

KLONDIKE TO THE ARCTIC OCEAN

August 2025



Tombstone Mountains

Includes Whitehorse, Dawson City, Inuvik & Tuktoyaktuk

This epic journey to the Arctic Ocean has only been possible since the road to Tuktoyaktuk opened in 2017. Come and enjoy a great variety of sights and experiences in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. Some of the many highlights are a swim at Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs, SS Klondike National Historic Site, Beringia Museum, Dawson City with a show at Diamond Tooth Gerties, the storied Dempster Highway across the Arctic Circle, the new Tuktoyaktuk road, and a locally-guided tour of Tuktoyaktuk with a visit to an Inuit home and a presentation on Inuit fashions and lifestyles. We stay 3 nights in Whitehorse, 4 nights in Dawson City, 1 night at Eagle Plains on the Dempster Highway, and 2 nights in Inuvik. What an incredible journey through the North!



CANADIAN



GROUP SIZE



ACTIVITY LEVEL

▶ Departure from:

- ① **BC Interior:** August 8, 2025 - 12 days
- ② **Vancouver Island:** August 8, 2025 - 12 days
- ③ **Lower Mainland:** August 8, 2025 - 11 days

▶ Fares per person

- ④ from **\$5,595** double/twin, **\$6,580** single*
- *Pricing details for all departures provided on page 2.

▶ Early Booking Bonus

- \$150** discount on first 8 seats; **\$75** on next 6.

▶ Earn 129 Experience Points



Your specific departure point will be confirmed at the time of booking. Passengers travelling from the BC Interior, Vancouver Island & Lower Mainland regions will begin and end the tour as follows:

I BC Interior: We depart on Friday, August 8 and fly from Kelowna to Whitehorse. We fly from Dawson City to Vancouver on Monday, August 18 and overnight at the Inn at the Quay. We drive home on Tuesday, August 19. Transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back when we return.

V Vancouver Island: We depart on Friday, August 8 and travel to Vancouver, then fly to Whitehorse. We fly back from Dawson City to Vancouver on Monday, August 18 and overnight at the Inn at the Quay. We travel home on Tuesday, August 19.

Departure from Victoria: For passengers in the Greater Victoria Area, transportation is provided from your pickup point on the day of departure and back when we return. Home pickup may be offered in the Greater Victoria Area depending on the number of people booked and coach size. The decision is made about 2 weeks before departure, and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

Departure from Up-island: It is recommended that you make your own way to/from Vancouver to join this tour. There is an additional cost for passengers who wish to fly from/to Nanaimo or Comox Airports on this tour. No transportation to/from these airports is provided. The overnight on Monday, August 18 may not be needed depending on flight schedules. While we always prioritize convenient connections for our clients, sometimes this is not possible due to the airline schedules and availability. You will be contacted regarding your schedule after final payment. Please request Nanaimo or Comox departure when booking.

L Lower Mainland: We depart on Friday, August 8 and fly from Vancouver to Whitehorse. We fly back from Dawson City to Vancouver on Monday, August 18. Home pickup for clients in the Greater Vancouver Area may be arranged at the time of booking.

Departure from Abbotsford or Chilliwack: No transportation is provided to Vancouver Airport for departure on Friday, August 8. On return, overnight at the Inn at the Quay on Monday, August 18. Return to Abbotsford or Chilliwack by the main coach on Tuesday, August 19. Please refer to the BC Interior pricing below.

FARES PER PERSON

	Departure Point	Fares per Person	Notes
I	BC Interior	\$5,690 double/twin \$6,795 single	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please add 5% GST. • There is an additional cost to fly to/from Nanaimo or Comox Airport to join this tour.
V	Vancouver Island	\$5,890 double/twin \$6,995 single	
L	Lower Mainland	\$5,595 double/twin \$6,580 single	

WHAT'S INCLUDED

▶ Meals

- ① **12 total:** 3 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners
- ② **11 total:** 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners

▶ Transportation

- Transportation to Kelowna, Victoria, or Vancouver Airport from the BC Interior, Greater Victoria, or Greater Vancouver Areas
- Flights to Whitehorse
- Transfer from Whitehorse Airport to hotel
- Coach transportation for 10 days
- Flight from Inuvik to Dawson City
- Transfer from Dawson Airport to hotel
- Flight from Dawson City via Whitehorse to Vancouver
- Transportation from Vancouver Airport to the BC Interior, Greater Victoria, & Greater Vancouver Areas
- Current air taxes, fees, & fuel surcharges
- 1 checked bag per person

▶ Accommodation

- ① ② 11 nights accommodation & hotel taxes
- ③ 10 nights accommodation & hotel taxes
- Luggage handling at most hotels

▶ Key Highlights

- Yukon Beringia Centre
- Yukon Museum of Transportation
- SS Klondike National Historic Site with guide
- Yukon Wildlife Preserve
- Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs with towel rental
- Diamond Tooth Gerties with show
- SS Keno National Historic Site with guide
- Palace Grand Theatre with guide
- Locally-guided tour of Tuktoyaktuk
- Visit to an Inuit home in Tuktoyaktuk with traditional lunch & presentation on Inuit fashions & lifestyles
- Locally-guided tour of Dawson City
- Dredge #4 National Historic Site

Attractions are subject to change. Please see Tour Policies for more information.

▶ Guides & Gratuities

- Gratuities for Yukon & NWT guides

▶ Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director



Activity Level 2

Moderate Activity: As a traveller you like a variety of activities and walking up to 2 km with breaks such as a guided walking tour is very doable for you without assistance. You can stand for prolonged periods and can climb two flights of stairs without assistance. Some travelling days are long as hotels and towns are far apart in the north. Some communities do not have paved streets and sidewalks, so the walking surface may be uneven. There are stairs for the Inuvik and Dawson planes. Please be aware that on tours with flights you must handle your own luggage and walk longer distances in airports. You may need to handle your own luggage at hotels if luggage service is not available (Eagle Plains has no service).

This tour is not appropriate if you depend upon a walker, but you may bring a cane or walking poles if needed. The coach cannot carry a scooter or motorized wheelchair. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense; travel insurance will probably not cover you.



Tour Size 30

This tour is limited to 30 participants, making it a more intimate travel experience.



ITINERARY

Dawson City

Friday, August 8

We fly to Whitehorse and stay three nights in downtown Whitehorse.

Accommodation: Best Western Gold Rush Inn

Saturday, August 9

We visit the **Yukon Beringia Centre** which tells the story of Indigenous peoples and animals that lived in a prehistoric land between Alaska and Siberia known as the Bering Land Bridge. Next is the **Yukon Museum of Transportation** which brings vividly to life tales of bush pilots, captains on the Yukon River paddlewheelers, Klondike stamperders on the Chilkoot Trail, and Alaska Highway builders. Later, we go aboard a restored sternwheeler **SS Klondike** which used to ply the Yukon River downstream to Dawson City and is now a National Historic Site.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: Best Western Gold Rush Inn

Sunday, August 10

The morning is leisure time. We learn about the native animals at the **Yukon Wildlife Preserve**, a unique 350-acre viewing facility featuring 12 major species of northern mammals such as moose, muskox, mountain goat, wood bison, woodland caribou, elk, lynx, and Dall's sheep, presented in their natural environments. Later, we relax in the soothing waters of the three pools at **Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs** with temperatures up to 42°C.

Accommodation: Best Western Gold Rush Inn

Monday, August 11

We leave Whitehorse via the **Klondike Highway** and follow the Yukon River past Lake Laberge, made famous by Robert Service in *The Cremation of Sam McGee*. Further downstream are the Five Finger Rapids which were a challenge for the Yukon River sternwheelers. Our destination is **Dawson City**, the partly-restored town where the fabulous Klondike Gold Rush started in 1898. Once Dawson had a population of 30,000 people, but now it is home to a mere 800. Tonight, we go to **Diamond Tooth Gerties** for casino gambling and a vaudeville show.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Westmark Hotel Dawson

Tuesday, August 12

A guided tour is conducted of the **SS Keno**, built in 1922 to carry silver lead ore down the Stewart and Yukon Rivers, returning with vital supplies. For 29 years, this wood-burning, steam-powered vessel navigated Yukon waterways. Next, we visit the **Palace Grand Theatre** which is a replica of the original 1899 building that entertained many gold rush miners.

Accommodation: Westmark Hotel Dawson

Wednesday, August 13

Canada's renowned wilderness road, **Dempster Highway**, heads north from Dawson City across the Arctic Circle to Inuvik in the Northwest Territories. Surveying of the route began in 1958 and it took 21 years to build. The road was named for William Dempster of the Northwest Mounted Police who searched for the Lost Patrol in 1911. During our first day on the Dempster, we follow the Klondike and Ogilvie Rivers

ITINERARY continued

Wednesday, August 13 continued

through the stunning scenery of the **Tombstone Mountains**. We stay overnight at the remote Eagle Plains Hotel which perches on a lofty ridge with views in every direction of the Arctic wilderness.

Meals included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Eagle Plains Hotel

Thursday, August 14

We cross the **Arctic Circle** and the Dempster Highway winds over miles of mountain ridges without a tree in sight. We ride on small ferries across the Peel and Mackenzie Rivers. At **Fort McPherson**, we see a traditional northern Hudson's Bay store and the graves of the Lost Patrol. We stay two nights in **Inuvik**, a modern town of 3,200 people on the Mackenzie River where it widens into its huge delta. Some local sights are Our Lady of Victory Church, nicknamed the **Igloo Church**, and the Western Arctic Visitor Centre.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Mackenzie Hotel

Friday, August 15

A highway to Canada's Arctic Coast has been talked about since the 1960s. Construction began in 2014 and the new all-weather road, 138 km from Inuvik to **Tuktoyaktuk**, opened in 2017. The Ice Road which had served Tuktoyaktuk in winter for decades closed for the last time in April 2017. Today, we have the exciting experience of driving to the Arctic Ocean, across the permafrost of the **Mackenzie River Delta**. A tour of Tuktoyaktuk, Canada's most northerly mainland town, is conducted by a long-time local resident and includes a chance to dip a toe or finger in the frigid **Arctic Ocean**. We also enjoy a traditional lunch at an Inuit home and a presentation on Inuit fashions and lifestyles.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Mackenzie Hotel

Saturday, August 16

We fly at noon from Inuvik to Dawson City, a flight of 1¼ hours. The afternoon is free time and you may want to go to the visitor centre, see a presentation by the "Ghost of Robert Service", or stroll these storied streets. **Discovery Days**, Dawson's annual celebration, is held this weekend and some of the events may be of interest to you. The Downtown Hotel is close to the Westmark and its bar serves the famous Dawson drink, the Sour Toe Cocktail, if you dare!

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Westmark Hotel Dawson

Sunday, August 17

A local guide accompanies us on a tour around Dawson City and Bonanza Creek with many stories about the gold rush. The gigantic **Dredge #4 National Historic Site** is included and we drive to the top of Midnight Dome for a panoramic view. A "Farewell to the Klondike" dinner is planned.

Meals included: Dinner

Accommodation: Westmark Hotel Dawson

Monday, August 18

We fly from Dawson City to Vancouver with a connection in Whitehorse. Passengers from Vancouver travel home, while passengers from Vancouver Island and the BC Interior overnight in New Westminster.

Accommodation:   Inn at the Quay

Tuesday, August 19

Passengers from Vancouver Island and the BC Interior travel home.

Meals included:  Lunch



Arctic Ocean at Tuktoyaktuk

NOTES ABOUT YOUR ARCTIC TOUR

Accommodation in the North is the best available, but it may not be up to the standard you expect in the rest of Canada. In isolated places such as Eagle Plains, there is only one motel. Since hotels in the North have a limited season and enormous operating expenses, room rates are very high, so that is why this tour costs more per day than most Wells Gray tours.

Tour dates: This tour is scheduled for mid-August, so you can enjoy pleasantly warm days and cool nights, possibly the aurora borealis, and a minimum of mosquitoes or other insects. Some customers ask for a June tour to the North, but that is the height of bug season and some people have difficulty sleeping with nearly 24 hours of daylight.

Passport is not required as this tour does not enter Alaska.

Please book early! This tour is limited because of aircraft capacity.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to some remote places where restaurants probably cannot satisfy all food allergies. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

Flight seating: We are unable to take requests for window or aisle seating on the planes to Whitehorse or back from Inuvik. The airline will not accept them, as group seating is assigned as a block.

Flight Changes: We visit some remote locations on this tour. Flights can be delayed, postponed, cancelled, or rescheduled for a variety of reasons that are beyond our control which could alter the itinerary.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$500 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due June 4, 2025. By paying the deposit, you agree to the [Terms & Conditions](#), Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard (\$5,000 limit per person on credit cards).

Early Booking Bonus: Receive a \$150 discount on the first 8 seats and \$75 on the next 6 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after June 4, 2025.

Cancellation Policy: Up to May 2, 2025, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From May 3 to June 4, the cancellation charge is \$400 per person. From June 5 to July 3, the cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After July 3, there is no refund.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Our many suppliers may notify us about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our

best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a tour component due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges and changes to taxes or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to departure.

Flight delays or cancellations: Flights can be delayed or cancelled at the last minute, sometimes causing a missed connection. Wells Gray staff will try to assist with re-booking, but the airline usually wants to talk with the individual passenger. There may be an extra payment required if the issue is weather. Wells Gray Tours is not allowed to interfere with this process. Check that your travel insurance policy has a flight delay benefit because that is usually your best recourse for recouping additional flight costs.

TOUR POLICIES continued

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. This tour stays in Canada, but medical costs can vary wildly from one province/territory to another. While your BC Services Card may partly cover you for a medical issue that arises during the tour, you will probably benefit from trip cancellation and trip interruption coverage in case of illness or a mishap before or during the tour. Many other benefits such as luggage insurance are included. Medical questionnaire is not needed. Please contact us for details. If you have your own travel insurance, please read the policy carefully to be sure that you are adequately covered for medical, cancellation, interruption, and luggage.

Photo Credits: Wikimedia (Tombstone Mountains, Dawson City, Arctic Ocean at Tuktoyaktuk), Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs, and Adobe Stock (Dempster Highway).

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 129 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn e-points that are added to your account after the tour returns. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your earned points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until June 4, 2025.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842



Dempster Highway

WE PLAN.
YOU PACK.
NO WORRIES!

www.wellsgraytours.com
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Offices are open weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm. Book an appointment or walk-in and visit us. _____

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