



2020

**Visitor and Volunteer
Information Package**

Welcome to the 37th Annual Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race!

We are very excited and looking forward to seeing you in Fairbanks, Alaska, for the Official Start of the Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race on **Saturday, February 1, 2020!** We also look forward to seeing you along the trail, for Finish Week and at the Official Finish Line in Whitehorse, Yukon, which should occur between February 9 and 15, 2020.

This package provides an overview of the Yukon Quest, as well as volunteer information for the 2020 Race. In this package you will find maps, checkpoint descriptions, clothing suggestions, weather and driving tips, hotel discounts, and more. If you still have questions or concerns after reading this document, please contact either Yukon Quest office.



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Information also available on our website <https://yukonquest.com/>

- 2020 race info and rules (Yukon Quest and YQ300)
- List of 2020 Musher's with their profiles
- History of the Yukon Quest and Sled Dogs in the North
- Online Stores
- Membership Applications

2020 Race Calendar - February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
START WEEK IN FAIRBANKS						
			Meet the Musers Alpine Lodge Glacier Room 6:30pm/ Free	Quest Guest Luncheon <hr/> Start Banquet Westmark Gold Room 5pm/\$75 USD		START DAY! Yukon Quest 11am YQ300 3pm Chena River
2	3	YQ300 Finish Banquet Central Corner	<i>Approximate day for the first Musher to arrive into Dawson City</i>	Yukon Quest Appreciation Night Diamond Tooth Gerties 6pm	4	5
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
FINISH WEEK IN WHITEHORSE						
QUEST FEST in WHITEHORSE						
Free Mushing Rides Shipyards Park <i>Weather Permitting</i>	<i>Approximate day for the last Musher to leave Dawson City</i>				Meet the Musers Mount McIntyre 6:30pm/ Free	Finish and Awards Banquet Yukon Convention Center 5pm/\$90 CAD

2020 Race Approximation Schedules

2020 Race Schedule *Approximation* Estimated Arrival & Departure Times

as of 7/15/19

Checkpoints Drops	Dog	Approx Miles from Last CP	Minimum Mandatory Layover	Date & Time of Arrival			
				First Musher Arrival		Last Musher Depart	
Fairbanks		-		-	-	Sat	Feb 1 12:30
Two Rivers (Mile 53)		73		Sat	Feb 1 18:00	Sun	Feb 2 13:00
Mile 101		41	~ 4hrs ~ OR	Sun	Feb 2 02:00	Sun	Feb 2 20:00
Central		28	~ 4hrs ~	Sun	Feb 2 10:30	Mon	Feb 3 12:30
Circle City		74		Mon	Feb 3 00:00	Tues	Feb 4 10:00
Slaven's Roadhouse		60		Mon	Feb 3 13:00	Wed	Feb 5 07:30
Eagle		100	~ 4 hrs ~	Tue	Feb 4 07:30	Fri	Feb 7 06:00
Dawson City		150	~ 36 hrs ~	Wed	Feb 5 16:30	Mon	Feb 10 05:30
Scroggie Creek		105		Fri	Feb 7 22:00	Tues	Feb 11 01:30
Pelly Crossing		105		Sat	Feb 8 17:30	Thu	Feb 13 04:00
McCabe Creek		34		Sun	Feb 9 02:00	Thu	Feb 13 17:30
Carmacks		39		Sun	Feb 9 07:30	Fri	Feb 14 07:30
Braeburn		77	~ 8 hrs ~	Sun	Feb 9 23:30	Sat	Feb 15 09:00
Whitehorse		100		Mon	Feb 10 15:30		

Note: Starting time differentials (3 min between teams) are adjusted either in Mile 101 or Central depending on the mushers choice.

*These are estimated arrival and departure times based on previous statistics. Keep in mind that this is an approximation; the route can change or something else can happen to throw these times off.

2020 YQ300 Race Schedule *Approximation* Estimated Arrival & Departure Times

as of 7/15/19

Checkpoints	Approx Miles from Last CP	Minimum Mandatory Layover	Date & Time of Arrival			
			First Musher arrival		Last Musher Depart	
Fairbanks	-		-	-	Sat	Feb 1 16:15
Two Rivers (Mile 53)	73		Sat	Feb 1 22:00	Sun	Feb 2 10:00
Mile 101	41		Sun	Feb 2 06:00	Mon	Feb 3 08:00
Central	28	~ 6 hours ~	Sun	Feb 2 11:00	Mon	Feb 3 20:00
Circle City	74		Mon	Feb 3 03:30	Tues	Feb 4 13:30
Circle City Finish	80		Mon	Feb 3 16:00		

Note: Starting time differentials (3 min between teams) are adjusted in Central

*These are estimated arrival and departure times based on previous statistics. Keep in mind that this is an approximation; the route can change or something else can happen to throw these times off.

2020 Yukon Quest Events

2020 Start Week Events – Fairbanks

Wednesday, January 29th – Meet the Musers

Location: Finish Line Restaurant and Lounge, Glacier Room

Time: 6:30pm

Come and meet the 2020 mushers! This is your chance to get an autograph and a picture with your favorite musher! All welcome. Free to the public. Race merchandise available for purchase. **6:30pm**

Thursday, January 30 – Start and Draw Banquet

Location: Westmark Gold Room

Time: 5-10pm

Get in the spirit of the Yukon Quest as the 2020 race gets into full swing with the event that brings people together from around the world. Dress is Fairbanks Formal. Tickets cost \$75 USD and are available at the Fairbanks office.

Saturday, February 1 - Yukon Quest RACE START

Location: Chena River in Downtown Fairbanks

8-11am Teams get ready before the start

10am Dog Yard closed to everyone except teams, official personnel and start line volunteers.

11am First team departs from the start chute

11:03am All remaining teams depart at three-minute intervals

Saturday, February 1 – YQ300 RACE START

Location: Chena River in Downtown Fairbanks

1-3pm Teams get ready before the start

3pm First team departs from the start chute

3:03pm All remaining teams depart at three-minute intervals

In Dawson City – 36 hour Layover

February 5-10 (Approximately) - Dawson City Layover

Dawson City goes dog-crazy! Witness as the mushers finish the first half of the race and check into their mandatory 36-hour layover to rest.

Thursday, February 6 - Yukon Quest Appreciation Night

Location: Diamond Tooth Gerties

Time: 6-9pm

There will be food, drinks and prizes to thank all of our awesome volunteers and the amazing Dawson City community for their support!

2020 Finish Week Events – Whitehorse

Sunday, February 9 - Mushing Rides for Children

Location: Shipyards Park

Time: 10:30am-3:30pm

Bring the family out to Shipyards Park for free mushing ride around the park! Then sit by the fireplace in the Frank Slims Building with some hot chocolate and cookies. Children dog sled rides provided by Muktuk Adventures and Sky High Wilderness Ranch.

February 10-14 (Approximately) – RACE FINISH

Location: Yukon Quest Race Headquarters (Shipyards Park)

The first teams are expected to reach Whitehorse on Monday, February 10. Cheer on mushers and their dogs as they cross the Yukon Quest Finish Line at the end of this incredible 1,000-mile adventure! Teams are expected to continue arriving up until Friday, February 14.

February 10-14 – Quest Fest

Location: Frank Slim Building - Shipyards Park

Be a part of QuestFest and the Yukon Quest! It's a week of fun-filled, family-friendly good time, with free dogsled rides for kids and families, followed by a week of all things dog mushing — presentations by Yukon Quest mushers and race personnel, films, merchandise sales, a kid's corner and more.

Friday, February 14 – Meet the Mushers

Location: Mt McIntyre – Grey Mountain Room

Time: 7-10pm

Come and meet the 2020 mushers! This is your chance to get an autograph and a picture with your favorite musher! All welcome. No entry fee. Race merchandise will be available for purchase.

Saturday, February 15 - Finish and Awards Banquet

Location: Yukon Convention Centre

Time: 5-10pm

An evening of entertainment including musher awards, silent auction, buffet dinner and more. Take home great items from our Yukon Quest Store. Tickets cost \$90 CAD and are available through the Whitehorse office.

Traveling the Yukon Quest

Travel Resources

ALASKA - Fairbanks Visitor's Bureau www.explorefairbanks.com

YUKON - Yukon Visitors Guide travelyukon.com
Whitehorse Visitors Guide www.whitehorse.ca
Klondike Visitors Association www.dawsoncity.ca

Travel between Fairbanks and Whitehorse

There are no direct flights and connections would most likely be either through Vancouver or Seattle.

Directions between Fairbanks and Whitehorse

Plan your rests, meals, and fuel-ups on this trip! It will take a long time (approximately 12 hours or more) and there won't be very many opportunities to stop along the way, so plan ahead! Many gas stations have limited hours – so check ahead and bring extra fuel for this 950 Kilometer/590 mile winter trip.

From Fairbanks- Travel south on the Alaska Highway through Delta Junction and then Tok, cross over the Canadian border at Beaver Creek and continue on to Haines Junction. In Haines Junction, stay on the Alaska Highway East to Whitehorse (see travel precautions noted above).

From Whitehorse- Travel north on the Alaska Highway through Haines Junction. At Haines Junction, turn right, following signs to Fairbanks, Alaska. Just after Beaver Creek, go through American Customs. Starting at Gerstle River until about 6 miles East of Delta, watch closely for buffalo (bison) who are not shy about being in the way and on the road. Continue to drive along the highway until you reach Fairbanks.

United States / Canada Border Crossing

A passport will be required for all travelers crossing the American/Canadian border. If you do not have a passport, please apply as early as possible. For more information about Customs requirements, visit the U. S. Customs and Border Protection at www.customs.gov or the Canada Custom Agency at www.cbsa.gc.ca. Take note of what is allowed to be in your possession when you cross these borders and also be aware of the differences in regulations between the two countries.

In Alaska

Getting around Fairbanks

Fairbanks has a relatively small downtown core. If your accommodations are downtown, venues such as the Finish Line, Race Headquarters, Yukon Quest events and more are within walking distance. However, should you need them; taxis and a local transit system are available.

Need a place to stay?

La Quinta Inns & Suites - Official Yukon Quest Alaska Hotel Sponsor offers our fans and volunteers a special rate! *Discounted rates are available, please use promo code YUKQU3*

Fairbanks: La Quinta Inns & Suites
www.laquintafairbanks.com (907) 328-6300

Getting to and from checkpoints in Alaska

Trucks and cars are pretty much the best and only option if you choose to travel between checkpoints in Alaska. The roads are long, difficult in the winter, and the darkness poses additional complications. Furthermore, there are very few places to get gas along the road, and almost no accommodations available to tourists or volunteers. Be prepared to sleep in your car (in subzero temperatures)!

Driving your own vehicle/rental in Alaska

If you are bringing your own vehicle or renting a car, access to the checkpoints is relatively simple, however distances can be long and road conditions are challenging. Please be cautious.

Please note: Vehicle rental agencies are only available in Fairbanks. If you rent a vehicle and are planning to drive to Central or Circle, you must tell the rental agent where you are driving.

We recommend: **AVIS** 907-474-0900 or 1-800-633-3469

In the Yukon

Getting to Whitehorse

From Canadian Locations

Book your flight to the Yukon with [Air North, Yukon's Airline](#) - **Official Quest Fest & Yukon Airline Sponsor**. Air North offers flights between the Yukon and Vancouver, Victoria, Kelowna, Edmonton, Calgary, Ottawa, Yellowknife and Inuvik. **Use code: Quest2020 for 10% of available GoYukon, Saver, Optimum fares on all routes.** Booking period: October 18, 2019 – February 25, 2020, travel period: January 17, 2020 – February 25, 2020

From Anywhere in the World

Use Klondike Travel, "The Yukon Quest's One Stop Travel Shop – Klondike Travel". Klondike Travel offers special rates and discount codes for fares and/or accommodations and waives booking fees if connecting and booking Air North flights. Contact klondike@fcatravel.ca or call toll free 877-668-5655

Getting around Whitehorse

Whitehorse has a relatively small downtown core. If your accommodations are downtown, venues such as the Start Line, Yukon Quest events, are within walking distance. Taxis and a local transit system are also available.

Getting to and from checkpoints in the Yukon

By air

There are no commercial flights to Braeburn, Carmacks, or Pelly Crossing. However, there are flights between Dawson City and Whitehorse with Air North: 1-800-661-0407 ext 1.

By public transportation

The following outfits may be able to assist you in traveling between checkpoints during the 2020 Yukon Quest:

Black Bear Wilderness Adventures: (867) 633-3993 or 867-335-0461 <https://www.wildernessyukon.com/>

Nature Tours of Yukon: (867) 660-5050 www.naturetoursyukon.com

Northern Tales: (867) 667-6054 info@northerntales.ca

Who What Where Tours: (867) 333-0475 <https://www.whitehorsetours.com/>

Driving your own car/rental vehicle

If you are bringing your own vehicle or renting a car, access to the checkpoints is relatively simple, but distances can be long and road conditions difficult. Please use caution.

Note: Vehicle rental agencies are available only in Whitehorse. Please make sure the vehicle is equipped for severe winter conditions: winter tires, ice scraper, block heater and extension cord. Inform the rental agency where you plan on driving so they can alert you to vehicle limitations.

We recommend **Budget:** (867) 667-6200, www.budget.com

Need a place to stay?

Northern Vision Development (NVD) Hotels – Yukon Official Hotel offers fans and volunteers a special rate! When booking, mention you're in town for the Yukon Quest.

Coast High Country Inn

www.yukonhotels.com/coast

Toll-Free Reservations: 1-800-554-4471

(Canada & U.S.)

4051-4th Avenue

Email: reservations@yukonhotels.com

Edgewater

www.edgewaterhotelwhitehorse.com

Toll-free Reservations: 1-877-484-3334

(Canada & U.S.)

101 Main Street

Email: info@edgewaterukon.com

Best Western Gold Rush Inn

www.yukonhotels.com/GRI

Toll-Free Reservations: 1-800-661-0539

(Canada & U.S.)

411 Main Street

Email: frontdesk@goldrushinn.ca

Dawson City:

Downtown Hotel

<http://www.downtownhotel.ca/>

Phone: (867) 993-5346

Email: info@downtownhotel.ca

All NVD hotels in Whitehorse include airport shuttle and free internet access to all Yukon Quest volunteers and fans.

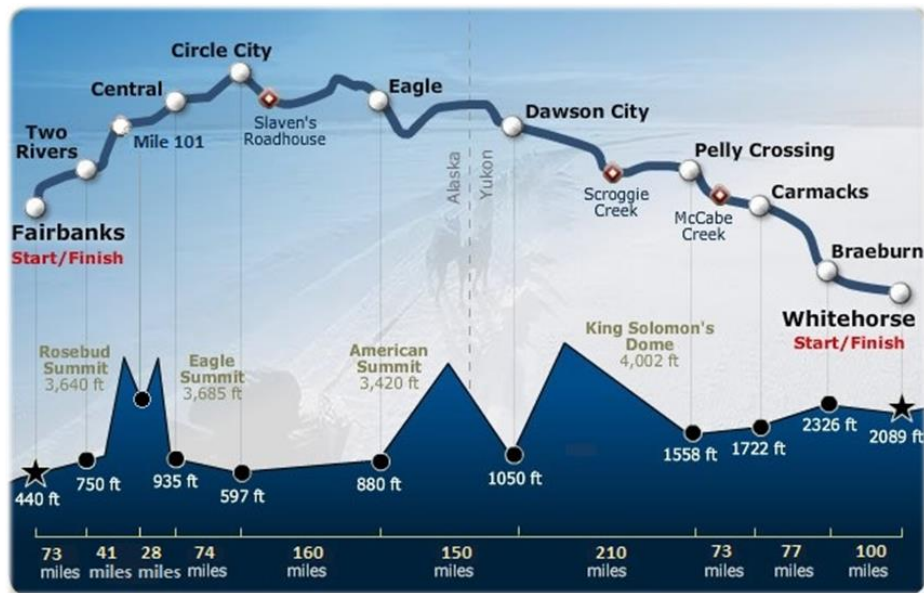
Checkpoint Information

There are **nine checkpoints** along the trail, plus the start and finish lines. Visitors are welcome at the official Yukon Quest Checkpoints along the trail, although access and services can be very limited.

The 2020 race begins in Fairbanks and travels through five Alaskan checkpoints: Two Rivers, Mile 101, Central, Circle City and Eagle. Musher's cross the border and travel through four Yukon checkpoints: Dawson City, Pelly Crossing, Carmacks, and Braeburn. The excitement then culminates in Whitehorse at the Finish Line.

Mushers must personally check in and out of each checkpoint before going on. The time into each checkpoint is recorded upon the team's arrivals and their required gear is checked. Mushers are allowed to access their food drop bags and teams are evaluated by a Yukon Quest Veterinarian at each checkpoint. Dogs unable to continue the race may be left in the care of the veterinary team at any checkpoint along the trail. Mushers can access supplies including their food drop bags, straw for bedding the dogs, water, food, and a designated place to rest, as well as gain valuable information including weather and trail conditions.

Checkpoints are where dogs get most of their rest and medical care from the veterinarian team, therefore no visitors or volunteers are allowed in the dog yards.



What are Dog Drops?

Dog Drops are designated places along the trail where mushers can “drop” a dog if he is injured or not running well. Unlike checkpoints, mushers are not required to stop at a dog drop, nor are they able to resupply their sled. The YQ Vet Team will take care of the dog and arrange for the dog to be transported to the next checkpoint, where the “dropped” dog will be met by and returned to the musher’s handler.

Important: Slaven’s Roadhouse, 40 Mile, Scroggie Creek, Stepping Stone and McCabe Creek are Dog Drops and/or Hospitality stops **for mushers and officials only.**

Services and Driving Information

Distances Between Yukon Quest Trail Locations																
Miles	Whitehorse	Braeburn	Carmacks	McCabe Creek	Pelly Crossing	Stepping Stone	Scroggie Creek	Dawson City	Forty Mile	Eagle	Slaven's Roadhouse	Circle	Central	Mile 101	Two Rivers	Fairbanks
Fairbanks	986	886	809	770	736	704	631	526	478	376	276	216	142	114	73	
Two Rivers	913	813	736	697	663	631	558	453	405	303	203	143	69	41		117
Mile 101	872	772	695	656	622	590	517	412	364	262	162	102	28		66	183
Central	844	744	667	628	594	562	489	384	336	234	134	74		45	111	229
Circle	770	670	593	554	520	488	415	310	262	160	60		119	164	230	348
Slaven's Roadhouse	710	610	533	494	460	428	355	250	202	100		97	216	261	327	444
Eagle	610	510	433	394	360	328	255	150	102		161	257	377	422	488	605
Forty Mile	508	408	331	292	258	226	153	48		164	325	422	541	586	652	769
Dawson City	460	360	283	244	210	178	105		77	241	402	499	618	663	729	847
Scroggie Creek	355	255	178	139	105	73		169	246	410	571	668	787	832	898	1015
Stepping Stone	282	182	105	66	32		117	286	364	528	689	785	904	950	1015	1133
Pelly Crossing	250	150	73	34		51	169	338	415	579	740	837	956	1001	1067	1184
McCabe Creek	216	116	39		55	106	224	393	470	634	795	892	1011	1056	1122	1239
Carmacks	177	77		63	117	169	286	455	533	697	858	954	1073	1118	1184	1302
Braeburn	100		124	187	241	293	410	579	657	821	982	1078	1197	1242	1308	1426
Whitehorse		161	285	348	402	454	571	740	818	982	1143	1239	1358	1403	1469	1587

Kilometers

Distances between locations may vary from year to year depending on trail and river conditions

Types of trail locations:	Checkpoint	Dog Drop	Hospitality Stop
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Alaskan Checkpoints

Information about **Checkpoint and Community Services** is approximate and based on the best information we have to date. For all nine remote communities (outside the start and finish), population numbers vary between zero and 600, with the exception of Dawson City.

Note: The dates listed for racing teams are based on the estimated time for the first team to arrive and the last team to depart each checkpoint. See the Race Approximation Schedule.

Note: The Alaskan checkpoints are Fairbanks, Two Rivers, Mile 101, Central and Circle City. Your trip will end at Circle City, as there are no roads open past that point in the winter. You will then need to drive back to Fairbanks and to Dawson City (via Whitehorse) to meet up with the teams for their 36-hour layover.

Fairbanks - Population: 31,644

Start Line – Chena River

This is where the excitement starts for visitors, volunteers, and mushers! The 1,000 mile race starts at 11am, but mushers and officials will begin preparing at 8am. This is a great opportunity to see mushers harness their dogs and finish their last-minute preparations. The YQ300 will start at 3pm on the same day and at the same location.

Start Line Services

The start line is located on the Chena River behind the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitor Center, 101 Dunkel Street. Please visit the Race Headquarters and gift shop at 550 First Avenue.

Community Services

Enjoy downtown Fairbanks, and its full range of services - purchase of food and gas is easily available. Plenty of accommodations, but book early before they sell out! And don't forget to mention you're here for the Yukon Quest to receive a special discount at La Quinta Inns and Suites.

Two Rivers - Population: 719

Driving

From Fairbanks, Chena Hot Springs Road is relatively flat with the exception of the first few miles. Watch out for ice and moose along this road. The traffic will be relatively heavy going towards the checkpoint. The checkpoint is on the left at Milepost 53.

Checkpoint Services

Food available at this checkpoint is for mushers **ONLY**. Please buy food at Pleasant Valley Store.

Community Services

The Pleasant Valley Store will be open around the clock during the checkpoint service to accommodate the Yukon Quest and handlers for gas, auto supplies, groceries and limited hot food items. Two River's Lodge Dining Room at Mile 16 is also open from 5-10pm. No accommodations are available for visitors or volunteers.

Mile 101 - Population: 0

Teams have a mandatory 4-hour layover at either Mile 101 or Central (musher's choice). Formerly a Dog Drop, Mile 101 has been a checkpoint since 2010 and consists of a few buildings standing alongside the highway. Unfortunately, this means that barring the few experienced volunteers assigned to this checkpoint, there is limited room and no accommodations for additional volunteers and visitors. Mile 101 is a great place to see teams as they travel between the two summits.

Driving

Before you begin your drive up the Steese Highway, it is advised that you call the Alaska Department of Transportation at 1-866-282-7577 to make sure that the road is not closed! You **must be prepared** before you head up the Steese Highway. The road is mostly gravel, with no shoulders, and plenty of curves. It is very important to check your supplies in Fairbanks before you drive up the Steese Highway. There are **NO services or cell phone coverage** after Chatanika Lodge, and you may not see another vehicle on the road for several miles. Make sure you have enough supplies and warm weather gear to survive for several hours. Watch out for blowing snow, overflow ice, and minimal shoulders as you travel the Steese Highway. Should you run off the road, a recovery vehicle would have to travel from Fairbanks to assist you. Be extremely careful at both 12 Mile Summit and Eagle Summit.

From Two Rivers: Head West on Chena Hot Springs Road, then turn right (North) at the Steese Highway Junction. When driving to Mile 101, be very aware of the traffic on the road, as snowplows may be out and about.

Checkpoint Services

Food available is for mushers **ONLY**.

Community Services

No Services Available

Central - Population: 96

Teams have a mandatory 4-hour layover at either Mile 101 or Central (musher's choice). YQ300 Musers will finish in Central after they loop through Circle City. The YQ300 Trail for this section can vary from year to year due to weather conditions.

Driving

From Mile 101, you will be on the Steese Highway going over Eagle Summit and then begin the long descent into Central. **Do Not Do this drive in the dark.** Watch for possible overflow, white-outs and snowplows.

Checkpoint Services in Central

At Central Corner you will find a bar, restaurant, gas and a small grocery store. Limited accommodations are available. Be sure to book early and try their famous Quest Burger while you're there. Open all hours during the race. A favorite spot for mushers.

Community Services

Food and gas only. *This is the last gas station you will pass until you return to Central plan accordingly

Circle City - Population: 104

Driving

This is a relatively short drive North on the highway from Central. It is only 33 miles (Alaskan Winter Miles – plan on 1 to 1.5 hours of drive time) between the two checkpoints but **EXTREME CAUTION** must be exercised. The highway here is mostly gravel with no shoulders.

Checkpoint Services

The checkpoint is housed within the community Fire Hall. It tends to be cold and has no services for visitors. Food is available at this checkpoint is for mushers ONLY.

Community Services

Very Limited Hours for Gas and Snacks, NO DIESAL

Eagle - Population: 85

Driving

There are **NO ROADS** to the community of Eagle in the winter. The Eagle Checkpoint is only accessible by airplane from Fairbanks, AK.

Checkpoint Services

Only basic services are available. Supplies are extremely limited.

Community Services

Fuel is not available. A small grocery store provides volunteers with access to food. Accommodations are extremely limited, and are usually restricted to on-site personnel and mushers.

Yukon Checkpoints

Dawson City - Population: 1,410

Teams have a mandatory 36-hour layover, and are likely to arrive in Dawson City between February 5 and 7. Tuesday and Wednesday are the best days to see teams arriving. Teams are likely to leave Dawson City after the mandatory 36-hour layover predicted between **February 6 and 10**. The Dawson City Mandatory Layover is also

“Yukon Quest Time” in the Klondike capital! With teams’ arrivals spread out over a day or two, coupled with each team’s 36-hour stay, the entire City of Dawson City goes dog-crazy for five days!

Driving

Dawson City is approximately six hours from downtown Whitehorse, but can take much longer in bad weather.

Checkpoint Services

Purchase food and concessions during extended hours. No free accommodations available. All volunteers and visitors need to book their own accommodations in the local hotels.

Events/Activities

Dog Park Campground - visitors can walk to the Dog Park Campground across the river to see where the dog teams are camped for their mandatory layover. Visitors are welcome in the campground, but cannot enter individual campsites or disturb any of the dog teams. **Their uninterrupted rest is essential during this time.** Vehicles are not allowed in the dog park. Volunteers at the Dawson City checkpoint are invited to join us at our **Yukon Quest Appreciation Night.**

Community Services

There are many restaurants in town, and they are easily accessible on foot. Be sure to book your accommodations as soon as possible – hotels fill up fast! Other available amenities include: gas stations, souvenir shops, a drug store, Canada Post, etc. Enjoy the hospitality and energy of Dawson City, Capital of the Klondike. Check out the Klondike Visitors Association for more information: www.dawsoncity.ca

Pelly Crossing - Population: 336

Teams are expected to pass through Pelly Crossing between February 8 and February 13.

Driving

Drive time is approximately 3 hours from Dawson City and 3-4 hours from downtown Whitehorse via the Klondike Highway.

From Whitehorse: drive north on the Alaska Hwy, turn north on to the Klondike Hwy, continue north past Braeburn and Carmacks checkpoints. The Pelly Crossing Checkpoint is located within the Community Hall at the Northeast corner of town. Turn left at the gas station and follow the road toward the river.

Checkpoint Services

Purchase food and concessions during limited hours. Please help us support our local communities through this checkpoint concession fundraiser. Accommodations – volunteers are welcome to pull out a sleeping bag on the floor in the Community Hall.

Community Services

Food and fuel are available at the Selkirk Centre. Accommodations are extremely limited.

Carmacks - Population: 493

Teams are expected to pass through Carmacks between February 9 and 14.

Driving

Located at Mile 110 on the Klondike Highway, Carmacks is approximately a 2-hour drive from downtown Whitehorse or 4-5 hours from Dawson City, depending on road conditions. The checkpoint is located at the Carmacks Community Centre located on River Drive (from the Highway turn North onto Freegold Road, right onto River Drive and you will see the Community Centre just up ahead).

Checkpoint Services

Purchase of food concessions during checkpoint hours within the community centre. Please help us support the local community through the checkpoint concession fundraiser, organized by the volunteers. All proceeds go

towards the Carmacks After-School Program. Accommodations – volunteers are welcome to pull out a sleeping bag on the floor in the community hall gym.

Community Services

Food, fuel, and groceries are available at the Tatchun Centre General Store. Accommodations are extremely limited at the Carmacks Hotel, so book early! The Carmacks Hotel also has a small restaurant and bar.

Braeburn - Population: Unknown

Yukon Quest teams are expected to pass through Braeburn between February 9 and 15. Teams have a mandatory 8-hour layover in Braeburn for their last mandatory vet check on the trail. Teams leaving Braeburn have approximately 100 trail miles/161 km left before reaching the finish line.

Driving

Drive time is approximately one hour from downtown Whitehorse. Drive north on the Alaska Highway, turn north onto the Klondike Highway, and continue to Braeburn Lodge, the official checkpoint, on your left. Braeburn is located at Mile 55 on the Klondike Highway.

Checkpoint Services

At Braeburn Lodge, you can purchase gas and various food items, including their world-famous giant cinnamon buns. Open all hours during the race. No accommodations are available. Please use inside toilets only if you purchased food at the lodge. Port-a-potties are available on site.

Community Services

Community Services are the same as Checkpoint Services with food and gas.

Whitehorse - Population: 25,085

Finish Line – Shipyard’s Park

Cheer on the mushers and their dogs as they cross the Yukon Quest Finish Line at the end of this incredible 1,000-mile adventure! Teams are expected around the clock and are always happy and appreciative to see supportive fans at the finish line!

Finish Line Services

The Yukon Quest Finish Line is located at Shipyards Park (Ogilvie St and 2nd Ave). Merchandise sales will be available at the park within the Frank Slim building. Whitehorse boasts many cafes and restaurants for you to dine at while awaiting the next musher! Quest Fest, a weeklong celebration of all things Yukon Quest, will be held from February 10 to 14 at the Frank Slims Building. A family friendly event, Quest Fest is free to attend.

Community Services

Enjoy downtown Whitehorse, capital of the Yukon Territory, and its full range of services. More information about accommodations, travel arrangements, and amenities can be found throughout this booklet.

Packing List/What To Bring

Fairbanks and Whitehorse have many services including large stores, as well as lots of options for food, groceries, house wares, pharmacy items and clothing.

Clothing

Be prepared for extremely cold and sometimes windy conditions. This is essential for your safety and enjoyment of the Yukon Quest including watching dog team arrivals, outdoor volunteer shifts (if applicable), general travel, and other outdoor activities you might choose to participate in. Even if you are coming from a cold climate, please be aware that your ski jacket and winter boots from home may not be sufficient for standing outside in temperature of -20° C/ -30° F **and colder**.

The best way to pack and/or purchase is to have many layers of clothing with breathable fabrics (wool whenever possible). Pay close attention to your hands and feet – bring warm socks (possibly layers) as well as warm gloves/mittens with an outer wind-blocking layer and lots of hand-warmer packets. You will want all exposed skin covered!

Rentals / Purchase of Gear

You can rent parkas and good winter boots for one or two weeks in Whitehorse. It can be expensive, but worthwhile, saving you from having to purchase very expensive new gear. It also saves you from packing them as they can be bulky, and by renting, you are sure to get the right type of boots/parka for the local conditions.

Whitehorse- Offering a variety of winter **rental** packages.

Men's World - 867-667-2817 info@mensworld.ca Book early! It is best to book at least two months in advance.
www.mensworld.com

Fairbanks- There are local outfitters that can fit you with Alaskan gear **for sale** to fend off the cold Interior winter weather. We recommend our official specialty outdoor gear sponsor:

Apocalypse Designs - 201 Minnie Street, Fairbanks, AK (907) 451-7555 - www.akgear.com

List of recommended items:

- ✓ Warm-rated sleeping bag (rating of -20°C/ -30°F) and sleeping pad
- ✓ Warm pants and long sleeve shirts (layers, breathable fabrics: polar fleece, micro fleece or wool), under and outer layers
- ✓ Warm mittens/gloves, toque/hat, scarf and lots of warm socks
- ✓ Insulated windproof pants (ski pants)
- ✓ A few packages of chemical feet and hand warmers
- ✓ Boots and parka
- ✓ Sun protection (sunglasses, sunscreen, lip balm)
- ✓ Any special food or medications you may require
- ✓ Water bottle and thermos
- ✓ Phone card, memory card and spare batteries
- ✓ Moisturizers and hand sanitizer
- ✓ A headlamp and lithium batteries

Other Considerations

Water

Interior Alaska and the Yukon have a dry, cold (arctic) climate in the winter, so make sure you drink a lot of water to stay hydrated.

Weather

Be prepared! The temperatures in the Yukon and Alaska in February can be extreme.

The average temperature in Whitehorse in February is $-14^{\circ}\text{C}/7^{\circ}\text{F}$ with an **extreme minimum of $-51^{\circ}\text{C}/-60^{\circ}\text{F}$** .

Average wind speed is 13.5 km/h or 8.38 m/h.

Normal winter temperatures in Fairbanks are between -20°F to $-30^{\circ}\text{F}/-28^{\circ}\text{C}$ to -34°C . Temperatures can be as low as **$-60^{\circ}\text{F}/-51^{\circ}\text{C}$** .

Support the Yukon Quest

From coming to our events, buying merchandise, membership, sponsoring or directly volunteering for us, there are many ways you can help the Yukon Quest remain the renowned international sporting event that brought you North!

Become a Yukon Quest Member

Alaska and Yukon both have Membership programs that offer a variety of options for those looking to stay connected to the Yukon Quest year-round. Supporters have the option of purchasing individual, family or corporate memberships. The Yukon Quest also offers our popular 1,000 Mile Club membership option, “own” a mile of the historic Yukon Quest trail! Custom-embroidered articles can be ordered in relation to this membership. Please contact the Yukon Quest office in Whitehorse or Fairbanks for further details.

Start and Draw Banquet in Fairbanks

The Start and Draw Banquet takes place on Thursday, January 30, 2020 in Fairbanks, and it is the ultimate race event for 2020. Guests enjoy a full-course meal with an evening full of Yukon Quest lore and excitement. Meet the mushers as they draw their starting order (bib) number. The banquet starts at 5pm in the Gold Room of the Westmark Hotel. Tickets are \$75 USD and will be available in December; contact the Fairbanks office for more information. 907-452-7954

Finish and Awards Banquet in Whitehorse

The Finish & Awards Banquet in Whitehorse will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2020. You won't want to miss the full-course meal with entertainment, Yukon Quest lore and excitement. Celebrate our 2020 champions as they are given their awards and share their stories and experiences with us. The banquet starts at 5pm at The Yukon Convention Centre. Tickets are \$90 CAD and will be available in December 2019.

Yukon Quest Merchandise

Buy your 2020 merchandise at both locations of our Yukon Quest Stores and at our events. Also, check out our two Official Yukon Quest Gift Shops at 550 First Avenue in Fairbanks and 1109 Front Street in Whitehorse, or shop online at our website: www.yukonquest.com/shop-yq.

Volunteering with the Yukon Quest

The spirit of the Yukon Quest is a celebration of the history of the North. The trail runs across frozen rivers, climbs four mountain passes, and travels through isolated northern communities. With temperatures often dropping to 40 below, howling winds, snowstorms, open water and jumble ice all working against the teams; the Yukon Quest is a true test of the tenacity of both man and animal. The Yukon Quest serves as a tribute to the historical dependence of man on his sled dogs.

The Yukon Quest is a volunteer effort from beginning to end. This epic 1,000 mile International Sled Dog Race would not be possible without the volunteer efforts of thousands of dedicated individuals, all of whom have lent a hand ... and sometimes much more - over the last 36 years.

We have a very diverse volunteer community from all walks of life including retired travelers in their 70's to local youth donating their time. People from all over the globe, spending from two days to three months helping with the race. For some it is their first-time, others have been coming back for the past 36 years. We attract volunteers who leave this amazing experience as an integral part of the Quest family.

Volunteers traveling long distances usually stay in the areas of Whitehorse or Fairbanks, and volunteer for one or two shifts a day, for as many days as they want. If you go on to volunteer at checkpoints, depending on your interests and skills, we ask for a longer commitment. Volunteers working at checkpoints must be willing and able to work overnight shifts lasting between 8 and 12 hours.

Volunteer Specifics

The Yukon Quest is an event with over 1,000 volunteers. We recognize how crucial our volunteers are to the success of the race. What we offer is the experience of a lifetime and a chance to get connected with this great race. You will receive a 2020 Volunteer Patch, and invitations to Volunteer Appreciation Parties and other Yukon Quest events.

Note that the Yukon Quest does NOT offer free accommodation, transportation or meals.

Volunteer Information

- **Checkpoints:** There are some volunteers who are able to assist at each checkpoint. The volunteer positions required are determined by the location and infrastructure of each checkpoint. Checkpoints on the Yukon side are more easily accessible. Fairbanks requires a large number of volunteers where the race starts. Checkpoints on the Alaska side are more remote. If you are interested in volunteering at a particular checkpoint on the trail, please let us know.
- **Code of Conduct:** The Yukon Quest has a code of conduct for its volunteers, staff, mushers and dog handlers. **This is the essence of the entire race, and we require that everyone involved in the Yukon Quest be courteous, polite, and helpful towards mushers, officials, veterinarians and fellow volunteers.** This also applies to each volunteer working with the Yukon Quest. Please remember everyone is doing their best. We are all working long hours and it is important to be patient and understanding of everyone's situations.
- **Media:** In every case when you are approached by the media, please direct them to Yukon Quest Officials on site. If not possible, we ask that you tell them you are not in a position to comment on the race.

- **Dog Teams: No volunteers or visitors are allowed near camping dog teams, nor are they allowed to pet and touch the dogs. Only mushers, race officials and veterinarians are allowed near the dogs. There are no exceptions!** These dogs are trained athletes and they need their rest at each checkpoint.
- **Working with Dogs:** There are volunteer positions that are specific to those with experience of handling and working with sled dogs. In your application, please outline your experience working with dogs in detail.
- **Expenses:** Volunteers will need to personally cover all of their own expenses during their participation with the race. Until you are here and know your specific volunteer role, please arrange for your own accommodations along with your own food and transportation. Some checkpoints will have floor space available for sleeping. Flexibility and adaptability are essential, as well as preparedness.
- **Report to your manager to get your assigned duties:** The logistics managers, checkpoint managers or members of YQ staff are the people to talk to on site when you are wondering what you should be doing, what shifts need to be covered, where you should be and at what time. These crucial team members will be introduced to you on-site upon your arrival.
- **Volunteer Registration:** You will find a Registration Form at <http://yukonquest.com/support-yq/volunteer-yukon-quest/volunteer-signup>. If you intend on coming, please fill out this form and submit it on the website. If you plan on volunteering in both countries, please specify this on the form and we will make sure both offices get the information. You can also feel free to call or email the offices directly if you have any questions.

Examples of Volunteer Positions

If there is something specific you are interested in or a special skill that you would like to share with us, please let us know!

Food Drop/Straw - (Physical/Outdoors) receive, account for, verify, organize, and lift up to 50 lbs in the cold

Silent Auction - (Office/Physical/Over the Phone) reception/delivery of prizes, identify prizes, print sheets and labels, store, transport, display, manage web entries, etc.

Banquets - (Various) setting up both banquets, this includes setting up the card holders on the tables, merchandise tables, silent auction area, coat checks at the event, tickets sales at the door, and sales during the event (memberships, raffle tickets, merchandise, etc.)

Meet the Mushers - (Various) set up, help during the event, bartending, clean up

QuestFest in Whitehorse - (Various) welcome visitors, answer inquiries, sell merchandise, banquet and raffle tickets, serve food and drinks, run activities, set up, clean up, etc.

Start and Finish Chute Setup - (Physical/Outdoors) work in the snow, setting up banners, crowd control barriers, safety, dog handlers, etc.

Start Line - (Physical/Outdoors) the Start Line Manager will need a large number of volunteers to assist in making the start of the race go smoothly. Tasks include: crowd control, timer, dog handler, runner, etc.

Security - (Outdoors) control the crowds and the public around the start and finish lines

Checkpoint Volunteers - (Various/Outdoors) checkpoint managers need help around the clock with a wide variety of tasks, a few examples include: setting up the checkpoint, checking in/out teams, organizing food drop/straw for mushers, providing wake-up calls to the mushers, road crossings, cooking food, making coffee, cleaning up, etc.

Finish Line Checkers - (Outdoors) day/night outdoor shifts to check in teams

Chute Take-Down - (Physical/Outdoors) clean-up of both start and finish line chutes and any materials left on site

Volunteering in Fairbanks during Start Week

- You need to book your own accommodations at La Quinta Inn and Suites Fairbanks or see tourism website for more information.
- Be ready to do physical work (preparing the chute and start line, etc.) and/or office work (counting tickets, selling merchandise, welcoming visitors, running activities, etc.).
- You may want to rent a car or book a cab or UBER.

Volunteering at Checkpoints during the Race

- The Yukon Quest does not provide transportation for volunteers between checkpoints and you are required to make your own way up the trail.

**Please note: There may be exceptions for checkpoints in Braeburn, Carmacks and Pelly Crossing. Please contact the Yukon office to make arrangements if you want to volunteer in those two communities. Carpooling with other volunteers is highly encouraged.*

- **Accommodations are “rugged” (you will often sleep on a floor surrounded by other people).**
- **Must be prepared to work a minimum of 8-12 hours shift, often at night.**
- Be willing to do anything- serving food, moving straw, checking in/out mushers, organizing/moving food drop bags, cleaning up the dog yard, etc. (capacity to lift 40lbs is preferable).
- A “go with the flow” approach and ability to adapt are best suited for these positions.
- **Important** - If you wish to support us in a checkpoint, a member of our staff will contact you and ask a few more questions to make sure this suits our needs and your expectations. Your contact info will be passed along to our checkpoint managers who will then organize volunteer shifts.

Volunteering in Whitehorse during Finish Week

- You need to book your own accommodations in hotels, B&Bs, and hostels in town (see our tourism websites mentioned above in the Tourist Information section above and don’t forget about the Yukon Quest discount at Northern Vision Development Hotels in Whitehorse).
- Must be ready to work late night shifts when mushers are expected to cross the finish line in the middle of the night... a warm greeting back to civilization is always welcome!

“It takes a thousand people to go a thousand miles.”