10 Day Nome Finish Tour

Day One, Saturday: Clients arrive into historic Nome, Alaska. Famous for the Nome Gold Rush of 1898 that saw the population balloon to over 10,000, this rugged town of 3,500 on the coast of Norton Sound is still a magnet for the adventurous and those with gold fever. Even during the winter, evidence of active gold mining can be seen out on the frozen sea where underwater exploration takes place under the sea ice

Day Two, Sunday: We start our day by exploring a bit of Nome's history with a trip to Dredge #5 , one of the largest dredges ever operated in Alaska. These large dredges have been replaced by smaller placer operations that are able to harvest more of the finer gold flakes, but they are an important part of Alaska's history After visiting the dredge we will travel by snow coach to the surrounding hills and look for muskoxen. The Seward Peninsula is home to 3,000 of these massive animals from the ice age and this tour provides a wonderful opportunity to photograph these true inhabitants of the Arctic.

Day Three, Monday: Today we fly from Nome to Unalakleet, the first village the mushers will stop at on Norton Sound.

Day Four, Tuesday: Today is the day that the Nome party usually clicks into high gear as the leaders approach the finish line. We will cheer on our favorite mushers as they cross under the famous burled arch on Front Street

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Day Five, Wednesday White Mountain is one of the most picturesque villages along the Iditarod trail. With less than 100 families living here, it is a quiet, friendly checkpoint where mushers take a mandatory 8 hour layover before making the final push to Nome. It is a great place to watch the mushers care for their teams then head to Nome.

Day Six, Thursday Today we will take a scenic helicopter ride to the Safety Roadhouse checkpoint. This 90 minute ride along the coast gives us more opportunities to view the mushers heading to Nome along the Iditarod trail and at the roadhouse. Clients will take a

dog sled ride and learn how to steer the dog sled.

Day Seven, Friday . We will get a feel for the history of Nome on a guided tour with Richard Beneville, Nome's goodwill ambassador. Richard is a fountain of information about Nome and its colorful past. We will also attend a Native Youth Olympics demonstration and continue cheering arriving dog teams as they cross the finish line.

Day Eight, Saturday . Saturday is a free day to schedule any activities we might have missed due to schedule changes. Clients can also schedule optional; activities such as participating in the Bering Ice Golf Classic, definitely the most unusual and challenging course you will ever play. Mushers will still be arriving into Nome.

Day Nine, Sunday , We will attend the Iditarod Finishers' and Awards Banquet,. The banquet recognizes mushers for their accomplishments during the race. This is a great opportunity to get a more personal understanding of the mushers and their experiences along the trail.

Day Ten, **Monday** Clients return to Anchorage on their own flights