

## Alaska Aurora Borealis Private Adventure

7 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT-SOBEK\*\*

**MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK** 

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

# Alaska Aurora Borealis ▶ Private Adventure

Journey to Alaska's North Country and experience the geothermal healing powers of Chena Hot Springs. A clear sky in Fairbanks in the winter provides the best chance to view the natural phenomenon of the Aurora Borealis from a modern geodesic igloo and snowshoe through the rugged landscape. Venture by snow machine through the back country to Wickersham Dome nestled in the White Mountains for snowshoeing and seek marmots with views of the White Mountain National Recreation Area. Try your hand at dog sledding to become a master musher with the exuberant power and strength of an Alaskan Husky team. Relax and decompress in the tranquil beauty and allure of the far north.

### **Details**

Arrive: Fairbanks, Alaska

Depart: Fairbanks, Alaska

Duration: 7 Days

Group Size: 4 Guests

Minimum Age: 6 Years Old

Activity Level:

### **Testimonials**

"I've taken six MT Sobek trips and they have all exceeded my expectations. The staff, the food, the logistics and the communications have always been exceptional. Thank you for being my "go to" adventure travel company!"

Margaret I.

"I have traveled extensively around the world. The experience with MT Sobek was by far the best I have ever had. Thank you for such excellence."

Marianne W.

### Why Take This Trip With Us?

### REASON #01

Since 1972, MT Sobek has maintained its reputation as a wilderness expert and adventure travel pioneer in Alaska.

### REASON #02

This unique expedition travels deep into the Alaskan Wilderness for an immersive "off the grid" experience.

### REASON #03

MTS has hand-picked this camp to maximize on the best opportunities to view the northern lights.

### What to Expect



### **ACTIVITIES**

Personally tailored adventures, hand-picked with your desired activity level in mind. Snowshoeing, snow machine rides, dog sledding, and a professional photo session.



### LODGING

Comfortable and ideally located accommodations and a unique research base-style igloo with glass panels for optimal aurora viewing.



### CLIMATI

Variable by location but winters can be exceptionally cold and usually remain below freezing in December and January (the coldest months) Be prepared for snow and freezing conditions,

### **Meet Our Guides**

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Annie was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. After completing a bachelor's degree in Japanese from the University of Hawaii she joined the Peace Corps. She spent the next few years teaching in a small village in Kyrgyzstan and in the Philippines. Since returning home to Alaska, Annie has spent the past few years guiding and enjoying the surrounding Chugach Mountains in her hometown. In her spare time, you can find her camping, fishing, trail running and working towards her graduate degree in occupational therapy.

**Annie** 

Dan developed his love of the great outdoors from an early age when he became an Eagle Scout. After spending two decades working with people with disabilities, he moved to Alaska to explore his dream of living closer to nature. He quickly became an active member in the community by sitting on the Parks & Recreation board, becoming a guide and producing a radio show called, 'Get Outside and Play' to encourage recreation in the Denali area. In his spare time, Dan can be found backpacking, trail running and Nordic skiing.

Dan

### **Itinerary**

### DAY 1 ARRIVE IN FAIRBANKS AND TRAVEL TO CHENA HOT SPRINGS

Arrive in Fairbanks and travel by private shuttle to your evening's accommodations. After checking in, enjoy dinner at the onsite restaurant. This evening you'll have time to relax in the extensive natural hot spring pools for a soak with possible viewing opportunities of the northern lights rippling through the night sky.

Meals: D

### DAY 2 TOUR OF THE ICE MUSEUM AND AURORA BOREALIS VIEWING

After breakfast you'll have time for a morning soak, massage, or exploring the resort grounds. This afternoon, you'll visit the world's largest year-round ice environment: the Aurora Ice Museum! Created from over 1,000 tons of ice and snow all harvested at the resort, the museum stays a cool 25° F (-7° C) inside. In the evening, after your guided museum tour, ride in a military-style SUSV (articulated tracked all-terrain vehicle) from the resort to the top of Charlie Dome to watch for the aurora borealis. You will have an unobstructed 360° view, heated yurts, outhouses, and complimentary hot beverages and snacks. Warm outer clothing will also be provided. After night sky viewing, return to the resort to warm up in the hot springs and settle in for the evening.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

GO DEEPER IN THE ALASKAN WILDERNESS

After breakfast, take one last dip in the hot springs, then catch your private transfer to Borealis Basecamp, your home for the next three nights. After arriving and attending a brief orientation with a preview of Basecamp activities, enjoy lunch on site. Enjoy activities according to your preferred level of activity. The remote location provides a chance to get truly "off the grid" and immerse yourself into rural Alaska life. Your private igloo is similar to those used at polar expeditions and research stations, yet crafted exclusively to maximize comfort and aurora viewing with clear, curved 16-foot ceiling windows. If you desire, the staff can alert you in your room if the aurora are out dancing in the sky. Each room is outfitted with a special aurora alarm and you will be instantly notified up until 1:00 a.m.

Meals: B, L, D

### DAY 4 SNOWMOBILE TO THE WHITE MOUNTAINS

Enjoy a leisurely morning with breakfast before your guided backcountry experience. Get up close and personal with the White Mountains on this epic six-hour snowmobile tour through the Alaskan wilderness. Gear up with an experienced guide and ride snowmachines down the Trans Alaskan Pipeline to Wickersham Dome. Stop for

a picnic-style lunch before heading back to your igloo. Tonight provides another opportunity for northern light viewing!

Activity: Full Day Snowmobile Tour

Meals: B, L, D

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### DAY 5 DOG MUSHING & AURORA PORTRAITS

Grab a hearty breakfast to fuel up for your day with the dogs! Mushing is Alaska's state sport, and you will have the opportunity to experience the thrill of dogsledding too. During your ride, travel along a section of the 800-mile TransAlaskan Pipeline, passing through an active trapline. Your mushing guide will review handling techniques and describe life along the rugged trail as the sled dog team swings through the snowy forest. After dinner, enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime portrait session under the northern lights with a professional Aurora portrait photographer. Your trek will include a four hour aurora chasing tour that features family, group, couple or individual portrait photography sessions. The natural arctic landscape combined with Aurora Borealis-lit skies provide a background that will give you portraits of a lifetime!

**Activity:** Half-Day Dog Sledding

Meals: B, L, D

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### DAY 6 CATCH A BITE ICE FISHING

This morning, meet your guide and set off for an Alaskan sub-arctic ice fishing adventure. Experience Alaska's stunning winter landscape as you travel to a frozen lake with a toasty, heated icefishing hut. Learn the technique of drilling a fishing hole through three feet of ice to catch fish in this wintery haven. Enjoy hot drinks, stories and knowledge from an expert as you wait for a bite on your line.

**Activity:** Half-Day Ice Fishing Tour

Meals: B, L, D

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### DAY 7 DEPART ALASKA

After breakfast, bid adieu to the Alaskan back country, and head south to Fairbanks and to your flight home.

Meals: B

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Dates	
For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.	
GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.	

### **Inclusions & Exclusions**

### **PRICE INCLUDES**

- Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
- All necessary specialty activity gear
- All guided group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
- Arrival and departure day group airport transfers

### PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
- Optional tips to your guides, drivers and resort staff
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
- Airport transfers if arriving or departing outside of the group transfers
- Rental car
- Optional travel protection

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### The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are the adventure company.

### **Awards**











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