Our Lasting Frontier

The United States purchased Alaska—the Great Land—in 1867 in a transaction known aseward's Folly. Doing little to reveal the awesome potential of this place. The rush of gold that followed created its own colorful images of heroic daring and fortunes in a transaction known as Seward's Folly, doing little to reveal the artifacts of the first North Americans found in Bering Land Bridge.

Statehood in 1959 brought an entitlement to the state of 106 million acres of public lands potentially rich in oil and gas, minerals, and bountiful wildlife, these parks also reflect the human values and consumption. Local residency and customary reliance on many park lands here. These preserves, sport hunting and trapping are permitted subject to state fish and game laws, seasons, and bag limits; and to federal game laws, seasons, and bag limits. Alaskans continue to engage in hunting, fishing, and gathering of wild renewable resources are for direct personal or family consumption. Local residency and customary reliance on these uses determine eligibility for continued subsistence uses on national park lands.

As we celebrate Alaska's National Parks, we do so in spirits of pride and hardiness. Alaska is more remote treasures can require significant time, effort, and money and may be subject to air or boat charters, rafting, kayaking, and hiking. See the back of this brochure for access information for individual parks.

Public Lands

Outside Alaska's towns and villages will put you within air-taxi distance of most park lands. Unlike most National Park Service areas in the Lower 48, most in Alaska are not accessible by road. Scheduled air service transports people and vehicles on ferries from the Lower 48 to Alaska. The Alaska Highway, paved in Alaska and most of Canada, connects Fairbanks, Alaska, and Dawson Creek, British Columbia, to Fairbanks, Alaska, and provides a land link with roads to the south. 

Once in Alaska, you may have several options for travel to the park lands. Unlike most National Park Service areas in the Lower 48, most in Alaska are not accessible by road. Scheduled air service transports people and vehicles on ferries from the Lower 48 to towns in Southeast Alaska and between points in Southcentral Alaska. The Alaska Highway, paved in Alaska and most of Canada, is open and maintained year round. It extends 1900 miles from Dawson Creek, British Columbia, to Fairbanks, Alaska, and provides a land link with roads to the south. 

Inupiat Heritage Center

The Alaska Marine Highway System, P.O. Box 19975, Juneau, AK 99811-2505, 800-642-0066, or 888-256-6784.

Tourist information is available from the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, P.O. Box 107500, Anchorage, AK 99510-7500, 907-269-5454, or 800-642-0066. 

Anchorage: 605 West Fourth Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501-3155, 907-646-1200. 

Alaska Public Lands Information Center, P.O. Box 110804, Juneau, AK 99811-0804, 

Tok: P.O. Box 359, Tok, AK 99780-0359, 907-883-5667.

Fairbanks: Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center, 101 Dunkel Street, Suite 110, Fairbanks, AK 99701-4848, 907-451-7800 or 800-451-7800.

Other than in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, and Tok, or visit their website at www.nps.gov/akso/index.cfm. For information about individual parks, contact them directly or 888-256-6784. 

For information about national parks or other public lands in Alaska, visit or call Alaska's National Parks National Park Service at 1-800-642-0066.
National Parks in Alaska

Alaska Public Lands Information
The Alaska Public Lands Information Center is centrally located in Anchorage and offers a wide variety of education, training, and planning assistance as well as a comprehensive collection of maps and related materials. The center is open to the public, and visitors are encouraged to explore the exhibits at all locations.

Alaska National Scenic Trail
The Alaska National Scenic Trail is a proposed 800-mile trail linking 10 national parks and wilderness areas. The trail will traverse the state from the Arctic to the Pacific, providing a unique opportunity for visitors to experience the diverse landscapes and wildlife of Alaska.

Alaskan World War II
In 1940, Congress designated the Alaskan World War II National Historical Park to commemorate the role of the Alaskan people in the defense of their homeland during World War II. The park includes 10 sites that played a significant role in the war, including airfields, coastal defense, and military facilities.

Aniakchak
Molded down the road, remote, and mostly secluded, the Aniakchak National Monument is a land of surprising contrasts. One of the most geologically active areas in Alaska, this volcanic wilderness is home to ancient calderas and bold geological features. Visitors can explore the park by air or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Bering Land Bridge
Set aside to provide opportunities for the study of the evolutionary history of Beringia, the Bering Land Bridge National Monument is a unique landscape of ancient land bridges that connected Alaska to Russia. Located on the Bering Strait, the monument preserves a rich history of ice age mammals and humans, including the American bison. The park is open to visitors by permit and includes hiking, birding, and wildlife viewing.

Cape Krusenstern
Cape Krusenstern National Monument is a coastal area in Alaska's western Bering Sea. This area was critical to the prehistory of many Native American groups, and the monument preserves a rich history of human settlement and interaction with the environment. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Denali
Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska's highest point, is located in the heart of the Alaska Range. This park is home to the highest mountain in North America, Mount McKinley, and provides a unique opportunity to explore the wilderness and wildlife of this region. Visitors can explore the park by air or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Denali, by Highway
Highly recommended and charted as a route, the road provides access to the park in a characteristically private, characteristically un-coiled format over the Denali Park Road. A dual-use system opens Denali along the 50 mile road from the park entrance to Kantishna. Additional information from Alaska's National Parks.

Gates of the Arctic
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve is a remote wilderness area in northwestern Alaska, characterized by towering mountains, icefields, and vast tundra. The park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including moose, caribou, and grizzly bears, and offers a unique opportunity to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Glacier Bay
Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve is a unique landscape of icebergs, mountains, and fjords. Located along the Inside Passage of Alaska, this park is home to the world's largest tidewater glaciers, including the Hubbard Glacier. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Inupiat Heritage Center
Located in Barrow, the Inupiat Heritage Center is a facility dedicated to preserving and sharing the culture and history of the Inupiat people. The center is open to the public and offers a variety of exhibits and programs to explore the Inupiat way of life.

Katmai
Katmai National Park and Preserve is a unique landscape of mountains, glaciers, and beaches. Located along the Alaska Peninsula, this park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including brown bears, elk, and bald eagles. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Kluane National Park
Kluane National Park is a unique landscape of mountains, glaciers, and rivers. Located along the Yukon border, this park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including grizzly bears, wolves, and moose. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Kobuk Valley
Kobuk Valley National Park is a remote wilderness area in northeastern Alaska, characterized by snow-capped mountains, icefields, and vast tundra. The park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including moose, caribou, and grizzly bears, and offers a unique opportunity to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Lake Clark
Lake Clark National Park and Preserve is a unique landscape of mountains, glaciers, and rivers. Located along the Turnagain Arm, this park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including moose, caribou, and grizzly bears. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Noatak National Preserve
Noatak National Preserve is a remote wilderness area in northwestern Alaska, characterized by snow-capped mountains, icefields, and vast tundra. The park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including moose, caribou, and grizzly bears. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Seward
Seward is a unique landscape of mountains, glaciers, and rivers. Located along the Turnagain Arm, this park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including moose, caribou, and grizzly bears. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.

Yukon-Charley Rivers
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve is a remote wilderness area in northwestern Alaska, characterized by snow-capped mountains, icefields, and vast tundra. The park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including moose, caribou, and grizzly bears. Visitors can explore the park by boat or on foot, and are encouraged to experience the natural beauty and wildlife of the area.