

Suggested Itinerary:

● Anchorage, Juneau and Alaska's National Parks

Chart a course across Alaska, the USA's most northern state. Experience this amazing wilderness with its national parks, dramatic mountain canyons, breath-taking glaciers and forests teeming with wildlife. Get to know the state's indigenous-meets-urban culture in two of its largest cities, Anchorage and Juneau.

Anchorage, Alaska

Suggested: 2-3 days

Set off from Anchorage, Alaska's largest city and the perfect place to orient yourself to the state's striking geographical features. Take the Glacier Discovery Train, a part of the Alaska Railroad that frequently stops at conservation areas, lakes and glaciers. Hike in alpine meadows and view Bartlett Glacier, the route's crowning glory. Visit Alaska Native Heritage Center to see dwellings and demonstrations that introduce the state's 11 major cultural groups. Rising over 1,000 metres, Flattop Mountain offers a 1.5 mile (2.4-kilometre) hiking trail to its summit. Kayak Prince William Sound, or fish for salmon in the Russian River in Chugach National Forest.

Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve & Juneau

Suggested: 2-3 days

Find endless wilderness in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, 481 miles (775 kilometres) southeast of Anchorage. Presided over by glaciers and mountains, the bay is a humpback whale sanctuary. Go on a whale-watching tour, or kayak Bartlett Cove. Head southeast to capital city Juneau, accessible only by air or sea. While there, visit Alaska State Museum, hang out in the charming, walkable downtown, and join an Alaskan Brewing Company tour. Attend a salmon bake. Board a helicopter to take full stock of vast Mendenhall Glacier. Ascend Mount Roberts via the tramway to explore the nature centre at the top and to enjoy panoramic views of Juneau below.

Denali National Park and Preserve

Suggested: 2 days

Covering more than two million hectares, this remote wilderness features the tallest peak in North America as well as alpine forests, tundra and glaciers. Bus tours take you through the park via 92-mile (148-kilometre) Denali Park Road. Choose from nature and wildlife tours as well as the Kantishna Tour, which deposits you in a historic gold town. Denali has no shortage of outdoor recreational opportunities. Set off on a hike from the visitor's centre or Savage River. Join a ranger-led walk or program. Go white-water rafting on the Nenana River, try mountain biking or visit the Denali sled dog kennels to see a demonstration. Bring your binoculars for bird-watching.

Katmai National Park and Preserve

Suggested: 2 days

Travel southwest about 373 miles (600 kilometres) to Katmai National Park and Preserve, landing at Brooks Camp. From there, climb to lookout platforms and observe brown bears hunting salmon in Brooks Falls. Visitors can camp along the lake, fish, hike or participate in a ranger-led program. The best way to take in this expansive wilderness area is on a flightseeing tour showcasing the Pacific Ocean coast and volcanoes of the Aleutian Range as well as moose and bear roaming the tundra. Hundreds of kilometres of waterways offer boaters limitless exploration, while backcountry hiking leads visitors through the rugged, untamed wilderness.

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