

tombstone range hike



trip highlights

- Hike amid dramatic granite pinnacles, boreal forest and colourful tundra
- Helicopter to the trail through the striking Ogilvie Mountains
- Capture the stunning backdrop of Mount Monolith, with hanging valleys and mirror-smooth lakes
- Encounter wildlife including bears, caribou, gyrfalcons and moose
- Venture off trail for authentic off-the-beaten-path hiking adventures
- Explore historic Dawson City and the Yukon gold rush



Trip Duration	9 days	Trip Code: TMB
Grade	Moderate to Challenging	
Activities	Backpacking, Day walks	

welcome to Great Canadian Trails

Thank you for your interest in our Tombstone Range Hike trip. With a small population compared to its vast size, Canada's wilderness is immense, wild, and largely untouched; an endless natural playground with countless opportunities for outdoor adventure. And, with history and character unique to each region, Canadian culture is a rich mosaic of customs. With Great Canadian Trails, experience charming communities and changing landscapes on foot or by bike, paddle along dramatic shorelines, or hike rugged trails with the support of our expert local teams. If you enjoy a physical challenge in the great Canadian wilderness or prefer a more leisurely pace, we're here to provide all you need so that you can enjoy your active holiday to the fullest. From the grand mountains of the West to the impressive Great Lakes and jovial Maritime culture of the East, not to mention the unimaginable scale of the remote North, there is no shortage of beauty and wonder awaiting the active traveller. We invite you to discover all of Canada's treasures from coast to coast to coast.

why travel with Great Canadian Trails?

We are Canadian, our team is highly-experienced, and our understanding of the land means carefully-crafted hiking and cycling holidays that offer the active traveller an immersive and truly authentic experience. Our unique selection of itineraries draws upon some of the country's most inspiring landscapes, incredible networks of trails, and stunning national parks while showcasing communities along the way. Our wide range of accommodations include our selection of friendly bed & breakfasts, charming inns, perfectly-located hotels, and quiet cottages or cabins. Our drivers are local, professional, and full of information which they are eager to share as they take you to the trailheads and move your luggage ahead to the next overnight stay. We provide you with sectional maps, an emergency hotline, and a customized route booklet with detailed local information and the inside scoop on where to eat, visit, and explore each day. Each itinerary has been tried and tested with every detail accounted for, so that all you need to do is spend the day exploring at your own pace, to your heart's content. By travelling with Great Canadian Trails you are also making a positive impact, since most of our trips include a donation to the local non-profit organization who builds and maintains the trail. This helps others get out and experience Canada's natural wonders.



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Great Canadian Trails will endeavour to arrange for single travellers to share accommodation with another participant of the same gender, however if we can not match you up a single supplement will be applicable. If you prefer not to share a single supplement is payable to guarantee your own room. The cost of the single supplement is listed above. **Note regarding single rooms:** The single supplement guarantees the privacy of your own room, however, rooms can at times be small and in some places may not enjoy the same facilities as double/twin rooms.

trip dates

2026 26 Jul - 03 Aug
10 Aug - 18 Aug
22 Aug - 30 Aug

important notes

Note: - Dates are subject to change up to 31 January following Parks Canada permits deliverance.

fast facts

Countries Visited:
Canada

Visas:

Please check visa requirements with your reservations consultant*

Vaccinations:

Please consult a travel vaccination specialist for up to date information

Singles:

A single supplement is available for this trip*

Leader:

Expert local leader

Advice for people with limited mobility

This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.

It is important to understand that you cannot compare the style of trip and number of staff in North America with a trip anywhere in Asia, South America or Africa.

the trip

Dramatic wind-carved mountain peaks, reflecting lakes and sweeping arctic tundra await backcountry hikers to Tombstone Territorial Park, a 2000-sq km/1242-sq mile backcountry jewel known as Canada's Patagonia. With sweeping valleys and trails padded down by the region's abundant wildlife, this Yukon adventure promises striking vistas, pristine wilderness, and the historical richness of Dawson City. Hiking beneath a summer sun that shines late into the evening, our 48 km/30mile itinerary delivers sweeping views and diverse terrains, while elevated campsites, outhouses, and cooking tents ensure a comfortable hike throughout. Unlike Patagonia, crowds here are sparse, and the landscape encourages off-trail wanderings. As you make your way through mature boreal forest, across bubbling creeks and into tundra scrub, admire summer wildflowers, taste wild blueberries, and keep an eye out for bear, moose, Dall's sheep and some 150 species of bird. The park is accessed via a spectacular helicopter ride through the striking splendour of the Ogilvie Mountains, with the itinerary including plenty of time to explore the gold rush heritage of Dawson City.

at a glance

DAY 1	ARRIVE IN WHITEHORSE
DAY 2	WHITEHORSE TO DAWSON CITY
DAY 3	FLIGHT INTO TALUS LAKE (APPROX 3-4 HRS 5KM/3.1MI)
DAY 4	HIKES IN TALUS LAKE (APPROX 6-8 HRS - 12KM/7MI)
DAY 5	TO DIVIDE LAKE (APPROX 5 HRS - 8KM/5MI)
DAY 6	GLISSADE PASS TO GRIZZLY LAKE (APPROX 6 HRS - 6KM/4MI)
DAY 7	GRIZZLY PASS AND TWIN LAKES LOOK-OUT (APPROX 4 HRS - 6KM/4MI)
DAY 8	GRIZZLY LAKE TO DEMPSTER HWY (APPROX 8-9 HRS - 11KM/7MI)
DAY 9	DAWSON BACK TO WHITEHORSE

what's included

- 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners
- Some snacks while camping
- 3 nights hotel stay / 5 nights wilderness camping while on trek
- Certified guides with Wilderness First Aid
- Transportation as listed in the itinerary including helicopter flight into the Tombstones
- All group camping equipment including top of the line tent, all cooking gear, tarps, and meal preparation
- All group first aid equipment
- Emergency group communications equipment including radio and satellite phone
- Camping fees and permits for Tombstone Territorial Park

detailed itinerary

DAY 1 Arrive in Whitehorse

Please make your way to your hotel upon arrival in the capital of the Yukon. Depending on what time you arrive, explore a city known for its eclectic pioneer character and outdoor summer lifestyle. Visiting historic sites, museums, landmarks and some fantastic restaurants.

meals: NIL

DAY 2 Whitehorse to Dawson City

Ease into a leisurely day as we drive 532 km/330 miles on the famous Klondike and Dempster Highways, north to Dawson City. Acclimatizing to the sweeping views and vast expanse of the territory, we'll stop for a picnic along the way. Upon arriving in Dawson City – at one time the most

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responsible travel

The natural environments that you'll travel through are fragile and the cultures and traditions precious. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence, protect what is precious and where we can leave a positive impact.

trip grading

Moderate to Challenging

The full pack, steep ascents and descents, and often unstable terrain give this trip a 'challenging' trekking experience factor. Anyone undertaking a full pack trek should be aware of the physical and mental demands involved. You should expect a pack weight of 35 to 45 lbs. About 7 to 12 lbs of this will consist of shared group equipment.

These treks are designed for experienced adventurers who are seeking a challenge. The trek will involve off trail hiking, unstable footing, creek/river crossings, rough terrain, and long hiking days. All while carrying your own gear in a full pack. This trek is intended for experienced hikers only. We recommend that people begin their fitness preparation immediately upon booking. Solid work outs that are aerobic (hill walking, jogging, swimming, biking or gym work) of up to one hour each day is a guide to a routine training program. The best preparation is hiking with a full pack, involving relatively steep ascents and descents. If you can be as fit and prepared as possible, you will enjoy the trip so much more.

Please note that this trip involves a little participation. For example: putting up/taking down tents, washing up your own dishes, and potentially filtering or purifying your own water (made super easy with our MSR filters or purification tablets).

populous city north of San Francisco – we'll have a trip briefing, checking packs and allocating each hiker's share of food and gear. Wander among the sunken buildings, learn about the Klondike Gold Rush, and gather for dinner and drinks at one of Dawson's character restaurants.

meals: L

DAY 3 Flight Into Talus Lake (Approx 3-4 hrs 5km/3.1mi)

Flightseeing doesn't get more dramatic than your helicopter ride into the stunning Ogilvie Mountains. With 360-degree views from above, you truly get a sense of the region's vast, unspoiled wilderness. To facilitate our aerial entry, the group will be split into two, with the first half flying directly to Talus Lake while the rest spend time at the local interpretative centre before flying out to the campground. We re-group by noon, set up tents and prepare our first camp lunch. Soon after, we'll embark on a day-hike towards the spires of Tombstone Mountain, learning about the region from our guides while keeping an eye-out for potential wildlife sightings.

meals: L,D

DAY 4 Hikes in Talus Lake (Approx 6-8 hrs - 12km/7mi)

Based at the Talus Lake campground, we'll embark on two spectacular half day-hikes, carrying light daypacks. One hike includes a steep climb for a panoramic view of our campsite cradled by the surrounding mountains. The second takes us across the valley in search of wildlife and wildflowers, embedding us within the flat valley tundra as we cross a couple bubbling brook, immersed within the sweeping backdrop of Tombstone's stunning shark-fin peaks.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 5 To Divide Lake (Approx 5 hrs - 8km/5mi)

Striking camp, we hike along one of the park's few established trails towards the east side of the valley. Weather permitting we'll stop for lunch on top of Tombstone Pass, affording an incredible view of Divide Lake below. The afternoon presents several choices: walk the shores of Divide Lake towards a ravine below the peaks, or challenge yourself with a hike up the southeast ridge of Mount Frank Rae. With an elevation of 2,360m/7,740ft, it is the highest peak in the Ogilvie Mountains, with an extraordinary view of the Tombstone Range and North Klondike River valley below.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 6 Glissade Pass to Grizzly Lake (Approx 6 hrs - 6km/4mi)

After breakfast, we take on the steep ascent of the Glissade Pass. The reward for conquering this challenge is more jaw-dropping views of the peaks, lakes and valleys. What goes up must come down, so prepare for a relatively steep descent through a lush grassy meadow until we reach the gully of the valley floor, following the stream that flows past our campsite. Rest upon the rocky shores while dipping your weary feet into the crystal waters of Grizzly Lake, admiring the reflection of mountains on the lake's still waters.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 7 Grizzly Pass and Twin Lakes Look-out (Approx 4 hrs - 6km/4mi)

We remain at Grizzly Lake tonight, which means leaving our big packs behind to explore the area's highlights. We'll hike the Grizzly Pass, noticing the ecosystem change from green valley into alpine meadows. Gaining altitude, the terrain becomes rocky until we reach a breathtaking viewpoint over Grizzly Lake. Pushing further along the ridge delivers another scenic jackpot: Mount Monolith reflecting in dark, cold waters of the Twin Lakes below.

meals: B,L,D

DAY 8 Grizzly Lake to Dempster Hwy (Approx 8-9 hrs - 11km/7mi)

Having immersed ourselves for several days in the Yukon's remote mountain wilderness, it's time to hike out the valley via the northwest ridge, admiring the views of Mount Monolith and Grizzly Lake

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adventure travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. When hiking, expect rugged terrain with plenty of dirt, roots and rocks. In wet conditions, trails can be muddy and slippery, potentially raising the level of difficulty of your trip. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with our trained staff.

important note

These trip notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price. The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control.

along the way. Once we reach the highway, we have a quick lunch before hopping in a shuttle for a drive to the relative civilization of Dawson City. Relish a hot shower before a well-deserved farewell dinner.

meals: B,L

DAY 9 Dawson back to Whitehorse

Bidding farewell to Dawson City, we drive south to Whitehorse, stopping for our final picnic lunch along the way. No doubt there will be stories and images to share with friends old and new. Although today concludes your Tombstone Range adventure today, there's little doubt the landscape and experience will stay with you forever.

meals: L

This itinerary is subject to change with any change in Community regulations as well as Governmental changes and natural circumstances beyond our control.

suggested extensions

Chilkoot Trail

joining instructions

Upon arrival you will need to make your own way to your hotel in Whitehorse. The joining hotel will be listed on your tour voucher and made available in your client portal.

Your guide will email you to confirm the mandatory group meeting time and re-confirm the location of the meeting. The meeting will likely be held at the Yukon Inn. (Please note that this may NOT be your joining hotel)

Day 2 You will be picked up and driven with the group to Dawson City which is the gateway to Tombstone.

climate

Yukon weather can be quite variable. One day an Arctic air mass can dominate, and the next day a warm front can move in from the Pacific. Sometimes visitors get to experience all four seasons in one day! The climate is generally very dry, with little precipitation, but is considerably wetter in the southeast. Precipitation is much greater in the mountains, and the snowpack continues to melt well into the summer, resulting in high water in July or August. No matter when you visit, it's important to be prepared for sudden changes in weather and temperature, especially if you are doing outdoor activities.

Summer is June to August. The temperature can be plus 30 degrees Celsius / 86 degrees Fahrenheit with the sun blazing around the clock in the far north, where the sun barely sets. People are full of energy. Life flourishes under hours of intense sunlight as the land hosts millions of migratory birds and explodes in wildflower blooms. On summer solstice, June 21, the sun doesn't set at the Arctic Circle—the further north one travels, the higher the sun and the longer the season of the midnight sun. Pack shorts and T-shirts, but come prepared with plenty of layering options. On an outdoor excursion, always bring along pants and long sleeves. A hat and gloves can come in handy, and a windbreaker is useful at higher elevations. Brimmed hats, sunglasses and sunscreen protect against the intense summer sun. Good walking shoes are a must. If you're going into the backcountry, consider packing a bug jacket. Please refer to the following website www.worldweather.org for temperature ranges in Canada.

a typical day

Each day, each group, each guide may influence itinerary details but the following will give you an idea of daily timing. We have outlined our probable campsites based on a scenario where circumstances, i.e. weather and group ability, warrant a slow pace. It may, however,



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be such, that we will cover greater distances than initially budgeted for. Regardless of which campsites are selected, the overall experience will not be affected by our pace. The trek will involve off trail hiking, creek/river crossings, rough terrain, and long hiking days. On some days, you will be carrying your own gear in a full pack, on others you will hike with a daypack only. Physical and mental preparation for your trek cannot be highlighted enough. Come open minded and ready for a wonderful experience whatever the weather, whoever the group, whatever your preconceived ideas. Your guides will be working to enhance your trek and maximize your safety. Each day on the trail will start with a hot drink call from your guides. They will then prepare breakfast, whilst you get ready for the day and pack up all your equipment. After breakfast the guides will finish their last minute packing and then set off for the day's walk. Each day is different but the morning walk is often 3-4 hours in duration with numerous snack, photo and water breaks along the way. A leisurely lunch is served which provides the chance to put your feet up, take photos, or simply enjoy the magnificent scenery around you. The afternoon walk is sometimes shorter than the morning walk getting us to camp with plenty of daylight and time for exploring, relaxing or just enjoying a welcome hot drink and a chat. A hot dinner is served with time to tell a few stories or interesting facts about the area and hear a brief on the following day's activities before heading off for the night's rest. Your guides will not expect any assistance besides that you do your own dishes while they do the pots and their portion themselves. They will appreciate it if you have the energy to help collect drinking water when arriving at camp, wash up the lunch dishes in readiness for the evening meal etc.

dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure, we are able to cater to vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance (ideally, months prior to your trip/at time of booking) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

equipment provided

Included for your use is a 3-4 season, high quality 3 person tent (twin share) which provides each occupant with a personal access door and vestibule for individual use. Brands that are most commonly used are Mountain Hardware and MSR. The 'MSR Elixir 3' is one example commonly used for this trip. The tents have been tried and tested to withstand all weather conditions that may be encountered during the adventure, each weighing between 2.0 and 2.5 kg and this weight is shared equally by each occupant.

pre and post tour accommodation

We strongly advise against booking flights that depart on the final day of the tour. Please let us know if you need advice or assistance with pre or post night accommodation. Please ask your consultant for more details.

what you carry

For your expedition you will need to carry all equipment in a full trekking backpack that is 65-75 litres in capacity. You will carry your full pack on 3 of the hiking days. This will need to include the following items:



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- Sleeping bag
- Inflatable sleeping mat
- Portion of the shared tent (two people per tent)
- A container with 300ml of fuel
- A park mandated bear barrel/cache with a portion of the group's food (weight when empty of 2 to 3 lbs / 1 to 1.5 kg)
- Water (2L), layers of clothing, all personal items that you have decided to bring along

Our guides carry most of the group equipment such as pots/pans, stoves, tarps, major first aid kit, repair kit, some fuel, kitchen set, bear spray, communication devices. You may be asked to help with additional items.

Depending on the quantity of personal gear and toiletries the average pack weight will be between 30 - 40lbs (approx 14-18 kg).

equipment required

A detailed gear list will be provided upon booking, along with optional equipment rental forms. Important items include a sleeping bag rated -7 to -12 (Celsius) for males or -10 to -20 (Celsius) for females and sleeping mat, waterproof hiking boots and gaiters, camp dishes (bowl, mug, spoon), 65-80L backpack with waterproof cover.

getting there

BY AIR

The nearest International Airport is Erik Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport. Upon arrival you can take a shuttle bus or taxi to the hotel.

There is a taxi kiosk outside the departure doors at the airport. You can also call one of the many local taxi agencies to arrange transportation.

See <https://yukon.ca/en/driving-and-transportation/erik-nielsen-whitehorse-international-airport/> for further details.

special visa requirements

All international visitors will require proper documentation to enter Canada. Most nationalities require either a tourist visa or an ETA. Detailed information will be provided upon booking.

wildlife

Wildlife depends on habitat. In the mountains of California and the Rockies we find: black bear, elk, herds of mule deer, coyote, and the occasional wolf along with a wide range of rodents (marmots, beaver, etc). There are a lot of birds here, including eagles, hawks, jays and blue birds. In the Rockies you are also likely to see herds of wild bison, brown bear, wolf packs, moose, antelopes, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, porcupines, skunks and fox. The Rockies are a birder's paradise, producing birds such as cranes, singing swans, white pelican, bald eagles and many migratory species.

In the desert, wildlife is more elusive. Due to the heat, it is mostly nocturnal. The most common animals to see while hiking are birds: hawks, eagles, vultures, road runners, jays, blue birds, and the majestic California condor. Ground squirrels and deer are often seen near trails. However, with a little luck we will also see coyotes, ring tail cat, cactus mouse. At times groups see mountain lions, bobcats, or the elusive and endangered big horn sheep.



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what's not included

- Meals in Whitehorse and Dawson City (Unless otherwise mentioned in the itinerary)
- Transfers and accommodation other than that which is included in the itinerary
- Additional nights in Dawson City (can be added as an optional supplement)
- Sleeping bags, sleeping pads, and backpacks (available for rent)
- Personal equipment
- Travel insurance
- Tips and gratuities
- Applicable taxes of 5% for bookings made in North America

private groups

The adventures featured on our website are just a starting point for many of our private group travellers. Working closely with our Groups Department we can organise custom designed itineraries for groups of friends, clubs, charities, schools or even work colleagues. Our team will assist you with all aspects of your private group adventure from itinerary design to group flights. Contact our team today.

subscribe to our e-newsletter

To keep up to date with our new and exciting adventure opportunities, special promotions and adventure news, subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter! You can do this on line through our website, www.greatcanadiantrails.com

social networking

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GreatCanadianTrails>, on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/@GreatCanTrails> and on Instagram at <https://instagram.com/GreatCanadianTrails>

trip availability

If this trip seems right for you then we encourage you to book now. There are many reasons why you may not be able to join your desired departure and limited space on our small group departures is just one of them. Our self-guided holidays visit small communities with limited accommodations, and we can only guarantee rooms once we've booked and confirmed with each property. For this reason, we can only confirm availability of tour once bookings have been received. The demand is increasing each year making it difficult to join a trip last minute. To ensure we can confirm your adventure of a lifetime we ask that you check trip availability with our team at your earliest convenience.

how to book

To book a Great Canadian Trails trip, you will need to complete a booking form and pay a non refundable deposit which you can do by using our online booking function. We can also help you with any additional arrangements that you require, such as pre or post trip accommodation in conjunction with the main Great Canadian Trails trip.