**Junior Nationals 2019**

**Parent Information**

Welcome to Anchorage! The following information has been compiled by ski parents who live here. We will update this page from time to time, so plan to visit more than once!

Have a specific question that isn’t answered here? Email us at: jnparents2019@gmail.com

**Cross Country Skiing**

**In Anchorage**

Kincaid

Site of all competition for Junior XC Nationals 2019.

Here is a link to an aerial image of the park with ski trails drawn in:

<https://www.anchoragenordicski.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Kincaid-Google-Earch-Blank-Max-Res-600-dpi-tabloid.pdf>

Hillside

Map of area (this map includes images of a few other area Nordic trails): <https://www.anchoragenordicski.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Front_NSAA_bACKver2.pdf>

Grooming Report (updated regularly by the Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage) <https://www.anchoragenordicski.com/trails/>

Interactive Trail Map Produced by the Municipality of Anchorage <https://muniorg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=92e9fe7c91744131a13c916c9bec2151>

**Outside Anchorage**

Government Peak Recreation Area

<https://matsuski.org/GPRA-Ski-Trails>

Girdwood Nordic Trails

<https://skigirdwood.org/trail-information/>

**NOTE: There are no fees to ski on any of these fabulously groomed Nordic ski trails. Please consider making a donation to any of the Nordic ski clubs whose trails you ski on while visiting.**

**Downhill Skiing**

Hilltop Ski Area-this small downhill area is directly adjacent to the Hillside Nordic ski trails.

<http://www.hilltopskiarea.org>

Arctic Valley (OPEN on weekends only) This is a small, non-profit ski area located about ten miles from downtown Anchorage

<http://arcticvalley.org>

Alyeska Ski Resort in Girdwood-Alaska’s biggest downhill ski area. Girdwood is about 35 miles from Anchorage.

<https://www.alyeskaresort.com>

**Biking**

Thanks to the local group Single Track Advocates there are miles of single track trails within Kincaid Park and near the nordic trails located on the Hillside. Here’s a link to maps of both single track trails systems: <http://www.singletrackadvocates.org/our-trails/>

There are also miles of multi use trails in the Anchorage bowl where bikers, skiers, runners and walkers all share the path. Use this link and click on the Multi Use tab to see where you can ride a bike on groomed trails: <https://muniorg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=92e9fe7c91744131a13c916c9bec2151>

Want to get out further into the mountains? There are trails in Chugach State Park where bicycle use is allowed, including winter trails open to riding fat bikes. Here’s a map that summarizes all the bike trails in the park: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/units/chugach/chugachbiking.pdf>

And here’s a couple of links to businesses where you can rent a bicycle, including a fat bike:

In Anchorage: Chain Reaction Cycles <http://www.chainreactionalaska.com>

In Girdwood: Powder Hound, rents only fat bikes <http://www.powderhoundak.com/demos-rentals/bike/winter-rentals/>

**Natural and Cultural History**

Anchorage Museum (closed Sunday/Monday)

The Anchorage Museum includes the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center where hundreds of indigenous Alaska artifacts from Smithsonian collections are on display and the Discovery Center, a hands on science discovery place where, among lots of activities, you can simulate an earthquake or a volcano.

<https://www.anchoragemuseum.org>

Alaska Native Heritage Center (Open Saturdays only)

<https://www.alaskanative.net>

Eagle River Nature Center

Located in Chugach State Park and at the end of the Eagle River Road. The center is open Friday-Sunday from 10AM-5PM but the center’s trails are open all the time. <https://www.ernc.org>

Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center (Open daily 10-5)

Located 48 miles south of Anchorage on the Seward Highway. Learn about and view resident wildlife in a 200 acre enclosed preserve. <https://www.alaskawildlife.org/visit/>

**Day Trips-North**

Hatcher Pass/Independence Mine State Historical Park

This area is about 50 miles north of Anchorage and gets a lot of recreational use by backcountry and cross country skiers, sledders and snow machiners. More info and a map:

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/brochures/hatcherpasswinterbrochure.pdf>

Talkeetna

Located 100 miles north of Anchorage; fun road trip to great views of Denali on a clear day. Check out some of the nordic ski trails maintained by the Denali Nordic Ski Club: <https://www.denalinordicskiclub.org>

More info on Talkeetna: <https://www.talkeetnachamber.org>

**Day Trip-South**

Seward

Located 120 miles south of Anchorage; very scenic drive. In Seward you can visit the Sealife Center (open daily 10-5 <https://www.alaskasealife.org>), or check out some of the Nordic trails maintained by the Seward Nordic Ski Club: <https://www.sewardnordicskiclub.org/trails>

More info on Seward: <http://www.seward.com>

**Our favorite places to eat in Anchorage**

Middle Way Café and Hearth Artisan Pizza- Two eateries located next to each other, both with focus on locally sourced whole foods. <http://www.middlewaycafe.com>

Moose’s Tooth Pub and Pizzeria and Beartooth Theater Pub-both serving up local beer and pizza, at the Beartooth you can watch a movie while you dine. <http://moosestooth.net>

<http://beartooththeatre.net>

Tastee Freeze-Located on the road into Kincaid, skier friendly, locally owned (for 60 years!) business serving up sandwiches, ice cream and fries. <http://aktasteefreez.com>

Kaladi-Also located just down the road from Kincaid Park this locally owned coffee shop is a good place for espresso, other hot drinks and a quick snack; they have baked goods and premade sandwiches. <https://www.kaladi.com/locations/jewel-lake>

Pho Lena-three locations in Anchorage to get some good Lao, Thai and Vietnamese Cuisine. <http://www.pholena.com>

Taco King-Eight locations in Anchorage to order up Mexican <https://tacokingak.com/home>

Great Harvest-Fresh bread and sandwiches made to order by a nordic ski friendly business. <http://greatharvestanchorage.com>

Here is a comprehensive listing of restaurants in the Anchorage area compiled by Visit Anchorage: <https://www.anchorage.net/restaurants/>

**Other links of interest**

Kincaid Park Weather:

https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KAKANCHO212

Kincaid Stadium Web Camera:

<http://live2.brownrice.com/embed/skiclubweather1>

For general information about Anchorage we recommend the following resources:

<https://www.anchorage.net>

<http://www.alaska.org>

<http://www.alaska.org/things-to-do/winter-things-to-do>