

# IDITAROD & AURORA ADVENTURE

**11 Days** | Anchorage to Fairbanks

Be a part of exciting Iditarod action and the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original diphtheria serum run to Nome, Alaska! From meeting the mushers to watching The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race firsthand in rural Alaska, these exciting activities are included during this legendary event. Sleeping under the aurora borealis rounds out this experience.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Captain Cook	3 Nights	Anchorage
Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge	2 Nights	Talkeetna
Sophie Station Suites	3 Nights	Fairbanks
Borealis Basecamp	2 Nights	Fairbanks

## TOUR FEATURES

- Two "Pick Your Adventure" Days
- Sleep under the northern lights
- Celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original serum run to Nome, Alaska
- Attend Iditarod Musher's Banquet, the official race start and ceremonial race start
- Fly to a remote village and observe an active Iditarod checkpoint
- Go dog sledding at Trail Breaker Kennel and visit a musk ox farm
- Celebrate 90th Fur Rondy festival happening in 2025!



## 2025 DEPARTURES

**IDITAROD & AURORA ADVENTURE**  
**300: FEB 26 - MAR 8**

**DOUBLE \$11,899**

Please call for triple/quad pricing.

**SINGLE \$13,599**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Guests may forgo the Iditarod checkpoint trip and receive a \$1700 per person credit to their account. This is an amazing and enriching experience, but understand that small planes may not be for everyone. Without the flightseeing trip, per person pricing will be \$10,199 double occupancy, \$11,899 single occupancy. Please let us know this at the time of booking or before final payment.

**PER PERSON PRICING INCLUDES:** Accommodations; fully-guided small plane transportation; airport transfers; daily activities and tours; meals, baggage handling, and corresponding gratuities; taxes; and black sub-zero jacket.

**WINTER GEAR:** Cold weather gear, such as boots and pants, are available for rent or purchase through recommended John Hall's Alaska sources.

**1 Anchorage**

Welcome to Anchorage! Upon arrival, all guests are greeted by a John Hall's Alaska representative and transferred to the luxury Hotel Captain Cook, the accommodations for the next three evenings. The remainder of the day is open for a complimentary visit to the Anchorage Museum or exploring Fur Rendezvous festivities happening around town.

*Dinner*

*Overnight: Hotel Captain Cook*

**2 Adventure Day & Musher's Banquet**

Begin the day with a Welcome Breakfast and a chance to meet fellow travel companions before heading out on the first "Pick Your Adventure Day" - glacier flightseeing, skiing or snowboarding, winter waterfall nature walk, fat tire biking, or a relaxing spa treatment. Later this afternoon, attend the authentic kick off to The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race with the Musher's Banquet, giving guests a chance to meet and greet with several Iditarod mushers. Watch as participants draw their bib numbers for the race, celebrating the time-honored cultural tradition of mushing.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Hotel Captain Cook*

**3 Musk Ox Farm & Iditarod Headquarters**

Ease into the day with a late morning tour of the Palmer Musk Ox Farm. Witness these prehistoric animals and learn about Alaska's ongoing domestication project. Spend time at Alaska's Iditarod Headquarters this afternoon. As a special treat this evening, an experienced musher joins guests for a JHA exclusive presentation and dinner. Hear stories of "The Last Great Race on Earth" while learning about the training and preparation that goes into competing.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Hotel Captain Cook*

**4 The Iditarod Ceremonial Start**

Today, witness the ceremonial start of the Iditarod in downtown Anchorage along 4th Avenue. Witness the dogs' excitement for running before the start. After lunch, travel to Talkeetna, the home for the next two evenings. Cozy up in front of the lodge's impressive 46-foot river rock fireplace, or step outside and watch for Alaska's evening light show, the breathtaking aurora borealis.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge*

**5 The Iditarod Official Start**

Following breakfast, travel to Willow to witness the exciting official start of The Iditarod. After an exhilarating once in a lifetime day, return to Talkeetna for a delicious dinner. Join a professional photographer of the aurora borealis for an exclusive John Hall's guest photography presentation, sharing tips on how to properly capture the northern lights. Practice new camera skills from the lodge's expansive back porch.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge*

**6 Fairbanks**

Depart Talkeetna and head north to Fairbanks via the spectacular Parks Highway. After settling into Sophie Station Suites for a three-night stay, take an evening trip to the World Ice Art Championships. Enjoy a magical stroll through over 100 colorfully lit ice sculptures masterfully crafted by some of the finest sculptors from around the world.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Sophie Station Suites*

**7 The Iditarod Checkpoint**

Today is the day which sets the JHA Iditarod experience apart from all others - Begin with a breathtaking morning flight west aboard a small aircraft to fly over The Iditarod trail while enroute to an official Iditarod race checkpoint. After landing in a remote location of Alaska, spend time watching the mushers arrive and ready their dog teams for the next push towards Nome. After a thrilling day, reboard the aircraft for a scenic flight returning to Fairbanks for the evening.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Sophie Station Suites*

**8 Fairbanks**

Relax this morning, before visiting Trail Breaker Kennel - home of the late four-time Iditarod champion Susan Butcher. Enjoy an exclusive presentation and an exhilarating dog sled ride! After lunch and time with the pups, rest up with a free afternoon before tonight's spectacular late-night aurora viewing opportunity.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Sophie Station Suites*

**9 Curling & Igloos**

It's time to learn a new sport - curling! Over at the Fairbanks Curling Club, join in the fun with a private lesson in one of Alaskan's favorite past times, curling! After a delicious lunch at a local favorite, travel to Borealis Basecamp, a unique winter stay for the last two nights and perfect location for the ultimate aurora borealis experience. Sleep in an Alaska-style private igloo while viewing the aurora borealis from the comfort of a climate-controlled room. Let's just say Iceland, Finland and so many more have nothing on Alaska!

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Borealis Basecamp*

**10 Borealis Basecamp Adventure Day**

Today is all about winter adventure. Surrounded by miles of pristine boreal forest in the Alaska wilderness, enjoy an Alaska style day on snow machines, dog sleds, and other optional winter activities. Spend one more evening in the tranquil wilderness while experiencing the magic of Alaska's northern lights, colorful skies and incredible winter environment.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

*Overnight: Borealis Basecamp*

**11 Fairbanks**

Late this morning, following breakfast, board the motorcoach to transfer to the Fairbanks International Airport. Guests with flights departing after 3pm will visit the Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum, home to a world-class collection of historic automobiles and fashions.

*Breakfast*

**Included Highlights**

- Anchorage Adventure Day
- Iditarod Mushers Banquet
- Palmer Musk Ox Farm
- Exclusive Iditarod Musher Q&A Session
- Iditarod Ceremonial Start
- Aurora Borealis Photography lesson
- Aurora Borealis Viewing
- Iditarod Official Start
- Remote Iditarod Checkpoint Visit
- Overnight in private igloos under the aurora borealis
- Borealis Basecamp Adventure Day
- Private Learn to Curl Lesson
- Trail Breaker Kennel Dog Sled Ride
- World Ice Art Championships
- Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum

**Included Meals: 29**

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner on all full tour days, plus arrival day dinner and departure day breakfast.

**Max Group Size: 26****Active Rating**

Most ability levels. Requires ability to board small aircrafts and walk a quarter to half a mile in snow.

**Flights**

This tour begins in Anchorage, Alaska, and ends in Fairbanks, Alaska. Flights must arrive before 10pm on Day 1; early check-in cannot be guaranteed before 4pm. On Day 11, flights may depart Fairbanks after 1pm. Guests will depart Borealis Basecamp late morning.