



Northwest Territories Staycation Guide: Fort Smith

Fort Smith, near the Alberta border, is a peaceful small town that offers a rich autumn staycation experience in the Northwest Territories. Surrounded by boreal forest, rivers, and expansive wilderness, the town is alive with colour as the leaves turn golden and crimson in September.

Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy hikes, nature walks, and birdwatching, while the nearby **Slave River Rapids** provide dramatic scenery and a chance to spot wildlife. **Fort Smith** is also home to unique cultural attractions, including local museums and heritage centres that highlight Indigenous traditions and community history. The slower pace of the town, paired with its striking natural setting, creates an ideal atmosphere for relaxation.

Highlights

- Forest trails and riverside walks.
- Wildlife spotting opportunities.
- Local cultural experiences and museums.

Suggested Itinerary (2-3 Days)

Day 1

- » Walk along nearby forest trails.
- » Visit local cultural or historical sites.

Day 2

- » Drive nearby scenic routes for fall colours.
- » Relax by riverside or lakeside areas.

Day 3

- » Take a morning trip to **Wood Buffalo National Park** for wildlife viewing or stargazing if staying overnight.
- » Explore the **Slave River Rapids** area, known for its dramatic scenery and potential to spot pelicans.

Seasonal Tips

- Best time to visit is from September to early October for peak colours.
- Bring warm layers and comfortable walking shoes.
- Check for seasonal events or cultural experiences.

Notes

