



# 7-Day Alaska Aurora Tour *Anchorage, Fairbanks*

Departure Dates: 12/11/2024 - 3/26/2025 Every Wednesday

Additional Departure in 2025: 2/8 - 3/22 (Every Saturday) & 2/24 - 3/24 (Every Monday)

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Includes 3-night aurora viewing: 2 nights at well-selected viewing cabin and 1 night aurora chasing, increasing your chance of viewing the aurora. Take the Alaska Aurora Winter Train (tickets included) through the hinterland, enjoying the stunning views of the stretch, walking side by side with the highest peaks in North America

Walking on the Matanuska Glacier with the professional guide, listen to the ancient call through thousands of years.

Explore tranquil Fairbanks and vibrant Anchorage, presenting beauty of different landscapes all year round.

Opportunities to experience local activities: Enjoy a relaxing hot spring bath at Chena Hot Springs, explore the Arctic Circle to obtain an achievement certificate, have fun on thrilling dog-sledding or snowmobile adventures, etc.

International chain hotels, including breakfast and free wi-fi

Free pick-up service during flight peak hours, offering convenience to first-time visitors.

Departure Dates	AST07 Price List (Per Person in USD)				
		Double	Triple	Quad	Single
(2024) 12/11 - 12/17, (2025) 1/7 - 1/26, 2/4 - 3/26	Tour Price	\$1599	\$1499	\$1459	\$2059
	Hotel Extended Stay	\$95	\$70	\$58	\$190
(2024) 12/18 - 1/6, (2025) 1/27 - 2/3	Tour Price	\$1759	\$1659	\$1619	\$2219
	Hotel Extended Stay	\$120	\$87	\$70	\$240
• Pickup Airport / Time: ANC / 1300-2100 (flight arrival time)		• Drop-off Airport / Time: FAI (Please book hotel shuttle for free 24-hour airport drop-off service)			

**Tour price includes:** 6-night hotel accommodation with datil breakfast, airport pick-up between 1pm-9pm, Alaska Aurora Winter Train ride, transfers between hotel and aurora viewing locations, attractions' admission as specified, local driver guide service.

**Tour price excludes:** Alaska flights, gratuities to driver guide (ranging US\$10-25/person/day, depends on activities and service satisfaction), optional activities, lunches and dinners, visa fee, travel insurance, personal expenses, etc.

## 1 Hometown Anchorage, Alaska (Pickup Airport / Time: ANC / 1300-2100 (flight arrival time))

**Anchorage:** Alaska's largest city and most significant transportation hub, the economic center of the "Last frontier".

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express Anchorage / Comfort Inn Downtown Ship Creek or similar

down jacket, velvet jacket, hat, scarf, anti-ski boots, sunglasses, etc. Free walking equipment, such as helmets and non-slip shoe chains, will be provided.)

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express Anchorage / Comfort Inn Downtown Ship Creek or similar

## 2 Anchorage → Matanuska Glacier → Anchorage (B) Matanuska Glacier:

Alaska's largest accessible glacier. About 10,000 years ago, the Matanuska Glacier began to retreat to its present position, and has not changed significantly in nearly two decades. Due to the geomorphological characteristics of the valley glaciers, the Matanuska Glacier is ideal for many glacier hikers due to its geomorphological characteristics, which make it more prone to sunny weather in winter than in the surrounding area. And this area is one of the most spectacular and breathtaking in Alaska because of the addition of glaciers and sheep mountains. We will enjoy a glacier walking experience (about 2 hours) led by a professional guide. (Please prepare warm

## 3 Anchorage → Alaska Aurora Winter Train Fairbanks (B)

### FIRST night of Aurora Viewing at Cabin

At 10 pm, take the Aurora Shuttle to our carefully selected Aurora-Viewing Lodge, in an excellent location that will increase your chances of observing the Northern Lights. Our professional guides will introduce you to the Northern Lights and instruct you in camera parameter set-up and aurora borealis shooting techniques to help you take stunning aurora photos. Free hot drinks, coffee and a Northern Lights monitoring screen are available in the cabin, where you can warm up after watching the aurora (1st Aurora Viewing). Return to hotel to rest at around 2 am the next morning.

**Aurora Winter Train:** The train rides are very popular in the

area and only travel on weekends, passing through the Alaska Mountains, Mount Denali, which travels at a slow speed that makes you relaxed to enjoy the magnificent views of the nature along the way.

**Fairbanks:** A transportation hub for expeditions deep into Alaska's interior and the Arctic Circle, and the world's best place to see the Northern Lights. With more than 243 days of clear night sky in a year, and because it is only 310 kilometres from the Arctic Circle and is bordered by mountain barriers, it avoids bad weather, so many Northern Lights hunters like gathering in the city to observe the stunning natural phenomenon.

Hotel: Hyatt Place Fairbanks / Bridgewater Hotel or similar

## **4 Fairbanks (B)** **SECOND night of Aurora Viewing at Cabin**

**Santa Claus House:** Located in the town of North Pole, the famous Santa Claus House was built to create a fairy-tale Christmas atmosphere in Santa's hometown, featuring a huge 16-meter-tall Santa statue and 2-meter-tall polar bear and moose statues. Many of the surrounding public facilities are also decorated in a Christmas theme.

**Museum of the North:** In the University of Alaska's Fairbanks campus, the Museum is the best place to discover the mysterious Arctic world and the real life of early locals. With its unique architecture, the museum is one of Fairbanks' landmarks. The museum is divided into different exhibition halls, which not only give a detailed introduction to the local environment and history, but also display some rare arctic animal specimens. ("Blue Babe", mammoth bones, a nearly 3-meter-tall brown bear, etc.) *(If the Museum is closed, we will visit the Morris Thompson Cultural Centre and be refunded the Museum of the North ticket fee of \$15 on site).*

### **Optional Daytime Activity:**

Dog Sledding Adventure (about 2 hours total): Passengers will enjoy a 20-25-min thrilling sled ride, splashing the snow while sledding through the forest. Dog Sledding Adventure (about 2 hours total): Passengers will enjoy a 20-25-min thrilling sled ride, splashing the snow while sledding through the forest. *(From September to early November, in case of insufficient snowfall, the dog sled will be replaced by a 10-min dog-pull ATV experience)*

Hotel: Hyatt Place Fairbanks / Bridgewater Hotel or similar

## **5 Fairbanks (B)** **THIRD night of Aurora Chasing**

Our professional aurora guides will take you to the most powerful aurora viewing area to chasing the aurora according to the weather conditions, the direction of the aurora and their rich experience in light chasing. You will also learn setting up the camera parameter and aurora borealis shooting techniques to help you take the most stunning aurora photos.

### **Optional Daytime Activities:**

**1 ~ Chena Hot Springs Resort Tour** (about 7 hours round trip):

Famous for its century-old hot spring, interesting ice sculpture museum, and an advanced renewable energy project, making it one of the must-see attractions for almost every visitor to Fairbanks! You can relax and enjoy an incredible outdoor natural hot spring bath (please prepare bathing suit). You will also have the opportunity to visit the year-round ice sculpture museum (at own expense), which exhibits the work of world-class ice sculpture champions, including tables, chairs, and so on all made of ice. Those interested can visit the ice bar to sample a sip of Apple Martini in a cocktail glass made of ice (at own expense, must show ID and be at least 21 years old).

**2 ~ Castner Glacier Ice Cave Discovery Tour** (about 8 hours round trip):

A miraculous work of nature! This thousands-year-old ice cave at the east of Alaska Range is the largest valley ice cave in N. America, being covered entirely with ice. You will enjoy a guided hike of about 2 miles before reaching the Ice Cave. *(In case the tour will be cancelled before departure due to adverse weather or unsafe road condition, full refund will be offered. However, in event of hazardous conditions making the hike to the Ice Cave not safe, no refund will be offered.)*

**3 ~ Denali National Park Walking Tour** (about 7-8 hours round trip)

It is one of the oldest protected ecological preserves in the world. You will admire the magnificent views of Alaska Range and colorful forest along the ride from Fairbanks to the south. If weather permits, the guide will take you on a short hike in the Park.

Hotel: Hyatt Place Fairbanks / Bridgewater Hotel or similar

## **6 Fairbanks (B)** **Optional Daytime Activities:**

**1 ~ Overland Adventure Across the Arctic Circle** (drive both ways, round trip about 16 hours)

In morning take an arctic bus along the Dalton Highway, one of Alaska's most remote and challenging roads. The whole road is 414 miles long and is one of the world's "Ten Roads of Death." On the way you can observe the arctic tundra wilderness, with the possibility of seeing wildlife such as caribou, foxes, wolves, bears, or musk ox. You'll also pass over one of North America's five largest rivers, the Yukon River, and see an incredible product of human engineering, the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, which crosses the state from north to south. Finally, you will arrive at the sign indicating you've reached the Arctic Circle (66°33' north) and receive a special "Arctic Circle Exploration Certificate" to remember your trip. Return to Fairbanks between 2 to 3 am.

**2 ~ Fly Over the Arctic Circle Adventure** (Fly northbound, about 1.5 hours, drive back, about 10 hours):

Start by going to the airport to take a small sightseeing plane to the town of Coldfoot in morning. From the plane you'll get majestic bird's-eye views of the snow-covered tundra. Upon arrival, you can send a postcard to your friends and family at the Arctic Post Office, enjoy the Brooks Range Safari in Coldfoot. In the afternoon you'll return to Fairbanks via the famous Dalton Highway on a specially equipped arctic bus. On the way, visit the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, the Yukon River, and the Alaska Arctic Circle (66°33' north) marker, where you will receive an "Arctic Circle Exploration Certificate". Return to Fairbanks between 2 to 3 am. *(If the flight is canceled by weather, you'll join the "Overland Adventure Across the Arctic Circle" and get refund for the difference.)*

**3 ~ Extra night of Aurora viewing at cabin/ Aurora chasing** (about 4 hours round trip)

Hotel: Hyatt Place Fairbanks / Bridgewater Hotel or similar

## **7 Fairbanks Hometown (B)** *(\* Please arrange flights leaving after 7am)*

**Optional Daytime Activities:** (only available to tour participants taking evening flights)

**1 ~ Snow Mobile Tour** (about 2-4 hours total):

Enjoy a thrilling 30-min or 60 min snowmobile ride, one of the most popular activities in Alaska, accompanied by an experienced guide.

**2 ~ Ice Fishing Tour** (about 4 hours total):

Ice fishing is a winter favorite for Alaskans. You'll learn the fishing skill with a local expert. The guide will also grill the harvest for each guest on site, allowing you to taste the freshest fish, and then release the extra fish back to the lake.

**\*\* As aurora is a natural phenomenon created by Mother Nature, there is no guarantee on the chance of viewing it.**

*(We reserve the right to change the itineraries, hotels, meals, etc. during the tour without prior notice.)*