



TRIP ITINERARY

CANADA: MIDNIGHT SUN

TYPE: XC

SINGLETRACK ADVENTURE IN CANADA'S RUGGED AND REMOTE YUKON TERRITORY...AND A TOUCH OF ALASKA - 6 NIGHTS, 7 DAYS

TRIP DETAILS

Northern explorers, aboriginal fur traders, and Klondike Gold Rush prospectors created thousands of kilometers of trails and tracks; many that have barely seen mountain bikes. The Yukon offers stunning panoramic views, pristine wilderness, unique terrain and landscapes, majestic peaks and glaciers, and some of the warmest most welcoming people imaginable. And the riding is great – very diverse, barely ridden and very, very fun! Combine all these great elements and a slice of Alaska and you've got a legendary adventure.

*On all days you can choose to ride less or more. This trip is suitable for a moderately fit person to a very fit person.

2011 DATES

Sunday, August 21 to Saturday, August 27

2011 LAND COST

\$1995 USD (+ HS Tax)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$510 USD

JOINING IN

Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada

ITINERARY

The following is a general outline for the Midnight Sun trip.

Big Mountain reserves the right to make alterations and substitutions to the itinerary as weather or terrain conditions dictate or as necessary to improve the trip quality or to accommodate the comfort, convenience, and well-being of our guests.

DAY 1, AUGUST 21 - ARRIVE IN WHITEHORSE

Arrive in Whitehorse before 12 noon and be greeted by your Big Mountain guides and meet the rest of your group. We will get everyone's bikes built, then do a quick ride around town to see sights, take photos and burn off some of the jet lag. Tonight we stay in Whitehorse.

DAY 2, AUGUST 22 – RIDE CLASSIC WHITEHORSE SINGLETRACK, TRANSFER TO CARCROSS

Today will be a great day of heavenly Yukon dirt. We'll ride out the door for three to five hours of almost uninterrupted singletrack that was built by mountain bikers, for mountain bikers. There are endless options so it'll be up to you how much you want to ride. The sandy dirt in the area makes for super fun trails that will have you grinning from ear to ear, guaranteed. 45 min. transfer to Carcross. Tonight we stay in quirky Carcross.

DAY 3, AUGUST 23 – RIDE MONTANA MOUNTAIN, TRANSFER TO SKAGWAY, ALASKA

Today we'll embark on a ride you will remember for the rest of your life! We start with an optional shuttle, then ride up a high alpine mountain blooming with countless varieties of alpine flowers, pockets of snow and wildlife including an abundance of caribou and maybe the odd grizzly bear. Then we descend on the Sam McGee trail, a rocking singletrack descent to the shores of Tagish Lake. We'll travel down the White Pass into Alaska and stay in historic gold rush city, Skagway.

DAY 4, AUGUST 24 – RIDE TATSHENSHINI PROVINCIAL PARK, TRANSFER TO SPIRIT LAKE LODGE

After a morning boat ride down the canal, we'll pass through the fishing village of Haines, Alaska, before climbing the legendary Haines pass into the alpine. Today's ride is in the pristine St. Elias mountains where elk, wolves, moose, grizzlies roam – and much more. Hopefully we'll see a bear, from a distance of course. We'll ride singletrack through a glacial valley that allows us to get close and personal with a living glacier. We'll end up in a lodge with stunning mountainous surroundings for the night.

DAY 5, AUGUST 25 - TRANSFER TO WHITEHORSE, RIDE GREY MOUNTAIN AND THE YUKON RIVER

Hop in the van for a 2-hour transfer to Whitehorse. "Top 10 rides of my life" is how Big Mountain guide and Canadian Olympian Andreas Hestler described the riding on Grey Mountain in a recent article in *Mountain Bike UK*. Expect beauty singletrack in a mossy forest followed by a killer ride along the Yukon River back to Whitehorse.

DAY 6, AUGUST 26 – DAY RIDE IN CARCROSS (OR WHITEHORSE, DEPENDING ON WEATHER)

With 65 local residents and seemingly in the middle of nowhere, Carcross is a golden nugget that's becoming a mountain biking mecca for its commitment to the construction of some of the coolest trails conceivable. The trail system includes sweet flowing ribbons of singletrack and a multitude of natural and man-made obstacles, all with stunning view of mountains and deep blue lakes. Today we'll treat ourselves to a day of shuttle-assisted rides that are unreal. Transfer back 1 hour to Whitehorse and celebrate our trip!

DAY 7 – FLY HOME

This morning we'll drive you to airport for your flight home. Good bye!

DETAILS

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Expert Leadership
- Airport transfers
- Accommodations in hotels
- All breakfasts, all lunches and one dinner
- Private transportation
- Big Mountain t-shirt and detailed pre-departure information

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

Airfare; airport taxes and excess baggage charges (if any), personal travel and medical insurance; optional tipping to leaders and local staff; your bike and related equipment needed to ride; personal items like drinks and snacks. We recommend \$25 USD per day for extras.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

The **technical ability** required for the Yukon is rated as 'intermediate and higher.' There are some moderately technical and steep sections, but the we will be mostly riding fast, smooth singletrack and doubletrack. For **fitness level**, even though we may partially shuttle some of the longer climbs and and will stop quite often (to enjoy the view, take photos, eat and drink, wait for others, repair our bikes etc) – the accumulation of multiple, long days of riding will add up. You must be in good / very good shape to enjoy this trip.

BIKE AND EQUIPMENT

The perfect bike for this trip is mid weight to light weight dual suspension with disk brakes. A hard-tail would also suffice. All participants are required to have their **bikes in excellent working order** before the trip begins. We will send you a detailed list of required equipment and clothing before departure.

LODGING AND FOOD

During Midnight Sun, we will stay in hotels. Your guides will recommend some great restaurant options for dinners in Whitehorse and Carcross. Please notify Big Mountain if you have any special dietary needs.

CLIMATE

We'll be heading to Yukon during a great time of the year where the temperature is perfect for riding. Expect the temperature to dip down to 15 celcius (60 f) at night, cool mornings and days that be as hot as 25 celcius (77 f). The area is very arid and rain is rare.

THE NEXT STEP

Call us toll free at 1-866-894-0220, or email at info@ridebig.com to confirm that there is space on this trip. Then, fill out our secure online registration form on our website. Make sure that you have read and understand our Terms and Conditions and Waiver. Upon booking, we will send you detailed pre-departure information to make sure that you are well prepared for the adventure ahead.

WHY BIG MOUNTAIN IS YOUR CHOICE

Big Mountain Bike Adventures is the pioneer for performance XC, all-mountain, DH and freeride mountain biking adventures. We know that to find the very best trails, you have to ride with locals. We aim to provide safe, quality trips and the best customer service to our participants.

REFERENCES

We'll be happy to provide you with references of satisfied past travellers.

QUESTIONS?

Feel free to call us at 1-866-894-0220 or email info@ridebig.com if you have any questions or need any additional information. We are here to help!

CONTACT US

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