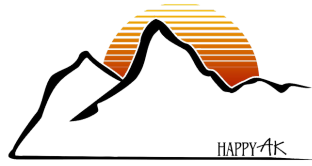


HAPPY AK

SPRING 2020



Welcome, Spring!

Springtime in Alaska is a particularly special time of year. After months of cold and darkness, the sun is warm and bright, the snow is deep, and we are itching to get outside and enjoy it! Just like most Alaskan winters, this one had plenty of personality. With green grass and 45 degrees well into December, followed by a truly white Christmas, then weeks on end of double-digit sub-zero weather, the change in seasons is very much welcomed.

Here at Happy AK, we have some springtime favorites to get you and your family outside. Our daylight is increasing by five and a half minutes each day, so there is plenty of sunshine to replenish your vitamin D stores.

Some of these spots are what we love to call "two sports" spots -- places where you can literally do two very different sports all in one day. For instance, at Hatcher Pass, you can go for a ski, then go for a fat bike ride! In just a few weeks, we might be able to have "three sport" days -- hike, bike, and ski all in one day! Our favorite!

We hope that this note find you and your family well. Getting outside is not only great for you physically, but it also refreshes your mental and emotional health too.

We LOVE to see your photos of all of your adventures. Tag us on Instagram or Facebook @headbandhappyak and/or use the hashtag #happyak.

Wishing you and your family a healthy and happy spring!

Love,
Annie, Happy AK

NORTH FORK -- EAGLE RIVER

The North Fork of Eagle River is a hidden gem! It is a great spot for adventurers of all ages and abilities. The main trail is flat, leading out to the river in under a mile. At the river's edge, the beach is extensive and full of neat spots to explore. Follow the single track trail up river for a lengthy walk in the wilderness. This trail is biking, skiing, and hiking friendly. Bring your whole family -- grandparents too! -- and explore before returning to the parking lot to roast hot dogs and marshmallows. The springtime is a particularly great time to explore the North Fork. On a sunny day, you are sure to soak up some rays!



SOUTH FORK -- EAGLE RIVER

The South Fork of Eagle River is another favorite of ours! Deep in the heart of the Hiland Valley, this trail provides many options. Stay on the main trail and hike out to the bridge crossing at mile 3. The trail is mostly flat and completely open so it is perfect for all ages and abilities. Another option is to turn right at the top of the switchbacks and head up to Hunter Pass. There is a clearly marked wooden sign. This trail is steep, but the views are extraordinary. Pick a spot along the hillside and make an epic sledding route! If you are looking for a family-friendly spot to adventure, the South Fork trail is a great spot to explore!



Hatcher Pass is a natural playground! There's an activity for everyone! Cross-country skiing through Independence Mine, backcountry skiing for the intrepid, endless miles of hiking and fatbiking, sledding, and more! Hatcher Pass is a great place to go for a daylong adventure with the family. The springtime is particularly beautiful -- lots of sunshine and spectacular views. Hatcher Pass is a unique spot to explore because of all of its different features. Bring a grill and have a cookout/tailgate party in the parking lot! Great fun for all!

HATCHER PASS

