

THE CALL OF THE SOUTH SLAVE

10 THINGS YOU NEED TO DO IN THE NWT'S SPECTACULAR SOUTH

Towering cascades. Herds of friendly, roaming beasts. A boundless horizon of unspoiled boreal forest. All of this and more awaits in the NWT's South Slave region, a wild world well within reach of any road-tripper.

1

EXPLORE CANADA'S LARGEST NATIONAL PARK

Wood Buffalo National Park is a land of superlatives. Canada's biggest national park is home to some of the world's rarest and most impressive bird and animal species, including the only natural wild flock of whooping cranes on Earth, and giant wood bison, which commonly congregate along the highway to halt traffic. You will also find some of the world's best whitewater here, at Slave River Rapids, as well as our planet's largest dark sky preserve. Locals make the most of these attractions by hosting two must-see festivals—Slave River Paddlefest and the Thebacha and Wood Buffalo Dark Sky Festival, both held in August. But that's not all. There is a salt plain to discover, placid lakes and meandering rivers to canoe and countless backcountry trails to hike. You could spend a day, a weekend or weeks in Wood Buffalo National Park and still not see it all.

GEORGE FISCHER / NWTT





DARREN ROBERTS / NWTT

2 FEEL THE ROAR OF ALEXANDRA FALLS

Stand near the top of Alexandra Falls, where the Hay River plunges 32 metres, and gaze out at the impressive gorge that has been carved into the limestone rock over millennia.



COLIN FIELD / NWTT

3 FALL FOR LOUISE FALLS

A short, easy hike over a forest trail downriver from Alexandra Falls brings you to a scenic lookout to photograph breathtaking Louise Falls.



COLIN FIELD / NWTT

4 MARVEL AT DENE MASTERWORKS

Bring home an authentic, handmade work of art created by a southern NWT artist from Winnie's Dene Arts Shop in Enterprise. You'll find beaded moosehide moccasins, birchbark baskets decorated with porcupine quill and much more.



COREY MYERS / NWTT

5 GO ON A GREAT LAKE ADVENTURE

Book a Great Slave Lake fishing tour in Hay River for an up-close look at the Lake Trout, Walleye, Whitefish, Northern Pike, Arctic Grayling and Burbot that call the lake home.



COLIN FIELD / NWTT

6 TEE OFF NORTH OF 60

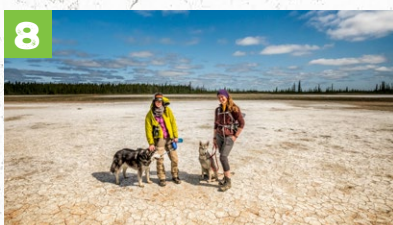
Get in a quick round at the Hay River Golf Course, a nine-hole grass course laid out among picturesque stands of birch, or Fort Smith's Pelican Rapids Golf and Country Club, another nine-hole course with scenic Slave River vistas.



KYLE THOMAS / NWTT

7 VISIT THE NWT'S FIRST TOWN

Tour Fort Resolution, the oldest continuously inhabited community in the Northwest Territories and a National Historic Site of Canada. The town dates back to 1791, when the Northwest Company set up a fur-trading post there.



PIERRE EMMANUEL CHAILLON / NWTT

8 HIKE SURREAL SALT PLAINS

Follow a short trail, west of Fort Smith in Wood Buffalo National Park, to the shimmering Salt Plains. Remove your hiking boots and stroll barefoot over this crystalline landscape, where saline minerals leach from an ancient seabed.



DARREN ROBERTS / NWTT

9 RIDE THE RAPIDS

Grab a kayak and join the whitewater lovers at Slave River Rapids, a set of four rapids from mild to wild that start at Fort Fitzgerald and end at Fort Smith.



YUICHI TAKASAKI / NWTT

10 EXPERIENCE NORTHERN LIFE

Spend an afternoon at Fort Smith's Northern Life Museum and Cultural Centre, featuring exhibits that focus on the traditional ways of life of the region's first peoples, as well as a gallery for Northern artists and an original copy of Treaty 8.