

Prepared for Discover with Nature The Nature Conservancy

# SUMMER IN CHURCHILL

August 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025



# WELCOME TO CHURCHILL, CANADA!

Summer is a magical time on the Churchill River, as it comes to life with what feels like countless beluga whales. Watch in awe as these "canaries of the sea" migrate to the warm, shallow waters to give birth and feed on fish. Experience these majestic creatures from various vantage points, as you will have the opportunity to see them from a large tour boat and an intimate Zodiac where you can witness their playful behavior and curious spirit.

While on land, enjoy the seemingly endless view as the surrounding tundra landscape erupts into colorful summer blooms alongside the Hudson Bay. Explore the Churchill Wildlife Management Area by Tundra Buggy in search of northern wildlife where you might even have the opportunity to see the first of the summer polar bears as they begin to return to from the sea ice throughout the summer months.

Please join us for this special adventure exploring this area and learning how the Nature Conservancy is working in the nearby Boreal Forest.

# **CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS**

#### THE BOREAL FOREST

For thousands of years, First Nations communities thrived within the richness and sustenance of the Boreal Forest as the land's original stewards. But as demand for resources grew, their authority over their traditional territories was challenged, their economies were destabilized, and their immemorial way of living was threatened. We believe conservation must go hand-in-hand with building local economies, which is why we also support sustainable economic development that aligns with cultural values and durable financing opportunities to fund stewardship in the long term. We also support initiatives that allow for collaboration and collective action among Indigenous nations as well as with other actors. This trip will highlight The Nature Conservancy's efforts to protect one of the most pristine landscapes on the planet through meaningful partnerships with First Nations communities.



# **ITINERARY OVERVIEW**

#### August 2

#### SATURDAY

#### WELCOME TO WINNIPEG!

Guests will arrive in Winnipeg by own arrangements and make their own way to their hotel, Inn at the Forks

This evening you will gather for a Welcome Dinner at Feast Cafe Bistro, an Indigenous and Woman-owned restaurant serving up delicious dishes rooted in Indigenous Culture. **Overnight at the Inn at the Forks** 

#### August 3

#### SUNDAY

Transfer together to FortWhyte Alive, a reclaimed wildlife preserve, recreation area, and environmental education centre. Step back to a time when bison roamed the prairie, and people's connection to the natural world was a matter of survival. Visit the Pioneer Sod House built from the earth, then stop by the Bison Viewing Mound and discover the importance of this prairie giant to the Plains Cree. Explore the culture of the Métis, the influence they had on the fur trade, and their connection to the buffalo hunt.

Enjoy lunch at Gather Craft Kitchen & Bar, located in The Leaf at Assiniboine Park. Gather explores food from across cultures, incorporating fresh, locallysourced, and seasonal ingredients from the gardens.

This afternoon you'll have free time to explore The Forks National Historic Site and visit the many interpretive sites, shops and restaurants. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

#### Overnight at the Inn at the Forks



### **August 4** MONDAY

After breakfast at Smith Restaurant, check out of the hotel. Today we depart on a morning flight from Winnipeg to Churchill.

On a guided bus tour of local and historical points of interest surrounding Churchill, including the Polar Bear Holding Facility and Inukshuk, you'll experience a breathtaking panoramic view of the Churchill River, Hudson Bay, and Prince of Wales Fort at Cape Merry. A popular place for viewing wildlife or just relaxing to the scenery, get an in-depth look at the role Cape Merry played in the history of Prince of Wales Fort. Learn about its fascinating geology while finding out how the cape fits into the ecology of the area. There will be a chance to see Hudson's Bay Company fortifications, cannon, remnants of the powder magazine, and the signatures of historic people carved into the rocks.

After lunch, embark on a guided excursion into the beluga whale estuary in a Zodiac. Quickly move around the beluga whale estuary and experience the largest beluga whale population in the world at surface level. Zodiacs are industrial-strength inflatable boats commonly used by military and law enforcement agencies.

Enjoy dinner at local restaurant and check in at The Tundra Inn This hotel is centrally located in Churchill, Manitoba close to all of the town's shops, museums and amenities.

#### **Overnight at The Tundra Inn**

# **August 5** TUESDAY

After breakfast, board a Transport Canada approved vessel and discover hundreds of beluga whales in the mouth of the Churchill River. Then, across the river, a Parks Canada guided tour of Prince of Wales Fort National Historic Site of Canada; the oldest, most northerly stone fort in Canada.



Then in the afternoon, meet a local Churchill artist for a guided art workshop. You will have the chance to create your own masterpiece under their tutelage as a remembrance of your time in Churchill.

Gather together after dinner to enjoy the sunset and an evening bonfire (weather permitting) on the shores of the Hudson's Bay.

#### Overnight at The Tundra Inn

#### August 6 WEDNESDAY

Experience a guided hike through the unique summer landscape of Churchill and learn about Churchill's different flora and fauna along the way. You may be able to spot the MV Ithaca shipwreck from the shoreline.

The best way to experience magnificent summer wildlife including caribou, arctic fox and ptarmigan, is on an official Tundra Buggy®. The Buggy meanders over a system of established trails, stopping at leisure to enjoy the scenery, search for wildlife, and take photos of the lush flora of the subarctic. Lunch and refreshments served on board.

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant and then gather for an evening presentation from a local resident on the culture, history, wildlife and/or lifestyles of the Churchill area.

#### Overnight at The Tundra Inn

#### August 7 THURSDAY

This morning you will meet the team of friendly dogs, hear stories and learn dog handling philosophy from an expert. Enjoy a mile long dog cart ride through the northern boreal forest.

Tour Churchill's independent field station dedicated to the research of the subarctic region, established in 1976 followed by an interpretive walk through the boreal forest with Churchill Northern Studies Centre.



# After dinner you will catch your flight back to Winnipeg and check in at The Grand Winnipeg Airport Hotel

This hotel is located across from the Winnipeg International Airport. The hotel has 101 rooms and includes an elevator and a reception desk. Amenities include a baggage storage service, safe, ATM and drinks machine. Wireless internet access is provided in public areas. The tour desk offers assistance with booking excursions. The hotel has a range of facilities for guests with disabilities. The hotel has wheelchair-accessible facilities. Other services include room service and a laundry service. Complimentary newspapers are available. To assist guests with their business and communication needs, the business center offers a fax machine.

#### Overnight at The Grand Winnipeg Airport Hotel

August 8 FRIDAY

After breakfast, guests may depart Winnipeg at their leisure.



# COSTS

Please note these costs are in Canadian Currency, CAD, not USD! You can use this <u>currency</u> <u>converter</u> to check the conversion rate on the day you register:

Double Occupancy Cost: \$9,699 CAD Single Occupancy Supplement: \$1,200 CAD

#### This cost includes:

- Three nights accommodations in Winnipeg
- Round trip airfare between Churchill and Winnipeg
- Three nights hotel accommodations in Churchill
- Churchill and area tour
- Guided tour of Cape Merry Battery
- Beluga Whale and Historic Fort Prince of Wales tour
- Zodiac beluga tour
- Dog carting excursion with a local Métis musher
- Half day Tundra Buggy® adventure
- Tour of the Churchill Northern Studies Centre and Boreal Forest Interpretive Walk
- Guided artist workshop
- Interpretive coastal hike
- Cultural presentation
- FortWhyte Alive program
- Beach bonfire (weather permitting)
- All meals & transfers as indicated in the full itinerary <u>here</u>.
- Wine included with welcome dinner in Winnipeg
- Frontiers North Interpretive Guide as trip lead
- Gratuities included unless otherwise stated
- TNC staff participation

#### This cost does not include:

Travel to and from trip start Travel insurance



Incidentals Alcohol (except for wine at welcome dinner)

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### Payment and Cancellation Terms

#### **Deposit:**

\$750 CAD per person is due at the time of registration.

#### **Full Trip Payment:**

Due 120 days prior to trip start along with proof of Travel Insurance.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION Comprehensive travel insurance is mandatory. It is the responsibility of the traveler to secure adequate insurance coverage for the level of protection they desire. The guest or agent/wholesaler is responsible for advising of cancelled space requests, relaying accurate guest arrival information and special requests, as well as for having the guest complete the Frontiers North Tour Registration and Waiver Forms; and for having these forms submitted to Frontiers North Inc. in a timely manner. Rates are subject to change and if necessary, these changes will be passed on to you and your guests. CANCELLATION POLICY In the event that reservations must be cancelled, refunds will be made according to the following schedule: • Booking-121 days prior to departure: \$750 CAD per person, non-refundable • 120-61 days prior to departure: 50% of total invoice, non-refundable • 60-0 days prior to departure: 100% of total invoice, non-refundable No refunds are available for charter flights that are included in the itineraries. No partial refunds or credits will be given for services not used. As many advance logistical arrangements have been made prior to the operation of these trips, we must adhere to the cancellation policies. Frontiers North Inc. reserves the right to cancel any booking in the rare event of insufficient enrollment. In that event, booked guests or the agent/wholesaler will be notified no later than thirty (30) days prior to the booking start date and a refund of any payments made by the guest or the agent/wholesaler to Frontiers North Inc. will be issued. For our full terms and conditions, visit frontiersnorth.com.

#### **Contact Information**

As you plan for your journey with The Nature Conservancy, please feel free to reach out to Laura Sampson with any questions at laura.sampson@frontiersnorth.com.



# **TNC TRAVEL VALUES**

#### Access

Travel with renowned Conservancy experts and local partners for an exclusive, on-the-ground experience. You won't just see amazing places; you'll see how you are helping save them.

#### Impact

Witness how your commitment to our planet and your passion for conservation are making a difference in the wild places and communities you are impacting.

#### Knowledge

Learn how we are applying the latest cutting-edge science to affect global change and drive conservation.

#### Inspiration

Immerse yourself in local cultures and awe-inspiring landscapes to foster your own connection to our world.

#### **Globally Minded**

Elevate your understanding of our work by observing first-hand how TNC and our partners act locally and how we turn local results in to global impact by scaling solutions that work.

# TNC TRAVELER EXPECTATIONS

Group travel with The Nature Conservancy provides our donors with the opportunity to experience, alongside fellow supporters, the places TNC is working collaboratively to advance our conservation mission. Within these curated trips is the chance to engage with a community of active individuals and conservation staff who enjoy teaching and learning about the important conservation work we do and exploring the outdoors.

In order to ensure an enjoyable trip environment that supports learning and enrichment, we need your partnership. We ask that all participants review **TNC's Code of Conduct** prior to joining a trip. We also encourage you to carefully review all trip information to make an informed decision as to whether travel with TNC and a specific trip's characteristics and activities are right for you. Following the Code is an expectation



and responsibility for everyone in the larger TNC community, including our staff, partners, vendors and supporters. **To that end, when registering for a TNC trip, you are agreeing to uphold the Code.** 

While the entire Code of Conduct is important, the tenets that are especially relevant to TNC group travel are: respect for each other, respect for the world around us and acting with integrity. The following traveler expectations are intended to provide guidance for how those tenets translate to group travel but are by no means an exhaustive list. By participating in a TNC trip, you make a commitment to act in accordance with the TNC Code of Conduct to your fellow travelers, as well as to TNC staff, partners, community members and vendors. Any violation of or disregard for the Code of Conduct may result in removal from a trip and/or denial of future TNC travel participation.

#### 1) Respect all people, places and perspectives.

Each participant on a trip is an integral part of the travel experience. Demonstrating respect and consideration is imperative not only for nature, local communities and cultures in the places we visit, but also for fellow travelers, staff, partners, community members and vendors. Everyone will bring different goals, backgrounds, experiences and abilities, and it is important that the group respect each individual's perspectives and needs throughout the trip. Sometimes trip participants become lifelong friends, and we encourage the camaraderie and community built through these shared experiences!

# 2) Harassment in all its forms, including discrimination and microaggressions, is not tolerated.

There is no place on any TNC travel experience for disrespect to or bullying or intimidation of fellow travelers, TNC staff, partners, community members or vendors. All travelers agree to support an environment free from any behavior that could make an individual feel unsafe or diminish their dignity. If you experience or observe this type of behavior on a trip, please report it to your trip host or guide.

Examples of behavior that will not be tolerated include, but are not limited, to:

- Racial discrimination in any form (jokes, comments and/or actions)
- Verbal abuse of any traveler, staff, partner, community member or vendor
- Actions or statements that exclude or divide people because of their differences or differing perspectives



- Jokes about gender or sexual orientation or that include sexual innuendo
- Discriminatory actions or statements based on gender or sexual orientation
- Unwelcome physical contact or physical intimidation of a sexual nature

#### 3) Act in accordance with the applicable law of the location(s) of the trip.

Your trip location(s) may have different laws from your home location. You are expected to be aware of and adhere to the trip destination's laws throughout the experience, even when locations change throughout a trip.

#### 4) Employ an attitude of flexibility.

At times, there may be changes in the itinerary when deemed necessary or advisable for the comfort and wellbeing of trip members. We appreciate your understanding, flexibility and adaptability in order to make the trip safe and enjoyable for you and everyone else.

TNC and its tour operators reserve the right to deny registration or remove a tour participant from a trip should such person's behavior, health or mental condition impact the safe and equitable operation of the trip.

Thank you for your attention and understanding, and please let a TNC travel representative know if you have any questions in advance of registering at <u>travel@tnc.org</u>.