

Denali National Park and Preserve Commercial Use Authorization Stipulations

2016 Road-Based Winter Vehicle Tours

1. Commercial Use Authorizations for Road-Based Winter Vehicle Tours will be issued for one year only.
2. Road-based winter vehicle tours may be conducted on the Denali Park Road as far west as the Mountain Vista Rest Area.
3. The operating season for road-based winter vehicle tours will be determined by the National Park Service (NPS) on an annual basis, contingent on weather and road conditions. Generally, the season will begin in mid-February and continue through May 10.
4. Although weather and driving conditions may allow for the road to be opened to the public beyond the Mountain Vista Rest Area during the winter season of mid-February through May 10, road-based winter vehicle tours MAY NOT travel beyond this point.
5. The NPS will maintain the road to keep it open during this time period; however, short-term closures may occur due to weather events and/or road conditions. The Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) holder is encouraged to call the Park Information number at (907) 683 – 9532 for current weather and road information.
6. Vehicle sizes and passenger capacities up to and including motor coach-style buses are permitted.
7. Road-based winter vehicle tour services are limited to on-bus (in-vehicle), roadside and/or parking area narration and interpretation.
8. While on the Park Road beyond the park headquarters and kennels complex, passengers may disembark the vehicle while parked in plowed roadside pullouts or at the Mountain Vista Rest Area.
9. Entrance Fees:
 - a. CUA holders are required to ensure that their clients have paid the park entrance fee.
 - b. The park entrance fee may be in person at the Murie Science and Learning Center.
 - c. Contact the Fee and Revenue Business Manager at 907-683-9532 if you would prefer to collect and remit the park entrance fee directly to the park.
 - d. Prepayment of park entrance fees may be required if the tour plans to enter the park after normal business hours, such as in the evening to observe northern lights.
10. Tour vehicles are permitted to stop at and visit the Denali Park Kennels; however, be aware that during the winter and late spring, the park dogs are often away from the kennel on extended patrols of the park. The CUA holder may call the Park Information number at (907) 683 – 9532 to inquire about the status of the kennels.

11. Each vehicle must be equipped with a means of emergency communication, such as a satellite phone. Cell phone service in this area of the park is extremely limited and cannot be relied upon.
12. Vehicles are prohibited from extended periods of idling while parked in rest areas, along roadsides, and in parking lots. CUA holders are strongly encouraged to consider alternative means of providing interior heat in their vehicles, such as air-heaters which utilize engine-off technology for their operation.
13. CUA holders are required to provide to the NPS no later than June 1 an Activity Report to indicate the number of trips, dates, and number of clients during the operating period. The NPS will provide the required form.
14. Employees and their Role while in the park:
 - a. CUA holders and employees (guides) are not allowed to accompany clients in areas **closed to CUA activities** and will be assumed to be conducting guiding activities and considered to be in non-compliance of these terms of the CUA.
 - b. CUA holders and employees (guides) may accompany their clients on the park transportation system, but must conduct themselves as a park visitor and not as a guide. Any actions such as providing expertise and/or support to clients will be deemed a violation of this stipulation.
15. First Aid:
 - a. Each group leader must possess, at a minimum, current basic First Aid and CPR certification. Agencies that provide qualifying certifications include: American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, National Safety Council and National Ski Patrol.
 - b. Documentation must be presented upon request from NPS personnel.
 - c. Each vehicle shall be equipped with a basic first aid kit appropriately sized for the group.
16. Incident Reporting:
 - a. Any incident involving a fatality or serious injury must be reporting immediately by calling the Denali Communication Center at 907-683-9555.
17. Leave No Trace:
 - a. Employees will be trained in, demonstrate through action, and teach Leave No Trace etiquette as appropriate to their activity.
18. Employee Performance:
 - a. All employees will maintain the highest professional standards of conduct, treating each guest/client with respect.
19. Interpretation:
 - a. Employees will use effective interpretive techniques and skills that convey information about Denali National Park and Preserve and its mission. Information about the park can be found at:
<http://www.nps.gov/dena/learn/index.htm>

20. Property:

- a. No personal or business property of any kind may be stored or left unattended on park lands for more than 24 hours without written permission from the superintendent.

21. Monitoring Costs:

- a. The CUA holder will be responsible to reimburse the NPS for monitoring costs, including travel cost and salaries for park staff to assess quality of services and resource conditions.

Other General Park CUA Information

Authorized Activities

Denali National Park and Preserve (DENA) authorizes the following commercial activities that may be provided pursuant to obtaining a Commercial Use Authorization (CUA):

- Air Taxi
- Group Camping (Savage River Campground only)
- Guided Overnight Hiking
- Guided Mountaineering
- Guided Winter Activities
- Guided Day Hiking - Frontcountry and Triple Lakes Trails
- Guided Day Hiking – Backcountry
- Road-Based Winter Vehicle Tours
- Dog Sled Freight Hauling

The commercial service(s) that your company is authorized to provide within DENA is indicated on the front of your CUA. Engaging in a commercial activity other than that specifically authorized is prohibited.

Areas Open to Commercial Services

- 1980 Park and Preserve Additions, excluding Backcountry Units 40, 41, 42, 43
- Kantishna Airstrip
- Savage Campground Group Sites
- Frontcountry Trails
- Park Road to Mountain Vista Turnout for Road-Based Commercial Vehicle Use – February through May 10 only

Areas Closed to Commercial Services

- Former Mt. McKinley National Park, including Backcountry Units 40, 41, 42, 43
- Windy Creek drainage, northwest of Cantwell in the former Mt. McKinley National Park
- Glaciers in the 1980 Park and Preserve Additions are closed to air taxi landings, including lakes on glaciers

(See attached map for more details)

Commercial Road Access to Denali National Park and Preserve

Commercial passenger-carrying motor vehicles are allowed within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve on the George Parks Highway and on the Denali Park Road as far west as the Denali Visitor Center complex and Alaska Railroad Depot.

A commercial operator may therefore bring passengers into the park and stop within the developed area of the road corridor up to the Denali Visitor Center complex. This allows commercial operators to access the following: Wilderness Access Center, Backcountry Information Center, Riley Creek Mercantile store, showers and laundry, McKinley Park airstrip, Horseshoe Lake trailhead parking area, Denali Visitor Center complex, U.S. Post Office, and the Railroad Depot. **No permit is required for this access.**

Road-Based Winter Vehicle Tour

The Denali Park Road is open at a date in early February¹ through May 10 to the Mountain Vista Turnout at mile 12 for commercial entities that have a CUA for Road-Based Winter Vehicle Tour activities. Contact the park at (907) 683-9532 for road condition updates.

No commercial vehicle may proceed west beyond the Denali Visitor Center complex except under one of the following scenarios:

1. Possess a Group Camping CUA AND their travel is related to a current campground reservation;

OR

2. Possess a Road-Based Winter Vehicle Tour CUA AND they are traveling during the time period of early February through May 10 when the road is open to Mountain Vista Turnout for this activity.

¹ Road opening date in February to Mountain Vista Turnout varies based on weather and road conditions.