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• EXTRAORDINARY •  
**YELLOWKNIFE**  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES • CANADA



FOLD OUT  
**MAP**

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Chief Drygeese Territory, traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene



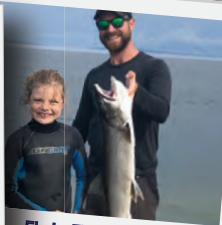
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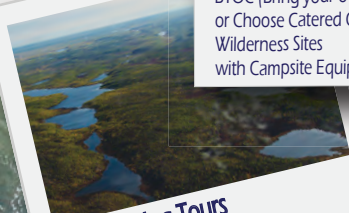
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# WELCOME TO YELLOWKNIFE.

Located in Chief Drygeese territory, the traditional land of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation and a crossroad for Indigenous Peoples from across the Arctic, our City is enriched by the Indigenous history and culture deeply ingrained in this area. With year round cultural events and activities, visitors have the opportunity to connect with the local traditions and people.

Yellowknife is a bustling place, with a diverse arts scene, excellent restaurants, all the amenities of a big city and a lively nightlife. Whether you spend your evening dancing with the aurora, or two-stepping alongside the locals, you are bound to have a memorable time. Immerse yourself in the community with events like the Snowking's Winter Festival, Folk On The Rocks, and Old Town Ramble and Ride. For more information, pop by our Visitor Centre located in the Centre Square Mall.

Yellowknife is also a great place to unwind and embrace the outdoors. Within walking distance from the downtown core, you can easily access nature trails, Great Slave Lake for swimming, fishing and kayaking, and enjoy cross-country skiing and skating in the winter. Get off the beaten track with our local tour operators, who offer unique Northern experiences like ice fishing, dogsledding, boat tours and much more.

We look forward to your arrival and wish you a wonderful stay!

**Mayor Rebecca Alty**



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Chief Drygeese Territory, traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene



**THE YELLOWKNIFE  
VISITOR CENTRE**

is located in the Centre Square Mall at 5014 50th Street in downtown Yellowknife. For more detailed information on services, activities and events let the knowledgeable staff at the centre help you. It is open daily from 10 am to 6 pm.



A CONCERT AT SOMBÉ K'É  
PARK - NEXT TO CITY HALL

PHOTO BILL BRADEN

  
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**Inside Back Cover Map**

Overview map of Yellowknife:

**On the cover**

Deck view of a float plane base in Yellowknife's Old Town  
Photo Bill Braden

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E: Editor@uphere.ca

**Disclaimer:**

The information on services and facilities contained in this guide is offered to you as a matter of interest and is believed to be correct at the time of printing.

Yellowknife is located on Chief Drygeese Territory, traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene and the North Slave Metis



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# You're here!

YOU'VE JUST ARRIVED IN THE CAPITAL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND ONE OF THE MOST VIBRANT, DIVERSE COMMUNITIES IN CANADA'S NORTH.

Yellowknife is a hub of activity and adventure, a mix of history and modernity. For more than half a century the city was home to two gold mines. Today it's the seat of government for the Northwest Territories and the centre of Canada's diamond industry serving three operating diamond mines. It also continues as the centre of exploration in the mineral rich Slave Geological Province. Small wonder then that in the local Indigenous language Yellowknife is called Somba K'e or place of money.

In Yellowknife you're only minutes from wilderness trails, lakes and waterfalls, and footsteps from sipping a fine mocha latte while you text your friends. In summer the sun stays up for almost 24 hours, meaning endless days full of camping, fishing, or taking in the tunes at the city's famous *Folk on the Rocks* festival. Winter, with short, crisp days is the season of dogsledding, snowmobiling, ice fishing, ice road travel and jaw-dropping Northern Lights displays that draw visitors from around the world.

At any time of year, check out our stunning legislative assembly building, our heritage centre, multi coloured houseboats, Old Town and much more.

Let this guide be your starting point as you explore your new surroundings. We've included everything we know, but you're sure to find surprises all on your own.

Welcome to Yellowknife and enjoy your stay here.







## QUICK FACTS

### 1970

Year Yellowknife was incorporated as a city

### -26C

Average January temperature

### +23C

Average July temperature

### 2277 hours

of sunshine every year, making Yellowknife one of the sunniest places in Canada in spring and summer

### 400 kilometres

Distance from Yellowknife to the Arctic circle

### 21,720

Population of Yellowknife, 2022

### June 21

Longest day of the year. Also Indigenous Day, a statutory holiday

### Nine schools

Two high schools, one middle school; four elementary/middle school combinations, two elementary schools

### 5 of the NWT's

11 official languages most commonly spoken in Yellowknife: Tlicho, Chipewyan, South Slavey, English and French

### 18 Places

of Worship covering various denominations

### 10:08 a.m.

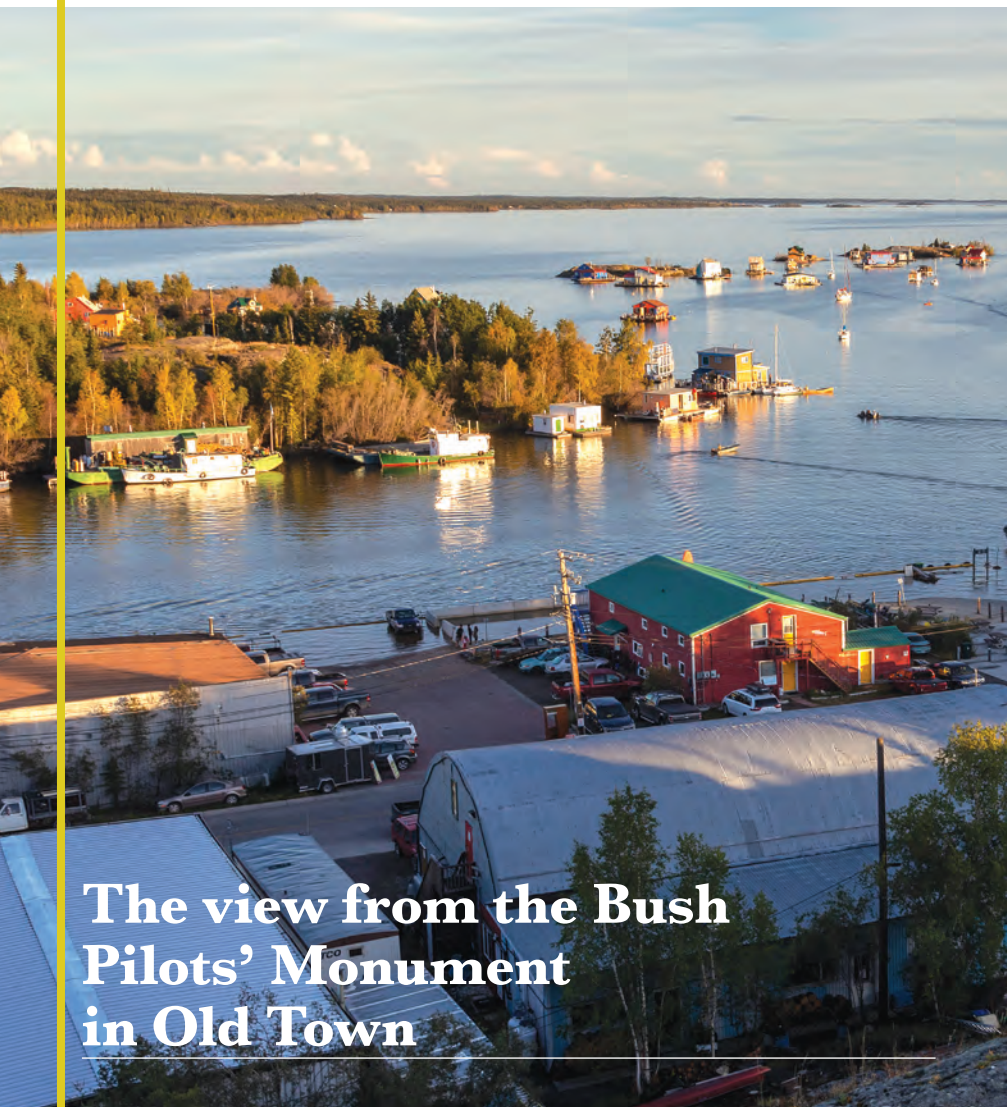
Sunrise on Dec. 21 shortest day of the year

### 3:04 p.m.

Sunset on the same shortest day

### \$165,400

Average household income (2023)



## The view from the Bush Pilots' Monument in Old Town

### **MUST SEE #1**

Climb the 100 plus steps to the top of the rock and the location of a monument to honor the bush pilots who opened the North. At the top, you'll get a 360 degree view of Yellowknife and the surrounding area. Yellowknife's houseboat community, the city's skyline and great views of Great Slave Lake are just some things you'll see. In winter, the top of the rock is a great place to see the Snowking's castle and maybe even catch a glimpse of a dog team heading down the frozen bay.







PHOTO BILL BRADEN



## The Capital Park Area

### ***MUST SEE #2***

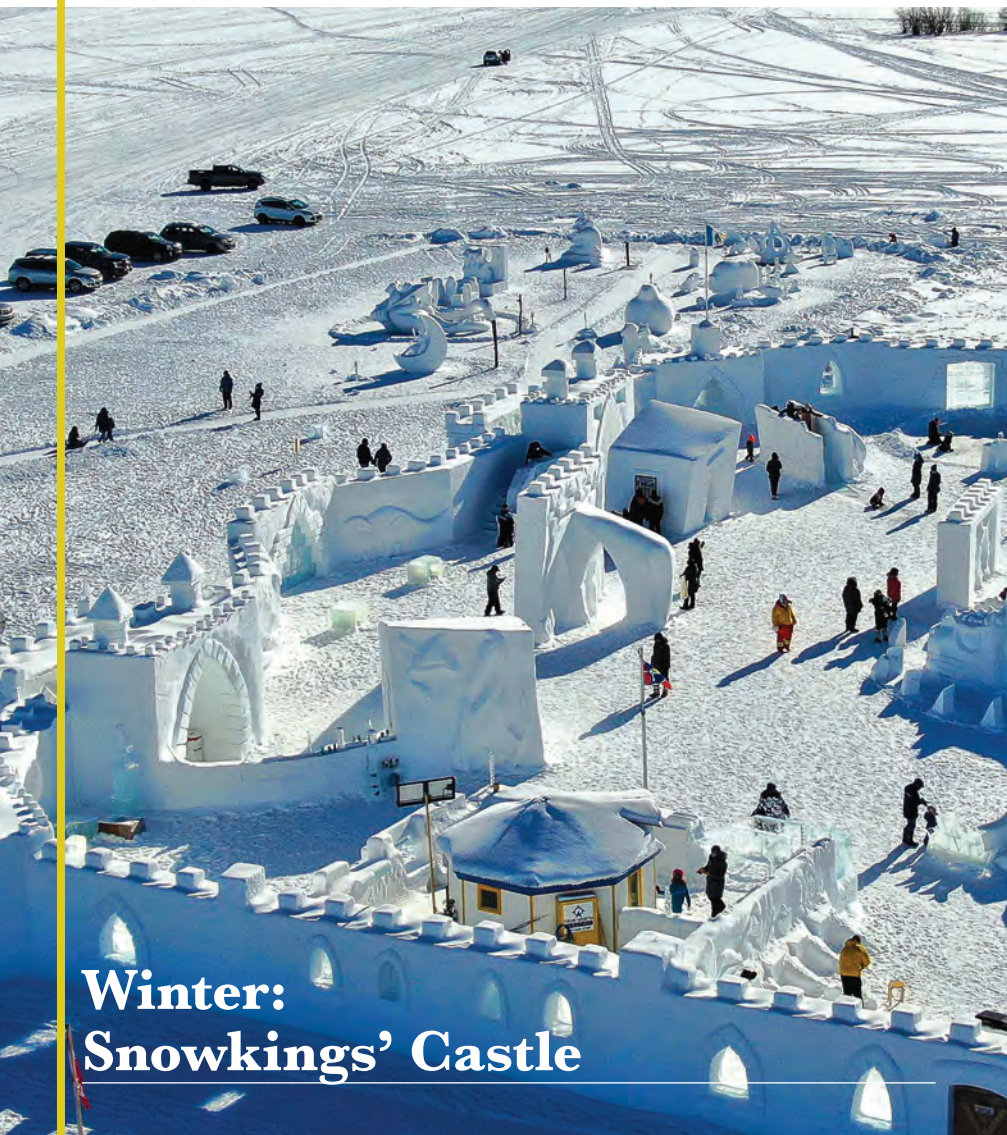
This area provides opportunities for exploring and understanding the culture, politics and natural environment of Yellowknife and the Northwest Territories. It includes the NWT Legislative Assembly building, the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, City Hall, Somba Ke Park and amphitheatre, the Department of National Defence and the RCMP northern headquarters. The route from the Heritage Centre to a ceremonial circle features flags from every community in the NWT. The area also includes the Frame Lake Trail which starts at the Legislative Assembly Building and circles Frame Lake.





PRINCE OF WALES  
NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE

PHOTO COURTESY OF GNWT, DEPT. OF EDUCATION, CULTURE & EMPLOYMENT



## Winter: Snowkings' Castle

### **MUST SEE #3**

Work starts on the castle in January, and visitors are welcomed during the month of March. The structure is the work of mainly volunteers and includes sculptures by local artists and a range of events through March. Each season it also hosts a number of marriages.



PHOTO BILL BRADEN





## Summer: Yellowknife Street Art

### **MUST SEE #4**

Wherever you go in Yellowknife, you'll see street art. Large murals, painted dumpsters, etched rock faces, exotic sculptures. Pick up the arts walk booklet at the visitor centre and wander through the downtown, Old Town and even residential neighbourhoods to view a wide selection of northern art.

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# Easy to reach by air or road

THE FLIGHT FROM EDMONTON TO YELLOWKNIFE IS ABOUT 90 MINUTES. THE DRIVE IS ABOUT 20 HOURS... LONGER IF YOU STOP TO ENJOY THE SIGHTS ENROUTE.



PHOTO: NWT TOURISM

## BY PLANE

Yellowknife is well serviced with direct daily flights from Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver. Seasonally the city also has direct flights from Ottawa, Toronto and Whitehorse. Airlines providing service to the capital from Alberta, BC and Ontario include Canadian North, WestJet, Air Canada and Air North. Flights arrive at the Yellowknife Airport, which is only a few kilometers from

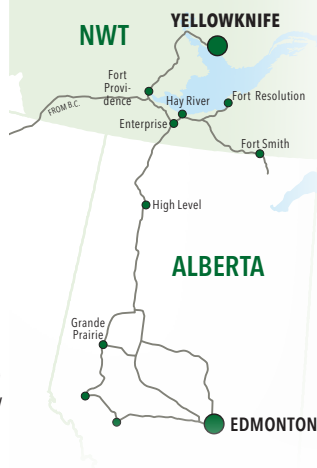
downtown. Check the Yellowknife airport (YZF) website for everything you'll need to know about arrivals and departures.

## BY ROAD

Road access to the Northwest Territories is via Alberta (Highway 35 to the NWT border) then NWT Highway 1, or British Columbia (Highway 77 to the NWT border) and then NWT Highway 7. From Edmonton through

Alberta the route is approximately 1,500 km and takes about 20 hours of driving. The road is paved. Try and minimize any time spent driving after nightfall since bison wander onto the road and are hard to see (you don't want to hit a 1,500 lb ungulate). When you start to see distinctive pink granite along the side of the road, you're getting close to Yellowknife.

For highway conditions visit [www.gov.nt.ca](http://www.gov.nt.ca) and click on Driving and Transportation. For detailed route information, visit [Spectacularnwt.com](http://Spectacularnwt.com) and check out the Road Guide under Travel Info. For camping and reservation information see [nwt-parks.ca/campgrounds](http://nwt-parks.ca/campgrounds).





**NUMBERS TO KNOW**

**VISITOR CENTRE:**

Centre Square Mall  
5014 50th St.,  
867-920-8687,  
Extraordinaryyk.com.

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Call 911 or 867-873-2222  
to speak to a dispatcher.  
Call 811 to speak to  
a registered nurse.  
RCMP: 867-669-1111

**NWT AREA CODE**

867 to all local numbers.

**GETTING AROUND  
IN YELLOWKNIFE**

Visitors can walk to most places in the downtown or Old Town sections of Yellowknife or even to the suburbs on well-marked trails, but we also offer other ways of getting around the city.

**BY RENTAL VEHICLE**

Rental cars and trucks are available at the airport. Rental firms include Budget, National, and Hertz, and nearby, at Gastown Rent-a-Car, 356 Old Airport Road.

**VISITOR PARKING**

The City of Yellowknife offers a 3-day parking pass to visitors using their own or rental cars. Visitor parking passes can be picked up at the Visitors Centre in the YK Centre Mall.

**BY TAXI**

Three taxi companies provide over

200 vehicles to serve our city. Taxis are always available to meet incoming flights, or you can simply call a cab. Some taxi companies will provide aurora viewing trips at set fees. Taxis: Aurora, 867-873-5050; City Cab, 867-873-4444; Yellowknife Cab, 867-873-6666.

**BY BUS**

The city bus service offers three aurora routes:  
**A** – Borden/Downtown, Route  
**B** – Frame Lake/Northlands, Route  
**C** – Old Town/Niven.  
Buses run from 7:10 am to 7:25 pm Monday to Saturday, all year. There is no transit service on Sundays or statutory holidays. For details and a map go to [www.yellowknife.ca/en/living-here/transit.asp](http://www.yellowknife.ca/en/living-here/transit.asp). To check the schedule: [www.yellowknife.ca/findmybus](http://www.yellowknife.ca/findmybus). Adult fare: \$3.00, Seniors: \$2.00, Children under 5: free.

**BY CHARTER BUS**

Bucketlist Tours offers a 16 passenger coach for rental by the hour or day. For more information contact them at 867-445-8405.

**BY BICYCLE**

You can rent bikes from Old Town Bikeworks at 3510A McDonald Drive, or you can rent fat bikes from Overlander Sports at 4909 50<sup>th</sup> Street. Borealis Bike Tours Unlimited offers guided fatbike tours.

**BY LIMOUSINE SERVICE**

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## Le cœur à l'aventure

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[parcs.canada.ca/woodbuffalo](https://parcs.canada.ca/woodbuffalo)



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velociraptor



campfire



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PHOTO BOB WILSON

## Colourful past, vibrant future

➔ BUILT ON GOLD AND DIAMONDS. SUSTAINED BY A MULTICULTURAL POPULATION

Yellowknife is located on a traditional Dene river route north to the barrenlands. Today the Indigenous people who live close to the river's mouth are known as Yellowknives Dene. Métis and British explorers, including Samuel Hearne, Peter Pond and Alexander Mackenzie learned of the route from Dene guides in the 1700s.

Two Yellowknives Dene communities, N'Dilo and Dettah, thrive close by. Weledeh, or Wiliideh, is the traditional Yellowknives name

for the Yellowknife River and the bay on Great Slave Lake, and for the language still spoken here. Weledeh translates as Inconnu or Coney River. Coney and whitefish are still plentiful and are available fresh from the lake.

Fur traders bypassed this area, but Europeans were curious to map a land route to the Arctic. British naval officer John Franklin began a land expedition to the Arctic with assistance from the Dene chief Akaitcho, on the Yellowknife River

in 1819. Sketches by one of his companions show a landscape still obvious today. Franklin's trip was generally thought to be a disaster, and interest in this route faded.

Some decades later, gold was spotted near here in the 1890s, and the hunt for gold brought more explorers. When northern air travel expanded in the 1930s there was a sudden gold rush. First, free gold was discovered on the Yellowknife River. Next, gold was spotted at Burwash, across





from today's townsite. Finally, a major ore body was located at what became the Con Mine, south of today's city. The first gold brick was poured in 1938, and a tent city was incorporated as Yellowknife the same year. The town chose Samuel Hearne's name for the Dene of this area, the Yellowknives, a reference to copper knives.

A new burst of gold excitement saw the town expand in 1946, when the Giant Yellowknife Mine opened. By 1953, the town had expanded up the hill from Yellowknife Bay, there were streets with rows of houses and the town had a mayor. Residents could truthfully claim the gold was paved with streets, as the hard rock gold mines expanded underground. In 1967, Yellowknife was named capital of the Northwest Territories,



DISPLAY NEAR THE YELLOWKNIFE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

PHOTO PAGE BURT



MINING HERITAGE DISPLAY CABIN

PHOTO PAGE BURT

bringing an influx of government personnel. It was named a city in 1970.

Gold mining was the basis of the Yellowknife economy and the source of employment for over 60 years. In the early 2000s the mines shut down, one at a time. Miners had produced 12 million ounces of gold. But Yellowknife continued to thrive. In the 1990s, diamonds were discovered 300 kilometres northeast of the city in the barrenlands and Yellowknife was a natural to supply the new mines. Four diamond mines eventually opened.

The remaining mines are nearing the end of their lives, but the potential for gold and other minerals holds promise for Yellowknife's continued prosperity. Today, exploration for more gold, and for lithium, continues surrounding the city.

To learn more about the history of Yellowknife and the Northwest Territories, plan a visit to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre (across from the Explorer hotel as you drive into Yellowknife) and the Yellowknife Mining and Geological Museum near the former Giant Mine site.

## Quick History

### FOR CENTURIES

The Weledeh Dene live and travel in the region, fishing in the Yellowknife River in the summer.

### 1898

Prospector E.A. Blakeley discovers gold near Yellowknife Bay. His find is overshadowed by the furor around the Klondike Gold Rush.

### 1934

Johnny Baker and a crew of prospectors find gold on the east side of Yellowknife Bay, establishing the Burwash Mine.

### 1935-37

A gold find at the west end of Yellowknife Bay spurs a mini gold rush. Over the next two years Con Mine is developed and a town is settled.

### 1948

Giant Mine, Yellowknife's other gold mine begins production at the east end of Yellowknife.

### 1953

Yellowknife becomes a municipality and elects its first mayor John "Jock" McNiven.

### 1960

A year-round highway connecting Yellowknife and the south is complete.

### 1967

Yellowknife is named the capital of the Northwest Territories.

### 1970

The Northwest Territories introduces its famous polar bear shapod licence plates.

### 1972

The first edition of the local newspaper, the *Yellowknifer*, is published

### 1991

The discovery of diamonds at Point Lake sparks the largest staking rush in Canadian history.

### 1998

Canada's first diamond mine, Ekati, opens 310 km northeast of Yellowknife.

### 1999

Separation of the territory of Nunavut from the Northwest Territories.

### 2004

The last of Yellowknife's gold mines closes.

### 2019

New \$350 million hospital opens in Yellowknife, the largest government capital investment in the history of the NWT.

### 2023

On August 16, due to approaching wildfires, a government ordered evacuation caused a three week closure of the city, while volunteers cleared fire breaks. 106 wildfires burned more than one million hectares of the surrounding area. No fires reached the city.



# Journey through NWT culture and heritage at the museum



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[parks.canada.ca/naatsihchoh](https://parks.canada.ca/naatsihchoh)

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[parcs.canada.ca/naatsihchoh](https://parcs.canada.ca/naatsihchoh)



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PHOTOS BILL BRADEN

## All the city's a stage

→ A GLIMPSE INTO YELLOWKNIFE'S ART SCENE

From its Juno-award winning musicians to painters whose work has been seen world-wide, Yellowknife is certainly not short of artists. Visit galleries, the theatre and studios to see exquisite work on display or even stop by a restaurant or café where the walls boast local art.

### ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

#### ARTLESS COLLECTIVE

Northern film collective that organizes the Dead North Film Festival. [info@artlesscollective.com](mailto:info@artlesscollective.com)

#### ASSOCIATION FRANCO-CULTURELLE DE YELLOWKNIFE

Cultural shows for Yellowknife's large francophone population. 867-873-3292. [afcy.info](http://afcy.info)

### MUSIC NWT

The non-profit music industry association helps develop and foster music and its industry in the NWT. [Music.nwt.connect@gmail.com](mailto:Music.nwt.connect@gmail.com)

### NORTHERN ARTS & CULTURAL CENTRE (NACC)

Home to most stage plays, and many local and touring music performances. Box office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:30-5; Sat 6 pm show start. 4701 52 Ave., 867-766-6101. [naccnt.ca](http://naccnt.ca)





#### **OLD TOWN GLASSWORKS**

Purchase retail items or sand-blast your own original designs onto glass, turning recycled wine bottles into cups, vases and unique mementos. Pre-booking required. 3510 McDonald Drive. 867-669-7654. [oldtownglassworks.com](http://oldtownglassworks.com)

#### **PRINCE OF WALES NORTHERN HERITAGE CENTRE (PWNHC)**

The museum exhibits art from or relating to the NWT. 4750 48 Street. 867-767-9347. [pwnhc.ca](http://pwnhc.ca)

#### **WESTERN ARCTIC MOVING PICTURES (WAMP)**

Non-profit organization that produces and showcases films and

digital media, rents equipment and hosts workshops and the annual Yellowknife International Film Festival. 4916 49 Street 867-766-2586, [wamp.ca](http://wamp.ca)

#### **YELLOWKNIFE ARTIST RUN COMMUNITY CENTRE (ARCC)**

The volunteer-run organization supports and promotes arts groups in Yellowknife. [facebook.com/ykarcc](https://www.facebook.com/ykarcc)

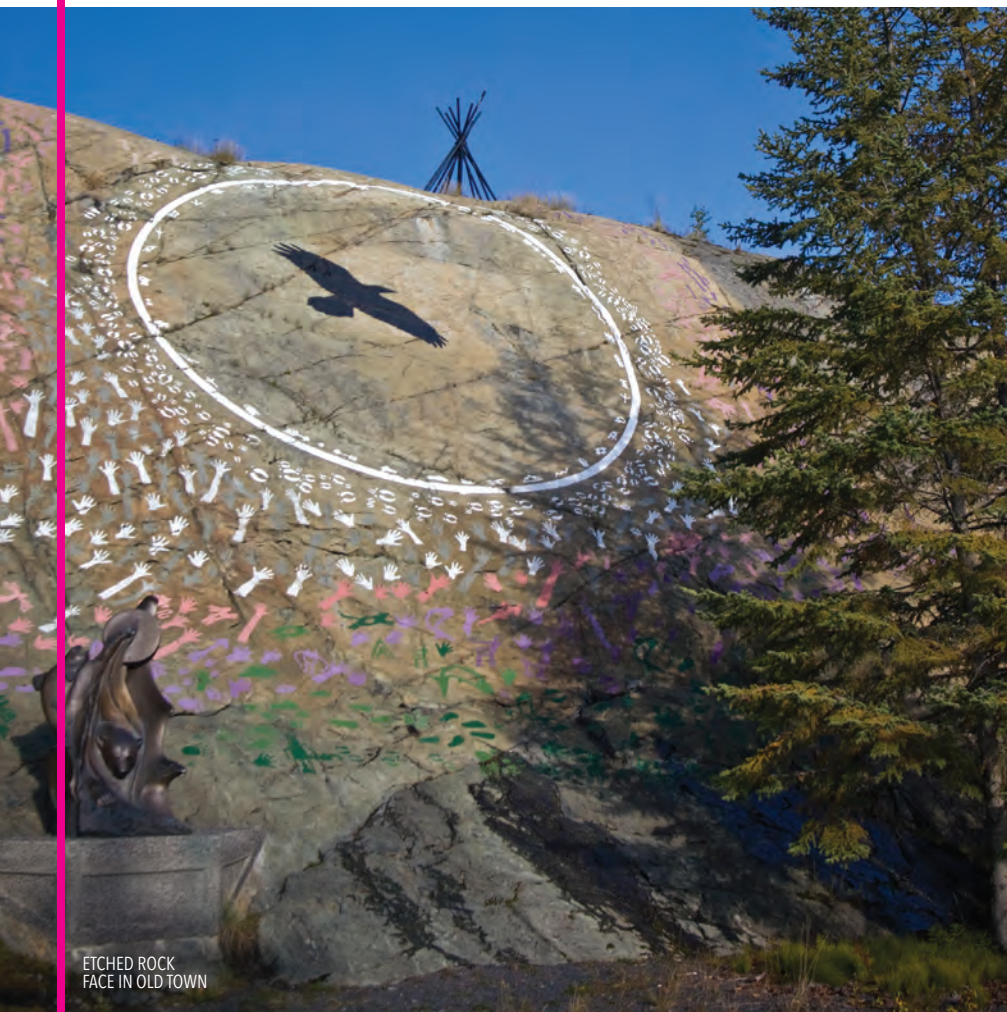
#### **YELLOWKNIFE GUILD OF ARTS AND CRAFTS ("THE GUILD")**

You can take any arts class (like stained glass, jewellery-making, fibre arts, pottery) as long as you're a member. 113 Kam

Lake Road. 867-920-4573. [ykguild.wordpress.com](http://ykguild.wordpress.com)

#### **YELLOWKNIFE FARMERS' MARKET**

At the Somba K'e Civic Plaza, beside City Hall, you will not only find food galore, but locally made crafts every Tuesday night starting at 5:15 p.m. from early June to mid-September. [yellowknifefarmersmarket.ca](http://yellowknifefarmersmarket.ca)



ETCHED ROCK  
FACE IN OLD TOWN

PHOTO DAVE BROSHA

## GALLERIES AND ART

### AURORA EMPORIUM ART GALLERY

A source for Northern art  
in many forms. 4701 50 Ave.  
867-688-0111. [facebook.com/  
auroraemporiumartgallery](https://www.facebook.com/auroraemporiumartgallery)

### AURORA VILLAGE

High end locally made  
crafts at village gift shop.  
867-669-0006.

### DOWN TO EARTH GALLERY

Local and pan-territorial art in  
Old Town. 5007 Bryson Drive.  
867-920-0711. [facebook.com/  
downtoearthgallery](https://www.facebook.com/downtoearthgallery)

### ERASMUS APPAREL

Locally designed and silkscreened  
apparel-original designs inspired  
by Yellowknife. 4602 50 Ave. 867-  
444-0307. [Erasmusapparel.com](https://www.erasmusapparel.com)

### FIREWEED STUDIO

Locally made pottery. Open June-

September on Saturdays and  
during the Farmers' Market in  
Somba K'e Plaza 867-920-4573.  
[ykguild.wordpress.com](https://www.ykguild.wordpress.com),  
[yellowknifeguild@gmail.com](mailto:yellowknifeguild@gmail.com)

### FROZEN ROCK STUDIO

Stone carvings. Call first,  
6 Coronation Drive. 867-446-7753

### GALLERY OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

NWT Diamonds, fine Inuit and  
Dene art, and northern apparel.  
5005 Bryson Drive. 867-873-8064





## EACH PIECE OF ART TELLS A STORY

### NWT Arts connects you with that story

In stores and galleries, the NWT Arts logo identifies authentic Northwest Territories arts and fine crafts created by artists registered with the NWT Arts Program. Artists create one-of-a-kind handmade pieces that capture their northern spirit and share their unique stories of living in Canada's Northwest Territories.

### Look for authentic NWT art at these local businesses:

**Aurora Emporium  
Art Gallery**

4701 Franklin Avenue

**Down to Earth Gallery**

5005 Bryson Drive

**Erasmus Apparel**

4602-50 Avenue

**Fiddles and Stix Music  
Centre**

5018-52 Street

**Fireweed Studio (Seasonal)**

4807-52 Street

**Frozen Rock Studio**

5 Coronation Drive

**Gallery of the Midnight Sun**

5007 Bryson Drive

**Mother Earth Rocks**

3608 Franklin Avenue

**Old Town Glassworks**

3510 McDonald Drive

**Signed.**

5024-51 Street

**The Cabin**

1 Yellowknife Highway  
Yellowknife Airport

**The Gallery on 47<sup>th</sup> Street**

4909-47 Street

**The Quilted Raven**

5003-53 Street

**Visual Effects**

4905-48 Street

**Yellowknife Book Cellar**

4921-49 Street

**Yellowknife Guild  
of Arts and Crafts**

113 Kam Lake Road

Connect with artists and learn

Where to Buy NWT Art [nwtarts.com](http://nwtarts.com)



Artists Left to Right:  
Beth Cowan | Eli Nasogatuak | Amanda Baton





NATURE NORTH'S WILDLIFE GALLERY

PHOTO BILL BRADEN

**GALLERY ON 47<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

The downtown art gallery, which originally operated from 2010 to 2014, is back. Located next door to their old location, the gallery exhibits local art from paintings to carvings. 4909 47<sup>th</sup> Street.

**MOTHER EARTH ROCKS**

Stone and bone carvings, northern crafts and jewellery. 3608 50 Ave. 867-445-9485

**NATURE'S NORTH WILDLIFE GALLERY**

Your local taxidermy gallery brings together decades of craftsmanship

from local artists and 7 Ellesmere Drive. 867-445-5889

**SIGNED**

Signs, digital printing plus items featuring Ptarmi the Ptarmigan. 5024 51 St. 867-920-0770. janet@signedyk.com

**THE QUILTED RAVEN**

Northern fabrics, patterns and supplies. 5003 53 Street. 867-920-0303. Thequiltedraven.com

**THE CABIN**

Giftshop with a wide variety

of Northern items. Yellowknife Airport 867-873-2369.

**VISUAL EFFECTS**

Custom framing and traditional arts and crafts 4905 48 Street. 867-873-3536, visual-effects.ca.

**YELLOWKNIFE BOOK CELLAR**

Your best source of literature from—and about—the North. 4923 49 St. 867-920-2220. yellowknifebooks.com



**Which Aurora experience will you take?**

**WINTER AURORA**

# THANKS TO ITS PERFECT POSITION

under the Auroral Oval and crisp, clear skies, you'll soon see why the Northwest Territories is home to the world's best Aurora. The Northern Lights dance here more than 240 nights a year and the winter season begins in November and runs right through to April. Bundle up, grab a warm drink and get ready for the show of a lifetime.



YELLOWKNIFE LENORA BARRETT / NWTT



NORMAN WELLS NICKY RICHARDS / NWTT

**SPECTACULAR  
NORTHWEST  
TERRITORIES**

**AURORA DAY TRIPS**

# SETTLE INTO ONE OF THE MANY

comfortable hotels available in the Northwest territories before enjoying a wide-range of daytime activities. You can drive on the ice road or even guide a dogsled team before heading out on an evening Aurora hunting tour with one of our many experienced guides. They know exactly where to go for the best shows and the perfect photo opportunities.



CANOL TRAIL MILE 50 NICKY RICHARDS / NWTT



YELLOWKNIFE PAUL ZIZKA / NWTT

For more information visit us online  
**SPECTACULARNWT.COM**



# 極光首選 Yellowknife Tours 黃刀旅遊

≡ 西北特區 第一家華人旅遊公司 ≡

YELLOWKNIFE TOURS

◆ 榮獲加拿大西北特區 -  
2018年 最佳秀場外地旅行社大獎  
THE 2018  
BEST OUTBOUND TRAVEL  
OPERATOR AWARD

◆ 榮獲加拿大西北特區 -  
2017年 最佳秀場商業大獎  
THE 2017  
BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

YELLOWKNIFE TOURS

◆ 榮獲加拿大西北特區 -  
2015年 唯一最佳旅行社大獎  
THE 2015  
OPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

YELLOWKNIFE TOURS






◆ 榮獲加拿大西北特區 -  
2015年 唯一最佳旅行社大獎  
THE 2015  
OPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Yellowknife Tours LTD. are the first receptive tour operator based in Yellowknife and the sole agent of trout rock lodge. We aim to provide tourists with the best quality product and service.  
Yellowknife Tours Team is dedicated to their professionalism to bring you a unique wilderness experience, a unique and beautiful glimpse of what Yellowknife has to offer with fluent Mandarin, Cantonese and English.






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867-446-0879  Main Office: 5120 - 48th Street  
Yellowknife, NT  
X1A 1N6  www.yellowknifetours.com  
 aurora@yellowknifetours.com



## Summer and fall optional activities:

- ❖ Aurora Viewing in both Dream Cabin & Aboriginal Teepees
- ❖ Aurora hunting tours by car
- ❖ City Tours
- ❖ Cameron Waterfall Tours
- ❖ ATV Day Tours
- ❖ Great Slave Lake Boat Tours
- ❖ Great Slave Lake Cruise With Sport Fishing Tours
- ❖ Bison/Buffalo Viewing Tours.

## Winter optional activities:

- ❖ Aurora Viewing in both Dream Cabin & Aboriginal Teepees
- ❖ Aurora hunting tours
- ❖ City Tour
- ❖ Ice Road Tour
- ❖ Traditional Dog Sledding
- ❖ Drive Your Own Dog Team
- ❖ Ice Fishing
- ❖ Sport Ice Fishing
- ❖ Snowmobiling
- ❖ Ice Cave Tours
- ❖ Winter Sledding
- ❖ Winter Skiing
- ❖ Winter Ice Skating
- ❖ Snowshoeing Fun Experience
- ❖ Ice Castle Tour (March Only)

## 夏秋季自選活動:

- ❖ 夢幻小木屋和獨特風格原住民帳篷觀賞北極光
- ❖ 開車追光
- ❖ 黃刀市區觀賞遊
- ❖ 卡梅倫瀑布觀賞遊戲
- ❖ ATV 四驅越野車郊外觀賞遊
- ❖ 大奴湖觀賞游及坐船釣魚新樂趣
- ❖ 野牛及西北特區大自然觀賞游

## 冬季自選活動:

- ❖ 夢幻小木屋和獨特風格原住民帳篷觀賞北極光
- ❖ 黃刀市區觀賞遊
- ❖ 開車追光
- ❖ 傳統狗拉雪橇
- ❖ 自駕式狗拉雪橇
- ❖ 冰上拉網捕魚
- ❖ 釣魚竿休閒釣魚新樂趣
- ❖ 雪地電單車
- ❖ 冰洞之旅
- ❖ 冰雪路觀賞遊
- ❖ 冬季雪橇新樂趣
- ❖ 冬季滑雪新樂趣
- ❖ 冬季溜冰新樂趣
- ❖ 冬季雪鞋健行樂趣
- ❖ 冰城堡 (3月份才開放).



Phone/電話: 1-867-444-3888  
WeChat/微信: auroradreamtours  
WhatsApp: +1 867 444 3888  
Line: 1 867 444 3888  
Facebook: Aurora Dream Tours  
Email/電郵: auroradreamtours.yk@gmail.com  
Website/網站: www.auroradreamtours.com



# The curtain rises

FRONT ROW SEATS TO ONE OF THE GREATEST SHOWS ON EARTH



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

Yellowknife can truly claim to be the home of Aurora Borealis. The capital of the Northwest Territories is located at a world class sweet spot. It's 62 degrees north and 68 degrees magnetic north on the Auroral oval-the invisible necklace of viewable northern lights that rings the Arctic night.

Depending on the sun's activity, and Yellowknife's clear night skies, the chances of residents and visitors catching sight of the

mysterious Aurora are very good, with a display as often as every third clear dark night or more from late August to late April.

It is hard not to be awed by displays of the Northern Lights, whether you're seeing it for the first or 100<sup>th</sup> time. Their swooping and drifting curtains of light play a large role in the stories of northern Indigenous people. Today, science tells us the lights bloom hundreds of kilometres above us although

they may appear to almost touch the ground. Aurora watchers can view swirls and curtains of green and sometimes multi-coloured light looking toward the North, or they might stand under a breathtaking crown of shifting, coloured lights filling the night sky and casting an eerie glow.

The Aurora is only visible under dark night skies, but is actually caused by the sun. Our sun sends a stream of charged particles

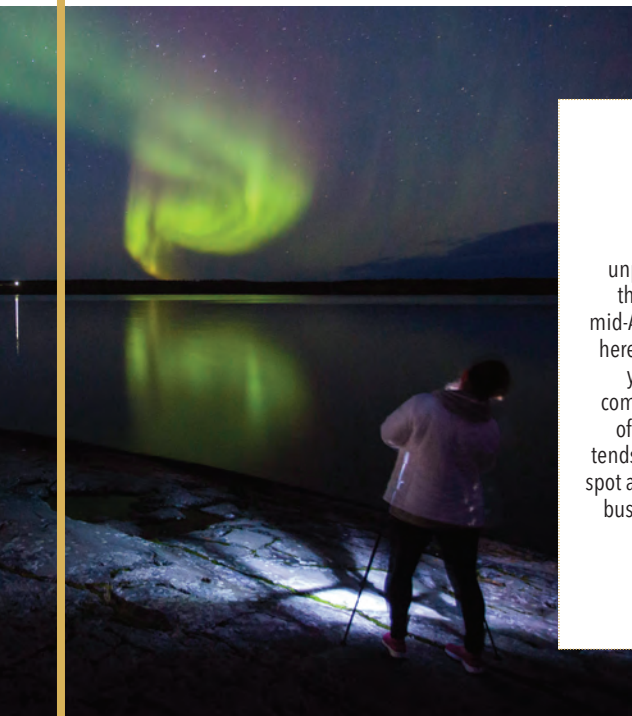


PHOTO BILL BRADEN

into space, and sometimes shoots out storms of particles. This “solar wind” disturbs the earth’s protective magnetic shield. Some charged particles become trapped in our upper atmosphere, where they react with oxygen (greenish yellow) and nitrogen (pink and crimson) to cause the flare of Northern Lights.

Yellowknife has a unique aurora warning system in the shape of small lighthouse signal towers at popular locations around town. These blink daily through the dark months to indicate predictions for that evening’s light show - flashing red, green or blue. Red indicates the potential for vibrant Auroras, green predicts some auroral activity near midnight and blue indicates a calm night with the potential for gentle auroras.

Tour operators offer group visits to unique viewing sites, far from the interference of city lights. However, it is possible to view the lights from

the city in any semi-dark location. Several spots close to the city centre include the shore of Great Slave Lake in Old Town, one of the city’s smaller lakes, or parks, or the sand pits. Outside the city, the territorial parks along the Ingraham Trail offer excellent viewing and safe parking for vehicles.

Maps of the Ingraham Trail are available at the visitor centre or the airport information desk.

For more information on Yellowknife’s Aurora visit [www.astronomynorth.com](http://www.astronomynorth.com)

**Aurora Up** is a guide to aurora watching by Yellowknife’s Bill Braden. Local photographer Braden includes traditional stories of the Aurora as well as the latest science, and how to take photos of the Northern Lights.

**AURORA TIPS**  
WHAT ARE THE BEST WAYS TO SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS?

**FORECAST:** Although the Aurora are unpredictable, the best months to view them are January through March, and mid-August through September. If you’re here in April/May or October/November, you may not see much. The humidity coming from the breakup and freeze-up of the lakes in and around Yellowknife tends to cloud the skies. If you happen to spot a lighthouse near certain Yellowknife businesses, such as Aurora Ford, Gallery of the Midnight Sun or Sushi North, here’s what their colours mean: green-there’s not much going on; red-there’s a Northern Lights storm.



PHOTO BILL BRADEN





# AURORA VILLAGE

The most picturesque aurora-viewing tour  
with facilities renown worldwide.



## WINTER/SPRING

Aurora- viewing  
Dog Team Ride  
Snowshoeing  
... and more

## SUMMER/FALL

Aurora-viewing  
Hiking Tours  
Wildlife Drive  
... and more

Aurora Village Tour Desk located in the heart of downtown.

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Email [booking@auroravillage.com](mailto:booking@auroravillage.com)







## AURORA TIPS

WHAT ARE THE BEST WAYS TO SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS?

**VIEW:** The trick is to simply get away from streetlights. If you're on foot, you'll see them better from Frame Lake. If you've got wheels, head to the ice road to Dettah and then stop along the side of the road for a magnificent view. If you're feeling even more adventurous, drive down the Ingraham Trail and turn off at any of the lake entrance parking lots. Careful, though: many a driver has been so caught up in the light show overhead, they've accidentally driven into a snowbank. Keep your eyes on the road.

**CAPTURE:** Want to give Northern Lights photography a shot? Be sure to bring a tripod and a spare battery; your batteries will drain quickly in the cold. Set your ISO to at least 800, and leave your aperture open as wide as it can go. If you're not planning to take your own photos, you can pick up a print or photo of the aurora-lit skies from various stores across the city.



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

## AURORA VIEWING OPERATORS

There are many aurora viewing operators in Yellowknife, offering tours in various languages. Following is a list of operators. You can also check the list at the Yellowknife Visitors Centre.

### AURORA VIEWING

Aurora Village 867-669-0006  
 Yellowknife Tours 867-873-4600  
 Morning Star Travel 867-444-1098  
 JiGuang Tours 867-445-2838  
 Arctic Tours Canada 867-446-7335  
 Aurora Dream Tours 867-444-3888  
 Sonny Aurora Tours 867-445-0151  
 Yellowknife Vacations 867-445-6864  
 Bucketlist Tours 867-445-8405  
 Yellowknife Outdoor Adventure  
 867-873-5800  
 B. Dene Adventures 867-444-0451  
 North Star Adventures  
 867-446-2900  
 Aurora Wonderland/Beck's  
 Kennels 867-873-5603

Enodah/Aurora Station  
 867-873-4334  
 Northern Lights Tours  
 867-444-0772  
 Tlicho Adventures Limited  
 info@mybackyardtours.com  
 Trail Blazer Tours 867-446-5091  
 Tugah Northern Experience  
 867-444-7797  
 Nanook Aurora Tours  
 867-446-6800  
 AuroraTours.net 867-688-0989  
 North of Sixty 867-446-6061  
 Hello Aurora 867-445-9088  
 Yellowknife Holiday 867-444-9326

### AURORA PACKAGES

(one or more nights including accommodation)  
 Lac La Martre Adventures  
 867-688-8687  
 Enodah/Trout Rock Lodge  
 867-873-4600  
 Peterson's Point Lake Lodge  
 (fall season only)  
 867-920-4654



Snowmobile tours and rentals  
 Heated Ice fishing  
 shacks rentals & tours  
 Hiking tours

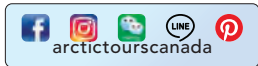


Summer Arctic Ocean packages  
 Sightseeing and photography tours  
 Customized group packages  
 Northern lights Tours

**ARCTIC TOURS CANADA**  
**ARCTICTOURSCANADA.CA**



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View Aurora mid-August to mid-September

Personalized 1:2 guide to guest ratio

3 or 6-night stays available

Northern pike and lake trout



Lac La Martre Adventures is proudly 100% Indigenous owned by Tłı̨cho Adventures Ltd.

NWTFISHING.COM  
Northwest Territories, Canada



Providing year-round authentic tourism and adventure experiences in the Northwest Territories, including:

- Fishing
- Cultural experiences
- Aurora viewing
- Outdoor adventures
- Winter clothing rentals

MYBACKYARDTOURS.COM  
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada

My Backyard Tours is proudly 100% Indigenous owned by Tłı̨cho Adventures Ltd.





## Yes, we tell fish stories

➔ BUT UP HERE THEY'RE ALMOST ALWAYS TRUE.

Yellowknife sits on the shore of one of the largest and deepest lakes in the world, Great Slave Lake. It's home to monster lake trout and great northern pike as well as prize walleye, arctic grayling and of course, tasty whitefish. There are also dozens of smaller lakes nearby, some accessible by vehicle and others by floatplane, where the fishing is spectacular.

Just remember, you'll need a fishing licence for sport fishing in the NWT, but once you have it, you can try your luck at a roadside lake or rent a boat at Prelude Lake, about a half hour outside Yellowknife. Inflatable and aluminum boats and motors are also available for rent on the shores of Great Slave Lake at Omega Marine.

You can purchase fishing licences online at various prices for residents and non-residents, but a one-day licence for \$10 is ideal for anyone who wants to give NWT fishing a try, or is only here for a brief time. To purchase a licence online go to [licences.enr.gov.nt.ca/fishing-licence](http://licences.enr.gov.nt.ca/fishing-licence). For details on catch limits and other regulations, check out the Northwest Territories Sport

Fishing Regulations at [enr.gov.nt.ca/en](http://enr.gov.nt.ca/en)

Let one of our fishing operators take you out on the lake to catch a prize fish...or maybe even a record-sized one. Hop aboard in Old Town where our Great Slave Lake guides keep their boats. Or fly by floatplane (also in Old Town) to take you to a lake of your own.

### SUMMER

#### BLUEFISH OUTFITTING

Guided fishing trips on Great Slave Lake. 867-445-8553. [bluefish.greg@gmail.com](mailto:bluefish.greg@gmail.com)

#### BLACK JACK FISHING

Offers fishing tours. [blackjackfishing@gmail.com](mailto:blackjackfishing@gmail.com)

#### BOB TURNER

Aboriginal fishing tours on Great Slave Lake. 867-446-6502

#### GREAT SLAVE LAKE TOURS

A fishing adventure on a true Great Slave Lake fishing boat. Also offers aurora viewing and cultural teachings. Contact Shawn Buckley at 867-875-8077

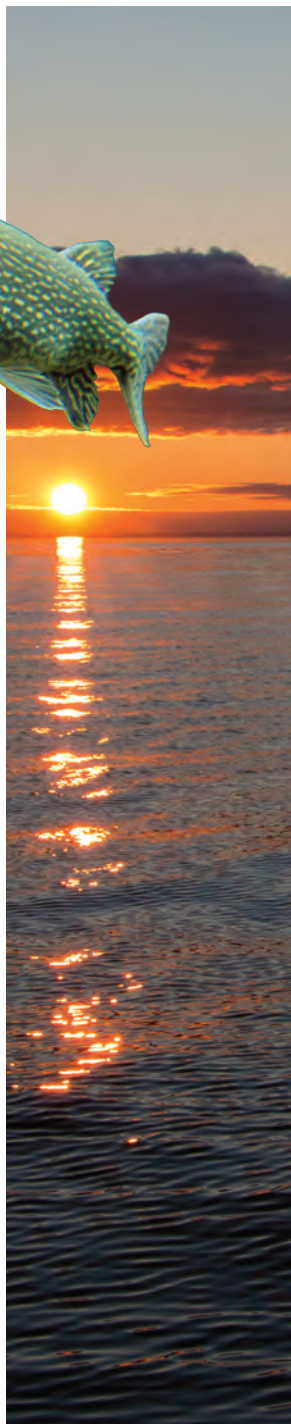


PHOTO COREY MYERS







PHOTO BILL BRADEN

**NORTH STAR ADVENTURES**

Offers fishing tours, boat tours, nature tours. 867-446-2900 northstaradventures.ca

**TRAILBLAZER TOURS**

Full day and half day trips on Great Slave Lake. 867-446-5091

**YELLOWKNIFE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

Trophy fishing and fish fry dinner tours. 867-444-8320. yellowknifeoutdooradventures.com Also offers ice fishing in heated fishing huts.



PHOTO COREY MYERS/NWTTOURISM





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WORLD-CLASS FISHING

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[bdene.com](http://bdene.com)

[tours@bdene.com](mailto:tours@bdene.com)



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PHOTO BILL BRADEN

**YELLOWKNIFE SPORTFISHING ADVENTURES**

East arm day trips from Yellowknife. 867-447-4868  
Yellowknifesportfishing.com

**WINTER ICE FISHING**

**ARCTIC TOURS CANADA.**

Heated fish shacks. 867-446-7335

**BLUEFISH SERVICES.**

Ice fishing in the comfort of our special snow bear. 867-445-8553

**EXPLORE YELLOWKNIFE YEAR ROUND ICE FISHING.**

Fadil Memedi  
contact@exploreyellowknife.ca

**TRAILBLAZER TOURS**

Hop on a snowmobile and try your luck fishing through the ice. 867-446-5091

**YELLOWKNIFE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

In heated ice fishing shacks. 867-444-8320



PHOTO RILEY VELDHIJZEN



PHOTO FRAN HURCOMB

**YELLOWKNIFE SPORTFISHING ADVENTURES.**

Ice fishing in insulated, heated tents. 867-446-5950





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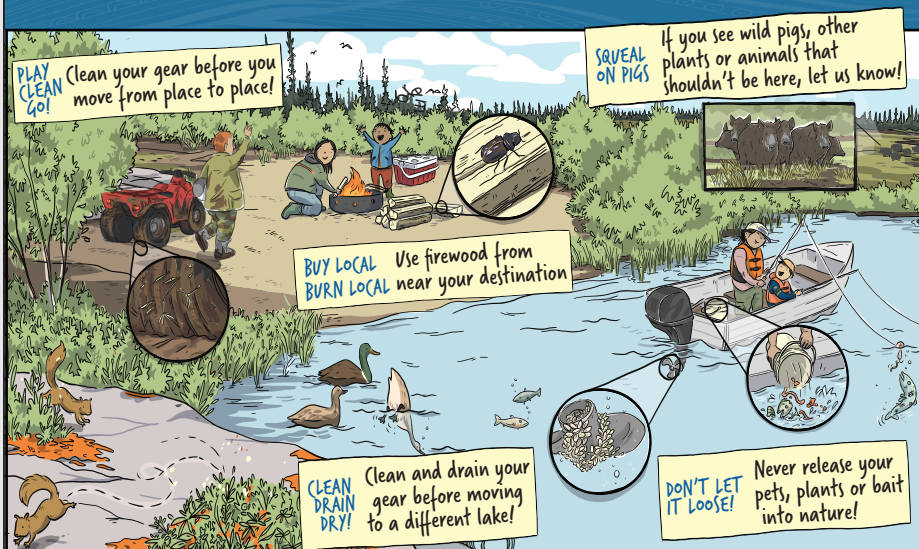
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[qiniq.com](http://qiniq.com)

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invasive-alien-species](http://gov.nt.ca/ecc/en/services/invasive-alien-species)



NWT COUNCIL  
ON INVASIVE SPECIES,  
PESTS, AND PATHOGENS

[nwtcispp.ca](http://nwtcispp.ca)

## AN ANGLER'S PARADISE

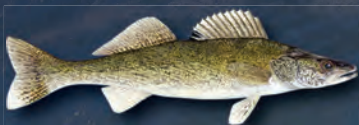
Forget the gold mines, the real treasure's in the water



### ARCTIC GRAYLING

*Thymallus arcticus*

Grayling are treasured by anglers for their feistiness, which guarantees an exciting battle, but are limited to the open water season. Members of the whitefish family, the pretty little fish with sail-like dorsal fins are found at the mouths of rivers. They average from 0.5 to 1kg and can reach up to 1.5kg.



### WALLEYE

*Sander vitreus vitreus*

Also commonly called pickerel (a misnomer), these are arguably the most prized shorelunch around—what you catch is culinary quality. On average, walleye weigh in at 1 to 2kg, but people have been known to reel them in at 3kg. You can catch these year-round throughout the Mackenzie River watershed and in the tributaries of Great Slave Lake, as well as other little lakes in the area.



### LAKE WHITEFISH

*Coregonus clupeaformis*

Found in Great Slave Lake's Yellowknife Bay, as well as at Tartan Rapids outside the city and in lakes along the Ingraham Trail, whitefish average 1kg. These fish provide a lot of action but must be hooked gently, as they have fragile mouths.



### NORTHERN PIKE

*Esox lucius*

Pike are greedy, so they're relatively easy to catch. But hold on tight; they're fighters! Often called jackfish, pike generally run from 2 to 7kg, and some tip the scales at more than 18kg. Pike prefer warm, slow-moving, weedy water. You can catch these year-round.



### INCONNU

*Stedonus leucichthys*

Inconnu average from 3 to 5kg, although it's not uncommon to reel them in at 9 to 14kg. Some even reach up to 22kg. The name is French for "unknown," but they're well known in Great Slave Lake and Marian Lake, where they're often called coney.



### LAKE TROUT

*Salvelinus namaycush*

Lake trout average 4.5kg, but catches of 18kg and above are common. They grow slowly in our cold water, taking 12 or more years to mature. The big ones can be found out in the East Arm of Great Slave Lake.





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In the land of lakes, your options are endless. There's Lac la Martre, near Whati; Kakisa Lake south of Great Slave; or Campbell Lake outside Inuvik on the Dempster Highway. There's Duncan and Hearne and Point and the thousands of lakes north of the Inghram Trail outside Yellowknife, not to mention the veritable inland seas known as Great Bear Lake and Great Slave Lake.

No matter which lake you choose to drop a line in, you're sure to come face to face with the gargantuan fish that make the NWT a must-go-to destination for anyone looking to break their personal record for biggest catch. End your day with an authentic NWT shore-cooked meal, and you're sure to have a trip full of amazing food and spectacular stories.

For more information visit us online

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# Embracing the great outdoors

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## POPULAR SWIMMING SPOTS

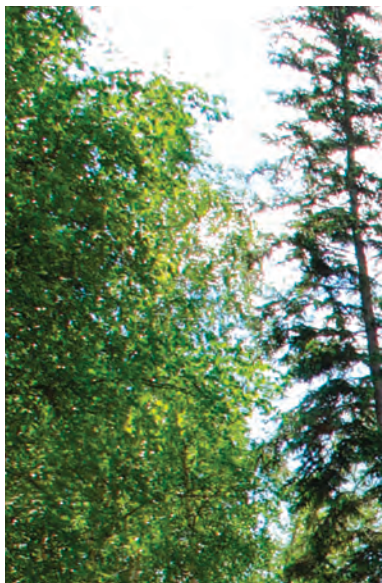
### BACK BAY

Be warned—it is a little chilly (it is Great Slave Lake after all), but Back Bay in Old Town is an excellent and accessible place for swimming, with gorgeous views and clear waters. The community dock off Anderson-

Thomson Boulevard is open for anyone to use in the summer season.

### CAMERON RIVER RAMPARTS

At the base of the Ramparts waterfall, you'll find a peaceful little swimming hole, surrounded by a stunning landscape. Just follow a short trail from the Cameron River



Crossing Territorial Park day use area and you'll spot it.

### LONG LAKE BEACH

This is perhaps the best used beach in the Northwest Territories. In the summer, its sandy shores will see up to 200 people on any day. The beach is set with changing rooms, a playground, and a volleyball net. However, the promise of a swim in these calm, cool waters are reason enough to check it out.

### REID LAKE BEACH

Down the Ingraham Trail, Reid Lake Territorial Park offers incredible views and plenty of fun. Enjoy fishing, swimming, canoeing, and wildlife at this spot, with a camping site nearby.

### YELLOWKNIFE RIVER DAY USE AREA

Complete with fire pits, picnic tables, and washrooms, the day use area of Yellowknife River Territorial Park is a great hangout for locals and visitors alike. Meanwhile, jumping into the water





PHOTO GNWT/BENJI STRAKER



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

from the nearby bridge is a popular pastime for the braver souls.

**PARKS & CAMPGROUNDS**

**CAMERON RIVER CROSSING TERRITORIAL PARK DAY USE AREA**

The day use spot is complete with washrooms and picnic tables. Kilometre 54.5 on the Ingraham Trail.

**FRED HENNE TERRITORIAL PARK**

The park includes a day use area, beach, washrooms, and a campground for tents and RVs (with 75

powered sites, 40 non-powered sites, and 9 tent pads). Located on Highway 3, three kilometres outside of Yellowknife.

**HIDDEN LAKE TERRITORIAL PARK**

The backcountry park is ideal for paddling/portaging and hiking adventures, including Cameron Falls. Access to the trail is located 45.8 on the Ingraham Trail.

**MADLINE LAKE TERRITORIAL PARK DAY USE AREA**

This day use spot has washrooms, picnic tables, a playground, and

boat launch access. Kilometre 24 on the Ingraham Trail.

**PRELUDE LAKE TERRITORIAL PARK**

Includes a day use area, beach, washrooms, a playground, and a campground for tents and RVs (with 69 non-powered sites and 12 tent pads). Kilometre 28 on the Ingraham Trail.

**PONTOON LAKE TERRITORIAL PARK DAY USE AREA**

Day use spot with washrooms, picnic tables, and boat launch access. Kilometre 24.6 on the Ingraham Trail.



Which road trip will you take?

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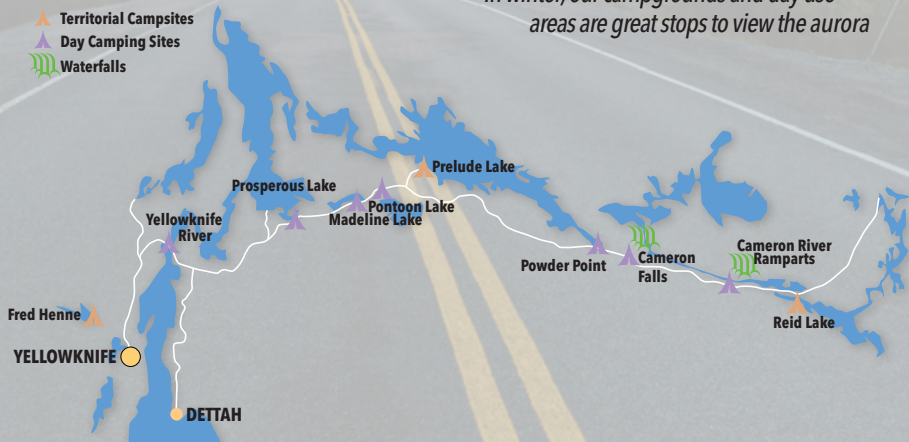
DEHCHO BEN WEILAND / NWT



NAHANNI PARK ANGELA GZOWSKI / NWT

## INGRAHAM TRAIL

-  Territorial Campsites
-  Day Camping Sites
-  Waterfalls



*In winter, our campgrounds and day use areas are great stops to view the aurora*

### BOOK A CAMPSITE

Since some campsites, especially around Yellowknife, can be very busy, it is recommended that you book a site online well in advance of your arrival. Bookings for the season usually open in April. [nwt.parks.ca](http://nwt.parks.ca)

#### POWDER POINT TERRITORIAL PARK DAY USE AREA

The day use spot includes washrooms, picnic tables, and boat launch access, as well as entry point for Hidden Lake Territorial Park. Kilometre 44 on the Inghram Trail.

washrooms, and a campground for tents and RVs (with 65 non-powered sites and 11 tent pads). Kilometre 59 on the Inghram Trail.

#### PROSPEROUS LAKE TERRITORIAL PARK DAY USE AREA

Day use spot with washrooms and boat launch access. Kilometre 19.7 on the Inghram Trail.

#### YELLOWKNIFE RIVER TERRITORIAL PARK DAY USE AREA

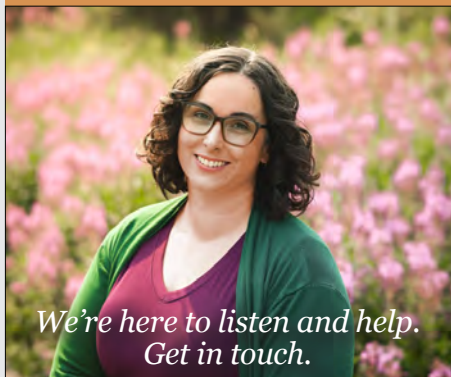
Popular day use spot with fire pits, picnic tables, washrooms, and boat launch access. Kilometre 7.7 on the Inghram Trail.

#### REID LAKE TERRITORIAL PARK

Includes a day use area, beach,



## MLA GREAT SLAVE KATE REID



*We're here to listen and help.  
Get in touch.*

C: (867) 444-1262  
E: [kate\\_reid@ntassembly.ca](mailto:kate_reid@ntassembly.ca)  
[www.katereid.ca](http://www.katereid.ca)  
f @katereidnwt



**Together, we will build a brighter  
future for our families  
and community.**

Kieron Testart | [kierontestart.ca](mailto:kierontestart.ca)  
[Kieron\\_Testart@ntassembly.ca](mailto:Kieron_Testart@ntassembly.ca)  
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## MLA FOR FRAME LAKE Julian Morse



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Please reach out any time.*

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☎ (867) 446-1799  
f @JulianMorse  
📷 @jmorsenwt



# On foot or on wheels

→ EXPERIENCE THE BOREAL FOREST AND CANADIAN SHIELD.



PHOTO PAGE BURT

We're incredibly lucky to have plenty of access to land and nature here in the North, and there's no better way to take in the wonders of the natural world than a hike. From where it sits atop the Precambrian shield, Yellowknife and the surrounding area is flush with lovely trails that allow you to bask in the glory of the subarctic landscape (just make sure to bring a sturdy pair of hiking boots that are up to the task).

The Niven Lake Trail, Frame Lake Trail, Prospectors Trail, and Tin Can Hill are all within city limits for those looking for something nearby. If you're interested in ven-

turing out a bit further, head up the Ingraham Trail. There, you'll find well-used trails leading to beautiful spots like the Cameron Falls and Prelude Lake.

Or perhaps you'd prefer to hit the trails on wheels instead—another excellent way to explore your surroundings. Most hiking trails in town double as cycling routes. Be aware you are sharing the trail with hikers, some with dogs, and keep the speed down for everyone's safety. Meanwhile, the ice-road across Yellowknife Bay offers a unique and exciting ride in the winter. We suggest opting for a "fat-bike" (so named for

the thick wheels that cut through snow and ice) in those colder months; these can be rented from either Borealis Bike Tours in Old Town or Overlander Sports downtown, alongside helmets and handle-bar mitts.

## TRAILS TO TRY

### NIVEN LAKE TRAIL

This level gravelled trail starts near a bridge across the end of Niven Lake near the Nova Suites Hotel and circles an attractive lake, likely the finest birding area in spring-time (May – June), waterfowl, gulls, grebes, ducks, loons, warblers,



and other songbirds are common, as are foxes, muskrats and the occasional beaver. Ptarmigan in winter. Many people walk with their small children here, so keep your dog leashed.

#### **FRAME LAKE TRAIL**

A five-kilometre loop that circles Frame Lake. One of the best-used trails in the city, and includes a section of bike path. The side toward town is paved; the far side is well marked but rough. Look for loons, red-necked grebes, and arctic terns along the lake. Many mountain bikers use this trail, so keep small kids close and your dog leashed as bikes move swiftly.

#### **PRELUDE LAKE NATURE TRAIL**

A two-and-a-half-kilometre loop located within the Prelude Lake Territorial Campground, about 30 kilometres east of Yellowknife along the Ingraham trail. Trail runs through mature white spruce woodland and over rocky ridges. Includes interpretive signs with information about the surrounding flora and fauna.

#### **THE PROSPECTOR'S TRAIL**

A four-kilometre hike starting and finishing in Fred Henne Territorial Park in Yellowknife. Honours the prospectors who discovered gold in the area in 1935. Pick up a map and geology guide at the park entrance. There's a nice open muskeg area, and high overlooks on the forest. Bald eagles are often seen soaring overhead.

#### **RANNEY HILL**

A two-and-a-half-kilometre loop that features a stunning panorama of Yellowknife and the surrounding wilderness at its summit. Drive 7 km out along the Ingraham Trail (just about to the Giant Mine area), then turn left onto Vee Lake Access Road. If you get to the Vee Lake boat launch, turn back about 100 m to park at the trailhead. Very colourful foliage in fall. Bonaparte's gulls, arctic terns, spruce grouse.

#### **TIN CAN HILL**

A recreation area that includes a 2-kilometre loop. Offers a scenic view of Great Slave Lake and Mosher Island on Yellowknife Bay. It's a perfect spot for a casual dog walk on foot or an easy bicycle ride. It's considered an off-leash dog area, so keep this in mind, and keep your dog on leash if you have any doubts about getting him back.

#### **CAMERON FALLS TRAIL AND CAMERON FALLS RAMPARTS TRAILS**

These lovely trails are located within Hidden Lake Territorial Park, about 45-minutes east





PHOTO UP HERE/HANAH EDEN

of Yellowknife along the Ingraham Trail. Viewpoints overlook the beautiful Cameron Falls, and offer benches. Many people don't realize there are TWO Cameron Falls trails, one from below the falls, and one from above. The first trail starts about 47 km east of Yellowknife at a parking lot with pit toilets, etc. Well-marked, takes about an hour, 3.7 km. It is possible to hike from the lower trail to the Cameron River Ramparts, but that's about 9 km, so plan ahead. The second trail starts just before the Cameron River bridge on the Ingraham Trail (Km 56), and is much shorter, winding through spruce and birch forest to overlooks on the Cameron River Ramparts, plus a bridge over the falls to the north side of the river. Along the river you just may see river otters, especially in winter. Take care anytime there is freezing/thawing weather as the rocks can be slippery.

**Google "hiking trails around Yellowknife"** for more complete trail information and maps. There are many options.

### OUTFITTERS, GUIDES & SERVICES

#### ARCTIC TOURS CANADA

Offers tours around various spots in the city, including the Legislative Assembly, Old Town, and Bush Pilots' Monument, as well as a guided hike on the Cameron Falls Trail (transportation included). 4916 49 St., (867) 446-7335, info@arctictourscanada.ca, arctictourscanada.ca

#### BOREALIS BIKE TOURS UNLIMITED

Year-round, custom-designed, guided fat bike tours throughout Yellowknife and on the Ingraham Trail and ice roads. 4708 Hamilton Dr., (867) 447-0037, david@

borealisbiketours-unlimited.com, borealisbiketours-unlimited.com/

#### HELLO AURORA

Guided city tours and hikes along the Cameron Falls Trail. Interpretation in Korean and English. 212 600 Gitzell St. (867) 445-9088, haurora@daum.net, helloaurora.net/

#### NARWAL NORTHERN ADVENTURES

Guided hikes at various spots along the Ingraham Trail (including Cameron Falls and Big Hill) in the summer, and to the city's beloved Ice Caves in the winter. 4702 Anderson-Thomson Blvd., (867) 873-6443, outdoors@narwal.ca, narwal.ca

#### OLD TOWN BIKEWORKS

Bike rentals and sales of renovated bicycles, bike repair services. 3510 McDonald Dr., (867) 669-7654, oldtownbikeworks@yahoo.com; facebook.com/oldtownbikeworks/

#### OVERLANDER SPORTS

Fat bike rental during the winter season. Helmet and pogies (handlebar mitts) included. 4909 50 St., 867-873-2474, sales@overlandersports.com, overlandersports.com

#### TRAILBLAZER TOURS

Guided tours in Yellowknife and beyond, plus hikes on the Cameron Falls Trail. Winter tours to see wildlife, summer fishing trips. 22 Hudson Ave., 867-446-5091, trailblazertours2019@gmail.com, trailblazertours2019.com

#### NORTH STAR ADVENTURES

Guided city tours and hikes along the Cameron Falls Trail that feature Indigenous storytelling and deep knowledge of the area. 4802 Franklin Ave., (867) 446-2900, info@northstaradventures.ca, northstaradventures.ca





# WHAT'S GOOD, YELLOWKNIFE?

Pop by the Visitor Centre, located at **5014 50th Street** in the Centre Square Mall downtown, for information on what to see and do during your stay. From quirky restaurants to art galleries and adventure tours, you will be sure to make some great memories while discovering the wonders of the North.

(867) 920-8687 | Open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Chief Drygeese Territory, traditional home of the Yellowknives Dene

# Getting onto the water

→ CANOE, KAYAK, PADDLEBOARD, POWER BOAT. YOUR CHOICE.

If there's one thing Yellowknife has a lot of, it's long summer days with plenty of access to water that's clean, clear, and beautiful. This makes the city a dream destination for paddling enthusiasts in the summer, with adventures for those of varying skill and experience levels.

You can put in a canoe, kayak, or stand-up paddleboard from the

paddling, of course). Then hop on one of Aurora Tour's water-bikes—yes, you heard us right— and pedal through the colourful houseboats of Yellowknife Bay on Great Slave Lake. Or experience paddling a freighter canoe in the voyageur tradition, learning about traditional canoe history.

Don't have any equipment?

Adventures and Jackpine Paddle offer paddling courses so you can perfect that technique and stay safe, while marvelling at the North's natural wonders.

## POPULAR PADDLING TRIPS

The Extraordinary Yellowknife website offers a series of simple older canoe route brochures online, for routes in the Yellowknife area. Try: [extraordinaryyk.com/things-to-do/boating-canoeing](http://extraordinaryyk.com/things-to-do/boating-canoeing) and select a route.

### HIDDEN LAKE

Set in at Powder Point, about 40 kilometres away from Yellowknife up the Ingraham Trail. Three portages total, longest one 600 metres; 2.6-kilometres of paddling and portaging to get to Hidden Lake. One to three day trip.

### TIBBITT LAKE LOOP

Two-day loop beginning and ending at Tibbitt Lake, last stop on the Ingraham Trail. Includes two portages, and offers plenty of opportunities for wildlife viewing, camping, and swimming. Typically done over two days.

### LOWER CAMERON RIVER

Setting in at Reid Lake 60 km from Yellowknife on the Ingraham trail, follow the Cameron River. Portage past two waterfalls and several rapids. Doable in a day.



PHOTO PAGE BURT

beach on Long Lake and enjoy calm and scenic waters. For a longer trip, try portaging out to Hidden Lake from Powder Point on the nearby Ingraham Trail. Or take a week and make your way down the famed Jennejohn (but only if you're comfortable with wilderness

Not to worry: there are several outfitters in town to help you get out on the water. Both Narwal Northern Adventures and Sundog Adventures offer hourly rates, while Overlander Sports rents equipment for a minimum of one week. Meanwhile, Narwal Northern





PHOTO JF BERGERON



KAYAKING ON PROSPEROUS LAKE NEAR YELLOWKNIFE

PHOTO BILL BRADEN

### JENNEJOHN RIVER

Starts at Reid Lake Territorial Park and ends at Dettah, a Yellowknives Dene Community across the bay from Yellowknife. Includes several long portages and requires a map and compass -- experienced paddlers only. Takes five days.

### OUTFITTERS, GUIDES, & SERVICES

#### BLUEFISH SERVICES

Explore islands in Great Slave Lake, learning about our history, birdwatching, fishing. 8 Mitchell Dr., 867-445-8553, 867-873-4818, bluefish.greg@gmail.com, bluefishservices.ca

#### AURORA TOURS

Water bike rentals and tours through

Yellowknife Bay and Back Bay. 605 Turner Rd., 867-688-0989, auroratours.net

#### JACKPINE PADDLE

Canoe and kayak tour packages throughout the NWT, including the upper Thelon, other Canadian Heritage rivers, as well as paddling courses and equipment rentals. 5018 47 St., 867-445-4512, jackpinepaddle.com

#### NARWAL NORTHERN ADVENTURES

Tours in voyageur canoes or motorboats, as well as paddling trips, survival, wilderness first aid courses, and equipment rentals. 4702 Anderson-Thomson Blvd, 867-873-6443, outdoors@narwal.ca, narwal.ca

#### NORTH STAR ADVENTURES

Offers boat tours on Great Slave Lake and equipment rentals. 4802 Franklin Ave. (867) 446-2900, info@northstaradventures.ca, northstaradventures.ca

#### OVERLANDER SPORTS

Canoe, kayak, and SUP (Stand Up Paddleboards) equipment sales, rentals. 4909 50 St., 867-873-2474, sales@overlandersports.com, overlandersports.com

#### SUNDOG ADVENTURES

Canoe, SUP, and kayak rentals, as well as boat tours on Yellowknife Bay, nearby waters. 4 Lessard Dr., 867-446-8687, info@sundogadventures.ca, sundogadventures.ca





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# All the wild you can handle

→ WHERE A MODERN CITY MEETS  
UNTAMED PARADISE

The jet's first officer announces they are starting the descent into Yellowknife. For the past half hour or so the view from the airplane window was an immense lake or scrub forest dotted with hundreds of lakes. Suddenly, as if by magic, the horizon changes. Small office towers poke over the horizon. Then major roads and street grids appear, and finally hundreds of buildings take shape as the plane nears its destination.

This sudden change from lakes and dense bush to small city is what makes you fully aware that Yellowknife is a city set in the middle of a vast wilderness. Its closest neighbour by road is 100 km away. Yet it is only an hour and a half by air from one of Canada's major cities, Edmonton.

This wilderness which surrounds Yellowknife is shared with many species of animals and birds, plants and trees, and yes, insects. And it boasts large and small pristine lakes carved out of ageless Precambrian rock – its pink sheen highlighted by the midnight sun.

Our great outdoors has the power to move you.

The following section provides more detail about the great outdoors around a city that thrives on its mix of urban amenities juxtaposed with rugged outdoors, a modern city set in wilderness...







PHOTO RONNE HEMING

# Water all around us

HUNDREDS OF LAKES DOT THE LANDSCAPE AROUND YELLOWKNIFE. SOME, LIKE GREAT SLAVE LAKE AND FRAME LAKE, ARE WELL KNOWN. OTHERS ARE HIDDEN TREASURES THAT EVEN LONGTIME YELLOWKNIFERS RARELY SEE. SOME LAKES NEAR OLD MINING PROJECTS ARE UNDERGOING REMEDIATION, AND THEREFORE ARE NOT ACCESSIBLE AT PRESENT.



PHOTO DAVE BROSHA/NWTT

## HANDLE LAKE

About 400 metres northwest of Fox Lake sits this small body of water near the Ingraham Trail. It is not suitable for fishing or swimming.

## JOE LAKE

Joe Lake is to the east of the Ingraham Trail between the road and the dump. Shallow lake, used by grebes and other waterfowl. No fishing or swimming.

## FOX LAKE

Irregular shaped lake NW of Long Lake, which includes a few small islands. The highest point on the Prospector's Trail overlooks this pretty lake. Not easily accessible from any road. Contamination is possible so not for swimming or fishing.

## LONG LAKE

The largish lake across the road from the airport. Several sandy beaches, including the swimming beach at Fred Henne Park, the Folk on the Rocks festival site, and the NE portion of the Yellowknife Golf Club. It is a designated water aerodrome where floatplanes are put into the water, via a road off the end of the runway. Much boating, fishing, and some aircraft use.

## FAULT LAKE

Narrow lake, oriented North/South off the old Ingraham Trail past the dump, and surrounded by cross-country ski trails. Waterfowl, gulls, eagles often seen here.

## JACKFISH LAKE

Largish lake by the Jackfish Power

Plant. Scenic overlook at the corner where the road from the airport turns right toward town. Open water almost all winter by the power plant, so good place to see early migrant birds. Eagles often seen over the lake.

## BACK BAY

This long bay on the west side of Latham Island and Old Town is possibly named for George Back of the Franklin Expedition of 1819-1822. The Yellowknife River flows into Back Bay. Excellent canoeing, boating and sailing, skiing in winter. Floatplane (and ski-plane) aerodrome, so be careful when boating in the middle of the bay, stay to either side. Winter airstrip on ice will be marked and plowed. Considered safe for water sports, including fishing.



## NIVEN LAKE

This cleaned and remediated lake is surrounded by cattail marsh and offers a scenic hiking trail. It is a superb haven for birds of all kinds, from waterfowl (ducks, grebes, loons) to gulls and terns, warblers, and other small perching birds. Beavers, muskrats, foxes, mink are often seen here. Shallow, muddy bottom.

## FRAME LAKE

Large lake by downtown Yellowknife, offering a beautiful setting for the city. The Frame Lake Trail circles this lake and is paved on the side toward town and rugged on the far side. The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and Legislative Assembly, Yellowknife City Hall, and Somba K'e Park are

all on this lake. Red-necked grebes and common and Pacific loons nest on this lake. Frame Lake was long ago polluted by mine waste, so swimming/fishing is not permitted.

## GREAT SLAVE LAKE, YELLOWKNIFE BAY

The large lake that almost surrounds Yellowknife. Parts of GSL (also known as Tinde'e, Tucho, and Tu Nedhé) are more than 600 m deep, making it the deepest lake in North America. Home to world-class fishing and superb scenery, Great Slave Lake has always been vital to the people living around the lake, for food and survival. It is still an important commercial fishing lake, and playground for anyone with

a boat, and many boat tours explore its clear waters. The incomparable Thaidene Nënë National Park Reserve is located on the East Arm, and the mighty Mackenzie River flows out of the southwestern corner of the lake.

## RAT LAKE

Located between the southeastern edge of Yellowknife and the old Con Mine site (now remediated), Rat Lake was named for the muskrats once trapped here. It is now a haven for waterfowl and other birds and for mammals as well, with many ptarmigan in winter. Trails in the area connect with the trails on Tin Can Hill, a beloved hiking area. No swimming or fishing.

## RANGE LAKE

Named because of its proximity to the old radio range of Yellowknife's airport, this small urban lake features a popular hiking trail. Residents often install lighted pond hockey rinks and cross-country ski trails in winter here. Good birding in summer.

## PUD LAKE

Once a former tailings pond for the old Con Mine, access to this small lake is restricted as it is still in remediation.

## KAM LAKE

This medium sized lake once stored mine waste from the Con Mine, so is not safe for swimming, and any fish should not be eaten. But it is a popular lake for canoeing and boating in summer and for dog teaming, kick-sledding, skidooring, and cross-country skiing in winter. Good birding in springtime.





Nahanni  
National Park Reserve

Réserve de parc national  
Nahanni

## Where wild collides

The Dehcho First Nations welcome you to Nahᑭᑦ Dehé, where beauty abounds and the land and people are one. Plan your experience today!

[parks.canada.ca/nahanni](https://parks.canada.ca/nahanni)

## Splendeurs naturelles

Les Premières Nations du Dehcho vous accueillent à Nahᑭᑦ Dehé, un lieu d'une beauté resplendissante où les gens et la terre sont unis. Planifiez votre expérience dès aujourd'hui!

[parcs.canada.ca/nahanni](https://parcs.canada.ca/nahanni)



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada

Canada



# Reading the landscape

THE STORY OF OUR ROCKY TERRAIN <



PHOTO UP HERE/HANNAH EDEN

Yellowknife's geological story extends back millions of years with huge volcanic plutons boiling up from beneath, volcanic upwellings bringing magma to the surface in a maelstrom of fire, as the continents moved across the globe. Then there were millennia of erosion, wearing the rocks to a flatter surface. Other volcanic upwellings followed, constantly remodeling the land, superheated intrusions carried through fissures and cracks, flowing over and around older rock, tongues of lava flowing into water, forming pillow lava that still can be seen today. There was shearing, rock sliding by rock, all leaving traces that can be read today. And minerals pulled from deep within the earth, carried in superheated flows and depositing

close to the surface, silver, copper and gold. And then the ice, huge continental ice sheets engulfing the land, advancing and retreating at least four times in our area, also sculpting the land.

Then, in the last 15,000 years, huge changes due to the advance and retreat of ice. The Laurentide Ice Sheet, some 3-4 km thick, flowed out in all directions from Hudson Bay, and over much of the northern half of North America, blocking original northward flowing drainages and damming huge rivers, creating (in the Yellowknife area), the immense Lake McConnell, over 1100 miles long. The ice advanced and retreated, lakes came and went, draining and creating new channels.

The last retreat of continental

ice from the YK area was about 9,000 years ago, leaving behind a wet, icy, gravel-strewn landscape with virtually no life. But life came, tundra, then forests creeping north, development of soil in low areas, lakes in depressions, and hardy vegetation on the bare ridges.

So, how to read this story today? Well, as you are driving in, Great Slave Lake is a remnant of old Lake McConnell, and the sand pits near the airport and golf club are remnant beaches. Sheer cliffs in some cases are fault zones, where pieces of the planet moved past each other. Rounded bedrock hills were sculpted by the passage of 3-4 km of ice sheet carrying gravel and rocks that carved the land.

On the rounded hills, you'll



see quartz intrusions like streaks through diabase and granite, silica carried in superheated water, crystallizing and carrying with it valuable minerals like gold and silver, nickel and copper. Everywhere, there are signs of the work of the ice. In places, this is a polished surface that reflects the sun like glass. Or, rounded channels in the rock called "glacial grooving", or scratches in the surface made by rocks carried in the bottom of the ice, cutting and carving the surface

"glacial striations". Places where a rock bounced multiple times while being pushed along, creating crescents called "glacial chatter". There are gravelly hills, cobbles and pebbles washed out of the face of the ice as it retreated, and dumped to form moraines and eskers, stranded by the retreating ice. And everywhere, there are rocks that are "out of place", and don't match – these are glacial erratics, some huge, that were carried from far to the east, but dropped here when the ice stopped and began melting back.

So, where can you see this story today? The Prospector's Trail at Fred Henne Territorial Park is a good place to start. An interpretive booklet tells the story of the land. The beach in the park, a popular swimming place, had its origin

in Glacial Lake McConnell. Driving out to the Ingraham Trail, you pass an area of exposed red granodiorite near Giant Mine. This shows the bedrock as it was before it was covered with plants and especially lichens, as long years of arsenide gases from the mine inhibited the growth of lichens and some other ground covers. Then, near the road to Dettah, across from the big tower, there is an area of faulting, with small ponds ringed with birches at the base, and beyond it more rounded outcrops, faults, contrasting intrusions, and glacial sculpting of the land. The nature trail at Prelude Lake tells more of the story of the land near Yellowknife, and shows more gravel flats and beaches left behind by the ice. Literally any place you walk in Yellowknife, you can see the stories written in the rocks.






## The NWT is a land of opportunity for ideas to grow.

The Yellowknife South office is always open to listen, share and collaborate.

We look forward to being a voice to support ideas for a prosperous, healthy NWT!



Caroline Wawzonek  
MLA Yellowknife South  
caroline\_wawzonek@ntassembly.ca  
**867-445-7437**

 @cwawzonek  @CWawzonek  carolinewawzonek.ca



## MLA YELLOWKNIFE NORTH SHAUNA MORGAN

*I am committed to being a positive force in the political arena through collaboration, urgency, and hope.*

*We are in this together.  
Reach out anytime.*

T: (867) 765 - 8582  
E: Shauna\_Morgan@ntassembly.ca





PHOTO BILL BRADEN

## Over 200 bird species

→ FROM EVERYDAY RAVENS TO EXOTIC SANDHILL CRANES.

Located at the confluence of several migratory “flyways” for birds, Yellowknife offers great birding, especially in spring, when hundreds of thousands of birds funnel north from their wintering grounds to nesting areas across northern Canada. After crossing the big lake, weary migrants stop to rest and feed before continuing their journeys. More than 200 species have been recorded from the Yellowknife area.

Flocks of snow geese and Tundra and Trumpeter Swans flap overhead before swirling down to land in the marshes, or at the mouth of the Yellowknife River. Shorebirds teeter on ice floes and probe the mud of shorelines: Lesser Yellowlegs, American and Black-bellied Plovers, Semipalmated Plovers, Red-necked Phalaropes, Whimbrels, and a host of small shorebirds. Clouds of scaup, Red-headed Ducks, Canvasbacks,

American Widgeons, Long-tailed Ducks, and tiny Blue-winged Teal fill Niven and Frame Lakes with squabbling battles among males, ardent chases of females, and ducks diving and dabbling. Clouds of ravens swirling above cliffs are joined by Bald Eagles and Ospreys, and above that soaring Sandhill Cranes using thermals to gain altitude. Other raptors pass through: Peregrine Falcons, Merlins, Northern Goshawks, Rough-





legged Hawks, Golden Eagles, and more.

Later in spring, the greening trees are thick with warblers and echo with song as waves of tiny warblers filter through... Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll, Orange-crowned, Yellow, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and more. White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, Lincoln's Sparrows, and Harris' Sparrows carol from trees. The best places to bird are on trails along lake and pond shores: Range Lake, Frame Lake Trail from City Hall, pond by the Legislative Assembly, Willow Flats (Rotary Park), Prelude Lake, the Prospector's Trail, Ranney Hill Trail and Cameron Falls Trail.



The migrants pass though, replaced by summer residents... Red-necked Grebes weave platform nests from cattail stalks and dance side-by-side on Frame Lake, strikingly vivid Horned Grebes dart in and out of cattails on Niven Lake. Four species of loons can be seen - Red-throated,

Common, and Pacific Loon all nest here. The rare Yellow-billed Loon passes through on migration. Yellowknife is one of the few places where this loon can be seen in breeding plumage. Nesting waterfowl paddle the shallows, followed by contrails of ducklings.

Our skies fill with gulls and terns. Look for black-headed Bonaparte's Gulls nesting in the tops of trees at the Ranney Hill Trail on the Vee Lake Road, and around Niven Lake. Other gulls include resident Short-billed Gulls, Herring, and California Gulls. Arctic Terns, the longest migrators, return from the southern hemisphere to flit along the shores of the lakes, uttering creaky calls.

As fall arrives, the migrants return with young, Sandhill Cranes teaching their young the traditional dances along gravel bars and in the marshes. Ducks and geese pass through in great numbers, stopping to forage, then moving on.

Finally, as winter approaches, only winter residents remain—hordes of cheeky Common Ravens deck the roofs of buildings, slide down snowy roofs, and forage in beds of pickup trucks. Willow Ptarmigan and Spruce Grouse ghost through the brush, nipping buds. Black-billed Magpies and ravens forage in dog lots for dropped fragments of kibble. Redpolls and Pine Grosbeaks frequent bird feeders.

For the most part, birding is a solitary sport that requires good binoculars and a field guide or phone app. But many ardent birders come



PHOTO BILL BRADEN



north in the spring to experience the migrations.

Knowledgeable birders flock to Facebook sites like **Yellowknife Bird Arrivals** or **NWT Birding** to learn what migrants are arriving and where, and find birding opportunities led by local leaders. These sites are well-run and many people contribute avidly.

Birding can be done by walking—many good birding spots are within walking distance of downtown. Driving extends your reach, but caution is recommended when birding along the Ingraham Trail. There is often no

shoulder and steep sides. Don't stop on the road as there is real danger of being hit. Use the parks and boat launch areas. If you are traveling with a small group of birders, consider using a tour operator as they know the roads, the best places to stop, and can focus on the driving.

Several tour operators in Yellowknife specialize in offering birding tours, including North Star Tours, and Enodah Wilderness Travel. And several offer boat trips to bird nesting islands and cliffs along the lake: Bluefish Services and Yellowknife Outdoor Adventures.



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## There's wildlife at our doorstep

→ FOXES ACT LIKE THEY OWN THE CITY! BUT DON'T FEED THEM!

Yellowknife wildlife is enchanting. Champions are the red foxes. They are everywhere. Backyards, any green areas, walking down the streets like they own the place. They occur in three colour phases, red, cross (black legs, face, dark brown coat), and silver (all black with white tips), and all can be in the same litter. Foxes have their

kits in the spring; the young are playing around the dens by early June, and are easily visible.

Go hiking or cross-country skiing on the ski trails and you may see coyotes or even a wolf. Black bears occur around Yellowknife and occasionally wander into town. Moose are often seen along the Ingraham Trail and feeding in

almost any lake. Wood bison occur as close as the North Arm park, (about 100 km south of Yellowknife on Highway 3) sometimes sleeping on the roads. Caribou are occasionally seen in winter, usually along the Ingraham Trail or on lakes. These may be boreal caribou or barrenground caribou. They are similar, but the barrenground





caribou are most often in herds.

Porcupines wander through spruce and pine areas, muskrats and beavers occupy almost every lake (look for domed lodges and stick dams made by beavers), and snowshoe hares and their tracks can be seen along the roads. Watch closely as you drive, as you may see a shy Canada lynx, especially in winter. The weasel family is well-represented here, with the smaller ones like mink and weasels along lakeshores, and martens in old-growth pine spruce forest where they hunt red squirrels. Wolverines are rare but sometimes seen, and river otters can be seen occasionally around the bridge to Latham Island or at the Cameron River Bridge, look for their trough-like "slides" in the snow. Otters play constantly, and if you are quiet, you can often see the family antics.

Quiet canoeing gets you close to much wildlife along our rivers and lake edges. Stop paddling (or turn off the motor) when you see wildlife and remain still in the boat, watching silently. You will see far more if you make no noise and move slowly.

#### **A FEW WORDS OF CAUTION:**

Keep your dog leashed when hiking. A porcupine encounter is something you want to avoid, and no dog can resist a porcupine. Coyotes and wolves will prey on loose dogs, and a dog may attack a bear and then flee, and be chased back to YOU.

If you see large wildlife while driving, stay in your car, using it as a blind. You will see far more and will avoid antagonizing a bear, moose, or bison, all of which can quickly attack. If snowmobiling, do not chase wildlife, but stop and observe, or slowly drive to





PHOTO BILL BRADEN

a point or protected area and watch from there. It's best to stay with your machine.

**DO NOT FEED FOXES**, they quickly lose their fear of people and are a danger to small children as they can deliver a serious bite. Do not try to take "selfies" with any wildlife. And treasure any caribou sightings you may experience, as caribou are decreasing in numbers due to a number of factors. Don't

chase or approach them; they have enough problems without being harassed.

Most tour operators will enhance wildlife sightings as they know how to get guests as close as is wise. Follow their instructions explicitly. And try to be quiet! Relax, reduce movement, control kids, and savour the experience. Carry binoculars as you will see far more with these.

MLA YELLOWKNIFE CENTRE

## ROBERT HAWKINS

*As your MLA for  
Yellowknife Centre,  
I look forward to being  
here for you.*

E: [Robert\\_Hawkins@ntassembly.ca](mailto:Robert_Hawkins@ntassembly.ca)



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY



## SAFETY IN BEAR COUNTRY

### You're in bear country **BE BEAR AWARE!**

Treat bears with respect and take precautions when camping or traveling on the land.

Contact the ECC office nearest you:

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Beaufort-Delta     | 867-678-0289 |
| Dehcho Region      | 867-695-7433 |
| Hay River Area     | 867-875-7640 |
| North Slave Region | 867-873-7181 |
| Sahtu Region       | 867-587-2422 |
| South Slave Region | 867-872-0400 |

[gov.nt.ca/ecc](http://gov.nt.ca/ecc)

Government of  
Northwest Territories





PHOTOS PAGE BURT

## Wildflowers and trees around Yellowknife

→ A CONSTANTLY CHANGING SPECTACLE IN SUMMER.

The Yellowknife area offers a kaleidoscope of boreal forest wildflowers, interesting plants, and superb botanizing opportunities. From June through August, a constantly changing rainbow of flowers enlivens roadsides and trails. The flowering season is compressed as plants must sprout leaves, produce flowers, get pollinated, develop seeds, disperse

seeds, store nutrients, and become dormant for winter, all in about three months! By late August, most native flowers are finished and the leaves are changing.

But what a show in-between! From the delicate bells of the early-blooming leatherleaf to the bright yellow of hawksbeard in August.

Due to the varied terrain of the

Canadian Shield, our area offers a patchwork of different habitats, each with a characteristic flora. Rocky outcrops are crowned with colourful lichens and mats of prostrate shrubs like kinnikinnick, juniper, and crowberry; gnarled jack pines and white spruce cling to their rounded profiles. In lower areas, thick forests of spruce and birch shelter delicate



Labrador tea, and willows.

Wildfires are an important part of the ecology of the boreal forest; old "burns" stipple the landscape. The charred trunks of spruce and jack pine contrast with a green understory of plants that follow a fire. Tall fireweed sprouts thickly after a fire, creating a brilliant magenta tapestry in August.

Late August and September bring ripening berries, from delicate wild strawberries to robust black currants, brilliant raspberries to jewel-like lingonberries, black crowberries, and colourful rose hips.

### A FEW SPECTACULAR PLANTS TO LOOK FOR AROUND YELLOWKNIFE

**BLACK SPRUCE:** slender coniferous trees with dark foliage, needles with rounded tips, short cones, growing in low, poorly drained areas.

**TREMBLING ASPEN:** deciduous trees with light green smooth bark and oval pointed leaves with flat petioles (leaf stems) which allow the leaves to tremble, taking the force of the wind.

**JACK PINE:** stunted, twisted pine trees with two needles per bundle

groundcover plants like twinflower. Poorly-drained lowlands near lakes are thick with slender black spruce, tamarack, and aspen. Wetlands and fens are crowded with willow, alder, Labrador tea and dwarf birch. In better-drained areas, deciduous forests with paper birch, green alder, aspen, and balsam poplar soar above an understory of willow, northern comandra, wild strawberry, raspberry, and wild rose.

Our many lakes and ponds offer aquatic bladderwort and water crowfoot, white spathes of bog arum, the round leaves of pond lilies, rich marshes of bulrush and cattail, and peat margins with sphagnum moss, cloudberry,

and tight cones. Cones open in a fire, releasing seeds.

**PRICKLY SAXIFRAGE:** small plant with basal rosettes of three-toothed leaves, slender stalks and white flowers. Petals spotted with orange. These grow on rocky outcrops, rooted in cracks in the rock.

**LABRADOR TEA:** forest-floor shrubs, narrow leaves with rolled edges, aromatic when crushed. Delicate white flowers in tufts. Low, poorly drained peaty areas.

**KINNIKINNICK:** a bearberry, with leathery leaves, mats on rock outcrops, pinkish urn-shaped flowers, orangish berries. Long used in making pemmican.







ALONG THE PROSPECTORS TRAIL

PHOTO PAGE BURT

**CLOUDBERRY:** low shrub growing in peat, 2-3 maple-like leaves with serrated edges, large white flowers producing raspberry like yellowish-orange berries in August.

**MOSS CAMPION:** Essentially a "tree", but at the surface of the ground; dense cushions on rocks, deep roots into cracks. Bright pink flowers attract bees and butterflies.

**COTTONGRASS:** narrow-leaved sedge, grasslike, flowers are white tufts of silky fibers. Several species. Wet areas.

**TALL FIREWEED:** tall plant with narrow leaves and bright magenta flowers, each with four petals and

darker narrow sepals between petals. Disturbed areas, sprouting quickly after a fire.

**BOTANIZING IN THE NORTH:**

You can do this wherever you are, as our roads and trails wind through wild areas. All you need is your cell phone or a camera, some patience, and a steady hand. Take several closeup photos of the plant, which you can then enlarge to see details. Or use a hand lens. Most tour operators have some knowledge of common wildflowers, or will help you work them out. On a hike, it helps to be quick about taking photos and then working on identification later.

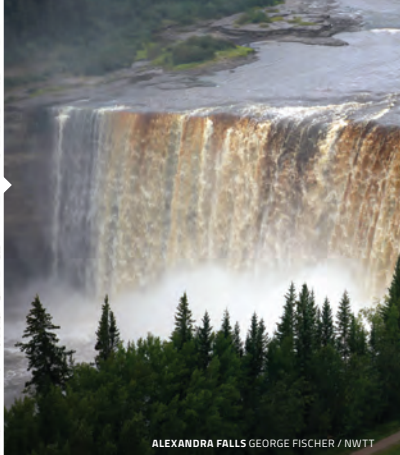
**CURRENTLY** there are few good field guides to NWT flowers in print, but Alberta field guides work, or download a guide to northern wildflowers by Googling: "Yukon roadside flowers", or look for *Wild and Wacky Plants of the NWT* at NWTArts.com. There are many plant identification apps that you can also download to your phone and then identify the plants from the photos.



## Which road trip will you take?

### THE WATERFALLS TO WOOD BUFFALO FILLED WITH GORGEOUS WATERFALLS, WORLD- FAMOUS WHITEWATER

and the territory's best beach and picnic spots, this route will leave you with a lifetime of memories. See everything from moose to black bears as you head out to explore the endless trails of Wood Buffalo National Park.



## SPECTACULAR NORTHWEST TERRITORIES



### THE TRIP NORTH TO YELLOWKNIFE VIBRANT CULTURES, TIMELESS LANDSCAPES

and stunning territorial parks dot the way to Yellowknife. See colossal bison, take in awe-inspiring majestic lakes and waterfalls and stop into the welcoming communities along the way. A trip to Yellowknife will be a journey to remember.

For more information visit us online  
**SPECTACULARNWTT.COM**



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# Both bitey and beautiful

FROM PESKY MOSQUITOES TO BEAUTIFUL DRAGONFLIES. ←



Insects in the North... Oh, yes, they are present! Everyone knows about mosquitoes and blackflies... but there are far more insects than mosses and midges around Yellowknife, and many are both beautiful and beneficial. There are vital pollinators, others are valuable predators, even eating mosquitoes. Still others recycle carrion and help decay wood, helping our forests survive. And they supply food for many birds and a lot of mammals as well.

And there's another way of looking at biting insects... without mosquitoes and blackflies, the North would likely be more like downtown Toronto, crowded and urbanized! We likely in part owe our open spaces and natural areas

to the discouraging presence of biting insects!

## THE "BITEY" ONES

Most of our irritating insects are in the order Diptera, the biting flies. **Mosquitoes** - tiny, spindly legs, a single pair of gossamer wings, and a slender proboscis which they insert into your hide, locating a tiny capillary, and sucking away. Only females bite. They need a blood meal to mature their eggs. Males drink water and nectar, and live only to mate. Mosquitoes are important pollinators of small flowers, especially orchids. And they are an important food of shorebird chicks.

Then there are **blackflies**... humpbacked, tiny flies, one pair of short wings, short legs. These are quick crawlers that will sneak under your clothes and bite. Bites are painful, but itch madly afterward, due

to the anticoagulant saliva. These are also important pollinators.

And there are bigger **horseflies**, called "bulldogs" up here, common around sandy beaches. These are 2-3 cm long, sort of triangular, with iridescent compound eyes. The females have cutting mouthparts that slice your skin, and they lap the blood. Males feed on pollen and nectar.

## HOW TO SURVIVE THESE BITERS?

Use insect repellent, real repellents; our biters are TOUGH. Don't rely on repellents without DEET up here. Apply liberally, several times a day. And check your body at the end of the day, blackflies will keep biting under clothing. Repellent-impregnated clothing also works well. Head nets and bug jackets will work. Ultrasonic devices don't work well.





If you are camping or canoeing, avoid camping in low areas, and seek elevated points with some wind. Be sure you remove blackflies before entering your tent. And if you bring your dog, also bring a brush and brush every night. Blackflies are unbelievable torment for a dog.

**THE BEAUTIFUL ONES...**

There are loads of beautiful and beneficial insects in the North. Without the pollinators, we'd have few flowers, and NO showy flowers at all. And few shorebirds, swallows, or dragonflies without mosquitoes and other small flying insects.

Butterflies, of course, head the list. The striking mourning cloak butterfly is probably the most common butterfly around Yellowknife. They are a dark rich brown with a row of cobalt dots and yellow or white wing margins. They are one of the very few butterflies that overwinters as adults,

so are out early in the summer. Their caterpillars are black with spikes and red dots and feed on many plants including willows.

Red admirals, fritillaries, and tiger swallowtails are also common. Fritillaries are orangish brown with large silver spots on the hind wings. Tiger swallowtails are yellow and black striped with tails on the hind wings. There are also a host of small butterflies, the "gossamer wings", which include the coppers, hairstreaks, elfins, and blues.

Moths are different. They rest with their wings outspread rather than held vertically, and tend to be more nocturnal. Butterflies have knobbed antennae, and moths tend to have feathery antennae. Adult moths are more cryptically coloured. In the late summer and early fall, you may encounter a furry "woolly bear" caterpillar, banded with colour. Some have long white hairs

at both ends. These metamorphose into "tussock moths".

Dragonflies are the helicopters of the insect world, strong, iridescent, agile fliers with rigid wings and can hover and fly backwards. Adults prey on small insects like mosquitoes, blackflies, deerflies and more.

Bees are expert pollinators and vitally important to plant communities. They transfer pollen from the male parts of plants to the female parts, which enables the plant to produce seeds. Introduced honeybees are not usually kept in Yellowknife but there are plenty of other bees, right up to the large furry bumblebees. Wasps, flies, butterflies, and many other insects act as pollinators. This even includes mosquitoes and blackflies, doing their part.

# From log cabins to high rises

CHOOSE FROM A HOTEL, APARTMENT HOTEL OR COSY B&Bs ←



We all know that the important aspect of any trip is figuring out where to stay. It's important, of course, to know where you're going to lay your head after a full day of exploring in the subarctic, and accommodations can truly make or break a vacation.

Thankfully, Yellowknife has a variety of reliable options to fit the tastes of any traveller. From quaint bed & breakfasts with homey vibes (try the Embleton House or Mabuhay Lakeside Manor), to extravagant hotel rooms that will treat you like royalty (we mean that literally—the Explorer Hotel has hosted several members of the Royal family), visitors are spoiled for choice.

Many spots boast central and

convenient locations within the city. The Discovery Inn and Nova Inn downtown are just steps from great shopping and restaurants, while the Chateau Nova and Explorer Hotel are across the street from the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. For those looking to stick around a bit longer, Capital Suites, Stanton Suites Hotel, and Cloudworks all offer spaces ideal for extended stays.

## HOTELS/INNS

### ANDERSON THOMSON TOWER/WATERMARK TOWER

Apartment-style hotel offers suites with kitchens in secure downtown buildings with fitness centres, in-suite office workspaces and wire-

less high-speed internet. 5300 49 Street/4503 52 Ave. 867-873-5701. [Polardevelopments.com](http://Polardevelopments.com)

### AURORA BAYSIDE INN

Rental suites overlooking Yellowknife Bay in Old Town. Relax on the shores of Great Slave Lake. 3505 McDonald Drive 867-333-2514 [aurorabaysideinn.ca](http://aurorabaysideinn.ca)

### CAPITAL SUITES HOTEL

Furnished studios, 1 & 2-bedroom and family suites for extended stays downtown. Also offers high-speed wireless internet, airport shuttle. 100-5603 50 Ave. 867-669-6400; 1-877-669-9444. [Capitalsuites.ca](http://Capitalsuites.ca)



COURTESY EXPLORER HOTEL

**CHATEAU NOVA  
YELLOWKNIFE**

Downtown hotel with a dining room and lounge. Ideal for meetings and conferences. 4571 48 Street, 867-766-6682, 866-722-6682, novahotels.ca/chateau-nova-yellowknife

**CLOUDWORKS**

Turn-key apartment suites and work spaces for both short-term and long-term rental. Spaces come fully furnished with all the comforts of home. 5112 52 St, Suite 200 or #1 4921 46 St. 867-445-3497, rob@cloudworks.ws, cloudworks.ws

**DISCOVERY INN**

Close to the city's business and government centres, this hotel is also near to shopping facilities and restaurants. 4701 50 Ave. 867-873-4151. discoveryinn.ca

**THE EXPLORER HOTEL**

Ideally located in the city core, this

259-room hotel is close to all amenities. Featuring upscale dining options and expanded conference facilities. 4825 49 Ave. 867-873-3531; 1-800-661-0892, 833-441-1128. Explorerhotel.ca

**NOVA INN YELLOWKNIFE**

Large, comfortable rooms in the heart of downtown, with select suites offering kitchenettes, queen-sized beds and jacuzzies. 4401 50 Ave. (Franklin Ave.) 867-873-9700, 877-839-1936. yellowknifeinn@novahotels.ca

**QUALITY INN  
& SUITES YELLOWKNIFE**

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**STANTON SUITES HOTEL**

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**SUPER 8 BY WYNDHAM  
YELLOWKNIFE**

Located in Frame Lake South, this pet-friendly hotel is close to shopping, restaurants, Stanton Territorial Hospital and the airport. 308 Old Airport Road. 867-988-0401, 867-669-8888.

**BED & BREAKFASTS**

**ARDEN AVENUE BED  
& BREAKFAST**

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### **ARCTIC CHALET BED & BREAKFAST**

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### **BIRCHES BED & BREAKFAST**

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### **BUSY BEAVER BED & BREAKFAST**

Uptown accommodations. Free airport shuttle and free parking. 177 Jeske Crescent. 867-446-5372. booking.com

### **DANH'S BED & BREAKFAST**

Family friendly, free wi-fi and parking. 5018 Finlayson Drive. 867-446-0869, lodging-world.com/ca/hotels/danh's-bed-&-breakfast-in-yellowknife-93955658.

### **EMBLETON HOUSE BED & BREAKFAST/SMALL INN**

Licensed B&B since 1999. Four private suites with kitchenettes, bathrooms, TV, internet, fireplaces, and three private bedrooms with shared kitchen and living room. Personal and individualized service, advice on activities in Yellowknife. 5203 52 Street. 867-873-2892; 1-888-909-5203, 867-445-4181. ehouse@theedge.ca, www.embletonhouse.com

### **GREAT SLAVE LAKESIDE BED & BREAKFAST**

Located on Latham Island, water access on Back Bay, guest suite with private entrance, stunning views, deck, parking. 72 Morrison Dr., 867-765-8434.

blairandandrea@theedge.ca. To book, can use Airbnb or booking.com.

### **GREEN HAVEN GUEST HOUSE**

Newly built home with spacious, upscale guest suites just a short walk from the downtown core. 5223 54 Street. 867-446-8322. Guesthouseon54th@gmail.com.

### **JENNY'S B&B**

Single, twin and double rooms available in this downtown home include a spacious back deck and barbecue. Free parking available. 5102 52nd Street. 867-444-5456. yellowknifebnb.com

### **MABUHAY LAKESIDE MANOR**

Views of beautiful Yellowknife Bay from home-style accommodations. Gourmet kitchen menu available. 4301 School Draw Ave. 867-445-2533. mabuhaylakesidemanor@gmail.com, mabuhaymanor.ca.

### **MO'S HOUSEBOAT BED AND BREAKFAST**

Unique off-grid houseboat accommodations, located on Yellowknife Bay near Old Town. Well-situated for aurora watching, no light pollution. Near snow castle. Canoe access in summer, can drive to it in winter, best to coordinate with the owner. 3529 McDonald Dr. moniquerobertstudios@gmail.com

### **NIVEN LAKE BED & BREAKFAST**

Four room, one-bedroom private home with laundry facilities soaking tub, WiFi and fridge, microwave. 152 Moyle Drive. 867-445-5239.

### **NORTHERN STAR B&B**

In Niven neighbourhood, rooms and suites with double or queen size beds and a private bath. Offers aurora and city tours. 224 Niven Dr., 867-445-9918, mail@northernstaraurora.ca

### **OLD TOWN BED & BREAKFAST**

Located on Back Bay with aurora views. Two queen size rooms, separate entrance, private kitchen. Ski on the bay from the door or rent a canoe in summer. 34 Morrison Drive. 867-444-3434. oldtownbedandbreakfast@gmail.com.

### **OLD TOWN LOG CABINS**

Located by the Gallery of the Midnight Sun in Old Town, near restaurants, galleries, Snow King's castle, Yellowknife Bay, and more. Single room cabins, ideal for families or couples. Full cooking facilities, wi-fi, cable, parking. 3808-10 Bretzlaff Dr. 867-445-4727. lorna\_rocher@hotmail.com, oldtownlogcabins.com


### **TIGA BED & BREAKFAST**

Downtown, three bedrooms with queen size beds, private entrance. Complimentary WiFi, breakfast items, and cooking privileges. 4610 49th Avenue. 867-920-2024. rosawahshee@gmail.com, tigabnb.ca

### **YELLOWKNIFE TRAVELER'S LODGING HOUSE**

Close to downtown, free continental breakfast. 5110-56 Street. 867-445-5339, 867-766-4444. merzyl@yahoo.ca.

There are numerous other bed and breakfast offerings in Yellowknife, especially during the aurora season. If you are having problems finding space, check online at booking.com/hotel/ca/yellowknife, at spectacularnwt.com, or at extraordinaryyk.com.



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For more details and to book, visit  
[AURORABAYSIDEINN.CA](http://AURORABAYSIDEINN.CA)  
867-333-2514

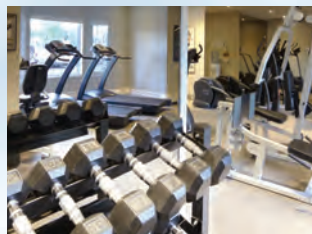
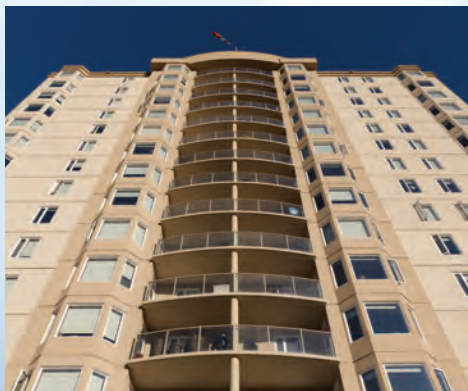
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AUGUST LONG WEEKEND 2024



(RE)DISCOVER OLD TOWN

YELLOWKNIFE, NWT [OLDTOWNYK.COM](http://OLDTOWNYK.COM)

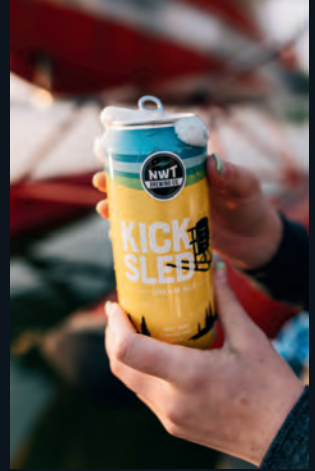
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# Re-fuelling for a busy Northern Day

EXCELLENT FOOD WILL GUARANTEE YOU A PERFECT VACATION

Whether you're looking for a hot coffee or a cold pint, a juicy steak or a light salad, the restaurants in Yellowknife have you covered. The city has a range of pubs, restaurants, cafes and lounges to choose from and they serve up all kinds of dishes—from local fish to cuisine from Ethiopia, Vietnam and Germany.

Best of all, most aim to use fresh local ingredients to make each meal a unique northern experience. Check online for hours and menus.

## CAFES AND LUNCHES

Lighter fare, first-rate coffee, great for a midday meal.

### BARREN GROUND COFFEE

You can buy locally roasted beans at local gift shops and grocery stores, or stop by the roastery to purchase their organic and/or fair-trade coffee and snack. 5103 52nd Street. [Barrengroundcoffee.com](http://Barrengroundcoffee.com).

### BIRCHWOOD COFFEE KÓ

Have a coffee or latte, the perfect companion to homemade cinnamon buns or a Bannock 'N Egger. 5021 49 Street. 867-873-5466. [Birchwoodcoffeeko.com](http://Birchwoodcoffeeko.com).

### CASA DE COBRE

Authentic Mexican tacos, burritos and bowls, lunch only. Eat in, takeout. NWT Legislative Assembly building 4570 48 St. [Copperhouse.ca/casa-de-cobre](http://Copperhouse.ca/casa-de-cobre).

### JAVAROMA GOURMET COFFEE

A popular downtown coffee and meeting spot with sandwiches, soups and bagels. Suite 101 5201 50 Ave. Also YK Centre Mall 4905 48<sup>th</sup> Street, lower level, and Yellowknife Airport. 867-669-0725. [Javaroma.ca](http://Javaroma.ca).

### STARBUCKS

Visit the coffee chain at 251 Old Airport Road. 867-675-0330.

### SUNDOG

Homemade focaccia, panini, salads, lattes and ice cream. 4 Lessard Drive. Eat in, take out. Licensed. 867-446-8687.

## CASUAL & PUB FARE

Grab a pint with your meal for the full experience.

### THE BLACK KNIGHT

A popular after-work watering hole, this Scottish pub offers hearty pub fare, daily specials, and a large selection of beer on tap. Upstairs, the Top Knight frequently hosts live shows. 4910 49 Street. 867-920-4041. [facebook.com/blackknightNWT](http://facebook.com/blackknightNWT).

### BOSTON PIZZA

Casual dining with pizza, pasta, salads and more. Families, teams. Takeout and delivery. 5102 48 Street. 867-920-2000. [bostonpizza.com](http://bostonpizza.com).

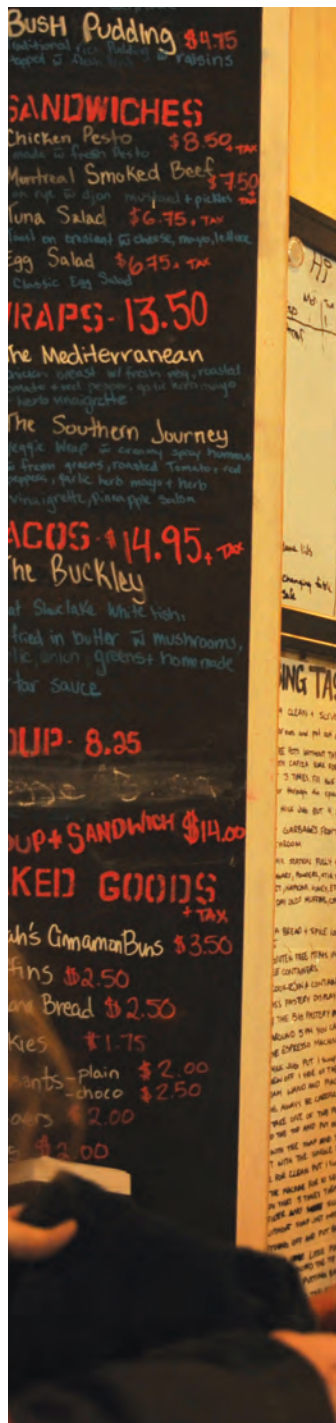


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| COFFEE        | S    | M    | L    |
|---------------|------|------|------|
| BREWED COFFEE | 2.25 | 2.50 | 2.90 |
| ESPRESSO      | 3.15 | 3.95 | 3.95 |
| AMERICANO     | 3.15 | 3.05 | 3.35 |
| LATTE         | 4.25 | 4.50 | 4.75 |
| CAPPUCCINO    | 4.25 | 4.50 | 4.75 |
| MICHA         | 4.75 | 5.00 | 5.25 |

| EXTRAS  |      |
|---|------|
| VANILLA, CARAMEL, HAZELNUT,<br>OR SUGAR-FREE VANILLA FLAVOR |      |
| OR ALMOND MILK  |      |
| WHIPPED CREAM   | ALL  |
| ESPRESSO SHOT   | 0.75 |

OTHER  
HOT CHOCOLATE  
CHAI LATTE  
LIMONCELLO  
STEAMER  
TEA

COLD  
ICED AMERICANO  
ICED CAPPUCCINO  
ICED ESPRESSO





PHOTO DAVE BROSHA, NWTT

### COYOTE'S BISTRO

Everything from pub fare to steaks to crab, for eat-in or takeout. 483 Range Lake Road 867-873-8880. <https://www.facebook.com/coyotesYK>.

### GOLD RANGE BISTRO

Western and Chinese dishes served up in this classic diner-styled eatery, which is popular with locals for its daily specials, hearty breakfasts and sassy servers. 5010 50 Street. 867-873-4567.

### SAM'S MONKEY TREE PUB

Steak, ribs, pasta and a range of other options—including a selection of poutine, hot lunch specials and more. 483 Range Lake Road. 867-920-4914.

### WOODYARD BREWHOUSE AND EATERY

Yellowknife's very own brew pub. This popular Old Town establishment offers hearty meals and made-in-the-NWT suds. 3905 50 Ave. 867-873-BEER (2337). [nwtbrewingco.com](http://nwtbrewingco.com).

### CONTEMPORARY & FINE DINING

We'll have our pan-fried pickerel and eat it too.

### BULLOCKS BISTRO

An Old Town must. Heaping portions of local fish or wild game that you'll think about for months. 3534 Weaver Drive. 867-873-3474. [facebook.com/bullocksbistro](http://facebook.com/bullocksbistro).

### COPPERHOUSE EATERY AND LOUNGE

Upscale, family friendly dining with a private room available. 484 Range Lake Road, 867-920-5500. [copperhouse.ca](http://copperhouse.ca).

### QUARRY RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

Offers a varied steakhouse menu in the Chateau Nova hotel. 4571 48 Street, 867-766-6682, [novahotels.ca/chateau-nova-yellowknife](http://novahotels.ca/chateau-nova-yellowknife).

### TRADER'S GRILL RESTAURANT

The Explorer Hotel's main dining room specializes in Northern treats

such as Arctic Char and Elk. It's known for its Sunday brunch. 4825 49 Ave. 867-873-3531, ex. 4. [explorerhotel.ca/dining/traders-grill](http://explorerhotel.ca/dining/traders-grill).

### WILDCAT CAFÉ

Yellowknife's oldest restaurant, this restored heritage building is open summer only. They offer Northern fare. Shoot for a seat on the patio. 3904 Wiley Road. 867-873-4004.

### THE HUNGRY WOLF

Offers fine dining with both dinner and brunch menus. Open Tuesday to Sunday. 5125 51<sup>st</sup> St.. 867-873-9653.

### INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

For a small Northern city, we enjoy diverse cuisine from around the globe.

### A TASTE OF SAIGON

This popular location for pho, stir-fries and rice dishes is a favourite for the downtown office crowd at lunch. Takeout and sit down. 4913 50 Street. 867-873-9777. [atasteofsaigon.ca](http://atasteofsaigon.ca).

# COPPERHOUSE

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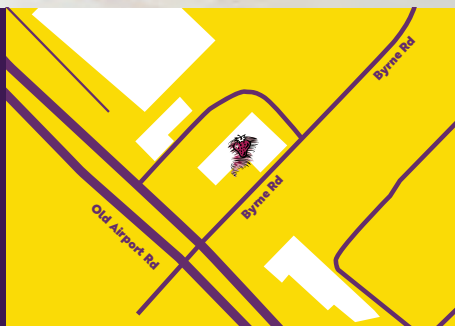
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COPPERHOUSE.CA  
867-920-5500



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**BENTO SUSHI**

Kiosks serving up takeout sushi in the city's three main grocery stores: the two Yellowknife Independent Grocer locations and the Yellowknife Co-op. [Bentosushi.com](http://Bentosushi.com).

**CAI'S KITCHEN**

Authentic Asian cuisine in the Nova Inn. Eat in or takeout. 4401 Franklin Ave. 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. 867-444-2628.

**ELKE'S TABLE ON 47TH**

German schnitzel and Mediterranean cuisine, plus local fish. Outdoor service in summer. 4911 47 Street. 867-873-3489. [facebook.com/elkestable47](http://facebook.com/elkestable47).

**KOREA HOUSE**

Downtown Korean barbecue for sit down, takeout or delivery. The bibimbap is a local favourite. 5103 50 Street. 867-669-0188.

**MAIN STREET**

**DONAIR & FALAFEL**

Wraps and authentic Lebanese cuisine served up food court style located at the front of Centre Square Mall. Takeout and sit down. Centre Square, 4905 50 Ave. 867-766-3354.

**MASALA KINGDOM**

Indian cuisine, eat in, takeout, pizza, pasta, fries, wings. 5012 53<sup>rd</sup> St. 867-688-7165.

**MISS SAIGON**

Order pho or vermicelli to go, or for delivery, 867-873-6477. Kim's



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Confectionary, 5309 50 Ave. [Missaigonyk.ca](http://Missaigonyk.ca)

**MARK'S FAMILY RESTAURANT**

Long-running Chinese-Canadian eatery in the lower level of the Scotia Centre, with a popular lunch buffet. 5102 50 Ave. 867-920-7878.

**SAFARI FOODS FAMILY**

Ugandan and Indian mix. Eat in and takeout. Closed Sunday. 4910 Franklin Avenue. 867-686-9001.

**SUSHI CAFÉ**

A wide range of Japanese food - traditional Japanese appetizers, teppanyaki and more. Sit down, takeout and delivery. 5309 50 Ave. 867-920-0776.

**SUSHI NORTH**

Cafeteria-style, sushi, nigiri, made to order weekdays from lunch to 7 pm. 4910 Franklin Ave. 867-669-0001.

**THE RED APPLE**

This family-style restaurant offers an all-day Western and Chinese menu. 4701 50 Ave. 867-766-3388.

**VIETNAMESE NOODLE HOUSE**

Vermicelli is a local staple, while the traditional menu includes plenty of non-noodle selections like stir-fries and rice plates. New owners. Takeout and sit down. 4609 50 Ave. 867-873-3399.

**LITTLE PRINCE CUISINE**

Lunchtime shawarma and a varied menu of middle eastern favorites. 867-920-7667. At the centre of Yellowknife, 5006 50<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**ZEHABESHA**

Ethiopian food (including traditional injera flatbread with vegetarian and non-vegetarian offerings) along with some western items. Takeout, delivery and sit down. 5030 50 Street. 867-873-6400.





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*Weekend  
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11AM-2PM



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**NIGHTLIFE**

Whether the sun sets at 4 p.m. or 1 a.m., Yellowknife nightlife has something for everyone.

**THE BLACK KNIGHT PUB**

Live music Saturday nights, and special events at the Top Knight upstairs. 4910 49 Street. 867-920-4041 [facebook.com/blackknightNWT](https://www.facebook.com/blackknightNWT).

**BOSTON PIZZA**

Sports bar packed with big screen TVs for your favorite game. More than 100 menu items. Open late 7 nights a week. 5102 48 Street. 867-920-2000. [bostonpizza.com](http://bostonpizza.com).

**ELKS CLUB**

Play some pool and watch the game. Popular trivia night on Wednesdays. 4919 49 Street. 867-873-4563. [yelkls.com](http://yelkls.com).

**THE GOLD RANGE**

The iconic Yellowknife bar. What happens at the Range, stays at the Range. Live music. 5010 50 St. 867-873-4441.

**HARLEY'S HARD ROCK SALOON**

Nightly exotic dancing with a crowd that mixes old and young. 4919 48 St. 867-873-4030, [facebook.com/harleyshardrocksaloon](https://www.facebook.com/harleyshardrocksaloon).

**KINGPIN BOWLING CENTRE**

Family friendly bowling with an attached lounge, pool tables and large-screen TV. 5125 52 Ave. 867-920-2695.



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**SAM'S MONKEY TREE PUB**

A popular uptown spot with a summer patio. Pool tables and a dance floor keep revellers busy all night. 483 Range Lake Road. 867-920-4914.

**THE MANTLE RESTAURANT & PUB**

Filipino, Asian, western. Wednesday wing night, karaoke. 4511 Franklin Ave. 867-765-0027.

**THE RAVEN PUB**

This dance club right in the heart of downtown plays all the new hits and the best of all genres at your request. Monday to Saturday nights. 5030 50 Street. 867-669-9755.

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION**

Billiards and darts in a new location. Cheap beer. Don't forget to take off your hat. 4709 Franklin Ave. 867-873-5566.

**THE TRAPLINE LOUNGE**

This cozy, upscale lounge at the Explorer Hotel offers fireside charm to both visitors and locals. Relax with a local micro-brew and enjoy innovative pub fare. 4825 49 Ave. 867-873-3531. [explorerhotel.ca/trapline-lounge](http://explorerhotel.ca/trapline-lounge).

**THE WOODYARD BREWHOUSE AND EATERY**

Yellowknife's very own brew pub. This popular Old Town establishment offers hearty meals and made-in-the-NWT suds. 3905 50 Ave. 867-873-BEER (2337). [nwtbrewing.com](http://nwtbrewing.com).



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## DOWNTOWN

## UPTOWN

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Liquor Shop

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**FAST FOOD**

When time is tight, Yellowknife is home to all the usual suspects.

**A&W**

Takeout and sit down. Centre Square Mall. 4905 50 Ave. 867-669-7071.

**BOOSTER JUICE**

Get a healthy smoothie, paninis and wraps. 419 Byrne Rd. 867-873-3872.

**BRUNO PIZZA**

Pizza-by-the-slice at the counter, whole pizzas available for pick-up and delivery. Late hours make this a busy spot after the bars close. 5124 53 Street. 867-920-2130.

**DOMINO'S PIZZA**

Takeout and delivery. 100 Borden Drive. 867-920-2020. dominos.ca.

**FATBURGER**

Gourmet burgers and shakes. 100 Borden Drive. 867-920-2900.

**FRESH SLICE PIZZA**

Takeout, sit down. 480 Range Lake Road. 867-873-5000.

**KFC**

Takeout and sit down. 251 Old Airport Road. 867-675-0331. Kfc.ca.

**MCDONALD'S**

Takeout and sit down. Two locations: 202 Old Airport Road, 867-873-9555; Walmart, 313 Old Airport Road, 867-873-9556.

**PIZZA HUT**

Dine in, takeout and delivery. 312 Old Airport Road, across from Walmart. 867-669-6700.

**QUIZNOS**

Made to order subs, takeout and sit down. 106-314 Old Airport Road. 867-920-7827. Also Yellowknife airport, 867-444-1976.

**SUBWAY**

Made to order subs, takeout and eat in. Two Locations: 5103 50th Street. 867-920-2727; 100 Borden Drive. 867-920-2700.

**TIM HORTONS**

Takeout and sit down, 309 Old Airport Road 867-873-4999. Takeout only at 5014 49th St. 867-920-4666.

**GASTOWN GRILL**

This silver trailer in Gastown's parking lot has legendary burgers and diner fare. Seasonal. 356 Old Airport Road.

**MARY BROWN'S CHICKEN**

Eat in or takeout, you know what you're getting. 350 Borden Dr. 867-920-6279.

**ONE OF A THAI**

In the summer, look for a bright red truck downtown for Thai cuisine influenced by owner Sousanh Chanthalangsy's mother's recipes. 867-445-8258.

**EATING IN**

Where we pick up everything from fresh fish to duck confit.

**GROCERY STORES**

See: Where to Shop

**BUSH ORDER PROVISIONS**

Micro bakery. Saturday 11-3pm. 180 Enterprise Drive. 867-444-0901.

**BUCKLEY'S GREAT SLAVE LAKE FISH**

Purchase fish from a truck year-round. Barry Buckley, 867-444-8195

**KIM'S CONFECTIONARY**

This unassuming convenience store is a hidden treasure chest full of Asian condiments, ingredients and frozen specialties. 5309 50 Street. 867-873-5100.

**LE REFUGE FARM**

Order online, and at Farmer's Market, homegrown and prepared foods. Le-refuge-farm.localine.ca. 867-447-1101.

**NORTHERN FANCY MEATS**

An independent butcher offers a fresh collection of cuts and prepared meats, along with pan-Arctic seafood and deli specialties. 314 Woolgar Ave. 867-873-8767.

**WEAVER AND DEVORE**

Part of this YK traditional emporium is a mini-grocery store serving residents of Old Town and N'Dilo. 3601 Weaver Drive. 867-873-2219.

**GREAT SLAVE FISH PRODUCTS**

Pick up fresh fillets, whole fish and smoked fish from this truck, usually parked downtown, or frozen fish from their floating barge by Jolliffe Island. 867-446-2953. Other fishers market daily in season near the Government wharf in Old Town.



## YK Sweets

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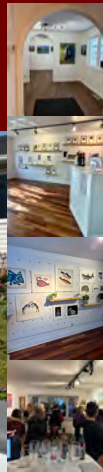


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SUSHI NORTH provides traditional Japanese cuisine with a Northern flair featuring Arctic Char. Conveniently located in downtown Yellowknife.

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(Beside the Post Office)  
sushinorth.ca  
867-669-0001



100 BORDEN DR  
(867) 873-4769

A collection of various Northern-themed souvenirs and gifts. Items include a wooden canoe, a framed picture of a polar bear, a teddy bear, a hat, and other small items. The background is dark blue.

## Northern SOUVENIRS & GIFTS

8-4905 48th St. Tel: 867.873.9696  
northernsouvenirs@gmail.com

## Arctic Jewellers

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& YELLOWKNIFE GOLD JEWELLERY

A necklace with various charms including a polar bear, a diamond, a snowflake, and a dreamcatcher.

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[www.arcticjewellers.com](http://www.arcticjewellers.com)



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Looking for local art, crafts or souvenirs? Our shops offer everything from T-shirts to locally cut diamonds.

## ARCTIC JEWELLERS

Gold nugget jewelry and Canadian diamonds. Centre Square Mall, 5022 49th Street. 867-669-8884. [arcticjewellers.com](http://arcticjewellers.com)

## DOWN TO EARTH GALLERY

Local and pan-territorial art in Old Town. 5007 Bryson Drive. 867-920-0711. [facebook.com/downtoearthgallery](http://facebook.com/downtoearthgallery)

## ERASMUS APPAREL

Locally designed and silkscreened apparel—original designs inspired by Yellowknife. 4602 50 Ave. 867-444-0307. [Erasmusapparel.com](http://Erasmusapparel.com)

## GALLERY OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

NWT Diamonds, fine Inuit and Dene art, and northern apparel. 5005 Bryson Drive. 867-873-8064

## LAKE AWRY CAP & CREST

Apparel and souvenirs bearing the "Ragged Ass Road" logo and more. YK Centre Mall. 4509 48th St. 867-873-6999. [lakeawry.com](http://lakeawry.com)

## MARIA'S PLACE

An arts and crafts store to fulfill all your knitting needs. Unit 4-483 Range Lake Road. 867-445-2168

## NORTHERN SOUVENIRS & GIFTS

A wide range of souvenirs. 4905 48 Street. 867-873-9696. [northernsouvenirs@gmail.com](mailto:northernsouvenirs@gmail.com)

## NORTHERN TRANSITIONS

Custom parkas and Northern arts and crafts. Centre Square Mall, 5014 49 Street. 867-873-9908. [Northerntransition.ca](http://Northerntransition.ca)

## NWT DIAMOND AND JEWELLERY CENTRE

Loose diamonds and diamond jewellery including engagement rings, pendants and more. 5105 49th Street 867-920-7108 [nwtdiamondcentre.com](http://nwtdiamondcentre.com)

## OLD TOWN GLASSWORKS

Purchase retail items or sand-blast your own original designs onto glass, turning recycled wine bottles into cups, vases and unique mementos. Pre-booking required. 3510 McDonald Drive. 867-669-7654. [oldtownglassworks.com](http://oldtownglassworks.com)

## THE CABIN

Giftshop with a wide variety of Northern items. Yellowknife Airport 867-873-2369.

## THE QUILTED RAVEN

Northern fabrics, patterns and supplies. 5003 53 Street. 867-920-0303. [Thequiltedraven.com](http://Thequiltedraven.com)

## SIGNED

A local media design and production company selling distinctively northern signs and posters. 5024 51 st. 867-920-0770

## YELLOWKNIFE BOOK CELLAR

Your best source of literature from—and about—the North. 4923 49 St. 867-920-2220. [yellowknifebooks.com](http://yellowknifebooks.com)

## CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES

Are you looking for some retail therapy? There are so many shops around Yellowknife offering a variety of services, so you'll likely find whatever it is you're looking for—whether it's clothing, home décor or a new tattoo.

## BOREAL KIDS CO.

This new store sells preloved and new clothing for babies, kids, women and maternity wear. Boreal Kids Co. is also located inside the 50/50 Mini Mall. 5004 Franklin Ave. 867-444-8194 [borealkidsco@gmail.com](mailto:borealkidsco@gmail.com)

## BLUNT YK

While Blunt is mainly a hair salon, the shop also sells clothing and accessories. 4912 49 Street. 867-446-2393

## FOR WOMEN ONLY

Women's clothing and accessories. Scotia Centre, 106-5102 50 Ave. 867-873-9613. [forwomenonlyyk.com](http://forwomenonlyyk.com). [forwomenonly@theedge.ca](http://forwomenonly@theedge.ca)

## HARLEY'S SHIRT SHACK AND YELLOWKNIFE TATTOO

Clothing from the legendary Harley's Hard Rock Saloon, plus a tattoo parlour. 4919 48 St. 867-873-8731.

## ICEBLINK

High-end clothing and accessories for women, from cocktail dresses to yoga apparel. 50/50 Mini Mall, 5004 50 Ave. 867-873-3033. [facebook.com/iceblinkyellowknife](http://facebook.com/iceblinkyellowknife)

## → WHERE TO SHOP

### **LONG ARM OF THE NORTH**

Selling knitwear, quilts and locally made accessories. Additionally, Long Arm rents out quilting machines. 5004 Franklin Avenue. 867-669-0011. roxanne.julie@longarmofthenorth.com

### **SPORTS AND OUTDOORS**

#### **OVERLANDER SPORTS**

All kinds of sporting, lifestyle and camping gear can be purchased here. Also seasonal gear rentals. 4909 50 Street. 867-873-2474. overlandersports.com

#### **WEAVER AND DEVORE TRADING LTD.**

Yellowknife's oldest general store, and one of its first businesses, offers outdoor camping, hunting, fishing and boating equipment and clothing suited to this subarctic climate. 3601 Weaver Drive. 867-873-2219. weaverdevore.ca

### **FURNITURE, APPLIANCES, HARDWARE**

#### **CHARLOTTE HENRY DESIGNS**

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#### **QUALITY FURNITURE**

Yellowknife furniture and home decor. 4610 50 Ave. 867-873-2004. qualityfurniturenw.com

#### **WILLIAMS ELECTRONICS**

Cellphones, Big screen TVs and cameras. 4801 Franklin Ave 867-873-4434. williamselectronics.ca

### **PETS**

#### **BOREALIS KENNELS & PET SPECIALTIES**

Pet food, toys and accessories. 50/50 Mini Mall, 5004 50 Ave. 867-873-3688 or 8 Nahani Drive 867-873-3818. borealiskennels@theedge.ca

### **GREAT SLAVE ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

Pet food, toys and accessories. 129 Kam Lake Road. 867-873-2579.

#### **YELLOWKNIFE VETERINARY CLINIC**

308 Woolgar. 867-873-2579

### **DRUGSTORES THE MEDICINE SHOPPE**

314 Old Airport Rd. 867-920-7775. medicinешoppe.ca

#### **SHOPPERS DRUG MART**

4911 49th Street. 867-873-4055; 1-800-746-7737 shoppersdrugmart.ca

#### **SUTHERLAND'S DRUGS**

Pharmacy, health supplements, gift items and magazines. 4910 50th Avenue. 867-873-4555. sutherlandsdrugs.ca

### **CHAIN STORES**

**CANADIAN TIRE**  
328 Old Airport Road. 867-873-2403

#### **CREATIVE BASICS**

Sells art and office supplies. 5012-48 Street, Yellowknife. 867-920-2486. creativesales@theedge.ca

#### **HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE**

332 Old Airport Road. 867-669-9945

#### **MARK'S WORK WAREHOUSE**

307 Old Airport Road. 867-669-9267

#### **REITMANS**

314 Old Airport Road 867-669-9400

#### **STAPLES**

314 Old Airport Road Unit 130. 867-766-6220

#### **THE BRICK**

354 Old Airport Road. 867-765-0605

### **THE SOURCE**

419 Byrne Road Unit 100. 867-920-4814

#### **WALMART**

313 Old Airport Road 867-873-4545

#### **WAREHOUSE ONE**

314 Old Airport Road Unit 104 867-766-3450

### **FOOD**

#### **NORTHERN FANCY MEAT**

Independent butcher with a selection of cuts and prepared meats. Also seafood and deli specialties. 314 Woolgar Ave. 867-873-8767

#### **YK DIRECT CHARGE CO-OP**

Supermarket plus pharmacy. 321 Old Airport Rd., 867-873-5770, Ykcoop.com

#### **YOUR INDEPENDENT GROCER**

two locations: downtown, 14 4910 50 Ave, 867-669-9100; uptown, 250 Old Airport Road, 867-766-3195, Yourindependentgrocer.ca Pharmacy at Airport Road location

#### **YK SWEETS**

Want a custom and artfully decorated cake? Check out YK Sweets. Yksweets60@gmail.com.

### **LIQUOR AND CANNABIS LIQUOR STORE**

Two locations: downtown, 5108 49 St. 867-920-4977; uptown, 100 Borden Drive 867-669-7467.

#### **RELEAF NT**

Marijuana dispensary store. 5123 51 st. orders@releafnt.ca

### **OTHER**

#### **CENTRE ICE PLAZA**

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# Centre Square Mall

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| Arctic Jewellers                       | 669-8884                    |
| Aurora Advance                         | 873-2503                    |
| Diamond Nails                          | 766-2457                    |
| Rogel's Barber Shop                    | 873-4166                    |
| Northern Transitions                   | 873-9908                    |
| Ogre's Lair Game Shop                  | 444-8526                    |
| Reddi Mart                             | 873-9844                    |
| Yellowknife Public Library             | 920-5642                    |
| Tim Hortons                            | 920-4666                    |
| Yellowknife Visitor Information Centre | 920-TOUR or 873-TOUR (8687) |



**5022-49<sup>th</sup> Street**

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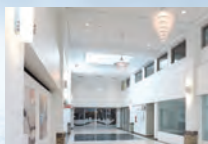
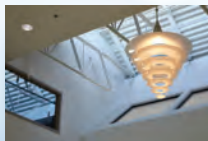
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# At a glance

SOME ANNUAL EVENTS IN YELLOWKNIFE ←

## JANUARY

Aurora viewing, dogsledding and ice fishing season.

### NEW YEAR'S EVE

#### DECEMBER 31:

The City's fireworks display at 8 pm staged on Frame Lake. Homegrown fireworks displays sparkle at midnight.

### BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL:

The touring films visit Yellowknife in late January.

### WORLD

#### SNOW DAY:

International event celebrating all things snow on the third Sunday.

## FEBRUARY

Snow, great Auroras, outdoor skating or snowboarding.

### NWT SKI DAY:

Rent skis and take to the trails. Events for all at the Yellowknife Ski Club, February 11.

## MARCH

Long sunny days and Aurora-filled nights.

### SNOWKING XXIX:

Snow castle on Great Slave Lake through the month of March. Snow carving competition, pond hockey and live entertainment in the castle, plus snow slides for the little ones.



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

### FROSTBITE 50:

Cross country ski race starts and ends at Yellowknife Ski Club. The Frostbite mini, for runners, follows the Dettah Ice Road. [www.skiyellowknife.com](http://www.skiyellowknife.com).

### CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP DOG DERBY:

Six and four dog races for all ages, and the famous three day 150 mile race on Great Slave Lake. Mushers from the NWT and as far away as Minnesota and Alaska. End of March.

## APRIL

The snow melts - the days get longer and nights get shorter.

### BALSILLE CUP:

The Yellowknife Old Timers Hockey Club welcomes teams from across the territory April 5-7.

### GUMBOOT RALLY:

Fun event for Inclusion NWT - costumes and competitions.

### PTARMIGAN PTHEATRICS:

Local theater production of Dolly Parton's Nine to Five at the Northern Arts and Cultural Centre.

## MAY

The lakes start to melt, windsurfing weather.

### SPRING ARTS AND CRAFTS SALE:

Yellowknife's Guild of Crafts spring sale of handmade pottery and textiles. [ykguild.nt.ca](http://ykguild.nt.ca).

### NORTHWORDS WRITERS FESTIVAL:

Authors collect to celebrate Northern and Indigenous literature with readings and workshops. Last weekend of May or first weekend of June.



PHOTO UP HERE/HANNAH EDEN

**JUNE**

Celebrate the Midnight Sun.

**THE FARMERS' MARKET:**

Starting early June, every Tuesday evening from 5:15 to 7:30 at the Somba K'e Civic Plaza, by City Hall. Fresh veggies, baking and fish, takeout from local chefs, gifts. Music, and room for the kids to roam. Through to September.

**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY:**

June 21, a statutory holiday in the NWT. Celebrate with the North Slave Metis Alliance's delicious fish fry. Somba K'e Civic Plaza, by City Hall.

**YELLOWKNIVES DENE FIRST NATION HAND GAMES TOURNAMENT:**

Two day event with competing teams, family fun. Mid to late June. [facebook.com/ykdenefirstnation/](https://facebook.com/ykdenefirstnation/).

**CANADIAN NORTH MIDNIGHT CLASSIC:**

Tee off around midnight on Yellowknife's carry-your-own-grass golf course. [Yellowknifegolf.com](https://yellowknifegolf.com).

**JULY**

Sun, lakes, fishing and music - winter is forgotten.

**FOLK ON THE ROCKS:**

Canada's Small Festival of the Year, 2023, marks 44 years on the sand by Long Lake. July 19-21. Live music, food, and arts and crafts. [Folkontherocks.com](https://Folkontherocks.com).

**AUGUST**

The nights get longer. Catch the Aurora without a parka.

**OLD TOWN RAMBLE & RIDE:**

A street festival August 3-5 hosted by Old Town merchants, artists and musicians.

**OLD TOWN POND SAILOR'S REGATTA:**

A family pond sailing race for homemade yachts. No electronics permitted. Presented by the Snowking.

**SEPTEMBER**

The trees are changing. Nighttime Aurora shows.

**FARMERS' MARKET WINDS DOWN:**

Early September finds the "farmers" packing up for winter. Last chance for home grown veggies!

**YELLOWKNIVES DENE COMMUNITY MARKET:**

Fresh veggies, crafts, food and music. Late September. [facebook.com/ykdenefirstnation/](https://facebook.com/ykdenefirstnation/)

**NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION:**

September 30.

**OCTOBER**

Aurora can be obscured by clouds. Snow is on its way.

**YELLOWKNIFE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:**

Local, Arctic and international films presented by Western Arctic Moving Pictures at the Capitol Theatre.

**NOVEMBER**

Freeze-up begins. Watch for ice safety information.

**PUMPKIN LANE:**

Tour jack-o-lanterns on the McMahon Trail, Frame Lake.

**SNOW SHOW:**

Ski gear sale and trail info. Yellowknife Ski Club.

**SANTA CLAUS PARADE:**

Chill out downtown with the jolly old elf, and some inventive Yellowknife floats.

**CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALES:**

Sales most weekends, check media for dates.

**DECEMBER**

Light the darkness. Time for skating, skiing and sledding.

**HOLIDAY LIGHTS:**

December through January, Somba K'e plaza and city streets light up. The Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and the Explorer Hotel sport Aurora colours, and city residents add sparkle to residential areas.

Dance with us under the midnight sun!

July 19-21, 2024 | Yellowknife, NT

- Kids 12 and under get in free
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# TAKE A TOUR

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PHOTO GEORGE FISHER, NWT

## Wait. There's more

➔ **OUR AIR AND ROAD CONNECTIONS WILL TAKE YOU TO MORE NORTHERN ADVENTURES.**

If you've come this far north, maybe you should plan a side trip to another northern location. After all, Yellowknife is the main air hub for the Northwest Territories. Here are a few experiences you could add to your Yellowknife trip.

### **VISIT NAHANNI NATIONAL PARK RESERVE**

Two airlines, Canadian North and Air Tindi, offer frequent flights to

Fort Simpson, gateway to Nahanni National Park. Some local tour operators also offer tours, including ground tours to Fort Simpson and the Park. Once in Fort Simpson, you can book a Nahanni flightseeing trip that takes you over parts of the park, and weather permitting stops above Virginia Falls (higher than Niagara) so you can hike down the walkways and get a full frontal view of these dramatic falls.

If you wish to overnight in Fort Simpson, we suggest booking a hotel or B&B room in advance.

### **SAY HELLO TO THE NWT'S SECOND LARGEST COMMUNITY**

There are regular flights between Yellowknife and Hay River, or you can drive there in about five hours....longer if you stop to enjoy the sights enroute. In Hay River

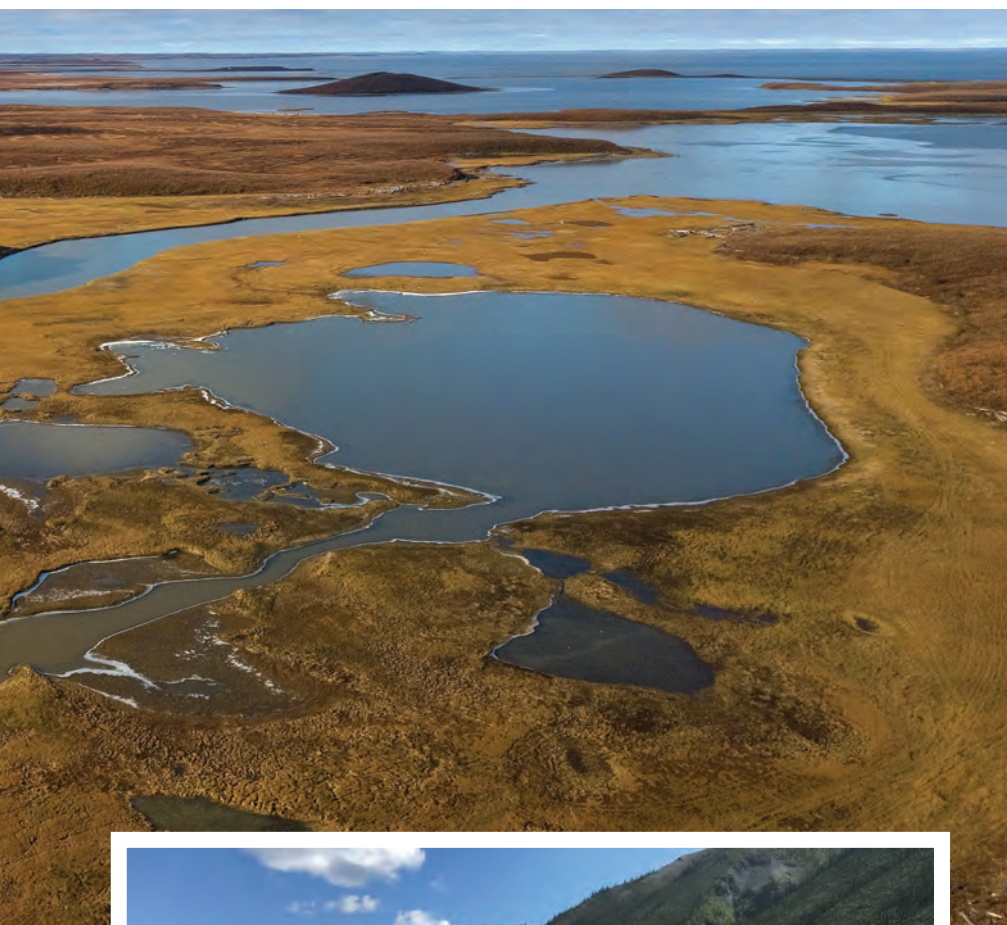


PHOTO NWIT/AINSEY MILLER





PHOTO UP HERE

you can play golf on one of the prettiest golf courses in the North, or you can join a jet boat cruise up the Hay River to the falls, or you can enjoy some of the best fish in the north at the town's Saturday Farmer's market.

### KEEP ON FISHING

If you sampled fishing in and around Yellowknife, but are hankering for a few dedicated days of fishing, there are over a dozen lodges readily accessible from Yellowknife, with some offering two-day packages including a flight

to the lodge. All have excellent fishing with a range of species. Looking for monsters, head to bigger lakes. Want variety? Some of the smaller lakes offer trout, pike and grayling fishing.

### STEP INTO CANADA'S LARGEST NATIONAL PARK

Wood Buffalo National Park is one of the largest parks in the world and offers an excellent opportunity to see the big bison. Access to the park is via Fort Smith, a town that sits just above the Alberta border. A drive from Yellowknife to Fort Smith will



# **BIG RIVER**

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PHOTO DESTINATION CANADA/NWTT

take about eight to 10 hours, or you can fly via daily flights offered by Northwestern Air Lease. You can drive through the park to Pine Lake which has a campground and recreational beaches. And when you're in the Fort Smith area, ask about the world's largest snowshoe.

### **VENTURE OUT ON THE INUVIK-TUKTOYAKTUK HIGHWAY**

What can be more Canadian than driving to the Arctic Ocean? The

highway connecting the regional centre of Inuvik with Tuk has only been open for a few years, and winds through some of the roughest terrain in the territories. Depending on the season it also offers beautiful views of colourful wildflowers on the tundra. Watch for the pingos nearer to Tuk and check out the impact of erosion on one part of the community. You can rent a vehicle in Inuvik or join a guided tour up the highway. In summer, there are also water tours to Tuk.





# *Experience the North in Hay River NWT!*

**Aurora Ford Classic Dog Sled  
Race February 24-25 2024**



**2024 Polar Pond Tournament  
March 1-3, 2024**







OVERLOOKING THE CAMERON RIVER IN WINTER

PHOTO CAROLE MUSIALEK

## 10 winter activities

→ TO EXPERIENCE IN AND AROUND YELLOWKNIFE

Hanging off the side of the YK Centre on Yellowknife's main street, there's a scrolling screen that displays the time, some local ads and most importantly the temperature. You'll pass parka'd visitors standing underneath the sign posing for photos and pointing up gleefully at the screen's astounding temperatures of -30, -40 or even -50C. But despite the chill, winter is the season of fun for many

Yellowknifers; a time of Northern Lights viewing, dogsledding, ice-fishing, snow sports, frozen lakes and longjohns and even a soak in an outdoor hot tub.

Since viewing the Aurora Borealis is a main reason for visiting Yellowknife in the winter as well as the late summer/early fall, we've devoted a separate section to Aurora viewing (See page 37). In this section you'll find many other

ways to enjoy the season and have an unforgettable stay.

### DOGSLEDDING

For thousands of years, sled dogs were the fastest means of transportation in the North, essential for hunting and travel. Although snowmobiles have gradually replaced dogsled teams in the past century, dog sled touring and dogsled racing are still popular. For



visitors to Yellowknife, dogsledding is an enjoyable way to explore the region and get a feel for Northern living. Or try a kicksled pulled by a husky on Great Slave Lake.

### ICE FISHING

Before you find a spot in the ice, get your fishing licence, available online at [licencesnr.gov.nt.ca/](http://licencesnr.gov.nt.ca/) fishing-licence. Then wait for the pike, trout or walleye to bite as you sit in a heated shack or vehicle atop at least three feet of ice.

### CROSS COUNTRY SKIING

For groomed cross country ski trails, visit the Yellowknife Ski Club. You can



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

also take your skis out on Frame or Great Slave lakes, once the ice has been tested and is thick enough to be safe. The ski club has programs for all ages and skill levels. Its heated two-storey chalet just out of town has a lounge and wax room. The club maintains 14 km of groomed ski trails including a 3 km lighted loop. Visitor fee for use of trails is \$15 per person or \$40 for a family



ICE CURTAINS AT ICE CAVES

PHOTO BILL BRADEN

### SNOWSHOEING

If you've never tried snowshoes before, you'll quickly find out it is not as easy as it looks. You can try snowshoeing some of the trails around Yellowknife, or on one of our frozen lakes

### SNOWBOARDING

Day passes are available at the Bristol Pit and you can also rent equipment there. There is a clubhouse on site and the hill has a tow lift. For times and costs visit [nwnsnowboard.ca](http://nwnsnowboard.ca)

### SNOWMOBILING

Drive your own snowmobile along winding trails, or across open lakes. Several operators provide snowmobile tours, and they'll even outfit you and teach you how to drive a snowmobile as part of the package.

### ICE ROAD DRIVING

The History Channel's reality show Ice Road Truckers made stars of Yellowknife's Alex Debogorski and our seasonal highways. If you want to try a short trip on an ice road we have one that stretches about 6km across Yellowknife Bay connecting Yellowknife with the small community of Dettah.

### ICE SKATING

The city has five outdoor rinks including one downtown on Frame Lake, just outside city hall. There are scheduled hours for indoor skating at two Yellowknife arenas.

### SNOWKING FESTIVAL

March is Snowking Festival time in Yellowknife. The Snow king's castle opens in early March and the festival extends throughout the month. It includes art exhibits, live entertainment, children's play areas and much more. For a schedule of events, opening times and admission fees visit [snowking.ca](http://snowking.ca)

### ICE CAVES

Each year, walls of ice form from overhanging rock faces on the west side of Yellowknife's Back Bay. The results are spectacular cave-like structures made entirely of ice. It's possible to walk across Back Bay to these structures, or join a tour that offers dog team or snowmobile access to the ice caves.

### ALSO...

Yellowknife has a range of gyms, fitness/health centres, clubs that are

### OPERATORS OFFERING WINTER ACTIVITIES.

Aurora Village, Aurora Wonderland, Enodah, Sundog Adventures, B. Dene Adventures, Bluefish Services, Great Slave Lake Tours, Yellowknife Sportfishing Adventures, Yellowknife Outdoor Adventures, Overlander Sports, Arctic Limousine, Borealis Bike Tours, North Star Adventures

open to both members and guests. The city also has a well appointed field house, with multi-purpose fields, an indoor track, a climbing wall. The city has a swimming pool with a steam room and hot tub. A much larger facility with two pools is under construction next to the existing pool.

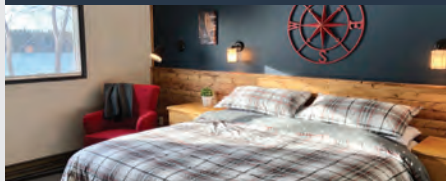
Here are some companies/clubs offering fitness and wellness services: Anytime Fitness, Breakaway Fitness, Collective Soul Space, Fox Den Martial Arts, Juniper Health, Yellowknife Racquet Club

If you prefer to stay indoors, Yellowknife has a three-screen movie theatre, a bowling centre and a number of establishments that offer billiards tables to customers or members, including the Raven Pub, the Monkey Tree, the Yellowknife Elks Club and the Legion.



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## HELP PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

If you see something, report it!

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Smoke or fire                                | 1-877-NWT-FIRE |
| Hazardous spills                             | 1-867-920-8130 |
| Big game collision or<br>wildlife violations | 1-866-762-2437 |

[gov.nt.ca/ecc/report-something](http://gov.nt.ca/ecc/report-something)



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

## 10 summer outdoor activities

➔ TO KEEP YOU BUSY FOR DAYS IN YELLOWKNIFE

Summer arrives in early June and lasts for three glorious months. The temperature can go up to plus 37 degrees, but that doesn't happen very often. Generally summer temperatures are around 22-23 degrees Celsius and the sun is up for at least 20 hours, with twilight for the remaining four hours.

The season may be short, but many Yellowknifers live for the summer. From live music under near endless sunlight in the city

to unlimited adventures in the wilds, you'll find plenty to keep you busy.

### ON THE WATER

The city is surrounded by pristine lakes and waterways, with plenty of room for fishing, canoeing, kayaking and boating. Arrange guided fishing expeditions and tours with local operators, or rent your own vessel and go exploring.

### HIKE INTO CAMERON FALLS

This 2 km round trip pathway to Cameron Falls on the Cameron River is accessible from the Ingraham Trail, 46km east of Yellowknife. The falls are a prime day trip destination with many beautiful views of the taiga landscape. Interpretive panels are available to highlight some of the geological features of the area

### TENNIS

The city has three outdoor tennis





courts at Sombk'e Park (near city hall), McNiven Beach (by the pool) and near the Multiplex at the south end of the city. Unless the courts are booked by the Yellowknife Tennis Club you are welcome to use the courts free of charge anytime between 7am and 11pm

### CHECK OUT FLOATPLANES

Wander along the waterfront in Old Town and have a look at the many float planes that fly out of Yellowknife each summer. Watch them take off and land from several high points in Old Town or watch how easily a pilot can "park" a Twin Otter – best views from the sidewalk of the



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

causeway connecting Old Town to Latham Island.

### TRY OUR TRAILS

If you're just looking for a comfortable 60 to 90 minute walk, try the Niven Lake Trail. It runs alongside a marshy ecosystem and is home to amphibians, waterfowl, muskrats and beavers. Wildlife fans will often spot something along the

trail, or at the pull offs overlooking Niven Lake... a rehabilitated sewage lagoon.

### TAKE IN AN EVENT

In addition to major events like Folk on the Rocks, there are many smaller events that are fun to watch or even participate in. One favourite is the sailing race at the Government wharf. Here a collec-



tion of sleek or quirky, homemade, miniature sailing ships vie for prizes and bragging rights.

### GLASS WORKING

Make your own gift or souvenir at the Old Town Glassworks. Here, recycled glass is made into glasses, small bowls candle holders, and designed with northern scenes.

### ENJOY LUNCH OR A DRINK ON AN OUTDOOR PATIO

There are a number of places where you can enjoy a cool beer, a class of wine, or a good meal...outside. Watch the hustle and bustle of Yellowknifers in the downtown area, or look out at planes or boats from decks near the big lake.

### HISTORY WALK

Pick up the Old Town Heritage Walking tour, and spend a few hours or more, going back to the early days of Yellowknife. Check out the original bank in Yellowknife, other historic buildings, homes of early residents and old mining equipment, then stop for a snack at the historic Wildcat Café, overlooking Back Bay.

### GOLF CLUB

Try our 18-hole, par 72 golf course with unique sand fairways and reasonable green fees, just off highway 3 across from the airport. If you don't have time for the full 18, whack a few balls on the driving range. Cart and equipment



PHOTO BILL BRADEN

rentals and pro shop on site. Call 867-873-4326 to book a T-off time.

And don't miss Elon Muskox, who stands sentinel outside city hall, decked out in colourful flowers. Or hike out to Long Lake, near the airport, for a refreshing swim, followed by a stroll across the road to the Bristol monument...a retired aircraft that was the first plane on wheels to land at the North Pole.

**THIS IS JUST** a sampling of some summer activities. Of course there's also fishing and hiking, as well as many more activities appealing to a range of interests. For more information on what to do in the summer, check the latest operator listings at the Yellowknife Visitor Centre in the Centre Square Mall.

Come for a visit,  
stay for a lifetime.



## THE CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE IS HIRING NEW TALENT!

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# What are you looking for?

YOU CAN FIND JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING YOU'D GET IN A SOUTHERN CITY OF OUR SIZE. ←

Whether you're looking for a farmers' market in the summer or fresh fish year-round; indoor sports arenas or outdoor rinks and hiking trails, chances are you'll find what you need here in Yellowknife. The city offers a wide range of services for residents and visitors that includes cafes and clubs to university courses and day care. Here's what you can expect to find:

## VISITING YELLOWKNIFE BY CAR

If you brought your vehicle, there are car washes, water supply and pump out stations, tire and engine repairs and glass repair. You can also find sporting goods stores, ski, bike and paddleboard rentals, golf, and a wide range of food and beverage services. Our parks, campgrounds and beaches welcome visitors, and there are vets, kennels, and pet supply stores for pets. Supermarkets and corner stores stock the same vegetables and ingredients you'd find anywhere else in Canada.

## IF YOU LIVE HERE

Take advantage of the City's facilities—the pool, two arenas, a curling club and several gyms host a wide selection of volunteer-run activities, from soccer for all ages to volleyball, dance and choral groups. There are more than a dozen parks and playgrounds. Yellowknife's Guild of Crafts is one of the City's longest running



associations, hosting potters, painters, weavers and more. Bus service runs on schedules published online, from Monday to Saturday and there are a few licensed taxi companies to choose from. Regional health services and a 100-bed hospital are supported by the NWT government, and supplemented by dentists, and independent specialty services.

The usual city services are available here too, like real estate and banks. Investment companies, barbers and salons, architects and lawyers, building contractors and

construction trades are part of the local fabric. Two local newspapers—the Yellowknifer and L'Aquillon—as well as Up Here magazine make their homes here. As does CBC North 98.9 FM, CKLB 101.9 FM, CJCD 100.1 FM, Cabin Radio online at [cabinradio.com](http://cabinradio.com) and Radio Taiga 103.5 FM.

Virtually all Yellowknife businesses and groups have their information online for easy location.

## GAS STATIONS

Circle K/Esso – 5000 Forest Drive.  
867-873-9393



PHOTO G WOOD

Shell – 482 Range Lake Road.  
867-873-4759  
Co-op Gas Bar – 321 Old Airport  
Road. 780-841-3448  
Petro-Canada Petro-Pass & Truck  
Stop – 332-334 Old Airport Road.  
867-873-4001.  
Gastown NT – 356 Old Airport Road.  
867-873-3400  
Monkey Tree Gas Bar & Car Wash  
– 485 Range Lake Road.  
867-873-2345

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FLO Charging station  
– 481 Range Lake Road.

Electric Vehicle Charging  
Station – 5102 51 st #101

**CAR REPAIRS**

Many of these services are a one-stop shop, offering car repairs, tire and windshield replacements.

Action Auto – 354 Old Airport Road.  
867-444-3839  
Aurora Dodge – Car Dealership  
offering repair services. 340 Old  
Airport Road. 867-675-2661  
Aurora Ford Service – Car Dealer-  
ship offering repair services.  
20 Old Airport Road.  
Autotec Toyota – Authorized Toyota

service. 353B Old Airport Road.  
867-920-4994  
Blue Diamond – 119 Enterprise  
Drive. 867-875-0120  
HAK'S Auto Body – 3903 Franklin  
Ave. 867-873-3646  
Jiffy Lube – 480C Range Lake Road.  
867-873-9222  
Next Gen NWT Auto Services  
–1 Coronation Drive. 867-554-8731  
Superior Auto Body – Also offers  
glass replacements and painting.  
5 Nahanni Drive. 867-873-5253  
YB Services – Offers heavy truck  
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Drive. 867-873-6001.  
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– also offers repair services. 360 Old Airport Road. 867-78-5000

#### TIRE REPAIRS

Action Auto – 354 Old Airport Road. 867-444-3839

Westown Tire Service Ltd-335 Old Airport Road. 867-873-6190

Kal Tire – 2 Coronation Drive.

867-873-8769

Yellowknife Tirecraft-104 Drybones Drive. 867-873-4477

Jiffy Lube – 480C Range Lake Road. 867-873-9222

#### PUMP OUT STATIONS FOR RVs

An RV fill water line and sewage dump is at Pumphouse 4 across from the Multiplex, on the corner of Kam Lake Road and Old Airport Road. Also on Kam Lake Rd. near Coronation Drive. Usually opens on the May Long Weekend.

#### WINDSHIELD

##### GLASS REPLACEMENT

All-West Glass Yellowknife

– Melville Drive. 867-920-2238

Diamond Glass Ltd – 329 Old Airport Road. 867-873-9178

HAK'S Auto Body –3903 Franklin Ave. 867-873-3646

Inukshuk Glass – 12 Ballantyne Ct. 867-446-4500

Superior Auto Body – 5 Nahanni Drive. 867-873-5253

#### RETAIL FOR AUTO PARTS

Bumper to Bumper – Sells auto parts and offers in-shop services.

316 Woolgar Ave. 867-920-2244

Canadian Tire – 328 Old Airport Road. 867-873-2403

NAPA Auto Parts – 314 Old Airport Road #114. 867-669-6272

#### BANKS

Scotiabank – 5102 Franklin Avenue. 867-669-6000

RBC Royal Bank – 4920 52 St. 867-873-5961.

First Nations Bank of Canada – 4905 48 Street. 1855-444-3994

CIBC – 5001 Franklin Ave. 867-873-4452

TD Canada Trust – 4802 Franklin Avenue/ 867-873-5891

BMO Bank of Montreal – 480B Range Lake Road

#### ADDITIONAL ATMS

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– 5000 Forest Drive

President's Choice Financial ATM

– 250 Old Airport Road

Cold Cash ATM Inc – Locations across town including: 5 Brown Court, 3602 Franklin Ave, Discovery Inn, Centre Square Mall, Yellowknife Golf Club, Capitol Theatre, Yellowknife airport, The Monkey Tree Pub, Yellowknife Visitor Centre and more.

#### CAR WASHES

Monkey Tree Gas Bar & Car Wash

– 485 Range Lake Road.

867-873-2345

Renew-It Car Wash & Detailing

Commercial NDS – Offers car wash services in spring and summer.

116 Taltheilei Drive. 867-873-9416

ProShine Auto Detailing Centre –

343 Old Airport Road. 867-669-1009

Jiffy Lube – 480C Range Lake Road.

867-873-9222

Splash and Dash Detailing–Offers

seasonal car washes. 1043 Williams

Ave. 867-446-6972

#### CAR RENTALS

Budget Car & Truck Rental

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Hertz Car Rental – Yellowknife

Airport. 867-766-3838

National Car Rental – Yellowknife

Airport. 867-920-2970

Gastown Car Rental 356 Old Airport

Road 867-873-3400

YK Car Share Co-op – Samba K'e Civic

Plaza. 867-445-6901

#### HEALTH SERVICES

Stanton Territorial Hospital

– 548 Byrne Road. 867-767-9300

Yellowknife Primary Care Centre –

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# The wild doesn't end where the roads begin



PHOTO DESTINATION CANADA NWT TOURISM

The city of Yellowknife had its start on the banks of Great Slave Lake, in what's now called Old Town. From the still-in-use shacks in the Woodyard (near Ragged Ass Road and Bretzlaff Drive) to the Wildcat Cafe and Yellowknife's oldest general store, Weaver and Devore, the city's history is still alive and well.

Wandering up the hill along Franklin Avenue, you'll reach Yellowknife's downtown core—home to our boutique stores, cafes and restaurants, and an exciting nightlife at several unique bars and pubs. You can stay on Franklin Avenue (the city's main drag) until it

turns into Old Airport Road, and you'll find more busy bars and good places to eat, or you can go straight at the intersection by the fire hall and head down to the Kam Lake neighbourhoods. This is one of Yellowknife's most interesting but downplayed neighbourhoods. It's home to more boutique businesses as well as large kennels where local mushers keep their sled dogs. Let them be your guide to the city.

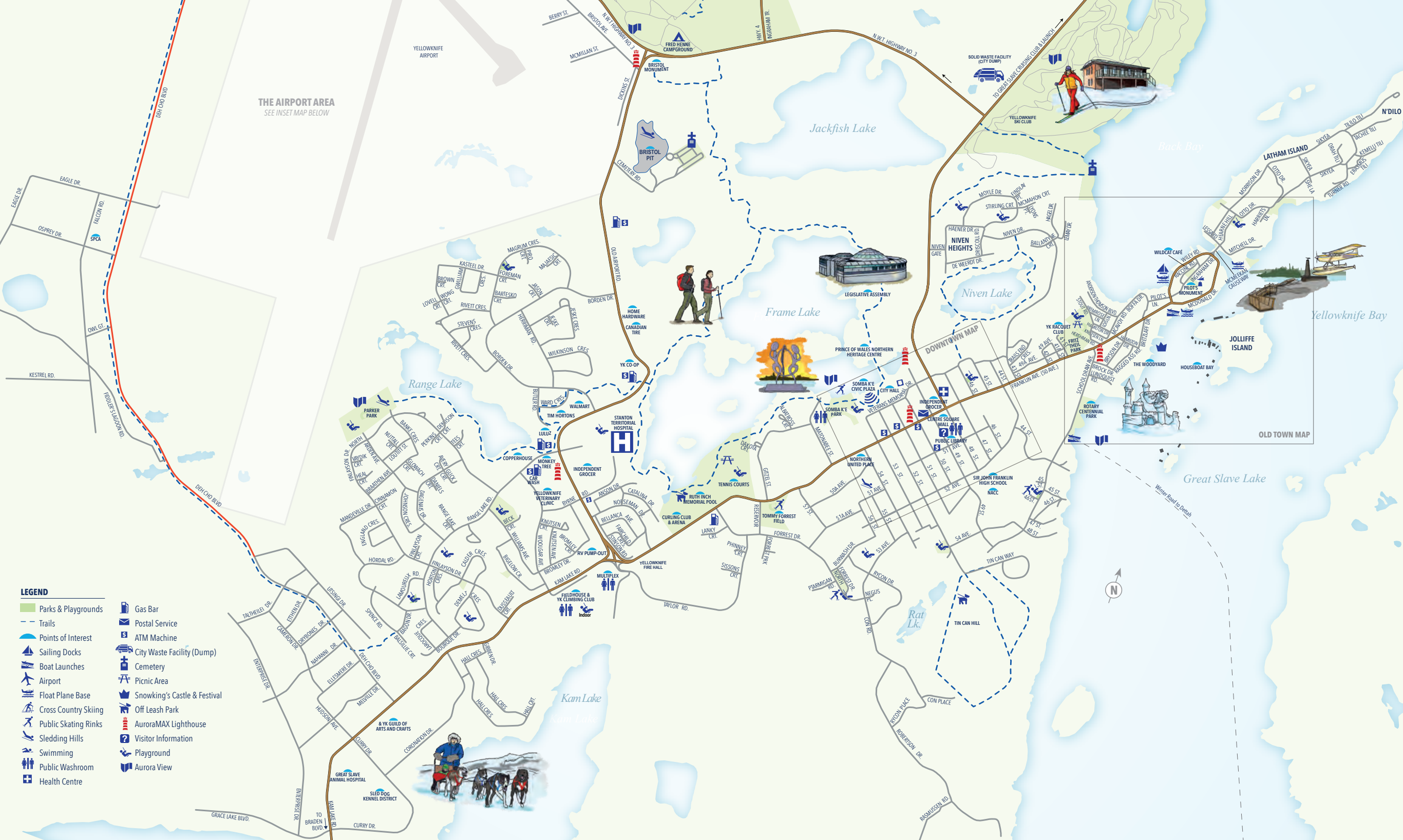
Wherever the roads take you, under the midnight sun or the Northern Lights, you'll be experiencing a city unlike any other in Canada.



**THE AIRPORT AREA**  
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**LEGEND**

-  Parks & Playgrounds
-  Trails
-  Points of Interest
-  Sailing Docks
-  Boat Launches
-  Airport
-  Float Plane Base
-  Cross Country Skiing
-  Sledding Hills
-  Swimming
-  Public Washroom
-  Health Centre
-  Gas Bar
-  Postal Service
-  ATM Machine
-  City Waste Facility (Dump)
-  Cemetery
-  Picnic Area
-  Snowking's Castle & Festival
-  Off Leash Park
-  AuroraMAX Lighthouse
-  Visitor Information
-  Playground
-  Aurora View



Winter Road to Doha





**PLACES TO STAY**

- 4. Old Town B&B

**PLACES TO EAT**

- 6. The Woodyard Brew Pub
- 7. Wildcat Cafe (seasonal)
- 8. Bullock's Bistro

**COMMERCIAL**

- 9. Down To Earth Gallery
- 10. Gallery of the Midnight Sun
- 11. Mother Earth Rocks
- 12. Just Furs
- 13. Oldtown Glassworks
- 14. Weaver & Devore

**AIR BASES**

- 15. Air Tindi Float Base
- 16. Buffalo Airways Floatbase
- 17. Ahmic Air

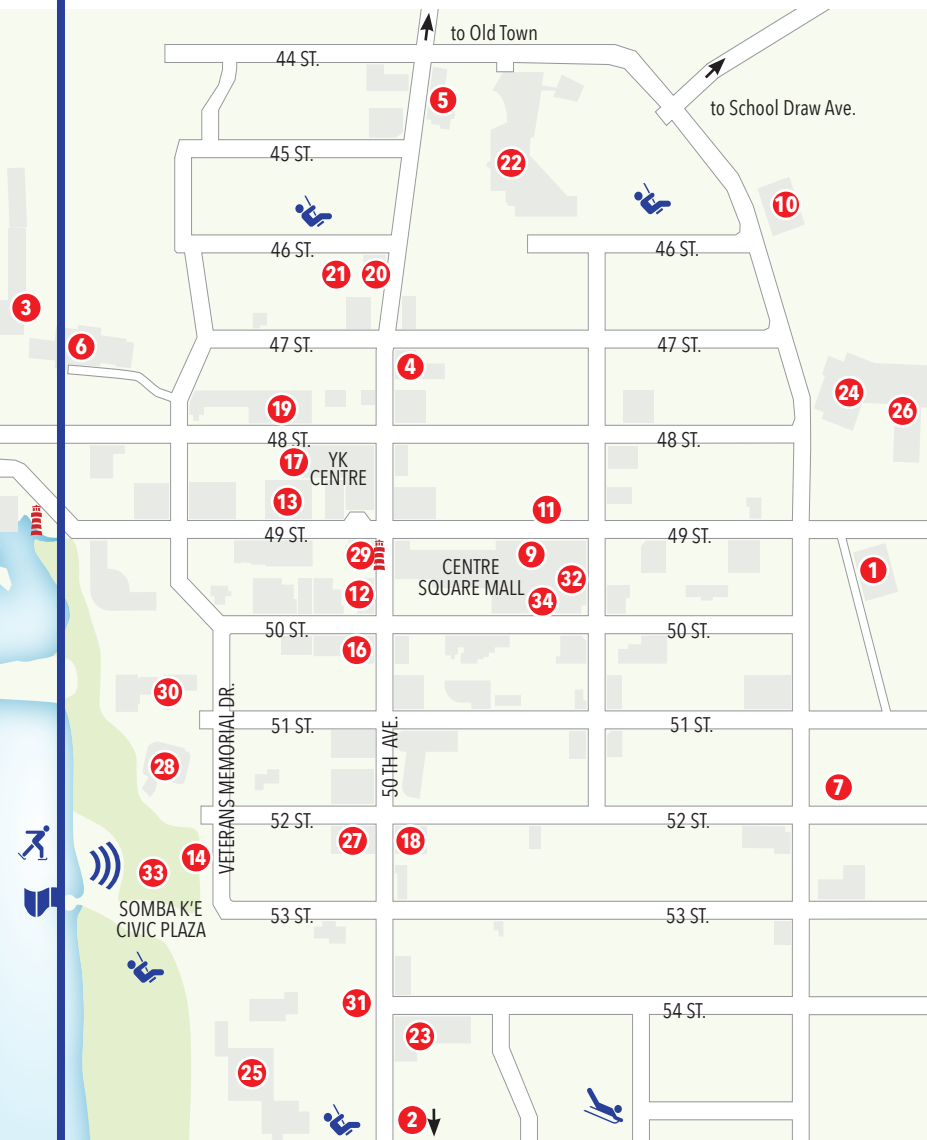
**POINTS OF INTEREST**

- 18. Historic TD Bank
- 19. Fritz Theil Park
- 20. Canoe Launch
- 21. Pilot's Monument
- 22. N'Dilo
- 23. Government Dock
- 24. Houseboats
- 25. Ragged Ass Road Sign
- 26. The Woodyard
- 27. Painted Rock

**OTHER**

- 28. YK Outdoor Adventures
- 29. Old Town Log Cabins
- 30. Sundog Adventures
- 31. Great Slave Yacht Club





**PLACES TO STAY**

- 1. Anderson Thomson Tower
- 2. Capital Suites
- 3. Chateau Nova
- 4. Discovery Inn
- 5. Nova Inn
- 6. Explorer Hotel
- 7. Embleton House B&B
- 9. Quality Inn
- 10. The Watermark

**COMMERCIAL**

- 11. Birchwood Coffee Ko.
- 12. Sutherland's Drugs
- 13. Shoppers Drug Mart
- 14. Fireweed Studio
- 16. 50/50 Mini-mall
- 17. Independent Grocer
- 18. Northwest Tower & Javaroma

**HEALTH**

- 19. Yellowknife Primary Care Centre (Clinic)
- 20. Public Health
- 21. Eye Clinic

**SCHOOLS**

- 22. Saint Patrick's High School
- 23. Northern United Place & Aurora College
- 24. Sir John Franklin High School
- 25. Mildred Hall School

**ENTERTAINMENT**

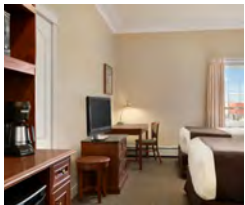
- 26. Northern Arts & Cultural Centre
- 27. Capitol Theatre

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

- 28. City Hall
- 29. Yellowknife Post Office
- 30. RCMP
- 31. Old Schoolhouse
- 32. Yellowknife Public Library

**POINTS OF INTEREST**

- 33. Farmers' Market
- 34. Visitors Centre



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