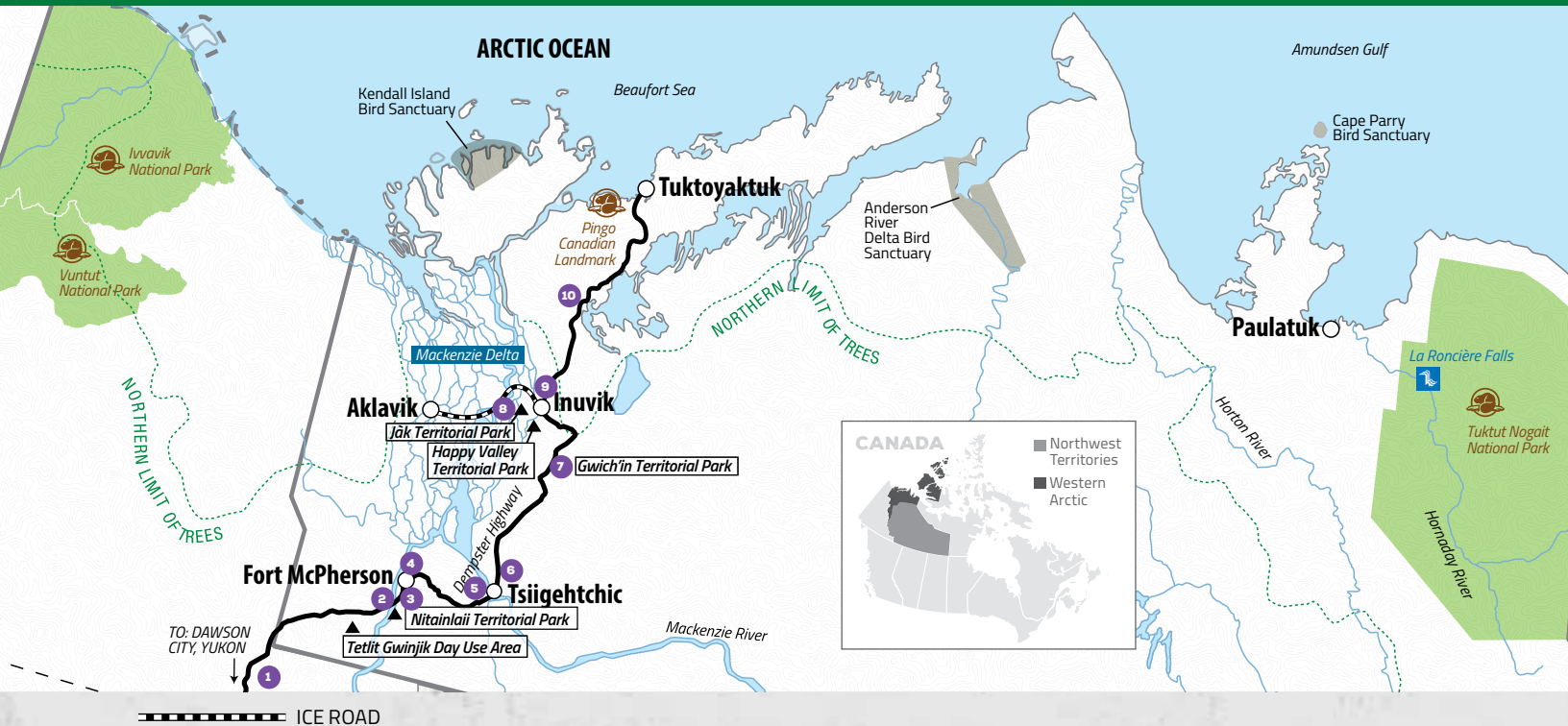


FROM THE ARCTIC CIRCLE TO THE ARCTIC OCEAN

Witness migrating reindeer, Canada's biggest river, and mountains on an epic drive to the edge of the continent.



It's truly a roadtrip to the top of the world.

This ultimate Arctic adventure takes you around rugged mountains and along gorgeous, sweeping tundra landscapes. You will cross into the Arctic Circle and over two of the country's greatest rivers—by ferry in summer, on a road made of ice in the winter. Throughout this journey, you will encounter some of the most beautiful, pristine and remote wilderness scenery in North America.

It all begins on the fabled Dempster Highway, which stretches 740 kilometres from Yukon to Inuvik, with stops in small friendly Gwich'in Dene and Inuvialuit communities. The journey ends where the road does—in pingo-dotted Tuktoyaktuk—where you can dip your toes into the Arctic Ocean.

This is the only roadtrip in Canada that brings you to this northern sea, to the end of the continent. Along the way, you will traverse grizzly bear and caribou country. You will be able to stop and fight feisty pike out of rivers and streams. You will meet other intrepid travellers, who share your dream of seeing the Arctic Ocean.

You will never forget this once-in-a-lifetime road trip.



DEMETER HIGHWAY, COULIN FIELD / N.W.T.



IGLOO CHURCH, HANS PRAGER / N.W.T.



TSIIGHTCHIC, COULIN FIELD / N.W.T.



ARCTIC OCEAN, CHRIS KELLY / N.W.T.



PINGO CANADIAN LANDMARK, J. E. BERGERON / N.W.T.

GAS CAMPING

1. YUKON-NWT BORDER:

By now, you have crossed the continental divide and are north of the Arctic Circle. Here, surrounded by mountains, your journey into the true Arctic begins.

2. FERRY CROSSING AT PEEL RIVER

Stop your vehicle on the west bank of this mighty river, as you wait for the Abraham Francis cable ferry to bring you to the other side. In the winter, you can drive over an ice road crossing.

3. NITAINLAI TERRITORIAL PARK

A wonderful spot to rest your head for the evening and learn about Gwich'in Dene culture and history. Nitainlai is nestled among spruce trees on a cliff overlooking the Peel River, just outside the town of Fort McPherson, and features 24 non-powered campsites.

4. FORT MCPHERSON

This friendly community of nearly 700 is your first place to gas up in the Northwest Territories. Stop in and check out the graves of the historic Lost Patrol. If you're visiting in early August, camp out at Midway Lake, 30 kilometres from town, for the annual music festival, a celebration of Gwich'in culture that features old-time fiddlers as well as local bands.

5. MACKENZIE AND ARCTIC RED RIVERS

Behold the Mackenzie River, the largest in all of Canada. Here, the MV Louis Cardinal will ferry you across the Arctic Red and Mackenzie rivers, on your journey to Inuvik, and onwards to the top of the world.

6. TSIIGHTCHIC

Be sure to make a pitstop in this quaint community of 200, situated at the scenic confluence of the Arctic Red and Mackenzie rivers. You might consider having a picnic on Church Hill, near the Church of the Holy Name of Mary, for a sweeping view of the two beautiful rivers.

7. GWICH'IN TERRITORIAL PARK

Roughly thirty minutes south of Inuvik, you'll find Gwich'in Territorial park, which includes 15 non-powered campsites, four tent sites and a

boat launch. This is an ideal place to pull out your rod and reel to try your luck for Whitefish or Inconnu in Campbell Lake.

8. JA'K TERRITORIAL PARK CAMPGROUND

On the outskirts of Inuvik, Ja'k Territorial Park is an ideal place for birdwatchers to pitch their tents throughout the spring and summer, when a great array of migratory birds pass through this area. This campground features six powered and 32 non-powered sites.

9. INUVIK

Welcome to the cultural and economic hub of the Western Arctic. Inuvik is a vibrant community of 3,500, with unique architecture, first-class amenities and a population that loves to celebrate together under a midnight sun or glimmering Northern Lights. Inuvik plays host to an array of festivals and events like the Great Northern Arts Festival and the Sunrise Festival. While in Inuvik, be sure to visit Our Lady of Victory church, one of the most photographed buildings in the NWT.

10. THE ROAD TO TUKTOYAKTUK

You will leave the forests behind in Inuvik, crossing above the treeline and into true tundra country. On the 140-kilometre Inuvik-to-Tuktoyaktuk Highway, you may spy a migrating reindeer herd out your window. In fall, you might even feel inclined to get out and pick some berries.

Ibyuk Pingo:

As you get nearer to Tuktoyaktuk, Ibyuk—a mountain made of ice—will begin to appear on the horizon. This second-largest pingo in the world sits just two kilometres outside of Tuktoyaktuk and makes for a beautiful, surreal site.

Tuktoyaktuk:

This is where the road—and the continent—ends. Tuk is the biggest town above the NWT treeline and it overlooks the Arctic Ocean. Over the years it has served as a base for Inuvialuit caribou and beluga hunting, a DEW Line radar site, and a centre of oil and gas exploration. Today, it's where you will take off your shoes and socks, roll up your pants and dip your toes into the Arctic Ocean to celebrate the wildest roadtrip you've ever had.