

# Anchorage, Alaska

## JUST THE FACTS



## Big Wild Life™

With the midnight sun high overhead, the colossal, boreal forest of the Chugach Mountain Range looming on the horizon, and the sparkling waters of Cook Inlet summoning like a siren, Anchorage provides endless possibilities for adventure at every skill level and budget. Itineraries read like a wish list for those with a love of the natural world. Lose track of time on Anchorage's lush, maintained trails. Get up-close and personal with moose, bear and fox. Hike to the top of Flattop Mountain, glide along glaciers, hook up a fly rod and reel in a huge king salmon, or tee-off at 10 p.m. Anchorage embraces a Big Wild Life™.

### POPULATION

**290,588 people** or **44%** of the state's population live in Anchorage.

**Median age:** 33.5

**Sex:** 50.5% male, 49.5% female

There are 105 languages spoken in the Anchorage School District.

### MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY

Anchorage is nearly the size of the state of Delaware. Stretching more than 50 miles (80 kilometers) from Portage glacier to Cook Inlet and north to Eklutna, it encompasses 1,955 square miles (506,342 hectares).

### LOCATION

The city sits at the base of the Chugach Mountains along the coast of Cook Inlet in Southcentral Alaska. Anchorage is as far north as Helsinki, Finland, and as far west as Honolulu, Hawaii.

### WEATHER

**Average Temperatures:**

July: 65F (18C)

January: 20F(-7C)

**Annual Precipitation:** 15.7 inches

**Daylight:**

19 hrs, 21 minutes in the summer

5 hrs, 28 minutes in the winter

**Average Snowfall:** 70.6 inches

### MOUNTAINS

Six mountain ranges can be seen from Anchorage, including the **Alaska Range** (and Mount McKinley) to the north, the **Chugach Mountains** to the east, **Talkeetna Mountains** to the north, **Tordrillo Mountains** to the west, **Kenai Mountains** to the south and the **Aleutian Range** to the southwest. There are **200** recognized mountains, more than **60** glaciers and **30** lakes and ponds within Chugach National Forest and Chugach State Park – all within **50** miles of Anchorage.

### TOP TRAILS

Anchorage has more than **120** miles of paved bike and multi-use trails and **90** miles of summer non-paved hiking trails. Residents enjoy more than **130** miles of winter walkways that are plowed, **140** miles of groomed ski trails, **30** miles of lighted ski trails and **36** miles of dog mushing trails. Anchorage's Kincaid Park is one of only two Nordic ski areas in the U.S. certified for international 5K, 10K, 15K and 30K competitions. The city's trail systems have won numerous awards including second place for the Trail Town USA Award for the National Park Service and American Hiking Society.



ANCHORAGE CONVENTION  
& VISITORS BUREAU

## TOP 10 ANCHORAGE ACTIVITIES

Shopping 55%  
Cultural Activities 29%  
Visit Friends/Family 24%  
City Tour 19%  
Hiking/Nature Walk 14%  
Wildlife Viewing 9%  
Business 7%  
Fishing 4%  
Flightseeing 4%  
Biking 4%

## CONVENTIONS HELD

Meetings held in 2009 had an estimated economic impact of \$98,726,014

2008 – \$97,272,094  
2007 – \$97,529,349  
2006 – \$97,791,751  
2005 – \$85,604,027

## CONVENTIONS SOLD

The economic impact of meetings sold during 2009 equaled \$97,262,811

2008 – \$99,959,366  
2007 – \$96,411,772  
2006 – \$105,290,609  
2005 – \$82,805,872

## BIG FACTS

### Biggest...

...state in the U.S.: 570,373 square miles, 1/5 the size of the contiguous 48 states

...North American mountain: (Mount McKinley) Denali at 20,320 feet

### ...state park in the nation:

Wood Tikchik State Park, with 1.6 million acres of wilderness

...area per person: .92 square mile for each Alaskan

### ...earthquake in North America:

9.2 on the Richter scale on March 27, 1964, in Southcentral Alaska

...king salmon: 97 lbs, 4 ounces, caught on the Kenai River

### ...National Park: Wrangell-Saint Elias National Park is the country's largest and covers more than 13 million acres.

...concentration of glaciers: 29,000 square miles or 5 percent of the state

**SEYMOUR OF ANCHORAGE** • Seymour of Anchorage is the city's symbol of hospitality and ambassador of goodwill, inviting people throughout the world to live a Big Wild Life™!

**MEETING SPACE** • The Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center accommodates groups of up to 5,000 and provides 215,000 square feet of pre-meeting, meeting, ballroom and exhibit space.

The William A. Egan Civic & Convention Center offers more than 40,000 square feet of meeting, exhibit and pre-function space on two floors and includes two main halls.

**AVAILABLE ROOMS** • Anchorage has more than 8,000 hotel/motel rooms and more than 850 bed and breakfast/hostel beds.

**TOURISM** • Tourism sales in 2007 had an estimated economic impact of \$150 million (assumes \$86/person/night for fall/winter/spring visitors and \$99/person/night for summer visitors, as determined by Alaska Visitor Statistics Program research).

## VISITOR PROFILE

Non-Cruise Visitors (2005 Study)

- Spend 4.3 nights in Anchorage, 11.1 nights in Alaska
- 47% of Anchorage visitors are repeat visitors
- Average age is 50 years old
- 54% are male, 46% are female
- 53% are college graduates
- Each person spends \$4,322/trip
- Average household income is \$90,000
- Average number of people in party is 2.4

Non-Cruise Visitors come from...

Western U.S., 48%; Midwestern U.S., 16%; Southern U.S., 13%; Eastern U.S., 11%; Canada, 1%; Other International, 10%.

Cruise Visitors (2005 Study)

- Spend 1.5 nights in Anchorage, out of an average of 4.3 nights off their ship
- Average age is 58 years old
- 46% are male, 54% are female
- 55% are college graduates
- Average household income is \$97,000
- Average number of people in party is 2.6

**ALASKA VISITOR INDUSTRY** • The Alaska visitor industry is responsible for roughly 40,000 full time jobs annually, and accounts for more than eight percent of employment in Alaska with an economic impact of \$2.1 billion in visitor spending.

**AVIATION** • Alaska has the most air traffic in the country! In 2008, there were an estimated 10,425 active pilots and 10,755 active aircraft. Alaska has approximately 730 public and private landing areas (including seaplane bases). Lake Hood is the largest and busiest seaplane base in the world, with an average of 160 takeoffs and landings daily, and more than 600 on a peak summer day. Merrill Field in Anchorage recorded 181,729 flight operations during 2007. Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport saw more than 5 million passengers pass through in 2008.

**EVENTS** • Sporting events, festivals and other events attract visitors to Anchorage. ACVB uses these activities to further promote the Anchorage experience year round. A sampling of these events includes:

- Alaska Ski for Women
- Anchorage Fur Rendezvous
- Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race®
- Tour of Anchorage Cross Country Ski Marathon
- Alyeska's Annual Spring Carnival & Slush Cup
- Native Youth Olympics
- Visitor Industry Charity Walk
- Alaska Women's Gold Nugget Triathlon
- Ship Creek Slam'n Salm'n Derby
- Alaska Run for Women
- Solstice Festival & Hero Games
- Mayor's Marathon & half Marathon
- Big Wild Life™ Runs
- Alaska State Fair, Palmer
- Kendall Hockey Classic
- Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout



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Explore [www.Anchorage.net](http://www.Anchorage.net)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** • For the latest facts, figures, news releases and calendar of events explore [www.anchorage.net/media](http://www.anchorage.net/media) or contact the Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau at (907) 276-4118 or [pr@anchorage.net](mailto:pr@anchorage.net).