



NORTHERN EXPEDITION

AKG 07/09-1

DAY 1

TUESDAY, JULY 09 2013

Make sure you have your **personal identification** with you as you depart for the airport.

- Pack all medication in your carry-on
- Pack a day or two worth of clothes, in your carry-on, as well as your camera, outlet adaptors and power cords, just in case your luggage has delayed arrival.
- Drink a lot of water on your flight. Did you know that dehydration adds to jet lag?

DEPARTURE

- Greet your fellow Ambassadors in your departure city before boarding your flight to Anchorage, Alaska.
- Welcome to Anchorage, the Last Frontier!
- Meet your Delegation Manager at the airport and enjoy a welcome dinner this evening.

DAY 2

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10 2013

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

The largest and most populous city in Alaska, Anchorage is home to almost half of Alaskan residents. The city first began as a tent camp city built to house the workers and their families who were employed on the construction of the Alaska Railroad in the early 20th century. The city has since grown to almost 300,000 residents.

Did you know that the longest summer days in Anchorage contain about 19 hours and 21 minutes of continuous day light?

ACTIVITIES

- Explore this beautiful city with your Delegation Manager during a guided tour, where you'll explore the historic downtown district and Lake Hood, the busiest float plane base in the world.
- Enjoy an official welcome from the office of the mayor to the city of Anchorage!
- Visit the Alaska Native Heritage Center where delegates will gain first hand insight into the diversity of First Nations history and culture in Alaska.
- Learn how to cook with native Alaskan plants and ingredients and enjoy your own creation!

2013 Northern Expedition

People to People Ambassador Programs | Dwight D. Eisenhower Building | 1956 Ambassador Way
Spokane, WA 99224-4001 | 800-669-7882 | Fax 877-284-4517



- Hear about what it's like to live in Alaska from an Alaska Natives member. Gain insight into their work to educate and hand on native languages to future generations.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Spring Hill Suites Anchorage University Lakes
4050 University Lake Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
Tel: 907-751-6300
Fax: 907-751-6399
Reception Hours: N/A
WIFI: Yes

DAY 3

THURSDAY, JULY 11 2013

DENALI NATIONAL PARK

Established as a national park in 1917 under the name Mt. McKinley National Park, the park increased in size and changed its name to Denali National Park and Preserve in 1980. It stretches across 6 million acres and is larger than the State of Massachusetts.

Denali means “the high one” in the Athabaskan language – referring to Mt. McKinley, the highest peak in the North America. The park is home to 650 plant species, 170 bird species, 10 types of fish, 39 species of mammals and one amphibian – the wood frog.

ACTIVITIES

- This morning, board your motor coach and depart for the stunning Denali National Park! Encompassing 6 million acres where wild animals large and small roam unfenced lands, living as they have for ages. On the way your Delegation Manager will help you keep an eye out for the park's iconic big game including bear, caribou, Dall sheep and moose!
- Prepare for your amazing venture into Denali National Park from the ground up during an educational sub-Arctic talk at the Charles Sheldon Center. An expert Biologist will welcome your group and teach you about Alaska's three unique ecosystems, the Alpine, Boreal (taiga) and Tundra.
- Participate in a Denali National Park Ranger program at the Denali Visitor Center. A Park Ranger will welcome your delegation and talk about Denali National Park's mission.
- After your talk, enjoy the opportunity for a special People to People moment when you join a local resident to learn about life in Denali year round.

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ACCOMMODATION

Totem Inn
Mile 248.7 Parks Highway
Tel: 907-683-6500
Fax: 907-683-6590
Reception Hours: N/A
WIFI: Yes

DAY 4

FRIDAY, JULY 12 2013

EXPLORE DENALI

Set out today to explore the wilderness in Denali National Park. Be prepared for the area's mosquitoes by wearing long pants, a long sleeve shirt, both light colored and mosquito repellent, with DEET as the main ingredient. Mosquitoes are most active in the late afternoon to dusk. However, preventative measures should be taken all day.

ACTIVITIES

- Begin your day with the Murie Excursion, which will take you across expansive 30 miles of Denali Wilderness. This excursion into the park will provide a truly unique experience in Denali.
- Along your excursion stop for hikes in the pristine wilderness and gain a deeper understanding of the climate through learning to use equipment including scopes and telemetry.
- Explore the works of characters such as Adolph Murie and contemporary park wildlife biologists, and discover the reasons why humans wish to preserve this place
- A park ranger will introduce you to the philosophy of environmental conservationism and how it applies to the millions of acres of preserved Alaskan wilderness.
- This evening, relax and enjoy your dinner after your day of wilderness exploration.

Denali Area

Totem Inn
Mile 248.7 Parks Highway
Tel: 907-683-6500
Fax: 907-683-6590
Reception Hours: N/A
WIFI: Yes

DAY 5

SATURDAY, JULY 13 2013

ACTIVITIES

- This morning, depart Denali and travel to the town of Talkeetna, which began as a trading post when gold was first discovered in the Susitna River.
- Meet a local bush plane pilot who will share tales of flying climbers on to the face of Mt. McKinley, the tallest mountain in the United States!

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- Continue on your journey to Palmer in the Matanuska Susitna Valley, where world record monster size vegetables grow in the 24-hour daylight.
- Meet a real sled dog musher! Stop in at the official Iditarod headquarters before visiting the sled dog training kennels of four time Iditarod winner, Martin Buser.
- Learn about the Last Great Race and the life and art of mushing dogs in Alaska. You even get to cuddle with puppies (no, you can't take one home).

ACCOMMODATION

Grand View Inn and Suites
2900 E Parks Hwy
Wasilla, AK 99654
Tel: 907-357-7666
Fax: 907-357-6776
Reception Hours: N/A
WiFi: Yes

DAY 6

SUNDAY, JULY 14 2013

ACTIVITIES

- This morning, you'll hear experiences and stories about farming in Alaska on a family farm whose owners go four generations back. Learn from a real Alaskan farmer about which produce grows well and about Alaska's own "Alaska Grown" program, encouraging Alaska resident to buy local.
- Travel the scenic Parks Highway and stop to explore the Indian Burial Ground at Eklutna.
- Enjoy a special People to People moment when you learn about the history of the Russian Orthodox Church in the area. Meet Father Mikel (if Available), who will join your group to share about the history and grounds of the Russian Orthodox Church. Afterwards, enjoy some time to explore and read about the Russian Orthodox in Alaska.

ANCHORAGE

Spring Hill Suites Anchorage University Lakes
4050 University Lake Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
Tel: 907-751-6300
Fax: 907-751-6399
Reception Hours: N/A
WiFi: Yes

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DAY 7

MONDAY, JULY 15 2013

ACTIVITIES

- Travel to the Alaskan Wildlife Conservation Center where you will get up close and personal with their resident animals including black bear, bison, and caribou. Learn about efforts to preserve and maintain Alaska's unique large animal population. This is a great chance to take photos of the state's iconic wildlife in case you missed the opportunity in Denali!
- Bring your binoculars and rise and travel south to visit the Potter Marsh. With its panoramic view of Turnagain Arm, it is one of the most accessible and scenic bird watching areas in Anchorage.
- Continue your journey along the scenic Seward Highway to the Trail Lake Hatchery where you will learn about Alaska's iconic salmon fishing industry. Learn about the process of catching wild salmon
- Enjoy an official welcome to the seaside town of Seward!
- Enjoy a special People to People moment when you visit the Seward Museum and interact with local longtime residents and hear their stories of life in this small fishing community.
- Continue south to the port community of Seward where you will be welcomed by a local town official and experience an in-depth look above and below the waters at the Alaska Sealife Center.

SEWARD

Hotel Edgewater
202 5th Avenue
Seward, AK 99664
Tel: 907-224-2700
Fax: 907-224-2701
Reception Hours:
WIFI: Yes

DAY 8

TUESDAY, JULY 16 2013

EXIT GLACIER

Gain insight into environmental science and appreciate the beauty of Alaskan nature today as you explore the Exit Glacier, the only road accessible glacier in the Kenai Fjords National Park. Previously known as the Resurrection Glacier, Exit Glacier received its name when in 1968 it marked the exit of the first recorded expedition crossing of the Harding Icefield.

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ACTIVITIES

- Lace up your hiking boots and participate in a ranger-led walk to Exit Glacier, where you'll learn about the creation and movement of the glaciers in the Kenai Fjords National Park.
- Board a vessel for your cruise to the waters of the Kenai Fjords National Park. Keep an eye open for whales, sea otters, sea lions, eagle, bears, and more. Your cruise will last four hours and explore Resurrection Bay.
- Board your motor coach and head for Homer, Alaska! See spectacular scenery like volcanoes on the far side of the Cook Inlet, lush green valleys and an array of wildflowers along the way. Homer is known to some as the Halibut Capital of the World.

HOMER

Homer Ocean Shores
451 Sterling Highway/3500 Crittenden Dr.
Homer, AK
Tel: 907-235-7775
Fax: N/A
Reception Hours: N/A
WiFi: Yes

DAY 9

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17 2013

ACTIVITIES

- Enjoy breakfast and then continue your journey along the Sterling Highway up to the Homer Spit to board the vessel that will bring you to the Peterson Field Station. Stop to view Gull Island along your journey.
- On the shores, you will learn and see firsthand the diverse marine wildlife both in the water and on land during hikes with your local guide and a visit to the aquarium.
- Your Coastal Studies instructors will help you explore the richness of Kachemak Bay's extreme tidal changes and a coastal forest ecosystem on the edge of wilderness.
- Overnight in a Yurt!
- **Note:** *it is ideal to bring a pair of rain boots or waterproof boots for your activities this area.*

PETERSEN BAY FIELD STATION

SOUTH SHORE OF KACHEMAK BAY
Contact the People to People in case of Emergency
Phone: (800) 669-7882

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DAY 10

THURSDAY, JULY 18 2013

ACTIVITIES

- Board your vessel and say goodbye to the beautiful waters of the Katchmak Bay to the Homer Harbor. Board your motor coach as you head back to Anchorage.
- Enjoy a unique program that will immerse you in the history of Alaska's gold mining industry at a family run working gold mine!
- Gain insight into the rugged life of miners who helped shape the Alaskan frontier and learn about modern gold mining techniques and environmental challenges and then try your hand at gold mining with guidance from an expert!
- Enjoy Dinner in Anchorage before transferring to the Anchorage Airport for your flight home. Bid farewell to your local driver and guide.

Day 11

FRIDAY, JULY 19 2013

- On your flight home, reflect on your journey, your new understanding of Alaskan history and culture, and expanded horizons as a Student Ambassador.
- Welcome Home!

Packing Tips:

Pack for comfort and warmth. Weather in Alaska can change quickly, so be sure to pack a fleece, hat and rain gear.

Bring appropriate shoes. It is great if you have a pair of rain boots or waterproof shoes during your visit to Petersen Bay. Bring comfortable walking shoes that can get dirty for your hikes on Exit Glacier and Denali National Park.

Travel day comfort. Remember Alaska is big! Bring snacks, casual clothing and items to keep you comfortable during your longer travel days.

Be sure to bring a camera. During your program you will see amazing wilderness and wildlife. You might not always be near a stop to purchase extra batteries so definitely bring your camera charger or extra batteries!

In case of an emergency, please call our office for assistance at

1 (800) 669-7882

We have staff available 24 hours a day during our student travel season.

PLEASE NOTE: This itinerary may change at any time without notice. Updated Final Information will be posted on your student's Onboard Web Site.

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