Statewide Tour of Alaska

Though we offer many specific treks, treks can be tailored to the specific desires of your crew. Options range from camping at the foot of glaciers such as the Gulkana Glacier, the Canwell Glacier, and the Castner Glacier, to visiting old gold mines such as the Kennecott Mine in the Wrangell-St. Elias Mountains. Day hikes up to multi-day backpacking trips in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park are offered, as well as total remote off-trail treks to hike through the Continental divide in the Brooks Range, North of the Arctic Circle. You can travel South to tour through historic Valdez and Anchorage as well as bus tours through Denali National Park which are offered through the National Park System. In and around Fairbanks crews can experience the wonders of the Gold Dredge 8 as well as the historic Discovery Sternwheeler. Additional options may include Halibut and Salmon fishing, sea kayaking, and much more!

Contact CJ Clinton.Stewart@scouting.org to set up your next High Adventure

How Do Our Treks Work?

Here at Northern Lights High Adventure we truly believe and encourage the role that comradery plays in scouting, and in life. While on our treks all participants, scouts and scout leaders, belong to a crew. This crew is then led by a chosen crew leader, or Senior Patrol Leader (SPL). Along with the crew there will be a NLHA Trek Leader who knows the trails and wild regions that you will be traveling into.

Our guides include a plethora of Eagle Scouts from across the country who know the regions of Alaska like locals. Not only are they well equipped with years of scouting experience, but they are eager and ready to help make your Alaskan backcountry trip once in a lifetime!

NLHA crews hike and paddle through massive wilderness areas, where solitude allows for deeper meditation while the rugged terrain provides physical challenge. Out here in Alaska, the wilderness is both the classroom and instructor during Northern Lights High Adventure expeditions.



Northern Lights High Adventure

"To the lover of wilderness, Alaska is one of the most beautiful countries in the world" – John Muir



Midnight Sun Council Fairbanks, Alaska 907-452-1976

<u>http://midnightsunbsa.org/high-</u> adventure/northern-lights-high-adventurepage.html



Yukon River Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

This river runs through the true heart of Alaska and is rich with Alaskan history. While floating the 156 miles (251 kilometers) of wilderness between the villages of Eagle and Circle, the crew will experience modern homestead life in remote Alaska as well as life during the early gold rush days. During your time on the river you may have the opportunity to stop at a homestead to learn about subsistence living as well as a remote gold dredge located at historic Slaven's cabin.

The river is not difficult technically, but it is very remote and a good distance from major cities and towns. It is therefore necessary to account for the long-distance driving needed to reach the starting point at Eagle. The trip will take about 6 days plus driving.



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Kesugi Ridge Denali State Park

After equipment familiarization, gear shakedown, and backcountry protocol training, the crew will be taken into the backcountry of Denali State Park for a 17, 27, or 37-mile (27, 43, or 60-kilometer) backcountry trek. From the starting point at Little Coal Creek, your trek leader will lead you up and into the wilderness tundra of the Alaskan Range. Depending on your crew's determination, the trek can last anywhere from 3 to 8 days. During your time on the trail you will have the chance to see the 21,310-foot (6,190 m) peak of Denali, the tallest mountain in North America. Additionally, you will have the chance of seeing wild bear, moose, wolves, and much more the Alaskan wild offers! Hiking varies from moderate to strenuous.

Tangle Lakes and the Delta River

The Tangle Lakes are a beautiful group of lakes located off the Denali Highway on the South side of the Alaska Range. Flowing North out of the Tangle Lakes is the Delta River which has carved its path through the rugged Amphitheater Mountains. The river and lakes are very remote providing crews with access to grayling fishing and the chance for great wildlife viewing. The float combines lakes, rapids, and beautiful scenery throughout this wild and scenic region of Alaska.

Prindle Mountain White Mountains National Recreation Area

Expansive alpine tundra meadows and near endless sunlight makes this the ideal spot to begin a trip into the high country of Alaska. At 5,286 feet, Mount Prindle offers beautiful views in all directions. Total elevation change throughout the 19-mile (31 km) hike is 8,400 feet and therefore is not an easy hike. The trek will take 2-3 days.

Due to its proximity to Fairbanks (about 2 hours North), this trek is a popular add-on or introduction to those entering the Alaskan backcountry.

Pinnell Mountain Steese National Conservation Area

This 27-mile (44 km) trek is rugged, remote and entirely above tree line which offers sweeping views of the White Mountains. The remarkable wildlife (dahl sheep, black bears, moose, and caribou) as well as the ancient rocks (some of the oldest exposed in Alaska) add to the beauty and grandeur of the Alaskan wilderness.

The trail is established and maintained by the Bureau of Land Management, however, the 9,400 feet (2,863 m) change in elevation throughout the hike proves strenuous to some. This trek can take anywhere from 2 to 5 days depending on crew ambitions.

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