

Passenger Operations

2024 Summer Operational Information



[AlaskaRailroad.com](https://www.alaskarailroad.com)



Abbreviations Key

ARRC: Alaska Railroad Corp

HAP: Holland America Princess

WEX: Wilderness Express

WS: Whistle Stop

TSIA: Ted Stevens International Airport

DMU: Diesel Multiple Unit (self propelled vehicle)

HOS: Hours of Service

RSIA: Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008

T&E: Train and Engineman (Engineer, Conductor, Brakeaman)

CC: Coastal Classic (Anchorage – Seward – Anchorage)

DSN: Denali Star North (Anchorage – Fairbanks)

DSS: Denali Star South (Fairbanks – Anchorage)

GD: Glacier Discovery (Anchorage – Whittier – Portage – Spencer WS – Grand View – Spencer WS – Portage – Whittier – Anchorage)

HT: Hurricane Turn (Talkeetna – Hurricane Gulch – Talkeetna)

CT: Cruise Train (Seward – TSIA – Seward)

MEX: HAP McKinley Express (Seward – Whittier – Anchorage – McKinley Siding – Anchorage – Whittier – Seward)

NB DEX: HAP Northbound Denali Express (Anchorage – Whittier – Denali Park – Healy – Fairbanks w/locomotive and Gold Star Coach)

SB DEX: HAP Southbound Denali Express (Fairbanks w/locomotive and Gold Star – Healy - Denali Park – Whittier)

NB HEX: HAP Northbound Healy Express (Anchorage – Denali - Healy)

SB HEX: HAP Southbound Healy Express (Healy – Denali Park – Anchorage)



Denali Star Northbound (DSN)

Route: Anchorage to Fairbanks

Additional Station Stops: Wasilla/Talkeetna/Denali

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Anchorage	0820
Arrive Talkeetna	1105 (20''- 25'' Dwell)
Arrive Denali Park	1540 (25''- 30'' Dwell)
Arrive Fairbanks	2000

Onboard crew switches at meet (Broad Pass/Colorado). Typically Wilderness Express will be the only pull customer on the DSN and DSS.



Denali Star Southbound (DSS)

Route: Fairbanks to Anchorage

Additional Station Stops: Denali/Talkeetna/Wasilla

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Fairbanks	0820
Arrive Denali Park	1210 (25"- 30" Dwell)
Arrive Talkeetna	1640 (20"- 25" Dwell)
Arrive Anchorage	2000

Onboard crew switches at meet (Broad Pass/Colorado). Typically Wilderness Express will be the only pull customer on the DSN and DSS.



Coastal Classic

Route: Anchorage/Seward/Anchorage

Additional Station Stops: Girdwood & Spencer (NB and SB on specific days)

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Anchorage	0645
Arrive Seward	1115
Depart Seward	1800
Arrive Anchorage	2215

T&E are put on release in Seward



Glacier Discovery

Route: Anchorage/Portage/Whittier/Spencer/Grandview/Portage/Whittier/Anchorage

Additional Station Stops: Girdwood

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Anchorage	0945
Arrive Portage(no stop)	1135
Arrive Whittier	1205 (1152 Tunnel)
Depart Whittier	1245 (1252 Tunnel)
Arrive Spencer	1345
Arrive Grandview	1530
Arrive Spencer #2	1640
Arrive Portage #2	1715
Arrive Whittier #2	1805 (1722 Tunnel, on Princess days 1652 or 1752)
Depart Whittier	1845 (1852 Tunnel)
Arrive Anchorage	2100

This train operates with the DMU (751) daily. If passenger loads require additional coaches, a locomotive is added to non-DMU end. With the growth of this train in recent years, there are normally always additional cars as well as two baggage cars. This train supports Whistle Stop activities, along with Chugach Adventure Guides, Ascending Path.



Summer Hurricane Turn

Route: Talkeetna/Hurricane Gulch/Talkeetna

Operates: Thursday – Monday

Additional Station Stops: Numerous unscheduled locations between Gold Creek & Hurricane

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Talkeetna	1300
Arrive Hurricane	1530
Depart Hurricane	1630
Arrive Talkeetna	1915

This crew is based in Talkeetna. This train is primarily used for locals to access their property along AKRR ROW, and in recent years more and more tourists wanting a local experience or day trip from Talkeetna. Daily mechanical inspections are done with contract labor in Talkeetna and train comes to Anchorage to receive more extensive repairs, as necessary.



Royal Caribbean/Celebrity Cruise Train

Seward Based Equipment

Route: Seward/Airport Depot/Seward

Operates: Every Friday (RCL)

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Seward	0650
Arrive TSIA	1135
Depart TSIA	1300
Arrive Seward	1730

This crew for this operation is based in Seward. This train takes guests from cruise ship to airport (or Anchorage for those participating in land tours). The southbound trip takes guests from airport to cruise ship.



Holland America Cruise Train

Seward Based Equipment

Route: Whittier/Downtown Depot/Whittier

Operates: Every Sunday

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Whittier	0915
Arrive Historic Depot	1135
Depart Historic Depot	1245
Arrive Whittier	1505

This crew for this operation is based in Seward. This train takes guests from cruise ship to Anchorage depot where passengers are transferred via motorcoach. The southbound trip takes guests from downtown Anchorage to cruise ship.



Silverseas Cruise Train

Seward Based Equipment

Route: Seward/Historic Depot/Seward

Operates: Every Thursday

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Seward	0800
Arrive TSIA	1240
Depart TSIA	1315
Arrive Seward	1745

The crew for this operation is based in Seward. Train is maintained and cleaned in Seward. This train is all ARRC equipment and is leased to cruise and tour operators. They make a brief stop in Girdwood both directions.

Norwegian Cruises

Seward Based Equipment

Route: Seward/Airport Depot/Seward

Operates: Every other Monday/Wednesday the opposite week.

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Seward	0650
Arrive TSIA	1135
Depart TSIA	1300
Arrive Seward	1745

The crew for this operation is based in Seward. Train is maintained and cleaned in Seward. This train is all ARRC equipment and is leased to cruise and tour operators.

HAP McKinley Express Cruise Train (MEX)

Seward Based Equipment

Route: Seward/Whittier/Anchorage/McKinley Siding/Anchorage/Whittier/Seward

Operates: Every Saturday and every other Wednesday.

Additional Information: No guests onboard train between Seward & Whittier (both directions)

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Seward	0300
Arrive Whittier	0605 (0552 Tunnel)
Depart Whittier	0715 (0722 Tunnel)
Arrive McKinley Siding	1255
Depart McKinley Siding	1330
Arrive Whittier	1835 (1822 Tunnel)
Depart Whittier	1915 (1922 Tunnel)
Arrive Seward	2250

This train is cleaned and maintained for the summer in Seward. This train is all ARRC equipment (low level domes) and is leased to various cruise ship operators.



HAP Northbound Denali Express (NB DEX)

Route: Anchorage/Whittier/Anchorage/Denali Park/Fairbanks

Operates: Every Saturday/Sunday and every other Wednesday

Additional Information: No guests on train between Anchorage and Whittier in AM and all guests get off in Denali Park NB.

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Anchorage	0430
Arrive Whittier	0705 (0652 Tunnel)
Depart Whittier	0815 (0822 Tunnel)
Arrive Anchorage	1030
Arrive Denali Park	1745
Arrive Fairbanks	2215

Equipment on this train is exclusively Tour Company owned with the exception of the one AKRR Gold Star car being leased by Holland America Princess (HAP) . All HAP cars are removed at Healy NB.



HAP Southbound Denali Express (SB DEX)

Route: Fairbanks/Denali Park/Anchorage/Whittier/Anchorage

Operates: Every Saturday/Sunday and every other Wednesday

Additional Information: No guests on train between Fairbanks and Denali Park in AM, nor are there guests between Whittier and Anchorage in the PM.

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Fairbanks	0345
Depart Denali Park	0800
Arrive Whittier	1730 (1722 Tunnel)
Depart Whittier	1945 (1952 Tunnel)
Arrive Anchorage	2230

Equipment on this train is exclusively Tour Company owned with the exception of the one AKRR Gold Star car being leased by Holland America Princess (HAP) . All HAP cars are picked up at Healy SB.

HAP Northbound Healy Express (NB HEX)

Route: Anchorage/Denali Park/Healy

Operates: Every Day

Additional Information: No guests on train between Denali Park and Healy

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Anchorage	0915
Arrive Denali Park	1640
Arrive Healy	1745

Equipment on this train is exclusively Tour Company owned with the exception of locomotive and train crew. This train terminates at Healy NB, where the train is maintained and crew rests.

HAP Southbound Healy Express (SB HEX)

Route: Healy/Denali Park/Anchorage

Operates: Every Day

Additional Information: No guests on train between Healy and Denali Park in AM, HAP crew only

Schedule Highlights:

Depart Healy	0750
Depart Denali Park	0915
Arrive Anchorage	1710

Equipment on this train is exclusively Tour Company owned, except locomotive and train crew. This train originates in Healy.

