Polar Bears of Churchill

A 6-Day Expedition to the Polar Bear Capital of the World

NOVEMBER 2-7, 2022
with optional WINNIPEG PRE-TOUR

100% REFUND GUARANTEE
See reservation panel for details.

The Michigan State University Alumni Office (the MSU Alumni Office) is not the Tour Operator. The MSU Alumni Office is not responsible for the changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or motor coach transportation and car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control. The MSU Alumni Office acts only as a sponsor with respect to the travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes to flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury, damage, loss of baggage, accidents or for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in providing services to participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the MSU Alumni Office shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strike, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, pandemic, epidemic, quarantine, acts of God, governmental intervention or other causes beyond its control. The MSU Alumni Office shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the Tour Operator may substitute hotels of similar quality. The Tour Operator may postpone or cancel any tour prior to departure. The MSU Alumni Office or the Tour Operator may decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such person’s physical or mental health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. By embarking upon travel, the participant voluntarily assumes all risk involved in such travel, whether expected or unexpected. For information concerning possible dangers at international destinations, contact the US State Department, (202) 647-5225, or access the State Department’s online travel advisory service. For medical information, call the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at (800) 232-4636 or visit the CDC website. Participant is hereby warned of the above risks as well as possible travel industry force majeure, bankruptcies and medical and climatic disruptions, and the possibility participant may be unable to travel as scheduled because of personal emergency. Participant is advised to consider obtaining appropriate insurance coverage against these risks. Information regarding travel insurance is available from the MSU Alumni Office at the time of the reservation booking. Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all the conditions set forth above.
Dear Spartans,

We are thrilled to present you with a special opportunity to witness one of the largest confluences of polar bears in the world. Much like the bears themselves, visitors make their way to Churchill each fall when temperatures drop, brimming with anticipation. The reward: experiences of a lifetime.

As polar bears await the formation of arctic sea ice over the Hudson Bay—to begin their hunt for ringed seals—they descend upon this tiny seaport town, forming one of the largest congregations of polar bears in the world. During this annual spectacle, it is possible to observe, photograph, and learn about these “Kings of the North.”

The quality guidance of an Orbridge Expedition Leader and exclusive educational experiences—including presentations by experts at Churchill’s Northern Studies Centre and a local naturalist—distinguish this program.

Space is limited. With significant savings of more than $1,000 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Reserve today online at msu.orbridge.com, by calling (866) 639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Go Green,

Regina Cross  
Director of Alumni Travel  
MSU Alumni Office  
(888) 697-2863

As we embark on this new world of group travel, the health and well-being of our guests, our team, and the communities we visit remain our top priority. For a detailed listing of the enhanced safety measures and hygiene protocols specific to our tours, please visit orbridge.com/wellness.

Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an ongoing initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. Learn more at orbridge.com/going-green.
Your 6-Day Itinerary
(subject to change)

Day 1: Arrive in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (R,D)
Welcome reception, dinner, and presentation
Overnight: Inn at the Forks

Day 2: Winnipeg / Flight to Churchill / Northern Studies Centre / Parks Canada Interpretive Centre (B,L-aloft,D)
Current research and interactive presentation, exhibit exploration
Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge

Day 3: Churchill / Arctic Crawler™ Experience (B,L)
Grab your camera, board the Arctic Crawler™, and head out onto stark and beautiful landscapes for your first opportunity to observe and photograph polar bears in their natural habitat
Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge

Day 4: Churchill / Cultural and Heritage Tour / Itsanitaq Museum / Dog Sledding (B,D)
Panoramic site visits (Miss Piggy Plane Crash site, Polar Bear “Jail,” and Cape Merry), museum tour, dog sled ride
Overnight: Lazy Bear Lodge

Day 5: Churchill / Arctic Crawler™ Experience / Flight to Winnipeg (B,L,D)
Another opportunity to observe and photograph polar bears aboard the Arctic Crawler™
Overnight: Hilton Winnipeg Airport Suites

Day 6: Depart Winnipeg (B)

Activity Level: Guests should be prepared for cold temperatures, be able to walk on frozen or snow-covered ground, and manage stairs without assistance.

Program Highlights

• Begin in Winnipeg with a private reception and three-course welcome dinner at Assiniboine Park Zoo along with a presentation on polar bears.

• Head out for two expeditions aboard the Arctic Crawler™—custom designed to allow for up-close encounters with polar bears. Explore the area’s unique landscape and its variety of wildlife, including arctic hare, snowy owl, ptarmigan, arctic fox, and polar bears.

• Visit Churchill’s Itsanitaq Museum for an exploration of indigenous ways of life while viewing remarkable examples of Inuit craftsmanship.

• Meet an energetic team of sled dogs and their experienced handler, then bundle up for an exciting dog sled experience.

• What’s included: 5 nights in ideally-situated and comfortable accommodations; round-trip airfare between Winnipeg and Churchill; 5 breakfasts, 3 picnic-style lunches, and 4 dinners, including a special welcome reception and dinner; full guiding services of an Orbridge Expedition Leader and a local naturalist; all excursion transportation and entry fees; all gratuities; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

NOTE: The itinerary is a general listing of activities and excursions that may happen during any part of the program. Daily activities will be determined by weather, opportunities to view wildlife, and other various elements that make up the incredibly diverse landscape. Guests will receive a daily itinerary while in Churchill, which will be flexible and updated frequently.
Your Accommodations  (subject to change)

INN AT THE FORKS
Ideally located in downtown Winnipeg, this modern boutique hotel is near a plethora of shopping, arts, and entertainment options. During leisure time, stroll the city’s cobblestone streets or take advantage of the hotel’s fully equipped fitness center.

LAZY BEAR LODGE
This remarkable, handcrafted log lodge plus its friendly staff and scenic surroundings make this property supremely memorable. Cozy up in the comfortable lounge and feast on homemade northern cuisine at the Lazy Bear Café.

HILTON WINNIPEG AIRPORT SUITES
Located just minutes from James Armstrong Richardson International Airport, this classic property provides well-appointed accommodations and thoughtful amenities. The hotel’s restaurant, Oak and Grain, features comfort food with a twist.

Lazy Bear Lodge—A Pioneer’s Dream
A log builder in a previous career, Wally Daudrich built the Lazy Bear Lodge himself, literally. Drawn to the area by its sense of freedom, Wally and a partner dragged fire-killed logs from the forest by snowmobile, crafting them first into a small café, then a small lodge, and finally the two-story, 15,000-square-foot, modern Lazy Bear Lodge of today.

Experience the warm hospitality of Wally and his staff, and dine on fabulous northern cuisine. You can see the gnarled and knotted log timbers from the northern Boreal forest used to make both the lodge and the furniture. It’s the perfect combination of remote northern living with all the cozy comforts and conveniences travelers desire.
The Arctic Crawler™

A rugged all-terrain vehicle.

Get up-close access to the wildlife of the tundra aboard this specially-designed trekking vehicle. The Arctic Crawler™ features a propane heater, comfortable seating, on-board facilities with flush toilet, large windows that lower for better viewing, plus a spacious, fully grated outside rear deck for optimal photography opportunities—including nose to nose visits with the locals. It really is the perfect way to view Churchill’s magnificent creatures in person.

And with the expertise of the driver and your Orbridge Expedition Leader, you will see all the stunning natural beauty and diverse wildlife the tundra of the Churchill Wildlife Management Area has to offer.

Your two Arctic Crawler™ Experiences include lunch with beverages, snacks, and expert in-depth commentary from your Orbridge Expedition Leader and Lazy Bear Lodge expert guide.

Your Orbridge Expedition Leader:

The company and keen eyes of an expert Orbridge Expedition Leader will make all the difference in your educational experience. Enriched by their wealth of expertise, you’ll bring home a deeper understanding of the flora, fauna, natural history, and cultural narrative of the diverse Canadian Arctic.

Early Reservation Bonus:

See reverse for details.
What’s Included

- 2 nights accommodations at Inn at the Forks (or similar)
- 2 breakfasts and 1 lunch
- Admission to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights for a half-day guided tour
- Admission to the Manitoba Museum, including a private docent-led tour
- Admission to Assiniboine Park Zoo for guided Journey to Churchill tour
- Luggage porterage
- Gratuities to local guides, drivers, and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfer for guests arriving during the suggested times

Pre-Tour Itinerary

(subject to change)

Day +1: Arrive in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Day and evening at leisure
Overnight: Inn at the Forks

Day +2: Winnipeg (B,L)
Canadian Museum for Human Rights guided tour, Assiniboine Park Zoo experience
Overnight: Inn at the Forks

Day +3: Winnipeg / Main Program Begins (B)
Guided program at the Manitoba Museum, join guests on the main program

Enjoy additional days in Winnipeg to experience a multiple award-winning exhibit at Assiniboine Park Zoo, featuring nine playful polar bears and a host of arctic animals, and a visit to Winnipeg’s architectural marvel—the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Plus explore the Manitoba Museum and enjoy a guided tour.
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Polar Bears of Churchill

NOVEMBER 2-7, 2022
Winnipeg Pre-Tour: October 31 - November 2, 2022

Reserve by Credit Card:
Online: msu.orbridge.com
Phone: (866) 639-0079
Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:
Made payable to Orbridge, LLC
Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 10339
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your email confirmation from the MSU Alumni Office. For more information, contact Orbridge at (866) 639-0079 or you may call the MSU Alumni Office at (888) 697-2863.

GUEST INFORMATION:
Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): __________________________________________________________
Email: ________________________________________________________ Class Year: ___________
Home Phone: ___________ Alt. Phone: _____________________________
Address: ___________________________ City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________
Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): __________________________________________________________
Email: ________________________________________________________ Class Year: ___________
Home Phone: ___________ Alt. Phone: _____________________________

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:
☐ Check ☐ ACH (Automated Clearing House) ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #: ___________________________ Exp. Date: ______________ CVV: ______________
Name (as printed on card): _______________________________________________________________
Billing Address (if different from above): __________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________

DEPOSIT:
# ________ guests joining pre-tour ($500/person) +
# ________ guests joining program ($850/person) = TOTAL DEPOSIT: $________

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com and the COVID-19
Acknowledgement at orbridge.com/wellness; and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.
Signature: ___________________________________________ Date: _________________________

Reservations, Deposits and Final Payment. To secure your reservation, deposits are due upon placing a reservation as follows: $850 per person per program and $500 per person for any pre-tour and/or post-tour. Deposits are payable by check, ACH, wire transfer or major credit card. Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is payable by check, ACH, wire transfer or major credit card, and is due no later than 90 days prior to the program's scheduled departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the program's scheduled departure date, the full cost of the program, plus any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is due at the time of registration, payable by check, ACH, wire transfer or major credit card. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. CST#2098750-40 WST#602828994

Reservation Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge: (a) more than 90 calendar days prior to the program's scheduled departure date, all monies paid to Orbridge for the main program and for any pre-tour and/or post-tour will be refunded in full; (b) between 90 and 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 25% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded; (c) between 59 and 30 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 50% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded; (d) within 29 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 100% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour. In addition to and with or without notice, a Cancellation Fee equal to 50% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, will be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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Polar Bears of Churchill

NOVEMBER 2-7, 2022

Special Alumni Rate: Save more than $1,000 per couple

Reserve your space by May 20, 2022 to receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library we’ve assembled for this program.**

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Michigan State University Alumni Office

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