

SOLAR MAX IN

YUKON

The clear skies of the Yukon provide the perfect backdrop to nature's most spectacular light show.



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ITINERARIES, CABIN & LODGE GUIDES

SOLAR MAX

THE BEST TIME TO VIEW
AURORA IS NOW!



HEAD TO CANADA'S YUKON TERRITORY FOR THE BEST SEATS IN THE HOUSE TO THE WORLD'S MOST SPECTACULAR LIGHT SHOW.

Yukon's pitch-black winter sky offers the perfect backdrop as sulphurous-green sheen ripples, ebbs and flows, before suddenly exploding across the full expanse of the night sky.

Best time to view

- Current solar cycle will reach its peak between 2023 – 2026.
- Solar Cycle peak means more intense and more frequent Aurora.
- Aurora Viewing from mid-August to mid-April
- The time to visit is now!

Solar Cycle 25

The solar cycle is a periodic 11-year change in the sun's activity. During the cycle, the levels of solar radiation and ejection of solar material, the number of sunspots, solar flares and coronal loops ebb and flow to a period of maximum activity (known as the 'solar max') and back again.

Solar cycle 25 began in December of 2019 and is set to culminate between 2023 and the winter of 2025/26, when solar max will create more aurora activity here on Earth. Although this peak period will slowly ebb after 2026, aurora activity will still be dynamic, offering incredible northern lights viewing opportunities throughout the entire cycle.



Best locations for viewing

- View the northern lights outside the city from the comfort of a yurt or prospector-style wall tent, once used by gold seekers and trappers. Stay warm around a wood-fired barrel stove and sip on hot chocolate while listening to stories of northern life from local guides.
- Go snowshoeing, fat biking and dog mushing for an exciting way to encounter the aurora borealis.
- Take in the world's greatest light show from a hot tub or spend some time outdoors at the popular Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs.

Visit our website for Northern Lights experience operators.

travelyukon.com/en/see-and-do/experience-providers

Where to stay

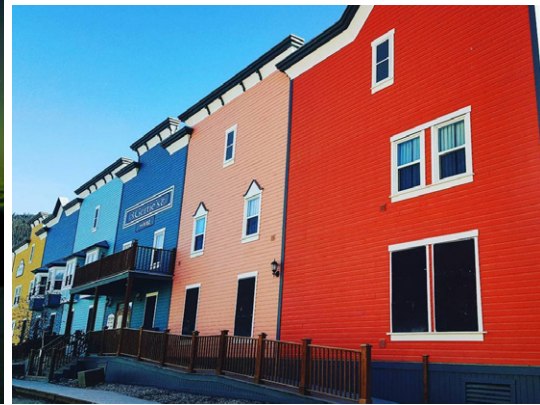
- Guests can choose to stay in town to be close to great restaurants, museums, and cultural attractions. Northern Lights tours depart from town and will take guests on guided aurora viewing experiences that travel to wilderness locations just outside of town for the best viewing. Some tours are mobile from a vehicle, snowmobile or fat bike while others will take guests to purpose built aurora viewing centres complete with cozy fire warmed yurts, cabins, cookies and hot chocolate!
- Stay in a glass-fronted chalet of a quintessential wilderness lodge, purpose-built for optimum aurora viewing, positioned far from any light pollution.
- Stay in a lakeside wilderness resort and enjoy outdoor adventures, from ice fishing to snowmobiling, during a northern lights adventure.

Visit our website for information on different styles of accommodation in the Yukon.

travelyukon.com/en/plan-stay/where-stay

Aurora viewing essentials

- It's important to dress appropriately during the winter months in the Yukon, including a heavy winter coat and snow pants. Winter gear is available for hire in Whitehorse at Men's World, The Base, and through some local aurora viewing tour companies.
- Remember that often a Northern Lights tour will finish in the early hours of the morning. Ensure adequate rest is planned in your itinerary so you can comfortably enjoy day experiences as well.
- During summer, travellers can head to the Northern Lights Centre in Watson Lake. The centre features a domed theatre with a panoramic video and surround-sound system that is as close to the real thing as you can get.



HOW TO WATCH THE AURORA BOREALIS

- **Get away from the light to see the light**
While the aurora borealis is visible in the Yukon's major cities – like Whitehorse – getting away from light will ensure you don't miss a single excited electron.
- **The best showtimes are when the night skies are dark**
While the northern lights are visible from mid-August to mid-April, the best time to view them is between 10.00pm and 3.00am.
- **The sun makes the northern lights shine at night**
The auroras may look like magic, but they actually occur because of excited electrons from the sun hitting the magnetosphere.
- **The best performances are always clear**
Since these dancing colours happen in the upper atmosphere, cloud-free, clear skies are best if you want to see the aurora borealis in all its glory.
- **Just look up**
No 3D glasses. No binoculars. No shoes or shirt (if you're viewing from the Hot Springs). You only need to open your eyes to enjoy the northern lights.
- **Get outta town**
There are plenty of tranquil locations that offer a near-private front-row seat to the show. Or, if you want to be guided to the light, you can book a tour with a local company. Just remember to pack warm in winter.
- **Avoid the full moon**
Full-moon nights are a lot brighter. Which means our rocky satellite has a tendency to hog the spotlight when the northern lights are trying to do their thing.

