

TOUR ITINERARY

**MINTO AURORA FLY/DRIVE
ADVENTURE®**

DAY 1

- 9:00 am Depart Fairbanks on guided ground tour.
- 1:30 pm Arrive in Minto. Lunch at Lakeview Lodge.
- 2:30 pm Village visit.
- 3:00pm-7:00pm Optional winter activities.
- 7:00pm Dinner at Lakeview Lodge.
- 8:00pm 11:00pm Free time to relax or explore on your own.
- 11:00pm-3:00am Aurora watching with guide or village host.
- 3:00am Overnight at Lakeview Lodge.

DAY 2

- 7:00am Breakfast at Lakeview Lodge.
- 10:10am Return flight to Fairbanks (may stop-over in Manley).
- 11:10am Arrive in Fairbanks.

The above is only intended to provide an approximate tour itinerary. Northern Alaska Tour Company strives to make each tour a unique and personalized tour experience. The exact schedule of each tour varies day-to-day and is dictated by the interests of the group and unique events of the day, not by a rigid pre-set itinerary.

SAFETY IN THE WILDERNESS

It is important that travelers with Northern Alaska Tour Company understand that Alaska's Arctic is a truly remote wilderness region. Traveling through vast wilderness stretches requires adequate time and preparation. Weather or mechanical factors, albeit infrequent, can result in multi-hour delays. Medical facilities are limited. Limited communication and transportation infrastructure inherently cause evacuation for illness or other emergency situations to take, at the very best, several hours to conduct. For this reason, travelers to this region should be of reasonable health and physical condition.

Northern Alaska Tour Company is an Alaskan-owned tour operator based in Fairbanks, Alaska.

The company was founded in 1987 to provide unparalleled travel and touring experiences in Alaska's Arctic for guests while maintaining the highest standards of safety and commitment to traditional culture and the environment.

Our cooperative, grassroots tour programs strengthen the local economies in the communities and regions we visit and help preserve the wisdom of knowledgeable locals by recording and incorporating their knowledge into tour programs.

As our traveling guests learn of and experience firsthand the delicate, wondrous environment of Alaska's Arctic, they are able to appreciate and help protect it. When carried forth conscientiously, travel and touring can serve to protect the natural environment and preserve traditional culture where it might otherwise be destroyed.

In sharing our culture and environment with visitors, we as hosts, along with our guests are deeply enriched by the experience.....which is really what travel and touring is all about.



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TOUR PROGRAM

**MINTO AURORA
FLY/DRIVE ADVENTURE®**

The Spirit of Alaska's Arctic

Alaska's Arctic is one of the last great wilderness regions on earth. It is a remote, wild, and unpopulated land of vast wilderness expanses. Your Arctic Circle Adventure® will be unlike previous travel you have encountered. Experiencing the expansive landscapes and fascinating cultures unique to Alaska's Arctic requires braving travel through remote country where the amenities common in today's modern world are rare or non-existent. Travel in Alaska's Arctic is always an adventure. Northern Alaska Tour Company prides itself in its reputation for providing a high quality travel experience which "smoothes out" the "rough edges" of travel in Alaska's Arctic. Yet it is the spirit of you the adventurer which is unquestionably the key to making the most of this travel experience. Travel in Alaska's Arctic is not for everyone. If you are young at heart, adventurous, have a desire to learn, to explore new territories, and to seek out new experiences, then the rustic aspects of traveling in Alaska's Arctic will be of little consequence to you. You are certain to come away from the experience with a deeper understanding of the culture, greater appreciation of the natural history, and wonderful memories of time spent in Alaska's Arctic. that is the spirit of Alaska's Arctic.

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Minto Aurora Fly/Drive Adventure

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TOUR VEHICLES

Northern Alaska Tour Company strives to provide a personalized touring experience. Touring is done in small groups utilizing a 10-passenger tour van. The flight portion of the tour is typically conducted in 8 passenger twin-engine aircraft.

SEATING

Guest seating is rotated throughout the day. Thus, each guest is provided with a variety of different viewing perspectives and the opportunity to interact with others on the tour.

GUIDES

Northern Alaska Tour Company guides are highly-trained and knowledgeable and eager to share their unique understanding of Alaska with you based on their personal experiences. We are confident you will find the level of service provided by your guide to be as high or higher than you have ever before experienced.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities Policy: As with other service industries, tips are not required but are used to reward guides for a job well done. Standard tip amounts range from \$10.00-\$20.00 per guest, per day for excellent service.

GUEST SAFETY

Guest safety is our foremost priority. Guides are licensed to operate commercial vehicles. Tour vehicles are CB radio and satellite phone equipped. Weather conditions always dictate safe flight altitude. At times it is necessary to fly above cloud cover, thus reducing or even eliminating aerial visibility.

WHAT TO WEAR / BRING

Layers are the key to comfort. While large parkas and snow suits aren't necessary, they do help. Whether or not you are lacking in heavy snow gear, layers can make winter comfortable. Start with long/thermal underwear. On top of that you will want an assortment of undershirts, T-shirts, long sleeved shirts, sweaters, fleece vests and or jackets, and a wind-proof shell. For the bottom-half try to have thermal/long underwear, sweat pants, and finish with wind-proof pants. Sock liners and wool or wool blend socks plus the warmest boots you can find will keep your feet warm. It is important to remember that the only wind proof layer you want is the outer one. Keep the inside layers breathable and shy away from cotton. Also try to use layers that go from snug to loose. To finish-off your winter wear, bring a hat, scarf and mittens.

FLIGHT WEIGHT

At the time of reservation, please provide the individual weight of each member of the tour party. The weight is required for proper balance of aircraft used for the flight portion of the tour.

WEIGHT LIMIT: Baggage is limited to 10-15 pounds per person. Luggage over 15 pounds is subject to be stored in Fairbanks.

RESTROOMS

Outhouses are the norm for the Elliott Highway. Frequent rest stops are made along the tour route. The longest time period between stops is approximately 2 hours.

ACCOMMODATIONS

In the spirit of the remote wilderness, the overnight accommodations consist of very basic, clean rooms that are extremely rustic by urban standards. Bathrooms and showers are down the hall from the rooms. Free Wi-Fi is available at the Lakeview Lodge .

INCLUSIONS

The tour price includes guided ground tour, air transportation, and a room for one night at the Lakeview Lodge in Minto. Guests may bring their own snacks/food or purchase meals at the Lodge.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Some optional winter activities may be offered by local residents. These could include snow machine or dog sled rides. Guests should be prepared to pay cash for these activities as credit cards are not accepted. Activities usually cost in the range of \$50.00-\$75.00.

ARTS & CRAFTS

There may be opportunities to purchase hand crafted beadwork and other local arts while you are in Minto. The only way to pay for such items is with cash. If you think you might want souvenirs of your trip to Minto, you should consider bringing appropriate cash with you.

There is no ATM in Minto.

ALTERATION

PLEASE NOTE: Guest safety ***always*** takes precedence over convenience. On rare occasions, weather or other uncontrollable circumstances may require alteration/cancellation of a portion or all of the scheduled tour itinerary.

If the tour requires additional overnight stay due to weather or uncontrollable circumstances the cost of accommodations and meals is the guest's responsibility.