

Anchorage, Alaska



Everyone seems to have some kind of nickname for Anchorage Alaska. Some call it the City of Lights and Flowers, because of the white lights of the city's many buildings, and the flowers that adorn the streets in the summer. Garden journalists refer to Anchorage Alaska as the Hanging Basket Capital of the World, whereas aviations fans call it the "Air Crossroads of the World," due to its location between the two northern continents.

As you walk along the streets of downtown Anchorage Alaska, you will notice about 425 baskets of bright gold triploid marigold and sapphire lobelia. These beautiful blue and gold flowers are representative of the colors of the Municipality of Anchorage flag. The colors and the flowers are only a part of what makes an Anchorage vacation so enjoyable. The city is a thriving, cosmopolitan urban destination as well as an outdoor enthusiast's paradise. Theatre and art galleries co-exist with a variety of bike and cross country ski trails, as well as a number of spectator sports. Because of the diversity of tourist attractions in Anchorage Alaska, people of all ages and interests will take delight in an Anchorage vacation.

Anchorage tourism appeals both to the very young, and the very young at heart. The Alaska Zoo is home to 100 birds and mammals and 40 species. It has a rather amusing history. In 1966, a man named Jack Snyder won a contest offering a prize of "\$3,000 or a baby elephant." He chose the elephant! Annabelle the elephant was kept at a nearby ranch. The ranch's owner eventually developed a non-profit organization for donated animals. Thus, the Alaska Zoo was born. It is now one of the popular tourist attractions in Anchorage Alaska.

If you have an interest in aviation history, the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum is one of the popular tourist attractions in Anchorage Alaska. This museum features artifacts that reflect Alaska's unique aviation history. Other museums include the Alaska Museum of Natural History and the Alaska Native Heritage Center.

For outdoor activities, the arts, or just plain whimsical fun, Anchorage has it all!