

SOUTH SLAVE IN SUMMER

Summer in the South Slave is synonymous with camping and waterfalls. Take a road trip along the aptly named Waterfalls Route to visit this region's most famous celebrities: Alexandra, Louise and Lady Evelyn falls. Have your pick of some of the best campgrounds in the whole country: incredible scenery, beautiful hiking trails, idyllic campsites and plenty of amenities. Roam the grounds of Wood Buffalo National Park, but be sure to give yourself enough time – Canada's largest national park is roughly the size of Switzerland, after all. Wander

the Salt Flats looking for tracks of bison, bear and caribou and sample the salt left over from an ancient inland sea. In late August, Wood Buffalo turns into the world's largest Dark Sky Preserve – an incredible place to view your favourite constellations and the dancing Aurora. In Fort Providence, drive the engineering marvel that is the Deh Cho bridge – the longest bridge in the North spans the width of the mighty Mackenzie River. Cast a line in the Mackenzie (known as the Deh Cho or "Big River" up here), or in any number of lakes and streams in search

of Whitefish, Arctic Grayling, or trophy-sized Northern Pike and Lake Trout. Check out one of the many fishing lodges in the area, and let your guide take the guessing out of catching the big one. Whitewater paddlers flock to Fort Smith to test their mettle on the Slave River Rapids, especially in August when they gather for Paddlefest. In Hay River, stroll the sandy shores of Great Slave Lake on the best beach in the NWT and cap off a great day with a driftwood bonfire.



ALEXANDRA FALLS

No matter what time of year you're visiting the South Slave region, Alexandra Falls in Enterprise is a stunning must-see. This 32-metre chute is located within Twin Falls Gorge Territorial Park, but there is also a handy viewing platform just off the highway.



WOOD BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK

Canada's largest national park and the second largest in the world is home to bison, bears, caribou, beavers, and the once nearly-extinct whooping crane. Explore its many trails, campsites and lakes. Marvel at its sinkholes and of course, the other worldly Salt Plains.



SLAVE RIVER RAPIDS

Fort Smith, traditionally Thebacha or "The Place Beside the Rapids" is home to some of the best whitewater paddling in Canada. In addition to keen kayakers, these rapids are also home to the majestic White Pelican, which boasts the largest wingspan in North America after the California Condor.