

Hotels

Valley Hotel & Cafe

- Downtown Palmer
- Medium value

Colony Inn & Cafe

- Historical house, transformed into an Inn.
- Walking distance to downtown Palmer.

Alaska Glacier Lodge

- Remote feel being at the end of the road beyond Pioneer Peak Baptist Church near the Knik Glacier.
- Raven's Perch Restaurant is on site, reservations required.

Colony Suites

- Walking distance to downtown Palmer.

Cabins and B&B Rentals

- There are many cabins for rent via AirB&B and similar sites
- Knotty Pine B&B is owned by believers we know.

Wasilla Hotels

- Wasilla is about a 30-45 minutes from Pioneer Peak Baptist Church, but is not too far for these options:
- Best Western, Lake Lucille
- Pioneer Ridge Bed and Breakfast Inn
- Alaska Select Inn Hotel
- Grandview Inn and Suites



Things to do in Palmer, AK

Restaurants / Shopping

Downtown Palmer—www.visitpalmer.com

- A small town area with walkable shops on main street.
- Our favorite shops: Poppy Lane Mercantile, NonEssentials, Friday Flings at the Pavilion, Alaska Chicks Co, Northern Lilly, Cobb Street Market

AK State Fair

- First day of the Fair is Aug 16.
- See the giant vegetables and unique Alaskan stuff
- www.AlaskaStateFair.org

Restaurants

- Our favorite restaurants: The Butte Burger Place (across from PPBC), Noisy Goose, Turkey Red, The Fern Smoothies, Big Dipper Ice Cream, La Fiesta, Valley Hotel Café, Colony Inn Café, Pizzeria Delphi, Sunrise Grill
- Coffee Shops / Shacks: Jenny's (near PPBC), Brew Haha, Vag-abond Blues, the Fern, Purple Moose Espresso
- There are also fast food restaurants like Wendy's, Subway, Taco Bell, Dairy Queen, McDonalds, etc.

Attractions:

Reindeer Farm - meet reindeer, moose, bison, and alpaca

- Walking distance from Pioneer Peak Baptist Church.
- See www.reindeerfarm.com for entrance fee.

Musk Ox Farm - meet musk ox

- Located in Palmer
- See www.muskoxfarm.org for entrance fee

Hatcher's Pass and Independence Mine State Historical Park

- 20 minutes outside Palmer
- Hiking, blueberry picking, wildlife, visit historical mine.
- <https://www.travelalaska.com/Destinations/Parks-Public-Lands/Independence-Mine-State-Historical-Park> for entrance fee

Iditarod Visitors Center - meet the dogs

- Enjoy a 45 minute video of the race's history
- Small museum and gift shop, sled cart rides for a fee. Sometimes they have puppies!
- Outside Wasilla. www.iditarod.com. Free admission.

Hiking:

Most trails have a \$5 parking fee.

Bodenburg Butte

- Walking distance from Pioneer Peak Baptist Church.
- Short steep hike, with unbelievable views. The north trail has stairs. The south trail is sunny and more dry.

Hatcher's Pass

- Paved walking paths at the Mine or trails all around the alpine area.
- Blueberries will be in season.
- View of Denali on a clear day.

Reflections Lake

- 20 minutes outside Palmer along the Parks Highway
- 1.1 mile easy level walking path. Pretty views.

Palmer-Moose Creek Railroad Trail

- Fairly level trail along the old railroad along Matanuska River
- 12.6 miles total, but you can do any portion.
- Cranberries will be almost in season.

Matanuska River Park Trail

- Starts at the old Matanuska Bridge in Palmer. Also accessible from the Matanuska River Park campground.
- Easy up-and-down walking path
- Gorgeous views of the mountains, river, and old bridge. Cranberries will be almost in season.

Pioneer Falls

- Near Pioneer Peak Baptist Church.
- Easy short hike

Thunderbird Falls

- Near Chugiak, AK, 20 minutes from PPBC
- 1.8 mile out-and-back trail.