

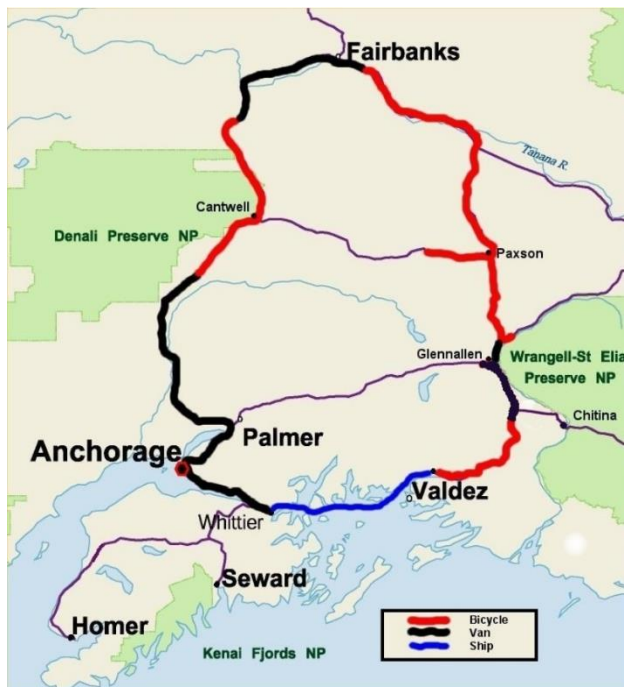
HeartCycle Bicycle Touring Club Alaska: The Last Bicycle Frontier

- Dates:** Arrive no later than Saturday, August 2, 2025. Orientation meeting Sunday morning, August 3. Riding Sunday, August 3 – Friday, August 8. Cruise across Prince William Sound back to Anchorage Saturday, August 9th. Departure late August 9.
- Coordinator:** Scott MacCormack
- Miles:** 390 total miles over 6 days of cycling; 65 miles per day average
- Rating:** Intermediate; about 10,700 total feet of elevation gain
- Riders:** 10 to 20 riders
- Price:** \$4,280 – 10 to 15 riders (double occupancy). **\$3,850 if 16-20 riders.** \$1,000 due at registration. Balance due by May 4, 2025. Single supplement \$5,000; limited number of singles.
- Cancellation:** [Standard cancellation policy](#)

Travel insurance is strongly recommended.

OVERVIEW

Our Alaska vendor has been leading tours for 2 generations now, and in our view provides the best overall cycling experience in the state. Our route has views of Denali, visits Fairbanks, and is highlighted by a 300-mile bicycle ride down the spectacular Richardson Highway. The Richardson Highway runs from the center of the state to the coast, almost in a straight line. This gives you the opportunity to see the different climate zones, mountains, and river basins of the Alaskan interior and south-central Alaska. The route takes us



far from the more commercialized touristy areas and is considered the most scenic, low-traffic, paved highway in the state.

Included in the tour price are lodging, bike rentals, and all meals including snacks. Electric bikes are available to rent in Anchorage but are not included in the tour price. You may bring or ship your own bike at your expense.

The tour will average 65 miles per day over 6 days of riding. Detailed route maps, cue sheets and RWGPS files will be provided in advance to tour participants. All RWGPS routes may be loaded onto bike computer devices.



Arrival

Arrive in Anchorage anytime Saturday, August 2, 2025. Saturday night's room at the Hampton Inn is included in the tour price.

Departure

Friday evening we'll be in Valdez. We will cruise across Prince William Sound on Saturday, returning us to Anchorage around 3 pm. Our guides will bring you to the airport or a hotel, but accommodations that night are not included in the tour. Plan to fly out of Anchorage that evening unless you want to add days in Alaska. If you like, we can get you a night at our group rate.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Sunday, August 3, 2025

Denali – 39 miles and 2566 feet of elevation gain

Today, we shuttle north beyond the population centers and down the George Parks Highway into the wilderness. We bicycle along the Parks Highway toward Denali National Park. The road passes along the south face of Denali and offers excellent vistas of the mountain and the other peaks and glaciers of the Alaska Range. We rise above tree line at Broad Pass (only 2,200 feet!) where we have a magnificent view of the Alaska Range to the west and in front of us and see a series of spectacular glacial valleys in the Talkeetna Range to the east. We then ride to our cabins at the Denali Perch Resort, near the entrance of Denali National Park.



Day 2: Monday, August 4

Denali to Fairbanks – 80 miles and 1376 feet of elevation gain

We mount our bicycles for a beautiful ride along the Nenana River, through the backbone of the Alaska Range. We pass the headquarters of Denali National Park, then exit the park through the Nenana River Canyon. At the mouth of the canyon, the land opens and we enter the vast forest of the great Alaskan interior. We continue paralleling the Nenana River to the town of Nenana. We then van to dinner and our rooms in Fairbanks.

Day 3: Tuesday, August 5

Fairbanks to Delta Junction – 75 miles and 778 feet of elevation gain

Our tour of the Richardson Highway begins with a 75-mile ride from the outskirts of Fairbanks to Delta Junction. The road winds along the magnificent, wild Tanana River as it flows through the interior of Alaska on its way to join the Yukon River. The warm weather and thick forest here are typical of Interior Alaska. As we cross the Tanana River, we get an excellent view of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Ahead

looms the mighty Alaska Range, highlighted by Mt. Deborah (12,339 ft) and Mt. Hayes (13,832 ft).

Day 4: Wednesday, August 6

Delta Junction to Summit Lake – 68 miles and 1695 feet of elevation gain

We will leave Delta Junction and begin the gradual climb up the glacial Delta River valley toward Isabel Pass. Pedaling through the Alaska Range, we will see huge ice fields on either side of the road. Enormous mineral fields color the mountains in hues of red, gray, and brown. Although Summit Lake is only 3,000 feet in elevation, it is well above tree line in Alaska.



Day 5: Thursday, August 7

Summit Lake to Gakona Lodge – 70 miles and 1828 feet of elevation gain

Leaving the Alaska Range behind us, we pass Paxson Lake and drop into the Copper River Basin. We pass many small rivers and lakes as the road parallels the Gulkana River. Moose, caribou, and trumpeter swans are common sights in this area. We will stop for dinner at the historic Gakona Lodge (built in 1906).

Day 6: Friday, August 8

Gakona Lodge to Valdez 58 miles and 2458 feet of elevation gain

We wind our way up the Tsaina River towards Thompson Pass. On the way, we stop at Worthington Glacier, just yards from the road! Thompson Pass is only 2,678 feet, but again, far above the tree line, and the views from here are truly spectacular. We drop 2,500 feet in 6 miles into the Lowe River Valley. Following the Lowe River, we ride through the vertical rock walls and numerous waterfalls

of Keystone Canyon. We will spend the night in Valdez, the port for the Alaska State Ferry, and across the bay from the Trans-Alaska Pipeline Terminal.



Day 7: Saturday, August 9

An early start will have us boarding a ship of the Alaska Marine Highway for an unforgettable trip across glacier-studded Prince William Sound. We leave the ship in Whittier and take a shuttle for a 15-minute ride UNDER the Chugach Mountains to Portage. From Portage, we van back to Anchorage, which marks the end of our tour, arriving in Anchorage late afternoon.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Weather, fires, or construction are always possibilities. As such, the itinerary may change accordingly. If so, we can expect kayaking or hikes on a non-riding day.

For more information contact:

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