



Mushrooms in Denali



Dates

August 21-23, 2026



Difficulty

Level 3



Elevation Gain

Up to 1000 feet



Hiking Distance

Up to 3 miles per day

Course Description

Late summer showcases a wealth of mushrooms throughout interior Alaska. Join local naturalist Eric Groth in Denali National Park and Preserve to learn various techniques for identifying native wild mushrooms. Taking clues from the landscape, we'll hone our observation skills and gain experience using field guides. We'll learn about the many roles mushrooms play in Denali's vastly different environments as we gain an appreciation for wild mushrooms and how they influence our lives.

Difficulty Level 3

You must be physically prepared to hike off-trail up to 3 miles each day, comfortably, with elevation gains up to 1000 feet in undulating terrain. Expect uneven footing, wet boggy tundra, dense undergrowth, and minor stream crossings. Good coordination is recommended.

Times and Location

Participants meet at the Murie Science and Learning Center, located at mile 1 of the Denali Park Road. Check-in starts at 6:00pm on Friday. The course begins at 6:30pm and will return to the park entrance area around 4pm on Sunday.

Lodging and Meals

This course is based out of the Murie Science and Learning Center Field Camp, located 29 miles inside Denali National Park along the Teklanika River. The Field Camp includes rustic cabins and outhouses. Meals are simple and healthy.

Professional Development Credit

The University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) offers one professional development credit (level 500) for an additional \$79 fee. You must register for the credit directly with UAA. Please see our website for registration directions.

Questions? Email courses@akgeo.org or call 907-771-8485