

Post-Conference Tour #2
Denali National Park & Preserve
May 7th – May 10th 2004
Hosted by The Denali Foundation

Program Cost: \$659 per person (double occupancy; single participants who are willing to share a cabin will be assigned a roommate)
\$820 per person (for individuals who wish to have a cabin to themselves)

Offering the program requires a minimum of 10 participants. If fewer people have registered for the program by April 15th, 2004, the program will be cancelled and your fee refunded. Maximum number of participants 35.

Program Summary

Denali National Park, home of Mt. McKinley, North America's highest summit at 20,320 ft. (6193 m), was established in 1917 to protect the large mammals of this subarctic wilderness. Denali's six million-acre wilderness provides an ideal setting to enjoy the natural history and wildlife of the Alaska Range, including large terrestrial mammals such as grizzly bears, wolves, caribou, Dall sheep, and moose. After a four-day conference in Fairbanks, extend your journey in Alaska by venturing to the rugged wilderness of Denali National Park & Preserve. Experience Denali in the off-season when life is beginning to bloom, tourists are few and the sun shines high in the sky.

Program highlights will include a guided walk in the boreal forest of Denali National Park & Preserve with a local naturalist, evening slide presentations by local climbers and homesteaders, an opportunity to explore the Visitor Center at the entrance of the park, discussions with park researchers and an all-day excursion into the wilderness core of Denali National Park. This excursion can be spent as you wish, navigating through the taiga or over the tundra adjacent to the rugged park road, biking along the park road (additional fee for bike rental) or hiking on established trails. The Denali Foundation Staff Coordinator and Park Rangers at the Visitor Center will help you to plan your day in the park.

**** Snow and ice conditions on the park road are unpredictable in early May. Therefore road access into Denali National Park & Preserve may be very limited. The scheduled excursion into the park will get you as far into the park as possible.**

The Perch Cabins and Restaurant will provide lodging and food, from lunch on May 7th through breakfast on May 10th. The Perch is located along Carlo Creek on the edge of Denali National Park and Preserve. These rustic, secluded cabins offer a true taste of the region and are near fantastic trails, within sight of scenic mountain views and close to the

Denali Foundation and all Denali Park activities. Cabins are double occupancy with a bathroom. Single participants will be assigned a roommate or can request a single cabin for a supplemental charge of \$161.

PROGRAM COST WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Three nights lodging at the Perch; Friday, May 7th Saturday, May 8th and Sunday, May 9th.
- All meals and meal gratuity from lunch on Friday night through breakfast on Monday morning. **Note: Alcoholic beverages are not included.
- Transportation to and from Fairbanks. Participants will be picked up at the Princess Hotel by van on Friday morning, May 7th at 10 am, and returned to the Fairbanks International Airport or the Hotel on Monday morning, May 10th, arriving there by 11:00 am.
- All activities, academic instruction, evening slide presentations, park entrance fees and local transportation.

What to Bring

Temperatures in Denali at this time of year can range from 20 to 65 °F (-7 to 20 °C). To be prepared for whatever Mother Nature may offer, it is best to bring clothing that will be suitable for cold and rainy as well as sunny and warm weather. Layering your clothing will allow the greatest flexibility. For instance, rather than a shirt and a very heavy coat bring a shirt, a sweater and a jacket. If your jacket isn't waterproof you should bring a poncho or waterproof windbreaker. A warm hat and gloves are essential as well. Sturdy, water-repellent boots will make all of our outings and walks much more enjoyable. You will also appreciate a lightweight pair of shoes for indoor use and relaxing. Dress will be casual with an emphasis on comfort at all classes and events. Try to limit your baggage to two bags per person.

Guided walks are offered throughout the week-end. A small daypack or fanny pack will come in handy to carry supplies such as a water bottle, lunches, field guides, cameras and binoculars

More Information about the Program

INSTRUCTOR / NATURALIST

Nan Eagleson

Nan is a wildlife biologist who has lived and worked in the Arctic and Subarctic of the Yukon and Northwest Territories of Canada and Alaska for the past 20 years. She resides with her family and a team of sled dogs in Denali National Park year-round. She has worked as an instructor for the Denali Foundation for the past 3 years.

RESEARCH SCIENTIST

Vic Van Ballenberghe

Vic has studied the ecology of moose and wolves in Alaska for thirty years, with both the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the USDA Forest Service. Hear about the moose of Denali National Park from one of Alaska's foremost wildlife researchers.

THE DENALI FOUNDATION

The Denali Foundation will sponsor the conference extension to Denali National Park & Preserve. This grassroots non-profit organization was founded in 1989 and their mission is to develop and implement research, education and communication programs that benefit the Denali Park region, the state of Alaska, and our planet. They believe that wilderness provides an educational opportunity to teach and to share values common to all of us.

Location

The Denali Foundation is located upon three wooded acres near the Nenana River, the eastern boundary of Denali National Park & Preserve. The home of the Denali Foundation has a 90-seat lecture hall and office in a facility named *The Charles Sheldon Center* in honor of the founder of Denali National Park. The Sheldon Center has over 4,300 hours of volunteer labor involved in its construction. Features include post and beam log construction, an 18-foot stained glass mural of the Alaska Range and an intricate tile mosaic of Denali. This Denali Foundation welcomes visitors to this remarkable land to experience for themselves what makes this place so very special.

For more information about the Denali Foundation visit www.denali.org or contact Holly at holly@denali.org or 907-683-2597.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM ITINERARY

Friday, May 7th

10:00 am

Leave the Fairbanks Princess Hotel by van

12:30 pm

Check in at the Perch

1:00 pm

Short drive by van to Denali Foundation Charles Sheldon Center for lunch and orientation with Denali Foundation Staff and program coordinator.

4:00

Cocktails and Dinner at the Perch

7:30 PM

Evening Slide Presentation (TBA)
Topic will be homesteading, climbing or local history

Saturday, May 8th

7:30 AM

Breakfast at the Perch

9:00 AM

Introduction to Denali National Park & Preserve at the Charles Sheldon Center

10:00 AM

Discussion with Dr. Vic Van Ballenberghe "Ecology of Moose at Denali National Park and Preserve During Spring and Early Summer."

Noon – 1:00 PM

Bag Lunch from the Perch at the Sheldon Center

1:15PM

Guided Hike in Denali National Park with Nan Eagleson (Departure on foot from the Charles Sheldon Center)

5:00 PM

Cocktails at the Perch

5:30 or 6:00PM

Dinner at the Perch

7:30 PM

Evening Slide Program (TBA) at the Perch

Sunday, May 9th

7:30 AM

Breakfast at the Perch

Field trip into Denali National Park & Preserve-All Day

This all-day excursion can be spent as you wish, navigating through the taiga or over the tundra adjacent to the rugged park road, biking along the park road on a rented

