

LOCATION	Denali Park Resorts is located at the entrance to Denali National Park which is north of Anchorage and south of Fairbanks in the middle of Alaska.
GETTING HERE	<p>Out-of-state visitors can fly into the Anchorage or Fairbanks airport and arrive at Denali National Park by car or train. The Park's entrance is located on the George Parks Highway at Milepost 237. It is approximately a five-hour drive north from Anchorage or a 2.5-hour drive south from Fairbanks. Rental cars and RVs are available at either airport.</p> <p>The Alaska Railroad offers service between Anchorage and Fairbanks, with daily stops at Denali National Park.</p>
PHONE	866-296-0327 for reservations
WEBSITE	www.denaliparkresorts.com
MEDIA CONTACT	<p>Lauren Pearce RIESTER for ARAMARK Parks and Destinations (602) 462-2252 lpearce@riester.com</p> <p>Christina Borrego RIESTER for ARAMARK Parks and Destinations (602) 462-2229 cborrego@riester.com</p>
OVERVIEW	<p>Denali National Park and Preserve spans six million acres and includes Mt. McKinley, which at 20,320' tall is the tallest mountain in North America. The park provides visitors easy access to undisturbed wilderness including sweeping tundra vistas, abundant wildlife, and stunning views of the Alaska Range. In 1917, President Woodrow Wilson established Mt. McKinley National Park as a wilderness refuge; in 1980, the Park was renamed Denali National Park and Preserve and expanded by an additional four million acres. The name "Denali" was taken from the local Athabascan Indian word for the tall peak, which means "high one".</p> <p>Visitors come to Denali for unique outdoor experiences – days spent river rafting, hiking and biking, searching for wildlife, mountaineering, and backcountry camping. Because the Park is located about 300 miles south of the Arctic Circle, there are nearly 21 hours of sunlight during the summer solstice which occurs in the third week of June each year.</p> <p>Moose, Dall sheep, grizzly bears, wolves, and caribou are just some of the wildlife that inhabit Denali, an internationally designated biosphere reserve. A sub-arctic ecosystem, Denali features rare taiga and tundra plant life as well as over 650 species of flowering plants.</p> <p>Denali's main visitor season runs from mid-May to mid-September, but the park is open year-round.</p>

LODGING

Park concessionaire ARAMARK Parks and Destinations operates the following comfortable accommodations near the entrance of the park:

McKinley Chalet Resort

Set along the Nenana River just outside the park entrance, the recently renovated McKinley Chalet Resort features 290 two-room mini-suites, and 55 upscale double queen rooms, in cedar lodges. The Chalet serves as the embarking point for the park's whitewater rafting trips. It also hosts the "Alaska Cabin Nite Dinner Theater" show, a lighthearted tale of 1900s Gold Rush heroine and Denali Park homesteader Fannie Quigley. Dining options at the Chalet include the Nenana View Bar & Grille, which offers fine, contemporary Alaskan cuisine such as pan-roasted Alaskan Halibut and cardamom-crusted reindeer tenderloin, while the Courtyard Café serves casual fare, including burgers, sandwiches and hand-carved rotisserie meats. The resort also hosts a 5,000-square-foot gift shop featuring native arts and crafts. The 2010 dates of operation are May 13 – September 20.

McKinley Village Lodge

The McKinley Village Lodge, situated on the banks of the Nenana River six miles south of the Park entrance, has 188 newly renovated guest rooms nestled in a forest of spruce trees. The McKinley Village's new 15,600 square foot Summit Lodge features an expansive wooden deck overlooking the Nenana River and a beautiful two-story lobby complimenting its high-timber lodge look and feel. Constructed with environmentally responsible materials, the new lodge is home to the Gold Rush Dining Room, Lucky Miss Saloon, Quigley's Coffee Corner, Gift Shop and Lobby check-in area. The 2010 dates of operation are May 24 – September 9.

DINING

ARAMARK offers a delicious array of fine dining experiences including:

- Nenana View Bar & Grille, *McKinley Chalet Resort*
- Gold Rush Dining Room, *McKinley Village Lodge*

Casual Eating Options

- Courtyard Café, *McKinley Chalet Resort*
- Lucky Miss Saloon, *McKinley Village Lodge*

ACTIVITIES

Alaska Cabin Nite Dinner Theatre

Get a taste of old-time Alaska at Alaska Cabin Nite, a popular dinner theater performed in an authentic, log-paneled roadhouse at the McKinley Chalet Resort. Enjoy a mix of storytelling, spirited music and humor in this true-to-life Gold Rush tale of adventure in early 1900s Alaska. The all-you-can-eat dinner is served family style and includes: Alaskan salmon, barbecue ribs, fork mashed potatoes, corn, old fashioned baked beans, drop biscuits, and fruit cobbler. Advance reservations required. Two shows nightly: 5:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Explore Denali Rafting

Explore Denali Rafting operates a variety of rafting excursions ranging from a relaxing, mild whitewater trip to a thrilling whitewater run. All of the trips listed below offer experienced river guides and include free equipment use, including dry suits, and transportation to and from most area hotels.

- The Wilderness Run – journey 13 miles through the spectacular scenery of an Alaskan glacial valley on a mild whitewater course.
- The Canyon Run – navigate whitewater rapids through 11 miles of steep-walled Nenana River Canyon.
- The Paddle Run – rafters dig in with paddles on the same route as the Canyon Run.

Rafting trips are about three hours long and leave three times daily. Courtesy Shuttle service is available to and from most area lodges and the Denali Alaska Railroad Depot. For advance reservations, call 866-296-0327. While in Denali, call (907) 683-8200.

Explore Denali Excursions

Visitors of all ages can get up close and personal with Denali National Park through a series of guided hikes and tours that each last approximately three hours.

Rock Creek Interpretive Hike – New to our “front country” itinerary inside the Park boundary, this tour shuttles guests from select local hotels to the Denali Visitors Center where a 30-45 minute introduction to Denali includes exploring displays and talking with park rangers. The participants then convene to begin the invigorating loop hike of approximately four miles on the Rock Creek Trail. This moderate hike winds through a spruce forest that dominates the lower elevation hillsides of Denali National Park and returns to the visitor center. Photo opportunities abound and there is always the possibility to spot a moose. Return transportation is provided to select hotels or guests can rent a bike from Explore Denali and peddle back on their own.

Denali Highway Adventure – Hop on board the van for a personalized trip along the Denali Highway with stops for short walks and unique photo opportunities. Originating in the town of Cantwell, this unpaved roadway is arguably one of the most beautiful thoroughfares in all of Alaska and offers spectacular views of the Alaska Range while traveling through taiga forest and open tundra. On clear days, Mt. McKinley can be seen and guests will experience the great vastness of the Alaskan Wilderness. Led by a certified guide, the tour heads south through the Nenana River Canyon and includes opportunities to stop for wildlife sightings and to partake in a few short hikes.

Steps through Time Interpretive Hike – One of Explore Denali’s most popular excursions, the Steps through Time Interpretive Hike departs from the McKinley Chalet Resort and offers guests the ability to immerse themselves in the tranquility of the indigenous spruce forest. Guests are shuttled by van to the trailhead of the Montana Creek Trail then follow the path of frontier hunters through the spruce, willow and alder forest so common to the area. This

moderate level hike at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain is led by an interpretive guide and offers spectacular views and possible wildlife sightings. The ultimate destination (time permitting) is a winter cabin built by early settlers for shelter during their hunting trips.

For advance reservations, call 866-296-0327 or visit www.denaliparkresorts.com. While in Denali, call (907) 683-8200.

Explore Denali Bikes

Denali ranks as one of the most bike-friendly national parks. A newly constructed bike path allows visitors to ride directly from local hotels into the park, where bikes are permitted on the full length of the park road (90 miles). The McKinley Chalet Resort offers half- and full-day bike rentals through its Explore Denali recreation department. For information call 866-296-0327, or (907) 683-8200 (while in Denali).

TOURS

There are three fully-guided tours operated by the Doyon/ARAMARK Joint Venture that take you into different regions of the park.

Kantishna Experience Tour

Offered daily from June 8, 2010 through September 15, 2010

Adults \$165 per person; children 14 and under \$77.50 per person

The Kantishna Experience is a 12-hour journey deep into Denali National Park featuring interpretive narration provided jointly by a driver guide and a NPS ranger that joins the trip at Wonder Lake. The round trip includes lunch and a stop at the historic cabin of Fannie Quigley, who settled in the area during its Gold Rush heyday in the early 1900s and remained there until her death in 1944. The trip, offered once each day, takes visitors to the historic mining district of Kantishna, known as "The End of the Road" and "The Heart of Denali National Park." Passengers for this tour can be picked up at several local hotels.

Tundra Wilderness Tour

Multiple morning and afternoon departures offered daily from May 20, 2010 through September 15, 2010

Adults \$113 per person; children 14 and under \$51.50 per person

This six-eight hour adventure departs twice daily from area hotels. Traveling 53 miles into Denali National Park, this tour is hosted by a driver-guide who interprets the flora and fauna seen during the tour. Guests will enjoy incredible scenery and some of the best opportunities to spot and watch the park's wildlife. This tour can also allow for spectacular views of Mt. McKinley on clear days. A box lunch is included in the tour price. A DVD featuring footage from the tour may also be purchased.

Denali Natural History Tour

Multiple morning and afternoon departures offered daily from May 13, 2010 through September 16, 2010

Adults \$70.75 per person; children 14 and under \$30.50 per person

This tour focuses on the rich, diverse cultural history of the Denali area. It lasts from four to five hours, departs from area hotels and travels first to the Wilderness Access Center for a viewing of the award winning short film "Across Time and Tundra". Proceeding to the still used ranger cabin at Savage River provides a glimpse into history, and the native Alaskan presentation at the Primrose turnaround enlightens visitors with regards to how the land has been used for nearly ten thousand years.

The price for each tour includes a \$10 national park entrance fee. For holders of a Federal recreation pass, the entrance fee will be removed at the time of booking.

CAMPING

The National Park Service provides campgrounds in six locations. Visitors may camp for a maximum of fourteen nights per season in Denali National Park and Preserve. Backcountry camping is free, but permits are required and must be obtained in person at the Wilderness Access Center.

Riley Creek Campground

Riley Creek is open all year and provides 146 RV and tent sites near the Park entrance. Facilities include flush toilets, pay phones, showers and laundry facilities. Water is available from mid-May through early September.

Savage River Campground

Open Mid-May through mid-September, Savage River has 33 sites for RVs and tents available to campers. Located at mile 13, there are flush toilets and campground hosts on-site. Food must be stored in food lockers, and water is available.

Sanctuary River Campground

This site offers seven tent sites at mile 23. Open, weather permitting, from mid-May through mid-September, Sanctuary River can be reached only by shuttle bus. No open fires are permitted and food must be stored in food lockers. Chemical toilets are available, but no treated water is available.

Wonder Lake Campground

This tent-only site has 28 plots and is accessible only by camper bus. Open June until mid-September, facilities include water and flush toilets. No fires are permitted.

Teklanika River Campground

Teklanika is currently open only to hard-sided campers due to wildlife activity. It is located at mile 29 and provides 53 sites with flush toilets and water. Open from late May through mid-September, weather permitting, there is a three night minimum stay for vehicle campers.

Igloo Creek Campground

Currently closed due to wildlife activity, Igloo Creek is accessible only by shuttle bus and is located near mile 34 of the Park Road. There are seven tent sites with chemical toilets.

Reservations for campsites can be made in person at the Riley Creek Merchantile, or in advance for all sites but the Sanctuary River campsite. Advance reservations can be made via fax, phone, mail or online beginning December 1 through August 31. Visit www.nps.gov/denali for details.

NPS PROGRAMS

Denali National Park and Preserve offers an array of special programs for its visitors and caters to a wide range of travelers. From adventure-seeking, advanced mountain climbers to families with small children, Denali National Park and Preserve has something for everyone. Denali Discovery Pack and Junior Ranger programs provide children with fun, educational activities pertaining to the natural world of taiga and tundra.

Novice and experienced hikers alike will enjoy the various activities Denali has to offer. National Park Service rangers lead three- to five-hour-long Discovery Hikes in the backcountry wilderness, as well as leisurely walks at Horseshoe Lake and Savage River. Hikes along river bars and ridge tops offer the best routes, but extra caution and excellent footgear must be used as glacial streams can be dangerous, swift and cold.

Artist-in-Residence programs at Denali provide artists with use of the historic East Fork Cabin, while visitors are able to enjoy the original artwork produced and donated as part of the artist's stay.

VISITOR SERVICES

ARAMARK Parks and Destinations offers services to meet almost any basic need. A full service gas station is located year-round in Cantwell. During the summer, an additional gas station is located just north of the Park entrance on the George Parks Highway. A convenience store located in Cantwell is open year-round. The Riley Creek Mercantile, a camper convenience center opened in Denali National Park in the summer of 2002, is located on the Park Road approximately 0.5 miles from the Park entrance.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM

Green Thread®

At ARAMARK, we have a deep respect for and commitment to protecting and improving the environment. We work to reduce our environmental footprint while delivering exceptional operational results. We also offer expertise and practical solutions to our clients to help them reduce their environmental impacts. Throughout our company, we develop and implement long-term environmental stewardship programs and policies within the areas of Food Purchasing; Supply Chain; Building Operations; Energy and Water Conservation; Transportation and Waste Management.

MANAGEMENT

ARAMARK Parks and Destinations, a division of ARAMARK, delivers authentic and memorable experiences at national and state parks, national forests, specialty hotels, museums, and other tourist destinations throughout the United States. In partnership with its clients, ARAMARK Parks and Destinations seeks to enhance the guest experience by offering industry-leading hospitality,

environmental stewardship, recreational, and interpretive programs. For more information on ARAMARK Parks and Destinations and each of its properties, visit www.aramarkparksanddestinations.com.

INFORMATION

More information about Denali National Park and Preserve can be found at www.denalinationalpark.com and at www.nps.gov/dena.