

# 8 Days | Alaska's Iditarod Winter Wonderland Tour



THE AURORA BOREALIS SHINES IN THE NIGHT SKY

See Alaska clothed in winter! Join this exclusive winter tour program featuring the Aurora Borealis viewing and the world famous Iditarod sled dog race! Witness firsthand the excitement of Iditarod dogs bursting through the start line in Anchorage. This trip is offered to those of you wanting to travel to Alaska in the winter. You will travel on your own, not accompanied by a Christian Tours Escort. On this adventure tour you will be greeted upon arrival in Alaska and escorted by an experienced guide from Premier Alaska Tours.

**1 FAIRBANKS • AURORA BOREALIS VIEWING:** Today you fly to Fairbanks. Upon arrival transfer to your hotel in Fairbanks for a two night stay. Meet your Premier Alaska Tour guide and this evening, board a deluxe motorcoach for a night of Aurora Borealis Viewing.

**2 FAIRBANKS:** After breakfast, later this morning, enjoy a city tour of Fairbanks including a visit to the Morris Thompson Cultural Center and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. This afternoon you are at leisure for optional tours such as dog mushing tours, Arctic Circle Flight seeing, as well as others to choose from. Tonight you have another chance to view the Aurora Borealis at a different location.

**3 NENANA • DENALI • HEALY:** Today board your deluxe motorcoach for a scenic transfer south to Denali National Park. En route, enjoy an included visit to the town of Nenana, home of the Nenana Ice Classic! Upon arrival into Denali, enjoy an included visit to the Murie Science and Learning Center which acts as the Denali Visitor's Center in the wintertime. Enjoy the National Park Film, "Heartbeats of Denali," hear from a local ranger about the park, and even have a chance to snowshoe! A box lunch is included today. We overnight in Healy. L

**4 ALASKA RAILROAD:** We are transferred to the Denali Rail Stop where you board the world-famous Alaska Railroad. (Adventure Class) for your scenic journey south to Anchorage, Alaska's largest city. Keep an eye out for views of Denali from the north face to south face. Upon arrival in Anchorage you will



IDITAROD TRAIL SLED DOG RACE

be transferred to your local hotel for a four night stay.

**5 ANCHORAGE:** Today, enjoy a city tour of Anchorage featuring the historic downtown area, Lake Hood where 190+ floatplanes take off and land daily, and Earthquake Park to learn about the 1964 Earthquake. There will be time for lunch on your own today. Later, travel along the scenic Seward Highway and enjoy a visit to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center where you have a chance to see Alaska's Wildlife up close and personal. Tonight, enjoy Iditarod festivities and dinner at the Musher's Banquet. D

**6 IDITAROD CHAMPION & HEADQUARTERS:** We travel north today to meet four-time Iditarod Champion Martin Buser at his Happy Trails Kennel. Hear personal stories while viewing a glimpse of the grandeur Alaska has to offer along the Iditarod Trail. Later we return to Anchorage with an included stop at the Iditarod Headquarters en route.

**7 CEREMONIAL START OF THE IDITAROD:** This morning head to 4th Avenue to get a great spot at the Official Ceremonial Start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Spend time cheering on mushers from all over the world. Mushers will depart the starting gate every two minutes. Watch each of them depart or take off early and enjoy other Iditarod festivities in Anchorage. This afternoon, visit the Anchorage Museum, a large art, history, ethnography, ecology, and science museum in the heart of downtown Anchorage.

**8 WILLOW • RESTART OF IDITAROD • FLIGHT HOME:** This morning, we take an adventure north to Willow for the restart of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. Be sure to dress in layers to maximize staying warm as the entire day will be spent outside cheering on your favorite dog teams. En-route, stop at a local grocery store in Wasilla to pick up snacks and lunch items. Prepare for a bit of a walk to find the perfect spot along the fence line of the race. Mushers take off across Willow Lake on their 1,049-mile journey by dog sled to Nome. The Willow Community Center is open and offers a break from the cold with vendors selling food and drink as well as local crafts. Don't miss out on snacks throughout the day! Your Premier Tour Director will have more information on this edible portion of the program! The departure time from Willow will depend on weather conditions and guests' comfort level. It is our goal to see as many of the Mushers depart as possible while still arriving back into Anchorage by 6:00/6:30pm. Upon return to Anchorage it is time to say goodbye as you are transferred to the Anchorage Airport for your flight. (Overnight accommodations can be made if you choose to fly out the next day.)

Activity Level											
Easy	4		Strenuous								
<p><b>Departure: February 28</b></p> <p><b>PRICE PER PERSON:</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>DOUBLE</th> <th>TRIPLE</th> <th>QUAD</th> <th>SINGLE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>\$2039</td> <td>\$1935</td> <td>\$1875</td> <td>\$2519</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Airfare from Charlotte, NC: TBD (including transfers)</p> <p><b>Meals Included:</b> 7 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch &amp; 1 Dinner</p>				DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD	SINGLE	\$2039	\$1935	\$1875	\$2519
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