NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

ROAD AND CAMPGROUND GUIDE

SPECTACULAR NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

PARKS

NATURALLY SPECTACULAR
Northwest Territories (NWT) Highway Routes

Our highways cover a large area and offer many different routes, each with unique scenery and camping opportunities. The highway routes have been assigned themes that describe their unique characteristics and allow for easier navigation. This guide is organized by routes that take you through each of the five regions of the NWT. For trip ideas, follow one of the eight routes listed.

### Community Services Symbols

- Accommodations
- Restaurant
- Store
- Bank
- Banking Machine
- Visitor Information
- Golf Course

- Medical Services
- Police
- Airport, Scheduled Service
- Gasoline
- Diesel
- Propane
- Automotive Service

### Park Services Symbols

- Campsites
- Power at Campsites
- Washrooms
- Picnic/Day Use Area
- Kitchen Shelter
- Showers
- Drinking Water*
- Dump Station
- Firewood
- Boat Launch
- Fishing
- Interpretive Displays
- Staffed Information
- Trails
- Lookout
- Playground
- Swimming
- Accessibility features

* Drinking water available only, see page 3 for listing of RV water filling stations.

The information contained in this guide is offered to you as a matter of interest, and is believed to be correct and accurate at the time of printing (2017).

Cover Photos:
- Canoe and tent at Cameron Rapids – Doug Walker
- Lady Evelyn Falls with a rainbow – Benji Straker
- Dempster Highway, near Inuvik – W. Weber
- Road to Wrigley – L. Leong

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NATURALLY SPECTACULAR

To truly experience the Northwest Territories (NWT), take your camping gear for a highway driving adventure! Long ribbons of road without traffic jams or urban clutter take you through vast landscapes with unrivalled vistas – scenic boreal forests, breathtaking waterfalls, mountains, plains and valleys. Take your time, explore. Surround yourself with wild beauty and the whispers of history. Immerse yourself in the ancient heritage of our Aboriginal people. Discover the comfort and natural beauty of our well-maintained territorial parks. All along the highway, stopping places beckon: wayside picnic areas, campgrounds, parks, quaint churches, traditional villages, tumbling rapids or roaring waterfalls. You’ll find countless places to camp, fish, view wildlife, canoe, pick berries, take a photo or a hike.

Northwest Territorial Parks (NWT Parks) are owned and operated by the Government of the Northwest Territories and most parks are open from mid-May to mid-September. Most campgrounds are accessible from the highways.

When visiting our parks, please help preserve the natural habitat for future generations.

Welcome to the Northwest Territories! Have a spectacular visit!

ATTENTION!
Visit NWTParks.ca to reserve a campsite online!

OPERATING SEASON

Opening and closing dates vary. Check NWTParks.ca for updates.

Dempster Highway Route parks:
June 1 - September 1

Other parks:
Approximately mid-May to mid-September

Camping Fees*
Tent pads: $15.00 per night
Non-powered sites: $22.50 per night
Powered sites
Fred Henne only: $32.00 per night
All other parks: $28 per night

Note some parks have a maximum stay of 14 days during peak season (June 15 - August 15).
*Fees are subject to a 5% Goods and Services Tax.

Visit NWTParks.ca for more information.

View of Liard River and colourful sky at Blackstone Park
Northern Road Safety

Many highways are paved and gravel roads are well maintained. The NWT has one of Canada’s largest regions of continuous permafrost, which is constantly shifting and settling. This sometimes creates dips and bumps in our roads. It is important to use caution and drive according to road conditions.

Driving Tips

- There are significant distances between gas stations and other services.
- Keep headlights on at all times.
- Red diamond marker highway signs indicate a significant bump on the road.
- Minimize dust and flying stones by staying well behind the vehicle in front of you and reduce your speed when vehicles approaching.
- Watch for construction equipment.
- Carry a spare tire and first aid/emergency road kit.
- Watch wildlife, especially bison on Highways 3, 5 and 7.

Territorial Park RV Water Filling and Dumping Stations

*Location provides both services, unless otherwise noted.

- Blackstone Territorial Park
- Fort Providence Territorial Park
- Fort Simpson Territorial Park (dumping only)
- Fred Henne Territorial Park
- Happy Valley Territorial Park
- Hay River Territorial Park
- Prelude Lake Territorial Park (dumping only)
- Reid Lake Territorial Park (dumping only)
- Queen Elizabeth Territorial Park

Other RV Water Filling and Dumping Stations

- Hay River Visitor Information Centre (corner of McBryan Drive and McKenzie Highway)
- Fort Simpson Visitor Information Centre (9401-100th Street, water filling station only, dumping station at Fort Simpson Territorial Park)
- Yellowknife Water Filling Station (on Old Airport Road, near the corner of Kam Lake Road, across from the Multiplex Arena)

Ferries and Ice Roads

Some highways are intersected by rivers that must be crossed by ferry in the summer and ice road in the winter. The territorial government operates a free ferry service during the months that the rivers are free of ice — roughly, from May to November. When rivers freeze, ice roads replace ferries.

**ATTENTION!**

River road crossings are not possible during periods of ice break-up in the spring and freeze-up in the fall. Please check crossing conditions and hours of operation in advance.

Additional Travel Information

Distances on route entries correspond to markers posted every 2 km along the highways, and are estimates only.

**ATTENTION!**

Cell phone coverage in the NWT is limited to the area immediately surrounding major communities.

A detailed road map – the NWT Explorers’ Map can be obtained at visitor information centres or from NWT Tourism or Tourism and Parks, Government of the Northwest Territories.

Telephone: 1 (800) 661-0788
Email: info@spectacularnwt.com

**ATTENTION!**

For updated information on NWT Ferries and Highways:
www.dot.gov.nt.ca
1-800-661-0750

WWW.NWTPARKS.CA
WATERFALLS ROUTE
(Highway 1)

When crossing the 60th parallel from Alberta into the NWT, Alberta Highway 35 becomes NWT Highway 1 and the beginning of the Waterfalls Route. This route extends from the Alberta/NWT border to Enterprise then continues to Checkpoint at the junction of Highways 1 and 7.

This route features numerous waterfalls, ranging from small and charming to large and spectacular, as well as numerous rivers and lakes.

Territorial campgrounds along this route are located in wilderness settings. Each campground has unique natural features and many offer excellent hiking trails, sandy beaches, thundering waterfalls and great fishing spots.

The following territorial campgrounds are located on this route: the 60th Parallel, Twin Falls Gorge, Lady Evelyn Falls and Sambaa Deh Falls.

Interesting communities to visit along this route are Enterprise, Kakisa and Jean Marie River.

This route is also known as the Mackenzie Highway, where you will see signs that display the symbols of a knife and quill. The knife represents our Aboriginal and trapping heritage. The quill symbolizes our history and its first recording by the famous explorer Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who visited our area over 200 years ago. The Mackenzie Highway was built in 1942 and is named in his honour.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from the NWT/Alberta border.
The 60th Parallel Visitor Information Centre
Kilometre 0 (Mile 0)
Upon entering the NWT from Alberta, the 60th Parallel visitor staff will welcome you. The Visitor Information Centre is open from mid-May to mid-September, with brochures, maps, fishing licences, camping permits, pay phone, drinking water and washrooms. Aboriginal arts and crafts are on display and audio-visual presentations depict the northern way of life. Come in for a visit!

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:
- Ask for a “North of 60 Certificate” to recognize your journey.
- Look for the historic marker that commemorates the completion of the Great Slave Lake Railway.
- Take a photograph of the NWT 60th Parallel sign to share your experience.

W2
Twin Falls Gorge Territorial Park
Kilometre 72 (Mile 44.7)
This beautiful park includes Alexandra Falls, Louise Falls and Escarpment Creek.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:
- View the breathtaking Alexandra and Louise Falls from lookouts.
- Climb the awesome spiral staircase at Louise Falls.
- Stroll the beautiful 2 km/1.2 mile trail that winds along the Hay River Gorge from Alexandra Falls to Louise Falls.
- Learn more about the area from the drum shaped interpretive panels.

W1
60th Parallel Territorial Park
Kilometre 0 (Mile 0)
Adjacent to the 60th Parallel Visitor Information Centre, this park has seven non-powered campsites nestled amongst birch and aspen trees, and a scenic picnic area overlooking the beautiful Hay River.

W2
Alexandra Falls Day Use Area
Kilometre 72 (Mile 44.7)
A dramatically beautiful spot to enjoy a picnic, stroll the boardwalk to Louise Falls or watch Alexandra Falls tumble 32 metres over the Hay River. View the magnificent falls from either of two viewing platforms a short walk away.

Drum signs at Alexandra Falls

K. Trees, GNWT
**W2 Louise Falls Campground**  
Kilometre 74.6 (Mile 46.4)  
Louise Falls offers 28 powered campsites surrounded by jack pines, spectacular flora and 400 million year old limestone formations along the Hay River gorge. A unique 138-step spiral staircase leads you down the embankment to a viewpoint overlooking the three-tiered Louise Falls.

**W2 Escarpment Creek Group Camping Area**  
Kilometre 77.5 (Mile 48.2)  
There are 12 powered campsites well equipped for group camping as well as space for day use activities. An attractive series of small waterfalls adorn this deep gorge of the Hay River. To arrange bookings, contact (867) 875-5565.

**Near Louise Falls**

**Enterprise**  
Kilometre 83.2 (Mile 51.7)  
Located at the junction of Highways 1 and 2, Enterprise (pop. 109) is the first community on the Waterfalls Route and offers a range of services, including a gas station, restaurants, accommodation, a grocery store and an excellent craft store. Visitor information is available at the hamlet office on Robin Road.

**Junction of Highways 1 and 2**  
Kilometre 83.2 (Mile 51.7)  
Keep left on Highway 1 to continue the Waterfalls Route. Highway 2, to the right, leads to Hay River and Fort Resolution (Great Slave Route) and to Fort Smith (Wood Buffalo Route).

**W3 McNallie Creek Territorial Park Day Use Area**  
Kilometre 119.8 (Mile 74.4)  
A small picnic area with a short trail leading to the 17-metre McNallie Creek Falls. At the viewing platform, a plaque explains the origin of the creek's name. Look for the cliff swallows nesting in the ravine walls.
Slave River Lowlands Overview
Kilometre 135 (Mile 83.9)
From here you can see the Slave River lowlands as they roll north and west to the shores of Great Slave Lake. You can also see the only high-rise building in Hay River, which is over 50 km/31.7 miles away.

W4
Lady Evelyn Falls Territorial Park
Kilometre 167.1 (Mile 103.8)
Take the access road to the south off Highway 1 for 6.8 km/4.2 miles to the park.
This park has 23 powered campsites and Lady Evelyn Falls are only a short walk away. These dramatic falls form a giant curtain of water as the Kakisa River spills over a limestone escarpment.
A staircase leads into the gorge at the base of the falls. The Kakisa River is a warm boulder-strewn river with many lovely spots for wading and swimming. The fishing is excellent! Northern pike, pickerel/walleye and Arctic grayling can often be hooked by casting with small spoons into the pools at the base of the falls.

Kakisa
Kilometre 168.5 km (Mile 104.7)
To reach this small Dene community (pop. 40), follow the access road off Highway 1 and travel another 5 km/3 miles past the Lady Evelyn Falls campsite road. This picturesque log village has a convenience store, with groceries, gasoline and a motel.

W5
Kakisa River Territorial Park Day Use Area
Kilometre 168.8 (Mile 105.1)
Take a break to enjoy a picnic or spend the afternoon fishing (in season) along the fast moving Kakisa River. Watch for trophy grayling. Great Slave Lake is home to the current world record Arctic grayling and one of the grayling’s favourite spawning tributaries of Great Slave Lake is the Kakisa River. Hike the trail to Lady Evelyn Falls.

Junction of Highways 1 and 3
Kilometre 187.5 (Mile 116.5)
Continue west on Highway 1 to complete the last portion of the Waterfalls Route. Highway 3 is the beginning of the Frontier Trail, which ends in Yellowknife.

Bouvier Creek
Kilometre 277.4 (Mile 172.5)
In springtime, this creek offers a nice fishing experience, a great scenic point and a good place to look for fossils!
Wallace Creek
Kilometre 289.4 (Mile 179.6)
A pretty rest spot that offers a short 15 minute forest walk north to a small, but sometimes spectacular, waterfall.

Redknife River
Kilometre 295.2 (Mile 183.8)
A favourite fishing spot for pickerel/ walleye or Arctic grayling.

Trout Lake
Kilometre 321.3 (Mile 200.1)
Looking south, you may see evidence of the winter road that leads 126 km/ 78 miles to the Dene community of Trout Lake (pop. 85). There is no road access to the community in the summer, but air charters are available from Fort Simpson and Hay River. The community is known for its traditional lifestyles and big fish. The community-run Sambaa Ke Fishing Lodge offers a rustic fishing experience, with the opportunity to catch lake trout, pickerel/walleye and northern pike.

Sambaa Deh Falls Territorial Park
Kilometre 325 (Mile 245)
The park has 20 non-powered campsites. It is located at the junction of Highway 1 and the Trout River.
The Trout River (Sambaa Deh in the Slavey language) was traditionally an important transportation route for the Aboriginal populations of the area (before and during the fur trade). The falls forced travellers to portage around this dangerous stretch of water.

Hiking trails take you to views of both Sambaa Deh and Coral Falls, with a new viewing platform that overlooks the gorge. Coral Falls is so named due to the numerous coral fossils washed down the river each year.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

- This park has three impressive geographic features:
  - Sambaa Deh Falls, which are readily visible from the bridge that crosses Trout River.
  - Coral Falls, which are approximately 1 1/2 km/ 1 mile upstream.
  - The dramatic gorge running along the north side of the highway about 1/2 km west of the bridge.
- Good fishing for Arctic grayling and pickerel/walleye.
- Fossils can be found throughout this area.
Jean Marie River
Kilometre 375 (Mile 233)

An access road north of Highway 1 leads 27 km/17 miles to the community of Jean Marie River (pop. 71). There is a small community campground here. To book a campsite, contact (867) 809-2000. The community boasts a number of fine artisans, some of whom have great skill in the creation of beautiful crafts using moose hair tufting.

Jean Marie River Bridge
Kilometre 412 (Mile 256)

In spring, paddlers can use this location as a starting point to reach Fort Simpson via the Jean Marie and Mackenzie Rivers.

Checkpoint
Kilometre 413 (Mile 258)

There are NO VISITOR SERVICES here.

Junction of Highways 1 and 7
Continue northwest on Highway 1 to travel the Heritage Route to Fort Simpson and Wrigley. Highway 7, the Liard Trail, leads south to Fort Liard and the Alaska Highway.

ATTENTION!
The nearest location for fuel is Fort Simpson (61 km/38 miles).
If you are taking the Liard Trail, the next available fuel is at Fort Liard (223 km/138 miles).

Checkpoint Bed and Breakfast
Kilometre 413 (mile 258)

Beautifully located next to the Jean Marie River Bridge, they also have spots for RVs and tents, as well as easy fishing access along Jean Marie River in the spring. (867) 695-2953.
chkpoint@ Hughes.net.

ATTENTION!
As water levels drop, Jean Marie River may become impassable. Visit Environment Canada’s hydrometric portal for real-time water level updates for rivers across the north:
https://wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/
HERITAGE ROUTE (Highway 1)

This route extends from Checkpoint northwest to Fort Simpson and then on to Wrigley. You will travel through a beautiful region of forested hills, mountains, and clear lakes and rivers. Outdoor activities are within easy reach - camping, fishing, hiking, canoeing, rafting and viewing nature.

A community campground is also available in Wrigley.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from the NWT/Alberta border.

The Lafferty Ferry - Liard River Crossing
Kilometre 456.4 (Mile 283.6)

This ferry operates daily from 8:00 a.m. until 11:45 p.m. “on demand” from late May through October. In winter, an ice road replaces the ferry.

ATTENTION!

Crossing the river is not possible during spring ice break-up and fall river freeze-up. To check current river crossing conditions:

www.dot.gov.nt.ca
1-800-661-0750

Bank of the Mackenzie River, near Wrigley

ATTENTION!

Access to Nahanni National Park Reserve and Nááts’ıhch’oh National Park Reserve is primarily through air charters, which can be arranged from several communities in the NWT, including Fort Simpson, Fort Liard and Yellowknife. Visit the National Park office for more information or http://www.pc.gc.ca.

Junction of Highway 1 and Fort Simpson Access
Kilometre 471.3 (Mile 292.9)

Highway 1 turns left to take you northwest to the community of Wrigley. Continuing straight will take you to the main portion of the village of Fort Simpson.

Fort Simpson
Kilometre 471.3 (Mile 292.9)

Fort Simpson (pop. 1,264) is located at the confluence of the Mackenzie and Liard Rivers, and is the largest community in this region and the oldest former trading post on the Mackenzie River. It is the primary location from which to access the Nahanni National Park Reserve and Nááts’ıhch’oh National Park Reserve of Canada, where the park has its main office.
Fort Simpson has a nine-hole golf course, a 32-site territorial campground and a very nice Visitor Information Centre, with a wealth of displays and historical information. Local arts and crafts shops feature traditional Dene artwork.

Historically, this area was a primary meeting place for Aboriginal groups prior to contact with European-based traders, explorers and settlers. During the fur trading years, this area was an important location for the Northwest Trading Company (subsequently the Hudson’s Bay Company). The “Fort of the Forks” was established and was later renamed Fort Simpson after the first governor of the Hudson’s Bay Company.

The Mackenzie River was named after Alexander Mackenzie, who was an explorer seeking a route west to expand the fur trade. As it turned out, the Mackenzie River took him north rather than west and opened up a different world to the traders.

**OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

- A great location for bird-watching and listening to a frog’s chorus! Many different species of birds have been documented in this area and many use the “Snye” as a nesting area. The Snye is a shallow wetland ecosystem located between the main portion of the community and the southern shoreline of the river. Many species of migratory waterfowl may be seen in season, including tundra swans and snow geese.

**OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

- Ask about an Historical Walking Tour at the Visitor Information Centre.
- “Open Sky Festival” is an annual arts/music festival generally held the first weekend in July.
- Arrange an air charter to Nahanni National Park.

**Mackenzie River, near Fort Simpson**

[Teepee frame at Fort Simpson Papal Site]

[Image -1x0 to 378x594]
Fort Simpson Territorial Park
Kilometre 474 (Mile 294.5)
Located at the entrance to Fort Simpson, and at the confluence of the Mackenzie and Liard Rivers, this park has 21 powered sites, and 11 non-powered sites. Services and attractions in the town are within walking distance, including the Papal Site, where Saint John Paul II visited in 1987.

Junction of Highway 1 and Fort Simpson access
Kilometre 471.3 (Mile 292.9)
To complete the Heritage Route, head northwest 220.5 km/137 miles to Wrigley.

Martin River
Kilometre 489.9 (Mile 304.4)
The one-lane bridge at this location should be taken with great care and reduced speed. Local people often fish here when the pickerel/walleye or Arctic grayling are active.

Shale Creek
Kilometre 529.5 (Mile 329)
This small creek contains a one-lane bridge crossing that requires caution and reduced speed.

The Johnny Berens Ferry - Nduleh Crossing
Kilometre 550.5 (Mile 342.1)
The ferry operates “on demand” from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. from late May through October.

ATTENTION!
This river crossing is subject to extreme high and low water level fluctuations, which may cause delays. Crossing the river is not possible during spring ice break-up and fall river freeze-up.
Check the current river crossing conditions: www.dot.gov.nt.ca 1-800-661-0750

Road to Wrigley

Fort Simpson Park entrance
Willowlake River
Kilometre 625 (Mile 388.4)
The Willowlake River winds its way from the Horn Plateau in the east to the Mackenzie River. This river was historically used by the Aboriginal groups from the east to bring furs to Fort Alexander, which was located near here. The furs and supplies were then traded and goods transported to market via the Mackenzie River.

Mackenzie Valley Viewpoint
Kilometre 631 (Mile 392.2)
Great view to the south of the Mackenzie Valley and River, meeting with the Willowlake River. Looking west across the Mackenzie River and several large islands, you can see the Mackenzie Mountains beyond. Looking east you can see the beginnings of the McConnell Mountain Range, which turns into the Franklin Mountain Range a little further north.

River Between Two Mountains
Kilometre 652.9 (Mile 405.7)
This river cuts a channel through the McConnell Range in the east, on its way to the Mackenzie River. The river has substantial cultural and historical significance to the Aboriginal groups in the area.

Wrigley
Kilometre 690 (Mile 428.7)
Wrigley (pop. 170) is the northernmost all-season access point along the Heritage Route/Highway 1. This picturesque community overlooks the Mackenzie River, with the Franklin Mountains in the distance. Most of the Dene people in Wrigley live in log homes and carry on their traditional livelihoods of hunting, fishing and trapping. In the winter, the community provides a stop-over for vehicles driving further north on the winter roads to the communities of Tulita, Deline, Norman Wells, Fort Good Hope and Colville Lake.

DID YOU KNOW?
Water is trucked into most of our parks – please use wisely.
LIARD TRAIL ROUTE
(Highway 7)

This route starts at the NWT/British Columbia (BC) border and takes you northeast, following the scenic river valley through Fort Liard to Checkpoint. It features inspiring views of the Liard River and the Nahanni Mountains, especially at Blackstone Territorial Park, the only territorial park on this route.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from the NWT/BC border.

Fort Liard
Kilometre 37.6 (Mile 23.4)

This small community (pop. 591) is located 6.4 km/4 miles west of the Liard Highway, at the confluence of the Liard and Petitot Rivers. The view of the rivers and mountains from the access road and the community is well worth the short side trip.

Fort Liard is considered “the tropics of the north” as it often has the warmest weather and best growing conditions in the Northwest Territories. This is one of the oldest continuously settled areas in the north.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

- Home of Acho Dene, renowned for their birch bark and porcupine quill artistry.
- Visit the Visitor Information Centre and arts and craft store, which includes 15 flavours of ice cream!

NWT/BC Border
Kilometre 0 (Mile 0)

Be sure to check out the welcome signs!

Muskeg River
Kilometre 46.6 (Mile 29)

You will find a turnout with interpretive signage at north end. This is a good fishing spot for pike, pickerel/walleye and freshwater clams. Frequently, this area is used as a swimming hole by local residents.
Hay Lakes Municipal Campground
Kilometre 47 (Mile 29)
This municipal campground is located about 4 km/2.5 miles along the access road to Fort Liard. Situated next to a small lake, it has a kitchen shelter and several campsites.

Liard Valley Viewpoint
Kilometre 77 (Mile 47.8)
This rest stop provides a picturesque view of the Liard Valley and the mountains in the Liard Range.

Netla River
Kilometre 115.9 (Mile 72.0)
This area provides an important waterfowl breeding habitat. Gorgeous views of the mountains on the opposite side of the Liard River.

Nahanni Butte
Kilometre 138.9 (Mile 86.3)
Looking west you will see the location of the winter ice road that leads 22.3 km/13.8 miles to Nahanni Butte (pop. 116). This small Dene community, at the confluence of the South Nahanni and Liard Rivers, is accessible in summer by boat, floatplane or wheeled plane. Contact the Nahanni Butte Dene Band to arrange a boat taxi (867) 602-2900.

Nahanni National Park Reserve
Nahanni National Park Reserve, established in 1976, protects a portion of the Mackenzie Mountains Natural Region. The centerpiece of the Park is the South Nahanni River. Four noteworthy canyons, reaching 1,000 metres in depth, line this spectacular river. At Virginia Falls, the river drops an incredible 90 metres, nearly double the vertical drop of Niagara Falls. The South Nahanni region offers spectacular hiking opportunities, mostly by boat from the river corridor. The majority of visitors travel to the Park by chartered float plane via Fort Simpson or Yellowknife.
Blackstone River and Upper Blackstone River Day Use Area  
Kilometre 145.9 (Mile 90.7)  
There is a small picnic area between the two bridges.

LT1  
Blackstone Territorial Park  
Kilometre 150.3 (Mile 93.4)  
This park has 19 non-powered campsites in a spectacular setting rich in historical significance, alive with abundant wildlife and framed by stunning mountain views. The fast flowing Liard River, and its proximity to the South Nahanni and Blackstone Rivers, makes this an excellent start or end point for canoeists, boaters or anglers. The visitor information building, built with local logs, is open from mid-May to mid-September.

Lindberg Landing  
Kilometre 154 (Mile 95.7)  
A road leads west to the small homestead of Lindberg Landing on the shore of the Liard River. This location has for many years been used as a landing site for travellers on the South Nahanni and Liard Rivers. Rustic cabins and guest houses are available. Reservations are requested. Please email: lindberglanding@hotmail.ca.

Poplar River  
Kilometre 219.7 (Mile 136.5)  
Good Arctic grayling and pike fishing.
GREAT SLAVE ROUTE (Highways 2, 5 and 6)

At Enterprise, take Highway 2 to begin the Great Slave Route. This interesting drive takes you to two communities located along the southern shores of Great Slave Lake - Hay River and Fort Resolution.

There are two campgrounds located along this route: Hay River Territorial Park and Little Buffalo River Crossing Territorial Park.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from Enterprise.

Paradise Gardens
Kilometre 14 (Mile 8)

This is the largest market gardening area in the NWT. Here, rich soil has built up along the banks of the Hay River and long summer days make for good wheat, vegetable and raspberry growing.

Hay River Golf Course
Kilometre 25.3 (Mile 15.7)

A scenic nine-hole golf course, with artificial greens, sprawled along the Hay River. The clubhouse serves meals and drinks. Licensed facility. Visitors are welcome.

Hay River
Kilometre 38 (Mile 23.6)

Located on Great Slave Lake, the community of Hay River (pop. 3,725) began as a mission and fur trade centre in 1858. Water, road and rail transportation links have made Hay River “the hub of the north”. The Great Slave Lake Railway ends here. Mackenzie River and Arctic Coast freight barging begins where the Hay River meets Great Slave Lake.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

- Hay River is the largest shipping centre in the north.
- The town has the look and feel of a seaport, with its tugs, barges and commercial fishing operations.
- Get your fishing license and experience some great fishing.
- Opportunity to visit several arts and crafts shops.
- Visit the Fisherman’s Wharf, every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the summer.
Great Slave Lake

**GS1**

**Hay River Territorial Park**

Kilometre 46 (Mile 28.6)

Located on Vale Island right in the community of Hay River (follow signs, it's about 10 km/6 miles past the information centre), the campground has 33 powered campsites, with nearby wilderness and modern amenities. Group camping sites are available. This park offers fantastic swimming on the sandy shores of Great Slave Lake, unique viewing of barges and fishing vessels plying the waters, and great opportunities to fish for northern pike.

**OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

Great Slave Lake is:
- A remnant of an enormous inland sea scoured out of the Canadian Shield by glaciers during the last Ice Age.
- The second largest lake wholly within Canada, with an area of 28,438 km²/10,980 miles².
- The deepest lake in North America at 616 metres/2,027 feet deep.

**Junction of Highways 2 and 5**

Kilometre 32.0 (Mile 19.9)

When leaving Hay River, turn east onto Highway 5 to reach Fort Resolution and Fort Smith. Continue south on Highway 2 to return to Enterprise.

**ATTENTION!**

There are no services between Hay River and Fort Resolution (156 km/96.9 miles) or Fort Smith (268 km/167 miles).

**Dene Cultural Institute, Hay River Reserve**

**The Hay River Reserve**

Kilometre 34.3 (Mile 21.3)

Located on the east bank of the Hay River, 2.2 km off Highway 5.

**OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

- Nineteenth century mission building; designated as a National Historic site.
- The Dene Cultural Institute has a unique building, with a craft shop, open Monday to Friday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
**Junction of Highways 5 and 6 (Buffalo Junction)**

Kilometre 61 (Mile 37.9)

Continue east on Highway 6 to Fort Resolution to complete the last portion of the Great Slave Route. Highway 5 to the south is the start of the Wood Buffalo Route, which ends in Fort Smith.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from junction of Highway 5 and 6.

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**GS2**

**Little Buffalo River Crossing Territorial Park**

Kilometre 67.3 (Mile 41.8)

Here you will find 20 non-powered sites on the shores of Little Buffalo River and minutes away from Great Slave Lake. A pleasant stopping point for fishing, boating and picnicking, or as a base to explore nearby Fort Resolution.

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**Fort Resolution**

Kilometre 90 (Mile 55.9)

First located at the mouth of the Slave River, Fort Resolution (pop. 510) was moved to its present location in 1796. The first settlers were Cree-Metis. By 1852, Oblate priests had arrived to establish a mission and school. Treaty 8, with the Chipewyan, was signed here in 1900. Fort Resolution was a major medical and educational centre until the 1950s. For a taste of northern history and insight into the Dene way of life, Fort Resolution is an excellent destination.

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**OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

- Fort Resolution is the oldest, continuously occupied modern settlement in the NWT.
- Information on walking tours of the town and boat trips to the original settlement are available at the Community Council Office.

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**Church at Fort Resolution**

**Sandhill Crane**
WOOD BUFFALO ROUTE
(Highway 5)

The Wood Buffalo Route takes you to the community of Fort Smith (pop. 2,496) and Wood Buffalo National Park, the largest National Park in North America.

Of special interest along this route are the golf course in Fort Smith, the salt plains and bison in Wood Buffalo National Park, white water rafting and kayaking on the Slave River, and pelicans at the Slave River rapids!

There are two campgrounds on this route: Little Buffalo River Falls and Queen Elizabeth Territorial Park, near Fort Smith.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from the junction of Highway 2 and 5.

**Wood Buffalo National Park**

Kilometre 97.6 (Mile 61.0)

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, this 44,800 km²/17,300 mi² park is the largest national park in North America. Established in 1922, the park protects one of the last remaining free-roaming herds of wood bison (approximately 3,500) in the world. There are other park attractions, including the last remaining natural nesting ground of the endangered Whooping Crane, the biologically rich Peace-Athabasca River Delta, extensive salt plains that are unique in Canada, and some of the finest examples of gypsum karst topography in North America. Stop at the Wood Buffalo Visitor Information Centre in Fort Smith to learn more about the park through interpretive displays.

**Angus Fire Tower**

Kilometre 107 (Mile 66.9)

Angus Tower features a giant sinkhole, evidence of the unique karst topography of this area.
Nyarling River Pull Off
Kilometre 120.8 (mile 75.0)
This pull off features interpretive displays describing the unique geology of the Nyarling River and where the river begins travelling underground.

Wetlands Pull Off
Kilometre 201.4 (mile 125.9)
Follow a short interpretive trail down to a peaceful area overlooking habitat similar to that of the whooping crane nesting area.

Wood Buffalo National Park Boundary
Kilometre 212.2 (mile 132.6)

WB1
Little Buffalo River Falls
Territorial Park
Kilometre 214.6 (Mile 133.6)
Here you will find six non-powered sites in a uniquely picturesque spot. The area was devastated by a forest fire in 1981, but re-growth has been swift. Now, the area is an ideal spot to observe and learn how nature revives and replenishes the land. Relax by a small waterfall or launch your canoe in the gorge below.

Salt Plains Overlook Access
Kilometre 230 (Mile 143.8)
A 13 km/8 mile road takes you to an amazing panoramic view of the salt plains. For a close-up view, take the hiking trail down. There is an interpretive exhibit, a viewing telescope, picnic area and outhouses.
Fort Smith Visitor Centre and Wood Buffalo National Park Office
Kilometre 264 (mile 165)

Fort Smith
Kilometre 266 (Mile 165.3)

Fort Smith (pop. 2,430) was once the political capital of the Northwest Territories. On the NWT/Alberta border, it is the southernmost community in the NWT and is now known as "The Garden Capital of the North". Situated on the shore of the Slave River, on the original portage route around the Slave River Rapids, the town began as a fur trading post (Hudson’s Bay Company) in 1874, but fur traders travelling down the Mackenzie River had been using the area as a stopover for more than a century.

There are several recreation facilities, including a golf course, a swimming pool, tennis courts and a recreation complex. The Fort Smith Visitor Reception Centre is located at Wood Buffalo National Park, headquarters at 149 McDougal Road.

Loon, near Fort Smith

Pelican, Slave River Rapids, Fort Smith

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

- The Northern Life Museum has extensive galleries depicting the traditional lifestyle and activities of First Nations and Metis people.
- The Slave River’s four major rapids – Cassette, Pelican, Mountain and Rapids of the Drowned – produce some of the biggest and best whitewater in the world.

Fort Smith Mission Territorial Park Day Use Area

Fort Smith Mission Heritage Park is all that remains of the original 151 acre Oblate Catholic Mission Church, in what is now the center of the town. The park provides an extensive self-guided tour of the site, with sign boards describing various aspects of the history and activities of the mission.
FRONTIER TRAIL
ROUTE
(Highway 3)

Driving north on Highway 3, the Frontiers Trail will take you through rolling, polished Precambrian rock, dotted with thousands of clear lakes and rivers.

The Frontier Trail Route is paved all the way to Yellowknife.

Interesting communities to visit along this route are Fort Providence, Rae, Edzo, N’dilo and Yellowknife. Yellowknife, the capital of the Northwest Territories, is located on the north shore of Great Slave Lake and offers all the amenities of a southern city.

Territorial campgrounds along this route are located at Fort Providence and at Fred Henne Park in Yellowknife.

ATTENTION!

Watch for bison on and beside the highway along this route.

Drive with caution.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from junction of Highways 1 and 3.

F1
Dory Point Territorial Park
Day Use Area
Kilometre 21.2 (Mile 13.2)

Located a short way from the Deh Cho Bridge, on the south bank of the mighty Mackenzie River, which is flowing out of Great Slave Lake.

The Deh Cho Bridge - Mackenzie River Crossing
Kilometre 23.6 (Mile 14.7)

Officially opened on November 30, 2012, this 1.045 km/0.65 mile bridge crosses the Mackenzie River near the community of Fort Providence.

The Deh Cho Bridge provides visitors and northern residents travelling this stretch of highway with a safe, reliable all-weather road, available 24 hours per day, 365 days of the year. Previously, this road was crossed by a ferry or an ice road during freeze up.

There are no tolls on the bridge for passenger vehicles.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

- A gas station, restaurant and an arts and crafts store is located a few minutes after crossing the Deh Cho Bridge, just before the turn off to Fort Providence.
The Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary
Kilometre 25.6 (Mile 15.9)
For the next 80 km/50 miles or so, the area of land from the highway east to Great Slave Lake is set aside for free-roaming wood bison. The bison often roam on and around the highway. Keep a lookout and use caution if bison are on the road.

A collision with an animal can be fatal to both parties. Treat these animals with respect. They may look slow and docile, but can move with amazing speed and aggression. Keep your distance.

F2
Fort Providence Territorial Park
Kilometre 33.4 (Mile 20.7)
There are 33 powered campsites and 11 non-powered day use sites situated on the north bank of the Mackenzie River, only a 2 km/1.2 miles drive off Highway 1. Enjoy spectacular sunsets, great fishing and bird watching, and the amenities and attractions of nearby historic Fort Providence.

Campfire in Fort Providence campground

Fort Providence
Kilometre 36.4 (Mile 22.6)
This community is 5 km/3 miles down an access road west of Highway 3. Fort Providence (pop. 748) is a scenic and historic community located on the banks of the Mackenzie River. A Roman Catholic Mission was established in 1861 and Our Lady of Fort Providence church is a major landmark. An excellent craft shop features moose hair tufting, a local specialty.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:
- Long history as a trading post and a mission to the Dene people.
- Mission priests once farmed extensively here.
- West of town are two historical cairns: one commemorating Sir Alexander Mackenzie’s 1789 voyage, the other acknowledging the contribution of the Grey Nuns to the community.

ATTENTION!
There are no services along Highway 3 for another 224 km/139 miles, so if you are going to Yellowknife, gas up!
F3
Chan Lake Territorial Park
Day Use Area
Kilometre 123.8 (Mile 77)

A picturesque spot for a picnic, located at the northern end of the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary. Wildlife abounds: Watch for bison on the road, sandhill cranes in the vegetation on the road side and waterfowl on Chan Lake.

Mosquito Creek
Kilometre 227.3 (Mile 141.2)

No visitor facilities, but a turn off leads to a trail going down the creek. Good pickerel/walleye fishing, but fishing is closed May 1 to June 30 for conservation.

Access to Edzo
Kilometre 239 (Mile 148.5)
Turn off to the hamlet of Edzo (pop. 500). No services.

Rae
Kilometre 245 (Mile 152.2)

The community of Rae (pop. 1,500) is 11 km/7 miles west of the highway. The two hamlets of Rae and Edzo, (24 km/15 miles apart), make up the Community Government of Behchoko. Together they have the territories’ largest Dene population. Rae, where most of the community resides, is an old Dene hunting spot and was the site of two early trading posts.

F4
North Arm Territorial Park
Day Use Area
Kilometre 232 (Mile 144.2)

Stop here for a great view of Great Slave Lake. Be sure to look around you – the scenery abruptly changes from the rocky Canadian Shield to Mackenzie Lowlands and is a haven for waterfowl.
Yellowknife Golf Club
Kilometre 334 (Mile 207.5)
Yellowknife Golf Club is just off the highway to the north and is an 18-hole golf course, with sand fairways, artificial greens, pro shop and licensed clubhouse. It is home to the famous June 21 Midnight Sun Golf Tournament.

Continuing along the highway to Yellowknife, after passing a sandy area on the right, you will notice several buildings at the end of the airport runway. These are diamond sorting plants. To the left is the Folk on the Rocks site, a popular summer music festival usually held the third weekend in July.

Yellowknife Airport
Kilometre 335.6 (Mile 208.5)
The Yellowknife Airport is situated on the right side of the road across from Long Lake.

F5
Fred Henne Territorial Park
Day Use Area
Kilometre 336 (Mile 208.8)
A roadside turn-out to the north provides access to this popular recreational area on the shores of Long Lake. Here you will find picnic sites, a boat launch, kitchen shelters, a sandy beach, a playground and change houses. Being one of the smaller lakes, Long Lake warms up enough in the summer to make it a favourite place for water activities, including swimming, boating, tubing, water skiing, windsailing and jet skiing.

Aurora outside of Yellowknife

Aerial view of City of Yellowknife
Junction of Highway 3 and Old Airport Road
Kilometre 336.7 (Mile 209.2)
Turn right onto Old Airport Road to reach Yellowknife via the commercial area. Continue left on Highway 3 a short distance to reach Fred Henne Territorial Park access on the left. Continue past the park to reach downtown Yellowknife.

F5
Fred Henne Territorial Park
Kilometre 337 (Mile 209.4)

Something for everyone: Choose from 89 powered sites, 29 non-powered sites and 19 tent pads. Swim off Long Lake’s sandy beach, hike the 4 km/2.5 mile Prospector’s Trail, camp, picnic, canoe, wakeboard or enjoy the amenities and attractions of Yellowknife, located just 3 km/ 1.8 mile away. This park provides urban convenience in a wilderness setting.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:
- There is an excellent 4 km/2.5 mile hiking trail that starts just to the left of the shower building. This Prospector’s Trail will take you around several fascinating geological features. Self-guide booklets are available at the gatehouse or at the Northern Frontier Visitors’ Centre.

Junction of Highways 3 and 4
Kilometre 337.3 (Mile 209.6)
Continue on Highway 3 to reach Yellowknife, turn left to visit territorial parks on the Ingraham trail.

Yellowknife
Kilometre 338.8 (Mile 210.5)

Yellowknife (pop. 20,637) is a modern city, with shopping facilities and all the services you would expect to find in larger southern communities. Located on the shores of the beautiful Great Slave Lake, Yellowknife is an unusual blend of many southern and northern cultures. It is a city of contrasts, with modern high-rise towers overlooking the rustic heritage buildings of Old Town. Yellowknife is a modern city that still acts like a small town and this gives the city its unique flavour.

There is easy access to fishing, canoeing, hiking, camping, golfing and nature viewing. Annual summer events include an arts festival, folk music festival and golf tournaments. The city also features many parks and playgrounds, a racquet club, curling rink, pool, movie theatre and golf course. Many well-established outfitters and interesting lodges are headquartered or serviced out of Yellowknife. Tour packages for all tastes, including fishing, sailing or canoeing, are easy to arrange.
OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

- Visit the many cultural and historical displays at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre museum.
- Take an informative tour of the Legislative Assembly Building.
- Visit the Northern Frontier Visitors’ Centre for their mining displays and local information.
- See a local play or an internationally known singer at the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre.
- Visit nearby Aboriginal communities of Rae, Edzo, N’Dilo and Detah.
- Many restaurants serve northern foods such as caribou, muskox and Arctic char.
- Visit the local farmers market on Tuesdays from early June to mid-September.
- Experience the historic Wild Cat Café in Old Town Yellowknife.
INGRAHAM TRAIL ROUTE
(Highway 4)

The Ingraham Trail Route begins in Yellowknife and extends 70 km/43.5 miles to Tibbitt Lake. Lakes, campgrounds, picnic sites and boat launches dot this highway. A beautiful drive, the Ingraham Trail Route winds through Precambrian landscape, with scenic vistas of lakes, forest and ancient rock. A variety of outdoor recreation opportunities are available, including hiking trails, canoeing, boating, swimming, fishing and bird watching.

This route is paved to the Prelude Lake Territorial Park access. Camping facilities are available at Prelude Lake and Reid Lake Territorial parks.

Kilometres/miles reflect distances from junction of Highways 3 and 4, just north of Yellowknife.

IT1
Yellowknife River Territorial Park Day Use Area
Kilometre 7.7 (Mile 4.8)

This day use park is the first of nine parks along the Ingraham Trail Route. Located on the Yellowknife River, the park is a perfect place to enjoy a picnic or fishing. For the more adventurous, boat up the river and into the string of lakes it connects to, or downstream into Back Bay and Yellowknife Bay on Great Slave Lake.

Access to Dettah
Kilometre 9.8 (Mile 6.1)

An access road leads 11 km/7 miles to the small Dene community of Dettah.

IT2
Prosperous Lake Territorial Park Day Use Area
Kilometre 19.7 (Mile 12.2)

While the park is primarily a boat launch, don’t be deceived by the apparent size of Prosperous Lake as seen from the shores – most of it is just out of sight and ready to be explored. Fish for monstrous lake trout or launch your canoe down river to the Tartan Rapids on the Yellowknife River.
IT3
Madeline Lake Territorial Park Day Use Area
Kilometre 24 (Mile 14.9)
A small park primarily used as a launching point for canoeists, boaters and anglers.

View of Madeline Lake

IT4
Pontoon Lake Territorial Park Day Use Area
Kilometre 26.4 (Mile 16.4)
A scenic little peninsula jutting into Pontoon Lake, this is a perfect spot to fish, picnic or soak up the midnight sun on the granite rocks framing the shore. Short trails allow you to get different views of the lake and watch for wildlife.

Pontoon Lake panoramic trail

IT5
Prelude Lake Territorial Park
Kilometre 28 (Mile 17.4)
Prelude Lake is a water lover’s dream. The largest developed park on the Ingraham Trail, it has numerous facilities to enjoy and 64 campites to choose from (52 non-powered and 12 tent pads). There is a sandy beach where you can enjoy a wide range of water activities: swimming, canoeing, windsurfing and water skiing. The park’s trail system offers a short stroll to a panoramic view or a longer, interpretive hike.

IT6
Hidden Lake Territorial Park
3,000 hectares of beauty and adventure. Hidden Lake is an undeveloped, water-based park. Back country camping is permitted; however, there are no facilities provided. Access is a series of rivers and lakes linked by short portages. Two day use areas (Powder Point and Cameron Falls), service the park and have picnicking and other facilities.
**IT7**

**Powder Point Territorial Park Day Use Area**

Kilometre 44 (Mile 27.3)

Powder Point is the main access into Hidden Lake Territorial Park’s pristine wilderness. Enjoy the day fishing or picnicking at the day use area, or launch your canoe for back country adventure. Interpretive panels provide information on the park beyond visible shores.

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**IT9**

**Cameron River Crossing Territorial Park Day Use Area**

Kilometre 54.5 (Mile 33.9)

Picnic on the sandy shores of the Cameron River or walk the short trail to the Ramparts waterfall for picture taking and wildlife watching. The base of the falls, easily reached by the trail, is the ideal spot to soak up the sun or dip a toe into the water.

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**IT8**

**Cameron River Falls Day Use Area/Hiking Trail Access**

Kilometre 45.8 (28.4)

Located in Hidden Lake Territorial Park, this day use area provides access to a 1 km/0.6 mile trail – a moderately easy 20-minute walk – leading up and over rocky outcrops and in and out of valleys. Hikers are rewarded by a spectacular view of Cameron Falls. Benches overlooking the waterfall provide a scenic picnic or rest spot. For the more adventurous, follow the trail upstream to a pedestrian bridge crossing the river.

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**IT10**

**Reid Lake Territorial Park**

Kilometre 59 (Mile 36.7)

With 65 non-powered campsites and 11 tent pads, fishing, swimming, canoeing, hiking, bird watching and wildlife viewing, this is a great place to camp and enjoy the outdoors. It is also an excellent base camp for power boating or extended canoe trips into the surrounding lake systems.

**Tibbitt Lake**

Kilometre 69.2 (Mile 43.0)

This is the end of the Ingraham Trail and there are no facilities here. You may see signs that indicate the beginning of the ice roads that are used in the winter to service the diamond mines.
DEMPSTER HIGHWAY (Highway 8)

The Dempster Highway begins 40 km/25 miles east of Dawson City in the Yukon and ends in Inuvik in the Northwest Territories. It stretches 740 km/460 miles through three mountain ranges and three ecological areas, providing the opportunity to view wildlife and enjoy some of the most beautiful wilderness scenery in the world.

Completed in 1978, the Dempster is the only public highway in Canada to cross the Arctic Circle. It was named for Sgt. W.J.D. Dempster of the Northwest Mounted Police who, in the winter of 1910-11, was sent to search for the “Lost Patrol”. Construction started under Canada’s “Roads to Resources” program in the late 1950s, but only 117 km/72.7 miles were completed at that time. In the 1970s, work began again as an overland supply route to Inuvik was needed to serve the large-scale oil exploration taking place in the Beaufort Sea. Since then, visitors from around the world have discovered the phenomenal beauty of this highway and make this journey a major focus of their vacation.

Information about the route is available at the Dempster Delta Visitor Information Centre on Front Street in Dawson City. Check here for current highway conditions as it is a long way between service centres. There is also an interpretive display about the highway at the junction of the Klondike Highway and the Dempster Highway.

The NWT portion of this route will take you through the communities of Fort McPherson, Tsiigehtchic and Inuvik. There are several territorial campgrounds, viewpoints, picnic sites and fishing spots along the way.

Northwest Territories’ campgrounds along the Dempster are Nitainlaii, Vadzaih Van Tshik and Gwich’in. Jak and Happy Valley, located in Inuvik, which can easily accommodate RVs.

Under construction is the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway, estimated to be completed by 2018. The new 137 km driving experience will provide visitors with the opportunity to drive all the way to Canada’s Arctic Coast and Tuktoyaktuk year round, experience the northern tree-line and get up close to the Pingo Canadian Landmark.
Gasoline, diesel and propane services are available at Fort McPherson and Inuvik in the NWT and Eagle Plains in the Yukon.

The highway ends at Inuvik, but from December to April, depending on the weather, ice roads connect Inuvik to Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk. Attractions of interest in these communities include “Mad Trapper” Albert Johnson’s grave in Aklavik and pingos around Tuktoyaktuk.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from the beginning of the Dempster Highway in the Yukon, at the junction of Highway 2 (Klondike Highway) and Highway 5 (Dempster Highway).

When crossing into the NWT, The Dempster becomes NWT Highway 8.

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Tombstone Mountain Campground
Kilometre 72 (Mile 45)
30 campsites.

Viewpoint of Tombstone Mountain
Kilometre 75 (Mile 47)

North Fork Pass
Kilometre 82 (Mile 51)
The Dempster Highway’s highest elevation at 1,298 metres/4,229 feet.

Commemorative Plaque
Kilometre 117 (Mile 72)
The Royal Northwest Mounted Police trekked this country on their month-long patrols from Dawson to Aklavik. This plaque commemorates the role of Sgt. W.J.B. Dempster.

Engineer Creek Campground
Kilometre 194 (Mile 120)
Yukon Government campground offering 15 campsites, kitchen shelter, water, toilets and other amenities.
Ogilvie River Bridge  
Kilometre 223 (Mile 141)  
The Dempster Highway leaves the river valley at Kilometre 242 (Mile 150) and begins to climb again some 915 metres/3,000 feet into the continental divide and through the rolling Eagle Plains.

Ogilvie-Peel Viewpoint  
Kilometre 259 (Mile 161)  

“Drunken Forest”  
Kilometre 281 (Mile 174)  
Permafrost action has heaved the ground under a patch of jack pine and black spruce.

Eagle Plains Hotel and RV Campground  
Kilometre 369 (Mile 229)  
This marks the halfway point to Inuvik. The highway lodge is open year-round, offers a licensed restaurant and lounge, full-service garage, RV park and campground – 15 sites.

Arctic Circle  
Kilometre 405 (Mile 252)  
Just beyond Eagle Plains, the highway crosses the Arctic Circle where there are 24-hours of daylight for six weeks during summer. Make sure you take your picture at the signpost!

Rock River Campground  
Kilometre 447 (Mile 277)  
17 campsites offer sheltered protection within a steep gorge of the Richardson Mountains.

Yukon/NWT Border Crossing  
Kilometre 465 (Mile 289)  
Here you will find a rest stop and interpretive display. The Dempster Highway crosses the continental divide a third time as it winds through the Richardson Mountains.

Kilometres/miles reflect distance from the NWT/Yukon Border.
James Creek Highway Camp
Kilometre 14.4 (Mile 8.9)
No services, but good grayling fishing.

Midway Lake
Kilometre 43.9 (Mile 27.3)
Site of the annual Midway Lake music festival held on the August long weekend.

Wright Pass Summit
Kilometre 66.5 (Mile 43)
The last high point on the highway before it descends to the Peel River.

D1
Tetlit Gwinjik Day Use Area
Kilometre 71 (Mile 44.1)
Nestled on the north-facing slope of the Peel River Plateau, this interpretive lookout gives a sweeping view that encompasses the Richardson Mountains, the Mackenzie Delta and the community of Fort McPherson on the banks of the Peel River.

The Abraham Francis Ferry - Peel River Crossing
Kilometre 74.2 (Mile 46.1)
Operating hours are 9:15 a.m. to 12:45 a.m. from early June to mid-October, and operates based on demand.
In winter, an ice road replaces the ferry during freeze-up.

ATTENTION!
Crossing the river is not possible during spring ice break-up and fall river freeze-up. Check current river crossing conditions:
www.dot.gov.nt.ca
1-800-661-0750

D2
Nitainlaii Territorial Park
Kilometre 75.9 (Mile 47.2)
There are 23 non-powered sites perched on a cliff overlooking the Peel River, and surrounded by stands of white birch and white spruce trees. This is an ideal place to unwind for a few nights on the long journey up or down the Dempster. Spend time in the visitor centre for a fascinating glimpse of the life of the Gwich’in people, past and present.
Fort McPherson
Kilometre 85.4 (Mile 53.1)

Fort McPherson (pop. 791) is a picturesque community located on a rolling plateau between the Richardson Mountains and the Mackenzie River Delta. For years the community was only accessible by air or water and was seldom visited by tourists. This changed in 1979 with the completion of the Dempster Highway. Today, Fort McPherson sits on the edge of the highway, and is a popular stopping place for travellers heading for the end of the road.

- Visit the Fort McPherson Tent and Canvas Company, world famous for their prospector tents, tepees and sturdy duffel bags.
- Visit the graves of the Lost Patrol of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police.

Frog Creek
Kilometre 122.4 (Mile 76.1)

There is a picnic site, with good pike and Arctic grayling fishing.

The Louis Cardinal Ferry - Mackenzie River and Arctic Red River Crossing
Kilometre 142.6 (Mile 88.6)

The ferry operates from 9:30 a.m. to 12:45 a.m. "on demand", from early June to late October. This ferry travels across the Mackenzie River and also provides access to Tsiigehtchic. You need to let the ferry personnel know that you want to go there.

In winter, an ice road replaces the ferry.

**ATTENTION!**

Crossing the river is not possible during spring ice break-up and fall river freeze-up.

Check current river crossing conditions: www.dot.gov.nt.ca 1-800-661-0750

Fishing under the midnight sun
Tsiigehtchic
Kilometre 142.6 (Mile 88.6)

Tsiigehtchic (Arctic Red River) is a small community (pop. 177) located in a picturesque setting, at the confluence of the Arctic Red and Mackenzie Rivers. Tsiigehtchic, means “mouth of iron river”. Most of the Gwichya Gwich’in inhabitants still follow a traditional lifestyle of hunting, fishing and trapping.

Gwich’ in Territorial Park
Kilometre 277 (Mile 172.1)

The Dempster Highway serves as a boundary for the 8,800 hectare park and connects visitors to two campgrounds, two day use areas and a scenic lookout. The park is home to a number of natural heritage wonders of the Mackenzie Delta Region: limestone cliffs, rare Arctic plant communities, migratory bird staging areas and Campbell Lake, an excellent example of a reversing delta.

The following five sites are within the park and offer day use or camping facilities.

Vadzaih Van Tshik
Territorial Park
Kilometre 221 (Mile 137.4)

There are 10 non-powered sites nestled on the side of Caribou Creek, well protected from the elements by a steep cliff on the north side of the creek. Birds of prey glide high past the park.
D3
Titheg Chii Vitaii Lookout
Kilometre 225.9 (mile 140.4)

A short walk from the highway takes you to the edge of the cliffs overlooking Campbell Lake, watch for peregrine falcons. Wood frogs inhabit the lake, which is their northern range limit. There is also approximately half a kilometre of walking trails for you to enjoy.

D3
Gwich’in
Territorial Campground
Kilometre 240 (Mile 149)

Facilities include 29 non-powered campsites and 4 tent sites. Enjoy the spectacular shoreline of Campbell Lake. Try your luck fishing. Take a walk in search of unique rocks and fossils. Or be adventurous and hit the beach for a swim above the Arctic Circle.

D3
Ehjuu Njik Day Use Area
Kilometre 244.3 (Mile 154.9)

Spend the afternoon picnicking on the banks of Cabin Creek or cast your line for Arctic grayling.

D3 Nihtak Day Use Area
Kilometre 254 (Mile 157.8)

This day use park provides an access point to Campbell Lake at the foot of the Dolomite Hills. During the spring water runoff, large numbers of whitefish migrate up the creek to spawn. Spend the day picnicking and absorbing the panoramic scenery.

Junction with Airport Road
Kilometre 259.3 (Mile 161.1)

The airport facilities are to the left and the town of Inuvik is at the end of the road to the right.

D4
Jàk Territorial Park
Kilometre 266.0 (Mile 165.3)

This park, located just outside of Inuvik, has 11 powered and 24 non-powered sites. An observation tower offers excellent views of the surrounding scenery and prime bird watching opportunities. Watch for falcons, eagles, ducks and more. Look for cranberries, blueberries and cloudberries that give the park its name – Jàk means “berry” in Gwich’in.
Inuvik
Kilometre 269.3 (Mile 167.3)

Inuvik is the last stop on the Dempster Highway in the summer. A modern Arctic community, Inuvik (pop. 3,420) has full visitor services, including boat and air tours to other communities and to sites of interest in the Mackenzie Delta. Inuvik serves as the base for trips to other communities and national parks. In summer, take a boat to Aklavik or Tuktoyaktuk, or fly to one of the more remote communities on the Arctic coast such as Ulukhaktok, Sachs Harbour or Paulatuk. Consider booking a fly-in trip to Tuktut Nogait, Aulavik or Inuvik National Park. During the winter, ice roads make a connection between Inuvik, Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk.

Located 220 km/124 air miles north of the Arctic Circle, Inuvik experiences the true Midnight Sun from May 24 to July 24. The sun does not set for 57 days. This is contrasted by about 30 days (December 5 to January 5) when the sun does not rise above the horizon, but still provides four hours of twilight.

**Happy Valley Territorial Park**

Located in the town of Inuvik, this park offers convenient walking access to the town’s facilities and attractions. There are 19 powered and 16 non-powered sites as well as a group tenting site. Situated on a bluff overlooking the east branch of the Mackenzie River, the park has wonderful views of the Richardson Mountains.

**Motorcyclists outside Inuvik**

**OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**
- The Western Arctic Regional Visitor Centre is a unique building, with northern displays.
- Visit the Igloo Church - Inuvik’s best known landmark.
- Visit the Community Greenhouse, in a former arena, it is a green oasis.
- The Aurora Research Centre.
- The Great Northern Arts Festival, held the 3rd week of July, draws amazing talent from across the north.
**SAHTU REGION**

(No Highway)

**Adventures Beyond the Highway**

Your tour of the Northwest Territories doesn’t have to stop at the end of the highways. While you are here, take advantage of the opportunity to explore and experience areas not accessible by all-season roads. Nestled between the western shore of Great Bear Lake and the Mackenzie Mountains are the communities of Norman Wells, Tulita, Deline, Fort Good Hope and Colville Lake, which are only accessible by road in winter. Norman Wells, the regional centre, enjoys daily jet service from Yellowknife and points south, and offers connections to outlying settlements as well as hunting, fishing and naturalist lodges through-out the area.

**H2**

**MacKinnon Territorial Park**

MacKinnon Territorial Park is the only territorial campground not accessible by road. Located in the community of Norman Wells, on the banks of the Mackenzie River, it offers eight non-powered campsites.
BEAR SAFETY

You are travelling in bear country!
Grizzly and black bears are found throughout the NWT. Bears are an important part of the ecosystem and must be treated with respect.

Safety precautions to consider while travelling in bear country:
- Travel in groups.
- Watch for fresh bear signs such as tracks, droppings, torn up trees and turned-over rocks.
- Avoid carrying strong smelling foods.
- Make noise when visibility is limited.
- Dogs should be on a leash at all times, or leave them at home. Dogs can provoke defensive behaviour in bears.
- Avoid bear feeding areas such as floodplains, berry patches and areas rich in horse tail or other grasses.
- Carry deterrents such as bear spray, air horn and whistle.
- Be cautious near streams or lakes, as bears frequent these areas.
- Burn fish or strong smelling foods away from camp.

- If you encounter a bear, remember to stop, stand still and stay calm:
  - Do not run.
  - Leave the bear an open area of escape.
  - Quietly walk backwards, the way you came, or make a wide detour around the bear.
  - If you are in a group, stand together.
  - If you see a bear, but the bear doesn’t see you, detour quickly and quietly.
  - Stay downwind.

SPORT FISHING

For information on sport fishing regulations or to purchase your license online, please visit: https://licences.enr.gov.nt.ca/Fishing-Licence

Fishing under the midnight sun
NWT INTERESTING FACTS

Sunrise and Sunset times on June 21 (summer solstice)

**Fort Smith**
Sunrise 4:03 a.m.
Sunset 10:55 p.m.

**Yellowknife**
Sunrise 3:37 a.m.
Sunset 11:38 p.m.

**Inuvik**
24-hour day light
(sun sets again July 19)

**Average Summer Temperatures (July)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fort Smith</td>
<td>21°C, 69.8°F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellowknife</td>
<td>21°C, 69.8°F</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inuvik</td>
<td>18°C, 64.4°F</td>
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Territorial Symbols:
- Mineral = gold
- Gemstone = diamond
- Bird = gyrfalcon
- Tree = tamarack
- Flower = mountain aven
- Fish = Arctic grayling

**Home to five National Parks:**
- Aulavik National Park
- Nááts’ich’oh National Park Reserve
- Nahanni National Park Reserve
  (parts of which are a UNESCO World Heritage Site)
- Tuktut Nogait National Park
- Wood Buffalo National Park
  (also a UNESCO World Heritage Site)

**Home to five Bird Sanctuaries:**
- Anderson River
  Delta Bird Sanctuary
- Banks Island Bird Sanctuary #1
- Banks Island Bird Sanctuary #2
- Cape Perry Bird Sanctuary
- Kendall Island Bird Sanctuary

**Home of many other unique protected areas, including:**
- Pingo Canadian Landmark
-Sacýų-ʔehdacho National Historic Site of Canada
- Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary

- There are 11 official languages.
- The oldest rocks in the world are found in the NWT and are approximately four billion years old.
- Total Area:
  1,170,000 km² / 785,000 mi²
- Time Zone:
  Mountain Standard Time
- NWT Population: 44,088
- Area per person: 31 km² / 18 mi²
NWT Tourism
P.O. Box 610
Yellowknife NT X1A 2N5
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0788
Tel: (867) 873-7200
Email: info@spectacularnwt.com
www.spectacularnwt.com

INFORMATION CENTRES
OPEN YEAR ROUND

Northern Frontier Regional Visitor Centre
4807-49th Street
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3T5
Tel: (867) 873-4262
Toll-free: 1-877-881-4262
www.northernfrontier.com

Acho Dene Native Crafts and Visitor Information Centre
Liard Valley Main Road
Fort Liard, NT X0G 0A0
Tel: (867) 770-4161

Fort Smith Visitor Information Centre
149 McDougal Road
Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0
Tel: (867) 872-7960
Email: forsmithinfo@northwestel.net

Norman Wells Historical Centre
23 Mackenzie Drive, Norman Wells
Tel: (867) 587-2415
Email: canol.trail@theedge.nw.ca
www.normanwellsmuseum.com

Wood Buffalo National Park Headquarters
149 McDougal Road
Fort Smith, NT X0E 0P0
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/buffalo

Nahanni National Park Reserve
Fort Simpson, NT X0E ON0
Tel: (867) 695-3151
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/nahanni

SEASONAL INFORMATION CENTRES
OPEN MID-MAY TO MID-SEPTEMBER

60th Parallel Visitor Centre
Located at the Alberta/NWT Border

Hay River Visitor Centre
73 Woodland Drive, Hay River
Tel: (867) 874-6522
www.hayriver.com

Fort Simpson Visitor Information Centre
Adjacent to Fort Simpson Territorial Park
Tel: (867) 695-3182
www.fortsimpson.com

Blackstone Interpretive Centre
Located in Blackstone Territorial Park

Dempster Delta Visitor Information Centre
Located on Front Street
Dawson City, Yukon
Tel: (867) 993-6167
Email: info@westernarctic.ca

Nitainlaii Territorial Park Visitors Information Centre
One kilometre north of the Peel River on the Dempster Highway

Western Arctic Regional Visitor Centre
At the entrance to Inuvik on the right-hand side across from the red and blue hospital
Tel: (867) 777-4727
Email: info@westernarctic.ca

Fishing near Ulukhaktok
T. Parker

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
NATURALLY SPECTACULAR

WWW.NWTPARKS.CA
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<th>KILOMETERS</th>
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