

WorldwideQuest  
Alumni Expeditions

# Immersive Yukon

STORIES OF PEOPLE, LANDSCAPES, AND WILDLIFE

September 7 – 17, 2025 | 11 Days



Iron Rail Bridge  
of Carcross

PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH



ALUMNI



ALUMNI





Learning willow weaving with a Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in artist in Dawson



© Mosaic Earth

Travelling the iconic Dempster Highway through the Tombstone Mountains



© Pierre Wiki



© Mosaic Earth

Hearing stories of the Klondike Gold Rush in Whitehorse

Watching for the Northern Lights from the Southern Lakes



© Southern Lakes Resort



Spotting wildlife in Kluane National Park





**This tour is presented by the alumni associations of the University of Alberta, the University of Saskatchewan, Western University, McGill University, York University, McMaster University, and University of Guelph.**  
**All are welcome!**

*“There’s a land—oh, it beckons and beckons / And I want to go back—and I will.” – Robert Service, **The Spell of the Yukon***

The allure of the Yukon has been captured in many art forms, from poetry to landscape paintings to stories told around a fire or while floating down a river. Many first-time travellers remark with pleasant surprise at how expansive the forests are in this remote territory “North of 60” where most of the sweeping landscapes are sheltered from the cooling influence of Hudson Bay and the Arctic Ocean. Seemingly endless tracts of boreal forest are interspersed with alpine meadows, sub-Arctic tundra, and riverside willow thickets, allowing some of Canada’s most iconic mammals and birds to endure and even thrive. As we explore these wilderness areas in search of bears, Moose, Caribou, and eagles, we meet various local guides, storytellers, and artisans to hear their first-hand accounts of what life is like here today and how some of their ancestors have lived for thousands of years. With eight First Nations language groups in the Yukon, there are many stories to tell.

We begin in Dawson to immerse ourselves in this incomparable community where Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in traditions and reminders of the Klondike Gold Rush are deeply embedded in the community fabric. A day trip northward takes us along a stretch of the fabled Dempster Highway into the Tombstone Mountains. Farther south in Whitehorse, we walk a stretch of the Millennium Trail and hike along the Miles Canyon before heading even more southward to Carcross and the Southern Lakes where we traverse sand dunes and meet members of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation. During our two days in Kluane National Park, choose from a variety of activities by day, while saving enough energy to watch for Northern Lights at night.

We cap off our immersive exploration back in Whitehorse on the banks of the Yukon River — a place where many a northern adventure has written its opening chapter.



Yukon River at  
Whitehorse



## Study Leader

**Lisa Coulter** graduated from the University of Guelph in 2013 with a Bachelor of Applied Science with a major in Adult Development and Family Wellbeing and a minor in French Studies. Lisa then moved to Europe and eventually to Southeast Asia to teach English and French to adults and youths, while immersing herself in the local culture by living with host families and in rural Thailand. She then travelled across Canada from northern Quebec to Ontario to Northwest Territories to British Columbia, leading immersive science-based education programming in local Indigenous communities. She has also guided many overnight canoe trips throughout the lakes in Muskoka, Ontario and enjoys all activities outdoors, including canoeing, paddle boarding, hiking, mountain biking, downhill and cross-country skiing. For the past eight years, she has called Whistler, BC home, where she works as the Director of Social Services at a non-profit organization supporting the mental health needs of the community. Lisa is passionate about connecting education with nature and wilderness, meeting new people, and learning about different cultural practices.



# Detailed Itinerary

## Sunday, September 7: Arrive to Dawson City

Our journey begins in Dawson City — the heart of the Klondike Gold Rush and home to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation. In the late 19th century, early prospectors struck gold in a creek near the city and within a few years, thousands of fortune seekers from around the world flocked to the region. Upon arrival, our local guides in Dawson provide a transfer to our hotel. Spend free time exploring town and taking in its history before we gather for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. It's worth taking a peek outside between midnight and 3:00am for Northern Lights!

*Overnight: Aurora Inn, Dawson City*

*Meals: Welcome Dinner*

## Monday, September 8: Gold rush and First Nations of Dawson

Immerse yourself in the Gold Rush history of Dawson with a locally guided tour of the city and Gold Fields. Travel up to the Midnight Dome for a view of the city and the confluence of the Yukon and Klondike Rivers. Back in town, enjoy lunch and free time to visit the shops, museums, and other historic sites. We are then treated to a unique cultural experience with a local First Nations artist. Over bannock and tea, she teaches the intricacies of weaving with willow while sharing stories of Indigenous culture and history in the region.

*Overnight: Aurora Inn, Dawson City*

*Meals: Breakfast*



## Tuesday, September 9: Tombstone Territorial Park

Today we drive ~1.5 hours north via the iconic Dempster Highway for a full-day excursion to Tombstone Territorial Park, which covers 2,200 square kilometres of protected wilderness and features rugged peaks, permafrost landforms, and abundant wildlife. At this time of year, the leaves of tundra vegetation and low-lying trees transform to vibrant shades of red, orange, and yellow. Keep your eyes peeled for wildlife, including Grizzly Bears, Black Bears, Dall Sheep, Moose, Caribou, and numerous bird species. On arrival, peruse the displays at the Tombstone Interpretive Centre and then tuck into a hearty lunch at the nearby campground. In the afternoon, we explore the surrounding mountains, first by road to reach several stunning viewpoints and then by foot with optional hiking along the tundra landscapes. Back in Dawson, we dine as a group and take in one of the city's famous Cabaret Shows.

*Overnight: Aurora Inn, Dawson City*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Dawson City



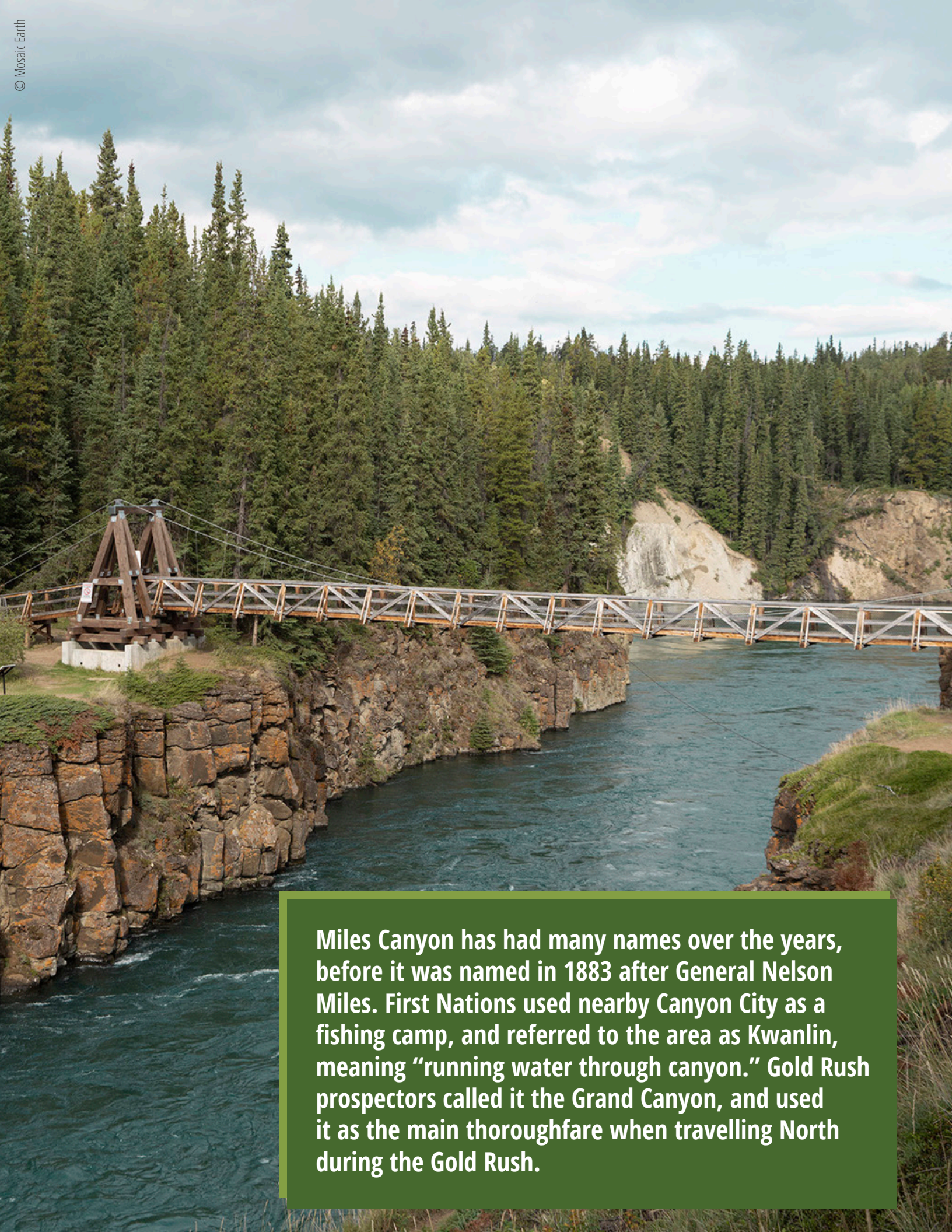
## Wednesday, September 10: Travel to Whitehorse

After breakfast, we begin the drive south to Whitehorse along the scenic Klondike Highway. The total driving distance today is 530km and approximately 6–7 hours, including rest stops and lunch. Whitehorse, Yukon's Capital, is located on the banks of the Yukon River and was an important stopover for prospectors of the Klondike Gold Rush in the late 19th century. The city is rich in history, and there's a good chance of encountering a few intrepid travellers beginning their hiking, canoeing, or hunting expeditions. This region is also home to the Kwanlin Dün and Ta'an Kwäch'än First Nations.

*Overnight: Best Western Gold Rush Inn, Whitehorse*

*Meals: Breakfast*





Miles Canyon has had many names over the years, before it was named in 1883 after General Nelson Miles. First Nations used nearby Canyon City as a fishing camp, and referred to the area as Kwanlin, meaning “running water through canyon.” Gold Rush prospectors called it the Grand Canyon, and used it as the main thoroughfare when travelling North during the Gold Rush.



## Thursday, September 11: Explore Whitehorse and Miles Canyon

This morning, we join local guides for a sightseeing tour of Whitehorse, learning about the history and cultural character of this region. Stops may include the local museums, Millenium trail, and S.S. Klondike National Historic Site. From here we visit Miles Canyon suspension bridge for a light hike along the gorge. The afternoon is yours to enjoy at leisure with plenty of time to explore the town and its shops.

*Overnight: Best Western Gold Rush Inn, Whitehorse*

*Meals: Breakfast*

## Friday, September 12: Whitehorse to Carcross

Enjoy a relaxing morning in Whitehorse before we set off to the south. During this especially scenic drive, sit back as our guides share stories of the local people and dramatic landscapes. The town of Carcross is home to the Carcross/Tagish First Nation and is an important stop on the White Pass and Yukon Railroad from Alaska. Stroll the quaint arts and gift shops and get an ice cream at the General Store. We then take a walk along the sandy shores of Bennett Beach and a light hike up the Carcross Desert sand dunes.

Upon arrival at our secluded resort, settle in to a quaint cabin by the water.

*Overnight: Southern Lakes Resort*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Carcross Desert



©Diego Delso

## Saturday, September 13: Southern Lakes

Start the day with a cup of coffee or tea on the dock or take a walk to a scenic lookout over the lake and surrounding mountains. The rest of the day is yours to enjoy at leisure. There's lots to do here, including on-site hiking, dining, canoeing (with included rental of vessels), or simply marvelling at the beautiful scenery. This is another place where it's possible to see Northern Lights, depending on conditions.

*Overnight: Southern Lakes Resort*

*Meals: Breakfast*



© Mosaic Earth

## Sunday, September 14 – Monday, September 15: Kluane National Park

The road trip continues as we head west along Highway 1 to Haines Junction and Kluane National Park for a two-night stay. This impressive region is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to Canada's tallest peak, Mount Logan.

On-route, we visit a re-created First Nations village with traditional homes, furs, and hunting and trapping tools. Connect with Indigenous guides and hear their stories over lunch, bannock, and tea. We plan to stop at the Kluane Visitor Centre in Haines Junction to learn about the vast ecosystem, mountain ranges, and extensive wildlife in the park.

During our full-day exploration in and around Kluane National Park, we have arranged for a short, guided interpretive paddle on the tranquil Pine Lake. Choose from a canoe, kayak, or stand-up paddleboard or simply relax on the beach. With the Kluane and St. Elias Mountains providing a magnificent natural backdrop, you can't go wrong either way. Following a barbeque lunch, spend the afternoon with some light hiking at Kathleen Lake and Rock Glacier Trail. At night, there's a chance of seeing Northern Lights.

**Optional activity:** Take to the skies with a scenic flight from Haines Junction. As you climb further into the breathtaking mountain peaks, over glaciers and expansive icefields, the true vastness of Kluane is evident. Catch a glimpse of Mount Logan in the distance as the pilot circles the snowy mountains and endless valleys. Contact us to learn more.

*Overnight: Parkside Inn/Alcan Motor Inn, Haines Junction*

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*



## Tuesday, September 16: Return to Whitehorse

Enjoy breakfast at the inn and a free morning to take in the sights of town or a light hike on nearby trails. We then make our way back to Whitehorse via Highway 1 with a few scenic stops along the way. Optional afternoon activities include visiting the Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs for a relaxing soak or catching a glimpse of the region's iconic wildlife at the Yukon Wildlife Preserve, a rehabilitation and education centre. You may wish to stay around town, explore the city, shop for any last-minute gifts, or take a walk on the Millennium Trail. We then celebrate the end of the adventure with a final group dinner in Whitehorse.

*Overnight: Best Western Gold Rush Inn, Whitehorse*

*Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner*



© Mosaic Earth

## Wednesday, September 17: Depart Whitehorse

Breakfast is provided at the hotel followed by complimentary shuttle service to the airport.

*Meals: Breakfast*

*Note: The itinerary and accommodation described in this detailed itinerary are subject to change due to logistical arrangements and to take advantage of local events.*



Klondike Highway



Grizzly Bear



Bald Eagle





Tombstone Territorial Park, Dawson

## Tour Details

**Tour Cost (per person):** C\$7795

*Includes gratuities*

Southern Lakes Resort villa upgrade: C\$105 per person based on double-occupancy (C\$210 for single-occupancy)

Single Supplement: C\$1745

*If you are travelling alone and would like to share, we will attempt to match you up with an appropriate roommate. If we cannot, the single supplement will apply. This will be collected at 90 days prior to departure.*

**Group Size:** 10 - 12 participants

### What's Included:

- Airport transfers on tour start and end dates
- Accommodations based on double occupancy in hotels/inns listed or similar
- Ground transportation
- All activities as described in the detailed itinerary
- Entrance fees
- Meals as specified in the detailed itinerary
- Gratuities for guides, driver, and included meals
- Local guides
- Fully escorted by our Tour Host and an assistant guide

### Not Included:

- Return airfare from your home to join the tour
- Fuel surcharge (if applicable)
- Travel insurance
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages with meals
- Items of a personal nature
- Additional transportation required due to any emergency or other situation
- Any item not mentioned in "What's Included"

### Payment Details:

A non-refundable deposit of C\$750 per person is required to reserve a space on this tour. A second payment of C\$2000 per person is six months prior to departure. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.



# What To Expect



## Joining Instructions

### Arrival: Sunday, September 7

This tour begins at Dawson City Airport. Travellers arriving on the tour start date will be met on arrival and transferred to our group hotel. This transfer is included in the cost of the tour. If you are making your own pre-trip arrangements, this transfer can be provided at additional cost.

*Note: If you spend a pre-trip night at the Best Western Gold Rush Inn in Whitehorse, the transfer from there to the airport is provided.*

### Departure: Wednesday, September 17

The tour concludes with a transfer to Erik Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport. **Please contact us to verify timing of this transfer prior to making any flight arrangements.**



## Travel Documents

Canadian citizens will require a valid government issued photo ID for this trip. US citizens will require a passport. Please ensure it is valid for at least 6 months beyond your scheduled return home.



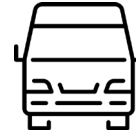
## Level of Activity: Moderate

While this is not a particularly strenuous trip and none of our walks are fast-paced, you should bear in mind that walking on rough paths is sometimes more difficult than on hard ground or pavement. Walks will be short but do involve occasional steep ascents and descents, usually assisted by stairs or maintained trails. Good firm walking shoes, and perhaps a trekking pole for extra balance, should maximize your enjoyment of this trip. There is a 6–7 drive from Dawson to Whitehorse on Day 4, but there will be plenty of en-route stops for breaks; plus, the scenery is magnificent.



## Weather

Conditions in southern Yukon on mid-September lend themselves very well to outdoor exploration. Daytime highs in the Whitehorse area hover in the low teens °C, while morning lows are usually just above 0 °C. We expect a mix of sun and cloud with a slight chance of rain, less so farther north. Mountain ridges are often cooler and windier.



## Transportation

We will mostly be travelling in a large, comfortable, and air-conditioned van driven by a professional driver.



## #SafeTravels

Worldwide Quest has been awarded the World Travel and Tourism Council's #SafeTravels Stamp for adopting health and hygiene global standardized protocols. [Learn more.](#)





## Accommodation

The **Aurora Inn** is a cozy and delightful inn run by Steve and Tracy Nordick. It is located in the hub of Dawson City within easy walking distance of many shops. The 20 comfortable rooms are kept with care and attention to detail. Enjoy complimentary WIFI, a leisure area, and the on-site restaurant.

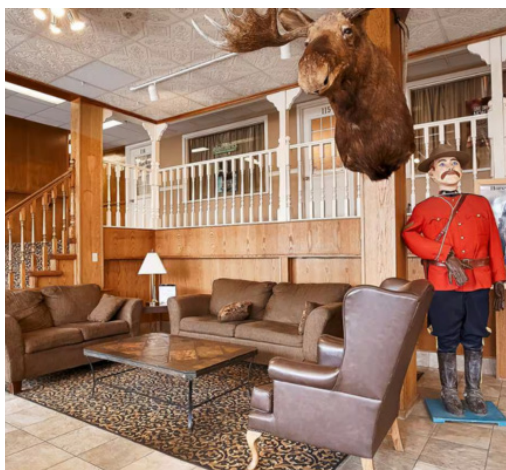
**Best Western Gold Rush Inn** is both beautifully named and beautifully situated in downtown Whitehorse, about a 10-minute walk from the shores of the Yukon River. This historic building has been upgraded to appeal to modern sensibilities. The award-winning and on-site Gold Pan Saloon serves up delicious food and drinks.

**Southern Lakes Resort** on Tagish Lake combines comfort and hospitality amid a stunning landscape of forests and mountains. The traditional log cabins are scattered throughout the property to allow for privacy and immersion in nature. There are plenty of activities to do on-site, include canoeing, kayaking, and hiking. Enjoy meals at the lakeside restaurant or a drink at the lounge and garden patio.

We have two accommodations in Haines Junction: **The Parkside Inn** and **Alcan Motor Inn**, which are conveniently right across the street from each other. At Parkside, each elegantly kept suite includes a kitchenette and ensuite washroom. The cozy rooms at Alcan are also well appointed. We will seamlessly coordinate group meals and transportation despite staying at these two neighbouring inns.



Aurora Inn



Best Western Gold Rush Inn



Southern Lakes Resort



# Additional Info

## Terms and Conditions

For additional information about our terms and conditions, please refer to your booking form, the current brochure or our website. All participants booking with Worldwide Quest are covered by the terms of the Ontario Travel Industry Act (Worldwide Quest International, Ontario – License # 2667946). See full details [here](#).

## Cancellation Policy

All payments are non-refundable; however, you may transfer your initial deposit for any land tour to another tour 90 days or more prior to your scheduled departure date. Initial deposits for cruises are non-refundable and non-transferable. Your second payment and your final payment are non-refundable and non-transferable. If you cancel within 90 days prior to trip departure, all associated trip costs are non-refundable. In the event of a cancellation, you must notify Worldwide Quest immediately and in writing. See full details [here](#).

## Travel Insurance

We urge you to ensure that you have adequate cancellation and medical insurance in place, should an unexpected event cause you to cancel or interrupt your trip or should the tour not be operable per our terms and conditions. We will offer you Manulife insurance coverage. Medical insurance including emergency medical evacuation coverage is mandatory on all our tours.



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# How to Book

Please contact the Worldwide Quest office for more information and to secure your booking.

**1-800-387-1483 | 416-633-5666**  
**[travel@worldwidequest.com](mailto:travel@worldwidequest.com)**



TICO#: 2667946