

# Tour of Anchorage XC Ski Race

*Win a Nordic ski trip of a lifetime!* Plus..... Fischer skis, poles, bindings & boots for two!!

You and a friend could **enjoy a fantastic, adventure-filled four days, three nights in Alaska's largest city**, Anchorage, March 5 – 8, 2009, by entering to win the Tour of Anchorage Sweepstakes!

- Feel the power and excitement of the toughest sled dog race in the world as you stand at the start line of the **2009 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race**.
- Discover gold rush history and hilarity during Anchorage's **Fur Rendezvous** winter festival.
- Take your mark at the start of the **Tour of Anchorage**, one of the country's premier ski marathons!

It's four days of Alaskan adventures kicked off with Iditarod dog handler "boot camp," being an official dog handler to assist taking a team to the Iditarod start line, and an evening throwing popcorn at the villain in the Melodrama. Toss in snowmachining and a chartered, catered, scenic ride down the tracks with our famous Alaska Railroad. Then strap on your new Fischer RCS Carbonlite skate skis and poles, lace up your RCS Carbonlite skate boots with state-of-the-art R3 NNN race bindings and skim along Anchorage's bike trails in the Tour of Anchorage Ski Race!

## Thursday, March 5, 2009

Welcome to Anchorage!! After settling in to your room at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, enjoy an evening out at one of our fine restaurants. Then get your rest for the next few jam-packed days!



## Friday, March 6, 2009

This morning is "dog handler boot camp!" You'll learn how to handle those great Alaska sled dogs so you can be a handler Saturday morning helping a musher to the start line! Opportunity for skiing or snowmachining in the afternoon or flightseeing. Spend your evening throwing popcorn at the villain in Anchorage's popular Fur Rendezvous Melodrama! Show starts at 8 pm.

## Saturday, March 7, 2009



7:30 a.m. Downtown Anchorage begins to howl as dog teams line the streets for the annual start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race – the canine version of a marathon. You'll help take a team to the start line and cheer on mushers as they start their 1,049-mile trek to Nome.

Afternoon-- Choo – choooo!! You'll join the Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau guests on board a private, spectacular round-trip train ride on the famous Alaska Railroad along Turnagain Arm. Rated one of the top scenic places in the U.S, Vista Dome cars offer stunning views. White tablecloth service is in the Bistro Cafe with gourmet food & wine. Last act is the Lounge car for Karaoke. Then if you still have energy at the end of the day, join in the revelry of the Miners & Trappers Ball.

### **Sunday, March 8th - Race Day!**

The Tour of Anchorage is a point-to-point cross-country ski marathon that is at sea level. There are actually 4 races, a 25 k classical race, and a 25k, 40k and 50k freestyle. The 40k and 50k start on one side of Anchorage and go through the middle of town, along bike trails. The 25 k race starts in the middle of town and uses the same course. The elite skiers in the longer races will overtake the slower skiers in the shorter races. All the races finish at Kincaid Park and celebrate with a pasta feed. Depart on evening flight for home or extend your stay!



#### Race Start Times:

50 K race: Service High School (Starts at 10:10)

40 K race: Service High School (Starts at 10:00)

25 K race: Russian Jack Park (Starts at 10:00)

25 K Classical Race at Russian Jack (Starts at 9:30)

(Average temperature: 31° F / Daylight hours: 13!)

*All meals excluded, except as indicated. Rental car, if desired, on your own.*

*Final itinerary and clothing list will be sent to you prior to your trip.*

*Skis, poles, bindings, & boots compliments of Fischer Skis!*

## **Annual Tour of Anchorage**

For more information: [www.tourofanchorage.com](http://www.tourofanchorage.com)

**For more information on all the events & winter activities in Anchorage, go to:**

[www.anchorage.net/coolevents](http://www.anchorage.net/coolevents)

[www.49threel.com](http://www.49threel.com)

