



# Wonders of Alaska

March 5 - 12, 2020



*Experience the excitement and energy of the Ceremonial Start of the famous Iditarod. Bask in the warmth of natural hot springs as you marvel at the vibrant colors of the Northern Lights. Take a thrilling dogsled ride through an Alaskan winter wonderland. All this and much more are included on this fabulous, once-in-a-lifetime, authentic Alaskan adventure. Don't miss out on the fun!*

## Thursday, March 5

Fly to **Anchorage** and check into the perfectly located **Anchorage Hilton** for three nights. You'll be just a heartbeat away from the excitement of the **Fur Rendezvous Festival**, museums and shops.

## Friday, March 6 (Dinner)

Step outside into a wonderland to discover the magic of Anchorage in winter! This morning, see artistic masterpieces carved from huge blocks of compressed snow at the **GCI Snow Sculpture Competition**. At the **Ulu Factory** we'll learn how Native Alaskans have used ulu knives for thousands of years. Visit the **Train Depot** filled with displays and a working miniature train. Tasty lunch options abound including food carts offering local cuisine such as reindeer sausage. This afternoon you may take an incredible, *optional*, 90-minute flightseeing excursion or stay in town to visit museums, shop, and explore the **Fur Rondy Native Arts Market**. Dinner will be at the **49th State Brewing Company**, known for its specialty Alaskan foods, followed by the **Fur Rondy Melodrama**. Throw popcorn, clap, cheer, hiss and boo at the zany cast as they sing and dance their way directly into your funny bone.

## Saturday, March 7 (Breakfast, Dinner)

Prepare for an exciting day at the **Fur Rendezvous Festival!** Known locally as **Fur Rondy**, this premier festival celebrates winter and the pioneering spirit of Alaskans. Cultural exhibitions, sporting activities, and many special events offer wonderful, wacky, winter fun! Experience the incredible excitement of the **Iditarod Ceremonial Start**. Visit with mushers, pet the dogs, and then cheer for your favorites as the race begins! Watch the exciting **Fur Auction**, held in honor of the historic economic importance of the Alaska fur trade. Learn about Alaska's 11 major cultural groups through storytelling, song, dance, and artist demonstrations at the **Alaska Native Heritage Center**. Don't miss the hilarious **Run with the Reindeer Race**, where the locals make a mad dash through town with caribou at their heels. Indulge in a typical Alaskan feast tonight at the **Glacier Brewhouse**.

## Sunday, March 8 (Dinner)

Today we travel to **Talkeetna**, an authentic Alaskan town used as the model for the TV show *Northern Exposure*. Have lunch at one of the local eateries and look for authentic souvenirs in the unique shops, including Nagley's General Store, where miner and trapper history lines the walls. We'll check into the **Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge** where it's all about the view! The lodge is built atop a high bluff and overlooks the entire Alaska Range, with **Mt. Denali** right in the middle. We'll gather in the hotel's restaurant for dinner tonight. The hotel provides northern lights wake up calls, so when the **Aurora Borealis** comes into view, the hotel will call you. This is a great opportunity to see the dramatic northern lights with Denali as the backdrop.

## Monday, March 9 (Breakfast, Dinner)

Today our flight to **Fairbanks** takes us over **Denali National Park** affording us amazing views! After checking into the **Springhill Suites**, you are free to visit the shops and galleries filled with Alaska Native art and jewelry. Visit the Yukon Quest Cabin that



highlights the Yukon Quest, a 1,000-mile International Sled Dog Race that starts in Fairbanks. We'll enjoy a delicious dinner at **Lavelle's Bistro**. This evening we will head to the **World Ice Art Championship** to view hundreds of amazing ice sculptures created by more than 100 sculptors from 30 different countries! With our Alaskan sense of adventure in high gear, we're off to "hunt the Aurora". Without light pollution from the city, we'll have an excellent chance to see the **northern lights** while waiting inside our warming hut.

**Tuesday, March 10 (Breakfast, Dinner)**

We set out this morning to discover more of Fairbanks. We'll make a photo stop at the **Alaska pipeline** before checking into the **Chena Hot Springs Resort**, world-renowned for being one of the best places on Earth to see the Aurora Borealis due to its location under the most active band of northern lights. We'll visit the **Aurora Ice Museum**, the world's largest year-round ice environment, filled with amazing ice sculptures. It was created from over 1,000 tons of ice and snow and is kept at a cool 25° F. Before dinner at the resort, you'll have time to experience the **Chena Natural Hot Springs Pool**. The thermal waters, rising steam, and glorious winter sky create a unique and memorable experience! Choose to watch the northern lights as you soak in the hot springs or stay warm inside the resort's activity center until the **Aurora Borealis** is in view.

**Wednesday, March 11 (Breakfast, Box Lunch, Dinner)**

*Authentic Alaska experience, here we come!* Just imagine gliding silently along a stunning wooded trail on a **sled powered by a team of dogs**. Our experienced guides and teams of eager Alaskan huskies will make this a memory of a lifetime. Enjoy a box lunch as we fly back to Anchorage. Tonight's dinner will be at **Simon & Seafort's** before we head back to the Anchorage airport for our overnight flight home.

**Thursday, March 12**

Arrive home today filled with wonderful memories of our fabulous Alaskan adventure!

**Tour Costs per person from Springfield:**     **\$4,179 Double**                     **\$4,705 Single**                     **\$4,055 Triple**

*Non-members please add \$350.*



**Tour Includes:**

- + Round-trip and intra-Alaska airfare
- + Deluxe motor coach transportation
- + Six nights hotel accommodations
- + Baggage handling at all hotels
- + Four breakfasts, one box lunch, and six dinners
- + All attractions and admissions as listed in the itinerary
- + All tour related taxes and gratuities
- + Services of two representatives from **The Bank of Missouri**
- + Services of a **Cruises and Tours Worldwide** tour manager

**Airport Transfer:** Round trip Springfield airport transfers will be offered at an additional cost to be determined by the actual number of tour participants.

**Travel Protection:** Cruises and Tours Worldwide has purchased a Group Protection Plan on behalf of all travelers, which is provided by Travel Insured International. A copy of the Plan Document will be provided to all participants.

**Not Included:** Checked baggage fees; optional flightseeing excursion (\$279 per person)

**Travel Documents:** Starting in 2019, new guidelines for acceptable travel identification may be imposed. It is each traveler's responsibility to make sure that his/her state-issued photo I.D. is compliant with the REAL ID requirements. See the TSA's website - [www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification](http://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification) - for a list of acceptable forms of identification. The Bank of Missouri and Cruises and Tours Worldwide cannot be held responsible for travelers who are not permitted to fly due to non-compliance.

**Deposit:** **\$300 per person** to secure your reservation

**Balance Due:** **November 19, 2019**

**Reservations:** Please complete a reservation form and submit it with your **\$300 per person deposit** to:

**Cindy K. Harris, Springfield, MO (417) 889-4600** email: [charris@bankofmissouri.com](mailto:charris@bankofmissouri.com)

**Jane Myers, Perryville, MO (573) 547-6541** email: [jmyers@bankofmissouri.com](mailto:jmyers@bankofmissouri.com)

**Cancellation Policy:**

All payments are fully refundable for cancellations received by **November 19, 2019**. Cruises and Tours Worldwide has purchased a Group Protection Plan on behalf of all passengers which is provided by Travel Insured Intl. A Travel Protection claim must be filed with Travel Insured Intl. for cancellations received after **November 19, 2019**. Passengers must be prepared to submit any supporting documentation if cancelling the trip for a covered reason.

\*This document contains highlights of the plan. The plan contains insurance benefits underwritten by the United States Fire Insurance Company. C&F and Crum & Forster are registered trademarks of United States Fire Insurance Company. The Crum & Forster group of companies is rated A (Excellent) by AM Best Company 2015. The plan also contains non-insurance Travel Assistance Services that are provided by an independent organization, and not by United States Fire Insurance Company or Travel Insured International. Coverages may vary and not all coverage is available in all jurisdictions.

**Travel arrangements by Cruises and Tours Worldwide, St. Louis, MO** - Cruises and Tours Worldwide acts only as an intermediary and agent in handling travel arrangements that are actually provided by other suppliers. This agency, therefore, shall not be responsible for breach of contract or any careless actions or omissions on the part of such suppliers, which result in any loss, damage, delay or injury to tour participants. Cruises and Tours Worldwide may not be held responsible for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism or acts of God. Cruises and Tours Worldwide retains the right to substitute accommodations or services of comparable quality if the advertised services become unavailable. Cruises and Tours Worldwide reserves the right to cancel this tour if the minimum number of tour participants is not met. The published price of this tour is based on rates available at the time of booking. Cruises and Tours Worldwide reserves the right to increase the cost of the tour, at any time, in the unlikely event that our tour suppliers impose price increases such as, but not limited to, fuel surcharges. Proof of such rate adjustments from our suppliers will be provided.