Denali Prepares to Meet New Generations

Next year in 2016, the National Park Service turns 100. Just one year later, it will be time to celebrate the centennial of Denali National Park and Preserve, which Congress established as Mount McKinley National Park in 1917.

Both anniversaries provide opportunities to introduce the NPS to a next generation of visitors, supporters and advocates, to engage further with visitors who already know and love parks, and to reflect on the vast network of public lands and protected places set aside for all Americans.

Through these next few years especially, we invite you to take part in an NPS initiative that encourages you to redefine what the word “park” means for you. Organizers are especially interested in the perspective of young people. The initiative seeks to tap into their passion for creating, consuming, and sharing content through social media. It seeks to reach new audiences in the spaces and places where they already are and where they will be the most receptive.

Join the conversation at FindYourPark.com

Find Your PARK

Welcome to Denali

This year as we invite each American to “Find Your Park,” I recall finding my park as a boy on the fields of Gettysburg and Valley Forge, and later camping and hiking on the Appalachian Trail, which traverses six national parks. Those early experiences led to a lifelong love of parks and a career as a steward to them.

I moved to Alaska in January 2013, and in late May I drove into the park with our road crew during Spring Road Opening. On that beautiful day with clear blue skies we crested Stony Point and the sight of Denali in all its grandeur took my breath away. Since then I have found my Denali in many unexpected places – listening to the stories of Athabaskan elders, watching a lynx silently stalking its prey, or bearing witness to the spectacular migration of the Sandhill cranes.

I invite you to “Find Your Denali” and to share your experience with us at go.nps.gov/DenaliStory

Enjoy your visit.

Don Striker
Superintendent
Alaska by the numbers

National park units = 23
Visitors to national parks in 2014 = 2,684,693
Economic impact from national park tourism in 2013 = $1,145,500,000
Hours donated by volunteers = 137,448
World Heritage Sites = 1
National Heritage Areas = 1
National Historic Landmarks = 49
National Natural Landmarks = 16
National Register of Historic Places listings = 419

Free filtered water

Save money and reduce use of disposable plastic drink containers by refilling your bottle with free, fresh water from filtered dispensers at six park locations (from east to west): Riley Creek Mercantile, Wilderness Access Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Morino Grill, Denali Visitor Center, and Eielson Visitor Center. See maps pages 4, 9, and 16. Water sources are limited beyond the park entrance area.

Entrance Fees

Seven-Day Pass: Individual (age 16 and older), $10
Denali National Park and Preserve Annual Pass: $40
America the Beautiful Interagency Passes: Annual, $80
Senior, $10
Access, Free
Annual Military Pass, Free

Your Fees at Work

Eighty percent of fee dollars collected in the park return to Denali to pay for projects that have an impact on visitor experience. Recent projects include: informational signs, campground improvements, and trail erosion mitigation.

Food

Don’t Go Hungry or Thirsty
There is no food and limited water available beyond the park entrance area. Please be sure to pack well for your travels.

Wilderness Access Center
A coffee cart and snacks are available 5 am to 7 pm daily.

Riley Creek Mercantile
Bottled drinks, sandwiches, and a variety of packaged snacks and convenience groceries are available in the Riley Creek Campground. Open 7 am to 11 pm daily with reduced hours likely in May and September.

Services

Accessibility
Most restrooms are wheelchair accessible. Some trails, and tour and shuttle buses are wheelchair accessible. Please advise staff of needs when making a reservation. Park films are open-captioned. Find more information at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliAccess

Alaska Railroad
You can travel to Denali by rail from Fairbanks, Anchorage, or Talkeetna. Call 800 544-0552, or 907 683-2333 in Anchorage, or 907 265-2683 in Anchorage.

Ash Canada
Located on Sulfide Drive in Healy, the Denali Preschool and Child Care Center offers year-round, 7 am to 5 pm child care in the Denali Access Center. For more information, call 907 683-2647.

Emergency
Dial 911

Corrections or suggestions?
Jay_Elbard@nps.gov

Denali National Park and Preserve
P.O. Box 9
Denali Park, AK 99755
E-mail
DENA_ Info@nps.gov
Website
www.nps.gov/dena

Phone
907 683-2294

Bus and campsite reservations
800 622-7275 Nationwide
907 272-7275 International
www.reservedenali.com

Free filtered water

Save money and reduce use of disposable plastic drink containers by refilling your bottle with free, fresh water from filtered dispensers at six park locations (from east to west): Riley Creek Mercantile, Wilderness Access Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Morino Grill, Denali Visitor Center, and Eielson Visitor Center. See maps pages 4, 9, and 16. Water sources are limited beyond the park entrance area.

Post Office
Located near the park entrance and Riley Creek Campground.

Recycling Areas
Located at the Riley Creek Mercantile for aluminum, plastic, and batteries. Visitor centers, campgrounds, and rest stops have aluminum can receptacles.

Religious Services
Please check at the Denali Visitor Center for times and locations of religious services.

Road Lottery
This year’s Road Lottery is Thu Sept 17 to Mon Sept 21 (with Military Appreciation Day set for Sat Sept 19). For each day of the lottery, four names are drawn and those winners may drive the length of the Park Road in their personal vehicles. Names of those selected for permits are posted by June 15. Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery

Sewage Dump Station
Located adjacent to the Riley Creek Mercantile. Free to campers staying in the park, $5 for others, payable at the Riley Creek Mercantile. Facility may be closed early or late in season due to frozen ground or chance of freezing.

Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, Port Alsworth
Noatak National Preserve, Kotzebue
Sitka National Historical Park, Sitka
World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, Honolulu, HI, AK, CA
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, Copper Center
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Eagle

Tyler Creek Campground. Open 7 am to 11 pm daily with reduced hours likely in May and September.

Glacier Landings
Available seven miles south of the park entrance. By day, or overnight. 907 683-9275 or visit the Lost and Found Center at the Riley Creek Mercantile.

Gas and Propane
Available at gas stations one mile north of the park entrance, 11 miles north in Healy, and 29 miles south in Cantwell.

Glacier Landings
Visitors can opt to land on park glaciers aboard a ski-equipped airplane with:
Fly Denali, with offices in Talkeetna and Healy, AK 866 733-7768
K2 Aviation, Talkeetna, AK 907 683-2291
Sheldon Air Service, Talkeetna, AK 800 478-2321

Grocery, Laundry, and Showers
At the Riley Creek Mercantile, located near the entrance of the park, adjacent to the Riley Creek Campground.

Lost and Found
Call 907 683-9275 or visit the baggage check located across from the park entrance area. Please check at the Denali Visitor Center for times and locations of religious services.

Medical
The closest physicians and hospitals are in Fairbanks.
Canyon Clinic, urgent care facility, about a mile north of the park entrance at Mile 238.8. Open 9 am to 6 pm daily, available on call 24 hours, 907 683-4433.

Interior Community Health Center, located in the Talkeetna Community Center, 13 miles north of the park on Healy Spur Road. Clinic hours are 8 am to 5:30 pm weekdays. A physician’s assistant is on call at 907 683-2211.

Post Office
Located near the park entrance and Riley Creek Campground.

Recycling Areas
Located at the Riley Creek Mercantile for aluminum, plastic, and batteries. Visitor centers, campgrounds, and rest stops have aluminum can receptacles.

Religious Services
Please check at the Denali Visitor Center for times and locations of religious services.

Road Lottery
This year’s Road Lottery is Thu Sept 17 to Mon Sept 21 (with Military Appreciation Day set for Sat Sept 19). For each day of the lottery, four names are drawn and those winners may drive the length of the Park Road in their personal vehicles. Names of those selected for permits are posted by June 15. Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery

Sewage Dump Station
Located adjacent to the Riley Creek Mercantile. Free to campers staying in the park, $5 for others, payable at the Riley Creek Mercantile. Facility may be closed early or late in season due to frozen ground or chance of freezing.

Post Office
Located near the park entrance and Riley Creek Campground.

Recycling Areas
Located at the Riley Creek Mercantile for aluminum, plastic, and batteries. Visitor centers, campgrounds, and rest stops have aluminum can receptacles.

Religious Services
Please check at the Denali Visitor Center for times and locations of religious services.

Road Lottery
This year’s Road Lottery is Thu Sept 17 to Mon Sept 21 (with Military Appreciation Day set for Sat Sept 19). For each day of the lottery, four names are drawn and those winners may drive the length of the Park Road in their personal vehicles. Names of those selected for permits are posted by June 15. Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery

Sewage Dump Station
Located adjacent to the Riley Creek Mercantile. Free to campers staying in the park, $5 for others, payable at the Riley Creek Mercantile. Facility may be closed early or late in season due to frozen ground or chance of freezing.

Post Office
Located near the park entrance and Riley Creek Campground.

Recycling Areas
Located at the Riley Creek Mercantile for aluminum, plastic, and batteries. Visitor centers, campgrounds, and rest stops have aluminum can receptacles.

Religious Services
Please check at the Denali Visitor Center for times and locations of religious services.

Road Lottery
This year’s Road Lottery is Thu Sept 17 to Mon Sept 21 (with Military Appreciation Day set for Sat Sept 19). For each day of the lottery, four names are drawn and those winners may drive the length of the Park Road in their personal vehicles. Names of those selected for permits are posted by June 15. Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery

Sewage Dump Station
Located adjacent to the Riley Creek Mercantile. Free to campers staying in the park, $5 for others, payable at the Riley Creek Mercantile. Facility may be closed early or late in season due to frozen ground or chance of freezing.

Post Office
Located near the park entrance and Riley Creek Campground.

Recycling Areas
Located at the Riley Creek Mercantile for aluminum, plastic, and batteries. Visitor centers, campgrounds, and rest stops have aluminum can receptacles.

Religious Services
Please check at the Denali Visitor Center for times and locations of religious services.

Road Lottery
This year’s Road Lottery is Thu Sept 17 to Mon Sept 21 (with Military Appreciation Day set for Sat Sept 19). For each day of the lottery, four names are drawn and those winners may drive the length of the Park Road in their personal vehicles. Names of those selected for permits are posted by June 15. Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery

Sewage Dump Station
Located adjacent to the Riley Creek Mercantile. Free to campers staying in the park, $5 for others, payable at the Riley Creek Mercantile. Facility may be closed early or late in season due to frozen ground or chance of freezing.
You Can Help Keep Wildlife Healthy and Wild

The bears of Denali are wild creatures behaving naturally. These solitary animals can be very dangerous. Denali is home to both black bears and grizzly bears. Black bears inhabit the forested areas of the park, while grizzly bears mainly live on the open tundra. Almost all bears along the Park Road are grizzlies. For your own protection, and to keep bears healthy and wild, please carefully read and abide by these rules. Each of us has an obligation to respect bears and their habitat. These rules are strictly enforced in Denali. Failure to observe them may result in citations or fines.

BE ALERT
Bears are active both day and night and can be anywhere. Watch for tracks and scat.

DON’T SURPRISE
Bears may perceive you as a threat if you startle them. Never get between a sow and her cub. Bears are protective of their cubs.

MAKE NOISE
Warn bears of your presence by making noise—sing, shout, talk. Be especially careful in dense brush where visibility is low, when walking into the wind, and along rivers where bears may not hear you over the noise of the water.

NEVER APPROACH
Bears should live as free from human interference as possible. Give them space. Maintain a minimum distance of 300 yards (275 meters). Allowing a bear to approach for photographs is prohibited. If a bear changes its behavior due to your presence, you are too close.

IF A GRIZZLY MAKES CONTACT WITH YOU, PLAY DEAD
Curl up into a ball with your knees tucked into your stomach and your hands laced around the back of your neck. Leave your pack on to protect your back. If the attack is prolonged, fight back vigorously. If a black bear makes contact with you, fight back immediately.

BEAR SPRAY
When used properly, bear spray can be an effective deterrent for aggressive behavior by bears. If you decide to carry it, be aware that wind, spray distance, rain, and product shelf life all influence its effectiveness. Learn how to use it safely. Ask a park ranger if you have questions. When traveling on a bus, tell the driver you have bear spray so it can be secured appropriately.

Please report all bear incidents and encounters to a ranger. Park rangers and biologists need this information to document bear behavior for research and management purposes.

BACK AWAY SLOWLY IF THE BEAR IS AWARE OF YOU
Speak in a calm, low-pitched voice while waving your arms slowly above your head. Bears that stand up on their hind legs are not threatening you, but merely trying to identify you. Should a bear approach or charge you, do not run. Do not drop your pack. Bears sometimes charge to within a few feet of a person before stopping or veering off. Dropping a pack may pique a bear’s curiosity, causing it to investigate. Stand still until the bear moves away, then slowly back off.

Do not run from a bear. If you are going to spend significant time in the outdoors in Alaska, carry bear spray, and know how to use and dispose of it safely.

If a moose charges you, run away. Dodge quickly behind large trees, cars, or structures. If you are chased while caught out in the open, zigzag or change direction often.

As you explore park trails and wilderness areas, be bear aware. You are safer hiking in groups. In areas of low visibility, make noise to avoid surprise encounters.

In developed areas, stay on established trails and paths. If you are hiking with a group, do not hike in areas where there are no established trails, spread out to reduce your impact on the landscape.

Leave what you find. If you find a historic object, artifact, archeological feature or natural curiosity, do not collect it. Federal regulations require that such discoveries remain in context. To help researchers and contribute to science, snap photos and carefully note the location, preferably with GPS reference coordinates.

If a moose charges you, run away. Dodge quickly behind large trees, cars, or structures. If you are chased while caught out in the open, zigzag or change direction often.

It is the responsibility of visitors to understand all applicable firearms laws before entering the park. Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in the park. Those places are marked with signs at all public entrances. The park concessioner does not allow firearms on tour buses. Passengers may carry a firearm on shuttle buses but it must be unloaded and stored in a locked container. Except as part of authorized hunting activities, discharging weapons is strictly prohibited throughout the park. Learn more online at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliFirearms

Top 10 Things to Know

For a safe and enjoyable visit, please become familiar with these important park rules and safety advisories.

Do not feed any wild animals, including birds. It is unhealthy for them, and encourages aggressive behavior that may require management action. All pet food, trash, coolers, and cooking tools must be kept secure unless in immediate use. We all have a shared responsibility to keep wildlife healthy and wild.

Do not approach wildlife. You must stay at least 25 yards (23 m) away from moose, sheep, wolves, and other animals. A distance of at least 300 yards (275 m) is required from bears. Regardless of distance, if any wild animal changes its behavior due to your presence, you are too close.

If you see wildlife from a tour or shuttle bus, please heed your driver’s instructions to limit noise and distractions. Keep your head, hands, and elbows entirely within the windows of the vehicle.

Park Regulations and Safety Advisories

Quiet Please
If you see wildlife from a tour or shuttle bus, please heed your driver’s instructions to limit noise and distractions. Keep your head, hands, and elbows entirely within the windows of the vehicle.

Quiet Please
If you see wildlife from a tour or shuttle bus, please heed your driver’s instructions to limit noise and distractions. Keep your head, hands, and elbows entirely within the windows of the vehicle.

Watch Wildlife Safely

Any distance that alters the behavior of a wild animal is too close. Maintain minimum distances at all times. Resist the temptation to approach or intercept an animal’s path.

Use binoculars or a telephoto lens to observe an animal’s natural behavior. Do not engage in photography if an animal moves closer than the minimum distance allowed. Remind others of their ethical responsibility when photographing animals. Please do not follow an animal at close distance with a vehicle. Motorists must stop and allow an animal to cross the road safely.

Avoid stressing wildlife. Animals living here are engaged in a daily struggle to find food, shelter, and water necessary for survival. Avoid wildlife during sensitive times, such as when they are nesting, mating, or raising young.
The bus that you ride in Denali is key to conserving the park’s wilderness character for future generations. Each bus takes the place of dozens of personal vehicles, saves on fuel and emissions, and allows you to watch and enjoy scenery and wildlife more safely.

The paved section of the Park Road from the entrance at the George Parks Highway to the Savage River Check Station at Mile 14.7 is open to private vehicles during the regular season. The area is served by the Savage River Shuttle, a free courtesy shuttle with parking and departure points throughout the entrance area. It’s especially well-suited for hiking and cycling logistics, and shoulder season outings. Plan on two hours roundtrip. See more details listed on Page 16. A map and descriptions of Savage River area hiking trails appear on Page 8.

### Departure
Tour buses depart from area hotels and the Wilderness Access Center. Please check pickup location prior to the date of departure. All Visitor Transportation System (VTS) shuttle buses depart from the Wilderness Access Center only.

### Dates of Operation
Regular Season May 20 to Sept 16
Shoulder Season May 13-19 and Sept 17 Dates subject to change

### Car Seats
Alaska State Law requires children to be in a car seat or booster seat. Children younger than 1 year of age or less than 20 pounds (9 kg) must be in a rear-facing infant seat. Children 1-4 years and at least 20 pounds (9 kg) must be in a child restraint. Children 5-7 years who are less than 57 inches (1.4 m) tall or less than 65 pounds (30 kg) must be in a booster seat. Parents are responsible for providing the appropriate car seat.

The concessioner makes efforts to provide infant and toddler seats free of charge at the Wilderness Access Center, Baggage Claim, and other areas. Some buses are equipped with two built-in toddler seats.

### Accessibility
Wheelchair accessible buses are available on all bus systems. Please advise staff of your needs as you make reservations. American Sign Language interpretation is available with advanced request.

### Firearms
The park concessioner does not allow firearms on tour buses. Passengers may carry a firearm on shuttle buses but it must be unloaded and stored in a locked container. Check with the concessioner in advance for more information.

---

### Tours

#### Natural History Tour
This tour focuses on presenting the rich cultural and natural history of Denali. Your driver/naturalist provides a great introduction to the landscape, geology, and history of the park as you travel 17 miles into the park. Morning and afternoon departures are available. A snack and water are provided. Length: 4-1/2 to 5 hours

#### Windows into the Wilderness
This narrated tour to the Teklanika River at Mile 30 provides a blend of history, science, and the opportunity to view wildlife and sweeping landscapes. At the Mountain Vista Trail (Mile 12), an interpreter and an educator introduce visitors to the cultural and scientific significance of Denali. The tour is an excellent choice for families because it includes demonstrations, activities, and a 3/4 mile walk. A snack and water are provided. Morning departures only. Length: 5-1/2 to 6 hours

#### Tundra Wilderness Tour
A narrated tour traveling 53 miles into the park to the Teklanika River Contact Station offers opportunities to view the park’s wildlife and scenery. Tours depart in early morning and afternoon. A box lunch and water are provided. Length: 7-8 hours

#### Kantishna Experience
This narrated tour provides exceptional opportunities to view park wildlife and scenery while learning about early park history on this fully-narrated tour. Travels the full length of the Park Road to the historic mining district of Kantishna at Mile 92. A park ranger joins the tour to lead a short walk and tour in Kantishna. Lunch and water included. Morning departures only. Length: 12 hours

More at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliBuses

---

### Shuttles

#### Visitor Transportation System (VTS) Shuttle Buses
Shuttles are for transportation and wildlife viewing. Passengers may get off along the Park Road to hike and explore, then reboard later shuttle buses on a space available basis with a ticket for that day. Waits of up to one hour to reboard a shuttle bus are possible. See page 6 for a link to bus schedules posted online.

Bring plenty of food, water, and adequate warm clothing. No food is available for purchase beyond the entrance area. You may also want to bring field guides, binoculars, insect repellent, and head nets.

Fares are dependent on turn-around destination and do not include entrance fees. Youth discounts apply. Fares listed are for an adult age 16 and over. Youth age 15 and under are free.

All VTS buses have racks available for two bicycles. See page 7.

### Destinations

#### Destination
- **Talkeetna**
  - Mile 53.5 and 85.4 km
  - Offers restrooms, visitor information desk, bookstores.
  - Highlights include braided river, view of Divide Mountain, wildflowers, Dall sheep, grizzlies, caribou.
  - Start: May 20
  - Time: 6-1/2 hours roundtrip
  - Fare: Adult, age 16 and older $27.50, youth, age 15 and younger FREE

- **Eielson Visitor Center**
  - Mile 65.9 and 106.1 km
  - Offers restrooms, visitor information, art gallery, picnic tables.
  - Highlights include views of Mount McKinley, tundra, trails, golden eagles, grizzlies, wolves, arctic ground squirrels.
  - Start: June 1
  - Time: 8 hours roundtrip
  - Fare: Adult, age 16 and older $35.00, youth, age 15 and younger FREE

- **Wonder Lake**
  - Mile 84.4 and 135.9 km (to Park Road junction)
  - Offers restrooms and picnic tables. Highlights include views of Mount McKinley, kettle ponds, moose, beaver, waterfowl, blueberries.
  - Start: June 8
  - Time: 11 hours roundtrip
  - Fare: Adult, age 16 and older $48.25, youth, age 15 and younger FREE

- **Kantishna**
  - Mile 92.4 and 148.4 km
  - This area is primarily a destination for lodge visitors and backpackers for backcountry access. Please respect private lands.
  - Start: June 8
  - Time: 12 hours roundtrip
  - Fare: Adult, age 16 and older $52.50, youth, age 15 and younger FREE

- **Camper Bus and Backpackers Only**
  - Tent campers can access backcountry units or Sanctuary, Teklanika River, Igloo Creek, and Wonder Lake campgrounds by camper bus. Reserve when making a camping reservation. Camper bus passes are good on any green bus with space available, for the entire time you are west of Mile 20.
  - Start: June 1
  - Time: Depends on destination
  - Fare: Adult, age 16 and older $39.00, youth, age 15 and younger FREE

---

### Bus and Campsite Reservations
800 622-7275 Nationwide
907 272-7275 International
www.reservedenali.com

---

### Additional Information
- **Advance for more information.**
- **Passengers may carry a firearm on**
- **shuttle buses but it must be unloaded**
- **and stored in a locked container.**
- **Shuttle buses depart from the **
- **Visitor Transportation System (VTS )**
  - shuttle buses depart from the **
- **Wilderness Access Center only.**
- **Dates of Operation**
  - Regular Season May 20 to Sept 16
  - Shoulder Season May 13-19 and Sept 17 Dates subject to change
- **Car Seats**
  - Alaska State Law requires children to be in a car seat or booster seat. Children younger than 1 year of age or less than 20 pounds (9 kg) must be in a rear-facing infant seat. Children 1-4 years and at least 20 pounds (9 kg) must be in a child restraint. Children 5-7 years who are less than 57 inches (1.4 m) tall or less than 65 pounds (30 kg) must be in a booster seat. Parents are responsible for providing the appropriate car seat.
- **Accessibility**
  - Wheelchair accessible buses are available on all bus systems. Please advise staff of your needs as you make reservations. American Sign Language interpretation is available with advanced request.
- **Firearms**
  - The park concessioner does not allow firearms on tour buses. Passengers may carry a firearm on shuttle buses but it must be unloaded and stored in a locked container. Check with the concessioner in advance for more information.
Still Crown of a Continent

The official height of Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America, remains 20,320 feet, or 6,193.5 meters. While media reports last year suggested the mountain might be 83 feet shorter now, the U.S. Geological Survey attributed the difference to measuring techniques. Airborne radar data from 2010 were based on an average for a 269-square-foot area around the summit and reportedly were not intended to represent height at any single spot. Prevailing estimates for the elevation of the mountain as measured from the summit itself date back to 1952.

Six Park Campgrounds Welcome Tents or RVs

Camping in summer offers you a great way to experience Interior Alaska by tent or RV. Here are some important things to know about your responsibilities.

- Check in after 11 am. Check out by 11 am.
- Quiet hours are between 10 pm and 6 am. At Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds, generators may be operated only from 8 am to 10 am and 4 pm to 8 pm. No exceptions.
- Fires are allowed only in established grates at Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds. The use of power saws and cutting live vegetation or standing deadwood are prohibited. Campfires must not be left unattended.
- Pets must be leashed at all times. They are not allowed on most trails, on river bars, or in the backcountry. Dispose of feces in garbage cans.
- Store all food and ice chests in vehicles or in the food lockers provided.
- Store and cook food away from sleeping areas.
- Whenever they are not in use, all food, food containers, coolers, and cooking utensils must be stored in a closed, hard-sided vehicle or in a food-storage locker. This includes freeze-dried and canned food, as well as beverages and scented items, such as soap, toothpaste, and sunscreen.
- Keep a clean camp and wash dishes immediately.
- Do not cook directly on fire grates. Dispose of used foil.
- Never leave food, containers, or garbage unattended even for just a few minutes.
- Scrape unwanted food from pots and plates, and place in a secure trash container.
- Dispose of trash in a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster, available at campgrounds. Be sure dumpster lids are closed and latched.
- Do not feed any animal, including birds.

How to Make Reservations for Buses, Campsites

Advance reservations for all bus services and campgrounds for the 2015 season are available through mid-September. Each reservation for Visitor Transportation System (VTS) shuttle buses may include a maximum of eight seats. Make reservations online or by phone.

Phone lines are open from 7 am to 5 pm daily (Alaska time). Tickets can be purchased by phone up until the day before travel and picked up at the Wilderness Access Center (WAC).

Dial 888 622-7275 nationwide, or 907 272-7275 international, or visit www.reservedenali.com

Tickets

Prepaid, reserved tickets can be picked up at the WAC. It is not necessary to check in at the WAC if you already have your shuttle tickets.

You need to be prepared to board at a loading deck on the west side of the WAC 15 minutes before your departure. Any unclaimed, prepaid tickets for buses departing before 7 am may be picked up from staff on the bus deck. Bus drivers do not sell tickets.

Campground permits and bus tickets may be picked up at either the Riley Creek Mercantile or the WAC.

Entrance Fees

Entrance fees are $10 per person age 16 years and older. Payment is included with your bus reservation. Otherwise, payment can be made at the Denali Visitor Center by credit card, cash, check, or money order.

Refund Policy

For each shuttle bus seat or campground site there is a $5 cancellation fee. Shuttle bus cancellations must be made at least 24 hours before departure time. Campground cancellations must be made by 11 am the day before arrival.

Tour bus cancellations must be made seven days prior to departure. No refund is granted within seven days. A $5 change fee is levied for changes made to existing reservations.

Six Park Campgrounds Welcome Tents or RVs

Camping in summer offers you a great way to experience Interior Alaska by tent or RV. Here are some important things to know about your responsibilities.

- Check in after 11 am. Check out by 11 am.
- Quiet hours are between 10 pm and 6 am. At Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds, generators may be operated only from 8 am to 10 am and 4 pm to 8 pm. No exceptions.
- Fires are allowed only in established grates at Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds. The use of power saws and cutting live vegetation or standing deadwood are prohibited. Campfires must not be left unattended.
- Pets must be leashed at all times. They are not allowed on most trails, on river bars, or in the backcountry. Dispose of feces in garbage cans.
- Store all food and ice chests in vehicles or in the food lockers provided.
- Store and cook food away from sleeping areas.
- Whenever they are not in use, all food, food containers, coolers, and cooking utensils must be stored in a closed, hard-sided vehicle or in a food-storage locker. This includes freeze-dried and canned food, as well as beverages and scented items, such as soap, toothpaste, and sunscreen.
- Keep a clean camp and wash dishes immediately.
- Do not cook directly on fire grates. Dispose of used foil.
- Never leave food, containers, or garbage unattended even for just a few minutes.
- Scrape unwanted food from pots and plates, and place in a secure trash container.
- Dispose of trash in a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster, available at campgrounds. Be sure dumpster lids are closed and latched.
- Do not feed any animal, including birds.

Still Crown of a Continent

The official height of Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America, remains 20,320 feet, or 6,193.5 meters. While media reports last year suggested the mountain might be 83 feet shorter now, the U.S. Geological Survey attributed the difference to measuring techniques. Airborne radar data from 2010 were based on an average for a 269-square-foot area around the summit and reportedly were not intended to represent height at any single spot. Prevailing estimates for the elevation of the mountain as measured from the summit itself date back to 1952.

Six Park Campgrounds Welcome Tents or RVs

Camping in summer offers you a great way to experience Interior Alaska by tent or RV. Here are some important things to know about your responsibilities.

- Check in after 11 am. Check out by 11 am.
- Quiet hours are between 10 pm and 6 am. At Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds, generators may be operated only from 8 am to 10 am and 4 pm to 8 pm. No exceptions.
- Fires are allowed only in established grates at Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds. The use of power saws and cutting live vegetation or standing deadwood are prohibited. Campfires must not be left unattended.
- Pets must be leashed at all times. They are not allowed on most trails, on river bars, or in the backcountry. Dispose of feces in garbage cans.
- Store all food and ice chests in vehicles or in the food lockers provided.
- Store and cook food away from sleeping areas.
- Whenever they are not in use, all food, food containers, coolers, and cooking utensils must be stored in a closed, hard-sided vehicle or in a food-storage locker. This includes freeze-dried and canned food, as well as beverages and scented items, such as soap, toothpaste, and sunscreen.
- Keep a clean camp and wash dishes immediately.
- Do not cook directly on fire grates. Dispose of used foil.
- Never leave food, containers, or garbage unattended even for just a few minutes.
- Scrape unwanted food from pots and plates, and place in a secure trash container.
- Dispose of trash in a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster, available at campgrounds. Be sure dumpster lids are closed and latched.
- Do not feed any animal, including birds.

Still Crown of a Continent

The official height of Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America, remains 20,320 feet, or 6,193.5 meters. While media reports last year suggested the mountain might be 83 feet shorter now, the U.S. Geological Survey attributed the difference to measuring techniques. Airborne radar data from 2010 were based on an average for a 269-square-foot area around the summit and reportedly were not intended to represent height at any single spot. Prevailing estimates for the elevation of the mountain as measured from the summit itself date back to 1952.

Six Park Campgrounds Welcome Tents or RVs

Camping in summer offers you a great way to experience Interior Alaska by tent or RV. Here are some important things to know about your responsibilities.

- Check in after 11 am. Check out by 11 am.
- Quiet hours are between 10 pm and 6 am. At Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds, generators may be operated only from 8 am to 10 am and 4 pm to 8 pm. No exceptions.
- Fires are allowed only in established grates at Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds. The use of power saws and cutting live vegetation or standing deadwood are prohibited. Campfires must not be left unattended.
- Pets must be leashed at all times. They are not allowed on most trails, on river bars, or in the backcountry. Dispose of feces in garbage cans.
- Store all food and ice chests in vehicles or in the food lockers provided.
- Store and cook food away from sleeping areas.
- Whenever they are not in use, all food, food containers, coolers, and cooking utensils must be stored in a closed, hard-sided vehicle or in a food-storage locker. This includes freeze-dried and canned food, as well as beverages and scented items, such as soap, toothpaste, and sunscreen.
- Keep a clean camp and wash dishes immediately.
- Do not cook directly on fire grates. Dispose of used foil.
- Never leave food, containers, or garbage unattended even for just a few minutes.
- Scrape unwanted food from pots and plates, and place in a secure trash container.
- Dispose of trash in a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster, available at campgrounds. Be sure dumpster lids are closed and latched.
- Do not feed any animal, including birds.

Still Crown of a Continent

The official height of Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America, remains 20,320 feet, or 6,193.5 meters. While media reports last year suggested the mountain might be 83 feet shorter now, the U.S. Geological Survey attributed the difference to measuring techniques. Airborne radar data from 2010 were based on an average for a 269-square-foot area around the summit and reportedly were not intended to represent height at any single spot. Prevailing estimates for the elevation of the mountain as measured from the summit itself date back to 1952.
Before you navigate with a compass in the park backcountry, please learn to adjust declination from magnetic north to true north as much as 18-degrees, 7-minutes east.

Leave Denali As You Found It
• Plan Ahead and Prepare
• Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces
• Dispose of Waste Properly
• Leave What You Find
• Respect Wildlife
• Be Considerate of Others

Get Ready for a Day in the Park
Here’s a checklist to help you plan your off-trail adventure in Denali
• Essential Gear: Bring a map, compass, waterproof matches or lighter, first-aid-kit, knife, and a whistle. If you are going to be doing significant hiking in Alaska, consider carrying bear spray.
• Clothing: Take rain gear, a hat, and gloves. Dress in layers. Wool, fleece, or other non-absorbent synthetic clothing is preferable to cotton.
• Insect Repellent and Head Net
• Footwear: Wear sturdy, well-fitting hiking boots and take extra socks and gators to keep your feet dry.
• Food: Do not leave food or scented items unattended at any time. Avoid carrying scented, spiced, or smoked items.
• Water: Guarda occurs in the park. Boil all water or use a filter. Refill with free, fresh water from filtered dispensers at six park locations (from east to west): Riley Creek Mercantile, Wilderness Access Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Monro Grill, Denali Visitor Center, and Eielson Visitor Center.
• Sanitary Items: Pack out all toilet paper, used pads, and tampons. Double wrap in plastic.
• Tell a Buddy: Tell someone where you are going and when you’ll be back.

Trails Beyond the Entrance Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Connections</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Change</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Trail Width</th>
<th>Surface</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tundra Loop Trail</td>
<td>15-minute loop</td>
<td>0.3 miles</td>
<td>negligible</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6 feet</td>
<td>Compacted gravel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thorofare Ridge Trail</td>
<td>one hour one-way</td>
<td>0.8 miles</td>
<td>1,000 feet</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>5 feet</td>
<td>Native soil with roots and rocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKinley Bar Trail</td>
<td>50 minutes one-way</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
<td>negligible</td>
<td>5 to 15%</td>
<td>2 feet</td>
<td>Native soil with roots and rocks, wood plants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In bear country, you are safest hiking with groups of three or more (talkative) people.

WORD SEARCH
Find a map and a list of complete names for all Alaska NPS units on Page 2.
Solutions appear on Page 15.

- Alagnik Wild River
- Alaska Public Lands
- Aleutian WWII
- Aniakchak
- Bering Land Bridge
- Cape Krusenstern
- Denali
- Gates of the Arctic
- Glacier Bay
- Inupiat Heritage
- Katmai
- Kenai Fjords
- Klondike Gold Rush
- Kobuk Valley
- Lake Clark
- Noatak
- Wrangell St Elias
- Yukon Charley

Inupiat Heritage
Backcountry Trips
Begin with a Free Permit, Safety Talk

A backpacking trip in Denali’s vast wilderness areas is unlike backpacking in most other national parks. Be prepared to find your own way across the landscape, and to cover a fraction of the distance in a day that you might manage elsewhere.

Overnight stays in the backcountry require a free permit available at the Backcountry Information Center (BIC). Located next to the Wilderness Access Center (WAC), the BIC is open 9 am to 6 pm daily. Arrive no later than 5 pm to obtain a permit. Call 907 683-9590, or visit http://go.nps.gov/DenaliBackcountry

The permit includes these steps:
- Plan your itinerary
- Watch backcountry safety video
- Attend the ranger safety talk
- Mark your map
- Obtain a camper bus ticket at the WAC only after completing your backcountry orientation

Permits are issued only in person, no more than one day in advance. Permits are not required for day hikes, but some areas may be closed to entry. Hikers should stop at the BIC for a map and current information.

Denali’s vast backcountry is divided into units. Each has a daily quota for the number of people who may camp there. Because more popular units fill early, be flexible when planning your trip.

Most units require the use of bear-resistant food containers (BRFCs), loaned free of charge with a permit. All food, toiletries, and garbage must be stored in these containers. These containers are lightweight, cylindrical canisters designed to keep bears from obtaining human food and trash.

Since the introduction of BRFCs in 1984, there has been a 95 percent reduction in bears obtaining backpackers’ food and an 88 percent decrease in property damage. All food, including freeze-dried and canned foods and beverages, and scented items, such as soap and sunscreen, must be kept in the containers when not in use.

Cycling is an Adventure on Denali Park Road

Bicycling is a great way to enjoy the Denali Park Road. You can help make it a pleasant and safe experience.

- Cyclists may ride on park roads, parking areas, campground loops, and the designated Bike Path.
- Stay attuned to road surface, traffic, and weather conditions as you’re riding. Travel single file, keep to the right, and comply with traffic regulations.
- Bicycles can be transported free on the Savage River Shuttle and on all park shuttle buses. Space is limited to two bicycles per bus. Check availability or make reservations at the Wilderness Access Center or www.reservedenali.com
- Bike racks are provided at campgrounds, rest areas, and visitor centers. If you go day hiking along the Park Road, carry your bike 25 yards from the roadway and hide it from view. If you’re leaving it overnight, tag it with contact information.
- Wild animals are curious and opportunistic. Do not leave food or scented items on your bicycle unattended. Use a food storage locker provided at campgrounds and other locations, or use a bear-resistant food container provided free with a backcountry camping permit.
- If a bear or wolf appears near you or your planned route, do not try to outride it. Stop and dismount. Keep all your gear with you. Back away slowly. Wait for the animal to move away. If there is a vehicle nearby, use it as a barrier between you and the bear or wolf. Consider carrying bear spray, and learning how to use and dispose of it safely.

Denali Park Road elevation contour (in feet)
### Mountain Vista Trail
Located at Mountain Vista Rest Area, at Mile 12.4 of the Denali Park Road. Can be accessed by the free Savage River Shuttle and private vehicle, with ample parking available.
- **Time:** 30-minute loop
- **Distance:** 0.6 miles / 1.0 km
- **Elevation:** 50 feet
- **Grade:** 5%
- **Trail Width:** 6 feet
- **Surface:** Compacted gravel

### Savage Alpine Trail
Connects Savage River, campground and Mountain Vista day use areas. Parking available at either end. Use free Savage River Shuttle to return to your vehicle. Considered strenuous.
- **Time:** 3 hours one-way
- **Distance:** 4.0 miles / 6.4 km
- **Elevation:** 1,500 feet
- **Grade:** 25%
- **Trail Width:** 2 feet
- **Surface:** Native soils with roots, gravel

### Savage Cabin Trail
Limited parking available, consider Mountain Vista. Trail to Savage Cabin includes a series of waysides emphasizing local history. (Living history talks available only to concessioner tours.)
- **Time:** 30-minute loop
- **Distance:** 0.8 miles / 1.3 km
- **Elevation:** 50 feet
- **Grade:** 5%
- **Trail Width:** 6 feet
- **Surface:** Compacted gravel

### Savage River Loop Trail
Located at the Savage River at Mile 14.74. Very limited parking available. Can be accessed by free Savage River Shuttle.
- **Time:** 1.5-Hour loop
- **Distance:** 2.0 miles / 3.2 km
- **Elevation:** negligible
- **Grade:** none
- **Trail Width:** 2 feet
- **Surface:** Native soils with roots and rocks

---

**Legend**
- **P** Parking
- Shuttle Bus Stop
- Bike Path
- Roads
- Trail

**North**
- **0** 0.3 Kilometers
- **0** 0.3 Miles

---

**Savage River Area Trails**

- **Mile 12.8**
- **Mile 14.7**

**Entrance Area Trails**

- **Mile 3.4**

---

8 Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska
Alpenglow, Summer 2015

Connections

| Bike Path | From visitor center to Wilderness Access Center, campground, and Park Entrance. To access services in Nenana Canyon via Parks Highway Bike Trail, add 1.0 miles, 20 minutes. | 45 minutes one-way | 1.7 miles 2.7 km | 150 feet 5% | 10 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Horseshoe Lake Trail | From Taiga Trail or Bike Path (0.5 mile shorter) join Horseshoe Lake Trail at railroad tracks (limited parking available). From bus stop, loop is two miles. | 30 minutes roundtrip | 3.2 miles 5.1 km | 250 feet 5 to 20% | 5 feet | Native soils with roots and rocks, portions compacted gravel with log checks |
| Jonesville Trail | From the Bike Path near the Riley Creek Mercantile, connects to the Parks Highway Bike Trail and services in the Nenana Canyon. | 10 minutes one-way | 0.3 miles 0.6 km | 75 feet 10% | 4 feet | Compacted gravel |
| McKinley Station Trail | From the visitor center to Riley Creek Campground (offers access to the Triple Lakes Trail). | One hour one-way | 1.6 miles 2.6 km | 100 feet 8.5% | 4 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Meadow View Trail (Connection for loop) | A short connector trail between Rock Creek and Roadside trails forms a 1.6 mile/2.6 km loop back to the visitor center. | 1.5 hour loop | 0.3 miles 0.5 km | none | Access trails up to 15% | 2.5 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Morino Trail | Take the McKinley Station Trail for 0.4 miles to a short spur trail to historic roadhouse and homestead sites. Turn left at main trail to loop back to visitor center. | 15 minutes one-way | 0.2 mile 0.3 km | none | none | 5 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Mount Healy Overlook Trail | Take Taiga Trail for 0.5 miles, then look for Mount Healy Overlook Trail junction. Considered strenuous. | Two hours one-way | 2.7 miles 4.3 km | 1,700 feet 25% | 2 feet | Native soils with roots and rocks |
| Murie Science and Learning Center Trail | A multi-use path that runs parallel to the George Parks Highway from the Park Entrance to the Nenana River Bridge and hotels, restaurants, shops and businesses in Nenana Canyon beyond. | 20 minutes one-way | 0.6 mile 1.0 km | 80 feet 10% | 4 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Parks Highway Bike Trail | A multi-use path that runs parallel to the George Parks Highway from the Park Entrance to the Nenana River Bridge and hotels, restaurants, shops and businesses in Nenana Canyon beyond. | 30 minutes one-way | 1.0 mile 1.6 km | 50 feet less than 5% | 8 feet | Asphalt |
| Roadside Trail | From the visitor center via Taiga Trail to Park Headquarters and Sled Dog Kennels. | One hour one-way | 1.8 miles 2.9 km | 350 feet 15% | 3 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Rock Creek Trail | From the visitor center via Taiga Trail to Park Headquarters and Sled Dog Kennels. | 1.5 hours one-way | 2.4 miles 3.8 km | 400 feet 15% | 2.5 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Spruce Forest Trail | For a short accessible loop, take the McKinley Station Trail and turn left at the first junction to return to the visitor center. | 20-minute loop | 0.15 miles 0.24 km | none | none | 5 feet | Compacted gravel |
| Taiga Trail | Provides access to Rock Creek, Mount Healy Overlook, and Roadside trails. | 45 minutes oneway | 0.9 miles 1.5 km | 75 feet 5 to 15% | 2 feet | Gravel with open ditches to step across |
| Triple Lakes Trail | Access via the McKinley Station Trail, or a pullout at the north side of the Nenana River Bridge approximately Mile 231.5 of the George Parks Highway. | Five hours one-way | 9.5 miles 15.3 km | 1,000 feet 20% | 2 feet | Compacted gravel, slick, rocks, roots, wood planks, suspension bridge |

Unless noted, all chart walking times and distances originate at a trailhead behind the Denali Visitor Center.
Ranger Programs Help You Connect With Special Places

Guided Hikes
During peak season, several guided hikes depart daily from the Denali Visitor Center and the Eielson Visitor Center. During May or September, offerings are more limited.

• 10 am, GUIDED NATURE HIKE — Join a ranger for a guided hike that lasts around two hours and covers about three miles round trip. This hike is considered moderate. Meet at the Denali Visitor Center just before 10 am to participate.

• 1 pm, HIKE TO THE KENNELS — Join a ranger for a guided hike to the Park Kennels that lasts around 2.5 hours and covers up to 2.5 miles with about 500 feet of elevation gain. Meet at the Denali Visitor Center just before 1 pm to participate. The hike concludes at the Kennels by 3:30 pm, in time to meet the dogs and watch the 4 pm Sled Dog Demonstration. You can return to the Visitor Center by way of free “Dog Demonstration” or “Riley Creek Loop” courtesy shuttles.

• 1 pm, EIELSON STROLL — Join a ranger for a short naturalist walk of about 45 minutes around the Eielson Visitor Center. No registration is required, but select a shuttle bus departing 8:30 am or earlier from the entrance area. The visitor center is located at Mile 61.9 and is accessible by any Eielson, Wonder Lake, or Kantishna shuttle bus.

Theater Programs
10:30 am and 2 pm — Illustrated ranger programs are offered twice daily in the Karstens Theater at the Denali Visitor Center. Check topics at the information desk.

Evening Campground Programs
Check local campground bulletin boards for topics and schedules. Programs last 45 minutes.

• 7:30 pm, RILEY CREEK CAMPGROUND
Mile 0.2, parking available near campground

• 7:30 pm, SAVAGE RIVER CAMPGROUND
Mile 12.8, accessible by courtesy bus or private vehicle

• 7:30 pm, TEKLANIKA RIVER CAMPGROUND
Mile 29.1, accessible only to campers at campground

• 7:30 pm, WONDER LAKE CAMPGROUND
Mile 84.4, accessible only to campers at campground

Learn more about park ranger programs at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliRanger

Park Kennels Experience is One-of-a-Kind
The historic Park Kennels are open to visitors year round, 8 am to 5 pm daily, near Park Headquarters at Mile 3.4 of the Park Road. Free courtesy shuttles are provided throughout the visitor season. (See page 16.) Public parking in the area is limited. If you drive yourself, do not expect to find a parking spot.

• Be sure to check in with staff and read all safety information as you arrive.

• For the safety of your pets, please leave them at another safe location while you visit the sled dogs. This includes service animals.

• Keep children at your side at all times.

• If any dog acts excited (jumping, barking, pacing) or nervous, please visit a different dog.

• Help train the park dogs to have good manners. They should not jump on you, chew on fingers, or eat any human food.

Free demonstrations depict how rangers and dogs work together to practice a traditional Alaskan mode of travel. These truly unique, 30-minute programs include an opportunity to tour the kennels and visit Alaskan huskies.

Demonstrations are offered three times daily during peak season, at 10 am, 2 pm, and 4 pm. In May and September, offerings are more limited. No registration necessary. Arrive at Denali Visitor Center bus stop 40 minutes prior to start time to board the “Dog Demonstration” courtesy bus. There are no late departures.

Programs are given rain or shine, so be prepared with an umbrella or rain coat. Some seating is available, and there is plenty of standing room.

Learn more about sled dogs and the park kennels at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDogs

Discovery Hikes
This off-trail, all-day hike with a park ranger to a different site every day is a great way to explore Denali. Offered June 8 to mid-September, hikes can vary in difficulty. Participants must be prepared for uneven terrain, small stream crossings, dense vegetation, unpredictable weather, and close encounters with wildlife. While the hike itself is free, participants are required to sign up in advance at the Denali Visitor Center and to purchase a $35.00 Discovery Hike bus ticket. Group size is limited to 11 hikers.

Learn more about joining a Discovery Hike at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDiscovery

As a courtesy to others, please silence your cellphone during ranger programs. The signal also can interfere with sound amplification and accessibility features in some park facilities.
Last year, the MSLC hosted a first Denali Bug Bio-Blitz, an intense biological survey to document as much invertebrate biodiversity in the park as possible. Visitors and scientists interacted in a series of activities and workshops.

Science Outreach Focuses on Discovery

At the Murie Science and Learning Center (MSLC), visitors can learn about park science in an exhibit area, allow kids to explore an activity corner, enjoy comfortable chairs around a warm fireplace on cold and wet days, and get current park information at the front desk. In summer, the MSLC offers public presentations, half-day classes, multi-day field courses, teacher trainings, and youth camps.

Hours at the MSLC are 9 am to 4:30 pm daily. For current courses and programs, call 907 683-6432 or visit www.nps.gov/rlc/murie To walk there, simply follow white, painted dinosaur tracks you will find on pathways outside the Denali Visitor Center.

Noontime Films and Presentations: Bring your lunch and join us at noon daily for film screenings and live presentations by Alaska Geographic staff.

Evening Speaker Series: On most Monday and Friday evenings at 7 pm, Alaska Geographic hosts presentations by visiting specialists for in-depth explorations of science and humanities. See events listings, page 13.

The Denali Discovery Pack program features durable backpacks families can check out at no cost during their visits. Inside there are eight lessons in an activity guide organized by tundra and taiga habitat. Visit the Denali Visitor Center to check out a backpack for your whole family.

If you complete a Junior Ranger Activity Book while you’re here, show your work to a park ranger, take an oath, and receive a badge. Free copies are available from bus drivers and at seven park locations — Denali Visitor Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Savage Check Station, Wilderness Access Center, Toklat River Contact Station, Eielson Visitor Center, and the Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station. Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliJunior

Immerse Yourself More Deeply in Park Experience

Institute-Style Field Courses: Immerse yourself in a hands-on multi-day learning vacation. As part of a national effort to increase scientific literacy by showcasing research from living laboratories, the Murie Science and Learning Center hosts citizen science and teacher training courses on topics ranging from archeological surveys to glacier and climate studies. Offerings are posted online at www.alaskageographic.org

Kids’ Camps: Kids get to explore Denali during week-long youth camps each summer. These are fabulous opportunities for youngsters to play games that teach about park science, learn camping and backcountry travel skills, and have fun with their peers in a wild but safe environment. More at www.denali.org/programs/youth

Alaska Native high school students from Anchorage who never had camped in Denali before hiked to Muldrow Glacier as part of a field camp based in the park interior. If you complete a Junior Ranger Activity Book while you’re here, show your work to a park ranger, take an oath, and receive a badge. Free copies are available from bus drivers and at seven park locations — Denali Visitor Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Savage Check Station, Wilderness Access Center, Toklat River Contact Station, Eielson Visitor Center, and the Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station. Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliJunior

Bookstores

Alaska Geographic operates four bookstores in the park, including the main Denali Visitor Center campus, the Murie Science and Learning Center, the Toklat Rest Area, and the Talkeetna Ranger Station. A portion of every sale helps fund park educational and interpretive programs. More at www.alaskageographic.org/store.

Park Partners

As a nonprofit education partner, Alaska Geographic connects people to Alaska’s magnificent wildlands through experiential education, award-winning books and maps, and by directly supporting the state’s parks, forests, and refuges. Over the past 50 years, Alaska Geographic has provided more than $20 million to fund educational and interpretive programs throughout Alaska’s public lands. It also supports education programs, scientific research, and science-informed management decisions through the Murie Science and Learning Center.

Alaska Geographic Association 907 683-1272 www.alaskageographic.org

The Denali Education Center is a local non-profit organization that partners with the NPS to offer summer programs for local youth, including Denali Discovery Camp and Denali Backcountry Adventures. Other education programs include Discover Denali, Denali Community Series, and W.I.L.D. About Denali, all of which emphasize the unique natural history and wildlife of the Denali bio-region.

Denali Education Center 907 683-2597 www.denali.org
Excerpt from "18 Meditations from Denali"

"Wilderness allows us the privilege of living "off the clock"—to rise at a pace similar to the animals that inhabit that space. In wilderness, we can mostly do as we please. I study the clouds and some raindrops fall onto my face; I dance around on an empty road and halt when I notice a gray jay staring at me. I stare back. Sitting on a rock, I study the heart-shaped leaves of an arctic birch—its veins like raised arms. Later I note the nód of a bluebell's petals and admire the undulations of the river, and looking closer, the minerals and silt that swirl around inside of it, noting how that sparkly gray water grabs up debris and hurries it along.

Today I wander around outside the cabin, peering down at grasses and examining a fuchsia fireweed flower. I turn it round and round, noticing how the sticky pollen clings to the stamens as long delicate hairs unfurl around the petals, little invitations for bees. Suddenly I have a vivid memory: I see my first skateboard—a fiberglass beauty with red acrylic wheels, and there it floats, like a ghost hovering above this grassy hill. This leads to the memory of how I got this skateboard…another story, perhaps? So why did I suddenly envision my beloved skateboard while staring at this flower? Did its color jar my memory? What about the purple monkshood? The yellow of the tundra rose? Can memories and new ideas arise from these unfettered spaces? How rare are these days of uncharted time!

Wilderness, then, equals time. Open space allows us to consider our size as we stand alone on the tundra. Who are we, really, without all our things? Rather than diminish us, this feeling of smallness should liberate us, giving us faith in our silly ideas, showing us that "I" am as important and as unimportant as any other creature in the world, whether it be a marmot, an arctic squirrel, or the president. My equal importance and simultaneous lack of importance calms my worries, gives me courage to take creative risks, and to use my voice. Wilderness, especially Denali, is good medicine for all that ails us, as we city people continue to compete for space and for resources (both internal and external). Being in wilderness forces us to unplug from the chatter of information—no cell phones, no computers. All this uncontrolled chit-chat echoes until the noise makes fractals of our thoughts and memories.

I look outside the window. Rain and mist have settled, water ticking against the stovepipe. Suddenly I see another seemingly random image: my Brownie uniform—the one that I wore in the second grade. Why now? I can recall my chubby knees, my brown polyester knee socks, my orange snap-on tie, and how proud I felt wearing it. I can ignore the vision or I can follow it down the rabbit hole and see where it leads. Conclusion: These moments of tranquility—in this protected space—may truly be our last salvation, not just for inspiration, but to keep us pure of heart, healthy, connected with the past and able to envision the future. By studying this land and sketching a picture with words, we can also look inward. The trick is capturing those words before they disappear. Even here, words, like chickadees, flutter down and then arise in a second, all wings and chatter before they melt into the sky.
**Tom Sexton** Writer-in-Residence 2014

**Excerpts from**

"Li Bai, A T’ang Dynasty Poet, Finds Himself at Denali National Park and Preserve"

**Li Bai Watches the Tundra Fade at Dusk**

He was walking along a gravel bench above a stream when he looked up at the tundra that was just beginning to fade reminding him of the rouge on a beautiful woman’s cheeks. This was the time of day he loved when the moon was beginning to rise.

He was no longer young, but once he was a bright flame fed by desire.

**Li Bai and the Brown Bear**

When he saw it ahead of him on the road, he was amazed by its size, and he had seen bears when he wandered Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. When the bear turned its massive head to look at him, Li Bai quickly composed a poem in its honor, a poem about its generous nature and courage. As he chanted, he bent forward rolling his shoulders from side to side.

**Li Bai Says Goodbye**

He smiled when the Milky Way, his Heaven’s River, appeared for the first time since he arrived. I put it there for him to follow home, but he wanted to sleep beside Wonder Lake one more time then wake beneath Denali. He would spend his last day wandering and end at Polychrome Pass at dusk to say goodbye to the yellow-crowned sparrow whose song had made him weep with joy. Using his long silk robe for a sail, he rose then disappeared to the west, trailing alpenglow.

---

**Calendar of Events and Outreach Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Speaker Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri May 29</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Denali Archaeology</td>
<td>Phoebe Gilbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon June 1</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Denali Archaeology</td>
<td>Verna Pratt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 5</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Earthquakes: Denali Specific</td>
<td>Michael West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun June 7</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Archaeology to Zoarchaeology: Bones Tell Tales</td>
<td>Diane Hanson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 12</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Rock and Willow Ptarmigan: Well Known But Poorly Understood</td>
<td>Rick Merizzon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun June 14</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 19</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Flower ID from a Bus</td>
<td>Verna Pratt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon June 22</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 26</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Trails: A Part of Denali’s Future</td>
<td>Rob Burrows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun June 28</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Science, Images and Poems from/of the Far North</td>
<td>Liz Bradfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon June 29</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun July 5</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Anthopods of Alaska</td>
<td>Derek Sykes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon July 6</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri July 10</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Climate Change and Moose: Will They Be Winners or Losers?</td>
<td>Kris Hundertmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun July 12</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Alaska’s Connection to the World Through Birds</td>
<td>Nils Warnock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu July 16</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>DVC</td>
<td>Artist-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors</td>
<td>Brooks Salzwedel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri July 17</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Recent Landslides in Denali: More to Come?</td>
<td>Denny Capps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat July 18</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>DVC</td>
<td>Denali Music Festival performance of a selection from the &quot;Composing in the Wilderness&quot; program</td>
<td>Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival Chamber Orchestra Robert Franz conducting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon July 20</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri July 24</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Spruce Reproduction</td>
<td>Sarah Stein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun July 26</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>The Unseen Bear</td>
<td>Sherry Simpson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu July 30</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>DVC</td>
<td>Writer-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors</td>
<td>Yeztawa Renfro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri July 31</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Last Frontier of Weather</td>
<td>Dave Snider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Aug 3</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Climate Change Update</td>
<td>Terry Chapin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Aug 7</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Mushrooms</td>
<td>Gary Lauris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun Aug 9</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Glaciers As A Vanishing Landscape</td>
<td>Carl Battreall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Aug 13</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>DVC</td>
<td>Writer-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors</td>
<td>Marianne Boruch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri Aug 14</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>The World of Salmon and Bears</td>
<td>Debbie Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Aug 17</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri Aug 21</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Aug 24</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>The Magic and Mystery of the Aurora</td>
<td>Neal Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri Aug 28</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Aug 31</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>Wolves and Mesopredator Community Dynamics</td>
<td>Kelly Sivy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri Sept 4</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>MSLC</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Sept 10</td>
<td>3 pm</td>
<td>DVC</td>
<td>Artist-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors</td>
<td>David Rosenthal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu Sept 17</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>DVC</td>
<td>Road Lottery and Military Appreciation Day: Learn more at <a href="http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery">http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MSLC = Murie Science and Learning Center  DVC = Denali Visitor Center  See maps pages 9 and 16**

For the latest updates, visit an online calendar @ http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCalendar

---

The Denali Festival, affiliated with the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, is set for Saturday, July 18 at the Denali Visitor Center. More @ http://go.nps.gov/DenaliFestival
In the lower level of the Denali Visitor Center is an exhibit that encourages visitors to express what Denali means to them. Here are some examples:

- **Denali makes me happy** – Eli, age 4
- **Freitas Family was here from Brazil by car ... Denali is very beautiful.**
- **Denali means seeing the world from a whole different perspective.**
- **I am sorry: I might have killed some mosquitoes while visiting Denali. But they don’t seem to be an endangered species.**
- **I have dreamed of coming to the Alaska Interior since I was a little girl. It has taken me 55 years to finally get here and I am in awe. I have not yet seen the peak, but I marvel at the natural beauty of the surrounding area.**
- **Denali reminds me of what’s important in life. That there is so much more to experience in the world. That things you can’t see with the human eye deserve just as much attention and protection. That everything you do has a ripple effect, be it direct or indirect.**
- **Denali is a place where kids can really learn about nature while having a great time. The scenery is fantastic and the memories are unforgettable.**
- **A place on a map until you get here. Then it becomes a place in your heart.**
Your Denali Story
We've made it easy for you to tell others about the things you've seen and experienced during your visit to Denali. If you have a minute to spare, and a telephone, you can record a story that may appear on the park website, with links from popular social media feeds. Visit http://go.nps.gov/DenaliStory or call 907-683-6400.

Interactive iBooks and ePubs
Explore two popular topics more fully through digital publications loaded with interactive text, photo galleries, audio files and video clips. The Denali Climate Anthology invites five accomplished local authors to chronicle the effects of a changing climate on the lives and landscape they treasure here. The Artist-in-Residence Catalog is a comprehensive exhibit of all the art, writing, and music that participants have donated to the program collection since 2002.

Learn how you can download copies at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliMedia.

Webcams
If you find yourself craving a Denali experience once you return home, the park has a growing array of as many as a half dozen live webcams running at any one time with moment-to-moment updates from this special place @ http://go.nps.gov/DenaliWebcams.

Online Guides and Videos
Online Guides and Videos
Entrance Area Trails
Day Hike Resources = http://go.usa.gov/j2XJ
McKinley Station Trail Online tour and video = http://go.usa.gov/Bcx4
PDF = http://go.usa.gov/Bcxk
Mount Healy Overlook Trail Video = http://go.usa.gov/Bcad
PDF = http://go.usa.gov/BcxP
Roadside Trail Video = http://go.usa.gov/BcaF
PDF = http://go.usa.gov/BcxG
Rock Creek Trail Video = http://go.usa.gov/BcC3
PDF = http://go.usa.gov/Bcxz
Savage River Loop Trail Video = http://go.usa.gov/BcCT
PDF = http://go.usa.gov/BcxP
Triple Lakes Trail Video = http://go.usa.gov/BcaW
PDF = http://go.usa.gov/BcaC

Get Connected with DenaliNPS
Twitter: twitter.com/DenaliNPS
Facebook: www.facebook.com/DenaliNPS
Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/DenaliNPS
YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/DenaliNPS

Translations
BASIC VISITOR INFORMATION
Chinese simplified
http://go.usa.gov/bAT
Chinese traditional
http://go.usa.gov/bAb
Deutsch
http://go.usa.gov/bAD
Français
http://go.usa.gov/bAj
Japanese
http://go.usa.gov/bA4
Korean
http://go.usa.gov/bAg
Russian
http://go.usa.gov/bAW

Alpenglow, Summer 2015 15
**Ride Free and Green**

There are three courtesy bus services available in the park’s entrance area. All are wheelchair accessible. All operate daily and are free. Use them to travel between entrance area facilities, and in conjunction with your plans to hike entrance area trails.

**Infographic not drawn to scale.**

Please see pages 8-9 for a map of the entrance area with walking distances and descriptions of trails.

**The Savage River Shuttle** travels a two-hour loop between the park entrance area, the Mountain Vista Trailhead, and the Savage River at Mile 14.74. Download a PDF of Savage River Shuttle schedules at [http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCourtesy](http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCourtesy).

The order of stops for each loop is the Savage River Campground, Wilderness Access Center (WAC), Horsehoe Lake Trailhead, Denali Visitor Center (DVC), Park Headquarters, Mountain Vista Rest Area, Savage River Campground, Savage River Turnaround, Savage River Campground, Mountain Vista Trailhead, Park Headquarters, Denali Visitor Center.

**The Riley Creek Loop** travels the entrance area continuously, linking all major visitor facilities roughly every 30 minutes. Download a PDF of Riley Creek Loop schedules at [http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCourtesy](http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCourtesy).

The order of stops is the Riley Creek Campground, Wilderness Access Center (WAC), Horsehoe Lake Trailhead, Murie Science and Learning Center (MSLC), Denali Visitor Center (DVC). Wilderness Access Center (WAC), Riley Creek Mercantile. On alternating loops, between stops at the MSLC and DVC, a stop is added at Park Headquarters.

**The Sled Dog Demonstration Shuttle** travels to the Park Kennels, which are located more than two miles from the visitor center campus. Free round trip transportation departs from the Denali Visitor Center bus depot 40 minutes before each demonstration. During peak season, this means 9:20 am, 1:20 pm, and 3:20 pm daily. Offers are more limited in May and September, however. Check at the visitor center or the bus depot for posted departure times. Follow painted white paw prints on pathways a short distance from the visitor center to reach the bus stop.

Learn more on page 10, or at [http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDogs](http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDogs).