

Yukon

Fast Facts:

- **Population:** 42,192
- **Geographic size:** 483,450km²
- **Capital city:** Whitehorse
- **Largest city:** Whitehorse
- **Territorial bird:** Common raven
- **Territorial flower:** Fireweed
- **Territorial tree:** Subalpine fir

Location:

Yukon is one of the three Canadian territories. It is the westernmost territory and borders Alaska to the west, Northwest Territories to the east, and British Columbia to the south. In the north, a natural border is formed by the Beaufort Sea.



Flag:

Yukon's flag is made of three vertical panels. The colours green, white and blue, represent the territory's forests, snow, rivers and lakes respectively. In the centre of the flag is the territorial coat of arms. On the top, is an Alaskan Malamute dog. The shield itself showcases Yukon's mountains and rivers, while the gold references the Klondike Gold Rush. Underneath the shield is fireweed, the territorial flower.



Geography:

Yukon's geography is beautiful, rugged and wild. The territory is largely uninhabited and includes mountains, forests, volcanoes, glaciers and part of the Arctic tundra. The Yukon River, for which the territory was named, runs through the territory, stretching from British Columbia to Alaska.



Indigenous people:

Indigenous peoples have inhabited the land for thousands of years. Today, Yukon's Indigenous population consists of First Nations, Métis and Inuit people. Over 80% are First Nations, and they represent fourteen First Nations and speak eight distinct languages.

Did you know?

- About 75% of the population of Yukon lives in Whitehorse.
- Nearly 80% of the Yukon is completely wilderness. In fact, the number of moose in the territory far outnumber the people! There are around 70 000 moose and just 42 192 people.
- Yukon's Mount Logan is the second highest peak in North America. Measuring 5 959m in height, it is only second to Denali in Alaska.
- A long time ago, a 2 000km wide land bridge called Beringia once connected Asia and America.
- The Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) illuminate the night sky from late August to April.



Check for Understanding

1. What is the capital of Yukon?
2. What do the three colours on Yukon's flag represent?
3. What large mammals' population outnumbers that of people in the territory?
4. What is the height of Mount Logan?
5. What is Beringia?