

Best of the Yukon and Alaska

15 days/14 nights

From

\$6,239

Per person/Double occupancy/Land package
Departure dates: June 2, 16, 30; July 14, 28;
August 11, 25; September 8, 2024

This very popular classic round-trip takes in the very best that Alaska and the Yukon Territory have to offer.

Departing from Whitehorse, the comfortable coach will take you along scenic roads that retrace ancient trading routes, historic Gold Rush trails, and important wildlife corridors. The tour stops at three of the North's most famous national parks: Kluane, home to Canada's tallest mountain and the world's largest non-polar icefield; Denali, world renowned for wildlife viewing and home to the tallest mountain in North America; and an optional tour to the all-marine Kenai Fjords National Park for the North's premier marine life viewing.

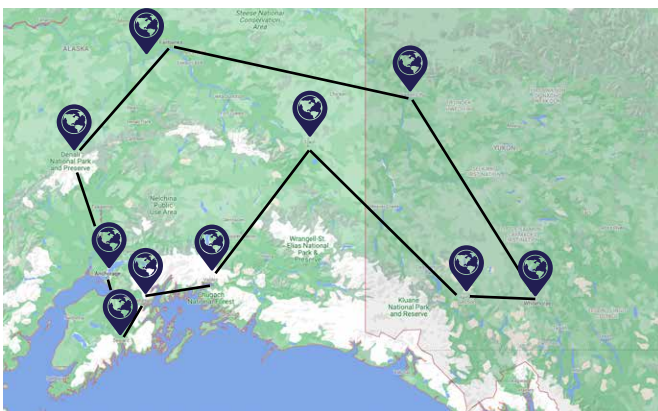
Mountain ranges, cascading glaciers, fascinating First Nations culture and colourful Gold Rush history – all this and more awaits you in the Land of the Midnight Sun.



Day 1: Whitehorse Arrival

Welcome to the Yukon Territory! You will be transferred to your hotel, where depending on your flights arrival time, you will check into the hotel with the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight: Whitehorse



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Day 2: Whitehorse – Haines Junction

After breakfast, the tour explores Yukon's capital including a visit to the SS Klondike, a restored stern-wheeler next to the Yukon River. From here, it is a short trip westbound along the Alaska Highway to Haines Junction. This small town is located right next to Kluane National Park, which contains a significant portion of the largest non-polar ice fields on earth and is home to a variety of wildlife. Depending on the weather and the group's interest, you may take a short, guided hike into the national park, or charter a bush plane over the spectacular glaciers that lay beyond.

Overnight: Haines Junction

Day 3: Haines Junction to Tok

Today drive along the scenic shore of the 80 kilometer long Kluane Lake. The first stop will be the Sheep Mountain Visitor Center, where chances are good you will spot the Dall sheep that make their home on

high in the surrounding mountains. Shortly after, you will stop at the Soldier Summit. This site will give you more information about the construction of the Alaska Highway and it commemorates a ceremony that took place on 20 November 1942. Further on the Alaska Highway, the tour reaches the Alaska-Canada (ALCAN) border in the afternoon.

Overnight: Tok

Day 4: Tok – Valdez

The first part of today's leg of the journey leads you along the Glenn Highway, passing spectacular Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. From here, the tour takes the Richardson Highway southbound to the small seaport of Valdez on the Pacific coast, crossing of the Coast Range via the Thompson Pass, where waterfalls thunder right next to the road. Valdez, known as Little Switzerland to locals, is surrounded by snowy mountains. It is also the end point of the world-famous Trans Alaska Pipeline, where enormous oil tankers come and go.

Overnight: Valdez



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Day 5: Valdez – Whittier – Seward

Today you cross the Prince William Sound via ferry. Without a doubt this is a highlight, even by Alaskan standards. The ferry gives you breathtaking vistas of the Fjords and glaciers along the Pacific Coast, and with a bit of luck you will have the chance to spot otters, puffins, sea lions, and even whales. Once ashore, continue overland through the scenic Chugach Mountain Range, the glacier lakes and rivers to the coastal town of Seward. In this lively town, treat yourself to Alaskan king crab at one of the numerous restaurants and go for a private lovely walk on the coast.

Overnight: Seward

Day 6: Seward – Anchorage

Seward is world-famous for the nearby Kenai Fjords National Park which offers some of the best marine life viewing in the world. We highly recommend taking the optional motorboat tour into the park this morning. The rest of the day begins with a drive through the Kenai mountains and later along the Turnagain Arm to Anchorage. Keep an eye out for the beluga whales that hunt in the tidal waters along the way. Back in Alaska's biggest city you might enjoy a nice dinner in the evening. You also can check out Lake Hood and Spenard, where up to 800 floatplanes take off and land daily. The aviation museum is nearby which is a great place to gain an appreciation for this important part of Alaskan life.

Overnight: Anchorage

Day 7: Anchorage – Denali National Park

Today, the tour leaves the Pacific coast region and move inland again. The George Parks Highway takes you north to Denali National Park, past sweeping panoramic views of distant glaciers, with glimpses of the beaver dams along the nearby river. In the late afternoon, you have an opportunity to take an optional one-hour glacier flight over Denali, which at 6193 meters is the highest peak in North America. This is a highly recommended adventure, particularly when the weather is clear.

Overnight: Hotel close to the Park

Day 8: Denali National Park

In the morning, you will take a park-owned shuttle bus deep into one of the most scenic landscapes in North America. Without a doubt, this is a highlight of most visitors' experience. Weather permitting, you will get a view of soaring Denali and with a little luck will see wolves, Dall sheep, moose, caribou, and grizzly bears along the scenic loop.

Overnight: Hotel close to the Park



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Day 9: Denali National Park – Fairbanks

Back on the George Parks Highway, the tour reaches Fairbanks - the city of the midnight sun - early in the afternoon. Fairbanks is a unique northern town about 320 kilometres south of the Arctic Circle and the rest of the day is free to explore places of interest in and around it. Fairbanks offers everything you need for a true city experience. You can visit a diversity of museums to learn more about the geology and history of Alaska or use the afternoon to take a relaxed walk next to the Chena River and in downtown . In addition you could take a stern-wheeler cruise on the Chena River (optional at a cost).

Overnight: Fairbanks

Day 10: Fairbanks – Dawson City

The tour takes to the road again where you will see the Trans-Alaska Pipeline crossing the Tanana River right next to the highway. In Delta Junction, the tour re-joins the Alaska Highway and stops at the local visitor centre. From here, it strikes out onto the open tundra along the Top of the World Highway where it passes through quirky northern towns like Chicken and Action Wade Camp. You cross the international border again at Little Gold Creek, the highest border checkpoint anywhere on the continent. In the afternoon, you will cross the Yukon River by ferry to reach Dawson City

Overnight: Dawson City

Day 11: Dawson City

This legendary boomtown was epicenter of the famous Klondike gold rush of 1898, and gold still animates the place. Immerse yourself in Dawson's history and try your luck panning the creeks yourself. Here you can go back in time with a visit to the Dawson City Museum (entrance

fee included) or visit on your own Jack London's Cabin. You'll also want to take some time to simply stroll around the town with its garish Gold Rush architecture and friendly locals. In the evening, turn-of-the-century style, can-can girls kick up their skirts for an evening of entertainment at Diamond Tooth Gertie's Gambling Hall.

Overnight: Dawson City

Day 12: Dempster Highway

An early start puts you on the Dempster Highway with plenty of time to explore. This gravel highway, built on solid permafrost, is Canada's only link by road to the remote town of Inuvik, 738 kilometers away. The tour follows the Dempster up to Tombstone Territorial Park where jagged black mountains give the area its name and the vast arctic tundra begins. Back in Dawson City, you will drive up the Midnight Dome and enjoy the beautiful vistas.

Overnight: Dawson City



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Day 13: Dawson City – Whitehorse

Today, you will head back to Whitehorse via the Klondike Highway. Along the way, you'll catch many glimpses of the mighty Yukon River, one of the longest waterways in North America and the historic artery of Yukon and Alaska. The tour stops at the infamous Five Finger Rapid and there will be stops where you can stretch your legs at some of the old post offices, roadhouses and small villages that still give the area a unique northern character. In the late afternoon, arrive back in Whitehorse where you will have the opportunity to visit Miles Canyon a dramatic natural feature, where the Yukon River has cut its way down through a flow of basaltic lava.

Overnight: Whitehorse

Day 14: Skagway

A day tour provides you with several wonderful photo opportunities, like the Carcross Desert or the colorful Emerald Lake. In just 175km, you will pass through a spectacular variety of eco regions and alpine landscapes as the tour crosses over the continental divide to the seaport of Skagway. Like Dawson, Skagway is a legendary gold rush town full of attractions. A must do is the White Pass and Yukon Rail Journey. There is a one way rail journey included from Skagway Alaska to Fraser on the BC side of the rail route where the tour bus will meet you and take you to the hotel in Whitehorse.

Overnight: Whitehorse

Day 15: Whitehorse

Today, you say farewell to this amazing part of the world as you are transferred to the airport for your flight back home.



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The Package Includes:

- Fully guided commentary
- 14 nights' accommodation in superior/middle class double rooms
- All overland transportation in an air-conditioned Maxi Van or mid-sized coach
- Tour of downtown Whitehorse including a visit to the SS Klondike
- Prince William Sound Ferry
- Day-trip into Denali National Park
- Entrance fees for national parks
- Guided hike in Kluane National Park
- Entrance fee for "Diamond Tooth Gerties" Casino
- Entrance fee for Gold Diggers Museum in Dawson City
- Return airport transfers in Whitehorse
- 5% GST

The Package Does Not Include:

- Flights
- Meals and beverages
- Optional tours
- Personal expenses
- Gratuities

Tour operates with 6-9 guests who are seated in a maxi-van or with 10-20 guests transport is in a mid-sized coach – all air-conditioned.



Land package 15 days / 14 nights, price per person

Departures Dates in 2024	Single	Double	Triple
June 2, 16, 30; July 14, 28; August 11, 25; September 8	\$ 8,959	\$ 6,239	\$ 5,859

Prices do not include the contribution to the travel agency customer compensation fund of \$3.50 per \$1000 for Quebec travel agencies. This amount will be automatically added to your invoice.