



Travel and Logistics

Naval Academy Alaska Mountaineering Expedition

National Outdoor Leadership School

Course Start

We look forward to meeting you in Alaska! **Your course will begin at 7:00 AM in front of the Alaska Railroad Station in Anchorage on the course start date. Please look for the NOLS school bus parked directly in front of the Railroad Station.** The Railroad Station is located on the corner of 1st and C Streets. From there, we will drive to our headquarters in Palmer, 50 miles north. Given the early start to the day, we advise you to arrive in Anchorage the day before your course begins.

The First Day

The first day will be a very busy one. In the morning, you will meet your instructors and other expedition members. The day will be spent issuing equipment and preparing food supplies for the entire expedition. There will be time for a course orientation, some classes on basic skills and packing backpacks.

The first night will be spent camped on NOLS property in Palmer. The next morning you'll head for the mountains and begin your expedition.

End of Course Departure

Your course will be transported back to the NOLS headquarters in Palmer late on the next to last day or morning of the last day of the course. While at the headquarters on the last day of your course you will clean and deissue course gear, settle your equipment bill and complete a course debriefing. Dinner is provided for you at our headquarters, after which you will leave for Anchorage. Please do not plan to leave Alaska sooner than late evening (10 PM or later) on the last day of your course. Many flights leave Anchorage around midnight. You can also reserve lodging in Anchorage for flights leaving the day after your course end date. We will do our best to ensure that your course ends on schedule and generally most do. However, we cannot guarantee that you will get in on time as unusual weather could affect the ending day of the course.

Air Service

Most major airlines serve Anchorage. Please check their individual websites for current information.

NOTE: Alaska Time Zone is 4 hours behind Eastern, 3 hours behind Central, 2 hours behind Mountain, 1 hour behind Pacific.



Shuttle from the Airport

Taxis to downtown cost between \$15 and \$20. Most hotels provide shuttle services.

Driving to Alaska

The majority of our students fly to Alaska. If you choose to drive, please call NOLS Alaska at (907) 745-4047 with any questions.



Pre and Post Course Anchorage Lodging

Bed and Breakfasts

We recommend B&Bs as a very comfortable lodging option in Anchorage. They offer comfortable rooms, home atmospheres and are generally less expensive than hotels. Based on past student experience, we recommend the following locations. Price and services offered (rides, meals, etc.) vary. **Space may be limited so call early for reservations.**

<p>Alaska House of Jade (907) 337-3400 Web site – alaskahouseofjade.com Email – alaskahouseofjade@ak.net Host – Dee Moreau</p>	<p>Coastal Trail Bed & Breakfast (907) 243 -5809 Fax (907) 243-5514 Web site - coastaltrail.com email - info@coastaltrail.com Hosts – Derek and Sherry Tomilson</p>
<p>Anchorage Walkabout Town (907) 279-7808 Fax (907) 258-3657 Web site – anchoragewalkabout.com Email – terryandsandyak@cs.com Hosts – Terry and Sandy Stimson</p>	<p>Gallery Bed and Breakfast (907) 274-2567 1229 G Street Anchorage, AK 99501 Host - Leslie Evans</p>

Youth Hostels

There are several reasonably priced youth hostels in Anchorage:
 Alaska Backpackers Inn - (907) 277-2770 - www.alaskabackpackers.com
 Hostelling International Anchorage - (907) 276-3635
 Qupqugiaq Inn - (907) 563-5633 - www.qupq.com
 Spenard Hostel International - (907) 248-5036 - www.alaskahostel.org

Hotels and Motels

In Alaska if you are under 18 years of age, you will need a written statement from a parent or guardian to register in a hotel or motel; make these arrangements in advance. Anchorage fills up during the summer, so we suggest you make reservations well in advance for the nights before and after your course. The following is a list of those hotels convenient to downtown Anchorage.

Anchorage Hilton (800) 445-8667 (907) 272-7411	Howard Johnson Hotel (800) 545-7665 (907) 793-5500	Sheraton Anchorage Hotel (800) 478-8700 (907) 276-8700
Days Inn (800) 329-7466 (907) 276-7226	Comfort Inn (800) 228-5150 (907) 277-6887	Westmark Hotel (800) 544-0970 (907) 276-7676
Hotel Captain Cook (800) 843-1950 (907) 276-6000	Ramada Inn (800) 544-0970 (907) 272-7561	



Caution

As in any large city, students should use common sense when traveling around Anchorage at night. Travel with a friend. Do not walk around alone. Anchorage has no more of a crime problem than other U.S. cities, but it doesn't have less of one either.

If Delayed

If your arrival to Anchorage is delayed and you are not able to make the pick up at the train station, please call the NOLS Alaska office at (907) 745-4047.

Storage of Personal Belongings and Vehicles

Personal belongings and vehicles may be stored at the NOLS facility for the duration of your course. Due care will be taken to prevent theft or damage of your personal belongings. However, NOLS does not assume any liability for lost, stolen or damaged personal property while stored at a NOLS facility or elsewhere. NOLS will not honor any personal claim for property loss while in our care. If you want insurance coverage for your personal belongings, you will need to obtain it.

Student Mail

Mail cannot be delivered to students while they are in the field. All student mail arriving at NOLS will be held until you return to the headquarters. Sending perishable items is discouraged. Please inform your family and friends that letters and packages they send to you at NOLS should include the course code (e.g. AKW-06-11-01) and your name in the address. Your course code is shown on your enrollment letter and account statement.

USPS mailing address: Your Name (Course Code) NOLS Alaska PO Box 981 Palmer, AK 99645	FedEx and UPS deliveries: Your Name (Course Code) NOLS Alaska 5805 N. Farm Loop Palmer, AK 99645
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Telephones

You will be out of telephone contact for the duration of your expedition. We have a telephone (907) 745-6269) for students' use while at our headquarters. Our office phone in Palmer is (907) 745-4047. Some past USNA students reported that their cell phones did not work well in Alaska and recommended purchasing a phone card to use from the pay phones.

Miscellaneous Expenses

You are advised to bring enough cash to cover miscellaneous expenses encountered while traveling to and from Palmer. These potential expenses include phone calls, lodging costs before and after the course, airport shuttle fees, laundry and food while traveling. The suggested minimum is \$250.00.

Refer to the **Equipment List** for an estimate of expenses that you may incur in properly outfitting for your course.



