

Alaska Highway and the Campbell/Canol Route

The historic Alaska Highway is combined with the Campbell/Canol Route, a wilderness drive that traverses one of the Yukon's least-populated regions. It offers a quiet, remote experience with rewarding wildlife viewing opportunities and breathtaking scenery.

Driving Route

This route follows the Alaska Highway to Watson Lake and then heads North on the Robert Campbell Highway to Faro. From there, it either takes the more common route through Carmacks, or returns to the junction of Canol Road at Ross River, following the South Canol back to the Alaska Highway at Johnson's Crossing back to Whitehorse.

Suggested Itinerary

Day 1: Whitehorse

Day 2: Watson Lake

Day 3: Camping

Day 4: Faro

Day 5: Camping

Day 6: Whitehorse

Duration

6 days

Season

June to mid-September

Total Distance

1110 km or 801 mi

Road Surface

Mix of gravel and paved highways



Whitehorse

Steeped in culture and history, Whitehorse is a contemporary city with a vibrant arts community, world-class attractions, and top-notch tourism services. It offers the amenities of a big city, with an endearing small-town vibe.

Sightseeing

S.S. Klondike

Yukon Transportation Museum

Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre

Kwanlin Dün Culture Centre

Old Log Church Museum

Whitehorse Trolley

Macbride Museum

Whitehorse Fish Ladder

Miles Canyon

Yukon Artists at Work Gallery

Outdoor Activities

Canoeing, Disc golf, Dog sledding, Fishing, Horseback riding, Kayaking, Mountain biking

Suggested Day Tours

Takhini Hot Springs Road

About 30 minutes from downtown Whitehorse, visitors can spend the day visiting the Yukon Wildlife Preserve, enjoying Eclipse Hot Springs, and savoring some locally roasted coffee.

Skagway, Alaska and the White Pass

Yukon Route Railroad

The two hour drive to Skagway, AK includes plenty of scenic viewpoints: Emerald Lake, Tutshi Lake, the Carcross Desert and Bove Island. The historic village of Carcross is not to be missed along the way, either. Skagway is a well-preserved gold rush town and major cruise ship port with plenty of things to do. The narrow-gauge White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad is a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. The track climbs 3000 feet in just 20 miles, through tunnels and across trestle bridges with stunning scenic views.

Drive from Whitehorse to Watson Lake

Sites along the way

Southern Lakes: The road passes through the Southern Lakes region providing spectacular views of lakes and mountains.

Teslin: Home of the Inland Tlingit, renowned for talented artists who continue to nurture a Yukon carving tradition. Visit the Teslin Tlingit Heritage Centre and the George Johnston Museum.

Distance: 436 km or 270 mi, approx. 5 hours

Watson Lake

Located just inside the Yukon border with British Columbia, this regional transportation centre is the Yukon's third largest community. What began as a fish camp and small airstrip at Watson Lake boomed during the construction of the Alaska Highway. Today, the town still bustles with highway activity as thousands of travellers visit Watson Lake on their northern road trips.

Sightseeing

Sign Post Forest
Northern Lights Centre
Historic Airport Terminal

Activities

Walk the trail at Wye Lake Park, Visit the Lucky Lake Recreation Site

Suggested Day Tours

Liard Hot Springs

These remarkable natural hot springs are tucked into northern British Columbia approximately three hours from Watson Lake. The boardwalk-accessible hot springs attract wildlife and provide relief to weary Alaska Highway travellers. There is a campground here and BC parks can provide information about camping services.

Rancheria Falls and Morley River

At the Rancheria River Valley a short boardwalk lined with interpretive panels takes visitors to the waterfalls. The popular picnic spot beside the clear bubbling waters of the Morely River offers good fishing and a lovely trail through the woods along the river.

Drive from Watson Lake to Faro

The Robert Campbell Highway offers an alternate route to or from the Klondike. This gravel road winds through untouched wild landscapes and delivers a truly northern driving experience. There are campsites along the route.

Sites along the way

Ross River: At the confluence of the Ross and Pelly rivers, and near the junction of the Robert Campbell Highway and Canol Road.

Distance: 424 km or 263 mi, approx. 7 hours

Faro

Faro was established in 1968 as a hardrock mining town supporting one of the largest lead-zinc mines in the world. Today, this friendly community has reinvented itself as a haven for residents, artists and visitors seeing wilderness.

Sightseeing

Campbell Region Interpretive Centre
Mount Mye Sheep Centre
Lapie Canyon
Dena Cho Trail

Activities

Bird watching, Fishing, Walking and hiking trails, Wildlife viewing

Drive from Faro to Whitehorse

Option 1: Recommended for RV's

Continue on the Robert Campbell Highway from Faro to Carmacks and then south along the North Klondike Highway to Whitehorse

Distance: 358 km or 222 mi, approx 5 hours

Option 2: More off-the-grid

Return to Ross River and onto the South Canol Road. This is a very scenic, well-maintained gravel road. There are no facilities between Ross River and Johnson's Crossing so drivers should be prepared. This road is not recommended for RV's. From Johnson's Crossing, return to Whitehorse on the Alaska Highway.

Distance: 358 km or 222 mi, approx. 5 hours