

NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

ALASKA HIGHWAY, YUKON,
STEWART-CASSIAR HIGHWAY

10 Days PLUS 4 Days (Vancouver – Prince George return)



Wilderness Wildlife Aboriginal Culture

This route heads north from Prince George, up the Alaska Highway into the Yukon and features wildlife, remote wilderness and Aboriginal culture. Drive north across the rugged terrain of Northern British Columbia into the Yukon exploring Whitehorse and then south via the scenic Stewart-Cassiar Highway. Highlights of the southbound journey include Aboriginal culture and glaciers.

Follow Itinerary 1
Vancouver to Prince George

ITINERARY AT-A-GLANCE

- Prince George • Dawson Creek • Fort Nelson
- Muncho Lake • Watson Lake • Whitehorse
- Dease Lake • Stewart • Smithers
- Prince George

DAY 1 & 2

Prince George to Dawson Creek:
406km/244mi

Prince George, the largest city in Northern British Columbia, offers the amenities of a city centre, while offering instant access to nearby wilderness and outdoor activities. From Prince George, head north to Chetwynd. Stop to see the impressive collection of more than 50 chainsaw carvings. Continue on Hwy 97 to Dawson Creek, “Mile 0” of the historic Alaska Highway. Allow enough time to explore Alaska Highway House for an introduction to the highway’s fascinating history. Day trip from Dawson Creek to Tumbler Ridge and see the Dinosaur Discovery Center. Continue on Hwy 29 to Hudson’s Hope to visit the WAC Bennett Dam – the largest dam of its kind producing about 25% of BC’s power.
Overnight Dawson Creek – 2 nights.

DAY 3

Dawson Creek to Fort Nelson:
460km/276mi

Start your journey on the famous Alaska Highway towards the Yukon and Alaska – this 2,395-kilometre (1,488-mile) historical highway borders some of the world’s last untouched wilderness. Admire Kiskatinaw Bridge Crossing just north of Dawson Creek – one of the largest curved wooden bridges in the world. Stop for lunch in Fort St. John – the region’s oldest non-native settlement – or charming Taylor. In Fort Nelson (Mile 300 of the Alaska Highway) visit the Fort Nelson Heritage Museum. Fort Nelson is the gateway to the vast Muskwa-Kechika Management Area – the “Serengeti of the North” – known for its unspoiled wilderness and prolific wildlife. **Overnight Fort Nelson.**

DAY 4

Fort Nelson to Muncho Lake:
190km/114mi

This drive features some of the most beautiful scenery in the province. Stone Mountain Provincial Park offers breathtaking views and remarkable wildlife-viewing opportunities, as well as a wide range of recreational activities including hiking trails that are suitable for most hikers. Stop for lunch at the fantastic waterfront wilderness lodge at Muncho Lake Provincial Park – the lake is tinted jade green by copper oxide leeching out of the lake bedrock. Guided tours into the backcountry include fishing, boating and hiking.
Overnight Muncho Lake.

DAY 5

Muncho Lake to Watson Lake:
215km/130mi

Located 60 km north of Muncho Lake, Liard River Hot Springs Park offers a welcome break for the Alaska Highway traveller. The boardwalk trail, that passes through a unique wetlands environment and boreal forest, leads to Canada’s second largest hot springs. Continuing north, watch for herds of Wood Bison grazing along the roadway. Cross the BC border into the Yukon at Mile 620 and stop at the Sign Post Forest which displays thousands of signs from all over the world.
Overnight Watson Lake, Yukon Territory.

ITINERARY

NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA, ALASKA HIGHWAY, YUKON, STEWART-CASSIAR HIGHWAY

DAY 6

Watson Lake to Whitehorse:

453km/272mi

At Watson Lake see the Northern Lights Discovery Centre — a unique experience that allows visitors to learn more about the famous aurora borealis (northern lights). The Teslin Tlingit Heritage Centre is a must see. Whitehorse, the entertainment and service hub of the Yukon showcases attractions such as the SS Klondike Sternwheeler, the McBride Museum and The Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre. For a fun evening out kick up your heels Yukon-style at the Frantic Follies.

Overnight Whitehorse.

DAY 7

Whitehorse to Dease Lake:

650km/390mi

From Whitehorse connect to the Stewart-Cassiar Highway (Hwy 37) south to Dease Lake, a former Hudson's Bay Company trading post and a major service centre for 37 communities.

Overnight Dease Lake.

DAY 8

Dease Lake to Stewart:

400km/240mi

Head south from Dease Lake west on Hwy 37A to the border towns of Stewart (Canada's most northerly ice-free port) and Hyder (friendliest little ghost town in Alaska). These communities are linked to the Stewart — Cassiar Highway by the Bear Pass, which cuts through the Coast Mountain Range with over 20 hanging glaciers visible from the road. Discover world famous bear watching and stunning scenery. Be sure to bring your passport and head to Hyder, Alaska and explore

Salmon Glacier, Canada's largest glacier that is accessible by road. Or, watch grizzly and black bears feed on salmon at the viewing area located at world renowned Fish Creek (11km/7mi from Stewart).

Overnight Stewart.

DAY 9

Stewart to Smithers:

335km/201mi

Drive back to Hwy 37 south. Tour the world-renowned First Nations heritage site Ksan Historical Village located about 42 km (25mi) northwest of Smithers. The Gitksan village of Kitwanga is found at the junction of Highways 16 and 37. Many of the authentic totem poles, about 11 in Kitwanga and 15 in Gitanyow nearby, inspired famous BC painter, Emily Carr. More than 50 authentic totem poles can be seen in the Hazeltons. Drive over Hagwilget Bridge — one of the highest suspension bridges in North America — to Smithers. In the summer months, watch for local First Nation fishermen spear fishing within the tight walls of the Moricetown Canyon. Be sure to visit their interpretive museum that overlooks the canyon and sign up for a cultural tour. Choose a restaurant along the red-bricked Main Street with its alpine-inspired architecture crowned by the monumental presence of Hudson Bay Mountain — fitting in a town where people are obsessed with the mountains and the recreational possibilities they bring.

Overnight Smithers.

DAY 10

Smithers to Prince George:

371km/223mi

Marvel at the majestic mountainous landscape and watch for wildlife along the Yellowhead Highway (Hwy 16). Visit Exploration Place in Prince George, which has interactive and historic exhibits, as well as a virtual ride that allows visitors to feel like they are swimming with dolphins and other fun experiences.

Overnight Prince George.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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