



# Anchorage at your Leisure

## [Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum](#)

This museum is highly suggested for any aircraft enthusiast. It has an impressive collection showcasing a number of vintage aircrafts, including restored aircraft, as well as photos.

## [Alaska Botanical Garden](#)

This is a restful place to learn about native flora while sitting in peaceful shade on benches and watching birds and squirrels. You'll need to watch out for moose and bear. A 1-mile (1600 metres) nature trail with explanatory signs leaves from the garden and proceeds to Campbell Creek, where you may see salmon swimming.

## [Alaska Center for the Performing Arts](#)

Three theatres host many extraordinary world-renowned performances. Lobbies are decorated with Alaskan art, including 23 Native masks.

## [Alaska Native Heritage Center](#)

The Alaska Native Heritage Center is an exciting place where everyone can come to expand their understanding of Alaska's first people. Here, the rich heritage of Alaska's eleven cultural groups is shared, drawing upon the ways of life of long ago, the wisdom of the elders, and the traditions that endure. The encounter is designed to enhance self-esteem among Native people and to encourage cross-cultural exchanges among all nations.

## [Alaska Native Medical Center Craft Shop](#)

A hidden jewel, the ANMC's Craft Shop showcases the holistic nature of Alaska Native culture and the value of art in healing. Here, you will find a wide selection of Native art, including spirit masks, slippers, dolls, ivory beadwork, and dance fans.

## [Alaska State Trooper Museum](#)

Uncover the story of the officers who brought law and order to "The Last Frontier."

## [Alaska Wild Berry Products](#)

Observe the production of jams and candies made with Alaska wild berries, and view the world's largest chocolate waterfall.

## [Alaska Zoo](#)

Houses Alaskan animals including seals, fox, musk ox, moose, and four kinds of bears among the zoo's many residents.

## [Anchorage Museum of History & Art](#)

An excellent overview of the state and its history told through intricate dioramas, accompanied by beautiful examples of carved ivory and basket ware. The art gallery currently features exhibits of Eskimo drawings and Native contemporary art.

## [Earthquake Park](#)

The 1964 Good Friday earthquake was the biggest ever in North America, registering at 9.2 on the Richter Scale, killing 131 people, and flattening much of the region. A sculpture and excellent interpretive signs commemorate and explain the event and point out its few remaining marks on the land. This also is a good access point to the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail.

## [Eklutna Historical Park](#)

The park features the Saint Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church and a cemetery with colourful spirit houses and displays that explore the fascinating history of the Russian influence on Athabaskan culture. The visitor centre has a gift shop and offers guided tours.

### [Flattop Mountain](#)

One of the most popular hikes in Alaska, this 1.5-mile (2.4 kilometre) steep trail rewards trekkers with a panoramic view of greater Anchorage.

### [Historic City Hall](#)

This two-story building opened in 1936 and once housed all of the city's municipal services. Today, find a free exhibit of early Anchorage in the lobby.

### [Imaginarium](#)

Alaska's only hands-on Science Discovery Center, is designed as a place where people can have fun learning about science by actually doing science. The Imaginarium resembles a living laboratory where you can stand inside a bubble, ponder the magnitude of the universe in a planetarium, discover ocean life in a marine touch tank, observe and touch exotic reptiles, or learn the principles of physics while playing with specialized toys.

### [Kincaid Park](#)

The park is situated among 1,400-acres (566.6 hectares) of rolling, forested hills and beautiful scenery. It offers spectacular views of Mount Susitna across Cook Inlet, Fire Island to the southwest, both Mount Denali and Mount Foraker to the north, and arguably, the best sunsets in Anchorage!

### [Lake Hood Seaplane Base](#)

Aviation opened the door for travelling most of Alaska that was inaccessible by roads. Small planes are still essential for transporting people, cargo, and mail to remote towns and villages throughout the state. Lake Hood Seaplane Base is the largest and busiest water airport in the world—as many as 1,000 planes per day land and take off here in peak summer months. A city park is adjacent to the floatplane base with picnic tables and a swimming area

### [Log Cabin & Downtown Visitor Information Center](#)

Begin any exploration at the sod-roofed cabin. Friendly, knowledgeable staff can provide brochures, maps, and information about Anchorage.

### [Oscar Anderson House Museum](#)

Located in Elderberry Park, on the west end of downtown Anchorage, you will find one of the first, privately built, wood-frame residences completed after the auctioning of townsite lots in 1915. It is the only historic house museum in Anchorage. Guided tours highlight the city's early history and the experiences of the Anderson Family.

### [Potter Marsh Wildlife Viewing Boardwalk](#)

Potter Marsh, at the southern end of the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge, is an ideal break from the city for birders and other wildlife viewers. A wooden boardwalk winds 1,550-feet (472.4 metres) from the parking area through the marsh and across watery openings and sedges, the perfect habitat for a rich variety of birds.

### [Resolution Park & Captain Cook Monument](#)

Stand adjacent to the life-size statue of British Captain James Cook and view Cook Inlet, where he anchored in 1778. Beluga whales are often spotted from this location in the spring and fall.

### [Ship Creek](#)

Fish for salmon in the shadows of downtown office buildings. From the viewing deck, spot huge kings or silver salmon swimming upstream to spawn.

### [Tony Knowles Coastal Trail](#)

Stroll the trail for excellent views of Turnagain Arm. A connecting trail takes the intrepid hiker to the summit of Flattop Mountain (4500 feet / 1372 metres) for spectacular views of the city and Cook Inlet.

### [The Ulu Factory](#)

Inuit (Eskimo) natives invented this knife (pronounced "ooloo") centuries ago for every imaginable domestic cutting need. Learn the history and see how they are being manufactured today.