

*Providing active
learning experiences
and fostering
stewardship of the
natural world through a
tradition of excellence,
community, and place.*



**CAMP DENALI &
NORTH FACE LODGE**

Post Office Box 67
Denali National Park, Alaska 99755



Hello from Denali!

We are pleased that you have included Camp Denali and North Face Lodge in your Alaska itinerary. Our 60 years of family ownership have been dedicated to natural history education, hospitality, and fine craftsmanship.

The experience of staying at Camp Denali and North Face Lodge is a unique blend of camaraderie among fellow adventurers and active learning in a setting without parallel. Our lodges have a simple elegance that does not detract from the wilderness you come to explore.

We say that our lodges are not for everyone, yet you do not have to be capable of scaling Denali to enjoy your stay. The only prerequisites are an interest in exploring, an enthusiasm for walking (rain or shine) and a spirit of adventure!

Please take some time to review the following information to further acquaint yourself with our lodges and programs.

Regards,

Simon & Jenna Hamm
Owners

PLANNING LOGISTICS

ARRIVAL

There are several transportation options for arriving to Denali National Park from Anchorage or Fairbanks; the most commonly used options are listed below. Meet us at the Denali train depot parking area **by 12:30 p.m. on your arrival day** (Monday or Friday) . The map below indicates where to meet our custom blue & white buses, as well as nearby park facilities. We will depart at approximately 1:15 p.m. for the drive through the Park to our lodges.

***We do not provide lunch on your arrival day. There will be a picnic dinner at 4:00 p.m.**

TRAIN FROM ANCHORAGE

- *Train Arrival:* 3:40 p.m. the day prior; overnight at park entrance
- *Meet our buses:* 12:30 p.m. the following day

TRAIN FROM FAIRBANKS

- *Train Arrival:* 12:10 p.m.
- *Meet our buses:* Upon arrival

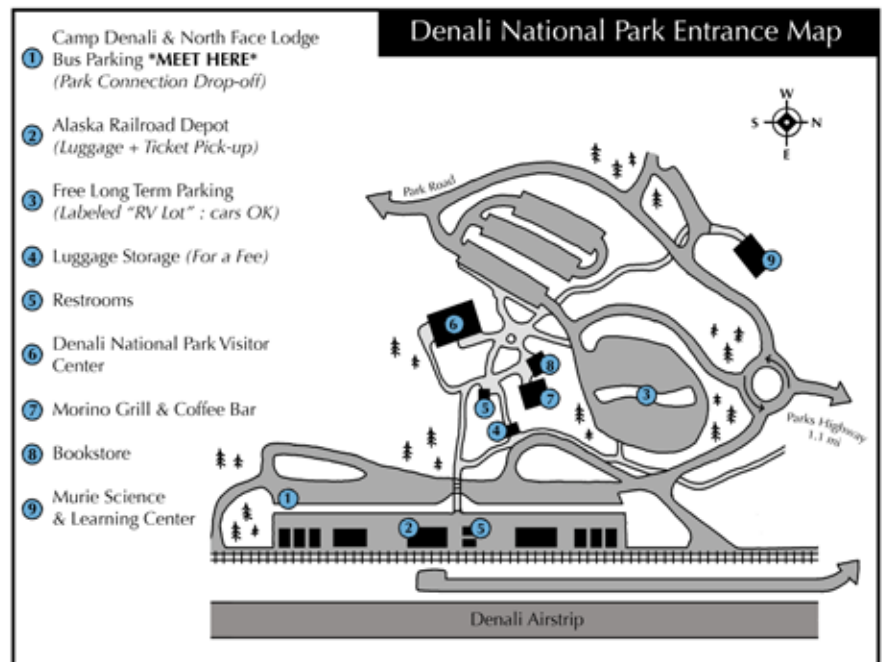
MOTORCOACH FROM ANCHORAGE

- *Motorcoach Arrival:* 12:30 p.m.
- *Meet our buses:* Upon arrival

CAR

- From Fairbanks 3 hours
- From Anchorage 5 1/2 hours

Meet our buses at 12:15 p.m. Extra time is needed to drop off your luggage and park your vehicle. Our drivers will direct you to free, long-term parking.



DEPARTURE DAY

On your departure day (Monday or Friday), we depart the lodge at 6:45 a.m. following a full breakfast to **arrive back at the train depot by 11:45 a.m.** This allows for same-day bus or train connections to both Fairbanks and Anchorage.

PARKSIDE GUEST HOUSE (www.parksideanchorage.com)

Looking for accommodations in Anchorage? Consider our B&B and receive a 10% discount for also staying with us in Denali.

WHERE YOU ARE GOING

North Face Lodge is situated on the open tundra and boasts **fine views of the crest of Denali** and other peaks of the Alaska Range. Our 15 guest rooms are cozy and well appointed. Each has a **private bathroom** and is connected by a covered walkway that leads to the lodge's common areas. Rooms have either two twin beds or one queen bed.

On sunny days, enjoy the walk to Wonder Lake for canoeing, or relax on our **spacious patio** in view of Denali's summit. Indoors there is a comfortable living room and library to encourage relaxing by the **fireplace** after a day's hike.



Your stay at Camp Denali and North Face Lodge will begin with the **90-mile journey into the heart of Denali National Park**. Your driver will be one of our knowledgeable naturalist guides, who will discuss the geology, ecology, and history of the Park as you travel through it. Stops will be made along the way for spectacular vistas and wildlife observation.

There will be a **gourmet picnic dinner** midway through the journey around 4 p.m. **Arrival at the lodge will be around 8 p.m.** Your hosts will welcome you with refreshments and a brief orientation before you settle in for the evening.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES

Guided group outings with our naturalists are available each day. **Three options of hikes** (strenuous, moderate, or foray) are offered to suit the interests and abilities of everyone.

Canoes, bicycles, and fishing gear are available for independent outings. These activities can be planned each morning with your hosts. There are trail and topographic maps as a resource if striking out on your own. An Alaska fishing license is required for the creek between our lodges.

If quiet relaxation is your main objective, the lodge has a **library** of literature related to Denali and the Far North. For keen learners, there is a resource center at Camp Denali that features **natural history exhibits**, plant, animal and insect collections, and a microscope.

DINING

We plate and serve **breakfast at 7:30 a.m.** and **dinner at 6:30 p.m.** in family-style seating. One entrée is featured at each meal. Lunch is a create-it-yourself sandwich and snack buffet just after breakfast. *When notified in advance, we can accommodate gluten-free, dairy-free, vegetarian, and vegan diets, as well as most food allergies.*

ALCOHOL

Neither Camp Denali nor North Face Lodge sell beer or wine. You are welcome to plan ahead and **bring your own**. Wine glasses, bottle openers, and refrigeration are provided. There are also **no soft drinks** available at either lodge.

ELECTRICITY USE

We generate electricity at both lodges. Appliances with heating elements, such as curling irons and hair dryers, will overload our electrical capacity at Camp Denali. **Please do not use them.** They may be used if staying at North Face Lodge.

COMMUNICATION

There is neither cell coverage nor guest internet access. A pay phone is available for outgoing calls (complimentary phone cards are available at the lodge). For emergencies, our office is available for incoming calls: (907) 683-2290.

PAYMENTS & TRAVEL INSURANCE

Credit cards are not accepted. Reservation payments or retail purchases at the lodge can be made by cash or check. An optional gratuity may be left at the end of your stay. We do recommend travel insurance to protect against any unforeseen changes to your travel plans. Please be sure to review our cancellation policy.

WHAT TO PACK

ESSENTIAL GEAR

- Hiking Boots: *Over-the-ankle and in good condition. Tennis shoes are NOT recommended. Hiking boots are recommended on every outing for your comfort and safety.*
- Rain gear: waterproof jacket and pants
- Hat and gloves: wool or fleece
- Warm layers: wool sweater, fleece vest, or jacket
- Shirts: short and long-sleeved
- Pants: lightweight, quick-drying & breathable
- Long underwear: wool or synthetic top & bottom
- Binoculars
- Day pack



OPTIONAL GEAR

- Extra camera battery
- Casual clothes for around the lodge
- Hiking gaiters
- Pack cover

AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

- Hats
- Gloves
- Socks
- Clothing
- Insect repellent
- Books and field guides
- Postcards
- Quality binoculars

AVAILABLE TO BORROW

- Day packs
- Water bottles
- Head nets for insect protection
- Trekking poles
- Gaiters
- Fishing gear
- LL Bean boots: (good for wet conditions; not for steep or rocky terrain)
- Mountain bikes/helmets
- Canoes/paddles/PFDs
- Bear spray

There is no luggage weight restriction for our lodges. If you are taking a charter flight while in Alaska, be sure to know those limits.

SUGGESTED READING

www.alaskageographic.com is a good resource for books, maps, and DVDs.

Denali, Symbol of the Alaskan Wild by William E. Brown (1993)

Kantishna: The Pioneer Story Behind Mount McKinley National Park by Tom Walker (2005)

Rhythm of the Wild by Kim Heacox (2015)

Coming Into the Country by John McPhee (1976)

A Naturalist's Guide to the Arctic by E.C. Pielou (1994)

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY ONE

Your stay begins in the afternoon with the 90-mile journey into the heart of Denali National Park. Your driver will be one of our knowledgeable naturalist guides, who interprets the geology, ecology, and history of the Park as you travel through it. We will stop for the many spectacular vistas and to observe wildlife. We will have a gourmet picnic dinner at 4 p.m. and will arrive to the lodges around 8 p.m.



DAY TWO

Start the day at 7:30 a.m. with a delicious homemade breakfast. After breakfast you have the option of joining one of our guided group hikes. Choose from three different levels of hikes to spend the rest of the day exploring the Park with one of our guides. Savor your sack lunch during your day's adventure. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for an exquisite dinner in our dining rooms that look out onto Denali and reminisce about

the day's highlights. The evening concludes with a presentation by one of our naturalists or a guest speaker on a topic of Alaska's natural or cultural history.

DAY THREE (3 night stays)

DAY THREE/FOUR (4 night stays)

After breakfast, join a naturalist hike to explore a new area of the Park. You may also choose from one of our independent activities: ride a bicycle along the Park Road, paddle a canoe on Wonder Lake, or strike off on local trails.

For guests staying seven nights, there will be just one guided option available on the Monday or Friday midway through your stay.



DEPARTURE DAY

After a full breakfast, depart at 6:45 a.m. from Camp Denali and North Face Lodge for the drive back along the Park Road. Our goal is to arrive back at the rail depot by 11:45 a.m. in time for our guests transferring to the Denali Star train to Anchorage.