



Ridge Trail

Derek Crowe

Play Safe and Leave no Trace

You are venturing into a wilderness environment. Weather and conditions can change rapidly. You may encounter wildlife, including bears. We recommend that you:

- Carry extra clothing, food and water
- Hike or bike with others
- Pack a trail map and take note of signage
- Carry a First Aid kit and bear spray (and know how to use them!)

There is cell coverage in and around Carmacks; however, reception may not be reliable as you get further from the townsite. There is a Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment and nursing station located in Carmacks.

Lastly, please help protect this special place we call home by:

- Keeping a distance from any wildlife you may encounter;
- Practicing “Leave no Trace”: take only pictures, leave only footprints!

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Trail descriptions continued.

Miller Ridge Trail

Length: 2.1 km (one way)
Difficulty: Moderate to difficult
Return Time: 2 hours
Elevation Change: 280 m
Recommended for: Mountain running and hiking

Miller Ridge is a classic Yukon hike that offers great scenery and close-up views of Carmacks’ fascinating geological character. The trail is accessed 4 kilometres down the Mount Nansen Road, where you will see a sign and small pullout on the right hand side. The trail starts behind the sign and parallels the road for a short distance before veering north and climbing gently through spruce and aspen forest, with the occasional wet or steep spot. As the trail gains elevation, the ground becomes rockier and more difficult to navigate, crossing the aftermath of various small landslides through the trees. Glimpses of the craggy pillars that comprise Miller Ridge give way to narrow forested sections where the trail winds past interesting boulders. Excellent views are gained after a very steep section, where solid footing is not assured. There is no defined end to the trail here; rather, the trail fades into the steep grassy slope and the excellent views of the Yukon Plateau in the distance and close-up access to rock outcrops featuring agates and geodes signal the turn-around point. Please be mindful of rockfall and landslide hazard, particularly during and after rain events.

Murray Creek Waterfall Trail

Length: 2.5 km (one way)
Difficulty: Easy
Return Time: 1-1.5 hrs
Elevation Change: 100 m
Recommended for: Running, hiking and biking

Waterfalls are a relatively rare natural phenomenon in the central Yukon, making Murray Creek well worth a visit. Drive about 7.5 kilometres from the start of the Freegold Road (just past the junction with Guder Drive) and keep a close watch out for a large culvert followed by a dirt road on the left. Drive another 750 metres until you see another road on the left. Park here. The Murray Creek Trail, which is an old road, starts about 50 metres in from the Freegold. The road winds gradually up a series of benches, alternating between open ridges

with distant views of the falls and mixed deciduous forest. The road ends overtop a steep cliff that forms the northern boundary of Murray Creek and the falls. Exercise caution around the cliff edge. Return via the same route.



Plume Agate Trail

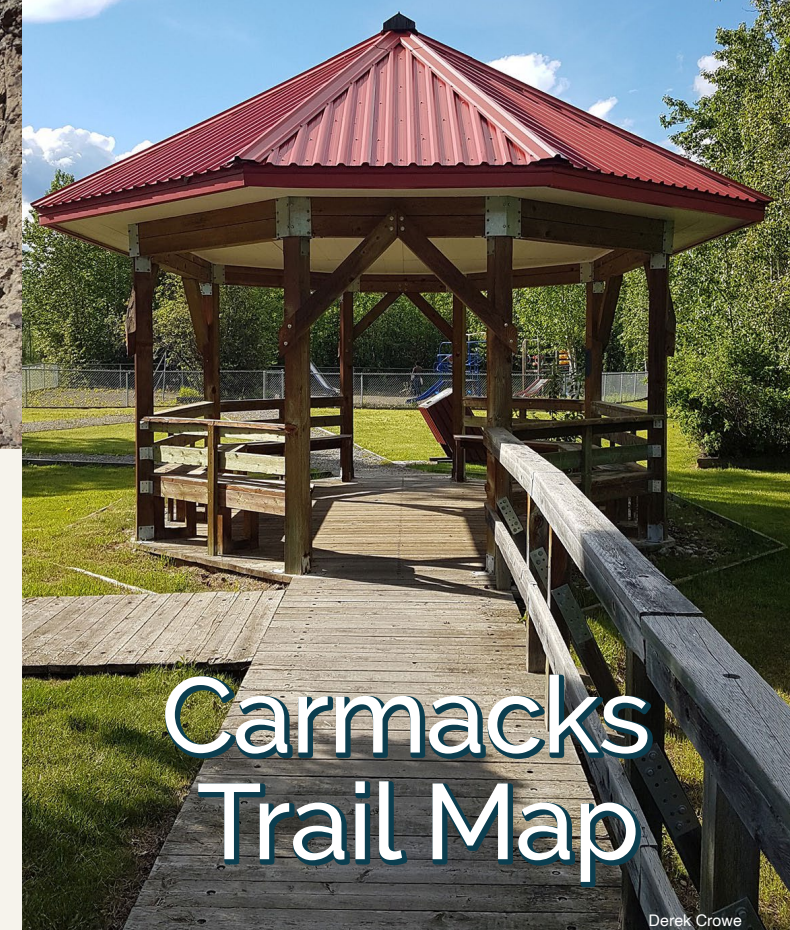
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Plume Agate Trail

Length: 1.1 km (one way)
Difficulty: Easy to moderate
Return Time: 1 hr
Elevation Change: 220 m
Recommended for: Mountain running and hiking

The Plume Agate Trail is a scenic climb through mixed spruce/aspen forest to a series of rock bluffs overlooking the Klondike highway and Nordenskiold River valley south of Carmacks. Geodes and agates can be found in the outcrops at the top.

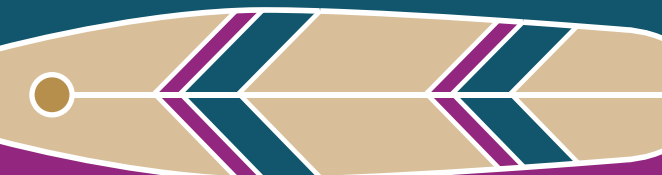
The trail is located about 11 kilometres from the rest area south of Carmacks. Driving from Carmacks, watch for the km 346 marker post and turn left after driving another 2.7 kilometres. Coming from Whitehorse, the trailhead is about 20 kilometres north of the Montague Roadhouse; look for the km 342 marker post and turn right after driving 1 kilometre further. A short access road (about 500 metres long) leads to a dead end near a creek. Park here and look for the start of the trail on the north side. The trail contours briefly through the forest before emerging onto an open, grassy slope. Keep following the trail as it steadily climbs then heads west towards distinct rock bluffs and the final viewpoint.



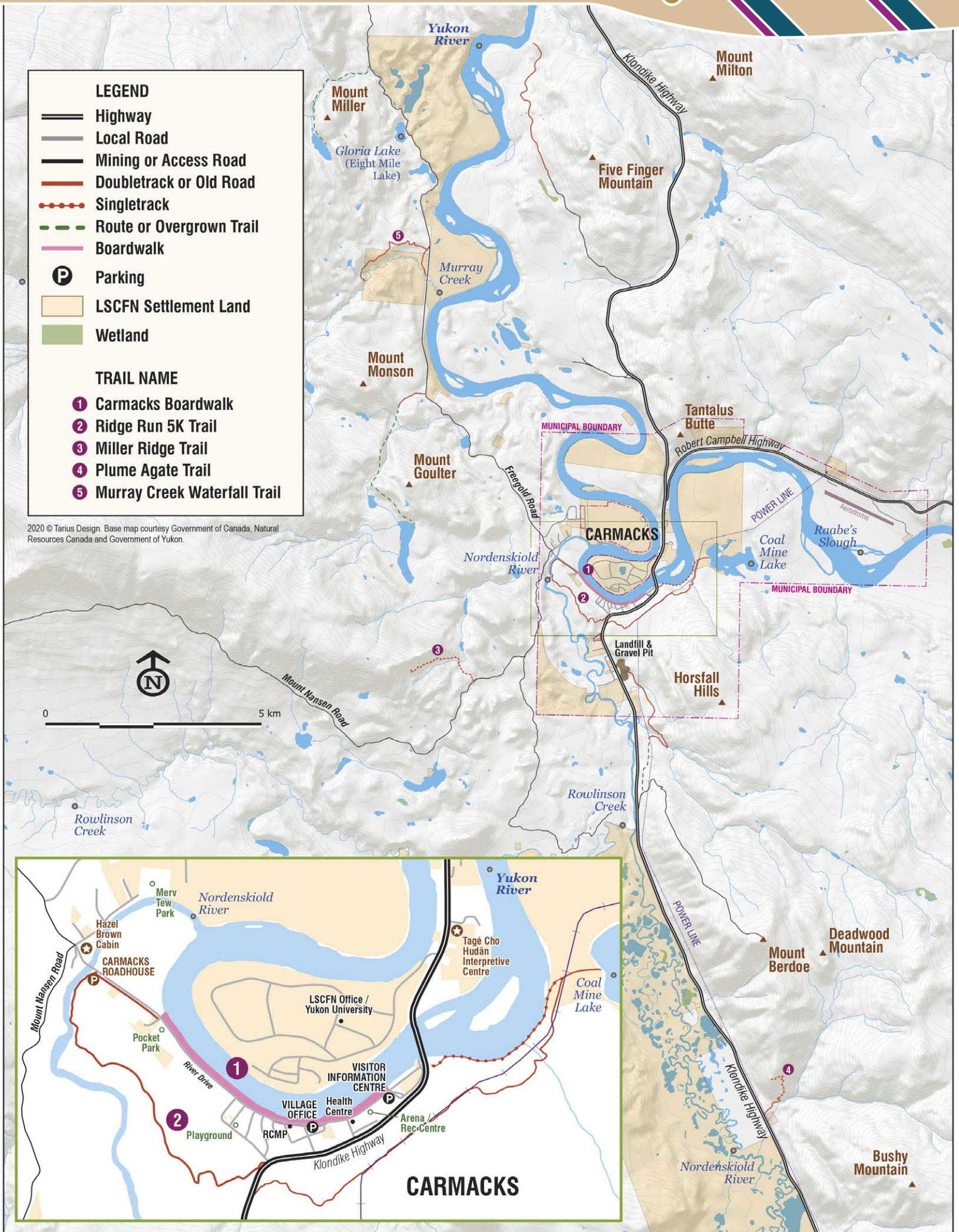
Carmacks Trail Map

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Welcome to Carmacks, the “Hub” of the Yukon and home to the Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation. Trail adventures for all ages and abilities await visitors to our community. The Village of Carmacks invites you to enjoy them all!



Carmacks Trail Map



Carmacks Boardwalk

Length: 1.9 km
Difficulty: Easy
Return Time: 45 minutes
Elevation Change: 17 m
Recommended for: Running, walking, and biking

The Carmacks boardwalk offers a leisurely stroll along the scenic Yukon River and past community landmarks, with an assortment of wooden features and resting spots found along the way. The east end of the trail is marked by a small pavilion located near the Visitor Information Centre. The west end starts from a small park with a playground and pavilion. Park at either end and complete a (approximately) 5 kilometre loop by combining the boardwalk trail, River Drive, and Ridge Run Trail.

Ridge Run Trail

Length: 2.7 km
Difficulty Level: Beginner
Return Time: 1-1.5 hrs
Elevation Change: 56 m
Recommended for: Running, hiking and biking

The Ridge Run Trail (locally known as the “5K”) owes its name to a classic Yukon running race held each spring in Carmacks along

its scenic ridge overlooking the Nordenskiöld River valley. At the north end of the trail, the Carmacks Roadhouse, a well-preserved remnant of Carmacks’ importance on the Dawson Overland Trail, offers parking and a nice location for a picnic. From here, the trail winds through spruce forest before gaining the ridge via a short, steep climb. Once on the ridge, you will enjoy views of the Nordenskiöld River below and the complex geological features of Miller Ridge and surrounding hills to the west.

Numerous trails branch off the main route; stay on the most travelled path close to the ridge. Nearing the south end and the community, trails lead to numerous spirit houses, the traditional gravesites of the Little Salmon Carmacks/Northern Tutchone people. Please stay on the main trail as you descend into the townsite and do not disturb these special sites. Complete a full loop by walking to the Yukon River and returning to the roadhouse along the Carmacks boardwalk and River Drive.

The trail works well in either direction, but bikers may prefer traveling from south to north. If traveling east to west, park at the school (from mid-June to mid-August) or Visitor Information Centre.

Trail descriptions continued on reverse.