

Top of the World Highway Road Log

Mile by Mile Description of the Top of the World Highway
from Dawson City, Yukon to the Alaska Highway



Top of the World Highway

The Top of the World Highway is really two highways. Yukon Highway 9 in Canada and the Taylor Highway 5 in Alaska. It is 175 mile/281 km from Dawson City in the Yukon to the Alaska Highway (Tetlin Junction). The Top of the World Highway is open during the summer starting mid-May but closes once the snow flies, which is usually by mid-October. However, it has been known to close earlier.

When entering or leaving Dawson City on the Top of the World Highway, you will need to take the George Black Ferry. It crosses the Yukon River, for free, 24 hours a day in the summer. The first 106 km to the border is mostly on a chip-sealed surface with gravel sections.

The Canada/U.S. border is open from May to Sept. from 8am to 8pm Alaska time and 9am to 9pm Yukon time. Everyone crossing the border will need proper ID, such as a passport.

Boundary Spur Road from the U.S./Canada Border to Jack Wade Jct. is recently paved. At the junction you join the Taylor Highway, which travels west to Chicken or north to Eagle. The 30 miles from Jack Wade Junction to Chicken is gravel and can be challenging. Give yourself plenty of time to reach your destination. The road between Chicken and Tetlin Junction has been reconstructed and is usually in good condition. This highway is a scenic route with breathtaking views that should be enjoyed with plenty of stops along the way.

Note: Gas is available between Dawson City and Tetlin Junction only at Chicken.

km 0 Dawson City. Ferry crossing of Yukon River on the George Black (free). Brief maintenance shut-downs are scheduled in the early morning hours once a week. Crossing takes about 15 minutes.

km 0.3 Yukon River Campground, 94 camp sites, water (boil), pit toilets, firewood, shelters. Fee area.

km 4 Top of the World Golf Course. 9 holes, rentals, pro shop. 867-993-5888

km 5 Great views of Dawson City, Klondike and Yukon Rivers.

km 14 Rest area, tables and toilets. Information sign on Top of the World Highway.

km 29.2 Parking.

km 32 Parking.

km 40 Parking.

km 46 Parking.

km 56 Castle Rock, erosion created rock outcropping.

km 59 Side road to abandoned Clinton Creek mine (no services).

km 61 Scenic viewpoint.

km 81 Parking.

km 86.3 Rest area.

km 86.8 Side road to Sixtymile mining area, parking.

km 92 Parking.

km 97.9 Parking.

km 103.2 Parking.

km 104.4 Parking.

km 101 Rest area with view, toilets.

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km 106.2/mile 65.8 Canadian and U.S. Customs offices. Open 9am to 9pm (Pacific Time) when Dawson City Ferry is in operation. Road and border crossing are closed in winter.

If you are traveling to Alaska, mileage markers along the road indicate distance to Eagle Junction in miles. If you are traveling into Canada markers indicate distance to Dawson City in kilometres. Time zone change. It is one hour earlier Alaska time.

mile 13 (Boundary Spur Road) Canada/U.S. Border. Elevation 4127 ft/1258 metres. Open 8am to 8pm Alaska Time. The road is paved from the Border to Jack Wade Junction.

mile 12.8 Davis Dome Wayside. Parking with Welcome to Alaska sign and Lookout.

mile 12 Parking.

mile 9.5 Boundary Lodge, one of the first roadhouses in Alaska. Closed.

mile 7.2 Parking.

mile 1 Parking.

mile 0 Jack Wade Junction. If you are traveling towards Canada it is 13 miles/20.9 km to the border or 78 miles/125 km to Dawson City. Mileage markers on the Boundary Spur Road indicate the distance to US/Canada border. If you are traveling towards the Alaska Highway, mileage markers are for the Taylor Highway and indicate distance to Tetlin Junction on the Alaska Highway.

mile 96 (Taylor Highway) Jack Wade Junction, Taylor Highway continues 65 miles/104 km north to Eagle, Alaska. The road to Eagle is steep and narrow in places but is fine for even the largest RV providing you drive according to the conditions. Eagle's history extends back to approximately 1880's when Francois Mercier established a trading post here.

The fur traders were followed by prospectors and by 1897 Eagle's population had swelled to almost 2000. Eagle was a very important stop for the river boats that travelled the Yukon River and is still used by today's river adventurers. The National Park Service has its Headquarters for Yukon Charlie Rivers National Preserve based here. Visitors Center open 8 am to 5 pm 907-547-2233. Overnight accommodation, gas, post office, RV parking and groceries.

The Eagle Historical Society conducts a daily walking tour of Eagle.

mile 89.9 Parking.

mile 89.7 Abandoned mining camp. No trespassing

mile 87 Active mining operation.

mile 86 Abandoned Jack Wade Dredge.

mile 82 Walker Fork BLM campground. Water, pit toilets, handicap accessible sites, tables, hiking trails.

mile 81.8 Walker Fork Bridge.

mile 76.8 Parking.

mile 75.3 South Fork Fortymile River wayside, picnic table, pit toilet. Boat launch.

mile 74.4 Alaska State highway maintenance camp, South Fork Station.

mile 69 Lost Chicken Creek, Lost Chicken Hill Mine, established in 1895. There are several mining operations in this area.

mile 68.1 BLM. Chicken field station. Trailhead for Mosquito Fork Dredge (Cowden Dredge) trail 1.5 miles.

mile 66.9 Chicken Creek.

mile 66.5 The Chicken Gold Camp and Outpost. Chicken RV Park, rooms and cabins. The "Outpost" gift store has Alaska artisan made gifts, clothing, jewelry and more. The cafe serves homemade entrees, fresh-baked pastries, espresso drinks, smoothies, hand-dipped ice cream, wood-fired pizza and Alaska craft beers. The camp features gold panning, gold mining outings and historic tours. CGC is a National Historic Site including the Pedro Dredge and mining museum. 1/4 mile south on Airport Rd in Chicken. 907-782-4427

mile 66.4 Community of Chicken, gas, 2 cafes, espresso bar, gift stores, 2 RV parks, cabin rentals, post office and airport. Historical Community of Chicken, dates back to 1890's and is on the "National Register of Historical Places". Tours are offered exclusively through the Goldpanner, mile 66.7, and are conducted through the old town-site which has 14 buildings with many old relicts and machinery. It also includes "Tisha's" schoolhouse made popular by the book Tisha by Anne Hobbs Purdy.

mile 66.3 Chicken Post Office.



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mile 64.4 Bridge over Mosquito Fork of Fortymile River, wayside, day-use area, tables, toilets. Handicap accessible. The Taylor Hwy has been reconstructed and paved from here to the Alaska Hwy (mile 0).

mile 58.9 Parking.

mile 57 Parking.

mile 55 Parking.

mile 50.4 Taylor Creek.

mile 49.2 Bridge over West Fork of the Dennison River.

mile 49 West Fork campground, 25 campsites, tables and pit toilets. Handicap accessible. Fee area.

mile 43 Logging Cabin Creek, picnic area. No overnight camping. Small turn-around space.

mile 39 Rest area

mile 35 Parking

mile 35 Rest area. Interpretive sign on Taylor Highway, viewing platform, toilets.

mile 34.3 Parking.

mile 28.2 Parking.

mile 22 Parking.

mile 21.7 Parking.

mile 15.7 Parking.

mile 12.3 Parking

mile 10 Parking.

mile 6 small parking area.

mile 5.8 West boundary Tanana Valley State forest

mile 4.4 Parking.

mile 2.6 Parking.

Mile 0.9 Parking.

mile 0 Tetlin Junction, on the Alaska Highway. Mile 1301.7 on Alaska Highway.