



## Travel far from the beaten path to Canada's real North **SPECTACULAR NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

Ever wish that summer days could last forever? They do in the Northwest Territories, where daylight lasts round the clock in mid-summer. This is the Land of the Midnight Sun.



In the Mackenzie Mountains visitors can hike or paddle day or night. The Mackenzie River, with some sections spanning more than two kilometres in width, is a vast highway to the Beaufort Sea from Alberta and Northern British Columbia. There is forest and tundra to explore, populated with abundant wildlife. In the territory's 1.17 million square kilometres, water is never very far – dozens of mighty rivers challenge canoeists, roadside waterfalls amaze visitors and two of the world's largest lakes lie within its boundaries.

Visitors can explore an amazing array of geographical features, including Great Bear and Great Slave Lakes, pingos (ice formations), hoodoos, hot springs, and karst features. There are UNESCO World Heritage Sites at Nahanni and Wood Buffalo National

Parks, Canadian Heritage Rivers and unique relics of the fur trade and missionary eras. In winter, the aurora borealis, or northern lights, draw visitors from around the world. There is also the lure of diamonds in Yellowknife, the Diamond Capital of North America™.

How does a visitor sample these wonders? Most NWT destinations are accessible by air. There is also an efficient network of highways, accessible from Northern British Columbia or Alberta. There are several tempting routes, but visitors may want to consider two tours of special note: the incomparable 700-km Dempster Highway, which cuts through NWT and crosses the Arctic Circle, and the Deh Cho Connection, a "waterfalls route" and gateway to Nahanni National Park.





The Dempster Highway was completed in 1979, on a route once travelled by the famed Royal Northwest Mounted Police on winter patrol. Stretching from Dawson City, Yukon to Inuvik on the Mackenzie Delta, the route offers one of the great wilderness driving trips for adventurous visitors. A well-maintained, all-weather gravel highway, the Dempster is suitable for vehicles ranging from RVs to bicycles.

Along the way, the Dempster offers bear sightings, moose, caribou and a variety of migratory birds. Aside from a single hotel/service station complex at midpoint, there are no signs of civilization. Instead, the highway offers views of the rugged Tombstone and Richardson Mountains, part of the Rocky Mountain chain, and of the Mackenzie Delta. Two government-operated river ferries shuttle

  
**PTARMIGAN INN**  
HOTELS LTD



42 Rooms & Suites - Full Convention Facilities  
Wireless High Speed Internet - Bank  
Fitness Centre - Gift & Convenience Shop  
The Keys Dining Lounge  
The Dog House Sports Pub

**RESERVATIONS:**  
Phone: (867) 874-6781 | Fax: (867) 874-3392  
reservations@ptarmiganinn.com  
www.ptarmiganinn.com | www.rowes.ca

Just give me some  
**space**



MAPS - GPS - RADIOS - SAT PHONES - CANOES -  
SEA KAYAKS - DRY BAGS - BARRELS

WE CAN OFFER YOU 1,800 KMS OF THE  
MACKENZIE RIVER OR GREAT SLAVE LAKE, THE  
SECOND LARGEST LAKE IN CANADA. GUIDED  
OR SELF-GUIDED—WE HAVE THE EQUIPMENT.

**CONTACT US TODAY TO EXPLORE ARCTIC CANADA.**  
Phone: 867-874-6337 Toll Free: 1-888-397-0886  
Email: explore@canoenorth.ca  
www.canoenorth.ca

 **Canoe North**  
Canoe & Kayak Rental Sales  
47 Studney Drive,  
Hay River, NT X0E 0R6



**NWT PARKS**

**Accessible  
Wilderness**



Campgrounds, picnic sites, hiking trails and boat launches are waiting for you this summer. Parks are open from May 15 to September 15. You can book a campsite at [www.campingnwt.ca](http://www.campingnwt.ca). For more information visit [www.dti.govnt.ca/parks/index.htm](http://www.dti.govnt.ca/parks/index.htm)

  
Northwest Territories Industry, Tourism and Investment



vehicles across the Peel, the Arctic Red and Mackenzie Rivers.

The Deh Cho Connection is a 1,800-km loop road tour with starting points on the Mackenzie Highway at Grimshaw, Alberta, or Mile Zero on the Alaska Highway at Dawson Creek, B.C. This is the waterfalls route – with many historic rivers and six spectacular waterfalls to visit along the route.

The Deh Cho loop crosses through mountains in Northern British Columbia, forest and a dozen or more rivers in the Northwest Territories, and prairie grasslands in Alberta. The route also connects Wood Buffalo National Park at Fort Smith and the gateway to Nahanni National Park Reserve at Fort Simpson. While parts of Wood Buffalo Park are accessible by road, Nahanni can only be reached by air. Flightseeing trips are

offered from Fort Simpson to view the magnificent mountains that surround the Nahanni's Virginia Falls (at 90 metres, higher than Niagara), and the impressive canyons and rapids of the South Nahanni River.

The Deh Cho waterfall route also offers excellent camping, picnicking, and fishing options at Alexandra and Louise Falls (Twin Falls Gorge Territorial Park), Lady Evelyn Falls and Sambaa Deh and Coral Falls with both territorial campgrounds and day-use areas.

An added attraction on the Deh Cho Connection is the Deh Cho Passport contest, jointly sponsored by NWT Tourism, Northern B.C. Tourism and Northern Alberta Tourism. The grand prize is a government-certified Canadian diamond worth \$10,000, generously donated by the City of Yellowknife. For more information on the passport

contest, contact one of the three tourism associations or visit [www.dehchotravel.com](http://www.dehchotravel.com).

Most communities in the Northwest Territories have at least one summer event or festival of note. For golfers, there is the Canadian North Yellowknife Midnight Golf Classic (June 20-21), with tee times starting at 10 p.m. Other tournaments are held in Hay River, Fort Smith, Fort Simpson, Inuvik and Ulukhaktok. Tee times for Ulukhaktok's Billy Joss tournament (July 18-20) start at midnight, in broad daylight, far above the Arctic Circle.

For fans of live music, Yellowknife offers Folk on the Rocks, a three-day summer event (July 13-15) that draws top Canadian and international musicians as well as Inuit and Dene artists, and is held in a natural amphitheatre on the shores of Long Lake. Art lovers will

*Take a Drive  
on the Wild side*

Through Northern Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and Northern British Columbia.

Liard Highway  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
Mackenzie Highway  
Alaska Highway

**THE Deh Cho**  
TRAVEL CONNECTION

1-800-661-0788  
[www.dehchotravel.com](http://www.dehchotravel.com)

**Deh Cho Passports**

Win a Polar Ice™, Government Certified Canadian Diamond™ worth \$10,000 donated by the City of Yellowknife, Diamond Capital of North America™. For more information visit [www.DehChoTravel.com](http://www.DehChoTravel.com)

[www.yellowknife.ca](http://www.yellowknife.ca)

not want to miss Inuvik's 10-day Great Northern Arts Festival in July.

Fall and winter bring their own spectacular pleasures. In the Northwest Territories, the northern lights

illuminate the sky in the darker months. Spectators can view the natural light show from a cosy heated lounge chair, bundled in down and fur. Another popular winter pastime is a toboggan ride over the snow, behind a team of

eager huskies, with the aurora borealis lighting the way. NWT operators specialize in showing visitors the best of northern winter. Back in the city, the twinkling lights are of another sort – a glittering selection of northern-mined, cut and polished diamonds from Canada's Arctic.

*For more information, contact Northwest Territories Tourism at [www.spectacularnwt.com](http://www.spectacularnwt.com) or 1-867-873-5007. This promotional feature was prepared for Northwest Territories Tourism by Robin Brunet.*



**Northwest Territories**  
CANADA

**Northwest Territories Tourism**  
Box 610, Yellowknife  
NT X1A 2N5 Canada

*Toll-free number:*  
**1.800.661.0788**  
*Email:*  
**[info@spectacularnwt.com](mailto:info@spectacularnwt.com)**

**[www.spectacularnwt.com](http://www.spectacularnwt.com)**



**Cut & Polished For Service  
And Style In Yellowknife.**

Downtown Location  
Friendly Service  
Rooms & Suites  
Restaurant/Lounge  
Upscale Amenities  
Hi-Speed Internet

**Come And See How We Shine!**



**CHATEAU NOVA  
HOTEL & SUITES**  
**1-877-839-1236**  
**[www.chateaunova.com](http://www.chateaunova.com)**  
4401 - 50th Avenue, Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2N2

**ENJOY WHAT  
THE NORTH  
HAS TO OFFER!**



Our all season resort offers comfort and adventure only 20 minutes by bush plane from Yellowknife. Check out our two, five or seven-day all inclusive packages on our website, or contact us for more information, 867-873-3303.



**BLACHFORD LAKE LODGE  
AND CONFERENCE RESORT**  
**[www.blachfordlakelodge.com](http://www.blachfordlakelodge.com)**  
**[info@blachfordlakelodge.com](mailto:info@blachfordlakelodge.com)**

• [www.FortSmithTourism.ca](http://www.FortSmithTourism.ca) •

**Easy to get to...**



**hard to leave!**

Tel: 867-872-4732 • P.O. Box 147, Fort Smith, NT, X0E 0P0 • Email: [info@fortsmithtourism.ca](mailto:info@fortsmithtourism.ca)