



## *Alyeska Resort - Signature Events*

As part of Alyeska Resort's transformation to a year-round destination, there has been a focus on creating signature events that celebrate the great Alaskan outdoors and rich cultural heritage of the region. With an abundance of outdoor activities, Alyeska is the perfect backdrop for weekend festivities. From family-friendly events such as the Blueberry Festival to rowdy good times at Oktoberfest, visitors can combine adventures inspired by Mother Nature with a full calendar of events.

### **Summer**

Fiddlehead Music Festival (early June) – In its fifth season, Fiddlehead Festival kicks off the summer schedule. Held in the Hotel Alyeska pond courtyard, the weekend is a celebration of the fiddlehead fern season and summer music in the mountains. The event features live music, local arts and crafts, beer and wine garden and kids' activities.

Blueberry Festival (mid-August) – A celebration of the lush blueberry season, this family-oriented outdoors event features over forty arts & crafts booths in The Hotel Alyeska Pond Courtyard, as well as live music and all the blueberry concoctions you can try. Blueberry picking and eating is encouraged; find your own secret stash.

Fungus Fair (Labor Day Weekend) – Just in time for prime mushroom picking season, Fungus Fair is a multi-faceted weekend of forays and naturalist presentations. The weekend kicks off with the Fungus Formal, a five-course dinner showcasing local fungus treasures. The event benefits the Girdwood Center for the Visual Arts.

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

Alyeska Climbathon (mid-September) – Set on the North Face Trail (2.2 miles top to bottom with 2,000 vertical elevation gain), racers head up the trail and download on the aerial tram for nine hours. The winner is the one who logs the most laps in the given timeframe. Proceeds benefit programs to end womens cancers.

Oktoberfest (early October) – Autumn would not be the same without a festive atmosphere celebrating the many attributes of beer. Two weekends of celebrations in the Daylodge include authentic German fare, souvenir mugs, polka band and all.

### **Winter**

Holidays at Alyeska (late-December) – Santa on skis, fireworks and torchlight parade mark the start of the new year. The holidays bustle at Alyeska with lights, vacationing guests and festive cheer.



National Learn-to-Ski & Ride Month (January) – In partnership with the National Ski Area Association, Alyeska promotes beginner skiing and snowboarding lessons through its expert instructors at the Mountain Learning Center. With a goal of fitness and love of winter adventures, this month features special offers for those who are new to snowsports.

National Skier Safety Week (mid-January) – Also supported by the National Ski Area Association, the resort hosts a variety of safety-oriented programs to educate guests on safe practices in and out of bounds.

North Face Vertical Challenge (late February) – The winter season companion to the Alyeska Climbathon, this competitive race features skiers and snowboarders completing multiple laps of the North Face (2,200 vertical feet). Competitors attempt to log in the most skiable vertical feet during regular lift operations.

Alyeska Chugach Open (mid-March) – The steep faces of Mt. Alyeska have proven to be a racer’s inspiration, and nemesis. Expert competitors have always been drawn to the challenging terrain at Alyeska and the resort’s open discipline format.

Spring Carnival (mid-April) – With one of the longest ski seasons in North America, Alyeska Resort embraces spring in typical Alaskan fashion. The Spring Carnival takes advantage of the long days with extended hours of lift operations, great spring-skiing conditions, and Alyeska’s largest and most popular winter event, Slush Cup, where competitors dressed in zany costumes attempt to skim across a 90-foot long pool of freezing water. Other activities include a team tug-of-war and dummy downhill race.

### **Packages & Specials**

The Hotel Alyeska is a 304-room luxury property with full-service amenities. On-site amenities include a variety of dining, room service, shops, The Spa at Alyeska, saltwater pool, whirlpool, fitness center and concierge services. For event weekends, Alyeska Resort will offer special events packages bundling in event tickets, lodging and resort amenities. Please check online for more information.

### **Other Area Events**

The Girdwood Forest Fair is the longest-standing festival in Girdwood Valley. Held over July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend and in its 41<sup>st</sup> year, Forest Fair is a local’s favorite. The weekend includes outdoor concerts, parade down “Main Street”, Alaska native arts booths, exotic food offerings, and other entertainment. ([www.girdwoodforestfair.com](http://www.girdwoodforestfair.com))



Celebrations for the annual Iditarod dog-sled race, held in early March, are region-wide. This unique “man vs. mother nature” race starts from Anchorage, in south central Alaska, and takes competitors up to Nome on the western Bering Sea coast -- each team of 12 to 16 dogs and their musher cover over 1150 miles in 10 to 17 days. In Anchorage, the celebrations last a week-long – the Fur Rendezvous ([www.furrondy.net](http://www.furrondy.net)) features a “run of the reindeer”, street parties, all leading up to the ceremonial start of the race. The Iditarod Trail, now a National Historic Trail, had its beginnings as a mail and supply route from the coastal towns of Seward, including a section through Girdwood, onto mining camps that resided in the interior of Alaska. ([www.iditarod.com](http://www.iditarod.com))

**About Alyeska Resort ([www.alyeskaresort.com](http://www.alyeskaresort.com))**

Alyeska Resort is Alaska's premier year-round destination featuring The Hotel Alyeska, an award-winning 304 room full-service property. Located just 40 miles from Anchorage and Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, Alyeska Resort is your base camp for summer and winter excursions. The resort is within close proximity of three national parks and the Kenai Peninsula, and is home to the northernmost coastal temperate rainforest, part of the Chugach Mountain Range. Alyeska Resort stands out during ski season with 650” of average snowfall annually and the longest-continuous double black diamond ski run in North America. Learn more about the resort and plan your Alaskan adventure at [www.alyeskaresort.com](http://www.alyeskaresort.com) or 800.880.3880.

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