, faxing to (907) 278-2982, via email at [cbecker@mail.doc.gov](mailto:cbecker@mail.doc.gov) or by mail at 431 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501, USA.

Cordially,

Charles F. Becker  
Director  
Alaska Export Assistance Center

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## **Alaska - An Overview**

The people, the places, and the beauty - it's like nothing on Earth. And when you visit, Alaska becomes a part of your soul forever. In fact, every Alaskan you meet will undoubtedly be able to tell the story of a personal friend and how they came to Alaska on vacation and never left.

From the breathtaking vistas of the highest peak in the nation, Denali (Mt. McKinley)... "The Great One," to the ice caves of the mysterious and spectacular Glacier Bay, Alaska has something for every visitor. Travel above the Arctic Circle and experience Alaska's native culture. A journey through South-central Alaska lets you appreciate the beauty of this great state at your own pace - on the most scenic highway in the world. Or travel to Katmai to experience Alaska's exotic wildlife. It sounds like a lot of activity, but these are only a small fraction of the adventures that await you in Alaska.

The primary factor to consider when planning your vacation is how much time you have to spend in Alaska, and plan your trip accordingly. If you have a week to spend in the state, consider exploring parts of just one of the regions that appeals to you. Alaska's size can be deceiving when you see it on a map. Alaska alone is one-fifth the size of the contiguous United States. Driving between Alaska's two major cities, Fairbanks to Anchorage is roughly the same distance as driving between San Diego and Phoenix, Houston and New Orleans or Boston and Baltimore.

### **Enjoying Our Great Outdoors**

Alaska is full of outdoor adventures, from the mild to the wild. Raft a graceful river, or picnic near an Ice Age glacier. Skim the wilderness in a sturdy bush plane or helicopter, or drive for miles beside a turquoise river. Experience gold rush excitement aboard a sternwheeler, or try your hand fishing for Alaska's famous halibut and salmon. Whatever you do, the experience is one you'll never forget.

### **People-Powered Adventures**

Alaska has trails for every ability, from accessible nature paths, to mountain hikes that are physically challenging. Cyclists, joggers, and walkers will discover that major communities have paved trails. Long-distance riders can use the highways, which vary in road surface and shoulder width. Kayak and canoe enthusiasts will enjoy Alaska's many rivers, streams, lakes, and protected coastal waters. Whatever the activity, visitors will find federal, state, and private campgrounds available all over Alaska; many have electrical hookups and dumping stations.

### **Adventures for Everyone**

Adventures include charter fishing trips, sightseeing cruises, and flightseeing tours. The Alaska Railroad can take you in comfort through some of the world's most spectacular scenery. A visit to outlying communities will introduce you to activities as varied as the Eskimo blanket toss, or bird watching. In towns and cities you'll find cultural museums, and restaurants serving everything from fresh halibut to flavorful caribou stew. Visitor centers can guide you to local attractions and special events.

## **Shopping**

Wherever you go, you'll find unique Alaskan products and crafts, including gold nugget jewelry and items carved from ivory and jade; handmade clothing and toys; collectors items made from skin, fur or bone; woven baskets of beach grass, bark and baleen; Alaskan delicacies such as canned or smoked salmon, wild berry products, and reindeer sausage; Native seal oil candles, beaded mittens, fur mukluks, and miniature hand-carved totem poles. Look for the "Made in Alaska" logo, which indicates an item genuinely manufactured in Alaska, and the "Silver Hand" logo that identifies Native Alaskan handicrafts. Handcrafted items, made of walrus ivory and other by-products of subsistence hunting, provide an income source for Native Alaskan artisans and a valuable investment for the buyer.

## **Tours & Guided Trips**

There are many established companies that can help you enjoy your Alaska experience. Companies offer a wide range of activities, from day trips to extended tours - there is something for everyone. Wilderness adventures can vary from short, guided hikes to rugged, backcountry treks. Tour operators cater to both novices and experts. Leave all the arrangements to a tour company or pick and choose for yourself. Even independent travelers often find it useful to include guided trips in their private itineraries.

## **Fishing**

Alaska offers some of the most spectacular fishing in the world. It can be as easy as pulling to the side of the road and making a cast, or you can charter a boat to reel in one of Alaska's enormous halibut. Fly-in fishing, boat charters, luxury wilderness lodges, and fish camps offer a wilderness experience for adventurous anglers. Rivers, lakes and streams throughout the state offer the chance to hook trout, such as rainbows, cutthroat, and steelhead. In all, more than 627 fish species inhabit Alaska's salt and fresh waters, including five species of Pacific salmon: King (Chinook), red (sockeye), pink (humpy), silver (coho) and chum (dog). From smaller fish, like the feisty and beautiful Dolly Varden, to Alaska's famous King salmon, Alaska is an angler's paradise. You could even come away with a world record; a fish weighing over 97 pounds set the Alaska record for a King salmon.

## **Wild Game**

Hunting in Alaska is a premier experience, in a hunting environment that is unique in the world. For many Alaska residents, hunting for food is a vital part of lifestyles emphasizing self-sufficiency and sustainable use. Wildlife is abundant in Alaska and populations are scientifically managed to ensure that they remain healthy. Alaska is famous for its huge moose, vast caribou herds, great brown bears, Dall sheep, mountain goats, and Sitka black-tailed deer.

## **Eco-Tourism**

Alaska is a prime destination for eco-tourists seeking a more personal connection with nature, wilderness, and local people. Take your time, get out and walk. Breathe in the scents of spruce and wildflowers. Look at the way the past has shaped the geography and history of this land. Watch wildlife from a distance so that animals know they are safe. Many of Alaska's animals can become dangerous if they feel threatened, so use binoculars or a telephoto lens if you want to take a closer look. Talk to the locals. You'll discover a lot about Alaska's diverse cultures. Many Alaskans still live off the land as their ancestors did. Understanding their views and ways of interacting with the environment can enrich your visit.

**Alaska Naturally**

Whatever you want to see and do in Alaska, it's best to plan ahead and learn about special requirements that may apply to some wilderness areas. Travel restrictions often exist to protect the land and enhance every visitor's experience of Alaska's natural beauty. This report provides a profile for both the visitor and the professional tour packager of Alaska's adventuresome visitor market along with key contact information.

*Official State Vacation Planner, courtesy of ATIA*

## Market Profile

Tourism is Alaska's second largest private-sector employer, accounting for one in eight private-sector jobs. It is also Alaska's fastest-growing industry. The visitor industry is mainly composed of small businesses. Tourism is a leading industry in Southcentral, Southeast, and Interior Alaska, and it continues to grow in the Southwest and Far North regions. Winter tourism is also growing in many areas of the state.

Over 1.5 million visitors come to Alaska each year. The cruise industry reported 920,000 passengers in 2005, a 5.7% increase from the prior year. There was also significant growth in the number of non-stop flights from abroad.

The majority of Alaska visitors come for pleasure; however, a significant number also come for business, conventions, and to visit family and friends. The average visitor is very well educated, has an average household income of \$103,000, and is about 51 years old. Visitors to Alaska spent over \$1.5 billion annually, equating to around \$934 on average, per person per trip. Visitors come to Alaska in the summer by air, cruise ship, highway, and the Alaska Marine Highway and by other means. The addition of Alaska Marine Highway System's first fast vehicle ferry, the MV Fairweather, should have a positive influence on how people will travel throughout Alaska. It began service in the summer of 2004 and provides quicker access between the upper Lynn Canal and Juneau, and between Sitka and Juneau.

Alaska Travel Industry Association asserts that the international market will maintain its recovery through continued marketing efforts and if international terrorism does not escalate. In the German market, indications are that charter flights to Anchorage and Fairbanks will continue to grow. Within the Pacific Rim, both Japan Airlines and Alaskan Vacations have increased their non-stop charter flights from Tokyo to Anchorage by approximately 25% over past seasons.

*Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, Industry Profiles: Tourism Industry*  
<http://www.alaskachamber.com/artman/publish/tourism.html>

*Hotel Market Analysis: Anchorage, Alaska (October 2005)*  
<http://www.aidea.org/PDF%20files/Anchorage2005hotelmarketanalysis.pdf>

## Economic Indicators for Alaska

The economic news in Alaska, unlike the national news, continues to remain upbeat. Alaska added jobs to its economy, continuing its impressive seventeen consecutive years of employment growth. Among Alaska's top industries of oil and gas, seafood, mining; tourism has experienced increased investment since 2004, specifically in hotel and cruise operators.

After several years of decline, Alaska bed tax collections have rebounded since 2004. With a recovering national economy, a weak dollar, and more local capacity, the economic fundamentals for Alaska's visitor industry are all positive. Hotels and food services dominate employment in this industry, and Anchorage has added substantial new hotel capacity. Four new hotels, the Aspen Suites Hotel, Homewood Suites-Hilton, Fairfield Inn, and Motel 6 have recently opened, adding 447 rooms to the city's total capacity.

The broadly based services industry sectors will again combine to add the most jobs of any industry in Alaska. The recent hotel openings have contributed additional employment in both Fairbanks and Anchorage. In addition, the average annual growth rate for hotels and lodging places was predicted at 2.9 percent (7,200 in 2000 to a projected 9,300 in 2010).

*Alaska Economic Trends. May 2003, August 2003, April 2004 & April 2005*  
<http://www.labor.state.ak.us/trends/trends.htm>, <http://labor.state.ak.us/trends/apr05.pdf>

*The Chamber: the Voice of Alaska Business. June 2004*  
"Tourism Trends and Outlook" (Pg. 26)



## Market Analysis

### Visitor Origin

Today the Alaska tourism industry is chiefly dependent on the U.S. market. Following the U.S. is Germany (or German-speaking Europe), Canada, Japan and Australia. In a study conducted by the McDowell Group for the Alaska Tourism Marketing Needs Survey in June 2000, you can see in the tables below a listing of Alaska's current domestic and international markets and targets for future market development.

#### Most Important Current Markets and Most Desired Markets for Future Alaska Program Emphasis By State

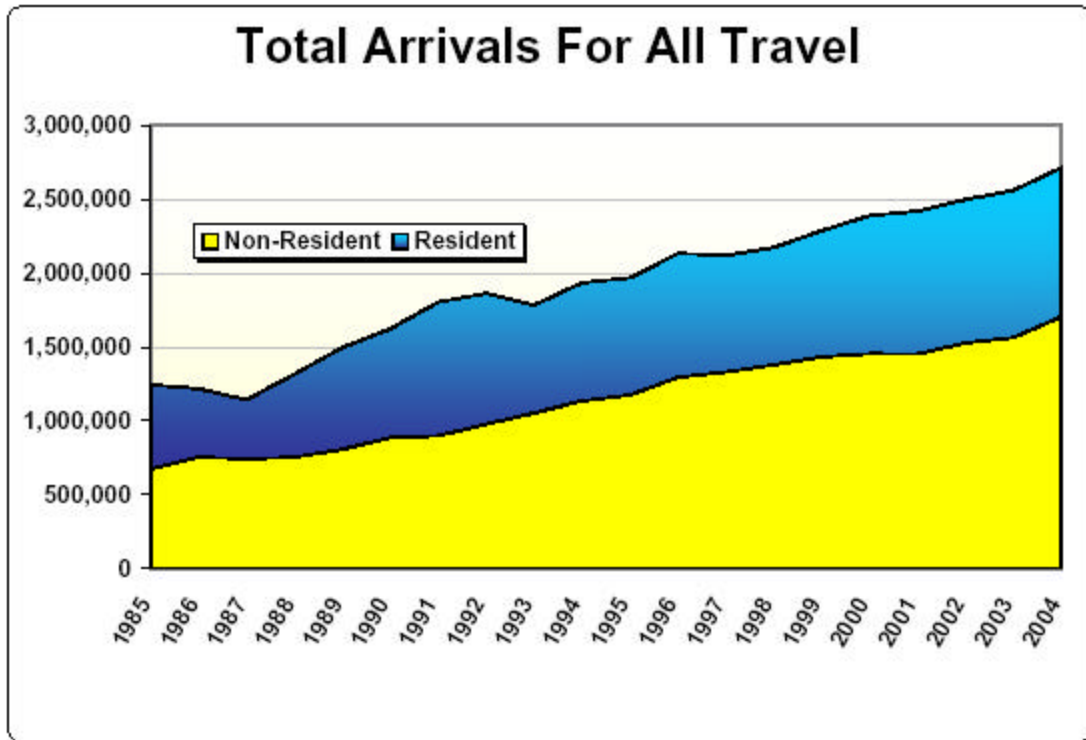
Most Important Current States:	% Mentioning In Top Five	Most Desired States for Future Alaska Program Emphasis	% Mentioning in Top Five
California	75%	California	63%
Washington	65	Washington	52
Florida	39	Oregon	36
Oregon	33	Florida	35
Texas	31	Texas	34
New York	30	New York	31
Alaska	29	Alaska	19
Minnesota	16	Arizona	12
Colorado	13	Minnesota	10
Arizona	9	Colorado	8

#### Most Important Current Markets and Most Desired Markets for Future Alaska Program Emphasis By Country

Most Important Current Countries:	% Mentioning In Top Five	Most Desired Countries for Future Alaska Program Emphasis	% Mentioning in Top Five
United States	93%	United States	85%
Germany	66	Germany	62
Canada	43	Japan	49
Japan	42	Canada	46
Australia	35	Australia	38
England	19	England	18
Switzerland	17	Europe	11
France	8	Switzerland	10
United Kingdom	8	United Kingdom	9
Europe	7	Netherlands	7

## Trends in Arrivals

The following chart reports on travel arrivals for residents and non-residents by all modes of travel for years 1985 – 2004.



Alaska Total Arrivals

Source: COMMERCE, AVSP

The steady increase in visitor arrivals since 1994 reflects an average annual growth rate of nearly 4% over the past decade. Besides the strong passenger growth aboard cruise ships, domestic and international air arrivals have experienced average annual growth rates of 2.5% and 6.5% respectively. However, despite a doubling of motor coach arrivals the past decade, the total number of visitors entering Alaska by personal vehicles is down one third compared with ten years ago.

<http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/dca/pub/AEPR2004.pdf>

Alaska Economic Performance Report 2004

## Total Arrivals

Total arrival data are collected throughout the year for each mode of arrival. Data come directly from the agency responsible for monitoring a particular mode of travel or the entity that provides the service.

? Total arrivals (residents and visitors combined) increased a remarkable 9 percent from 1,785,200 arrivals in Summer 2003 to 1,951,600 arrivals in Summer 2004.

? Cruise ship arrivals increased almost 15 percent, from 620,900 in Summer 2003 to 712,400 in Summer 2004. Another 162,800 visitors arrived in Alaska by some other mode and cruised south from Whittier, Seward, or Skagway. In addition, over 11,000 visitors took a multiple-night cruise within the state.

? Domestic air arrivals increased 7 percent, breaking the one million mark for the first time.

? Ferry arrivals reversed the decline of last year, and increased almost two percent. However, ferry arrivals did not return to their historic highs in the 30,000s.

? International air arrivals increased almost 20 percent, from 37,400 to 44,800 arrivals of visitors and residents. Some of the increase can be attributed to increases in the number of flights between Vancouver, BC and Anchorage and charter flights from Germany and Japan to Anchorage.

### Trends in Total Arrivals (Residents and Visitors) by Mode of Entry, Summer 1993-2004

Mode	AVSP III	Secondary Arrival Reports						AVSP IV	Secondary Arrival Reports		
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999 <sup>a</sup>	2001	2002	2003	2004
Cruise Ship <sup>b</sup>	247,000	285,100	283,500	336,500	392,100	431,200	457,100	510,000	581,000	620,900	712,400
Domestic Air	697,500	763,600	788,100	837,000	845,500	824,500	850,100	968,000	960,800	965,800	1,030,200
Ferry <sup>c</sup>	35,900	35,100	33,000	30,100	23,500	26,400	25,800	24,100	23,700	22,400	22,800
Highway Personal Vehicle <sup>d</sup>	171,100	178,300	188,100	183,100	178,500	199,000	195,900	130,400	128,000	123,700	123,900
Highway Motorcoach <sup>d</sup>	4,100	3,900	3,900	4,200	3,700	4,100	3,700	10,900	8,200	8,200	13,400
International Air	19,500	20,600	19,300	28,600	26,500	25,100	27,500	24,700	25,200	37,400	44,800
Other <sup>e</sup>	31,500	31,900	42,200	47,100	43,800	37,700	38,000	7,700	7,100	7,000	4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,206,500</b>	<b>1,318,500</b>	<b>1,357,900</b>	<b>1,466,500</b>	<b>1,513,500</b>	<b>1,548,000</b>	<b>1,598,200</b>	<b>1,675,800</b>	<b>1,754,000</b>	<b>1,785,200</b>	<b>1,951,600</b>

Source: Alaska Visitor Arrivals, Summer 1993-1999 (McDowell Group); Alaska Visitor Arrivals, Summer 2001-2004 (Northern Economics, Inc.).

#### Notes:

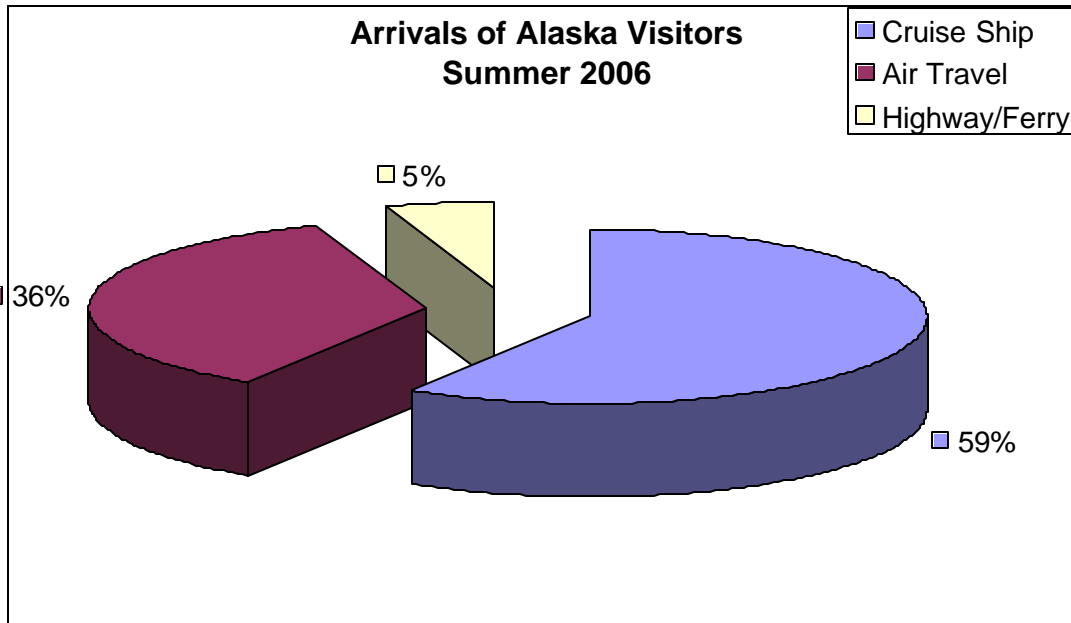
Numbers rounded to the nearest 100. Column and row totals may not be equal due to rounding.

<sup>a</sup> No arrival data collected in 1999-2000.

<sup>b</sup> Cruise ship arrival counts in 2004 do not include 162,800 travelers who arrive by other modes and cruise south from Whittier, Seward or Skagway. Another 11,000 people cruise only within the State.

<sup>c</sup> Ferry arrivals for 2002 revised December 26, 2003.

<sup>d</sup> Highway arrivals have been adjusted for double counting beginning in 2001.



**Values Include:**

Cruise Ship: 958,900  
 Air Travel: 587,800  
 Highway/Ferry: 84,800

**Total Visitors for Summer 2006:** 1,631,500

Data provided by: Alaska Visitors Volume and Profile  
[http://www.alaskatia.org/research/adobe/AVSP-V\\_Exec\\_summary\\_4-07.pdf](http://www.alaskatia.org/research/adobe/AVSP-V_Exec_summary_4-07.pdf)

**Listing of Top Cruise Destinations**

As demonstrated above, the largest increase by mode of entry was in the cruise ship industry. In the category of "Favorite Destination", the top 5 Cruise Destinations for:

Rank	2006	Rank	2005
1	Caribbean (Western) – 30.6%	1	Caribbean (Western) – 39.2%
2	Alaska – 24.8%	2	Alaska – 16.3%
3	Caribbean (Eastern) – 20.1%	3	Caribbean (Eastern) – 14.1%
4	Caribbean (Southern) – 8.8%	4	Caribbean (Southern) – 9.5%
5	Mexican Riviera – 5.8%	5	Hawaii – 4%
		5	(tie) Mexican Riviera – 4%

Carlson Wagonlit Travel 2005 and 2004 Travel Trends Surveys  
[http://www.carlsontravel.com/Stellent/websites/get\\_page.asp?ssDocName=070422&ssSourceNodeId=50003&ssTargetNodeId=50003](http://www.carlsontravel.com/Stellent/websites/get_page.asp?ssDocName=070422&ssSourceNodeId=50003&ssTargetNodeId=50003)

## Visitor Arrivals by Trip Purpose

The majority of Alaska visitors come for pleasure; however, a significant number also come for business, conventions and to visit family and friends.

### Trends in Visitor Arrivals by Trip Purpose Summer 1994-2004

Purpose	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2006
Vacation and Pleasure	669,800	698,200	786,400	939,200	885,800	914,500	892,700	946,800	972,900	1,078,500	1,337,830
Visiting Friends And Relatives	97,100	100,500	103,500	104,500	103,200	105,500	70,700	75,000	77,100	85,300	146,835
Business and Pleasure	60,700	62,500	65,600	66,400	66,000	67,600	57,500	61,000	62,600	69,300	65,260
Business Only	90,300	92,400	95,200	96,800	94,900	97,400	177,300	188,100	193,300	213,800	81,575
Seasonal Workers	13,400	13,500	13,600	13,700	14,000	14,000	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4,600	4,200	4,200	2,400	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>931,400</b>	<b>967,100</b>	<b>1,064,300</b>	<b>1,120,500</b>	<b>1,163,700</b>	<b>1,199,000</b>	<b>1,202,800</b>	<b>1,275,000</b>	<b>1,310,100</b>	<b>1,447,400</b>	<b>1,631,500</b>

[http://www.alaskatourism.org/research/adobe/AVSP-V\\_Exec\\_summary\\_4-07.pdf](http://www.alaskatourism.org/research/adobe/AVSP-V_Exec_summary_4-07.pdf)

Source: Alaska Visitor Arrivals, Summer 1993-1999 (McDowell Group); Alaska Visitor Arrivals, Summer 2001-2004 (Northern Economics, Inc.).

## Visitor Activity Markets

According to the Alaska Tourism Marketing Needs Survey conducted by the McDowell Group, Inc., the table below demonstrates what percentage of visitors participate in a certain type of activity market:

**Most Important Current Markets and  
Most Desired Markets for Future Alaska Program Emphasis**

Most Important Current Market Segments	% Mentioning In the Top Five	Most Desired Market Segments for Future Alaska Program Emphasis	% Mentioning In the Top Five
Sport Fishing	47%	Adventure	39%
Adventure	38	Eco-Tourism	35
Highway	32	Sport Fishing	34
Large Cruise Ship	31	Highway	31
Small Cruise Ship	31	Ferry	28
Eco-Tourism	30	Small Cruise Ship	27
Ferry	24	Large Cruise Ship	24
Cultural Heritage	19	Cultural Heritage	19
Independent Travelers	14	Independent Travelers	18
Winter Tourism	12	Winter Tourism	18
Hunting	10	Locals	8
Wildlife Enthusiast	7	Visiting Friends & Relatives	7
Locals	5	Hunting	7
Visiting Friends & Relatives	5	Wildlife Enthusiast	6
Package Tour	5	Package Tour	2
Scientist Research	2	Scientist Research	2
Recreational	2	Recreational	1
Canoe/Kayak	1	Canoe/Kayak	1
Business	1	Business	1
Other (All less than 1 percent)	43	Other (All less than 1 percent)	49

The Alaska State Department of Community and Economic Development composed the *All Visitor Arrival Comparison Study*. Below are two tables that show the attractions and communities throughout the state that were visited by Alaska visitors:

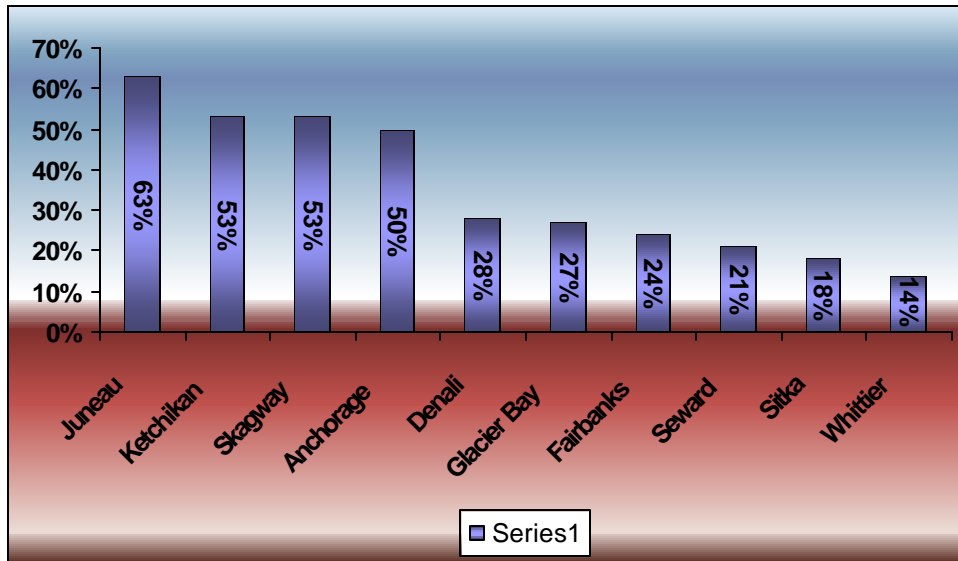
### ATTRACTIONS VISITED

<u>Attraction</u>	<u>Area</u>
Mendenhall Glacier	Southeast
Ketchikan Totems	Southeast
Denali Nat'l Park Mountain McKinley	Interior
Portage Glacier	Southcentral
Skagway Historic Gold Rush District	Southeast
Glacier Bay	Southeast
Sitka's Russian Church & Dancers	Southeast
Trans-Alaska Pipeline	
Anchorage Museum of History & Art	Southcentral
University of Alaska Museum	Interior
Sitka Nat'l Historic Park	Southeast
Prince William Sound	Southcentral
Kenai River	Southcentral
Alaska Highway	Interior
Alaska Native Heritage Center	Southcentral

### COMMUNITIES VISITED

Anchorage  
 Juneau  
 Ketchikan  
 Skagway  
 Denali/McKinley  
 Glacier Bay  
 Fairbanks  
 Seward  
 Sitka  
 Palmer  
 Kenai  
 Wasilla  
 Tok  
 Homer  
 Valdez  
 Haines

## Top Ten Destinations in Alaska, Summer 2006



## About Alaska

### Alaska Facts

Mt. McKinley, in Denali National Park, is the tallest peak in North America at 6194m.

The Area of Alaska is 1,518,807 Square Kilometers

Capital City: Juneau

Largest City: Anchorage

State Motto: "North to the Future"

State Population: 663,661 (2005 est.)

State Sport: Dog Mushing

State Flower: Forget-Me-Not

State Tree: Sitka Spruce

State Bird: Willow Ptarmigan

State Fish: King Salmon

State Gem: Jade

State Mineral: Gold

State Fossil: Woolly Mammoth

State Song: Eight stars of gold on a field of blue (Alaska's flag). May it mean to you The blue of the sea, the evening sky, The mountain lakes, and the flowers nearby; The gold of the early sourdough's dreams, The precious gold of the hills and streams; The brilliant stars in the northern sky, The "Bear" the "Dipper" and, shining high, The great North Star with its steady light, Over land and sea a beacon bright. Alaska's flag to Alaskans dear, the simple flag of a last frontier.



## Alaska Trivia

- Alaska extends about 1,770km north-to-south and about 3,219km from east-to-west.
- Mt. Wrangell (4,317m.) is the highest active volcano in Alaska.
- The Yukon River is one of the longest on the continent, flowing across Alaska east-to-west.
- Aniakchak Caldera is a 10km wide, 609m deep explosive volcanic crater.
- Columbia Glacier, a tidewater glacier, is 68km long and 6km wide at its terminus.
- Glacier Bay has 16 tidewater glaciers, 12 actively calving icebergs into the bay.
- The Great Kobuk Sand Dunes cover 65 square kilometers.
- The Harding Icefield, one of four major icecaps in the U.S. covers 777 square kilometers.
- Hubbard Glacier is 128km long, one of North America's longest glaciers.
- Iliamna Lake is the largest lake in Alaska: 121km long, 32km across, covering 1609 square kilometers.
- Iliamna Volcano is an active 3,053m strato volcano.
- The Juneau Icefield is a 3,885 square kilometers ice field supplying 39 glaciers.
- Malaspina Glacier (3,885 square kilometers) is North America's largest piedmont glacier.
- Matanuska Glacier is 43km long and 6km wide at the terminus and 305m thick.
- Mt. McKinley includes two separate peaks; South Peak 6,194m and North Peak 5,934m. Mt. McKinley rises 5,486m above the surrounding area, greater than Mt. Everest which begins on a 4,267m plateau.

## Larger National Parklands within Alaska:

Name: (in excess of 200,000 hectares)	Size (hectares)
Admiralty Island National Monument-Kootznoowoo Wilderness	386,840
Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve	242,807
Bering Land Bridge National Preserve	1,092,631
Cape Krusenstern National Monument	267,088
Chugach National Forest	2,387,601
Denali National Park and Preserve	2,428,068
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve	3,399,296
Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve	1,335,438
Katmai National Park and Preserve	1,618,712
Kenai Fjords National Park	270,730
Kobuk Valley National Park	687,953
Lake Clark National Park and Preserve	1,618,712
Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness	866,919
Noatak National Preserve	2,630,408
Steese National Conservation Area	485,614
Tongass National Forest	6,677,188
Tracy Arms-Ford Terror Wilderness	264,327
Trans-Alaska Pipeline Utility Corridor	1,125,005
White Mountains National Recreation Area	404,678
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve	5,260,815
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve	1,011,695

# Traveling To Alaska

## Air Carriers

The Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport (ANC) is the major air gateway to Alaska. It also has the distinction of being the key international cargo crossroads for trans-Pacific freighter activity. With 24-hour operations, growth continues in international and domestic passenger service as well as international cargo.

### Domestic Airlines:

Alaska Airlines  
America West  
American Airlines  
Continental Airlines  
Delta Air Lines  
Era Aviation  
Frontier Airlines  
Frontier Flying Service  
Grant Aviation  
Hageland Aviation  
Hawaiian Vacations  
Kenai Express  
Northwest Airlines  
Peninsula Airways (PenAir)  
United Airlines

### International Airlines:

Air Canada  
Asiana Airlines  
Cathay Pacific Airways  
China Airlines  
Korean Air  
Mavial/Magadan Airlines

### Passenger Charters:

American Trans Air  
Hawaiian Vacations  
Omni Air International  
North American Air  
Thomas Cook  
Japan Air Charter

## Rental Car Businesses

Rental Cars can be purchased through most packaged deals at a discount rate. However if just a rental car is needed, a potential visitor to Alaska can either call the businesses below directly or log on to their websites. For more information regarding Alaska's Rental Car system, please visit page 21.

Alamo  
Avis  
Budget  
Dollar  
Enterprise  
Hertz  
National  
Thrifty

## Hotels

All major hotels and more can be found throughout Alaska. Potential visitors can browse for hotels using a search engine and typing in "Hotels in Alaska". Also when booking a flight online, some of these websites, such as Priceline or Travelocity, will offer package deals that include rental cars and hotels. Here are some helpful websites where potential visitors can browse for hotels, motels, and even bed and breakfasts.

[www.anchorage.net/lodging](http://www.anchorage.net/lodging)  
[www.alaskatravel.com/alaska-hotels.html](http://www.alaskatravel.com/alaska-hotels.html)

## **Cruise Ship Operators**

Alaska cruises have become one of the most popular ways to visit Alaska, with Alaska being ranked as the #2 cruise destination in 2005. Cruises feature glaciers, wildlife, great food, entertainment, interesting port of calls and fascinating tours along way, all with only unpacking your suitcase once. The major cruise lines offer two main Alaska cruise options. Gulf of Alaska cruises travel between Vancouver, BC and Seward, while Inside Passage cruises travel roundtrip from Vancouver. Both cruises are a week long, and visit three or four ports along the way. Gulf of Alaska and Inside Passage cruises are available from top cruise lines like Princess Cruises, Holland America Line, Celebrity Cruises and Royal Caribbean Cruises. Ships range from 1200 to over 2000 passengers and are often called "cities on the water", with features like numerous restaurants, lounges, Broadway style entertainment, casinos, health clubs, movie theaters, libraries, and more. In addition to the traditional cruises available from the major cruise lines, there are several options available with small ship cruise operators. Whether you choose a big or small ship, all cruises have shore excursions available in each port, from historic railroad trips to landing on a glacier by helicopter. After a great Alaska cruise, most passengers continue on to see Alaska by land with Denali National Park on the top of the list. The Alaska cruise season runs from approximately the second week of May through the third week of September. Each of these topics is explored in more detail below; links to cruise line home pages are also included.

***\*To book a Cruise or obtain more information regarding Alaskan cruises please visit page 25 under Major Tour Operators***

## **Travel Within Alaska**

### **Alaska Railroad**

The Alaska Railroad is the last full-service railroad in the United States. From the tidewater at Whittier and the Seward to the heart of the Interior Alaska, the railroad route covers more than 805 kilometers. Summer services offer three daily routes. The Denali Star departs daily from Anchorage and Fairbanks with stops at Talkeetna and Denali. The Coastal Classic serves Anchorage and Seward, with magnificent walls of ice, jagged peaks and gorges along this route. The Glacier Discovery connects Anchorage and Whittier, winding along the scenic Turnagain Arm of the Cook Inlet. In addition to daily service routes, The Hurricane Turn offers a unique "flag" service between Talkeetna and Hurricane Gulch, providing a vital transportation link for rural Alaskans. In 2000, the Railroad added 16 state-of-the-art locomotives, nine custom-built passenger coaches and three vista dome-style coaches to the fleet.

### **Ferry System**

The State of Alaska operates a system of large and small ferries serving many communities in Southeast Alaska as well as Bellingham, Washington (161 kilometers north of Seattle). These vessels carry cars, campers, etc., as well as passengers. At most stops there is time for passengers to explore the town before the ferry leaves for the next stop. This is the most economical way to travel around the region - many passengers bring tents to camp on deck, or just sleeping bags and pillows and 'crash' on the rugs, sofas, etc. Most vessels have cabins as well and all vessels offer meal service - usually cafeteria style.

### **Flightseeing**

One of the best ways to see a lot of Alaska in a short time is flightseeing, in a variety of small aircraft ranging from Cessna 185s to float planes. For those whose flying experience is thus far limited to large jetliners carrying several hundred people, there's something special about climbing aboard aircraft carrying as few as four passengers to see Mt. McKinley, Prince William Sound, ice fields, glaciers, fjords and wildlife on and off shore.

Pilots with extensive experience in the tour area often double as tour guides, pointing out areas of environmental and historic significance. Going anywhere in Alaska by small aircraft, on business or for pleasure, offers a great view of the Great Land.

### **Motor Coach**

From a town tour that takes in historic and cultural sites, to a journey over Alaska's farthest-north highway to Prudhoe Bay, motor coaches are a popular choice for viewing the Great Land. Tour operators, knowing visitors want to do as much as possible on their once-in-a-lifetime trip to Alaska, accommodate with side trips such as exploring Denali National Park, river running, or flying to a real family-run gold mine in the Brooks Range.

Motor coach trips, like cruises, are generally a package deal that may include admission to museums, award-winning video films at stops along the way, a ride on a ski lift, a cruise aboard a sternwheeler in the Interior, a shuttle-bus ride through a national park, a trip to an historic mining town, meals and lodging. Some companies also offer optional add-on adventures. Often a motor coach tour is one leg of the trip, the other being a flight or cruise to or from the state.

## **Recreational Vehicles**

Renting an RV to travel Alaska is often a great choice for those looking for added flexibility in their Alaska vacation, and those who want to "rough it" in style with most of the comforts of home. Whatever the case, more and more people are turning to Alaska RV rental companies to plan their perfect Alaska vacation. While many people drive their own RV to Alaska, a substantial number choose to rent their RV in Anchorage. There are over a dozen firms offering Alaska RV rentals in Anchorage, from 6.7m class C motorhomes to 9m class A motorhomes.

The most popular rental model is the class C motorhome that is generally available in 6.7m to 9m lengths. Most rental RVs are fully self contained, meaning that in addition to beds and seating, expect a bathroom with toilet and shower, stove, refrigerator, kitchen sink, hot water heater and furnace. Many of the top Alaska RV rental companies offer air conditioning, microwave, and generators at no extra charge. If you are renting from a top firm, expect your motorhome to be less than 3 years old.

Start early if you plan to rent an RV in Alaska. Advance reservations are required and many companies are sold out by springtime. A deposit is generally required to rent an RV, and strict cancellation penalties are common. Some firms charge extra for mileage, kitchen set ups, bedding, insurance, dumping or cleaning, so make sure you ask about extra fees so you know the total cost of your rental. Expect to pay \$165 to \$195 per day for a nice, well-equipped RV, depending on the rental company and motorhome size. Discounts are often available for May or September rentals. No special license is required to operate an RV in Alaska, and most rental companies give an orientation prior to your departure.

## **Rental Cars**

Many people choose to rent a car when they travel to Alaska. Rental cars can add flexibility to your Alaska vacation, and can often result in a cost savings over other modes of transportation, particularly for groups of 3 to 5 travelers.

Major car rental companies are available in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Seward, as well as a number of small communities across Alaska. Most Alaska travelers rent their cars at or near the Anchorage airport, where nearly all the national rental car companies are represented. Anchorage currently has an 8% rental car tax (in addition to 10% state tax), and other fees typically apply for those picking up at the airport, and can sometimes be avoided by choosing an "off airport" pick up location. One-way car rentals between Anchorage, Fairbanks or Seward are often available but typically a drop fee or higher daily rental rate will apply.

## Alaska Leisure Activities

### Summer

During the summer months, there are about 22 hours of daylight. This allows for a lot of different activities to take place. Below is a list of ideas:

Adventure Tours	Glacier Tours	RV Touring
Bear Viewing	Golf	Sailing
Bird Watching	Hiking	Sightseeing
Camping	Hunting	Tour Boats
Canoeing	Kayaking	Whale Watching
Cruises	Mountaineering	Wildlife Viewing
Eco Tours	Photography	Paragliding
Fishing	Roller Skiing	Windsurfing
Flightseeing	Rafting	ATV Activities

### Winter

For those that enjoy winter, Alaska offers a wide range of activities from Nordic skiing on groomed trails to dog sledding to remote cabins. Some of the most common activities during the winter season include:

Aurora Viewing	Ice Fishing	Skiing/Snowboarding
Camping	Ice Skating	Skijoring
Dog Sledding	Mountaineering	Snowmachining
Flightseeing	Opera	Symphony
Hot Springs	Photography	
Ice Climbing	Sightseeing	

### Alaska Sporting Events

From the Slush Cup to the Iditarod, Alaska offers winter competitions that range from quirky to those that attract the nation's top television networks. Several cross-country ski races are held each year. The largest, the Alaska Nordic Ski Cup Series, determines contestants for the Arctic Winter Games and Junior Olympic competitions. Other winter sporting events include the Alaska Native Games, and Iron Dog 2000. The Great Alaska Shootout is one of the country's premier pre-season college basketball tournaments, attracting NCAA Division I teams from across the nation for a three-day event that draws sell-out crowds to Anchorage.

In a state where hockey is played year-round, it is no surprise that Anchorage and Fairbanks offer University of Alaska hockey games, as well as the top-rated semi-professional Alaska Aces. In Barrow, the Christmas Games feature Alaska Native traditional tests of skill and strength in events like the high kick, the ear pull and the knuckle hop. In April, one of the state's most well known competitions is the World Extreme Skiing Championships in Valdez. The annual Slush Cup in Girdwood marks the ski season's end.

Below is an overview of the major sporting events that take place throughout Alaska annually. In addition to these events, Alaska was also the host for the 2001 Special Olympic Winter Games.

### **Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout**

Only in Anchorage, Alaska will you find a bunch of college basketball teams going head-to-head in a national competition called the Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout. It's a melting pot full of sports lovers, athletes, NBA recruiters, and media.

The Great Alaska Shootout is one of only four preseason NCAA tournaments in the country, giving teams a three-game head start on the December beginning of Division I basketball. Visiting coaches have praised the hospitality, the officiating and most of all, the level of competition. The annual event takes place over the Thanksgiving holiday, so visitors can enjoy the wonderful winter and holiday activities in Anchorage as well as some of the hottest basketball in the country.

The Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout has been the springboard to success for many Final Four teams, several of which are broadcast on ESPN and ESPN2.

### **Fur Rendezvous**

Fur Rendezvous began in 1935 with the main focus of the festival being to bring people together, to show community support and celebrate the beginning of the end of winter. Because fur trading was the second leading industry in Alaska at the time, fur trading became an important part of the festival. It provided a golden opportunity for trappers and buyers to meet in Anchorage to ply their trade and cut out the middleman. Trapping contests were held, and prizes were awarded for the longest fox, the best fox and the finest ermine pelts.

Today, Anchorage Fur Rendezvous takes place mid-February and is one of the largest winter festivals in North America, with estimates of over 67% of the population participating in Rony.

### **Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race**

Billed as “the last great race on earth”, the race officially commemorates the 1925 Serum Run to Nome. Starting in Anchorage, the mushers travel about 1,850 kilometers from checkpoint to checkpoint, similar to what the freight mushers did over eighty years ago.

Alaska is the world Mecca for sled dog racing which has developed into a popular winter sport in the Lower 48, Canada, Europe, and even Russia. Mushers from more than a dozen foreign countries have run the Iditarod. The Winter Olympics committee is even considering adding sled dog racing as an event.

### **Iditasport**

The Iditasport is the most popular winter human-powered adventure race in the world. Slated for early spring, racers have right up to race start to declare their mode of human-powered transportation: ski, bike, or foot. 1,770 kilometers up the Iditarod Trail to Nome! You will not find a more envelope pushing, on the edge, out there, life-changing adventure race anywhere! This race is designed for the serious racer looking for that once-in-a-lifetime adventure experience.

### **World Extreme Ski Championships**

In April thirty-eight of the world's craziest and best skiers compete in the World Extreme Skiing Championships (WESC) on the slopes of the Chugach Mountain range, which encircles the Alaskan port of Valdez. The competition's slopes are at a 35- to 55-degree angle, with descents of 600 to 900 meters.

This competition is the culmination of over a half-dozen very tough qualifying events around the world, including competitions in Japan, South America, Europe, and the USA. At the World Extreme Skiing Championships, there are three days of competitive skiing, with the terrain and slopes getting progressively more difficult. Rocks, narrow gorges, and sheer cliffs are part of the mix.

Over a thousand spectators and competitors visit the snowy Chugach Mountains near Valdez each year to watch the World Extreme Skiing Championships and pump up their adrenaline.



## Major Tour Operators

### **AK Renown Charters & Tours**

Renown Charters and Tours offers whale watching, wildlife and glacier viewing. Open year-round. (907) 272-1961. (800) 655-3806.

**Email us:** [renown@alaska.com](mailto:renown@alaska.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.RenownCharters.com](http://www.RenownCharters.com)

### **Alaska Heritage Tours**

Explore Alaska's most incredible wildlife, glaciers and scenic vistas, in total comfort and convenience. Our one to ten day adventures are designed to make the most of your schedule - and can be customized to fit your pace. Encounter abundant marine wildlife in Kenai Fords National Park, discover the mighty Columbia Glacier in Prince William Sound and witness the majestic Mt. McKinley in Denali National Park. Call us today at 877-258-6877.

**Email us:** [info@AHTours.com](mailto:info@AHTours.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.AHTours.com](http://www.AHTours.com)

### **Alaska Railroad**

Experience Alaska's spectacular scenery and wildlife on the Alaska Railroad. See bald eagles, whales, glaciers and North America's highest peak from the comfort of our passenger and coaches and dining cars. From tidewater at Whittier and Seward in Southcentral to the heart of the Alaskan interior, the Alaska Railroad covers more than 805 kilometers. Join us for one of North America's truly great scenic rail journeys. Call 1-800-0552.

**Email us:** [public\\_comment@akrr.com](mailto:public_comment@akrr.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.akrr.com](http://www.akrr.com)

### **Alaska Tour & Travel/The Park Connection**

The Park Connection offers daily coach service between Anchorage and Denali National Park with a stop in Talkeetna; and Anchorage and Kenai Fjords National Park (Seward). We also arrange customized vacation packages including lodging and activities in Denali, Talkeetna, Anchorage, Seward, and many other areas across the state. Many packages combine the park connection coach service with travel on the Alaska Railroad. Call 1-800-208-0200.

**Email us:** [info@alaskatravel.com](mailto:info@alaskatravel.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.alaska-tour.com](http://www.alaska-tour.com)

### **Bald Mountain Air Service**

From the lush coastal rain forest of the Kodiak Islands to the rugged volcanic coast of Katmai National Park, we have developed unequalled brown bear viewing opportunities to excite the most seasoned traveler, adventurer and photographer. Your flight is over some of the most scenic country Alaska has to offer. Prepare yourself for the awesome beauty that awaits you on your adventure. And if it's bears you want to see...we guarantee it! Call 1-800-478-7969.

**Email us:** [baldmt@ptialaska.net](mailto:baldmt@ptialaska.net)

**Visit our Website:** [www.baldmountainair.com](http://www.baldmountainair.com)

### **Big Game Alaska**

Located 69 kilometers south of Anchorage in Portage. Big Game Alaska Wildlife Center is a perfect place to view some of Alaska's most popular wildlife. Many of the animals at the park have been orphaned or injured and are no longer able to survive in the wild. Our goal is to provide a good home for the animals and give people an opportunity to see them up close. See moose, bison, elk, musk ox, Sitka black tail deer, caribou and birds of prey in a beautiful setting. Educational tours can be arranged. Open 7 days, year-round. Admission. \$5 adults, \$3 children, senior and military with ID. Maximum \$20 per vehicle. Call 907- 783-2025 for information.

**Email us:** [biggame@alaska.net](mailto:biggame@alaska.net)

**Visit our Website:** [www.biggamealaska.com](http://www.biggamealaska.com)

### **Kenai Fjords Tours**

Explore Kenai Fjords National Park with Alaska's #1 wildlife and glacier cruise! Cruise with the experts aboard our custom sightseeing vessels while spending extra time viewing wildlife and glaciers up close. Grilled salmon buffet on Fox Island, transportation and overnight options available. Cruises depart from the Seward Small Boat Harbor, March - November. Call 800-468-8068 or 276-6249 in Anchorage.

**Email us:** [info@kenaifjords.com](mailto:info@kenaifjords.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.kenaifjords.com](http://www.kenaifjords.com)

### **Llama Buddies Expeditions**

Fully outfitted/guided expeditions, day hikes and natural history tours with llamas carrying the load into the Chugach, Talkeetna and Kenai Mountains plus the Denali area. Great food, comfortable camps, knowledgeable guides and memorable trail companions make ours your Alaskan trip to remember! Since 1985. Call (907) 376-8472.

**Email us:** [pam@llamabuddies.com](mailto:pam@llamabuddies.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.llamabuddies.com](http://www.llamabuddies.com)

### **Major Marine Tours**

Offers world-class wildlife and glacier cruises to Kenai Fjords National Park and Prince William Sound. Reserved table seating on all cruises and all Kenai Fjords cruises hosted by a National Park Ranger -- two Major Marine exclusives! See otters, eagles, puffins, sea lions, whales and glaciers. Half-day and full-day cruises available. Also, enjoy a freshly prepared, all-you-can-eat salmon and prime rib buffet while you cruise. Tours operate May - September.

Call (907) 274-7300.

**Email us:** [info@majormarine.com](mailto:info@majormarine.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.majormarine.com](http://www.majormarine.com)

### **Phillips' Cruises & Tours**

Phillip's Cruises & Tours operates the largest and fastest catamaran in Prince William Sound on their 26 Glacier Cruise. The new Klondike Express with upholstered booths; wide aisles; inside seating for all passengers, huge picture windows and extensive outside viewing areas provides unrivaled luxury and passenger comfort. Phillips' Cruises & Tours office is located at 514 W. 4th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501. Call toll free USA & Canada, 1-800-544-0529, or (907) 276-8023.

**Email us:** [info@26glaciers.com](mailto:info@26glaciers.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.26glaciers.com](http://www.26glaciers.com)

### **Prince William Sound Cruises & Tours**

Discover cascading waterfalls, spectacular glaciers and marine wildlife in Prince William Sound. Our experienced captains are your guides as you travel aboard our custom vessels complete with oversized windows and outside viewing decks. Enjoy a stop at our wilderness island for a delicious buffet. Daily departures from Valdez and Whittier. Call 800-468-8068.

**Email us:** [info@princewilliamsound.com](mailto:info@princewilliamsound.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.princewilliamsound.com](http://www.princewilliamsound.com)

### **Rust's Flying Service**

Take off from Lake Hood, the world's largest seaplane base, for a spectacular seaplane adventure. Rust's specializes in fly-in fishing trips, bear viewing tours, overnight lodging packages and flight seeing tours. Hank Rust founded Rust's Flying Service in 1963 with a single seaplane, two decades of flying experience and a desire to share Alaska with those who a desire to know it as he does. Rust's Flying Service operates year round. Call 1-800-544-2299.

**Email us:** [info@flyrusts.com](mailto:info@flyrusts.com)

**Visit our Website:** [www.flyrusts.com](http://www.flyrusts.com)

### **Talkeetna Air Taxi**

Talkeetna Air Taxi flies Denali National Park. Often called the greatest flight on earth and the highlight of the Alaska vacation. Year-round since 1947, McKinley flight seeing and glacier landings are our specialty. Ask about our guided glacier treks, walking tour and custom Talkeetna Overnight package including: flight-rail-lodging. We also access the backcountry for raft-hiking trips. Call (800) 533-2219 or (907) 733-2218 for free brochure.

**Email us:** [info@talkeetnaair.com](mailto:info@talkeetnaair.com)

**Visit our Website:** <http://www.talkeetnaair.com>

### **K-2 Aviation**

Experience Alaska's wilderness with a flightseeing tour of Mt. McKinley (Denali) and the other magnificent peaks of the Alaska Range. From Talkeetna, the dramatic features of the Alaska Range - glacier filled valleys, rugged peaks, and towering mountains - can be explored with a variety of flightseeing tour options. Add on a **glacier landing** to your Denali flightseeing tour, and experience first-hand what it's like to walk on a glacier.

**Email us:** [info@flyk2.com](mailto:info@flyk2.com)

**Visit our Website:** <http://www.flyk2.com/>

## Contact Information on Popular Tourist Sites

### ANCHORAGE:

Anchorage Museum of History and Art-- [www.anchagemuseum.org/](http://www.anchagemuseum.org/)  
Alaska Zoo-- [www.alaskazoo.org/](http://www.alaskazoo.org/)  
H2Oasis Water Park-- [www.h2oasiswaterpark.com/home.asp](http://www.h2oasiswaterpark.com/home.asp)  
Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum-- [home.gci.net/~aahm/](http://home.gci.net/~aahm/)  
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts-- [www.alaskapac.org/](http://www.alaskapac.org/)  
Delaney Park-- <http://photos.alaska.org/alaska-photos/anchorage-photos/Downtown-Anchorage-Attractions/Delaney-Park-Strip/>  
Ship Creek-- [www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction\\_Review-g60880-d103030-Reviews-Ship\\_Creek-Anchorage\\_Alaska.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g60880-d103030-Reviews-Ship_Creek-Anchorage_Alaska.html)

### FAIRBANKS:

Chena Hot Springs-- [www.chenahotsprings.com/](http://www.chenahotsprings.com/)  
Gold Rush Town-- [www.city-data.com/us-cities/The-West/Fairbanks-Recreation.html](http://www.city-data.com/us-cities/The-West/Fairbanks-Recreation.html)  
The Pioneer Museum-- [www.akpub.com/akttt/pione.html](http://www.akpub.com/akttt/pione.html)

### GIRDWOOD:

Crow Creek Mine-- [www.crowcreekgoldmine.com/](http://www.crowcreekgoldmine.com/)  
Alyeska Ski Resort-- [www.alyeskaresort.com/](http://www.alyeskaresort.com/)  
Portage Glacier (just past Girdwood on the Seward Highway)--  
[www.alaska.net/~design/scenes/portage/portage.html](http://www.alaska.net/~design/scenes/portage/portage.html)

### HOMER:

Pratt Museum-- [www.prattmuseum.org/](http://www.prattmuseum.org/)  
Katchemak Bay-- [www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks/units/kbay/kbay.htm](http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/parks/units/kbay/kbay.htm)  
Halibut Fishing Tours-- [www.alaska-halibut-fishing-charters.com/](http://www.alaska-halibut-fishing-charters.com/)

### JUNEAU:

Mendenhall Glacier-- [www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/districts/mendenhall/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass/districts/mendenhall/)  
Glacier Bay National Park-- [www.glacier.bay.national-park.com/](http://www.glacier.bay.national-park.com/)  
Helicopter Glacier Tours-- [www.temscoair.com/](http://www.temscoair.com/)  
Kayak Tours-- [www.goalaskatours.com/nationalpark\\_info11.html](http://www.goalaskatours.com/nationalpark_info11.html)  
Alaska Brewing Company-- [www.alaskanbeer.com/](http://www.alaskanbeer.com/)  
Eaglecrest Ski Area-- [www.juneau.org/eaglecrest/](http://www.juneau.org/eaglecrest/)  
Hiking Trails-- [www.juneau-guide.com/juneau-alaska-hiking.htm](http://www.juneau-guide.com/juneau-alaska-hiking.htm)  
Fishing tours/Whale Watching-- [www.orcaenterprises.com/1-fishing.htm](http://www.orcaenterprises.com/1-fishing.htm)

### KETCHIKAN:

Totem Heritage Center-- [www.city.ketchikan.ak.us/departments/museums/totem.html](http://www.city.ketchikan.ak.us/departments/museums/totem.html)  
Seaplane Tours-- [www.alaskaseaplanetours.com/](http://www.alaskaseaplanetours.com/)  
Fishing tours-- [www.southeastssportfishing.com/](http://www.southeastssportfishing.com/)

## SEWARD:

Resurrection Bay Tours-- [www.kenaifjords.com/544.cfm](http://www.kenaifjords.com/544.cfm)  
Mt. Marathon-- [www.sewardak.org/news-events/marathon/marathon.htm](http://www.sewardak.org/news-events/marathon/marathon.htm)  
Exit Glacier-- <http://www.nps.gov/kefj/planyourvisit/exit-glacier.htm>  
Seward Sea Life Center-- [www.alaskasealife.org/](http://www.alaskasealife.org/)  
Fishing Tours-- [www.thefishhouse.net/](http://www.thefishhouse.net/)

## KENAI/SOLDOTNA:

Challenger Learning Center-- <http://www.akchallenger.org/>  
Kenai River-- [www.borough.kenai.ak.us/KenaiRiverCenter/](http://www.borough.kenai.ak.us/KenaiRiverCenter/)  
Russian River-- [www.russianriver.com/](http://www.russianriver.com/)  
Kenai National Wildlife Refuge-- <http://kenai.fws.gov/>

## SITKA:

Big Blue Charters-- [www.bigbluecharters.com](http://www.bigbluecharters.com)  
Saltwater Sportsman-- [www.saltwatersportsman.com](http://www.saltwatersportsman.com)

## SKAGWAY:

Trail of '98 Museum-- [www.skagway.org/index.asp?Type=B\\_BASIC&SEC=%7BBAB0255E-BD90-46E8-A749-C20AF3B15E1C%7D](http://www.skagway.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7BBAB0255E-BD90-46E8-A749-C20AF3B15E1C%7D) click on Museum link on left hand side of website  
The Gold Rush Cemetery-- [www.nps.gov/archive/klgo/hike\\_day\\_hikes.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archive/klgo/hike_day_hikes.htm)  
Yukon Community of Carcross-- [www.yukoncommunities.yk.ca/communities/carcross-tagish](http://www.yukoncommunities.yk.ca/communities/carcross-tagish)  
Alaska Marine Highway-- [www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs](http://www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs)

## DENALI NATIONAL PARK:

Mt. McKinley/Denali-- [www.denali.national-park.com](http://www.denali.national-park.com)  
Denali Bluffs Hotel-- [www.denalialaska.com/bluffs\\_index.html](http://www.denalialaska.com/bluffs_index.html)  
Nenana River-- [www.fairbankspaddlers.org/Rivers/Nenana.htm](http://www.fairbankspaddlers.org/Rivers/Nenana.htm)  
Denali Princess Lodge-- [www.princesslodges.com/mckinley\\_lodge.cfm](http://www.princesslodges.com/mckinley_lodge.cfm)  
Kantishna Wilderness Trails Company-- [www.infohub.com/TRAVEL/SIT/sit\\_pages/12147.html](http://www.infohub.com/TRAVEL/SIT/sit_pages/12147.html)

## Travel Safety Tips

- Traveler's checks and/or credit cards are recommended and carry only the cash you need.
- Keep plane tickets, ...etc in safe place
- Bring copies of passport, credit cards and tickets and keep in hotel safe.
- Never pick up hitchhikers.
- Report lost/stolen items to hotel management and to the police.
- Take valuables with you or leave in the hotel safety deposit box.
- If using a rental car, leave maps, travel brochures and valuables in the glove compartment or trunk.
- Take bags and valuables inside overnight
- Build your awareness of surroundings by reviewing information of the community you are visiting.
- For safety and preservation of wild life, do not try to touch or feed wild animals.
- When attempting any outdoor activity, like hiking, kayaking or camping, make sure to bring the proper precautionary equipment such as bear spray, ample water and first-aid equipment.
- DO NOT throw objects at wild animals.
- DO NOT walk on the mudflats! Although beautiful, the sand along Cook Inlet, near Anchorage is composed of glacial silt and acts like quick sand.
- Alaska State law requires the use of safety helmets while bicycling or skating.
- Alaska State law requires all persons traveling by automobile wear seatbelts.

## Emergency Dialing Information

**Emergency: Dial 911**

**AT&T Language Service: 1-800-528-5888 ext. 12**

**Calls outside of the United States: 011-Country Code-City Code-Home/Business#**

**Calls within the United States but not local dialing area: 1-Area Code-Home/Business#**

**Calls within local dialing area: Home/Business#**

## Alaska Consular Corps

(Area Codes 907 unless otherwise noted)

**Mr. Walter J. Hickel, Jr.**  
343-2280  
343-2211(fax)  
[president@captaincook.com](mailto:president@captaincook.com)

**Honorary Consul-General**  
**Consulate of Austria**  
939 West 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Mr. Carl Brady, Jr.**  
276-5617  
257-6394(fax)  
[carl\\_brady@bradycompany.com](mailto:carl_brady@bradycompany.com)

**Honorary Consul of Belgium**  
**Consulate of Belgium**  
1031 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue #400  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Mr. Ronald Sheardown**  
333-1400  
333-1800(fax)  
[Sheardown@aol.com](mailto:Sheardown@aol.com)

**Honorary Commercial**  
**Representative**  
**Consulate of Canada**  
3512 Campbell Airstrip Road  
Anchorage, AK 99504

**Mr. Frank Nosek**  
274-2602  
258-2001(fax)  
[fnosek@alaska.net](mailto:fnosek@alaska.net)

**Honorary Consul**  
**Consulate of the Czech Republic**  
310 K Street, Suite 601  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Mr. Frank Danner**  
261-7600  
261-7670(fax)

**Honorary Consul**  
**Royal Danish Consulate**  
3111 C Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99503

**Mr. Wayne Stolt**  
274-6607  
279-2060(fax)  
[stolt@ptialaska.net](mailto:stolt@ptialaska.net)

**Honorary Consul**  
**Consulate of Finland**  
1529 P Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501-4923

**Ms. Colette LaRose**  
258-5632  
[Colette@gci.net](mailto:Colette@gci.net)

**Honorary Consul**  
**Agence Consulaire de France**  
5313 Arctic Blvd., Suite 205  
Anchorage, AK 99518

**Mr. Bernd C. Guetschow**  
274-6537  
274-8798(fax)  
[bcg@alaska.net](mailto:bcg@alaska.net)

**Honorary Consul**  
**Consulate of the Federal Republic**  
**of Germany**  
425 G Street, Suite 650  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Dr. Bjartmar Sveinbjornsson**  
786-1366  
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**Mr. Vittorio Montemezzani**  
762-7664  
762-7663(fax)  
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**Mr. William H. Bittner**  
276-1550  
276-3680(fax)  
[wbittner@bhb.com](mailto:wbittner@bhb.com)

**Mrs. Lina Ruiz**  
343-2281  
563-9152(fax)  
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**Mr. Anton Johannes Zahl Meyer**  
279-6942  
279-4912(fax)  
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**Mr. Stanislaw Borucki**  
344-4722  
344-7525(fax)  
[stanb@kirbyalaska.com](mailto:stanb@kirbyalaska.com)

**Mr. Steve Smirnoff**  
349-5481  
522-1489(fax)  
[bahamas@alaska.net](mailto:bahamas@alaska.net)

**Mr. Harold Green**  
244-5375  
345-5607(fax)  
[hwgreen@msn.com](mailto:hwgreen@msn.com)

**Mr. Roberto Albacete Gonzalez**  
265-2481  
265-2439(fax)  
[gonzalezr@akrr.com](mailto:gonzalezr@akrr.com)

**Honorary Consul**  
Consulate of the Republic of Iceland  
9550 Midden Way  
Anchorage, AK 99507

**Consular Agent**  
Consulate of Italy  
PO Box 242241  
Anchorage, AK 99524-2241

**Honorary Consul-General of the**  
Republic of Korea  
1127 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Honorary Consul**  
Consulate of Mexico  
3000 Rosaline Loop  
Anchorage, AK 99504

**Honorary Consul**  
Royal Norwegian Consulate  
203 West 15<sup>th</sup> Ave., #105  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Honorary Consul**  
Republic of Poland  
7550 Old Seward Hwy, Suite 101  
Anchorage, AK 99518

**Honorary Consul-General**  
Consulate of the Russian Federation  
3581 Kachemak Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99515-2337

**Honorary Consul**  
Republic of Seychelles  
PO Box 111909  
Anchorage, AK 99511-1909

**Honorary Vice Consul**  
Consulate of Spain  
327 W. Ship Creek Road  
Anchorage, AK 99501



**Mr. Edward Rasmuson**  
265-2927  
265-2068(fax)  
[rasmuseb@wellsfargo.com](mailto:rasmuseb@wellsfargo.com)

**Honorary Consul**  
**Consulate of Sweden**  
301 W. Northern Lights Blvd.  
Anchorage, AK 99503

**Dr. Diddy Hitchins**  
786-4848  
786-4647(fax)  
[afdh1@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afdh1@uaa.alaska.edu)

**Honorary Consul, c/o UAA**  
**Consulate of the United Kingdom of**  
**Great Britain & Northern Ireland**  
3211 Providence Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
**Consul General of Japan**  
3601 C Street, Suite 1300  
Anchorage, AK 99503

**H.E. Akihiro Aoki**  
562-8424  
562-8434(fax)  
[cgjak@alaska.com](mailto:cgjak@alaska.com)

**Mr. Francisco Del Rosario**  
317-1734  
646-7937(fax)

**Honorary Consul**  
**Dominican Republic**  
P.O. Box 202458  
Anchorage, AK 99520

## Alaska Chambers of Commerce and Community Visitor Bureaus

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce  
217 2nd Street, Suite 201  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone: (907) 586-2323 Fax: (907)463-5515  
[ascejuno@ptialaska.net](mailto:ascejuno@ptialaska.net)

Alaska Marine Highway System  
3132 Channel Drive, Room 200  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Phone: (907) 465-3955 Fax: (907) 277-4829  
[amhs@dot.state.ak.us](mailto:amhs@dot.state.ak.us)  
<http://www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs/>

Alaska Public Lands Information Center  
605 West 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 105  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: (907) 271-2737 Fax: (907) 271-2744  
<http://www.nps.gov/aplic>

Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference  
3300 Arctic Blvd., Suite 203  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 562-7380 Fax: (907) 562-0438  
[info@swamc.org](mailto:info@swamc.org)

Alaska Wilderness Recreation and  
Tourism Associations  
2207 Spenard Road, Suite 201  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
(907) 258-3171 Fax: (907) 258-3851  
[info@awrta.org](mailto:info@awrta.org)

Anchorage Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 91896  
Anchorage, AK 99509  
(907) 278-2722 Fax: (907) 278-6643  
[info@anchoragechamber.org](mailto:info@anchoragechamber.org)

Anchorage Convention and  
Visitors Bureau  
524 W. Fourth Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2122  
(907) 276-4118 Fax: (907) 278-5559  
[info@anchorage.net](mailto:info@anchorage.net)  
<http://www.anchorage.net/>

Barrow, City of  
Box 629, Barrow, AK 99723  
(907) 852-5211 Fax: (907) 852-5871  
[webmaster@cityofbarrow.org](mailto:webmaster@cityofbarrow.org)

Bethel Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 329  
Bethel, AK 99559  
(907) 543-2911 Fax: (907) 543-2255  
[bethelchamber@alaska.com](mailto:bethelchamber@alaska.com)

Big Lake Chamber of Commerce  
Box 520067  
Big Lake, AK 99652  
(907) 892-6109 Fax: (907) 892-6109  
[biglake@mtaonline.net](mailto:biglake@mtaonline.net)

Chugiak-Eagle River  
Chamber of Commerce  
Box 770353  
Eagle River, AK 99577  
(907) 694-4702 Fax: (907) 694-1205  
[info@cer.org](mailto:info@cer.org)

Copper Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Box 469  
Glennallen, AK 99588  
(907) 822-5555 Fax: (907) 822-5558  
[chamber@alaska.net](mailto:chamber@alaska.net)

Cordova Chamber of Commerce and  
Visitors Bureau  
Box 99  
Cordova, AK 99574  
(907) 424-7260 Fax: (907) 424-7259  
[cchamber@ctcak.net](mailto:cchamber@ctcak.net)

Delta Junction Chamber of Commerce  
Box 987  
Delta Junction, AK 99737  
(907) 895-5068 Fax: (907) 895-5141  
[deltacc@wildak.net](mailto:deltacc@wildak.net)  
[www.akpub.com/aktt/delta.html](http://www.akpub.com/aktt/delta.html)

**Dillingham Chamber of Commerce**  
Box 348 Dillingham, AK 99576  
(907) 842-5115 Fax: (907) 842-4097  
[dlgchmbr@nushtel.com](mailto:dlgchmbr@nushtel.com)  
[www.dillinghamchamberofcommerce.com](http://www.dillinghamchamberofcommerce.com)

**Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
550 First Avenue  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
(800) 327-5774 Fax: (907) 452-4190  
<http://www.explorefairbanks.com/>

**Greater Wasilla Chamber of Commerce**  
415 E. Railroad Ave.  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
(907) 376-1299 Fax: (907) 373-2560  
[info@wasillachamber.org](mailto:info@wasillachamber.org)

**Haines Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
Box 530  
Haines, AK 99827  
(907) 766-2234 Fax: (907) 766-3155  
[hcvb@haines.ak.us](mailto:hcvb@haines.ak.us)

**Greater Healy/Denali Chamber of Commerce**  
PO Box 437  
Healy, AK 99743-0437  
(907) 683-4636  
[postmaster@denalichamber.com](mailto:postmaster@denalichamber.com)

**Homer Chamber of Commerce**  
Box 541  
Homer, AK 99603  
(907) 235-7740  
Fax: (907) 235-8766  
[homer@xyz.net](mailto:homer@xyz.net)

**Hyder Community Association**  
Box 149  
Hyder, AK 99923  
(250) 636-9148 Fax: (250) 636-2714

**Juneau Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
101 Egan  
Juneau, AK 99801  
1-888-581-2201  
(907) 586-2201 Fax: (907) 586-6304  
[info@traveljuneau.com](mailto:info@traveljuneau.com)

**Kenai Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
11471 Kenai Spur Highway  
Kenai, AK 99611  
(907) 283-1991 Fax: (907) 283-2230  
[info@VisitKenai.com](mailto:info@VisitKenai.com)

**Kenai Peninsula Tourism Marketing Council**  
14896 Kenai Spur Highway, Suite 106  
Kenai, AK 99611  
(907) 283-3850 Fax: (907) 283-2838  
[Kiplynne@KenaiPeninsula.org](mailto:Kiplynne@KenaiPeninsula.org)

**Ketchikan Visitors Bureau**  
131 Front Street  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
(907) 225-6166 Fax: (907) 225-4250  
[info@visit-ketchikan.com](mailto:info@visit-ketchikan.com)

**Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce**  
PO Box 5957  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
(907) 225-3184 Fax: (907) 225-3187  
[info@ketchikanchamber.com](mailto:info@ketchikanchamber.com)

**Kodiak Chamber of Commerce**  
PO Box 1485  
Kodiak, AK 99615  
(907) 486-5557 Fax: (907) 486-7605  
[chamber@kodiak.org](mailto:chamber@kodiak.org)

**Kodiak Island Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
100 Marine Way, Suite 200  
Kodiak, AK 99615  
(907) 486-4782 Fax: (907) 486-6545  
[kicvb@ptialaska.net](mailto:kicvb@ptialaska.net)

**Nenana Chamber of Commerce**  
PO Box 124  
Nenana, AK 99760  
(907) 832-5239  
[nenanacc@mtaonline.net](mailto:nenanacc@mtaonline.net)

**Ninilchik Chamber of Commerce**  
P.O. Box 39164  
Ninilchik, AK 99639  
(907) 567-3571 Fax: (907) 567-1041  
[www.ninilchikchamber.com](http://www.ninilchikchamber.com)

**Nome Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
Box 240  
Nome, AK 99762  
(907) 443-6624 Fax: (907) 443-5832  
[tourinfo@ci.nome.ak.us](mailto:tourinfo@ci.nome.ak.us)

**Matanuska-Susitna Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
HCO1, Box 6166 J21  
Palmer, AK 99645  
(907) 746-5000 Fax: (907) 746-2688  
[info@alaskavisit.com](mailto:info@alaskavisit.com)

**Metlakatla Tours/Metlakatla Indian Community**  
PO Box 8  
Metlakatla, AK 99926  
(877) 886-4436 Fax: (907) 886-4436  
[patbeal@ptialaska.net](mailto:patbeal@ptialaska.net)

**Palmer Chamber of Commerce**  
Box 45  
Palmer, AK 99645  
(907) 745-2880 Fax: (907) 746-4164  
[info@palmerchamber.org](mailto:info@palmerchamber.org)

**Petersburg Visitor Information**  
Box 649  
Petersburg, AK 99833  
(907) 772-4636 Fax: (907) 772-3646  
[pcoc@alaska.net](mailto:pcoc@alaska.net)

**Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce**  
PO Box 497  
Craig, AK 99921  
(907) 826-3870 Fax: (907) 826-5467  
[powcc@aptialaska.net](mailto:powcc@aptialaska.net)

**Seldovia Chamber of Commerce**  
Drawer F  
Seldovia, AK 99663  
(907) 234-7612  
[maryg@seldovia.com](mailto:maryg@seldovia.com)

**Seward Chamber of Commerce**  
Box 749  
Seward, AK 99664  
(907) 224-8051 or Fax: (907) 224-5353  
[chamber@seward.net](mailto:chamber@seward.net)

**Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
Box 1226  
Sitka, AK 99835  
(907) 747-5940 Fax: (907) 747-3739  
[scvb@sitka.org](mailto:scvb@sitka.org)

**Skagway Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
Box 1029  
Skagway, AK 99840  
(907) 983-2854 Fax: (907) 983-3854  
[infoskag@aptalaska.net](mailto:infoskag@aptalaska.net)

**Soldotna Chamber of Commerce**  
44790 Sterling Hwy.  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 262-9814 Fax: (907) 262-3566  
[info@soldotnachamber.com](mailto:info@soldotnachamber.com)

**Southeast Alaska Tourism Council**  
P.O. Box 20710  
Juneau, AK 99802-0710  
(907) 586-4777 Fax: (907) 463-4961  
<http://www.alaskainfo.org>

**Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce**  
Box 334  
Talkeetna, AK 99676  
(907) 733-2330 Fax: (907) 743-3940  
[www.talkeetna-chamber.com](http://www.talkeetna-chamber.com)

**Tok Chamber of Commerce**  
Box 389  
Tok, AK 99780  
(907) 883-5775 Fax: (907) 883-3682  
[info@tokalaskainfo.com](mailto:info@tokalaskainfo.com)

**Valdez Convention and Visitors Bureau**  
Box 1603  
Valdez, AK 99686  
(907) 835-2984 Fax: (907) 835-4845  
[info@valdezalaska.org](mailto:info@valdezalaska.org)

**Village of Igiugig**  
Igiugig Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 4008  
Igiugig, Alaska 99613  
(907) 533-3211 Fax: (907) 533-3217  
[igiugig@starban.net](mailto:igiugig@starban.net)

Greater Whittier Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 607  
Whittier, AK 99693  
(907) 472-2493  
[info@whittieralaska.com](mailto:info@whittieralaska.com)

Willow Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 0183  
Willow, AK 99688-0183  
(907) 495-5858 Fax: (907) 495-6802  
[info@willowchamber.org](mailto:info@willowchamber.org)

Unalaska/Port of Dutch Harbor  
Convention and Visitors Bureau  
PO Box 920833  
Dutch Harbor, AK 99692  
(907) 581-4242 Fax: (907) 581-2613  
[updhcvb@arctic.net](mailto:updhcvb@arctic.net)

Valdez Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 512  
Valdez, Alaska 99686  
Phone: 835-2330 Fax: 835-4943  
[vcc@alaska.net](mailto:vcc@alaska.net)

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 49  
Wrangell, Alaska 99929  
Phone: 874-3901 Fax: 874-3905  
[wchamber@aptalaska.net](mailto:wchamber@aptalaska.net)  
[www.wrangell.com](http://www.wrangell.com)

Yukon Chamber of Commerce  
208 Main St., Ste. 201  
Whitehorse, YT, Canada Y1A 2A9  
Phone: (867) 667-2000 Fax: (867) 667-2001  
[chamber@yukon.net](mailto:chamber@yukon.net)  
<http://www.chamber.yukon.net/>

## Key Web Sites

Alaska State Chamber of Commerce  
<http://www.alaskachamber.com/>

Alaska Bot - Alaska's Search Engine  
[www.alaskabot.com](http://www.alaskabot.com)

Alaska Division of Tourism  
[www.dced.state.ak.us/tourism](http://www.dced.state.ak.us/tourism)

Alaska Export Assistance Center  
<http://www.buyusa.gov/alaska/>

Alaska Public Lands Information Center  
[www.nps.gov/aplic](http://www.nps.gov/aplic)

Alaska Tour and Travel  
[www.alaska-tour.com](http://www.alaska-tour.com)

Alaska Tourism and Travel Guide  
[www.alaskanet.com/tourism](http://www.alaskanet.com/tourism)

Alaska Travel Industry Association  
[www.alaskatia.com](http://www.alaskatia.com)

Alaska Travel Tips  
[www.alaska-travel-cruises.com](http://www.alaska-travel-cruises.com)

Alaska Visitors Guide  
[www.adn.com/visitors](http://www.adn.com/visitors)

AK Wilderness Recreation & Tourism  
Association  
[www.awrta.org](http://www.awrta.org)

Anchorage Convention and Visitor's  
Bureau  
[www.anchorage.net/splash.cfm](http://www.anchorage.net/splash.cfm)

Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game  
[www.state.ak.us/adfg/adfghome.htm](http://www.state.ak.us/adfg/adfghome.htm)

Museums Alaska  
[www.museumsalaska.org](http://www.museumsalaska.org)

State of Alaska  
[www.state.ak.us](http://www.state.ak.us)