



ANCHORAGE, AK AREA INFORMATION

Known for the abundance of outdoor activities and natural beauty, [Anchorage](#) is a city that balances a thriving metropolitan area with beautiful scenery. The residents enjoy visiting the national parks, observing glaciers, seeing a vast amount of wildlife, and biking the many trails. If enjoying the great outdoors isn't your go-to activity, there are plenty of art exhibits, fine restaurants, and downtown entertainment in the area as well.

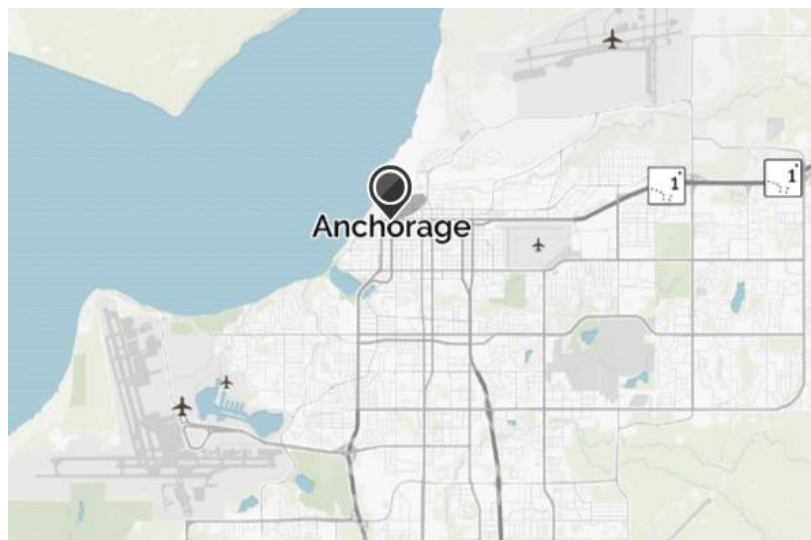


Anchorage Alaska Skyline

Transportation

By Car

It is easy to drive and park around Anchorage. Whether you drive yourself or let someone else take the wheel via [Uber](#) or [Lyft](#), all of Anchorage's attractions are accessible by car.



By Bike

Anchorage was dubbed “bike utopia” by Bicycle Magazine, showing that getting around on two wheels is one of the best ways to see the area. Whether you want to take a ride through paved or unpaved trails, for leisure or for competition, Anchorage has a variety [rental options](#) for any customer.



Courtesy of MTBproject.com

By Train

Another great way to see more of Alaska is by train. [Alaska trains](#) offers access to five other cities, with beautiful views along the way.

By Air

[Anchorage International airport](#) is the largest airport in the state, making flying into the area a breeze. The airport is located just five miles away from downtown, with plenty of shuttles and taxis that are able to get you where you want to go.



By Bus

[People Mover](#) is Anchorage’s main public transportation network of buses. There are 13 routes to choose from, so it is almost guaranteed that these buses will be able to get you where you would like to go in Anchorage!

Schools

Generally, to register your child for school you will need to have a passport and/or birth certificate, proof of immunizations, any applicable past school records and proof of residency. Most public schools have boundary areas, and you must show proof (i.e. copy of lease or home purchase agreement) to be allowed to register in that particular school. Please always confirm requirements with the school you are interested in before assuming that your child will be able to attend that school.

Grade level in the public school system is determined by the age of the child. Typically, the child must be 5 years old by September 1st to enter kindergarten. School districts may be very strict about the age requirement, but inquire with the school district you are interested in to determine if there are any exemptions for foreign students who are ahead in grade level. You may also want to ask about any gifted or advanced programs as well as their English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs. Some elementary schools also offer a pre-Kindergarten program for children who miss the September 1st requirement. You may inquire at the school districts for availability.

Contact your IOR Destination Services Consultant for more assistance with schooling questions.

Public, Private, and Preschools

A complete listing of public schools in Anchorage can be viewed [here](#).

A complete listing of private schools in the Anchorage area can be viewed [here](#).

A directory of preschools and daycares in the Anchorage area can be viewed [here](#).

Additional Resources

- www.greatschools.org
- www.eschoolprofile.com
- www.schooltree.org

Colleges/Universities

- [Colleges and Universities in Anchorage, AK](#)



Recreation

Listed below are a few of the attractions offered in Anchorage. A more complete listing of attractions in Anchorage can be found [here](#).

- [Museums & Culture Centers in Anchorage](#)
- [Adventure and Eco Tours in Anchorage](#)
- [Nightlife in Anchorage](#)
- [Sporting Events in Anchorage](#)
- [Alaskan Native Cultures](#)
- [Dining in Anchorage](#)



Courtesy of expedia.com

Obtaining a Driver's License

In the US, a driver's license or ID card is issued by each individual state and not by the federal government. Since there is no national identity card in the USA, and many Americans don't have a passport or carry around a birth certificate, a driver's license issued by your state is often the only official piece of identification for many citizens. Since 9/11, you will need to show a valid driver's license or State ID card to enter many big office buildings.

If you have an out-of-state or out-of-country license, you may use it for as long as you maintain your residency in the state where it was issued. If you are moving permanently to Alaska, you may use your out-of-state license for only your first 90 days. You must turn in any driver license or permit from another state or country if you have one. To change to an Alaska license, you must take the following steps:

- Surrender your out-of-state driver license
- Pass a written knowledge test
- Pass an alcohol and drug awareness test when you reach the age of 21.
- Pass a vision test
- Provide proof of legal name, date of birth, current residence address, and social security number

If your license is from a country other than Canada or US Territory you must also:

- Pass a road test
- Pay a fee for your road test

For more information about the application process for a license, please click [here](#).

For vehicle registration and titling information, please click [here](#).

Your Destination Services Consultant will also assist you with the proper procedure.