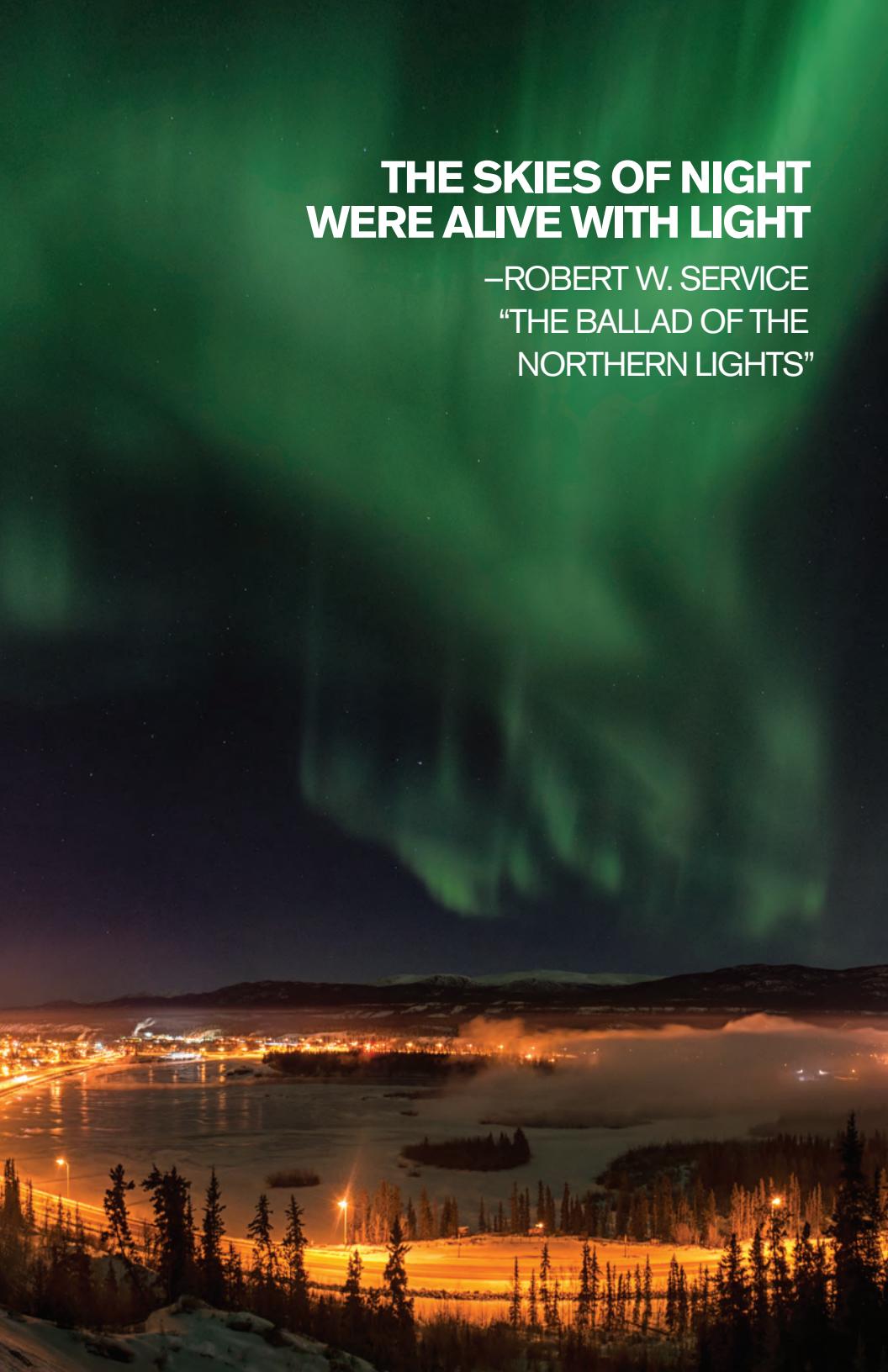


YUKON

WINTER GUIDE



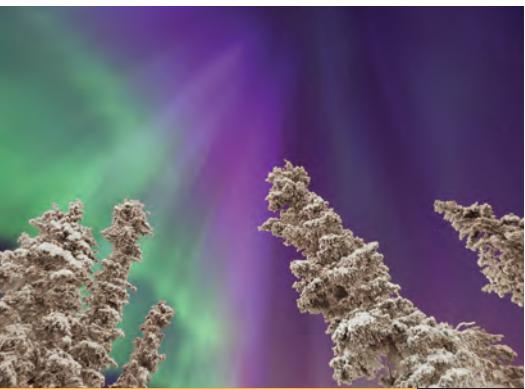
YUKON
LARGER THAN LIFE

A wide-angle photograph capturing a vibrant green aurora borealis in the upper half of the frame. The sky is dark, filled with numerous small stars. Below the aurora, a city is visible, its lights reflected in a body of water. The city lights are warm yellows and oranges, creating a stark contrast with the cool green of the aurora. In the foreground, silhouettes of evergreen trees are visible against the bright lights of the city.

THE SKIES OF NIGHT WERE ALIVE WITH LIGHT

—ROBERT W. SERVICE
“THE BALLAD OF THE
NORTHERN LIGHTS”

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> GET INTO WINTER



MAGICAL NIGHTS

In the words of Robert Service, “The wild sky is blazing... Swift splendors kindle, barbaric, amazing.” It starts with a single burst of colour, and then the skies come alive as the northern lights dance. This is it. This is the moment you've made your journey to experience, and it is one you will never forget.

ITINERARY

Whether you're staying in a hotel, lodge or cabin, the next few days are all about snowy fun and chasing northern lights. Experience the thrill of coasting across the snow with a team of friendly Yukon huskies. Explore museums and attend a concert at the Yukon Arts Centre. Be sure to take some time to rest because one thing's for sure: you have some late nights ahead watching for the aurora borealis!





Hot Springs

What's the hottest activity when it's cold outside? Hot springs! Long known for their therapeutic qualities, just imagine relaxing in nature's steaming water surrounded by snow while watching the northern lights play overhead.



Music

Movement keeps you warm, and what better way to move than to dance? Whether it's at one of our famous (or is that infamous) house parties, live music downtown or a vibrant music festival, Yukoners love to move, outdoors and on the dance floor.



Live Performances

The Yukon Arts Center and other live performance venues boast an impressive lineup of music, theatre, comedy and more. Lots of nighttime fun – we love to play in the dark!



Wildlife Viewing

Visit the Yukon Wildlife Preserve, just 25 minutes from Whitehorse. With several Yukon species in their natural habitats, it's an outstanding opportunity for wildlife viewing and photography.

For a complete list of winter activities, visit
travelyukon.com/winterpackages

> ACTIVE OUTDOORS



DOGSLEDDING

Experience winter travel in its purest form and discover the joyful sport of dogsledding. Bond with half a dozen furry friends and feel the adrenaline rush of being pulled by your enthusiastic team of huskies as you enter a partnership between man and dog that's lasted over 4000 years. No wonder the dogs are just as excited as you are!

ITINERARY

Strap on your skis or snowshoes and head out on the backcountry trails. It's time to get moving and appreciate the gorgeous northern landscape, in quiet contemplation or with a group. Once you've had your fill of the trails, hop on a snowmobile and power through the fresh powder to a frozen lake and experience ice fishing at its finest.





Cross-Country Skiing

With over 85 kilometres of groomed trails around Whitehorse, and endless landscape around the territory, you'll have no problem finding the perfect trail for you. Beginner or expert, solo or groups, you'll love cross-country skiing in the Yukon.



Snowshoeing

To explore the forests and mountains and get off the beaten path, snowshoeing in the Yukon is the perfect activity. It's also a great opportunity to spot and follow the tracks of wildlife, dine outdoors and just take it all in.



Snowmobiling

The Yukon offers snowmobilers a sense that they can go anywhere, that there is an entire winter playground laid out just for them, that anything could be around the next bend in the trail. If the exhilaration of snowmobiling is your thing, we have you covered.

Ice Fishing

Up here winter is just another reason for an even bigger and better fish story! Just make sure the hole is big enough for the whopper you'll catch! Hire a guide or land your catch of the day on your own. Either way, it's especially nice with a hot beverage in hand.

The Yukon's commercial wilderness tourism operators are regulated by the Yukon Tourism Licensing Act.

Connect with one at travelyukon.com/Plan/Operators

> FESTIVALS AND MORE



CELEBRATE WINTER

From mammoths and First Nations to fur trappers and gold panners, the Yukon's rich history has led to an even richer culture. While the gold rush that drew so many continues to bring folks up to our northern paradise, they discover so much more while they're here.

ITINERARY

Day or night, we can keep you entertained. Experience the iconic Yukon Quest, take in the Available Light Film Festival, or dress up and join the locals as they blow off some steam during the Sourdough Rendezvous - a truly Yukon experience.





Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous

February

How do Yukoners avoid cabin fever? With a yearly shindig! Cancan dancers, Snowshoe Shufflers, air shows, snow sculptures, axe throwing and a hairy leg competition for the ladies are just a few features of this colourful event.

Yukon Quest

February

Hailed as “the toughest sled dog race in the world,” the Yukon Quest is an annual 1000-mile race run every February. Taking from 10 to 20 days to complete, it’s an intense event for spectators and participants alike.



Available Light Film Festival

February

Along with the many award-winning films, both fictional and documentary, to entice you, there's often the chance to meet the filmmakers at this event, the largest film festival north of 60°.

Dawson City Film Festival

April

A four-day celebration of the short film featuring submissions from around the world. There are panel discussions, meet and greets and workshops, making it a must for any film enthusiast.

For a complete list of events, visit
travelyukon.com/Explore/Events

> EAT AND SHOP



GREAT EATS

Guess what? The Yukon has a number of top-notch dining options. Our restaurants serve up both international fare and local favourites inspired by the land. Try bannock, a bowl of caribou stew, or a local jam or jelly or two; we guarantee you'll find something to tantalize your taste buds. We don't believe in sending folks home hungry.

Shopping

The tradition of coming to the Yukon to find treasure continues, but modern day shopping has made it much easier! Whether it's gold nugget jewellery, art, carvings or beadwork, we have the perfect reminder of your trip to the North. You'll also have no problem finding any necessities you may have forgotten, whether it be a toothbrush or a winter coat.



› CHOCOLATE CRANBERRY BROWNIES

Lowbush cranberries are one of our many tasty wild things. This recipe by Yukon chef, Michele Genest, combines them with chocolate for a mid-winter dose of deliciousness.

Brownies

4 oz	unsweetened chocolate
½ cup	butter
4	eggs at room temperature
1½ cups	sugar
1 tsp	vanilla
1 cup	flour
¼ cup	cocoa
1 cup	wild lowbush cranberries (lingonberries) or substitute cultivated cranberries

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C) and grease a 9 × 13-inch (22.5 × 32-cm) baking dish.
2. Melt chocolate and butter together in a double boiler over boiling water. Stir to combine and cool to room temperature.
3. Beat eggs until light and foamy. Still beating, add sugar gradually until mixture is thick and creamy. Beat in vanilla.
4. In a separate bowl, whisk together flour and cocoa.
5. With a spoon, mix the cooled chocolate into the eggs and sugar, just until combined, then fold in flour with a few strokes—it's important not to over-mix.
6. Pour into baking dish and smooth into place with the back of a spoon or a spatula. Sprinkle berries evenly over top, pressing lightly into the batter.
7. Bake for about 25 minutes, until a tester inserted in the centre comes out with a few moist crumbs attached. Cool to room temperature before icing with ganache.

Makes about 42 brownies.



Photo Credit: Cathie Archibald

Ganache

5 oz	dark chocolate, at least 70 percent cocoa
1 cup	35 percent cream
3 tbsp	butter

1. Break chocolate in small pieces into a bowl.
2. Bring cream and butter to a boil over medium-high heat and pour over chocolate.
3. Place a plate over the bowl and wait for 5 minutes for the chocolate to melt.
4. Beat thoroughly until smooth and creamy. Cool to room temperature and then refrigerate to a spreadable consistency.

Makes about 2 cups, enough to generously ice one pan of brownies with some left over.

Recipe Credit: *The Boreal Feast: A Culinary Journey Through the North* by Michele Genest, Harbour Publishing, 2014, www.harbourpublishing.com

> RELAX AND UNWIND



COME ON IN!

It might get cold outside, but the welcome you'll receive certainly won't be. Yukoners are known for being warm and friendly. We love our home, and we want you to love it too. We're happy to share our stories with you, as well as suggestions on where to go and what to do to start crafting your own Northern tales.



Hotels

Enjoy a stay at one of our hotels, which have the same international standards and conveniences you'd find anywhere else in the world, but with a little added northern flair! Hotels are fully accessible, have all the modern amenities and most Whitehorse hotels offer shuttle service from YXY.

► WHERE TO STAY



Bed and Breakfast

What's the best way to find an authentic Yukon experience? By receiving a warm welcome into the home of a real Yukoner, of course! The only thing better than the breakfast is the company.



Pampering

Just because you're up north doesn't mean you have to rough it. Treat yourself after a day of adventures. Jacuzzis, saunas, gyms and massages - Yukon's cozy resorts and spas are world class.



Cozy Cabins

Outside is a blanket of pristine snow and a sky filled with northern lights. Enjoy from inside your log-cabin comfort, or step out into the serenity of our winter wonderland.



For a complete list of accommodations, visit
travelyukon.com/Plan/Accommodations

► GET PLANNING

Some tourist services, such as RV parks, campgrounds, accommodations and attractions, operate seasonally. Please contact the operators in advance to confirm their schedule.

Average Hours of Daylight

January	5.5
February	8.5
March	12
April	15
May	18.5
June	21
July	20
August	16.5
September	13
October	10
November	7.5
December	4.5

The Yukon is in the Pacific Standard Time (PST) Zone.



What to Wear

Northern winters require insulated clothing, and layering is a smart strategy. Both insulated and layering pieces are good to pack or local retailers can supply any winter wear you need. Additionally, many tour operators rent winter gear — find out ahead of time what your guide is able to set you up with.

WINTER					
SPRING					
SUMMER					
FALL					
WINTER					
SPRING					
SUMMER					
FALL					

► GETTING HERE

Air access to Whitehorse is quick, convenient and affordable. Air Canada and Air North, Yukon's Airline provide year-round service which is complemented by seasonal service by WestJet and Condor Airlines. Scheduled flights to the Yukon depart Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton, as well as Ottawa, Kelowna and Yellowknife and Frankfurt, Germany. Many visitors fly in and arrange travel from Whitehorse, with self-drive car rentals, shuttle tours or guided adventure packages.



Year Round Service

AIR CANADA

aircanada.com

Providing two jet flights daily from Vancouver to Whitehorse.

AIR NORTH, YUKON'S AIRLINE

flyairnorth.com

Operating service to Whitehorse from Vancouver daily, three flights weekly from Calgary and Edmonton and two flights weekly from Kelowna, Yellowknife and Ottawa, in addition to northern connector flights to Dawson City, Old Crow and Inuvik.

Seasonal Service

CONDOR

condor.com

Weekly 767 non-stop jet service from Frankfurt to Whitehorse starting late May to late September.

WESTJET

westjet.com

Operating seasonal, daily 737 service between Whitehorse and Vancouver starting mid-May to the end of October.



WANT MORE YUKON?

Call one of our travel
counsellors toll-free at

1-800-661-0494



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