

Alaska Iditarod Tours

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11-Day Race Start with Northern Lights Tour

Dates: Feb. 26 – March 8, 2025

Cost: \$6,000 pp double occupancy, single supplement \$1250

Wednesday Arrival – Downtown hotels do not have shuttle service; you will need to take a taxi or Uber from the airport to the Hilton on your own. When checking-in at the Hilton, your room reservations will be under your name.

Hilton Anchorage – 500 W. Third St. Anchorage AK 99502

Thursday - Group will meet at 10:00 am in the hotel lobby for introductions, itinerary review and Liability Waiver signatures before walking to the Anchorage Museum of History and Art with three floors of its art, history, and culture. Insight to Alaska's history and land ownership will be provided by your tour guide.

Our visit to the museum is followed by free time for lunch before meeting in the hotel lobby at 4:00 pm and a 10 minute walk the Dena'ina Convention Center for the Iditarod Meet and Greet, followed by the Musher Banquet at 6:00 pm. Admission tickets will be provided by AIT at the door. The banquet will be serving steak. If you require a vegetarian or gluten free serving, you must request it at the time of your booking. (Dinner)

Friday - Meet in the hotel lobby for an 8:30 am departure and a guided tour of the Anchorage area. This will be followed by a trip to the Alaska Mushing School where you will learn about dog mushing and take a 6-mile dog sled ride. This comfortable facility provides outer jackets, pants and boots if needed. (Lunch)

Saturday – The Iditarod Ceremonial Race Start kicks off at 10:00 am on 4th Ave. with teams leaving the start line every 2 minutes. Dog teams will arrive 2-3 hours before the start and stage along the side streets off 4th Ave. You are free to wander among them and watch the dog mushers prepare for the Ceremonial Race Start.

There will be a break before the running of the reindeer along 4th Ave. at 4:00 pm. Numerous teams and individuals participate in this fun event with the option to walk or run in it. Many participants choose to wear creative costumes. Clients wishing to participate in the Running of the Reindeer can register at this website: <https://www.furrondy.net/events/running-of-the-reindeer/>.

Meet in the lobby at 5:15 pm to walk to the Glacier Brewhouse for the 5:30 pm dinner reservation. Your \$50 gift certificate/voucher will be for food and tip. (Dinner)

Sunday - 10:00 am departure for the Iditarod Museum in Wasilla followed by the race start in Willow at 2:00 pm. En route back to Anchorage after the start we will stop for a group dinner in Wasilla. (Dinner)

Monday - Today we fly over the Iditarod Trail into the heart of the Alaska Range and Rainy Pass Lodge. This gives us an opportunity to view the teams from above and watch the mushers care for their teams at the checkpoint. Departure time to the air strip TBD. We return to Anchorage for the night before heading to Chena Hot Springs.

Now the tour becomes a self-guided tour with all lodging, Fairbanks flight, shuttles and activity tickets pre-booked and paid for by Alaska Iditarod Tours

Tuesday – Transportation provided to the Anchorage Airport for your flight to Fairbanks on Alaska Air. The Chena Hot Springs Shuttle will pick you up in Fairbanks and transport you to the resort. Aurora Viewing Tour is at 9:30 pm. Tickets for the Aurora Tour as well as the Ice Museum Tour are included in your packet.

Wednesday and Thursday– These are open days for all Clients to soak in the hot springs or explore the resort and the surrounding area by hiking, snowshoeing, x-country skiing or snowmobiling. All activities are to be booked through the Activities Desk including the FREE Geothermal Tour at 2 pm or 4 pm daily plus the ticketed Ice Museum tour. (Lunch, Dinner)

Friday - You will be taking the Chena Hot Springs shuttle to your Fairbanks hotel. Transportation will be provided to the World Ice Art Championships at Ice Alaska and view the magnificent ice sculptures: <https://icealaska.com/>. If the Aurora forecast looks good, clients can book an additional night of northern lights outside of Fairbanks.

Saturday- Today we bid farewell as clients have book their departing flights from Fairbanks. We hope you have had an enjoyable trip participating in Alaska's famous history!