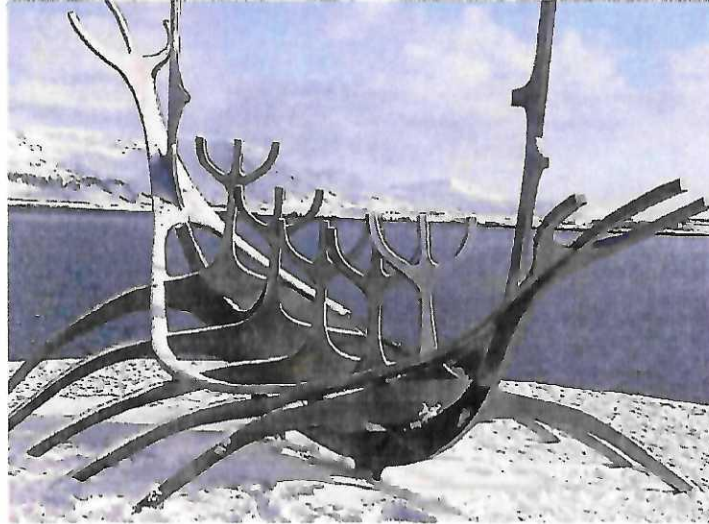


# ICELAND HOLIDAY WEEKEND FEBRUARY 16-21, 2023



Explore the land of Fire and Ice over President's weekend 2023. See spectacular waterfalls, boiling geysers and enjoy a few hours relaxing in the thermal waters of the Blue Lagoon. A visit to Thingvillar National Park is not to be missed; called the Grand Canyon of Iceland because this is where the tectonic plates of North America and Europe come together creating this awesome sight. We have the opportunity of seeing the Aurora Borealis\* or Northern Lights one night and a re-do if no lights are spotted the first evening. The weather in February is usually +32 degrees (warmer than NYC because of the jet stream) and daylight hours are from 9:30am to 4:30pm. Experience sunrise with a cocktail at the Blue Lagoon.

Our customized trip includes:

- Round trip airfare from Newark Liberty to Reykjavik on Icelandair

- Four nights at the 4\* Fosshotel Reykjavik

- Four full buffet breakfasts (plus one continental breakfast the morning of arrival)

- Transfers in Iceland

- Admission to the Blue Lagoon, Golden Circle full day tour with tomato soup lunch with greenhouse tour

- Northern Lights evening tour and admission and breakfast at the Viking World Museum.

- All current air, city, hotel taxes and government fees

- Optional tours will be available on our free day (Into the Glacier-\$265.00 or South Shore \$85.00 per person)

A passport is required and must be valid for six months after return travel. Up to date COVID-19 requirements will be advised closer to departure as will be info on US return requirements. The tour price is \$1,889.00 per person double and limited singles will be available at a surcharge of \$400. Insurance is recommended at \$143 (double) or \$172 to include the optional 'Into the Glacier' tour. Deposit of \$350.00 per person and insurance must be paid by check. Any additional payments by credit card will have a 2.5% surcharge. The price is based on a minimum of 20 passengers and limited to 40 passengers. Deposits are non-refundable without insurance and final payment is due by November 4, 2022.

\*Aurora sightings are never guaranteed. For more information and reservations, contact:

Nancy at Home Town Travel

128 Bartlett Avenue, West Creek, NJ 08092

609-597-5100 or email [hometowntravel@comcast.net](mailto:hometowntravel@comcast.net)

# The Real ID Deadline Is May 2023

We repeat: the Real ID deadline is May 3, 2023. If you don't have a Real ID, valid passport, or other acceptable form of identification by then, you won't be allowed to fly domestically.

After several extensions, the time has finally come—the [Real ID](#) deadline is officially within a year now. Procrastinators, we're looking at you.

A [Real ID](#) is a newer form of driver's license or identification card that meets certain minimum security standards established by the Real ID Act in 2005 (a response to recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission following the attacks on September 11, 2001). The new standards are intended to ensure that identification cards are more secure.

Originally, air travelers were going to need to have a Real ID by October 1, 2020, in order to board a domestic flight. But that deadline has been bumped a couple times during the pandemic and is now May 3, 2023.

By May 3, 2023, all U.S. travelers 18 and older (kids traveling domestically with an adult don't need to provide identification) will be required to present a driver's license to U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) agents that is considered Real ID-compliant when passing through airport security in order to be able to fly domestically.

If you don't have a compliant ID by that date, you will have to show another acceptable form of identification to fly within the United States, such as a [valid passport](#), permanent resident card, or DHS trusted traveler program card, such as [Global Entry](#) or Nexus.

All 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and four of five U.S. territories are now issuing Real ID-compliant licenses and identification cards. (American Samoa is the only territory not yet issuing them.) So the vast majority of Americans should be able to obtain one.

According to TSA, compliant cards are typically marked with a star (either gold or black) in the upper portion of the card. Compliant California IDs are marked with a star inside of an image of a bear. The agency recommends that people who aren't sure whether they have a compliant ID contact their state driver's license agency about how to obtain a compliant card.

Each state handles the issuance of driver's licenses and identification cards independently, and each state has its own Real ID requirements. Thus, the requirements vary slightly from state to state. But typically, the main difference in applying for and getting a Real ID-compliant license versus a noncompliant one lies in the documentation you need to provide.



## Weather

Protected by the Chugach Mountains and warmed by currents of the Pacific Ocean, Anchorage's mild climate may come as a surprise. The city is farther south than Reykjavik and 400 miles from the Arctic Circle. Summertime regularly sees temperatures in the low 70s (20s C).

## Packing Suggestions

The natural world may have outsized appeals in Anchorage, but that doesn't mean you need to carry gear for an expedition. Packing the essentials, adding on a few basics, and customizing your kit based on activities is the name of the game. Packing for a visit to Anchorage can be summed up in one word: layers. The key to comfort in Alaska is layering clothing. If the breeze picks up on a day cruise, you might want a windproof, waterproof coat. Standing atop a glacier in the mountains, you may want a sweater or fleece.

Then again, when you stop for lunch on a sun-soaked deck, you'll want to be able to cool off in short sleeves or thinner materials. Just add or subtract layers as needed. Sunglasses are always a good idea – either because of the long daylight hours of summer or the bright, reflective snow during winter. Casual, comfortable dress is acceptable across Alaska. Don't worry - if you forget something, Anchorage retailers have it. Below are season-specific weather descriptions and packing suggestions:

Pack lightweight layers. The key is to add and subtract them as conditions change through the course of your activities. Stay toasty at the face of a glacier and cool in the heat of the late evening sun. Especially if you intend to spend time on the water - either on a day cruise, fishing, or rafting - bring sunblock. Summer days are long in Anchorage. Speaking of sun block, most lodging in the Anchorage area have black out curtains, so the midnight sun won't affect your sleep. This region of Alaska is much drier than the Panhandle; August is one of the wetter months, but still sees less than 3 inches on average for the whole month.

## Average Temperatures

50°F (10°C) / 70°F (19°C)

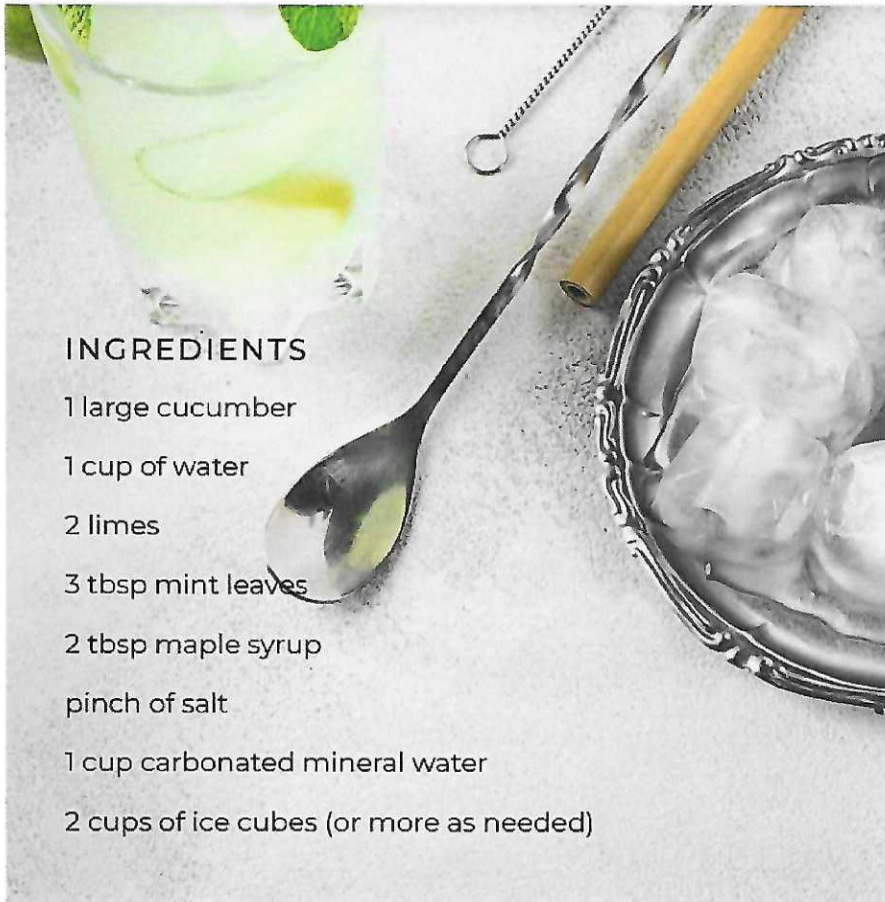
With so much natural beauty and so many things to see and do how could anyone pack in all that Southcentral Alaska offers in the summer? Anchorage's extended summer daylight hours pack in a lot of adventure, especially during summer solstice.

Between March 19 and September 23, Anchorage gets more hours of daily sunlight than anywhere in the other 49 states.



STAR CLIPPERS

# CUCUMBER LIME MOCKTAIL



## INGREDIENTS

- 1 large cucumber
- 1 cup of water
- 2 limes
- 3 tbsp mint leaves
- 2 tbsp maple syrup
- pinch of salt
- 1 cup carbonated mineral water
- 2 cups of ice cubes (or more as needed)

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Peel and dice 1 large cucumber, then add to a high-speed blender.
2. To the blender Add 1 cup of water, juice of 2 limes, 3 tbsp mint leaves (adjust to your taste), 2 tbsp maple syrup, and a pinch of salt. Blend until smooth.
3. Strain the cucumber juice through a fine strainer or cheesecloth into a jar.
4. To the jar, add 1 cup carbonated mineral water and 2 cups of ice cubes (you can add more ice cubes if you like).
5. Serve in glasses with ice cubes. For decoration, you can add some cucumber slices, a lime wedge and some more mint.

## ONLY TWO SEATS LEFT!

**A private pilgrimage of Assisi and Rome escorted by Father Steve Kluge of St. Francis of Long Beach Island. Although Father Steve was transferred to Tampa he will be escorting the Pilgrimage. Here is your last chance to travel with him.**

**October 26<sup>th</sup> -November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

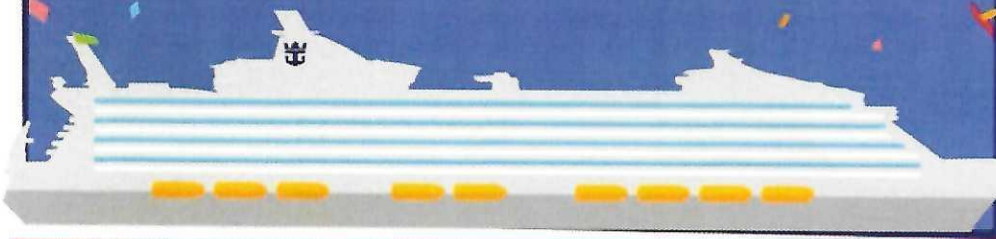
Round trip airfare non-stop on United from Newark (including all current government taxes and fees), private motor coach with professional driver/guide, seven nights first class hotels as indicated: (4-Giotto Hotel Assisi and 3-Hotel Palatino Rome), full breakfast daily and six dinners (two at local restaurants). Highlights include:

Basilica of St. Mary of Angels, Tomb of Blessed Carlo Acutis, Casa del Cioccolato Perugina, St. Domenico Church, Sienna Cathedral, Catacomb of St. Sebastian, St. Peter's in Chains, Colosseum and Forum, Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel, Scala Santa and St. Paul Outside the Walls Basilica.

The rate per person based on double occupancy is \$3698.00 plus insurance. Insurance is based on age and the amount of trip. **Singles are on a waitlist at this time.** A deposit of \$500.00 is required to sign up and is non-refundable. Insurance is highly recommended and would have to be taken with initial deposit. Deposit and insurance must be done by check.



# ALL 26 SHIPS BACK AT SEA



The world's largest fleet is back together again. All 26 Royal Caribbean® ships have now returned to service, taking vacation memories to the max for over two million guests and counting since we began the Royal Comeback.

From Oasis Class to Freedom Class to Amplified all-star ships, we are so excited to welcome guests back for their greatest getaway yet!

MORE THAN **2 MILLION**  
GUESTS HAVE SAILED

**24**  
HOME PORTS

A stylized illustration of a white cruise ship with blue and yellow accents, sailing on a blue sea.

**137**  
PORTS OF CALL

A stylized illustration of a yellow map with several location pins in various colors (pink, green, blue) scattered across it.

## Did You Know?

The Belize Barrier Reef is the second largest in the world. Once on UNESCO's list of endangered World Heritage sites, it has benefited greatly from environmental initiatives on the part of the Belize government.