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RELOCATION READINESS PROGRAM

# ADVENTURE TO ALASKA: TIPS FOR A SMOOTH PCS





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# Our Location

## Fort Wainwright



1st Stryker BCT



## Fort Greely



## Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson



AIRBORNE



4/25 IBCT (Airborne)



## Black Rapids Training Site



Northern Warfare Training Center







# Lodging

(Make Your Reservations Ahead of Time)



## Holiday Inn Express

**IHG****ARMY  
HOTELS**

(907) 370-0999

Reservations Hot Line 1-877-711-8326

For more information and hotel policies please visit: [Holiday Inn Express Northern Lights Inn Hotel by IHG](#)



# Temporary Living Allowance



## TLA May be reimbursable

- SM signs in to post (TLA is not reimbursable for any day prior to signing in with the installation)
- SM gets authorization from housing office
- SM presents (Debit/Credit/GTC) at IHG
- After 10 days in lodging –
  - SM pays bill out of pocket (Debit/Credit/GTC)
  - Submits receipt and form to Finance for reimbursement
  - Payment is direct deposited in 7 to 15 days

Debit Card holds/freezes the funds for the entire stay



# IHG Lodging Rates

## PCS Lodging Rates (as of 1/06/2021)

### Studio

\$74/night Winter

\$149/night Summer

### Suite

\$79/night Winter

\$154/night Summer

### Up Front Cost:

\$74 x 10 days = \$740.00

\$74 x 7 days = \$518.00 (waiting for reimbursement)

\$149 x 10 days = \$1,490.00

\$149 x 7 days = \$1,043.00 (waiting for reimbursement)

\$79 x 10 days = \$790.00

\$79 x 7 days = \$553.00 (waiting for reimbursement)

\$154 x 10 days = \$1,540.00

\$154 x 7 days = \$1,078.00 (waiting for reimbursement)

# HOUSING OPTIONS





On post housing at Fort Wainwright offers green open spaces, walking and jogging trails, indoor and outdoor recreation areas, and a variety of programs and events to create a community where your family will thrive.

For more information visit:  
<https://www.nhcalaska.com/>

### Leasing Office

3401 Santiago Avenue  
Fort Wainwright, AK 99703  
Phone: (888) 347-2985  
Fax: (907) 356-1886







# Pet Policy

The following animals are allowed in our home:

Cats	Domestic only
Dogs	Excluding those that are a restricted breed
Fish	20 gallon tank maximum
Birds	Excluding birds of prey
Amphibians	Frogs, toads, salamanders
Caged animals	Hamsters or guinea pigs
Crustaceans	Hermit crabs, shrimp

Dogs of a restricted breed, to include any dog with a mix of any of these breeds\*:



American Pit Bull Terrier



Staffordshire Terrier



American Staffordshire Terrier



Staffordshire Bull Terrier



Rottweiler



Doberman Pinscher



Chow Chow



Presa Canario



Cane Corso



Neapolitan Mastiff



Wolf



Wolf Hybrid



# North Haven vs Off Post Housing



(As of 1/06/2021)

North Haven (On Post)	Off Post Housing
<p>➤ Prorated rent, 1<sup>st</sup> month's rent, No Pet Deposit</p>	<p>➤ Prorated rent, 1<sup>st</sup> month's rent, Security Deposit, Pet Deposit or Pet Rent</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BAH E4 and Below <b>\$1,464.00</b></li> <li>• Total to move in <b>\$1,464.00</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BAH E4 and Below <b>\$1,464.00</b></li> <li>• Initial Rent <b>\$ 1,464.00</b></li> <li>• Security Deposit <b>\$1,464.00</b></li> <li>• Pet Deposit <b>\$ 500-1,000</b></li> <li>• Estimated total to move in <b>\$3,428.00+</b></li> <li>• Note: Last month rent may be required if rent is over <b>\$2,000</b></li> </ul>



# Housing Deals

Apartments: lower utility costs

1 Bedroom = \$1,000 rent per month

2 Bedroom = \$1,200 rent per month

Usually have heat, water, sewer, trash included – just pay electric. May have an electric water heater = \$125 per month per person.

Dry Cabins (True Alaskan Experience) No water or sewer (outhouse for a toilet) May or may not have electric

May heat with stove, wood or pellets

Different lifestyle choice



# Did you know?



- ~50% of military families reside on-post
- 1,842 homes on Fort Wainwright







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# PCS YOUR POV



Check with your VPC as soon as you receive your orders

Fairbanks VPC  
Phone: 907-891-8499  
Toll Free: 1-855-389-9499  
5250 Airport Industrial, Rd  
Fairbanks, AK 99701

## Approximate Transient Times:

West Coast to Alaska: **30** days

East Coast to Alaska: **33** days

Hawaii to Alaska: **54** days

Germany to Alaska: **84** days

[www.pcsmypov.com](http://www.pcsmypov.com)



# Modes of Transportation



**Commercial Air**



**Ferry**



**Ship one-Drive one**



# Fairbanks International Airport



- Check [airline policies](#) if traveling with pets.
- Easy Kiosk check-in
- Armed Services YMCA [Military Courtesy Lounge](#)
- FWA Replacement Detachment shuttle at (907) 353-4311
- Check out [Ground Transportation](#) Options
  - A taxi will cost around \$30.00 to the Fort Wainwright, AK Welcome Center.



# Traveling by Ferry



For updated information on fares, schedules and more please visit:  
[Alaska State Ferry | Alaska Marine Highway System](#)

The ferries of the Alaska Marine Highway make up a large part of Alaska's highway system, covering 3,500 miles of coastline and 35 communities that stretch from Bellingham, WA, to Dutch Harbor, AK, in the Aleutian Islands Chain.

## Entitlements

- Cost per person
- Room
- Vehicle up to 21' in length (reservations through [SATO](#))

## Out of Pocket Costs

- Cabin preference
- Change in departure date
- Up-grades for services
- Additional Vehicle/Trailers
- Pets





# Ferry Locations

- Departs from Bellingham, Washington
- Arrives in Haines, Alaska

Haines to Fairbanks **641 miles**

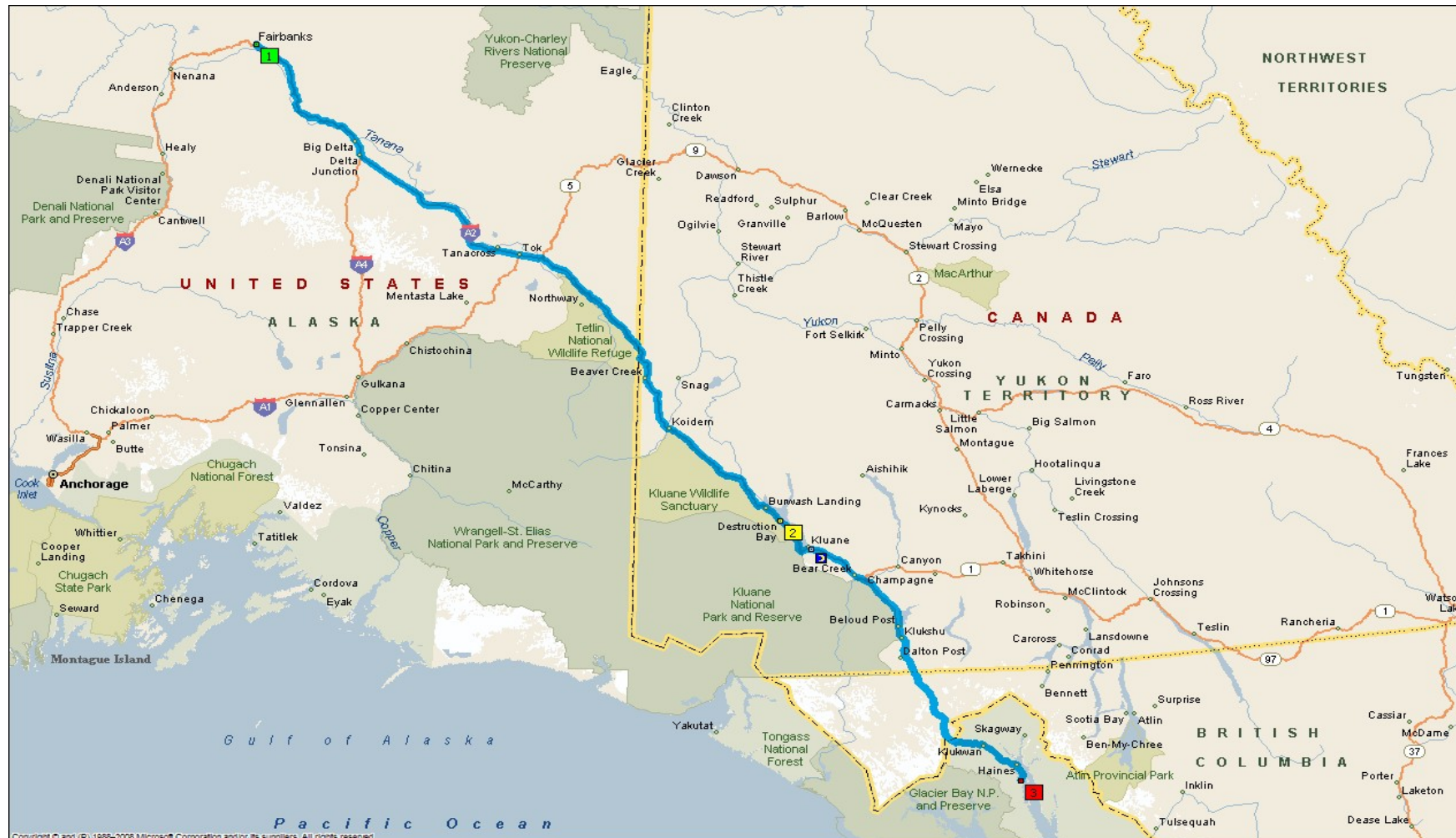
- Arrives in Whittier, Alaska

Whittier to Fairbanks **417 miles**



# Haines to Fairbanks

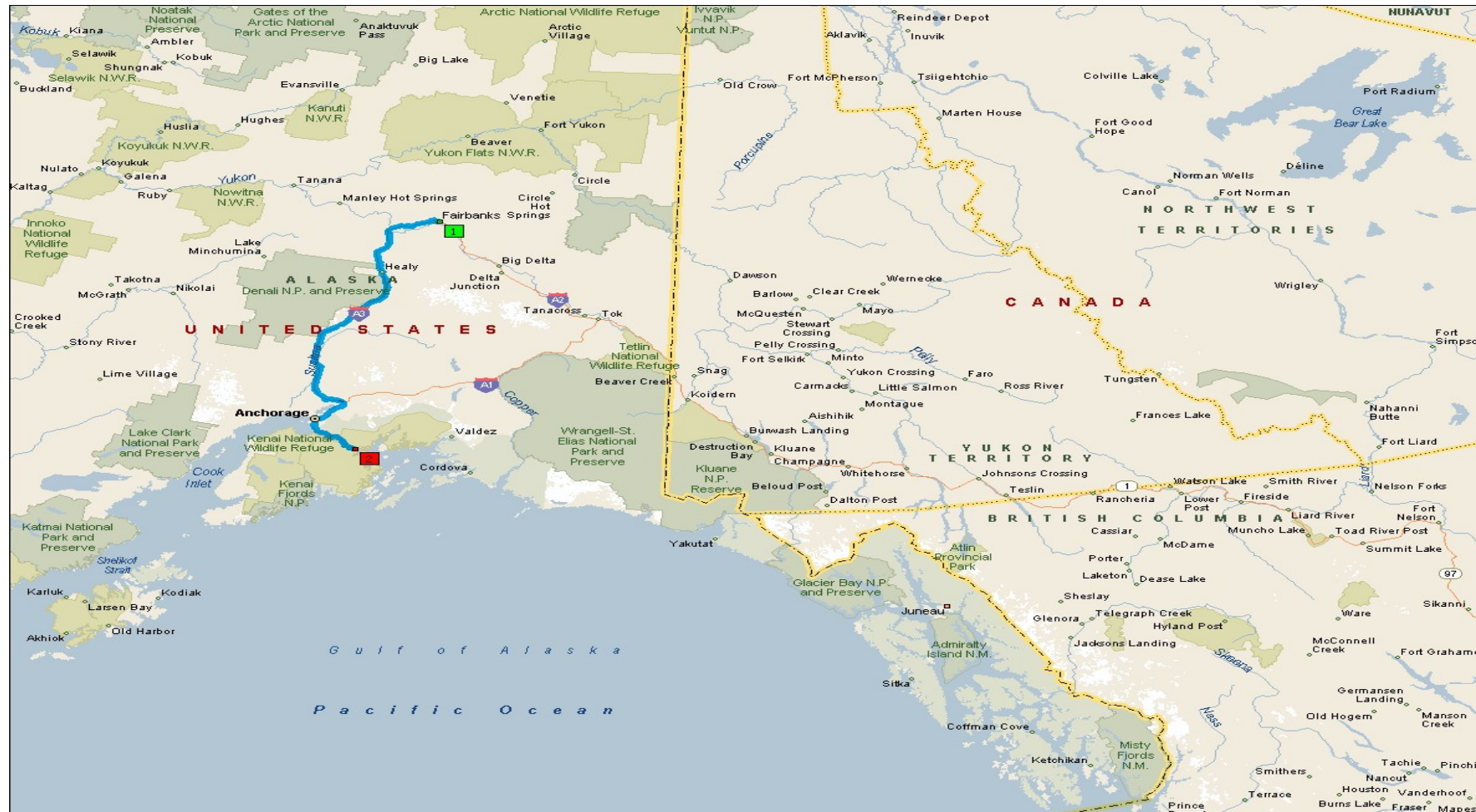
(approximately 641 miles)





# Whittier to Fairbanks

(approximately 417 miles)







# Food on the Ferry

## Each Ferry has:

- A Cafeteria -
  - Meals for \$12-\$14 per person
  - A la carte
- Vending Machines
- Microwaves
- Hot Water Machines

For more information about food on ferries, menus, special diet considerations, etc. please visit:

[AFR About the Food on the Alaska Ferry ~ Alaska Tour Adventures ~ Alaska Ferry Tours \(alaskaferryreservations.com\)](http://alaskaferryreservations.com)







# Pet Considerations

## Traveling by Ferry with Pets

- 30-day health certificate
- \$25 fee per animal
- Animals must remain in car deck in kennel

For more detailed information on Ferry policies visit:

[Travel Policies | Alaska Marine Highway System](#)





# Driving the Alcan





# Ease Your Travel Through Canada



## What is APACS?

Aircraft and *P*ersonnel *A*utomated *C*learance *S*ystem

APACS is a web-based tool to create, submit, coordinate, and approve aircraft and personnel travel clearances for official and personal travel.

## How can APACS assist me?

*Ease your travel through the border by registering your Family **30** days prior to travel*

**Prepare and submit your clearance request for Canada at:**

[Aircraft and Personnel Automated Clearance System \(milcloud.mil\)](https://milcloud.mil)

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# APACS

AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL AUTOMATED CLEARANCE SYSTEM



### Privacy Act Statement

**Authority:** 10 U.S.C. 3013, Secretary of the Army; 10 U.S.C. 5013, Secretary of the Navy; 10 U.S.C. 8013, Secretary of the Air Force; 22 U.S.C. 4801, Findings and purpose; 22 U.S.C. 4802, Responsibility of Secretary of State; and 22 U.S.C. 4805, Cooperation of other Federal Agencies; Public Law 99-399, Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986; Department of Defense Directive 4500.54E, DoD Foreign Clearance Program; DoD Directive 5400.11, Privacy Program; NIST.SP.800-53r4, Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations; Privacy Act of 1974.

**Purpose:** This system is a web-based application operated by the U.S. Air Force due to the Secretary of the Air Force being designated as the Department of Defense (DoD) Executive Agent for the DoD Foreign Clearance Program. It is designed to aid DoD mission planners, aircraft operators and DoD personnel in meeting host nation aircraft diplomatic and personnel travel clearance requirements outlined in the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide. APACS provides requesting, approving, and monitoring organizations (i.e., country clearance approvers at U.S. Embassies, Geographical Combatant Commands (GCC) theater clearance approvers, and Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) special area clearance approvers) access to a common, centralized, and secure database that contains all the information required to process/approve foreign travel clearances.

**Routine Use:** Congressional Inquiries Disclosure Routine Use: Disclosure from a system of records maintained by a DoD Component may be made to a congressional office from the record of an individual in response to an inquiry from the congressional office made at the request of that individual.

Disclosure of Information to the General Services Administration Routine Use: A record from a system of records maintained by a DoD Component may be disclosed as a routine use to the General Services Administration for the purpose of records management inspections conducted under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

Disclosure of Information to the National Archives and Records Administration Routine Use: A record from a system of records maintained by a DoD Component may be disclosed as a routine use to the National Archives and Records Administration for the purpose of records management inspections conducted under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

**Disclosure:** User disclosure of PII is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information may result in denial of aircraft and/or personnel travel clearance requests.

**System of Records Notice:** F011 AF A3 B DoD - DoD Foreign Clearance Program Records (January 03, 2012, 77 FR 94).

### User Consent to Collection and Disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information (PII)

APACS collects Personally Identifiable Information (PII). By using this system, the user consents to the collection, use, maintenance, dissemination and retention of PII. All PII collected, used, maintained, disseminated and retained by APACS is used only for the identification of user accounts, for the processing of aircraft and personnel travel requests and for generating reports to approver organizations. PII may be viewed by all roles involved in the stated purposes above, including system administrators and software developers within the capacity of troubleshooting and issue resolution. All PII is safeguarded in a manner consistent with the NIST.SP.800-53r4 and DoD Directive 5400.11, Privacy Program. Public disclosure of PII is in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974.





# Traveling through Canada



## CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS/IDENTIFICATION

Divorced parents who share custody of their children should carry copies of the legal custody documents. Adults who are not parents or guardians should have written permission from the parents or guardians to supervise the children. When traveling with a group of vehicles, parents or guardians should travel in the same vehicle as the children when arriving at the border. Customs officers are looking for missing children and may ask questions about the children who are traveling with you.

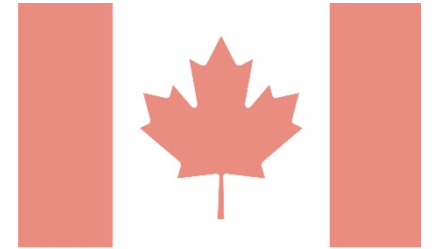




# At the Canadian Border



## What to Expect at the Border



- You will be expected to provide the pertinent identification to enter Canada.
- Your vehicle may be inspected/searched.
- You will be asked to fill out customs documents and a questionnaire.
- You will receive a briefing on Canada's quarantine requirements.
- You will be advised by Canadian Border Services to only stop for gasoline, essentials, and lodging.
- You must have current pet vaccination records and a 30-day health certificate.



# Traveling through Canada

## Proper Identification:

- Soldiers– Military ID, Orders, proof of US citizenship
  - Birth certificate
  - [Passport](#)
- Family members over 15 – passports required
- Family members under 15 – birth certificates

**Anyone with legal issues, misdemeanors, DUIs, step-children, and firearms should contact the Canadian Embassy or nearest Canadian Consulate before travel.**



For more information visit:  
[Canada Border Services Agency](#)

Review the  
[Border Reminder Checklist](#)



# Traveling with Firearms

Canada has three classes of firearms: non-restricted, restricted, and prohibited. Handguns are considered restricted firearms in Canada. A restricted firearm may be brought into Canada, but an Authorization to Transport permit must be obtained in advance. Seized firearms and weapons are never returned. The easiest way to transport firearms is to have them crated and shipped to your destination via a commercial carrier.

Canadian Firearms Program: 1-800-731-4000

For more information please visit:

[Canada Border Services Agency \(CBSA\) \(cbsa-asfc.gc.ca\)](https://cbsa-asfc.gc.ca)



# Traveling with Firearms

## Restrictive and Non-Restrictive Weapons

### Non-Restrictive Weapons

(Shotguns and Rifles)

#### *Non-Resident Firearm Declaration*

- Complete Form RCMP 5589
  - Provide 3 Copies
  - Sign declaration at Border—***not before***
- Pay a \$25 fee (Credit Card or Cash in CAN\$)

### Restrictive Weapons

(Assault Rifles, Handguns,  
Any Semi Automatic Type Weapons)

Must call and request Authorization To Travel

Chief Of Firearms Office in Canada

1-800-731-4000

(Option 1, Option 1) then Ext. 9026

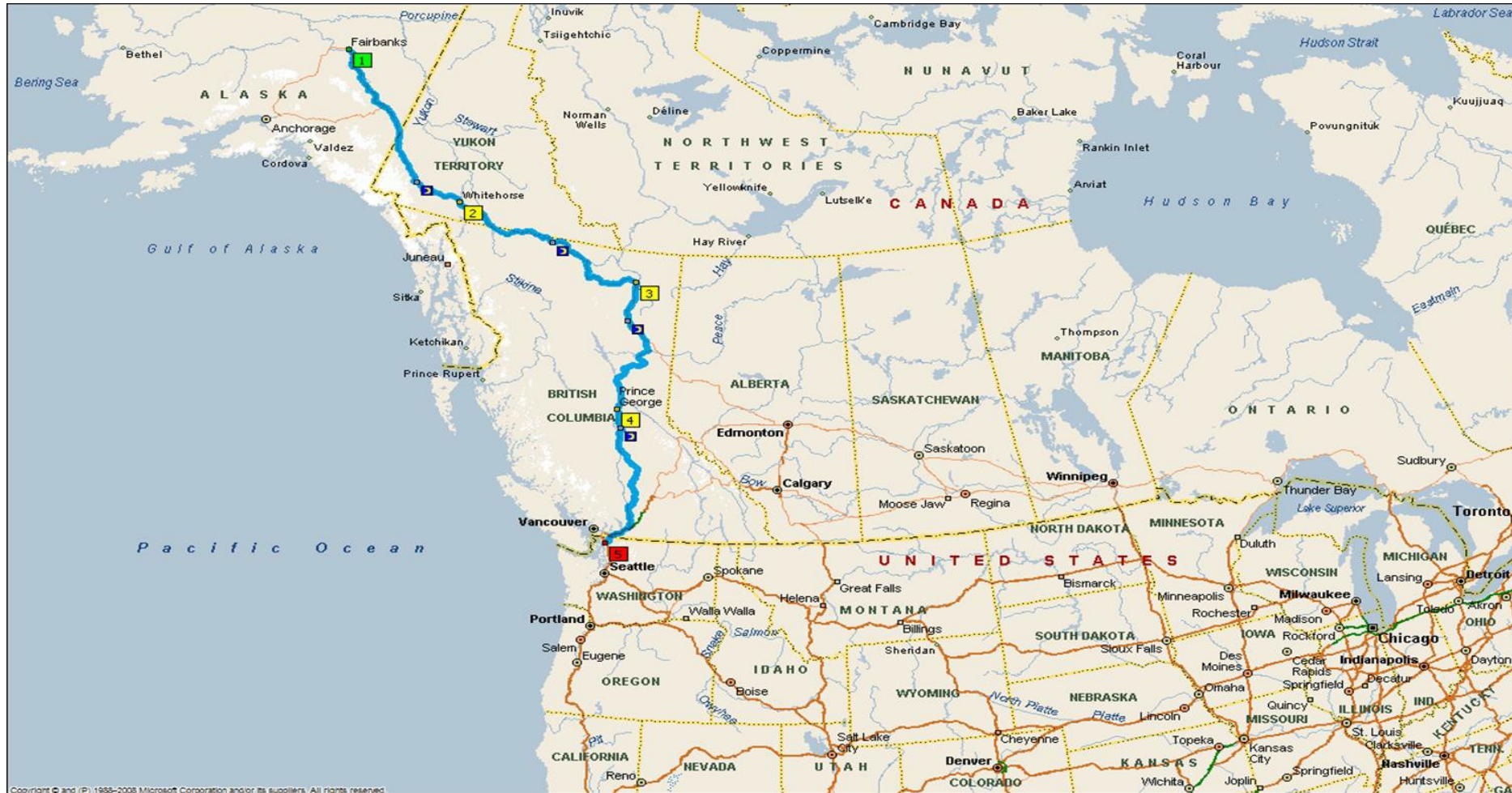
North Western Region Entry

**Call 30-60 Days Before Travel**



# Bellingham, WA to Fairbanks

(approximately 2130 miles)

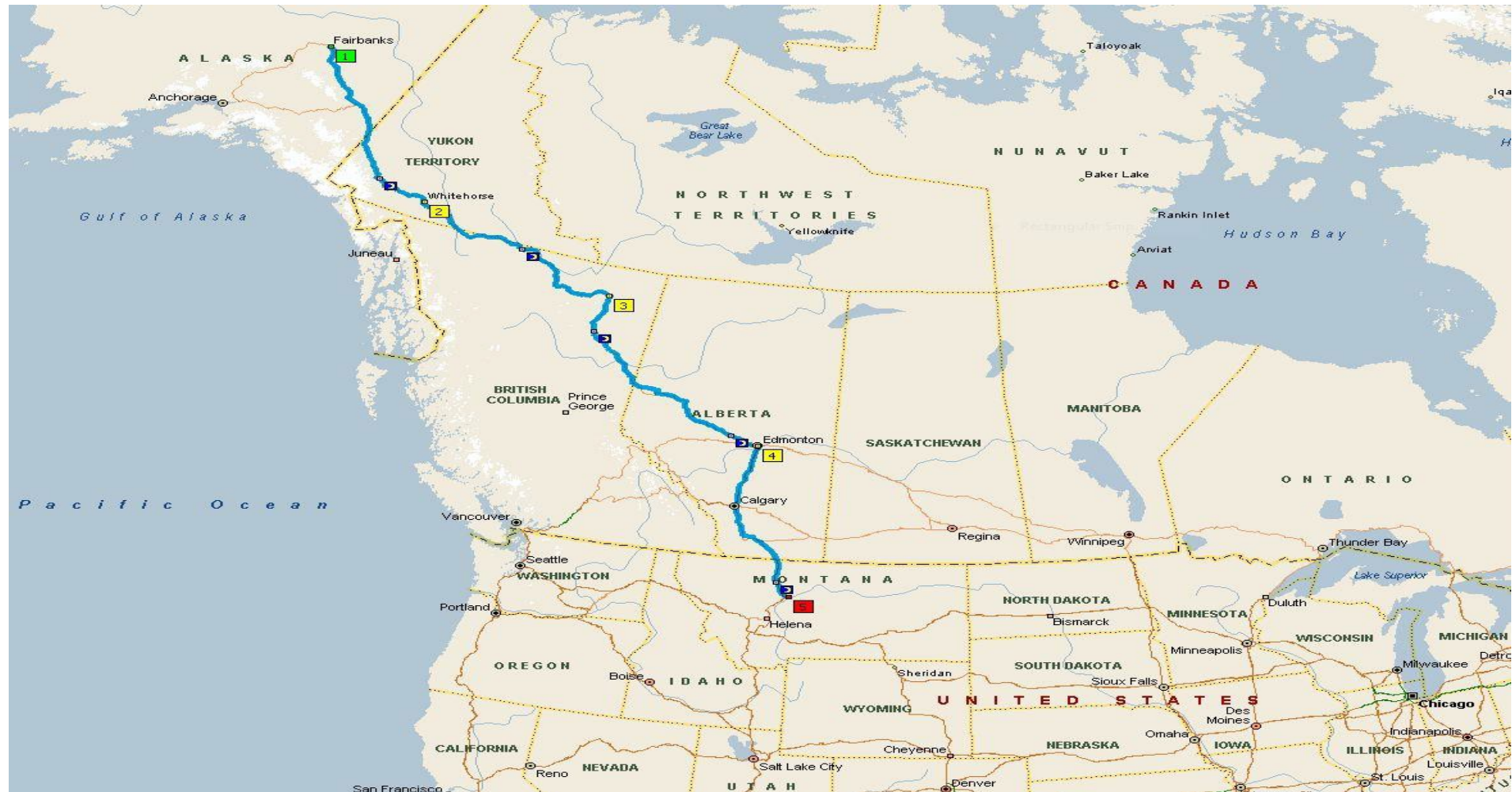






# Great Falls, MT to Fairbanks

(approximately 2331 miles)





# San Antonio, TX to Fairbanks

(approximately 4062 miles)



## Trip Summary

San Antonio, TX, USA to Fairbanks, AK, USA



Total Trip Cost  
**\$883.66**



# OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER



In Case of  
Emergency



Hand-carry  
Documents



Cell Phone  
Reception



Command  
Sponsorship



Weather & Road  
Conditions



# In Transit Emergencies

- If you have an emergency while traveling in Canada enroute to Fort Wainwright contact the **American Red Cross at 1-877-272-7337**, which is manned 24 hours a day.
- If the emergency occurs between 0730-1630, Monday-Friday, Alaska Time call Army Emergency Relief 907-353-7453.
- If your emergency occurs before 0730 Alaska Time or after 1630 Alaska time Monday-Friday or on federal holidays or on the weekend, please call the Replacement Detachment at 907-353-4311.





# Other things to Consider...

- Be prepared for emergencies
  - Road-Side Emergency Preparation (spare tire, tools, emergency kit, etc.)
  - Red Cross 1-877-272-7337
  - Tricare 1-877-988-9378
- Hand-carry important documents such as:
  - Orders (make copies)
  - Identification for family members
  - Vehicle documentation (make sure insurance and registration are current)
  - Financial information
  - Legal documentation (including legal custody documentation)
  - Medical & physician information, medications, etc.
  - Hard copy maps (you may lose cell service)
- Ask your service provider about cell phone reception along your route



# EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM

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## HAND-CARRY

- Medical Records
- Current Prescriptions
- Extra medications to last beyond your PCS

Please contact Bassett Army Community Hospital EFMP office for more information at (907) 361-5825.



# Sponsorship



- **Primary:** Request a sponsor by completing a DA Form 5434 through your S-1.
- **Alternate:** Request a sponsor through <https://actnow.army.mil> and complete DA Form 5434 using the following steps:
  1. Click the “messages” dropdown menu
  2. Click DA Form 5434
  3. Click “create new form”
  4. Fill out applicable sections (1,2,4,5)





# Driving in Winter



During the winter season the Department of Emergency Service recommends:

- Installing studded tires
- Adding windshield fluid rated -30
- Installing an engine block heater
- Ensure engine fluids are rated to -60 degrees
- Carry an emergency winter safety car kit
  - You kit should have extra clothing, food, water, blankets and/or sleeping bags, propane stove, road flares, jumper cables, shovel, hand and foot warmers, etc
- Dress in layers
- Always check the [road conditions](#)

Visit [Home - The MILEPOST](#) for more information.







# POV Winterization

It is recommended if you travel to Alaska between November and April, you have a mechanic install:

1. Engine Block Heater
2. Oil Pan Heater
3. Battery Blanket
4. Transmission Heater
5. Change engine oil to 5W-30 or a Synthetic
6. Antifreeze rated to -60 degrees
7. 3-way plug adapter
8. *Snow/studded tires or optional*



# POV Winterization



Fort Wainwright, Alaska Automotive Skills  
Center

(907) 353-7436

[Wainwright MWR :: Automotive Skills Center \(armymwr.com\)](http://armymwr.com)

Winterization of most vehicles \$300-\$350





# Winter in Interior Alaska

## Facts

- Average temperatures range from about 20 to -20°F
- Temperatures sometimes drop down into the -60s F
- Check the local [weather](#) for Fairbanks, AK
- Winter Solstice (Dec 21)
  - 3 hours and 42 minutes of daylight
  - Gain 5-7 minutes of daylight each day







# Summer in Interior Alaska

## Facts for Interior Alaska

- Average temperatures range from about 45 to 75°F
- Temperatures sometimes reach into the 90s F in the summer
- Summer Solstice (21 June)
  - 21 hours and 50 minutes of daylight
- Thunderstorms and lightening cause [forest fires](#) in the interior
  - You may encounter smoky areas during your travels
- Check the local [weather](#) for Fairbanks, AK



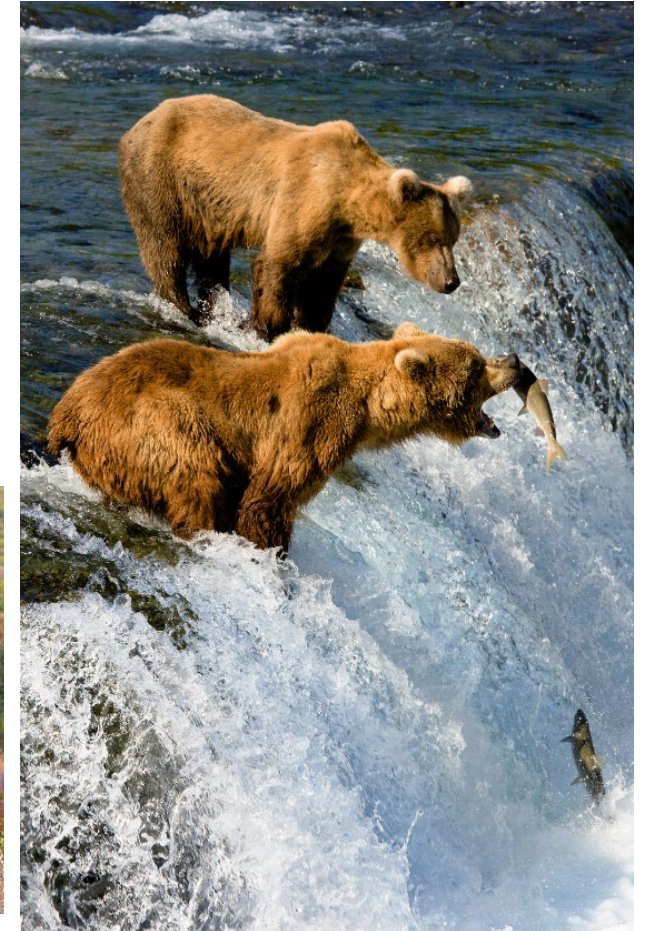




# Wildlife in Alaska



Be prepared to  
encounter wildlife on  
your adventure!





# Facts

## FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA

### AT A GLANCE



#### Installation Facts and Figures

- Approximately 1.6 million acres
- 6 major training areas
- Tanana Flats Training Area
- Yukon Training Area
- Donnelly East Training Area
- Donnelly West Training Area
- Gerstle River Training Area
- Black Rapids and Whistler Creek Training Area
- 1 fixed wing airfield; 11 helipads
- 514 buildings and 680 structures
- 112 paved lane miles

#### Housing

- More than 3,100 barracks spaces for unaccompanied, enlisted Soldiers rank of sergeant (E-5) and below
- More than 1,600 privatized family housing units
- 8 residential neighborhoods managed by North Haven Communities LLC, as a partnership between the U.S. Army and Lend Lease

#### Dining

- 2 on-post dining facilities
- The Warrior Zone
- Nugget lanes Bowling Center
- Chena Bend Golf Course
- Birch Hill Ski Lodge
- The Exchange Food Court
- Bassett Army Community Hospital cafeteria

#### Medical and Dental

- Bassett Army Community Hospital
- Kamish Health Clinic
- 1 dental clinic
- 1 veterinary facility

#### Religious

- 2 chapels
- 1 chaplain Family Life Center

#### On-Post Schools

- 1 Alaska State Department of Education public school
- 1 adult education center

#### Child and Youth Facilities

- 2 Child Development Centers
- 1 School Age Center
- 1 Youth Center

#### Soldier and Family Support Services

Locally, the Army offers more than 100 programs and services to assist Soldiers and Families.

Examples include:

- Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP)
- Soldier for Life (Transition Services)
- Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness resiliency training
- Survivor Outreach Services
- Exceptional Family Member Program
- Family Advocacy
- Relocation/Employment/Financial Readiness
- Mobilization and Deployment Support
- Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers
- School Liaison Services
- Child, Youth and School Services
- 1 Armed Services YMCA

#### Recreation

- 1 golf course
- 1 bowling center
- 1 ski and snowboard area and lodge
- 1 skeet and trap range
- 1 ice rink
- 1 family community center
- 2 physical fitness centers
- 1 swimming pool
- 1 library
- 1 auto skills center
- 1 outdoor recreation center
- 1 Warrior Zone center
- 1 privatized lodging facility
- 1 privatized housing community center

#### Army Forces Recreation Facilities

- Seward Resort

#### Retail/Shopping

- 1 commissary (grocery store)
- 1 main post exchange (shopping mall and food court)
- 2 shoppettes
- 1 class six
- 1 gas station
- 1 furniture store

#### Emergency Services

- 24-hour force protection, law enforcement, urban and wildland fire protection, and community assistance available on post
- Nixle emergency alert system
- iWatch, iReport, iKeep Us Safe



[www.facebook.com/FortWainwrightPAO](http://www.facebook.com/FortWainwrightPAO)



[www.flickr.com/photos/fortwainwright/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/fortwainwright/)



[www.twitter.com/PAOFWA](http://www.twitter.com/PAOFWA)



Fort Wainwright webpage  
[www.wainwright.army.mil](http://www.wainwright.army.mil)



# Resources

**Driving the Alaska Canadian Highway (ALCAN) Facebook group:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/180337849246380>

**The Milepost:** <https://www.themilepost.com/>

**U.S. Embassy (613-699-5335) and Consulates in Canada:** <https://ca.usembassy.gov/>

**The Canada Border Services Agency:** <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html>

**Canadian Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19): Updates:**

<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid>

**Tricare International: 1-877-205-2990**



# Resources

**CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY HAS AN APP WITH THE CURRENT WAIT TIMES AT BORDERS**

<https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/new-neuf/app-eng.html>

## **ROAD CONDITIONS**

<https://511.alaska.gov/map>

<http://www.511yukon.ca/en/index.html>

<https://511.alberta.ca/#:Alerts>

## **(ROAD CONDITIONS FOR ALL OF CANADA)**

[http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/drivebc\\_supp/canada\\_map.htm](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/drivebc_supp/canada_map.htm)

**CHECKLISTS YOU CAN PRINT FOR PLANNING YOUR TRAVEL**

<https://planmymove.militaryonesource.mil/>

**ADDITIONAL INFO ABOUT SHIPPING VEHICLES**

<https://pcsmypov.com/>





# USAG ALASKA-FORT WAINWRIGHT



## Home of the Arctic Warriors

The official Fort Wainwright website is [Fort Wainwright :: United States Army in Alaska](#)

This page will keep you up-to-date with activities within USAG FWA.

The official Fort Wainwright MWR website is [Ft. Wainwright - US Army MWR](#)

This page will keep you up-to-date with Community Events, Recreation, Community Support and much more.



# Interested in More Information?



Visit [U.S. Army Alaska | For Newcomers](#)

This site provides easy to navigate, in-depth information on pre-arrival, arrival, and post-arrival. From traveling to Alaska, In-processing, schools and education, resource guides and so much more.



Join your ACS Team on Facebook!

Go to [#FTWAINWRIGHTACS](#) on Facebook and join us every Tuesday at 1230 for Facebook Live Virtual Information Session. This Virtual Information Session is a great chance to ask questions and get valuable information about your move to Fort Wainwright, Alaska.