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## Traversing the Arctic: Resources

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**T**he Arctic National Wildlife Refuge sits completely above the Arctic Circle and is prone to bad weather throughout the year. Visitors should expect delays and plan their itineraries accordingly.

The easiest access into the refuge is through the Inupiat Eskimo town of Kaktovik ([kaktovik.com](#)) on Barter Island in the Arctic Ocean. Most visitors to the refuge fly through either Anchorage or Fairbanks. Frontier Flying Service operates regular flights to Barter Island ([frontierflying.com](#)) as does Cape Smythe Air Service ([capesmythe.com](#)).

Nicholas D. Kristof and his traveling companions were flown into the refuge by Coyote Air Service, of Coldfoot, Alaska, (907) 678-5995, which picked them up in Arctic Village and flew them to north side of the Brooks Range. They were taken out of the Canning River delta by Walt Audi of Alaska Flyers (907) 640-6324. Yukon Air Service ([planetsscott.com](#)) also flies into the refuge.

The only accommodations for visitors to the refuge are found at two small hotels in Kaktovik. The Waldo Arms (907) 640-6513 charges \$150 a night. The rate includes meals and laundry services. The Kaktovik Hotel (907) 640-5500, which is owned by the Inupiat tribe, was opened in 1998 and is \$165 a night. There are no accommodations for visitors to Arctic Village.

Several companies organize guided expeditions into the refuge. Equinox Wilderness Expeditions ([equinoxexpeditions.com](#)) arranges rafting trips along the rivers north of the Brooks Range, as does Arctic Wild ([arcticwild.com](#)) and Alaska Wildtrek ([alaskawildtrek.com](#)). Most groups schedule their trips to the refuge in June and July.

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