

Perfect Day in the Park Early Season (May 17-May 31st)

Enjoy all the free activities the park has to offer. Below is a suggested itinerary for a guest wanting to spend time in the park without purchasing a narrated tour or shuttle headed into the park.



8:00-9:00 am -Arrive at Visitor Center

(there is ample parking and a place to check your bags while you explore)

- Chat with the rangers and check out exhibits in the Visitor Center
- Watch the park film-Heartbeats of Denali (20 minutes long – shown every hour and half hour).

9:20 – 11:00 am-Pick up courtesy shuttle at Visitor Center to Sled Dog Demonstration

- Demonstration starts at 10 am
- Demonstration is 30 minutes long, focused on what it is like to raise dogs in Denali National Park and ends with a demonstration of the dogs pulling a sled

NOTE: There is NO parking at the Sled Dog Demonstration, if you choose not to take the shuttle the walk is 1.5 miles each way

11:30 to 3 pm -Continue to explore the Visitors Center

- Travelling with children? Become a Junior Ranger! (no age limit-grown-up kids welcome too!)
- Enjoy lunch (don't forget Creekside makes hearty lunches to-go! Order at front desk evening before-or stop by one of the restaurants in the Canyon. Denali Doghouse is our favorite for fast casual.)
- Explore the Canyon area- lots of wonderful gift shops with locally made and crafted goods, ice cream, coffee shops, etc.

OR

Go on a short hike! The visitor's center will have trail maps and rangers can let you know the most current trail conditions and can let you know what is best for your group. Trails departing from the visitor's center range in difficulty from easy to strenuous so there is something for everyone!



McKinley Creekside Cabins & Café

Mile 224 George Parks Hwy, Denali, AK 99755

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3:15 – 4:15 pm -Head to McKinley Chalet to catch a Ranger Talk at 3:30 pm in the lobby

- Talks are offered at 3:30 pm Tuesday-Saturday (Mondays at 10am)
- Topics vary from the very specific (e.g., bears or other wildlife) to the general (e.g., sustainable living), but all connect to the greater themes found in the story of Denali National Park and Preserve.

5:00 – 7:15 pm –Return to Creekside Café for Dinner.

7:30—8:30 pm Enjoy an evening walk/hike on one of our trails or a beverage and smore's around the campfire discussing the days adventures!

OR

Enjoy Dinner in the Canyon:

⇒ *Moose-Aka's* is one of our favorite restaurants – delicious and authentic Eastern European food! Check with the front desk for other recommendations ranging from casual to fine dining. Reservations Required!

⇒ *The Denali Doghouse*-Another favorite locally owned hotdog and hamburger shop.

7:30 -8:30 pm -Head to Riley Creek (.02 miles in to park road) or Savage River (15 miles) Campgrounds to enjoy a ranger led evening program.

Come to learn about anything from glaciers to grizzlies. Ranger led evening programs are open to anyone at either the Riley Creek or Savage River campgrounds. Weekly topics are listed on campground bulletin boards. There is plenty of parking available at either campground or you can take the courtesy shuttles that depart from the Visitor Center.



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