

parks and wildlife of yukon



trip highlights

Hike amid the dramatic granite pinnacle and colourful tundra of Tombstone Territorial Park

Capture the stunning backdrops of Mount Logan in Kluane National Park

Step back in time to the Klondike Gold Rush



Trip Duration	8 days	Trip Code: YKH
Grade	Introductory to Moderate	
Activities	Guided day hikes, Yukon's Wildlife Preserve tour	
Summary	Comfortable hotels	

welcome to Great Canadian Trails

Thank you for your interest in our Parks and wildlife of Yukon 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 22 Aug - 29 Aug
29 Aug - 05 Sep
05 Sep - 12 Sep

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

Private Groups:

Private group options are available for this trip*

Singles:

A single supplement is available for this trip*

Leader:

Expert Local Leader & Escort

Advice for people with limited mobility

This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.

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.

the trip

Over eight days, this adventure brings you into the grandeur of Yukon's pristine and vast wilderness. With its abundant wildlife, and cultures that live, breathe and thrive beneath the golden sunsets, shooting stars, and midnight sun, the Yukon Territory is unique in more ways than you can imagine. If you're dreaming of the perfect nature escape with splendid alpine panoramas, colourful tundra, and dramatic granite pinnacles, this itinerary ticks all the boxes and many extras. You'll discover iconic places, including Kluane National Park, the Traditional Territory of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Tombstone Territorial Park, Whitehorse, Dawson City and the Southern Lakes areas in Canada's untamed North. For outdoor enthusiasts like yourself, this is the ultimate bucket list destination. So, leave the crowds behind and explore the Yukon's treasures.

about your leader/escort

Your professional guide is familiar with the area, history and most important the changing weather. All of our guides are trained in wilderness first aid and are lots of fun to keep the days interactive and informative.

at a glance

DAY 1	ARRIVE IN WHITEHORSE
DAY 2	TO KLUANE NATIONAL PARK
DAY 3	SOUTHERN END OF KLUANE NATIONAL PARK
DAY 4	FOLLOWING THE YUKON GOLD RUSH
DAY 5	HIKING IN TOMBSTONE TERRITORIAL PARK
DAY 6	TO WHITEHORSE VIA YUKON WILDLIFE PRESERVE
DAY 7	AROUND THE SOUTHERN LAKES
DAY 8	TOUR ENDS IN WHITEHORSE

what's included

- 7 nights accommodation, double occupancy
- 6 lunches
- Services of a local guide
- Private transportation
- Return airport group transfers
- Yukon Wildlife Preserve tour
- Park and entrance fees to sights listed in itinerary

detailed itinerary

DAY 1 Arrive in Whitehorse

On arrival at the Whitehorse airport, make your way to the joining hotel. Named after the rapids on the Yukon River, which resembled the flowing manes of charging white horses, the territory's capital was a First Nations campsite until the Gold Rush brought tens of thousands of gold-seekers on their way to the Klondike. There will be a trip briefing in the hotel foyer at the time indicated in your final documents, where you will meet your guide and fellow travellers.

meals: NIL

DAY 2 To Kluane National Park

From Whitehorse, it's a two hours scenic drive to mighty Kluane National Park and Reserve. Kluane offers an alpine and subalpine landscape and is a dream destination for nature enthusiasts and hikers of all levels. Half the size of the Netherlands, the park is home to Canada's highest mountain, Mount Logan, and the largest non-polar icefields on Earth. We enjoy a leisurely afternoon hike

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trip grading

Introductory to Moderate

Although graded 'introductory' level, this trip has been designed with the active traveller in mind. Day hike options range from 4 to 8 hours in duration on rugged trails ranging from 215m to 1250m in elevation gain. There is some flexibility in the selection of hikes in Kluane National Park, depending on the fitness level and interest of the group, but the fitter you are the more you will enjoy this tour and the more options are available to the group. Suggested preparation: We recommend 45 minutes of aerobic exercise three times a week from a minimum of 3 months leading up to your trip. This can include swimming, jogging, hard walking or cycling. Hill or stair walking with a full day pack is highly recommended at least once per week.

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.

exploring Sheep Creek, Aurial Trail or Paint Mountain with views of the endless mountain ranges in all directions. After stretching our legs, we check into our accommodation for the next two nights in the little community of Haines Junction, conveniently located on the edge of the national park.

meals: L

DAY 3 Southern End of Kluane National Park

After breakfast, we head back to the majestic Kluane National Park. Today, we hike on the park's southern end to a little haven known as Kathleen Lake. The views of the surrounding valleys and the blue waters of the lake are breathtaking as we climb a scree ridge to King's Peak. Reaching the crest of the ridge, take the time to soak into this incredible landscape as you look to the South to the massive peaks in Alaska or Northwest to Mt Logan, Canada's highest peak. From here, we can see why they say Yukon is "larger than life," with the awe-inspiring wilderness stretching as far as the eye can see below us.

meals: L

DAY 4 Following the Yukon Gold Rush

Before leaving the charming community of Haines Junction, we make a stop at the Interpretive Center. Here we can learn about the history and traditional stories of the people who have called this sacred place home for thousands of years. After our visit, we will drive in the direction of the gold prospectors to Dawson City, making stops along the way to explore some natural wonders such as Fox Lake, Lake Labarge and Five Finger Rapids. As we arrive in the historic town and former base of the 19th century Klondike Gold Rush, enjoy the character and old-time charm of Dawson City.

meals: L

DAY 5 Hiking in Tombstone Territorial Park

We continue our exploration of Yukon's pristine wilderness with the backcountry jewel known as Canada's Patagonia. As we are heading a little further north with a drive on the famous Dempster Highway, connecting the arctic ocean to the rest of Canada, enjoy the stunning views of unique arctic tundra landscapes and wildlife. The Tombstone Territorial Park will be our playground for the day, hiking into the larger-than-life panorama surrounded by some of the most iconic mountains in the world. The trails are padded down by the region's abundant wildlife, including caribou, moose, grizzly bears, Dall sheep and some 150 species of birds. In our return to Dawson City this evening, we step back in time to the dancehalls and saloons of 1898 with a traditional Cancan show at Canada's oldest Casino.

meals: L

DAY 6 To Whitehorse via Yukon Wildlife Preserve

Now's the time to head back south, bidding farewell to Dawson City and returning to Whitehorse with more scenic stops along the way. Although today concludes your Tombstone Range adventure, there's little doubt the landscape and experience will stay with you forever. And there are still exciting things in the program, including meeting locals on a tour of the Yukon Wildlife Preserve. Depending on our arrival time in Whitehorse, we may enjoy some free time in town to explore and head to a nearby lake to enjoy the evening light reflecting off the water.

meals: L

DAY 7 Around the Southern Lakes

Let's immerse ourselves once again into Yukon's magnificent wilderness as we head to the Southern Lakes. The region boasts an interconnected group of lakes, endless outdoor recreation and deep pockets of history and culture. After our hike, we stop for a stroll along Canada's smallest desert and soak in the pure beauty of Emerald Lake, known as Rainbow Lake by the First Nations. From here, we access the outpost of Carcross, formerly named Caribou Crossing, by miners who stopped there en route to the Klondike gold fields at Dawson City. The mountain and lake views in all directions are sure to amaze.

meals: L



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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.

DAY 8 Tour ends in Whitehorse

After breakfast, transfer to airport at 9am or 2pm

meals: NIL

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

joining instructions

On arrival you will need to make your own way to your hotel in Whitehorse. Please check your tour voucher for your joining hotel information. Your guide will reach out prior to your day 2 pick-up to arrange the pick-up and provide further details.

Day 2 You will be picked up at 9am and driven with the group to Kluane National Park. There will be a group briefing on route to Kluane National Park.

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 when we operate our tours. The temperature can be plus 30 Celsius 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.

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.

pre and post tour accommodation

We are happy to arrange extra nights for you in Whitehorse before and/or after your tour. Please inquire for details and pricing.



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what you carry

In your daypack you will need to carry extra warm clothing (depending on the altitude, location and weather), a rainjacket, water bottle, camera gear, valuables and personal items such as sunscreen, lip balm etc.

equipment required

Specialist gear required include walking boots and day pack (a comprehensive gear list is provided in the pre-departure information provided on booking).

getting there

BY AIR

We suggest flying in and out of the Erik Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport (YXY) in Whitehorse.

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.

what's not included

- Flights
- Alcoholic beverages
- Items of personal nature
- Tips and gratuities
- Travel insurance
- Applicable taxes of 5% when booking made in North America

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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. Our Can Geo collection adventures are conducted with small groups (6 to 12 travellers) and normally feature only one departure per year. To ensure you can join your adventure of a lifetime we suggest that you book 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.

