Welcome to our home, 350 ft (107 m) above the Arctic Circle, where subsistence bowhead whaling and other ancient traditions remain at the center of our culture, shared with linguistic achievements in the modern world.

Interesting Facts...

- Barrow is the head and home of the North Slope Borough, the local government of the Native Arctic.
- The North Slope Borough is the largest administrative unit in the United States, spanning 65% of the state of Alaska.
- Barrow is located at the Arctic Circle, making it one of the most northerly inhabited places on Earth.
- The Barrow area is home to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, a significant wildlife habitat.
- Barrow is known for its cold and rugged environment, with temperatures often dropping below -50°F (-46°C).
- The North Slope Borough has a population of around 4,000 people, mostly Native Alaskan.
- Barrow is a major hub for subsistence whaling, fishing, and hunting.
- The town is supported by the local economy, which relies heavily on the natural resources of the region.
- Barrow is also a hub for scientific research, with several institutions based in the area.
- The town is served by the Barrow Arctic Research Center, which is a major research facility for scientific studies.
- Barrow is connected to the outside world by air, with a small airport, and by sea, with a marina.
- Barrow is known for its beautiful views of the Arctic Ocean, with its ice and snow-covered landscapes.
- Barrow is also known for its culture, with a strong focus on Native traditions and heritage.
- The town is also known for its frigid weather, with temperatures dropping below -50°F (-46°C) in the winter months.
- Barrow is a popular destination for visitors, with its unique culture and beautiful environment.

Helpful Hints

- It's important to dress appropriately for the cold, with layers of clothing to stay warm.
- It's also important to stay hydrated and protected from the sun.
- It's important to be respectful of the local culture and traditions.
- It's important to be prepared for any type of weather, with a range of temperatures and conditions.
- It's also important to be aware of the local wildlife, with bears and other animals that can pose a risk.
- It's important to be respectful of the environment, with its unique landscape and wildlife.
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For more information, please visit the website of the Barrow Arctic Research Center.

To learn more about the history, culture, and traditions of the area, please visit the Iñupiat Heritage Center.
The Iñupiat Heritage

Flower, both White Owl images

[nan’-ook] – polar bear

[aye-veckh] – walrus

arctic territory.

population is approximately 65% Iñupiat. (as of the 2000 census)

Aiviq

Siqiniq

• Eight villages dot the landscape of Alaska’s arctic including

• Barrow is the seat of government for the North Slope Borough, the

• Residents and non-residents alike also work year-round at Umiat

Iñupiaq Vocabulary Lesson

ATTENTION PILOTS: For information about Barrow’s Wiley

tundra. Another option is to take the approximately 9 mi (15 km) tour to Point Barrow, the northern-most spot in the USA!

Parts of the year, shore-fast ice covering the ocean can extend for miles. Contact the Iñupiat Heritage Center, the City of Barrow

travel plans before you head away from town. Note: Barrow Volunteer Search & Rescue loans personal locator beacons (PLBs)

find you in case of unexpected bad weather or an emergency, notify Barrow Volunteer Search & Rescue 907-852-2808 of your

temperatures in Barrow vary widely, but average about 40ºF (4.4 ºC.) Extreme winds can occur any time of year.

Helpful Hints

* In JANUARY and FEBRUARY experience Kivgiq, the unforgettable mid-winter festival also called Messenger Feast –

During JULY and AUGUST Barrow residents often go with relatives and friends from other villages to hunt and fish, and to

blanket toss parade, maklak [muck-luck] races, igloo building, dog mushing and geese-calling contests; snow machine races, golf on

information online at www.northslope.org or www.cityofbarrow.org. (See ads on inside page.)

restaurants, stores and hotels. See traditional Eskimo Dancing and join in. Catch a glimpse of arctic wildlife and learn about

important, scientific studies taking place on the North Slope and in Barrow,

include two-foot high kick, ear pull and one-hand reach. July winners can go on to the World Eskimo Indian Olympics.

areas where wild salmon berries, blue berries, black berries and cranberries are plentiful and grow on the ground. Autumn

Visit us in NOVEMBER through MAY during the awe-inspiring winter, or enjoy the sun-washed evening hours of spring,

the ways of the subsistence whaling culture. For longer visits, or if you are moving to Barrow, check out the amenities

Hikers and birders can see snowy owls, swans, snow buntings, ducks, arctic terns and many other birds nesting on the wide

there are many other places of worship

was the Barrow whaling station.  Today,

and is very dangerous.

for artifacts in and around Barrow.

centuries. Please respect the culture,

is almost always a breeze, which keeps

dwelling. An iglu is not only a temporary

of the Barrow Utilidor System, its 3.3

of mounted indigenous birds and watch

continue to shape life above the Arctic Circle.

Examine the dramatic climate changes that

Learn about the methods of contemporary

Watch our Iñupiat Dancers perform ancient

Corporation, Family of

Photos Courtesy

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