Д. Жарко

PROS OF MOVING AND CONS OF LIVING IN ALASKA

The quality and standard of life in Alaska surprise and delight Belarusian immigrants every year. Despite their harsh climate and remoteness from civilization, Alaska has achieved a high standard of living that Belarusians can only dream of. Living in Alaska means a different lifestyle than most other places, people still consider it a place worth moving to.

One of the main advantages of Alaska is that it preserves the nature untouched by man. Today Alaska is one of the most environmentally friendly states in the USA. In Alaska you can experience the great outdoors like never before. The state has vast wildlife. The state is home to a variety of wildlife, including grizzly bears, moose, wolves and bald eagles. While living in Alaska, you won't have to think twice about heading outdoors. You will come across more opportunities to explore trails, kayak bays, and embrace your inner explorer. Even with the arrival of winter, the adventure streak won't die as the winter months have their own charm. Residents can enjoy activities such as hiking, fishing, hunting, and skiing.

Alaska has a low crime rate, which means residents feel safe and don't have to worry about their belongings or their health when going out in an uninhabited area. Alaska has decent pay; if a person is a workaholic and can work from morning till night, you can make a lot of money in Alaska. The most promising industries for employment are: the fishing industry. The USA has the richest fisheries. More than a hundred small and large companies are engaged in seafood

harvesting and processing in Alaska. The oil and gas industry. Among the professions in demand in Alaska today are ranger guides, guides, hospitality workers, fishing instructors, sailors and cruise ship staff. Without knowledge of English you can't do without it.

Despite the advantages of Alaska, the disadvantages are also present and play a huge role. First of all, winter temperatures in much of the state can fall to minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit. It is a true continental subarctic climate. And winter can last eight months of the year. Homes in Alaska cost a little more than compared to the rest of the country. The state median home value is \$265,000, with 71 % of the homes in the state priced between \$108,000 and \$435,000. General healthcare prices within the Anchorage metro area are an astounding 82 % above the national average, based on the Health Care Cost Institute Report of 2016. To make things worse, Alaskan private company employees spend more than \$99 over the national average for healthcare costs for one person.

To sum up, not everyone can live in Alaska, even though it has beautiful nature and high wages, you have to work very hard and with the weather conditions you will not live comfortably. The best option is to work for a few months or travel, not everyone can stay there all his life.