



DENALI PARK RESORTS FACT SHEET

LOCATION	Denali National Park is located in the heart of the unspoiled interior 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 railroad. 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 from mid-May to mid-September.</p>
PHONE	866-296-0327 for reservations
WEBSITE	www.denaliparkresorts.com
MEDIA CONTACT	<p>Amy Toosley (619) 533-7976 aramark@allisonpr.com</p>
OVERVIEW	<p>Denali National Park and Preserve spans six million acres and includes Mt. McKinley, the tallest mountain in North America. The park provides visitors easy access to undisturbed wilderness including sweeping tundra vistas, abundant wildlife, and North America's tallest mountain. 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.</p> <p>Seemingly untouched by man, Denali National Park and Preserve astonishes visitors with its natural beauty. The Park is named for the 20,320-foot tall peak, Mt. McKinley, which is also known by the native Athabascan people as Denali, or the "High One."</p> <p>Visitors come to Denali for a unique outdoor experience – days spent river rafting, 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.</p> <p>Moose, Dall sheep, grizzly bears, wolves, and caribou are just some of the wildlife that inhabits 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 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 offers 345 upscale, two-room mini-suites in cedar lodges and 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 Fannie Quigley. Dining options at the Chalet include the Nenana View Grille, which offers fine, contemporary Alaskan cuisine such as pan-roasted Alaskan spot prawns 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 2009 dates of operation are May 12 – September 20.

McKinley Village Lodge

The McKinley Village Lodge, situated on the banks of the Nenana River eight miles south of the Park entrance, offers 188 guest rooms nested in a forest of spruce trees. The Klondike Gold Rush-themed lodge offers gold panning, an authentic Alaskan saloon, the Lucky Miss, and casual Alaskan cuisine in the Gold Rush Dining Room. The 2009 dates of operation are May 26 – September 15.

DINING

ARAMARK offers a delicious array of fine dining experiences including:

- Nenana View 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*

TOURS

Kantishna Experience Tour: The new Kantishna Experience is a 12-hour journey featuring interpretive narration provided jointly by a driver guide and a NPS ranger that joins the trip at Wonder Lake. The round trip into the heart of the park also includes lunch and a stop at the historic cabin of Fannie Quigley, an infamous Kantishna resident 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 a day takes visitors to Kantishna, known as "The End of the Road" and "The Heart of Denali National Park." This small town at the end of the 95-mile Denali road is only accessible by bus from the park entrance or by small aircraft to Kantishna Airstrip.

Tundra Wilderness Tour: a 6-8 hour adventure departing twice daily from area hotels. The tour is hosted by an interpretive guide and offers exploration of Denali National Park.

The Natural History Tour: a 3-4 hour guided interpretive tour through the taiga forest and the rolling tundra, includes a visit to Savage Cabin and departs three times daily.

Explore Denali Series: A series of guided hikes that last approximately three hours features exciting new adventure excursions that offer guests an

opportunity to hike within the park boundary independently for the first time. Starting at \$80/adult, \$40/children. Hikes include:

Rock Creek Interpretive Hike – Also new to our “front country” itinerary inside the Park boundary, this tour takes guests from the McKinley Chalet Resort for a van ride to the DVC where they will have 30-45 minutes to spend at the Visitor Center before the hike. The participants will convene and head off on an invigorating loop hike of approximately four miles on the Rock Creek Trail returning back to the Visitor Center. This moderate hike winds through a spruce forest that dominates the lower elevation hillsides of Denali National Park. Photo opportunities abound and there is always the possibility to spot a moose. Return transportation is provided back to the McKinley Chalet Resort or guests can rent a bike from Bike Denali to 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 photo opportunities. The tour features the open tundra and taiga of the Denali Highway originating in the town of Cantwell. This unpaved roadway is easily one of the most beautiful thoroughfares in all of Alaska and offers spectacular views of the Alaska Range. On clear days, Mt. McKinley can be seen and guests will also experience the openness and 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. This moderate level hike at the base of Sugarloaf Mountain is led by an interpretive guide and guests are transported by van to the trailhead of the Montana Creek Trail. The path follows the trail of frontier hunters through the spruce, willow and alder forest so common in the area. The ultimate destination (time permitting) is a winter cabin built for early settlers during their hunting trips.

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

CAMPING

McKinley RV & Campground

Located just 11 miles north of the gateway to Denali National Park and Preserve, the McKinley RV & Campground makes an ideal base camp. The campground has 89 sites with RV hookups as well as basic camping and tent sites. Electricity, water, sewer and other amenities are included.

The National Park Service also 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 Visitor 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 Park Visitor Center, 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/dena for details.

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. Two shows nightly: 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. The all-you-can-eat dinner is served family style and includes: Alaskan salmon, barbecue ribs, fork mashed potatoes, corn on the cob, old fashioned baked beans, drop biscuits, and blueberry cobbler. Advance reservations required.

River Rafting

Denali Park Resorts 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.

Hiking

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.

Biking

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 Alaska Raft Adventures. For information call 866-296-0327, or (907) 683-8200 (while in Denali).

Mountaineering

Mt. McKinley and Mt. Foraker climbers are required to register 60 days before their ascent with Denali National Park and Preserve and pay a special use fee of \$200.00 per climber plus park entrance fee (\$10.00 per person or \$20.00 per family). Visit www.nps.gov/dena for details and registration forms.

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.

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 offers services to meet almost any basic need. Full service gas stations are located year-round in Healy and Cantwell. During the summer, an additional gas station is located just north of the Park entrance on the George



Parks Highway. Convenience stores and a small grocery store are located in Healy and Cantwell and are 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 Sports and Entertainment, manages Denali Park Resorts and is an authorized concessioner at Denali National Park. ARAMARK Parks and Destinations provides a wide range of professional services, including property management, hospitality services and recreational support to specialty hotels, resorts, national and state parks, national forest service and other tourist destinations throughout the United States. ARAMARK Parks and Destinations seeks to create memorable experiences at destinations by bringing the best in environmental stewardship, sustainable cuisine and interpretive programs to the guests it serves. 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.

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