

## Alaska Iditarod Tours' 14 Day Iditarod Trail and Finish Tour Itinerary

Day One Monday: Clients will fly to the community of McGrath on the Kuskokwim River. You will have

opportunity to explore the town of McGrath, the old townsite of McGrath and meet a lot of interesting and friendly people. Clients can book optional activities such as dogmushing. Lodging; Hotel McGrath. (D) **Day Two Tuesday:** Today you will fly to the Athabaskan community of Nikolai and watch as the lead mushers come in from their gruelling travels through the Alaska Range and the Farewell Burn. Nikolai is a great place to watch the musher's care for their dogs and experience a little bit of life in a remote Native village. In the late afternoon we will return to McGrath and spend the evening watching the lead mushers come into the McGrath checkpoint. Lodging; McGrath (B,L,D)

**Day Three Wednesday:** The Takotna checkpoint has earned a reputation as the friendliest checkpoint on the trail and the spot where many of the lead mushers take their 24 hour layover. Today we take a short flight there and spend the day watching the mushers and their teams. We will spend the evening watching the lead mushers come into the McGrath checkpoint. Lodging; McGrath. (B,L,D)

**Day Four Thursday:** Today is a free day in McGrath with teams entering and leaving McGrath. We will work to schedule slots for clients who are interested in being a volunteer checker. Lodging; McGrath (B,L,D)

**Day Five Friday:** Today we leave McGrath and return to Anchorage where we will take a break before heading out to the finish in Nome. Lodging; Anchorage. (B,)

Day Six Saturday: Clients arrive into Nome on their own. Lodging; Nome

Day Seven Sunday: . Snowcat tour to Dredge #5 and to look for muskox. Lodging; Nome (B,L,D)

**Day Eight Monday :** Fly from Nome to Unalakleet, the first village the mushers will stop at on Norton Sound. Lodging; Nome (B,L,D)

**Day Nine Tuesday:** The Nome party clicks into high gear today as the leaders approach the finish line. We will cheer on our favorite mushers as they cross under the famous burl arch on Front Street. Lodging; Nome (B,L,D)

**Day Ten Wednesday**: Fly to White Mountain or other Norton Sound checkpoint. Lodging; Nome (B,L,D) **Day Eleven Thursday**: Today we will take a scenic helicopter tour to the Safety checkpoint. This one hour ride along the coast gives us more opportunities to view the mushers heading to Nome along the Iditarod trail. Lodging; Nome (B,L,D)

Day Twelve Friday: Clients will take the Nome Discovery Tour with Nome's Goodwill Ambassador Richard

Benneville. Lodging; Nome (B,L,D)

**Day Thirteen Saturday:** Clients will continue watching dog teams arrive and can participate in optional activities such as the Bering Sea Ice Golf Tournament.

Day Fourteen Sunday: Today we watch the last of the mushers arrive and attend the Mushers Awards Banquet.

Day Fifteen: Clients depart for home.

**Includes**: Accommodations in McGrath, Nome and Anchorage, continental breakfast and group meals as indicated, air transportation between Anchorage and McGrath, charter flights to the Nikolai, Takotna, White Mountain and Unalakleet checkpoints, helicopter ride to Safety checkpoint.

**Not Included-** Airfare from your home to Nome . You will book your flight rt from your home to Nome with a stopover in Anchorage from the day you arrive in Anchorage until continuing on to Nome on Saturday. Alcoholic beverages, tips for tour guides and sled dog guides as is customary in the tourist industry are not included.