

# Packing List for

## North to Alaska Adventure HOP

It is always best to be prepared for extreme cold and snow, but sometimes there will be mild, sunny days. Bring clothing to fit either situation. Make sure to have multiple layer options for the different body parts and that you have coverage everywhere, including your neck, face, ears, wrists, and ankles.

To help you prepare, we've put together a suggested packing list for you! It includes clothing, camera gear, documents, and more.

### For Clothing, make sure to have:

- Comfortable long underwear pants and long sleeve undershirt
- Regular socks and insulated outdoor socks with boots - two layers of socks underneath.
- Warm pants with a bit of extra room in the waistline for more layers
- Fleece, Sweater, or Heavy Sweatshirt Layer
- Wind and Waterproof Shell Outer Jacket
- Warm Scarf or Neck Gaiter
- Warm hat that covers your ears
- Light inner gloves
- Outer insulated gloves
- Winter-insulated waterproof boots (like Sorels) for outdoor activities
- Snow pants (not too thick) for outdoor activities
- Moisture-wicking base layers are essential, along with waterproof outer layers.
- Comfortable Shoes - For indoor time and casual walking around.
- Waterproof Flip Flops or Water Shoes - for visiting The Hot Springs.
- Extra Traction example - buying a pair of YakTrax. This brand is affordable and has a gripping attachment that is one-size-fits-all and helps your boots gain traction on hard snow and ice.

### Other Suggested Items

- Reusable water bottle
- Lip Balm
- Moisturizer

- ❑ Aspirin/Ibuprofen, Vitamin C, Imodium
- ❑ Polarized Sunglasses
- ❑ Sunscreen
- ❑ A backpack/day bag for bringing personal items with you during the day
- ❑ Hand Warmers
- ❑ Bathing Suit (for the Hot Springs)
- ❑ Headlamp or Small Flashlight (preferably with a red light setting and better for photos)
- ❑ Collapsible Walking Stick
- ❑ Cash for tipping. Tipping is *not* included in any of our activities or tours, but is always appreciated. We encourage tipping whenever you receive excellent service from your guides. Like restaurant servers, most guides earn much of their income from tips.

### **Cameras for Northern Lights Photography**

Some point-and-shoot cameras and cell phones may not do the trick to capture the Aurora. It depends on the quality of the camera. Here are a few guidelines to help you decide what will work best for you.

- ISO should be able to be manually set up to at least 1600.
- Shutter speed should be manually set for up to 20 seconds, independent of ISO.
- The aperture should be able to be set manually - again, separate from the other settings.
- If you plan to use a point-and-shoot camera, ensure it has ISO settings, shutter speed, and aperture. We also recommend a remote shutter release to avoid blurring.

*Whether you choose to bring a DSLR (recommended), point-and-shoot camera, or smartphone, make sure you pack it and a tripod that works with it!*

Some of the smartphones do take nice Aurora pictures. If you prefer to use your smartphone, here are apps suggested by our guides.

### **Suggested Apps for iPhone:**

- Northern Lights Photo Taker
- Long Expo Pro

**Suggested App for Android:**

- *A Better Camera*

**Important Documents We Suggest You Bring**

- Current Valid ID or Passport (if traveling from outside the U.S.)
  - If bringing passport, make sure it is current. It should be valid for at least six months after returning home, and needs to have two or more blank pages left inside.
- Copy of your U.S. visa, if applicable
- Health insurance card
- Copy of travel insurance documents