Denali’s Winter Wonders – See Page 8
“You don’t live there all winter do you?”

(Yes, we do.) “But, what is there to do in the wintertime in Denali? Isn’t the park closed in winter?”

The park is open year-round and there is plenty to do here in winter, as you’ll see by reading the great articles in this Alpenglow! As snow blankets the landscape and darkness rules the days, park employees stay very busy caring for the park, and for our winter visitors. Though we have fewer visitors, we use this slower time to do our planning for next summer, and for the future of this special place. This winter we are finishing exhibit planning for the new Eielson Visitor Center, which is scheduled to open in 2008. We are also planning next season’s field studies that will help determine future vehicle limits on the Park Road. The studies will quantify the impacts of traffic volume and patterns on plants, wildlife, physical resources, and visitors. This information will help us make the best decisions to maintain high-quality visitor experience while protecting park resources for this and future generations of Americans.

In winter, activities are centered at the new Murie Science and Learning Center, our Winter Visitor Center. A warm fire invites visitors to sit and chat, make new friends, share their adventures, and learn about Denali in the wintertime. Visitors enjoy cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, dog mushing, and skijoring along the Park Road and on the numerous trails in the entrance area. After January, watch for notices announcing Winterfest, a weekend-long celebration attracting young and old alike to have fun in the snow and enjoy Denali in its most beautiful season. Come join us for the experience of a lifetime!

Paul R. Anderson, Superintendent

Cover Photos: Hoar Frost © Mike Giannachini
Sled Dog © Denali National Park Kennels
Aurora Borealis © Mike Giannachini
Cyclists © National Park Service photo by Gregg Bailey
Activities
Information
Feature Stories
2007 Trip Planner

Winterfest 2007

Come Celebrate Winter in Denali

• evening presentations
• dog mushing demonstrations
• skijor, classical, and skate ski clinics
• ski tours
• avalanche safety training
• winter ecology walk
• snowshoe walks
• snow sculpture contest
• ice carving demonstration
• events for kids
• and much more!

All Winterfest activities and programs are free. Food and lodging are available in the local area communities of Healy and Cantwell. Riley Creek Campground is open to visitors wishing to camp; however, campers are advised that the water and sewer utilities have been shut down for the winter.

Winterfest is sponsored in part by the National Park Service together with the Denali Foundation, Doyon/ARAMARK Joint Venture, and the Alaska Natural History Association. For dates, times and other information, please call 907-683-2294 or visit www.nps.gov/dena.

Common Animal Tracks

Some birds brave the cold, snowy climate to remain year-round residents.

Look for grizzly tracks in the spring when bears are coming out of hibernation.

These mammal tracks are commonly seen throughout the park in winter.

- Raven
- Ptarmigan
- Great-Horned Owl
- Grizzly Bear
- Caribou
- Snowshoe Hare
- Moose
- Wolf
- Lynx
**What to do in the Winter**

**Viewing the Aurora**
Some Alaska Native groups believed that the northern lights were caused by spirits playing ball games in the sky. Early explorers believed them to be the reflection of sunlight off the polar ice caps. Modern research reveals that northern lights occur when charged particles from the sun interact with the Earth's magnetic field, 50 to 100 miles above the Earth's surface. The best time to watch the aurora is from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

**Skijoring**
Consider the joy of skiing. Imagine the thrill of dog mushing. Combine these and you have skijoring, in which skiers harness dog power to the delight of both. Skijoring now enjoys a popularity all its own but traces its roots to Scandinavia, where it developed as a way to train dogs for Nordic-style mushing teams.

**Skiing**
Cross-country skiing is a peaceful, rewarding way to explore Denali, whether on an afternoon trip on sled dog trails along the Park Road or on an extended trip into the backcountry. Local creeks such as Riley and Hines (see map back page) freeze up, becoming ideal winter routes for accessing the park on skis. Telemark skiing and snowboarding involve long climbs on foot, but are becoming increasingly popular in Denali.

**Watching Wildlife**
Although bears, marmots and ground squirrels cope with winter by sleeping or hibernating, the rest of the park's year-round residents are active throughout the winter. Moose frequent riparian areas with plentiful willow for browsing, while Dall sheep search for food on high ridges where the wind blows away the snow cover. The best evidence of animal activity is found in tracks left in the snow, where the daily drama of the struggle for survival is recorded for all to see.

**There’s Wildlife in Winter Too**
- These are minimum distance restrictions. Any distance that alters the behavior of an animal is too close.
- Maintain the distance rules at all times.
- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times such as when they are nesting, mating or raising young.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>25 yards</th>
<th>300 yards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caribou, Moose, Dall Sheep, Lynx, Wolf, Fox, Coyote, Bird Nests, Baby Birds, Animal Dens</td>
<td>Bear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Snowmachining
Snowmachine use is allowed in the 1980 park additions for traditional activities such as hunting and trapping (where those activities are legal). Snowmachine use is not allowed in the old Mount McKinley National Park, which includes the Park Road. Contact the park directly for further clarification.

Snowshoeing
A popular recreational activity today, snowshoeing was an essential part of winter living for many northern Native groups. Locally, birch wood was split and bent to form the frame, upon which were woven thin strips of moose hide, or babiche. Historically, as today, different lengths of snowshoes served different purposes. A longer, flatter shoe is ideal for traveling in very deep snow, whereas a shorter shoe with an up-turned toe is better for traveling over an existing trail, across rougher terrain, or through brushy areas.

Dog Mushing
Developed in the Native cultures of Canada, Greenland and Alaska, dog mushing was adopted by European explorers as the mode of transportation best suited to northern winter landscapes. Dog mushing continues to be an excellent way to explore remote wilderness regions like Denali. See page 10.

For Day Trips:
• Stop by the Winter Visitor Center and talk to a ranger.
• Check for activities such as hikes or talks.
• Search the surrounding forest for signs of wildlife activity.

For Extended Trips:
• Obtain a backcountry permit at the Winter Visitor Center.
• Notify someone of your plans and your expected return date.
• Consult with park rangers for an update on conditions.
• Be prepared to set your own course and be self-sufficient.

Late Fall/Early Winter
(mid-September to mid-October)
When the road closes in the fall and bus engines are silent for the winter, hiking remains a possibility as long as there is no snow. The road generally remains open to Savage River or Teklanika until the first snow, and hikers may set out from anywhere along this stretch of road, except closed wildlife areas.

Be aware that lack of snow is no indication of temperature; be prepared for winter’s arrival anytime, and for extreme cold after mid-October.

Break-Up
(April to mid-May)
The road is being plowed but is not yet open for motor vehicle traffic; river ice is breaking up, rendering rivers and creeks impassable; and snow can be too mushy for travel. Skiers and snowshoers may often find favorable snow conditions at higher elevations, particularly once the road opens to Savage River or Teklanika. Mushers and skijorers generally hang up the harnesses until next winter. Hikers and bicyclists can enjoy the closed-but-plowed portions of the Park Road.
Winter Conditions

Winter weather in Denali can be extreme, and proximity to the Alaska Range creates unpredictable and highly variable conditions. Many winter visitors are unprepared for the reality of deep, lasting cold weather.

The following measurements are provided as general reference only. They were taken at Denali National Park Headquarters, which is often milder than much of the park.

Safety Concerns

Traveling alone increases your risk dramatically. Any incident which immobilizes a solo traveler could easily become fatal. Traveling in groups is recommended.

Avalanches result from a combination of snowpack, weather, and terrain factors which are frequently present in Denali backcountry. Be aware of the dangers and avoid suspect slopes and drainages.

Frostbite occurs quickly at temperatures below freezing. Drink plenty of water and protect skin from exposure to cold.

Overconfidence can be the biggest danger. Be aware of the exertion required to travel in snow. Do not count on going more than a few miles each day.

Overflow, thin ice, and weak snow bridges along streams and rivers can cause an unexpected icy plunge. Carry dry socks, clothes, and emergency firestarter in a waterproof container.

Hypothermia, the critical lowering of the body’s core temperature, is signaled by these early symptoms: shivering, numbness, slurred speech, loss of coordination, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Avoid hypothermia by eating plenty of high-calorie foods, drinking plenty of water, and staying dry. Layer clothing for your level of activity to minimize sweating.

Moose may fiercely guard winter trails, particularly in deep snow years. Make every effort to give moose the right-of-way.

Winter Trekking

There are no groomed trails in Denali. Visitors should be self-reliant, able to scout their own routes and find their own way back. Nevertheless, there are numerous unmarked routes suitable for snowshoeing, skiing, skijoring, and mushing.

Novice: Park Road
Unplowed past Park Headquarters, the road is an excellent route into the park, and the best alternative when snow levels are too low to cover natural hazards elsewhere. The Riley Creek Campground Loop and roadside multi-use path also serve the novice well.

Intermediate: Sled Dog Trail
From Park Headquarters all the way to Wonder Lake, this approximately 85-mile trail runs parallel to and often joins the Park Road.

Advanced: Backcountry
Look for other routes that wander across ridgelines and along creek valleys such as Riley, Hines, Rock, and Triple lakes. Be careful: winds or sudden snowstorms may quickly erase even well-established tracks. Routes are not marked. Winter visitors must rely on their own navigational ability.
**Backcountry Planning**

**Backcountry Permits** for overnight use are available at the Winter Visitor Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. seven days a week, excluding holidays. Backcountry permits are free and required for all overnight use.

**Dogs** must be in harness or staked out at all times in order to minimize disturbance to wildlife. Dog feces should be scattered away from water sources and your camp.

**Leave No Trace** practices should be followed at all times within the park.

- Camp at least 100 feet from water sources and developed areas.
- Although winter fires are permitted using dead and down wood, camp stoves are recommended as down wood is scarce. Cutting green boughs for bedding is not allowed.
- Dispose of human waste at least 100 feet from water sources and developed areas.
- Pack out all trash, including toilet paper.

**What to Bring**

The level of self-reliance required of winter travelers sets Denali’s visitors apart from adventurers elsewhere. Visitors should take the cold seriously and arrive prepared with quality gear and the knowledge of how to use it.

**Clothing**
- Wind gear and neck gaiter
- Cold-weather parka with hood
- Wool/fleece pants and shirt
- Wool/fleece jacket and hat
- Balaclava or other face mask
- Wool/fleece mittens and gloves
- Long underwear
- Wool/synthetic socks (plus extras)
- Cold-weather boots and gaiters

**Camping**
- Four-season tent
- Winter sleeping bag and sleeping pad
- Drinking cup
- Cooking gear and utensils
- Stove and fuel
- Candle lantern
- Personal care items
- Snow shovel and snow saw

**Trail Items**
- Plenty of high-calorie food
- Ski gear, snowshoes, or other travel gear
- Pack with water-resistant cover
- Map and compass
- Pocketknife
- Headlamp with extra batteries and bulb
- Water bottles and insulator
- Thermos
- Chemical hand warmers
- Sunscreen and sunglasses
- Toilet paper and spade

**Emergency Items**
- Lighter, matches (waterproof container)
- First-aid kit
- Repair kit
- Extra food, clothing
- Avalanche beacon and shovel
Wonders of Denali’s Winter Weather

By Pam Sousanes

The muted colors of the winter sunrise paint the sky in oranges and purples. It’s 10:35 a.m. and the thermometer outside the window reads 35° below zero. This valley bottom might be cold, but if you climb the hill, the temperature could be 10 to 15° warmer. Because cold air sinks, winter temperature inversions are common. The temperature can hover below zero for days or sometimes weeks, but in time we will get a south wind—a Chinook—that will bring warm moist air from the Gulf of Alaska. When these winds begin to blow, temperatures can rise as much as 70 degrees in a matter of hours.

The coldest months of winter are December and January. Not coincidentally, this is when we have the least amount of daylight. On December 21, the first day of winter, the sun will rise at 10:46 a.m. and set at 3:03 p.m., giving us only four hours and 17 minutes of possible daylight. The azimuth of the sun at this time of year is very low due to the Earth’s tilt away from the sun. It will not rise above eye level all day. If you happen to live where there are mountains to the south, the sun may be hidden from you for a month or two.

The snow crunches as the bond between snow crystals breaks with every step. Icicles form on your eyelashes. You pull your hat on tighter—you’re warm because you dressed for the cold. Animals that are year-round residents of the park have adapted to this environment as well. Larger animals exposed to conditions above snow must adapt their behavior, feeding habits, and morphology accordingly. Snowshoe hares and ptarmigan change from brown
to white to blend in with the snowy environment, which offers better protection from predators. One interesting phenomenon of the subarctic is the survival of the wood frog, the only amphibian that lives at these high latitudes. The wood frog winters below the snow as a living ice cube. It keeps its cells unfrozen by moving water out and glucose in, allowing the water to freeze in the spaces between the cells.

If you are a small animal or plant, one of the key factors helping you to survive is snow. In the subnivean world, meaning beneath the snow, organisms and soil rely on the insulating capacity of snow for heat retention. The snow cover maintains ground temperatures that can be as much as 30° higher than air temperatures found above the snow. It also covers and protects low-lying plants, reducing drying from winter winds, and provides a world of tunnels for tiny rodents safe from the searching eyes (though not always the sharp ears) of predators.

This seasonal snow cover, lasting up to eight months, is an important ecological factor for this ecosystem. Because of the important role of snow in the ecosystem, Denali scientists conduct monthly snow surveys from November through May to record the patterns of snow cover across the park.

Looking up from the snow at your feet to Denali’s winter sky on a cold, clear night, you may be lucky enough to witness the spectacular color displays of the aurora borealis, also known as northern lights. The amazing colors and formations are produced by the solar wind, a stream of electrons and protons coming from the sun, as it collides with oxygen and nitrogen atoms in the upper atmosphere. Pale green or white are the most common colors, but you may be lucky enough to witness pinks and deep purple-reds as well. And be on the lookout during daylight hours for another interesting phenomenon, sun halos. These colorful rings occur around the sun when light is refracted as it passes through ice crystals. There are many types of halos. One of special note is the parhelion or “sun dog.” Sun dogs are luminous spots on both sides of the sun that occasionally occur with a halo.

After a few hours out in the winter weather, either trekking through the snow in the low winter sunlight or skiing along a darkened trail under the soft glow of northern lights, it’s time for one of our human adaptations to this environment—a warm beverage in front of a fire in a cheerfully lighted cabin. Just outside, the quiet drama of survival in a northern environment carries on as it has for millennia. And tomorrow is another day full of winter wonders.

—Pam Sousanes has been working in Denali year-round since 1998. As an environmental specialist, she maintains 18 remote weather stations and manages the climate monitoring program for the Central Alaska Inventory and Monitoring Network that includes over 21 million acres.
Denali visitors can most closely approach the spirit of the park in winter on the back of a sled, behind a team of sled dogs. It is not an easy way to explore Denali, requiring both physical and mental energy and the desire to work as part of a team, yet the rewards are immeasurable. Sled dogs are the most enthusiastic of companions, reveling in the joy of running. Mushers are following the sled runners of the earliest park rangers, and those of the Native people who first inhabited this wild land.

On a good day following an established trail, the dogs may cover 30 miles or more while the musher mostly stands on the sled runners. But if a snowstorm dumps two feet of fresh snow and obliterates the trail, the musher must strap on snowshoes and break a trail for the team. It may take all day just to cover a few miles.

The National Park Service maintains a sled dog kennel at Denali, and rangers continue the tradition of dog team patrols that was started by the first rangers in the 1920s. In the early years, eliminating poaching was the primary function of winter patrols. Today’s rangers contact winter visitors, assist in wildlife research, and haul supplies.

Despite often challenging conditions, a dog mushing trip in Denali remains full of intangible rewards. The scenic beauty of the Alaska Range in winter is without equal, and the bond between mushers and their dogs grows strong and deep as they face unforeseen challenges together.

Guided Mushing Trips

Visitors who wish to explore Denali by dog team, but lack their own dogs, should consider booking a trip with one of the concessionaires permitted to run guided mushing trips into the park.

**Denali West Lodge, Inc.**
Tonya Schlentner and Carol Schlentner  
P.O. Box 40  
Lake Minchumina, AK 99757  
888-607-5566  
www.denaliwest.com

**EarthSong Lodge Dog Sled Adventures**
Jon Nierenberg  
P.O. Box 89  
Healy, AK 99743  
907-683-2863  
www.earthsonglodge.com

*A mushing trip through Denali allows visitors to connect with the living history of the park. It gives them the unique opportunity to step back in time and experience the hardships and rewards of wilderness travel as it was for the park’s early residents and visitors.*
Park Partners

For more information on Denali National Park and Preserve’s wildlife, geology, trails, and history look to the Alaska Natural History Association. As the principal nonprofit educational partner of Denali, Alaska Natural History operates bookstores with an extensive collection of materials on the natural and cultural heritage of Denali National Park and Preserve. Your purchases support educational programs offered by park rangers, visitor center exhibits, volunteer programs, this visitor guide, and other services. Drop by the Denali bookstore located next to the new Denali Visitor Center.

Alaska Natural History also offers hands-on learning programs at the Murie Science and Learning Center through its institute. Visit www.alaskanha.org/alaska-institutes.htm.

Alaska Natural History partners with more than 30 public lands across Alaska. Members receive discounts on purchases made at bookstores throughout Alaska and on-line. For more information call 907-274-8440 or toll-free 866-AK PARKS, or visit us on the web at www.alaskanha.org.

The Denali Foundation partners with the National Park Service through the Murie Science and Learning Center on educational programs for adults and children. Visit www.denali.org.

The Denali Borough School District provides technical support and equipment to Denali National Park and Preserve, has donated a state-of-the-art video conferencing unit for park use, and is a frequent partner in grant writing opportunities that make many park programs possible. Visit http://denali.ak.schoolwebpages.com

The University of Alaska partners with Denali National Park and Preserve in research and educational activities. For information visit www.uaf.edu.

The National Park Foundation provides support to parks throughout the United States, including Alaska. For more information visit www.nationalparks.org

Visit the bookstore in the Winter Visitor Center to find these useful guides. In addition to books, visitors will also find maps, journals, posters, field bags, and more.

Planning Your Trip

Sculpted By Ice: Glaciers and the Alaska Landscape
By Michael Collier
Explore Alaska's glaciers on foot, by kayak, and from the air in this in-depth look at the geology and science of Alaska's ancient ice.
$19.95

Heartbeats of Denali
Narrated by Terry Tempest Williams
View one of America's wildest landscapes and experience nature undisturbed.
DVD 28 minutes
$14.95

This Last Treasure: Alaska National Parklands
By The Alaska Natural History Association
This new edition of the bestselling title is a keepsake for anyone who loves Alaska's national parks.
$40 hardcover, $24.95 soft

Ballad of the Wild Bear
By Pat Chamberlin-Calamar and Sandy Kogl
Illustrated by Libby Hatton
Learn how to keep bears wild and people safe in this beautifully illustrated and innovative picturebook.
$14.95, includes CD

Also available on-line at www.alaskanha.org
**Shuttle Destinations and Times**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination (Mileage)</th>
<th>Savage River (Mile 15)</th>
<th>Polychrome Overlook (Mile 47)</th>
<th>Toklat River (Mile 53)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visitors are encouraged to get on and off the buses to explore the park. Anticipate waits up to one hour to re-board.</strong></td>
<td>Savage River is the farthest that visitors can drive in their own vehicles on the Park Road. At this point there is a small parking area, picnic tables, restrooms and a trail. Visitors are encouraged to take the shuttle as parking is limited.</td>
<td>Polychrome Overlook gets its name from the multi-colored bluffs in the area. Spectacular views of the Alaska Range are also possible.</td>
<td>Toklat River is an area of merging glacial rivers and towering cliffs. Dall sheep are often seen and grizzlies sometimes graze the riverbed's soapberries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roundtrip Time</strong></td>
<td>2 hours roundtrip</td>
<td>5-1/2 hours roundtrip</td>
<td>6 hours roundtrip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Shuttle Buses**

*Shuttle Buses* are for transportation and wildlife viewing. Passengers may get off along the Park Road and re-board later buses (west of mile 20) on a space available basis with a ticket for that day. Expect waits of up to one hour.

**Children:** Young adults age 15-17 are half price and under 14 ride free, but still need a reservation. Children under 4 years and/or 40 pounds must be in a car seat to ride on buses. Please make arrangements to bring your own car seat.

**Bring** plenty of food, water, and dress in layers. You may also want to bring field guides, binoculars, and a camera.

**Wheelchair Accessible Buses** are available. Please advise staff of your needs when you make your reservation.

**Refund Policy:** There is a cancellation fee for each shuttle bus seat and/or campground site. Cancellations must be made two hours prior to the departure of the bus. This fee also applies to any changes made to existing reservations, but will not apply to reservations for children under 14.

**Dates of Operation:** May 19 through September 13, 2007, weather permitting.

**Prices** can be found at [www.nps.gov/dena](http://www.nps.gov/dena) or by calling 800-622-7275.

**For Reservations and Information**
Call 800-622-7275 or 907-272-7275
Online at [www.reservedenali.com](http://www.reservedenali.com)

**Tour Buses**

**Tundra Wilderness Tour**
Wildlife viewing and narrated tour of the park to Toklat River (mile 53). Two departures daily: early morning or afternoon. A box lunch and hot beverage are served. Wheelchair accessible by pre-arrangement.

**Length of Tour:** 7 – 8 hours
4 – 6 hours in shoulder season

**Dates of Operation:** May 19 through September 13, 2007, weather permitting.
Shoulder Season: May 13 – 18 and September 14 – 17, weather permitting.

**For Reservations:** Call 800-622-7275 (Nationwide), 907-272-7275 (International and Anchorage)
Online at [www.reservedenali.com](http://www.reservedenali.com)

**For More Information:** [www.nps.gov/dena](http://www.nps.gov/dena)
**Summer 2007**

**Entrance Area Buses**

Free buses service the entrance area where you will find the Wilderness Access Center, Riley Creek Campground and Mercantile, Denali Park Post Office, Railroad Depot, Denali Visitor Center, and the Murie Science and Learning Center.

**Dates of Operation:** May 19 through September 13, 2007, weather permitting.

*Wheelchair Accessible buses are available.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish Creek Turnaround* (Mile 64)</th>
<th>Wonder Lake* (Mile 85)</th>
<th>Kantishna* (Mile 90)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Located among the rolling tundra hills of the Thorofare Valley, a trip to this turnaround point offers spectacular views of Mount McKinley on a clear day and ample opportunities to view wildlife.</td>
<td>Wonder Lake was created by the Muldrow Glacier. Along the road to Wonder Lake, alder and willow-carpeted hills are dotted with kettle ponds. Look for beaver along the way.</td>
<td>Kantishna is primarily a destination for lodge visitors and backpackers for backcountry access. Please respect the private lands in this area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 hours roundtrip</td>
<td>11 hours roundtrip</td>
<td>13 hours roundtrip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Fish Creek bus service begins June 1; Wonder Lake and Kantishna begin June 8.

**Camper Bus**

Transports campers and their gear. Sanctuary, Wonder Lake and backcountry units are accessible only by camper bus — reserve a seat when making a reservation. Camper bus passes are good for the entire time you are west of mile 20.

**Riley Creek Loop Bus**

Free transportation around the entrance area of the park. Loops continuously throughout the day, see schedule at bus stops and at the Denali Visitor Center. Board at Riley Creek Campground, the Wilderness Access Center, Horseshoe Lake Trailhead, and Murie Science and Learning Center.

**Dog Sled Demo Bus**

Free, roundtrip transportation for each 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. dog demo. Board at the Denali Visitor Center 40 minutes before demo. No parking at kennels area. Mid-May to September 17, 2007. Times vary during shoulder season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Riley Creek Loop Bus</th>
<th>Dog Sled Demo Bus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FREE</strong> No reservations needed</td>
<td><strong>FREE</strong> No reservations needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>10 minutes each way</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Park Road Map**

To Fairbanks

Healy

Wyoming Hills

Teklanika River

Sanctuary River

Savage River

Riley Creek

Riley Creek Campground

Primrose Ridge

Polychrome Overlook

Eielson Visitor Center (closed for construction)

Fish Creek Turnaround

Toklat River

Kantishna

Wonder Lake

Cantwell

To Talkeetna and Anchorage

To Paxson

WYOMING

OUTER RANGE

ALASKA RANGE

POLYCHROME OVERLOOK

SANCTUARY RIVER

WYOMING HILLS

RILEY CREEK

RILEY CREEK CAMPGROUND

TOKLAT RIVER

KANTISHNA

WONDER LAKE

EIELSON VISITOR CENTER (CLOSER FOR CONSTRUCTION)

RESTROOMS

INFORMATION

CAMPGROUND

0 10 20

Scale in kilometers

0 10 20

Scale in miles

Activities

Information

Feature Stories

2007 Trip Planner
Reservations for Shuttle Buses & Campsites

PHONE lines are open from February 15, 2007 through September 13, 2007; hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Alaska time (one hour behind Seattle). Tickets can be purchased by phone up until the day before travel and picked up at the Wilderness Access Center.

1-800-622-7275 Nationwide
1-907-272-7275 International
272-7275 Anchorage

ONLINE reservation service begins December 1 at www.reservedenali.com

FAX AND MAIL-IN service begins December 1 and continues through August 31 each year. FAX your request to 907-264-4684. Requests must be received no less than two days before travel. Download a fax form from Denali’s Home Page at www.nps.gov/dena to ensure you include all the necessary information.

MAIL your request to Doyon/ARAMARK, 241 West Ship Creek Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501. Requests must be received 30 days before travel date. Both fax and mail requests will be processed in the order received.

When faxing or mailing reservation requests, include the names and ages of each passenger, as youth discounts do apply.

Reservation Refund Policy
There is a cancellation fee for each bus seat and/or campground site. Bus cancellations must be made at least two hours before departure time. Campground cancellations must be made by 5 p.m. the day of the reservation. A change fee is collected for any changes made to existing reservations.

Campground Descriptions and Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground Name and Location</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
<th>Cost /Night</th>
<th>Emergency</th>
<th>Reservations / Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Riley Creek</td>
<td>All year; limited facilities from Sept. - May</td>
<td>Yes (no water in winter)</td>
<td>Flush toilet</td>
<td>$12.00 walk-in, $19.00 drive-in</td>
<td>Pay phone near bus stop; call 911</td>
<td>Make reservations in advance or at the Wilderness Access Center (WAC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savage River Mile 13, 33 sites for RVs and tents</td>
<td>May - Sept. Weather dependent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Flush toilet</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
<td>Contact camp host or Park Headquarters</td>
<td>Make reservations in advance at the WAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savage Group Mile 13, 3 sites</td>
<td>May - Sept. Weather dependent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Chemical toilet</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>Contact camp host or Park Headquarters</td>
<td>Make reservations in advance or at the WAC; store food in lockers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanctuary River Mile 23, 7 sites; tents only; no vehicles</td>
<td>May - Sept. Weather dependent</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Chemical toilet</td>
<td>$9.00*</td>
<td>Sanctuary Ranger Station</td>
<td>Make reservations at the WAC only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teklanika River Mile 29, 53 sites for RVs; no tents</td>
<td>May - Sept. Weather dependent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Chemical toilet</td>
<td>$16.00*</td>
<td>Contact camp host</td>
<td>Make reservations in advance or at the WAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wonder Lake Mile 85, 28 sites; tents only; no vehicles</td>
<td>June - Sept. Weather dependent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Flush toilet</td>
<td>$16.00*</td>
<td>Contact camp host or Wonder Lake Ranger Station (2 mi. west)</td>
<td>Make reservations in advance or at the WAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prices are subject to change. 50% discount available with Golden Access Passport.

* Prices do not include a non-refundable campground reservation fee of $4.00. Cancellations must be made by 5:00 p.m. in order to receive a refund. Cancellation fee applies.
Situated in the entrance area of Denali National Park and Preserve, the Murie Science and Learning Center is dedicated to understanding and preserving the sub-arctic and arctic ecosystems and cultures within Alaska’s national parks through research and education.

**Summer Field Seminars and Teacher Trainings**

These small group interactive courses provide participants with an in-depth look into the Denali landscape. Courses begin at the Murie Science and Learning Center before heading out into the park to stay at a remote field camp. Instruction is provided by experts in the field on topics such as wildlife, biology, geology, wildflowers, and writing.

To find out more about our 2007 summer schedule please visit [www.denaliinstitute.org](http://www.denaliinstitute.org) or call 907-683-1269 or toll-free 888-688-1269.

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**Other Campgrounds**

Please camp responsibly! Camping at unmanaged areas along the Parks Highway damages the environment. Garbage and illegal sewage discharge create problems for people and wildlife. A number of managed campground options are available that offer RV hookups, sewage disposal, tent camping, and food lockers. Thank you for protecting our environment!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Privately Owned Campground</th>
<th>Distance*</th>
<th># Sites</th>
<th>Phone #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waugaman Village</td>
<td>14 N</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>907-683-2737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKinley RV and Campground</td>
<td>12 N</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>907-683-2379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denali RV Park</td>
<td>8 N</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>907-683-1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denali Riverside Campground</td>
<td>3 N</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>888-778-7700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denali Rainbow RV Camping</td>
<td>1 N</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>907-683-7777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denali Grizzly Bear Cabins and Campground</td>
<td>6 S</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>907-683-2696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlo Creek Lodge</td>
<td>13 S</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>907-683-2576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantwell RV Park</td>
<td>27 S</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>800-940-2210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Miles from park entrance, North (N) or South (S)
**Where to Stay**

*Riley Creek Campground*, located at the park entrance, is open for primitive camping in the Bear Loop area all winter. Registration is not required. Toilets are provided and barrels are on-site to dispose of dog feces. Snow can be melted or creek water boiled for drinking. Water is also available at The Murie Science and Learning Center (mile 1.3 on the Park Road). Winter camping is free.

*Local Accommodations* are offered year-round in Cantwell, 27 miles south, and Healy, 12 miles north of the park entrance. For more information on Healy area facilities, call the Greater Healy-Denali Chamber of Commerce at 907-683-4636. The nearest large grocery store is in Fairbanks, but both Healy and Cantwell have small convenience markets and gas stations. There is no rental equipment available in the Denali area.

**How to Get Here**

**By Car:**
Take Alaska Highway 3 south from Fairbanks or north from Anchorage to the park entrance at mile 237.

**By Train:**
The Alaska Railroad arrives at the Denali Depot northbound on Saturdays and southbound on Sundays throughout the winter. Contact 800-544-0552 or 265-2494 in Anchorage.

**By Plane:**
The Denali Park Airstrip is open for private, non-commercial planes on skis or wheels during the winter, although weather conditions and plow availability may mean that the airstrip is not plowed for wheeled landings at times. Parking is minimal. Please phone ahead to check on current conditions.

The Kantishna Airstrip at the west end of the Park Road is also potentially available for ski-equipped planes, but the strip is not maintained.

**For More Information**

Denali National Park and Preserve  
P.O. Box 9, Denali Park, AK 99755  
907-683-2294 or denali_information@nps.gov  
www.nps.gov

For topographical maps and other publications contact:  
Alaska Natural History Association  
P.O. Box 230, Denali Park, AK 99755  
907-683-1272 or www.alaskanha.org