



Alaska's Great Race— The Iditarod

March 1 — 8, 2027



This eight-day journey puts you at the center of the world's most celebrated sled dog race — not as a spectator passing through, but as a genuine participant in the experience. Begin in Fairbanks with the World Ice Art Championships and an evening beneath the northern lights at Chena Hot Springs, then travel south aboard the legendary Aurora Winter Train through the Alaska Range to Anchorage. There we are present for all of it — the Musher's Banquet, the Ceremonial Start on Fourth Avenue, the Official Restart at Willow Lake, and a visit to a working Iditarod kennel.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Scenic Aurora Winter Train
- Iditarod Ceremonial Start in front of the hotel
- Iditarod Official Restart
- Alaska Mushing School Kennel Tour & Backcountry Sled Ride
- Walk to the Fur Rendezvous Festival
- Alaska Native Heritage Center
- Chena Hot Springs relaxation and Northern Lights viewing
- World Ice Art Championships
- Iditarod Musher's Banquet with Meet & Greet (subject to ticket availability)
- Historic Anchorage Hotel surrounded by Iditarod Activities
- Round Trip Airfare from PDX
- Private Coach Transportation
- 13 Meals (7 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 5 dinners)
- All Entrances and Activities

PER PERSON PRICING

\$5475 Double Occupancy

\$6475 Single Occupancy

\$500 Deposit to Secure Booking Reservation
Final Payment Due December 1, 2026

Trip Insurance is Highly Recommended

**For More Information or
Reservations Contact:**

Oregon West Excursions

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Alaska's Great Race—The Iditarod

8 Days / 7 Nights March 1 — 8, 2027

Immerse yourself in the culture of Alaska and see firsthand why the Iditarod is called 'The Last Great Race on Earth'

Alaska calls to those who want more than a postcard. This eight-day journey puts you at the center of the world's most celebrated sled dog race — not as a spectator passing through, but as a genuine participant in the experience.

We begin in Fairbanks with the World Ice Art Championships and an evening beneath the northern lights at Chena Hot Springs, then travel south aboard the legendary Aurora Winter Train through the Alaska Range to Anchorage. There we are present for all of it — the Musher's Banquet, the Ceremonial Start on Fourth Avenue, the Official Restart at Willow Lake, and a visit to a working Iditarod kennel.

Alaska in March is not for everyone. It is for people who want to feel something.

Day 1 — Saturday, March 1 — Welcome to Fairbanks We fly north from Portland and arrive in Fairbanks, Alaska's spirited Interior city, still deep in winter. After checking in to our hotel we gather for a welcome dinner together as our tour director previews the extraordinary week ahead. (D)

Day 2 — Sunday, March 2 — Ice, Fire & the Northern Lights The World Ice Art Championships fill a winter fairground with sculptures of breathtaking scale, carved from some of the clearest ice on earth. We visit the University of Alaska Museum of the North before heading to Chena Hot Springs Resort for dinner and an evening soaking in natural geothermal waters beneath the aurora sky. (B, D)

Day 3 — Monday, March 3 — The Aurora Winter Train South We board one of the great train journeys in North America — twelve hours south through Denali country, across the Hurricane Gulch trestle bridge, and through the backcountry flagstop region where off-grid Alaskans still wave down the train from remote cabins. We arrive in Anchorage in the evening, steps from the Iditarod start line. (B)

Day 4 — Tuesday, March 4 — The Musher's Banquet A relaxed morning at the Alaska Native Heritage Center gives way to the main event: the Iditarod Musher's Drawing Banquet, where we mingle with the athletes at the Meet and Greet before sitting down to dinner as the mushers draw their starting positions. It is one of those evenings that reminds you why travel at this level is worth it. (B, D)

Day 5 — Wednesday, March 5 — Fur Rendezvous & Race Eve We drive into the Matanuska-Susitna Valley for a winter sled ride at a working Iditarod kennel, then return to Anchorage for an afternoon immersed in Fur Rondy — sprint dog racing on Fourth Avenue, the Native Arts Market, and the Grand Parade along Fifth Avenue. Tomorrow morning, the Iditarod begins. (B)

Day 6 — Thursday, March 6 — The Ceremonial Start There is no morning quite like this one. Six hundred sled dogs, thousands of spectators, and the full pageantry of Alaska's greatest race unfolding on Fourth Avenue. At ten o'clock the first team departs, and for the next several hours every Iditarod competitor passes within feet of us. (B, L, D)

Day 7 — Friday, March 7 — The Official Restart — Willow Lake Where Fourth Avenue was festival, Willow Lake is focus. The mushers are not performing today — they are racing. We stand near the chutes, watch the teams stage with quiet precision, and feel the silence that follows when the first team disappears into the Alaska wilderness. This evening we gather for a farewell dinner to celebrate a remarkable week. (B, D)

Day 8 — Saturday, March 8 — Farewell A leisurely final morning before we make our way to the airport for our flight home to Portland — leaving Alaska having seen the race from every angle. (B)