

Travel & Logistics

Naval Academy Alaska Sea Kayaking 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 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 your gear. The first night will be spent camped on NOLS property in Palmer. The next morning you'll head for the ocean and begin your expedition.

End of Course Departure

Your course will be transported back to NOLS in Palmer late afternoon of the day before the last day of your course. On the last day you will clean and deissue gear, settle your equipment bill and complete a course debriefing. Dinner is provided at headquarters, after which you will leave for Anchorage at 7PM. 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. However, we cannot guarantee that you will get in on time as unusual weather could affect the last day of the course.

Air Service

Most major airlines service 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, and 1 hour behind Pacific.

Shuttle from the Airport

Taxis to downtown cost approximately \$30. 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 questions.

Pre and Post Course Anchorage Lodging

Bed & Breakfasts

We recommend B&Bs as a comfortable lodging option in Anchorage. Based on past student experiences, we recommend the following locations. Prices and services offered vary. **Space may be limited, so please call early for reservations.**

Alaska House of Jade

(907) 337-3400

Web site – www.alaskahouseofjade.com

Email – alaskahouseofjade@ak.net

Host – Dee & Yves Memoune

Coastal Trail Bed & Breakfast

Tel: (907) 243 -5809

Fax: (907) 243-5514

Web site – www.coastaltrail.com

Email - info@coastaltrail.com

Hosts – Derek & Sherry Tomlinson

Anchorage Walkabout Town

Toll Free (866) 279-7808

(907) 279-7808

Fax (907) 258-3657

Web site – www.anchoragewalkabout.com

Email – walkaboutak@gmail.com

Hosts – Terry and Sandy Stimson



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

Spenard Hostel International: (907) 248-5036 www.alaskahostel.org

Hotels and Motels

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 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	

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 crime than other U.S. cities, but it does not have less 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 or NOLS Pro at (800) 710-NOLS x3.

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., NASK – plus the start date of your course) 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

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.

Miscellaneous Expenses

You only need enough cash to cover miscellaneous expenses while traveling to and from Anchorage.

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

Fishing License

Fishing licenses are optional; however, if you plan to fish on your course, you must have a valid fishing license. A non-



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resident Alaska fishing license is \$145 for a year; a two-week license is \$80; a seven-day license is \$55. We will sell fishing licenses on the first day of your course. Your instructors will advise you on the practicality of purchasing a license. The quality of the fishing depends upon your course route and the season. **Please plan to pay for your fishing license with a personal check made out to NOLS, cash or a traveler's check. If you have a credit card you can pay for a license online at the branch.**

Food Considerations

NOLS courses supply a nutritious and varied diet consisting of assorted dried foods and some fresh supplements. The diet is versatile, offering countless combinations defined only by individual creativity. Rice, pastas, beans, flour, cereal, nuts, cheese, soups, dried fruits and vegetables are among the basic ingredients. You will carry an extensive spice kit. There are also a wide variety of drinks available among the field rations such as herb teas, cocoa, fruit crystals and broths.

You may wish to bring some extra treats to supplement the ration. In the past, students have appreciated chocolate bars, energy bars, specialty teas, dried vegetables/fruit or meat jerky. You have the option to bring a small amount of these personal treats (maximum 2 pounds) at your expense and put into organized re-ration bags. Remember that weight and space is limited and for that reason you are strictly limited to 2 pounds for the duration of your course. Due to the nature of expeditions, please expect to share if you do bring treats.

Contacting NOLS

All completed student forms, tuition payments, and other correspondence should be sent to NOLS Professional Training, 284 Lincoln Street, Lander, WY 82520. Questions concerning course content, enrollment, college credit, etc., should be directed to the NOLS Professional Training Office at the same address, or call (800) 710-NOLS ext. 3 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. MST, Monday through Friday.

