

Ultimate Arctic Summer Adventure

6 Night/7 Day Tour – 3-4V

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Churchill • Belugas • Polar Bears

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive in Winnipeg

Please make your own transfer arrangements to Winnipeg and check in at the Inn at the Forks for a restful evening. Overnight in Winnipeg. **Accommodation stay – 1 night at Inn at the Forks.**

Day 2: Winnipeg – Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill

After breakfast a transfer will take you to the charter airport for your flight to Churchill. A Lazy Bear Lodge guide will meet you upon arrival at Churchill Airport and escort you to the lodge where you check in and meet your hosts for the next five days. Afterward, embark on the Cultural and Heritage Tour, which takes you to Churchill and the surrounding area where you will be exploring various historic sites. These include Cape Merry, an outside tour of the polar bear holding facility, the wreckage of the famous plane, “Miss Piggy”, and many other historic sites that make Churchill the town it is today. This afternoon and during your holiday, you will have free time to independently explore special places in Churchill like the Itsanitaq Museum and the Canada Parks Museum as well as unique shops in town and see the authentic Native Art. You may also inquire with the front desk about optional tours and excursions you may book during your time at the lodge. Overnight in Churchill. **Accommodation stay – 4 nights at Lazy Bear Lodge. (B, D)**

Day 3: Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill

Today after breakfast you depart on a full-day Hudson Bay Coastal Tour by boat to see the polar bears along the coast of Hudson Bay and other local river estuaries. These magnificent creatures can be seen in these areas, swimming in the water or cooling off on the rocks. A day of fun and learning is complemented by lunch served on board during the tour. **(B,L)**

Day 4: Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill

After breakfast, you take to the waves again on a 3-hour Beluga Whale Boat Tour in search of the ivory-coloured beluga whales. Also included in the excursion is a walking tour of the historic Prince of Wales Fort, giving you a taste of the region’s past days. **(B)**

Day 5: Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill

Today you may embark on any postponed or optional tours requested that were not able to be taken earlier during your stay due to weather or other factors. **(B)**

Day 6: Lazy Bear Lodge, Churchill - Winnipeg

Following your last delicious breakfast at the Lazy Bear Lodge Café you will embark on any postponed or optional tours requested that were not able to be taken earlier during your stay due to weather or other factors. Afterwards, the lodge shuttle takes you to Churchill Airport for your return flight to Winnipeg. Upon arrival in Winnipeg, Lazy Bear Expeditions will provide a charter bus to the Inn at the Forks in downtown Winnipeg. **Accommodation stay – 1 night at Winnipeg Airport. (B, L)**

Day 7: End of Package

After breakfast, transfer independently from Inn at the Forks to Winnipeg International Airport for your return flight home or continue to your next destination. **(B)**

Meals: Daily breakfast, 2 lunches and 1 dinner included at/or provided as takeaway by the Lazy Bear Café (depending on tides and tour times)

This is a set tour itinerary, if you have booked any pre/post or optional tour arrangements please refer to your separate vouchers and final documents.

* Please note: The tour schedule is subject to change based on weather and anything beyond the supplier’s control.

TOUR NOTES

For current departure dates and prices please check our website

Pre/Post Tour information

If you would like to extend your trip or make the tour part of a longer holiday, we can easily add on pre or post night stays for you. Our Sales Team will work with you to arrange the best connecting flights and book any additional hotel stays or experiences. Simply tell us what you'd like and we can arrange it.

Time difference

GMT -5 hours Eastern Canada

Tour inclusions

- Accommodation for 6 nights – 2 nights in Winnipeg and 4 nights at Lazy Bear Lodge
- Flights between Winnipeg and Churchill
- Group transfers between Winnipeg hotel and charter flights to/from Churchill
- Shuttle service between the airport and lodge upon arrival and departure
- Luggage handling in Churchill
- Naturalist Tour Guide
- 6-8 hour Hudson Bay Coastal Boat Tour to see Polar Bears and arctic wildlife
- 3-4 hour Summer Tundra Tour on Arctic Crawler™
- 3-hour (approx) Beluga Whale Boat Tour/ Fort Tour to see Beluga Whales in the water and walking tour of the historic Prince of Wales Fort
- 2-3-hour (approx) Cultural and Heritage Tour of the Churchill area, including historic Cape Merry and the Polar Bear Jail
- Parks Canada Interpretive Presentation

Tour exclusions

- International flight in economy class, including all UK and overseas airport taxes and applicable fuel surcharges
- Flight upgrades and airport transfers in the UK
- Optional excursions: Guided kayaking excursion can be added at an additional cost. This can be requested at the time of booking.
- Insurance
- Transportation between Winnipeg and other gateway cities.
- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, tips & gratuities, video camera fees at monuments
- The required Canada Electronic Authorization (eTA)
- Anything not detailed on the itinerary.

Dining inclusions

Meals: daily breakfast, 2 lunches and 1 dinner included

Included activities

Tours listed in the itinerary.

Accommodation

Accommodation is a mix of 3-4V graded properties. Please note some tours are up to 3 weeks in duration and there may be some nights when staying in remote locations e.g. the National Parks, when the 'V' rating may vary. Hotels are subject to change up until 30 days prior to departure, but you will be advised of any changes.

Journey times

Please note due to long distances covered on some of the tours, there will be some days when the majority of the day will be spent on the coach, so just sit back and enjoy the view.

Visa requirements

Under Canada's new eTA program, British citizens WILL need to obtain an online authorization before flying to Canada.

This requirement is mandatory. Travellers will have the opportunity to go online and apply for their eTA. The earlier travellers get their eTA, the sooner they will benefit from knowing they have been pre-screened to enter Canada.

A fee of \$7 is payable for processing an application for an electronic travel authorization.

An application for an electronic travel authorization must be made by means of an electronic system that is made available by the Department (Citizenship and Immigration Canada) for that purpose.

An electronic travel authorization is valid for a period of five years from the day on which it is issued to the applicant or until the earliest of the following days, if they occur before the end of that period:

- (a) The day on which the applicant's passport or other travel document expires,
- (b) The day on which the electronic travel authorization is cancelled, or
- (c) The day on which a new electronic travel authorization is issued to the applicant

Visit: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/eta-start.asp> to arrange the eTA.

Alternatively you can apply for your eTA through our partners CIBT visas who make the process as easy as possible and will apply for the eTA on your behalf. Contact them on www.cibtvisas.co.uk/virginholidays for more information.

Currency

The official unit of currency in Canada is the Canadian dollar. Major credit cards and debit cards will be accepted within the Canada.

Electricity

If you bring any electrical appliance to Canada, you may need an adaptor to fit the Canadian electrical receptacles. You may also need a converter to change the voltage from 110 volts to 220 volts.

Tipping

Tipping is a big part of Canada's service economy and their taxation system, all visitors should understand that this is a part of the local culture; please see below a list of useful suggestions for tipping:

- Waiters/Waitresses: 15% - 20% for average - good service, more for exceptional service.
- Bartenders: \$1 - \$2 a round -or- 15% to 20% of the tab, with a minimum of 50 cents per soft drink, \$1 per alcoholic drink.
- Room Service: 15% - 20%
- Taxi driver: Varies depending on locality. Assume 15% will be enough; an extra \$1 to \$2 for help with bags.
- Hotel doorman: \$1 per bag for help with luggage; \$1 per person for hailing a cab.
- Any tour guide: \$5 per person, per day in your party.

What to pack

- Please consider bringing items of a personal nature to be used for hiking and the outdoors: light jacket, windbreaker, rain gear, shorts and long pants, hats, gloves, extra socks, sun glasses with UV protection, sun block lotion, lip protector and insect repellent with deet.

What to expect

We recommend you are of a reasonable fitness as touring often involves long walks and uneven surfaces; this tour is not suitable for those who require special assistance. Please note this is not an escorted tour and apart from the tours which are included in the package, the rest of your trip is free for you to explore independently.

Recommended vaccinations

We advise you to discuss your individual requirements for Canada with your GP at least 6-8 weeks prior to travel.