

SAR JOURNEY TO ALASKA POST TRIP TO DENALI NATIONAL PARK

Sunday, May 22, 2016 - Arrive Seward, Alaska



Holland America's Noordam will clear customs in Seward early morning. After a wonderful breakfast on board you will disembark the Noordam and will meet your SAR Travel Staff holding SAR signs in the Ship Terminal.

Returning Home – SAR participants returning to home cities will be met in the ship terminal by our SAR Escorts and directed to transportation from the terminal to the Anchorage Air Terminal where you will board your flights back to your home cities. Please remember when booking your air flights, it is a two-hour drive from Seward to the Anchorage Airport so you should plan on arriving at the Anchorage Airport around 11:30 AM-12:00 PM. Therefore, your flight time should not be before 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM as you must check in for your flight at least an hour and a half prior to flight time.

Denali Extension - For those SAR participants who are extending to Denali, you will also be met inside the cruise terminal and directed to your waiting transportation for your exciting adventure. Once we have transportation loaded and bags stowed we will begin our exciting and beautiful trip to Denali. Non-stop travel time to Denali is approximately 6 hours, but we are see the sights on our way!

8:00 AM – having loaded our coach we will begin our trip with a panoramic tour of Seward. Seward is located at the base of Mount Marathon along the scenic shoreline of Resurrection Bay. Since the beginning of the 20th century, Seward has been a gateway to the interior of Alaska because of its location and its ice-free harbor. Seward generally enjoys a temperate maritime climate with summer temperatures which can reach a daytime high of mid 70s. With only 2,700 residents, Seward is small town even by Alaskan



standards. Seward's economy is commercial fishing and commerce and tourism. Tourism is a big part of the economy as locals from Anchorage come to Seward to enjoy the recreational opportunities and there are more than one hundred thousand cruise ship passengers that pass through yearly.

Departing Seward, we will drive along scenic Highway 1. Alaska's Highway 1 is a world-renown scenic drive that winds through the stretch of wilderness between Anchorage and Seward. A string of massive glaciers visible from the road

enriches the journey. On our way from Seward we will see the Chugach National Forest, the Placer River Valley and Moose Pass before we arrive pass the hustle and bustle of Anchorage.



Continuing North, we head to Talkeetna arriving approximately 12:45 PM. With a population of 878 the tiny, funky hamlet of Talkeetna is said to have been the inspiration for the TV show “Northern Exposure”. So it’s no surprise Talkeetna is a can’t miss spot when visiting Alaska. Its artistic, outdoorsy and creative residents cling proudly to the character of their community and celebrate the influence of North America’s tallest peak, in whose shadow the community rests – Denali. A turn-of-the-20th-century gold-mining center, Talkeetna has retained much of its early Alaska flavor. Log cabins, a roadhouse and clapboard storefronts line the dirt streets. Main Street, the only paved road in town, greets visitors with a hand-painted sign reading “Welcome to Beautiful Downtown Talkeetna.”



Arriving at this unique community we will head for the Talkeetna Roadhouse for a great lunch. The Talkeetna Roadhouse first served as a source of supplies for miners and trappers during the gold rush days when even less of the last frontier was developed. Now the Roadhouse serves as a warm gathering place for locals and visitors from around the world, known for its generous servings and amazing Alaskan hospitality. The Roadhouse, built around 1917, is one of the oldest establishments still in operation on Main Street. It is now famous their great food which includes home baked breads, and genuine frontier hospitality. The historic end-of-the-road town of Talkeetna is known today throughout the world as the base for international climbers making their way to climb Denali (Mt. McKinley), North America’s tallest peak.



After lunch and a fun stop in Talkeetna we will depart for Denali. The drive of 2 ½ hours will go by quickly as you pass through one of the most beautiful spots in the world. We will arrive at the Denali Cabins around 4 PM a perfect time to

check in as all rooms should be ready for immediate check in. The Denali Cabins are located just outside of the Denali National Park



Arriving Denali around 4:00 PM after checking into your cabin there is still time to hop on the 5:00 PM free shuttle from the cabins to the park. The last shuttle returning from the park is 9:00 PM. So you will still have time to enjoy a few hours at the park. Remember the sun does not set until 11 PM so you still have a lot of time to enjoy this beautiful area.

Denali Cabins are tucked away from the congestion of the park entrance; the forty-six cedar cabins are peaceful abodes quietly located amid the distinct Alaskan wilderness; Guests can enjoy modern conveniences including wireless internet while still being only 8 miles from the entrance to the park.

Complementary shuttle service is provided to Denali National Park as well as Denali Canyon. All tours and activities can be arranged directly from the desk at the Denali cabins. MAGIC will be able to book activities in advance for you but if you do not book in advance, all arrangements can be made onsite. A few of the many options include Glacier Tours, Bear Viewing Tours, Flightseeing Tours, Northern Lights viewing, dog sledding, fishing, rafting, hiking and so much more. You can research some of the activities online so you know which adventure is right for you.

You will want to have a wonderful dinner at Prey Bar at your leisure and a nightcap at the lounge is always a good option.

Monday, May 23, 2016

Enjoy breakfast at leisure at the Prey Bar and Eatery before starting out for the day. You will be given breakfast vouchers so you can enjoy breakfast at anytime you would like.

Pick your time and choice of things to do in the park. The complimentary shuttle departs from the cabins every hour beginning at 9:00 AM. If you take the first shuttle at 9 AM you will arrive Denali's Visitors Center at 9:20 AM.

Nature Walk to Savage River



Savage River, just 15 miles down the Park Road, is a great destination for a day trip. We have the option to take our private mini coach or hop a free courtesy shuttle bus that takes the two hour round-trip.

We stop at Mile 9 to see if a view of Mt. McKinley, the mountain that defines the Park. We next continue down the road to the Savage River. Here we enjoy a short hike to beautiful rock formations and potential sighting of moose and other animals, such as caribou, walking along the river

Visit the Park's Sled Dog Kennels. The sled dogs of Denali have been important to the park for so long that they have become a part of the resource, and a cultural tradition worthy of protection. The dogs, and the kennels where they live, represent important pieces of the American story. They have cultural significance, representing both the Native Alaskan and the pioneer experience in the far north; and have a role in the history of Alaska's first national park.



These are the only sled dogs in the United States that help protect a national park and the wildlife and the wilderness of the park. You will get a glimpse at this unique and local tradition as one of the park rangers demonstrates the important role of these dogs. You will have the choice of walking the 1.5 miles to the kennels or take the Park's free shuttle.



Returning to the Denali Cabins you will enjoy a lovely casual and informal cocktail hour followed by a casual dinner. A great time to discuss with all your SAR friends the fabulous activities you enjoyed today.

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

Enjoy a lovely breakfast at the Cabins at your leisure with your SAR Breakfast Coupons.

You will have a few more wonderful hours before it is time to check out of your cabin, have your luggage ready for pick up and depart for the train station. You will meet your SAR guides in the lobby as you check out of the Denali Cabins.

- 11:00 AM Check-out time at Denali cabins. We will depart on the Denali Cabins complimentary shuttle for the train station
- 11:20 AM Arrive at Denali Train Station and check-in for boarding our train to Anchorage
- 12:30 PM Train departs Denali for Anchorage
Arrive Anchorage: 8:00 PM
Duration: 7 hours, 30 minutes
Distance: 233 miles Route: [Denali Star](#)
While onboard our scenic ride to Anchorage we enjoy a hot lunch paired with amazing views of endless scenery
- 8:00 PM Arrive at Anchorage Train Station, collect luggage and depart with private mini coach to the Anchorage Marriott Downtown Hotel.

The Anchorage Marriott downtown hotel offers 393 deluxe guest rooms and suites.



It is conveniently located right downtown, within walking distance to all amenities and attractions. The hotel has an onsite fitness center, indoor pool and whirlpool. All rooms offer oversized picture windows with striking surrounding views and is the proud home to Café Promenade, featuring modern

American cuisine.

- 8:20 PM Arrive at Anchorage Marriott hotel in downtown Anchorage and check in. After check in the balance of the day is on own to enjoy strolling around Anchorage and having dinner on your own.

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| Per Person Price (based on two persons sharing double accommodations) | \$1,280.00 |
| Single Supplement (one person in room) | \$ 400.00 |
| Children's Price | \$ 675.00 |

Denali Adventure Extension Inclusions

Meet and Greet at Holland America's Cruise terminal in Seward by uniformed escort

Orientation tour of Seward

Private transportation from Seward to Denali

1-day private motor coach and driver

Private guide/escort on motor coach – three days

Lunch and stop in Talkeetna – Lunch at historic Roadhouse

Two nights lodging at the Denali Cabins including tax and service fees for peak season

Breakfast two days at Denali Cabins

Night 2 Cocktails and Dinner at Denali Cabins

Shuttle to Train Station

Train Ticket from Denali to Anchorage

Lunch on Train

Transfer from Anchorage Train Station with luggage to Anchorage Marriott

1 night accommodations at Anchorage Marriott Downtown including fees and taxes

1 breakfast at Anchorage Marriott

Transfer from Marriott to airport