

The Klondike/Kluane Loop

The route travels the North Klondike Highway from Whitehorse to Dawson City, then via the Top of the World Highway into Alaska, returning to Canada on the Alaska Highway. It then follows the Alaska Highway through Beaver Creek and Haines Junction to Whitehorse. From gold panning to glaciers, this drive packs many of the Yukon's premier historic attractions and natural wonders into one magnificent loop.

Suggested Itinerary

Day 1 & 2: Whitehorse

Day 3 & 4: Dawson City

Day 5: Beaver Creek

Day 6 & 7: Haines Junction

Day 8: Whitehorse

Duration

8 days

Season

Mid-May to late September

Total Distance

1139 km or 707 mi

Road Surface

Mostly paved, with a bit of gravel on the Top of the World



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 Corridor

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 at Bean North.

Southern Lakes Region

Named for the interconnected lakes and rivers that form the headwaters of the mighty Yukon River, this region is also home to diverse landscapes, from desert dunes to snow-capped mountains. Villages to explore include Carcross, Mt Lorne, Tagish, Teslin, Marsh Lake & Atlin.

Skagway, Alaska and the White Pass & Yukon Route

Skagway is a well-preserved gold rush town and major cruise ship port with plenty of attractions for visitors. The White Pass & Yukon Route is an Historic Civil Engineering Landmark and climbs through tunnels and above and along stunning scenic views.

Drive from Whitehorse to Dawson City

Sites along the way

Carmacks: Tagé Cho Hudän Interpretive Centre and the scenic riverfront boardwalk. Head about 15 minutes past Carmacks and stop at Five Finger Rapids.

Pelly Crossing: Selkirk First Nation Cultural Centre (Big Jonathan House)

Distance: 535 km or 332 mi, approx. 6 hours

Dawson City

An official National Historic Site, Dawson City still evokes the heartbeat of the greatest gold rush in history, with its boardwalks and vintage false-front buildings. First Nations cultural experiences and wilderness adventures are also part of today's Klondike experience

Sightseeing

Dawson City Museum
Discovery Claim National Historic Site
Dredge No. 4 National Historic Site
Dänojä Zho Cultural Centre
Forty Mile, Fort Cudahy & Fort Constantine
Robert Service Cabin
Jack London Museum
Diamond Tooth Gertie's

Activities

Parks Canada tours, Gold panning, Hiking, Mountain biking, Guided Yukon River cruises

Suggested Day Tours

Tour the Goldfields

Visitors can spend the day exploring the goldfields with a visit to Dredge No.4 National Historic Site and the Discovery Claim National Historic Site. They can also try their hand at gold panning.

The Stories of Dawson City

Many of Dawson City's historic buildings are managed by Parks Canada who offer a range of walking tours. From the Commissioner's Residence to the Palace Grand Theatre, interpretive guides bring to life the stories of Dawson. There are also poetry readings at the Robert Service Cabin or guided hikes that incorporate learning about the bard and listening to some of his poems. The perfect way to finish the day is at Diamond Tooth Gertie's to take in a can-can show.

Tombstone Territorial Park

Located about an hour north of the Dempster Corner turnoff, Tombstone Territorial Park is a unique wilderness of rugged peaks, permafrost landforms and abundant wildlife. The highway traverses the park and offers subarctic scenery, excellent hiking options and opportunities for wildlife viewing. The park is especially beautiful in late August when the fall colours appear.

Drive from Dawson City to Beaver Creek and Haines Junction

A free ferry across the Yukon River connects to the Top of the World Highway. The drive loops through Alaska via the Taylor Highway (here you can connect through Tok for a few days in interior Alaska) and then back to the Yukon where travellers will re-enter Canada. The drive then continues along the Alaska Highway through a breathtaking landscape to Beaver Creek, Canada's westernmost community for an overnight stop. It continues through Burwash Landing (visit the Kluane Museum of Natural History) and Destruction Bay to Haines Junction.

Sites along the way

Kluane National Park and Reserve
Kathleen Lake
Da Ku Culture Centre
Tachal Dhal Visitor Centre

Activities

Glacier flightseeing, White water rafting on the Tatshenshini River, Hiking in Kluane National Park and Reserve, Fishing

Distance: 535 km or 332 mi, approx. 6 hours

Haines Junction

Kluane National Park and Reserve is located near Haines Junction. Just a 2 hour drive from Whitehorse, this picture-postcard village is the perfect base for hiking tours in the park. There are campgrounds, cabins, B&B's and hotels available.

Drive from Haines Junction to Whitehorse

Distance: 158 km or 98 mi, approx. 2 hours



The route can be combined with the Golden Circle Route and the Silver Trail Route, as well as roadtrips within interior Alaska