



# ALASKA



<http://alaska.gov/> Click on this website for more information @ Alaska

## MAJOR CITIES:

Far North Alaska	Nome, Brooks Range
Interior Alaska	Fairbanks
Southwest Alaska	Alaska Peninsula
South Central Alaska	Anchorage
Inside Passage Alaska	Juneau, Ketchikan

## ALASKA – CLIMATE

Americans, who called Alaska "Seward's icebox" when it was first purchased from the Russians, were unaware of the variety of climatic conditions within its six topographic regions. Although minimum daily winter temperatures in the Arctic region and in the Brooks Range average  $-20^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $-29^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and the ground at Point Barrow is frozen permanently to 1,330 ft (405 m), summer maximum daily temperatures in the Alaskan lowlands average above  $60^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $16^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and have been known to exceed  $90^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $32^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The southeastern region is moderate, ranging from a daily average of  $30^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $-1^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) in January to  $56^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $13^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) in July; the south-central zone has a similar summer range, but winters are somewhat harsher, especially in the interior. The Aleutian Islands have chilly, damp winters and rainy, foggy weather for most of the year; western Alaska is also rainy and cool. The all-time high for the state was  $100^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), recorded at Ft. Yukon on 27 June 1915; the reading of  $-79.8^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $-62^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), registered at Prospect Creek Camp in the northwestern part of the state on 23 January 1971, is the lowest temperature ever officially recorded in the US.

Juneau received an annual average precipitation of 58.3 in (148 cm), with 98.5 in (250 cm) of snowfall recorded at the airport there each year. The entire southeastern region of Alaska has a wide range of microclimates with varying levels of precipitation; Juneau's metropolitan area precipitation ranges from 40 in (102 cm) to over 100 in (254 cm) per year.

## **CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

[http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60732-Activities-Nome\\_Alaska.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60732-Activities-Nome_Alaska.html)

[http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60826-Activities-c48-Fairbanks\\_Alaska.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60826-Activities-c48-Fairbanks_Alaska.html)

[http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60880-Activities-Anchorage\\_Alaska.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g60880-Activities-Anchorage_Alaska.html)

[http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g31020-Activities-Juneau\\_Alaska.html#TtD](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Attractions-g31020-Activities-Juneau_Alaska.html#TtD)

Click on these sites for even more cultural activities.

- **Bering Land Bridge National Preserve-Nome**
- A remnant of the land bridge that once connected Asia and North America. This is a must see while in Nome, containing tons of interesting facts. It is an easy walk for anywhere in town. You can't miss the building. It is the one with the huge Polar Bear carving at the entrance!
- **The Aurora Ice Museum-Fairbanks**
- The Aurora Ice Museum was built as a way to boost tourism at Chena Hot Springs Resort, located 60 miles northeast of Fairbanks while simultaneously offering year-round employment for Steve Brice 15 time world ice carving champion and wife Heather Brice six time world ice carving champion. The museum features a gallery and ice bar, overhead chandeliers made of individually carved ice crystals which change color every six seconds mimicking the northern lights, countless sculptures including a gigantic chess set, life sized jousting knights, an ice fireplace and four galleries with varying themes.
- **Large Animal Research Station-Fairbanks**
- Thousands of visitors each year get a chance to see muskoxen, caribou and domestic reindeer on summer tours of this 134-acre site set up for nutritional, behavioral and physiological study by the University of Alaska.
- **Prince William Sound-Anchorage**
- Soak in the breathtaking scenery of fjords, glaciers, waterfalls and bays whether kayaking, sailing or cruising through the calm waters. Wildlife abounds in the form of whales, seals, sea lions, eagles, bears and deer.
- **Tony Knowles Coastal Trail- Anchorage**
- This world-class 11-mile-long paved trail through parks begins in downtown Anchorage on 2nd Avenue. One mile from the start, the trail forks at Westchester Lagoon. Left is the Lanie Fleischer Chester Creek Trail (five miles to University). If you bear right, you will continue on the "Coastal Trail." On your right is the ocean, on your left, set back from the trail, are the backyards of million dollar homes. This is the busiest section of trail (especially after 5 p.m.). Many joggers, walkers, and bicyclists. Three miles from the lagoon the trail enters Earthquake Park. A moderate hill crests at Pt. Woronzof. This lookout is at the end of the north/south runway of Anchorage International Airport. Every few minutes, throughout the day, giant jets take off and land right over your head. Continuing on from the Pt., the trail meanders through woods. Because this section of trail is further from town, you will see less people. (Mostly bicyclists.) This is the section where you will likely encounter moose. Other wildlife frequently spotted are bald eagles, porcupines and owls. The trail ends at Kincaid Park. Kincaid has more than 30-miles of roller-coaster mountain bike trails. At Kincaid you decide whether to return on the Coastal Trail or ride back into town on bike paths adjacent to or buffered from streets. Bikes can be rented at Downtown Bicycle Rental just a few blocks from the trail's start.
- **Mendenhall Glacier-Juneau**  
The visitor center is excellent. Go early (like 9 am) to avoid the crowds. Then hike up the western side of the glacier which takes about 3 hours and ends up at a point which overlooks the glacier. This offers a better perspective of the glacier than from the visitor center. Take lunch. You will probably have the view to yourself.
- **Juneau-Douglas City Museum-Juneau**
- Open to the public year round, the Juneau-Douglas City Museum features a variety of exhibits relating to local history, art and culture including a 500-700 year old basketry-style fish trap and full scale replica, a 5x7 topographical map of Juneau, and comprehensive video, Juneau: City Built on Gold. In addition to its exhibits, the City Museum offers community programming throughout the fall and winter, various classes and workshops, educational tours and the

Juneau History Grant. With our award winning online archive "Digital Bob" and "Historic Structures Database", we are continuing to expand our role as a resource for local history research and historic preservation. The Museum gift shop features local arts and crafts, books by local writers, trail guides and old fashioned toys. During the summer season the Museum offers historic downtown walking tours at 1:30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Contact the Museum for more information.

- **Misty Fjords National Monument-Ketchikan**
- The Misty Fjords National Monument is a beautiful and unspoiled wilderness area located 35 miles outside Ketchikan, Alaska. Highlights include snow-capped peaks, glacially-carved valleys, alpine lakes, sheer granite cliffs, spectacular waterfalls and abundant wildlife. Because it is so vast (about the size of the State of Connecticut) it is best to see this area from above in a floatplane, or if you have time to spend in the area, to stay in a Forest Service cabin located on one of its many lakes. Kayak/Camping and Day cruises are also available through several different companies in the area. If you are visiting Ketchikan, this is a must see, it is truly beautiful!

## **GROCERY SHOPPING**

Fred Meyer Safeway Wal-Mart	Target Carrs
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[http://alaska.usl.myareaguide.com/grocery\\_stores.html](http://alaska.usl.myareaguide.com/grocery_stores.html)

Click on this site for more grocery stores in Alaska.

## **SHOPPING**

Anchorage Anchorage AK [Anchorage 5th Avenue Mall](#)

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Anchorage Anchorage AK [Dimond Center](#)

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<http://www.mallseeker.com/alaskamalls.aspx>

Click here for more information on shopping.

## **PHARMACIES**

Walgreens

Target

Carrs

Fred Meyer Pharmacy

Wal-Mart

Rite-Aid

<http://www.superpages.com/yellowpages/C-Pharmacies/S-AK/>

Click here for locating other pharmacies in Alaska.

## POST OFFICES/SHIPPING



<http://www.postofficehours.net/state/AK.html> Click here for more information



<http://local.fedex.com/ak/> Click here for more information



[https://www.ups.com/dropoff?loc=en\\_US](https://www.ups.com/dropoff?loc=en_US) click here for more information

## TIME ZONES

### Alaska Time Zone – Alaska Current Local Time - Daylight Saving Time

Alaska is in the Alaska Daylight Time

[http://localtimes.info/North\\_America/United\\_States/Alaska/](http://localtimes.info/North_America/United_States/Alaska/)

Click here for more information

## COST OF LIVING IN ALASKA

Cost of Living	Alaska, AK	United States
<u>Overall</u>	<b>135</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Grocery</u>	<b>136.4</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Health</u>	<b>141</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Housing</u>	<b>152</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Utilities</u>	<b>165</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Transportation</u>	<b>115</b>	<b>100</b>
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<b>117</b>	<b>100</b>

Our cost of living indices are based on a US average of 100. An amount below 100 means Alaska, AK is cheaper than the US average. A cost of living index above 100 means Alaska, AK is more expensive.

Overall, Alaska, AK cost of living is 135.10.

[http://www.bestplaces.net/cost\\_of\\_living/state/alaska](http://www.bestplaces.net/cost_of_living/state/alaska)

Click here for more information

## **MINIMUM WAGE**

State	2016 Minimum Wage	2016 Tipped Wage
AK	\$9.75	\$9.75

<http://www.minimumwage.com/in-your-state/>

Click here for more information

## **WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION**

<http://labor.alaska.gov/wc/>

Click here for more information

## **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

People Mover – Anchorage

Alaska Railroad Corporation – Anchorage

Fairbanks North Star Borough Transit – Fairbanks

Capital Transit System – Juneau

<http://www.apta.com/resources/links/unitedstates/Pages/AlaskaTransitLinks.aspx>

Click here for more information