# Classic Polar Bear Adventure

Looking out onto the snowy tundra, we spy them, white on white. Alternately regal and whimsical and always awe-inspiring, polar bears in the wild offer a natural encounter charged with drama and magic.





# 6 days/5 nights

## **ITINERARY**

## Day 1: Winnipeg, Manitoba

Our Churchill polar bear tour begins in Winnipeg, once a fur-trading post and boomtown for the Canadian Pacific Railway, today Manitoba's cultural and commercial capital at the eastern edge of Canada's vast prairies. Transfer to the historic Fort Garry Hotel, grande dame of Winnipeg hospitality and one of the city's most prestigious landmarks. Meet your Expedition Leader at an orientation dinner this evening.

## Day 2: Winnipeg / Churchill

Fly to Churchill this morning. This hospitable outpost town, originally a fur-trading post, is our base for adventure. On the 6-day trip we head to the tundra this evening for our first glimpse of the bears, though we often see them from the bus as we leave the airport, even before we board our Polar Rover. Our 7-day trip opens with an evening presentation on polar bears and the northern environs by our professional staff of naturalists and scientists.

In our custom Polar Rover vehicles we can approach at close range without disturbing them, offering a chance for an incredibly moving wildlife experience. From our heated confines, or standing on the outdoor platform, we may see mothers with cubs, young males play-fighting, or a huge, solitary male ambling over the tundra. There's no better time than now to see the King of the Arctic!

## Days 3 & 4: Polar Bear Viewing

Uniquely designed Polar Rovers are our mobile means for spending time among the bears. Though they are built to accommodate up to 35 passengers, we take a maximum of just 16, ensuring everyone a window seat. Our Expedition Leaders know the best places to see polar bears, which congregate in the region each fall as they wait for Hudson Bay to freeze, signaling the start of the winter seal-hunting season. As we watch them interact, we're delighted by their antics and rugged beauty. From the warmth of our vehicle we may see mothers with cubs, young males play-fighting, or a lone bear ambling over the tundra in solitary majesty. Our knowledgeable Expedition Leader offers interpretation along the way, explaining the bears' behavior and how they thrive in such a harsh environment. In the evenings we'll meet for dinner followed by presentations on wildlife or local cultures.

## Day 5: Explore Around Churchill / Evening on the Tundra

On the 7-day trip we tour historic Churchill, then head out to the tundra for evening bear viewing and dinner aboard the vehicle. During the day we may visit local sled dogs en route to Cape Merry, where we often see Arctic fox and Arctic hare. If the skies are clear, our nighttime tundra excursion might reveal one of nature's most exhilarating experiences – a chance to view the northern lights away from the glare of town. Though they are never predictable, the auroral display often starts as a white glow in the northern sky, then begins to flicker and dance in shimmering curtains of color. On the 6-day trip (your nighttime tundra journey takes place on Day 2), there's free time in Churchill or an opportunity for an optional helicopter excursion over the frozen tundra before boarding our flight back to Winnipeg.

## Day 6: Churchill / Winnipeg

Our return flights are scheduled to depart in the mid- to late afternoon, to offer as much time as possible for exploring Churchill today. Pick up last-minute native handicrafts and souvenirs or, if time permits, take an optional helicopter tour over the tundra or an authentic dog sled excursion. We enjoy a farewell lunch in Churchill before flying back to Winnipeg, where we have a final reception before our adventure concludes.

## Day 7: Winnipeg / Home

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home.

## **Details**

**Group Size: 16** 

#### 2018 Departures:

November: 09, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15

# **2018 Pricing:** US\$6 695 - twi

US\$6,695 - twin US\$7,535 - single

## 2019 Departures:

October: 13, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31

November: 01, 02, 03, 05, 07, 09, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15

## 2019 Pricing:

U\$\$6,395 to 6,795 - twin U\$\$7,290 to 7,690 - single Internal air cost - U\$\$795 per person

Taxes: as applicable, quoted at time of booking

Prices are shown in US\$, per person, based on two people sharing a twin room and one person in a single. Single rooms are extremely limited and are on a first come, first serve basis.

## **Trip Code:**

009392-20

## **INCLUDED**

- Return flight from Winnipeg to Churchill (2018 departures)
- Two nights' accommodation in Winnipeg
- Four nights' accommodation in Churchill
- All meals
- Cold-weather gear including a parka and boots during your trip
- Services of a professional Expedition Leader and assistants
- Some gratuities
- All activities/entrance fees
- Evening wildlife and cultural presentations
- All taxes and service charges

## **NOT INCLUDED**

- Travel to and from Winnipeg
- Return flight from Winnipeg to Churchill (2019 departures) quoted separately
- Alcoholic beverages
- Some gratuities

- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature

#### **TOUR NOTES**

In case of flight or weather delays, we recommend that you arrive a day early and either participate in our Extra Day in Winnipeg program or stay on your own. Our small group tour begins with a 7:00pm welcome dinner on Day 1. You are free to depart at any time on the final day.

Have a little more time? Spend an extra day out on the tundra with the polar bears on the **7 Day/6 Night** program. Please ask for dates and prices for the longer tours.

Want to focus on photography? Join the 7 Day/6 Night **Classic Polar Bear Photo Adventure** program designed to give you maximum time to capture the perfect shot!

Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.

## **ROUTE MAP**



#### Contact

#### Winnipeg

164 Marion Street Winnipeg, MB, Canada R2H 0T4

Phone: 204.949.0199 Fax: 204.949.0188 Toll Free: 800.661.3830

## Edmonton

(formerly Butte Travel Service) 11733 95th St. NW Edmonton, AB, Canada T5G 1M1 Phone: 780.477.3561

Fax: 780.477.9871 Toll Free: 800.661.8906















# ©The Great Canadian Travel Group Ltd.

Prices listed on our website are stated in Canadian Dollars unless otherwise indicated. Tour details, inclusions and prices were valid at the time of publication but are subject to change without notice due to currency fluctuations, tax increases and at the discretion of the supplier(s). Current prices will be re-quoted for you at the time of booking. By air, land or sea, we can take you anywhere - contact us for your quote today!