ALASKA RAIL VACATIONS

powered by DISCOVER HOLIDAYS

Alaska Highlights Self Drive Tour

Alaska Self-Drive Road Trip

10 Days / 9 Nights Anchorage to Anchorage

Priced at USD $1,975 per person

Prices are per person and include all taxes.

Child age 10 yrs & under

INTRODUCTION

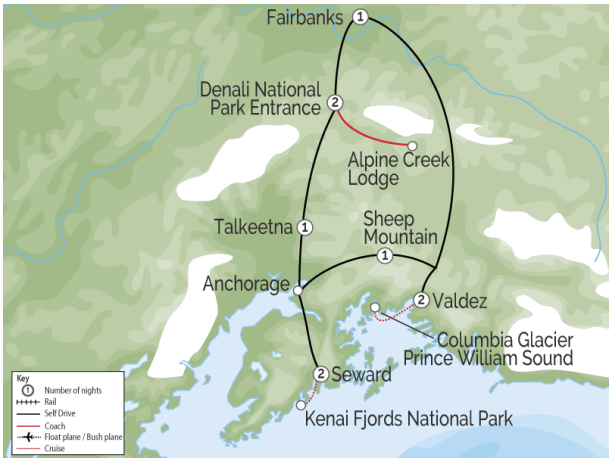
Visit some of Alaska's most popular places on this 10 day road trip departing from Anchorage. Packed with true and authentic Alaskan experiences, this self drive will take you off the beaten path and into adventures you can only imagine. Highlights include Talkeetna, Denali National Park, Fairbanks, Prince William Sound, Valdez and Kenai Fjords National Park.

Itinerary at a Glance

DAY 1	Anchorage to Seward
DAY 2	Seward | Freedom of Choice – Choose 1 of 5 Excursions
	Option 1. Tonsina Point Resurrection Bay Kayaking Adventure
	Option 2. Bear Lake Kayak | Canoe Trip
	Option 3. Wilderness Dog Sled ride Tour
	Option 4. Exit Glacier Hike
	Option 5. Resurrection Bay Wildlife Cruise
DAY 3	Seward to Talkeetna
DAY 4	Talkeetna to Denali National Park
DAY 5	Denali | Freedom of Choice – Choose 1 of 3 Excursions
	Option 1. Denali Backcountry Adventure Tour | Full Day Coach Tour
	Option 2. Denali Highway Jeep Excursion | Self-Drive Guided 4x4 Excursion
	Option 3. Tundra Wilderness Tour | Coach Tour

DAY 6	Denali National Park to Fairbanks	Sternwheeler Riverboat Cruise
DAY 7	Fairbanks to Valdez
DAY 8	Valdez	Prince William Sound Columbia Glacier Cruise with lunch
DAY 9	Valdez to Sheep Mountain Lodge
DAY 10	Sheep Mountain Lodge to Anchorage

MAP



DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 Anchorage to Seward | 204 km/127 mi

This morning travel along the Seward Highway towards scenic Turnagain Arm, a body of water featuring the world's second highest tides at over 30 feet. Keep an eye out for Beluga whales chasing salmon in the bay or Dall sheep along the highway. A great stop for lunch is Alyeska Resort in Girdwood where you can take the tram up Mt. Alyeska (optional). Other stops we recommend include Portage Glacier and its visitor centre, the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center which provides care and rehabilitation for injured and orphaned wildlife. Here you can safely get close, observe, and photograph some of Alaska's largest land animals including moose, bison, elk, deer, caribou, bears, muskox and in Seward Exit Glacier and the SeaLife Centre.

Day 2 Seward | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions

Today you can personalize your day by choosing one of these excursions

Option 1. Tonsina Point Resurrection Bay Kayaking Adventure

Resurrection Bay is surrounded by snow-capped mountains and home to several Alaska state parks that offer abundant opportunities to hike, sea kayak and explore!

Option 2. Bear Lake Kayak | Canoe Trip

Kayak or canoe on this scenic local lake with fun-loving guides. Bear Lake is located just outside Seward, Alaska and normally offers flat calm waters, and a home for Sockeye salmon. On the way there is a stop to visit the salmon weir and learn about their life cycle. Eagles, loons, and bears are often seen while on this adventure

Option 3. Wilderness Dog Sled ride Tour

Visit the Seavey Family Homestead in Seward, and tour the beautiful tether free summer camp for Iditarod athletes! Meet the dogs, feel their excitement as teams are hitched to comfortable summer sleds, then mush for two miles through the scenic rainforest.

Option 4. Exit Glacier Hike

This moderate hiking adventure is great for viewing the jewel of the Resurrection River Valley - Exit Glacier. This massive wall of blue ice descends the mountainside from the Harding Ice Field, down to the Resurrection River.

Option 5. Resurrection Bay Wildlife Cruise

Treat yourself to an abundance of wildlife viewing with this 31/2 hour Kenai Fjords cruise in Resurrection Bay. Travel 55 miles (round-trip) along a rugged coastline and snap plenty of memorable photos as you sail past Bear Glacier. Sail close to sea lion colonies and seabird rookeries, and keep your eyes peeled for whales, sea otters, Dall's porpoises, eagles and mountain goats.

Day 3 Seward to Talkeetna | 386 km/240 mi

Head back towards Anchorage today taking in the sights of the Seward Highway as you go. Pass through Anchorage and drive the Glenn Highway north to Wasilla and onto Talkeetna. Stops can include a visit to the Alaska Native Heritage Centre in Anchorage and the Museum of Alaska Transportation and Industry in Wasilla. Talkeetna serves as a base camp for Denali climbers; the community of under 1000 residents is located at the confluence of the Talkeetna and Susitna Rivers. A turn-of-the-20th-century gold-mining centre, the town has retained much of its early Alaskan flavour.

Day 4 Talkeetna to Denali National Park Entrance | 257 km/153 mi

This morning, embark on a Wilderness Adventure Jet Boat tour. Stand in the splendor of Denali and the great Alaska Range from a spectacular vantage point on the Susitna River! The folklore, artifacts and a panoramic view of Denali in the Alaska Range combine to make this an unforgettable and unique Alaskan river adventure. After your jet boat tour, drive the Parks Highway north to Denali National Park, passing by incredible forest and mountain landscapes. You'll have as much time as you like to experience the majesty of Denali National Park, take in the sights of the George Parks Highway or arrive at your hotel near the park entrance to take advantage of an optional excursion or a visit to the Denali Visitor Centre.

Day 5 Denali | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 3 Excursions

Option 1. Denali Backcountry Adventure Tour | Full Day Coach Tour

Ranked #2 in Drives of a Lifetime by National Geographic Traveler magazine, experience over 65 miles of wilderness and wildlife along the rugged Denali Highway. Flanked by snow-capped mountains, icy glaciers and panoramic vistas, local guides will ensure you have opportunities to view the region's best landmarks while introducing you to a host of authentic Alaska activities. See Denali and the other giants of the Alaska Range (weather permitting) and enjoy a delicious lunch at Alpine Creek Lodge. (Lunch and snacks included)

Option 2. Denali Highway Jeep Excursion | Self-Drive Guided 4x4 Excursion

Ranked #2 in Drives of a Lifetime by National Geographic Traveler magazine, experience the natural wonders of Alaska's Denali Highway — this time by Jeep! This 4-hour guided excursion travels along a 135 mi (217 km) gravel road and takes you off the beaten path with your guide in a 4 x 4 to enjoy scenic views of Denali, the Alaska Range, glaciers and wildlife. (Snacks included)

Option 3. Tundra Wilderness Tour | Coach Tour

This shorter half day tour offers incredible scenery, a narrated history of the park road and opportunities to view the park's wildlife inhabitants. Picturesque highlights include the craggy cliffside of Cathedral Mountain, wildlife rich Sable Pass and braided wash of the East Fork River. Your turnaround point is the Murie Cabin, a rustic shelter with a history befitting the wild and remarkable Denali National Park. (It is recommended to take snacks on this excursion).

Day 6 Denali National Park to Fairbanks | 198 km/123 mi | Sternwheeler Riverboat Cruise

Continue on the George Parks Highway north to Fairbanks. Accompanied by incredible forest and mountain landscapes, you drive through the communities of Healy, Nenana and Ester - an old mining camp. In the afternoon, climb aboard the Riverboat Discovery III for an unforgettable 3-hour cruise into the Alaskan Interior, traveling the Chena and Tanana Rivers on the only authentic sternwheeler riverboat operating in Alaska. This narrated tour provides background on the area's natural history and the Athabascan Indian culture.

Day 7 Fairbanks to Valdez | 584 km/363 mi

Settle in for a day of driving through some of Alaska's most diverse and dynamic landscapes. You'll drive the Richardson Highway along the Tanana River through Delta Junction, home to the Delta Bison Sanctuary. Continue south where you will begin to enter the Chugach Mountains that ring the coast of Alaska from Prince William Sound. At Thompson Pass you may wish to stop at one of the pullouts for the scenery and views of Worthington Glacier before you begin the descent into Valdez.

Day 8 Valdez | Prince William Sound Columbia Glacier Cruise with lunch
Discover the magic of Alaska on this 7-hour Columbia Glacier cruise from Valdez. A local captain and crew will guide you through the Trans Alaska Pipeline Terminal and Columbia Bay before arriving at Columbia Glacier, the largest tidewater glacier in South Central Alaska. Look out for wildlife along the way; if you're lucky you could spot porpoises, puffins, sea lions and sea otters among other creatures. (Lunch included)

Day 9 Valdez to Sheep Mountain Lodge | 309 km/192 mi
Today you will drive north on the Richardson Highway with great views of the Wrangell Mountains as you head towards to Glennallen (weather permitting). Here you follow the Glenn Highway towards Palmer / Anchorage until you reach Sheep Mountain Lodge. The rest of the day is at leisure to enjoy the scenic mountain views or recreational activities in the area. There are over 20 km/12 mi of trails near the lodge that are perfect for exploring. Birds and wildflowers abound. Maps are provided in each cabin for self-guided hiking.

Day 10 Sheep Mountain Lodge to Anchorage | 172 km/107 mi
Drive the Glenn Highway south to Anchorage. Highlights on this part of today's trip include the Independence Mine in beautiful Hatcher Pass and the many communities in the Mat-Su Valley. This valley contains many farms and offers beautiful views of the Chugach Range. Upon arrival in Anchorage your incredible Alaska self-drive adventure comes to an end.

INCLUDED

Package Includes:

- Accommodation including taxes for 9 nights
- Seward | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 5 Excursions
  - Tonsina Point Resurrection Bay Kayaking Adventure
  - Bear Lake Kayak | Canoe Trip
  - Wilderness Dog Sled ride Tour
  - Exit Glacier Hike
  - Resurrection Bay Wildlife Cruise
- Admission to Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center
- Alyeska Scenic Tram Ride
- Talkeetna Wilderness Adventure Jet Boat Tour
- Denali | Freedom of Choice - Choose 1 of 3 Excursions
  - Denali Backcountry Full Day Adventure Tour
  - Denali Highway Jeep Excursion | Reduced Price
  - Tundra Wilderness Tour | Reduced Price
- Riverboat Discovery Cruise
- Prince William Sound Columbia Glacier Cruise with lunch

- Meals as per Itinerary

Hotel Information | Moderate Grade

- Seward - Seward Windsong Lodge | Standard Room
- Talkeetna - Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge | Guest Lodge Room
- Denali Park Entrance - Denali Cabins | Standard Cabin
- Fairbanks - Rivers Edge Resort | Garden Cottage
- Valdez - Best Western Valdez Harbor Inn | Standard Room
- Sheep Mountain - Sheep Mountain Lodge | Premier Cabin

Hotel Information | Superior Grade

- Seward - Seward Windsong Lodge | Standard Room with Deck
- Talkeetna - Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge | Mountainside Lodge Room
- Denali Park Entrance - Grande Denali Lodge | Standard Room
- Fairbanks - Rivers Edge Resort | River Cottage
- Valdez - Best Western Valdez Harbor Inn | Standard Room
- Sheep Mountain - Sheep Mountain Lodge | Premier Cabin

Not included:

- Gratuities
- Activities other than specified
- Portage fees
- Rental car
- Road and tunnel tolls

DATES & PRICING

Departs from Anchorage: Daily

(Tour Code: SDA05)

DATE	TWIN	SINGLE	TRIPLE	CHILD
Moderate Grade				
17 May - 31 May, 2021	$1,975	$3,200	$1,638	$425
01 Jun - 03 Sep, 2021	$2,594	$3,988	$2,201	$1,011
04 Sep - 06 Sep, 2021	$2,479	$3,759	$2,124	$1,011
Superior Grade				
17 May - 31 May, 2021	$2,273	$3,795	$1,851	$378
01 Jun - 03 Sep, 2021	$2,892	$4,585	$2,414	$964
04 Sep - 06 Sep, 2021	$2,722	$4,245	$2,301	$964

Pricing in USD$. Prices are per person and include all taxes. Child age 10 yrs & under